

NEXT MEETING:

THURSDAY
JUNE 9 @7:30PM
AYRES HALL,
LA ARBORETUM

NEXT WORKSHOP:

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 15 @7:30PM
PALM CLASSROOM,
LA ARBORETUM

PLANTS OF THE MONTH:

CACTUS:
COPIAPOA



SUCCULENT:
FIGUS & DORSTENIA

GUEST SPEAKER:

ERNESTO SANDOVAL
FEEDING SUCCULENTS



M SGVCSSCLUB@GMAIL.COM

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Chartered in 1967, SGVCSS's objectives are to promote knowledge, study, and interest in cacti and other succulent plants through educational programs, public exhibits, and the sharing of these interests to the general public.



SGVCSS.COM



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GUEST SPEAKER:**ERNESTO SANDOVAL
FEEDING SUCCULENTS****Feeding Succulents: How Fertilizer, Water pH and Soil Can and Should Be Adjusted**

Perhaps you've heard that pH is important for plants? Ernesto will summarize why you want your plants to receive slightly acidic water and various ways you can adjust it for your succulents. How is this similar and different than fertilizing "regular" plants?

Ernesto will discuss all of this plus the importance of "soils" and container media as well as the details of how you can maximize the root potential for your plants!

Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions and answers to why plants grow and look the way that they do for nearly 40 years. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and from amateur to professional gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to succulent Clubs throughout California.

Desert plants are his particular passion within his general passion for plants. He describes himself as a "Jose of All Plants, Master of None" and loves learning from the experiences of others as well as his own. Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others to understand how and why plants do what they do.

When he was about 13, he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Director/Manager over the last 30 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.

He's immersed himself in the world of horticultural biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents. He likes to promote plant liberation by encouraging gardeners of all sorts to grow more plants in the ground when possible.



CACTUS OF THE MONTH:

COPIAPOA



Copiapoa is a unique genus of spectacular plants from the north coast of Chile. The genus has no close relatives and is confined to a region of ecological change that is becoming steadily drier for the past several hundred years.

The southern limit of Copiapoa is where reliable winter rains can be found. The northern limit is the tropical region of reliable summer rains. Copiapoa live along the coast and through the river valleys cut through the coastal mountains. Some species live completely on dense fogs that appear regularly for months at a time. The hills and valleys of northern Chile are still not well explored from a botanical point of view with new species still being described and additional species to be found in the future.

In the past, there were more species than there are now, with some going extinct due to steadily decreasing rainfall.

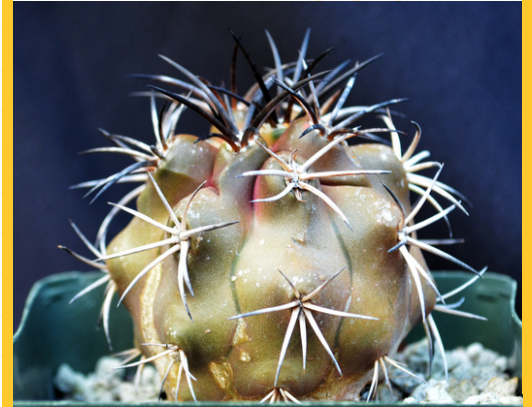
Given these extreme conditions, one would expect the cultivation of these plants in Southern California, with our frequent winter rains, fogs, and "June gloom" to be quite a challenge.

Fortunately, this is not so and Copiapoa are relatively easy to grow. They respond happily to the same potting mix, watering, and fertilization as most cacti, growing many times faster than they would in habitat. Some species can even be grown in the open ground in the San Gabriel Valley as long as the soil is well drained. They do tend to be slower growers than many.

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Copiapoa hypogaea ssp. lauii



Copiapoa humilis ssp. tocopillana



Copiapoa humilis flowers

CACTUS OF THE MONTH:

COPIAPOA



(continued from page 3...)

Copiapoa are easily propagated from cuttings or division of clumps. Seed is available from the CSSA seed bank and most cactus seed houses, and germinates quickly in the spring. They should be started in a moist potting soil and moved to drier media after germination. They do very well in a mineral potting mix with almost no organic matter.

All of the Copiapoa are worth growing. This is a genus unparalleled in excellent species.

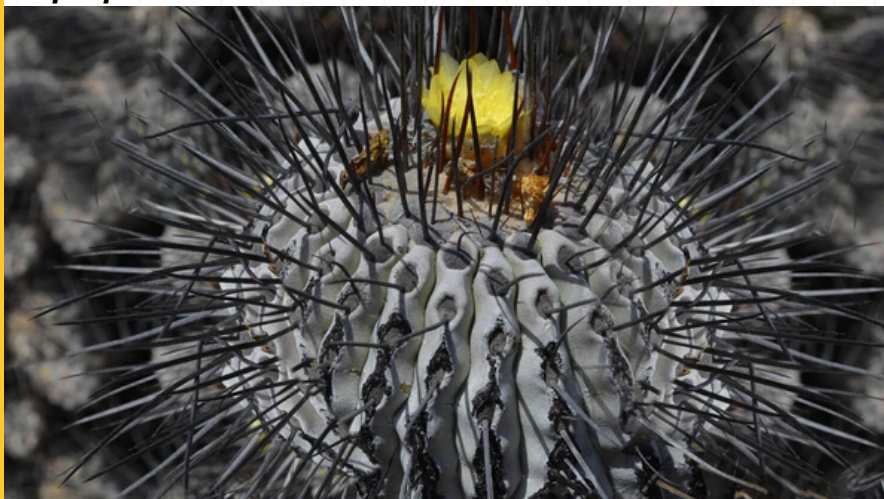
--Tom Glavich

Excellent Copiapoa:

- ***Copiapoa humilis*** is a small, clumping cactus with distinctive bumps. This species only reaches 2.5" in height and 3.5" in diameter when fully grown. Each dark green stem has 8-14 ribs of angular tubercles.
- ***Copiapoa cinerea*** produces a white cuticular wax layer on the stem which helps the surface to be waterproofed and to be better protected from dangerous sunburn. The wax layer is a gray-white color (hence the name). The plant's spines, however, are usually black or dark brown.
- ***Copiapoa calderana*** grows in the Atacama Desert, one of the driest places in the world. It obtains water mainly from condensation of the fog. It is a spherical cactus with many spines.
- ***Copiapoa dealbata*** forms impressive mounds up to 3.5' tall and 6' wide. They are grayish-white with a wool-covered apex and have only one long spine per areole.



Copiapoa tenuissima



Copiapoa dealbata

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH:

FIGUS & DORSTENIA



Ficus and Dorstenia are both members of the *Moraceae* or Fig family. Dorstenia is a strictly tropical genus, with almost all members coming from tropical rain forests. A few members have become succulent and are found in the dry lands of East Africa and Socotra. Ficus is a large genus, again mostly tropical, but with members that live well into the upper latitudes. The succulent members of the genus mostly come from either Mexico or South Africa.

Dorstenia is the more tropical genus and is fairly touchy about getting cold and wet. It does best when protected from temperatures below 40 degrees. All the species appreciate reliable watering and feeding when in active growth.

Dorstenia have minute flowers that are grouped together in a head (hypanthodium), surrounded with odd shaped (and often brilliantly colored) bracts that help attract pollinating insects. These function in exactly the same way as the common sunflower.

There are many rarely seen species from the jungles and dry lands of Tanzania. Some of these have brilliant yellow hypanthodia, several inches long. With luck they will be in cultivation in the next few years.

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Excellent Dorstenias:

- ***Dorestenia gigas*** is one of the rarest and best-known species and is from Socotra. This species grows on the rocky slopes of the island, with *Dendrosicyos* and *Adenium*. All three have the same general shape, with a thick cylindrical stem and stubby branches.
- ***Dorstenia crispa*** is a common species, easily grown from seed, and frequently self seeding in adjacent pots. The stems of *Dorstenia crispa* often resemble miniature palms. It originates in Kenya.
- ***Dorstenia foetida*** rapidly grows a small spherical caudex. As it's name applies, the flowers smell like rotting meat, and it is pollinated by flies. The fragrance is fairly weak. It originates in Kenya and Tanzania, and easily hybridizes with *Dorstenia crispa*.
- ***Dorstenia radiata*** has spider like hypanthodia, and smaller, paler leaves. It originates in the southern Arabian peninsula.



Dorstenia foetida ***Dorstenia lancifolia*** ***Dorstenia lavrani***

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH:

FIGUS & DORSTENIA



(continued from page 5...)

The Mexican and South African ficus are altogether much easier to grow. They are happy growing outdoors in pots and can take cooler temperatures and heavy winter rain without rotting. By far, the two most common species are *Ficus petiolaris* and *Ficus palmeri*.

Both make excellent pot plants and can be displayed as bonsai. Both are easily grown in root-over-rock style, by growing a plant for a year in a deep, narrow pot, and then taking the resulting roots, pruned back to only a few major ones, and draping them over a rock. The whole assembly should then be buried for a second year, for fast growth. The rock can then be raised to display the roots.

All ficus can be easily propagated from seed or cuttings. Seed is best planted in late spring, when the weather is guaranteed to be warm. Growth is generally fast, and repotting is necessary soon after germination. Cuttings can be taken any time when in active growth, and simply stuck in damp, loose potting soil. If a cutting is taken with several leaves, best results will be obtained if all the leaves except one or two of the smallest are removed. Rooting is generally rapid.

Some of these ficus lose their pachycaul or caudiciform habit as they mature, but are clearly succulent plants when young. They are all worth experimenting with. They are almost all receptive to hard pruning to make the caudex develop.

--Tom Glavich

Excellent Ficus:

- ***Ficus petiolaris*** and ***Ficus palmeri*** are the two most common species. They are very similar in growth habit, with *Ficus petiolaris* being distinguished by its red leaf veins. Can be displayed as bonsai.
- ***Ficus abutilifolia*** forms a caudex when less than an inch across. The caudex forms almost immediately when grown from seed.
- ***Ficus arnottiana*** from the deserts of NW India resembles *Ficus palmeri*.
- ***Ficus glumosa*** is native to Natal, Swaziland and Namibia. Eventually becomes a large tree. It is common to many warm areas of Asia with prolonged annual periods without rain.



Ficus palmeri

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**ARBORETUM
MEMBERS
FREE!**



36TH ANNUAL

INTER-CITY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SHOW & SALE



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

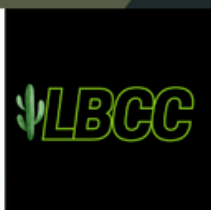
ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED. AVAILABLE AT ARBORETUM.ORG



**9AM-5PM
AUG
5,6,7**



**SALE 8/5-7
SHOW 8/6-7**



OVER 1400 PLANTS ON DISPLAY!

RARE AND UNUSUAL PLANTS & POTS FOR SALE



Cactus & Succulent Society of America
55th Annual Show & Sale
July 1-3, 2022

10AM - 5PM at THE HUNTINGTON
Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens

Open to the public with
paid admission or
Huntington membership.
Advance online timed
entry reservations are
required on weekends.

CSSASHOW.COM



**YOUR PLANT RELATED EVENT
OR BUSINESS HERE**

Email
sgvcssclub@gmail.com
for more info



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Plants of the Month 2022

CACTUS:

June	Copiapoa
July	Gymnocalycium
August	Favorite Cacti
September	Ariocarpus
November	Crested/Montrose

SUCCULENT:

June	Ficus & Dorstenia
July	Agave
August	Favorite Succulent
September	Asclepiads
November	Crested/Montrose

Monthly Workshops 2022

June	Ficus & Dorstenia
July	Staging Cactus
August	Asclepiads
September	Tools, Tips, & Techniques
November	Winter Seed Workshop



Nick Renteria and Tom Glavich at our May Caudiciforms Workshop



Irene Chew and Sharon Sedillo at our May Monthly Meeting

May Mini-show Results

Novice Succulent

- 1st - Nick Renteria - *Cyphostemma currorii*
- 2nd - Nick Renteria - *Euphorbia obesa hybrid*
- 3rd - Mike Pearson - *Ficus retusa*
- 3rd - Nick Renteria - *Tylocodon reticulatus*

Novice Cactus

- 1st - Eugenia Escobar - *Echinocereus pentalopus*
- 2nd - Eugenia Escobar - *Echinocereus rigidissimus var. rubispinus*

Intermediate Succulent

- 1st - Sharon Sedillo - *Euphorbia stellata*
- 2nd - Eric Winegar - *Opeculicaria decaryi*
- 3rd - Richard Salcedo - *Cyphostemma jute*

Intermediate Cactus

- 1st - Eric Winegar - *Echinocereus triglochidiatus mojavensis-inermis*
- 2nd - Richard Salcedo - *Echinocereus pacificus*
- 3rd - Richard Salcedo - *Echinocereus rigidissimus var. rubispinus*

Masters Succulent

- 1st - Manny Rivera - *Pachypodium bispinosum*
- 2nd - Manny Rivera - *Dorstenia socotranum*
- 3rd - Tom Glavich - *Cyphostemma hardyi x juttiae*

Masters Cactus

- 1st - Manny Rivera - *Echinocereus engelmarianus var. munzii*



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

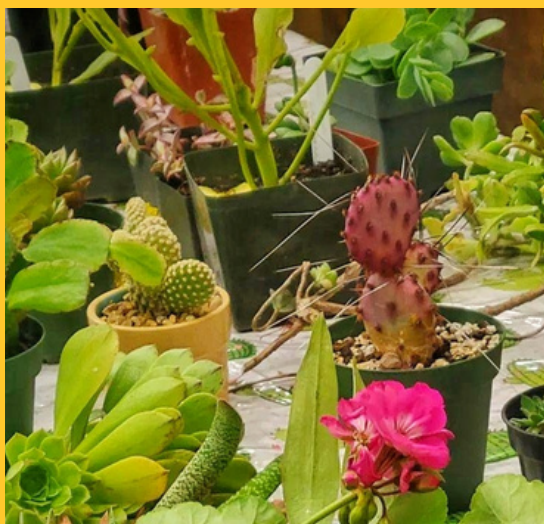
Newsletter Submissions

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you would like to have announced in the SGVCSS Communiqué, forward the information to the address below. Please verify the event date.

Articles, notices, photos, and any corrections may be sent via email to:

sgvcssclub@gmail.com

Material must be received by the 20th of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the newsletter.



Upcoming Shows and Sales

- **Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale**
 - Jun 4-5, 2022, 9AM-6PM
 - fresnocss.com
- **San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale**
 - Jun 4-5, 2022, 10AM-5PM / 10AM-4PM
 - sdcss.net
- **Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Sale**
 - Jun 10-11, 2022, 6PM-8PM / 9AM - 2:30PM
 - lacactus.com
- **CSSA Show & Sale @ The Huntington**
 - Jul 1-3, 2022, 10AM-5PM
 - cssashow.com
- **Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Sale**
 - Jul 22-23, 2022, 12PM-6PM / 9AM-4PM
 - occss.org
- **Inter-City Show & Sale @ LA Arboretum**
 - Aug 5-7, 9AM-5PM
 - intercityshow.com



SGVCSS Leadership Team 2022

- Gunnar Eisel, *President*
- Tom Vermillion, *Past President*
- Sharon Sedillo, *Vice President*
- Louise Guerin, *Secretary*
- Margie Wilson, *Treasurer*
- Shaun Adams, *Director 2021-2023*
- Nick Renteria, *Director 2021-2023*
- James Lemos, *Director 2021-2023*
- Irene Chew, *Director 2020 -2022*
- Richard Salcedo, *Director 2020 -2022*
- Tori Wilson, *Director 2020 -2022*
- Tom Glavich, *Inter-City Show Chair*
- Manny Rivera, *Winter Show Chair*
- James Lemos, *Winter Sales Chair*
- Jim Hanna, *CSSA Affiliate Rep*
- Gunnar Eisel, *Website Chair*
- James Lemos, *Program Chair*
- Tori Wilson, *Membership Chair*
- Cindy Arakaki, *Librarian*
- Anthony Cantiello, *Social Media Chair*
- Anthony Cantiello, *Newsletter Editor*

