

being made on my part to make my growing containers as photo flexible as can be. Main attractions, however, are still the plants which make beautiful show pieces as well as sparking many a conversation. My photos are not quite up to my own standards as of yet, but I am enclosing a few for your enjoyment and possible use in the newsletter anyway."

CYRIL PERMUTT sent a note along with a portion of a magazine from England called Radio Times which advertises a film shown on TV last September. The film is called "The Tender Trap" and features many carnivorous plants and how they capture insects. It was made by Oxford Scientific Films, two OSF directors being Sean Morris and Peter Parks, who took great pains to take some remarkable close-up film of plants growing in the Botanical Gardens in Oxford where the superintendent, Ken Burras, is an expert in their cultivation. They used much time-lapse photography and special filters to minimize the heat from the lights to photograph Drosera tentacles closing inward on its prey. They also showed Dionaea and Utricularia capturing insects. Cyril watched this show on BBC and found it to be interesting, accurate, and beautifully photographed. He goes on to suggest that perhaps some American stations could be persuaded to show it. It would be well worth the effort.

JOE MAZRIMAS is still working with Byblis seeds: "Fire seems to be the key in unlocking the inhibition of germination for Byblis gigantea seed. After soaking the seed overnight in water, I sowed them on the surface of peat moss and sand mixed in a ratio of 1:2. Then I used a small Bunsen burner and scorched the surface with the hot flame until steam appeared. You can also use a butane lighter or pipe lighter with the same results. Several weeks later, 3-4 seedlings popped up much to my delight, and I carefully transplanted them to a sphagnum moss-perlite mixture where they are growing rapidly under the lights. The other species, Byblis liniflora, does not need this special seed treatment since they germinate rather well after several weeks on a moist peat. It is interesting that seeds of B. gigantea left on moist peat without this treatment failed to germinate even after two and one-half years. In its native area, it seems that the summer sun heats the white silica sand surface to broiling temperatures where the seed settles from the season before so that the fall rain initiates growth after some inhibitor is cooked out of it."

ADDITIONS TO WORLD LIST OF CP

These species should be added to your list of carnivorous plants in order to make the list complete and up-to-date.

<u>Pinguicula algida</u> (Malyshev)	USSR
<u>Nepenthes campanulata</u> (Kurata)	Sumatra
<u>Nepenthes rhombicaulis</u> (Kurata)	Sumatra
<u>Polypompholyx tenella</u> (R.Br.) Lehm.	Australia
<u>Polypompholyx multifida</u> (R.Br.) F.	Australia

SHORT NOTES

THOUGHTS ON THE ETHICS OF PLANT TRADING by The Co-Editors

Partly as a result of CPN and the seed and plant exchange, there has developed an unprecedented traffic in plant trading among CP enthusiasts. Increased communication and interest have all contributed. Most serious students of CP encourage plant trading for several reasons. First of all, herbarium and field studies are very important but certainly have obvious limits: one cannot truly approach knowing a plant until he studies its history, its condition and relationships in the field, and until he successfully grows it in culture. Secondly, many original field sites are physically or financially too difficult to visit or the plants are protected and so one must rely on obtaining samples of the living plants, with history, from another grower or someone close by the location. Thirdly, with extinction threatening many CP, some species may in the future only be found in private collections or botanical gardens and therefore we must learn their requirements under differing available conditions. Fourthly, rarer plants in culture should be spread out among other reliable growers. If disaster befalls one culture, there will be others from which plants may be obtained. Finally, commercial sources may not have the required species, or they may be prohibitively expensive, or perhaps they are not packaged and shipped promptly or properly. With these views in mind, the seed and plant exchange section was conceived within CPN and, as you know, is under the very able direction of Bob Ziemer.

Generally, exchanges are running well, but as might be expected, some rather irritating and important problems have developed and unfortunately these tend to sour the project to some degree for everyone because of a few abuses on the part of a very small number of people. The abusers are not all newcomers to carnivore botany or young people; one of the co-editors had a very difficult time getting a German botanical garden to properly reciprocate on a promised-and-agreed-beforehand trade agreement after he had sent valuable plants to them. Many problems

simply revolve around poor manners or ill timing. Some professional botanists are so beleaguered by requests for successfully grown plants that they destroy their excess material rather than acknowledge requests for it since it would take up too much time answering requests, allotting material, packaging and mailing.

We have therefore decided to suggest some ground rules that seem fair and reasonable to us. Since no one else has come forward to write this note, the rules suggested are obviously narrow in origin, and all commentary about additional ideas, modifications or deletions are welcomed and will be printed.

1. In most cases, use the seed and plant exchange as much as possible--it is free* to all CPN subscribers and entrance into the exchange simply requires a copy of your list of living plants whether or not you have anything to trade. Plants for trade from the list will be appropriately keyed on computer printout. It is not a good idea for individuals to write blanket letters of request to botanical gardens or known large growers.
2. When using the exchange computer list, be sure to write only those individuals who have indicated that they have specific plants for trade. If someone has listed, for example, Cephalotus follicularis in his collection but does not indicate that he has sufficient material for trading, it is best not to send requests except in exceptional instances where small amounts of material are needed for a reasonable or legitimate project.
3. In order to save wear and tear on the individual or garden willing to trade plants, it is best to have as few people write for trades as possible. Thus, if you live in an area with a relatively large number of CPN subscribers or CP enthusiasts, such as the L.A. group, it would probably be better to designate one or two members of that group to work out a trade, propagate the material, then share it with the group rather than each individual bombarding the potential source.
4. When writing for plants, be courteous, clear and concise and offer a trade where possible, no matter what you have to offer. Some sources will not require a trade per se, others will be exacting. You must respect the wishes of the potential source. If he feels he cannot trade with you, the matter should be considered closed for a time period.
5. When you do agree to trade, trade. Both co-editors and others we have talked to have had unpleasant experiences with sending out plants for trade and never receiving the exchange material. As a result, we have personally blacklisted such individuals and pass the word on them to others in personal letters. If you have promised a trade but a delay has come up, promptly write the other person, explain the delay fully, and give a date when you expect to send plants. Procrastination and unfulfilled promises will not only lead to your receiving a bad name among trading CP enthusiasts, but also may shut off disgusted important sources to those who seriously mean to complete their obligations.
6. When you have received some plants, write an acknowledgement to the sender as soon as possible, at least within two or three days. Briefly mention what was received, what date it was received, and what condition the material was in. Besides being good manners, the source will know that his valuable material is safe and that his methods of packing and shipping are satisfactory.
7. Do not become a nuisance or plant-hounder. When trade is refused, graciously accept this fact and watch the exchange lists for additional news. If a letter of trade request goes unanswered, it may mean that it was lost in the mail, or the source has nothing to trade and that no reply is therefore a negative reply. Everyone is entitled to be grumpy at times, and we do seem to have a few permanent grumps among our lot, but we would agree that an answer of some sort from the potential source is common courtesy. So, if your first letter goes unanswered, it is proper to write one more time after a reasonable period (usually four to six weeks--he may be ill or in the field), carefully explaining that the second letter is intended in case the first was lost. If there is still no reply, consider it a negative reply.

We believe that if these simple, largely common sense guidelines are followed, that plant trading will become more efficient and pleasant for all so that the important goals of such trades can be properly met.

* Volume III, Number 1 asks for a small fee of 50¢ to cover postage of the list, sent to Bob Ziemer.