

used almost the same method, but the outer pot was filled entirely with sphagnum without any compost. I examined this after the plant died, and found the moss below the smaller pot to be filled with black drosophyllum root, and it seemed fairly evident that the nutrient in the smaller pot must have become exhausted. For this reason I give my plants

the secondary dose of compost in the base of the outer pot, and as those members who saw the 4 year plus specimen at our Royal Horticultural Society Show exhibit will realize, this method does seem to work. Another of our members, Timothy Heneage, decided to try the same technique, and I must admit, with reluctance, his best plant is rather larger than mine!

Review of Recent Literature

Dixon, K. W. and J. S. Pate. Phenology, Morphology and Reproductive Biology of the Tuberous Sundew, *Drosera erythrorhiza* Lindl. Aust. J. Bot. 26 : 441-454 (1978)

D. erythrorhiza grows near Perth, Western Australia from autumn to late spring and aestivates by underground tubers from Nov. - Feb. Each tuber sends up a stem terminated at the soil surface by a rosette of parent tuber during mid-winter. Other daughter tubers are produced higher up the stem, extended radially from shoots that swell terminally to produce tubers.

D. erythrorhiza rarely produces flowers and only after specific fire requirements and propagation from seed is extremely rare. Reproduction is mainly by daughter tubers whose number varies with the clone and undergoes a cyclic rejuvenation over a sequence of seasons. There are periods of intensive daughter tuber production alternating with periods of minimal reproduction.

Johnson, P. H. 1979. Venus's Flytrap. Gardening 1 : 34-39.

A good popular article on the plant, written mainly from a conservation angle. There is one text error: Seeds of

Dionaea do NOT require stratification prior to germination since the seed matures in late spring to early summer. The article also features nine full color photos by Donald Schnell, Jerome Wexler and David Thomas.

Murry, R. E. and L. E. Urbatsch. 1979. Preliminary reports on the flora of Louisiana. III. The families Droseraceae and Sarraceniaceae. Castanea 44 : 24-27.

This report documents the occurrence of Sarracenis (*S. alata*, *S. purpurea* and *S. psittacina*) and Droseras (*D. capillaris*, *D. brevifolia* and *D. intermedia*) and distributions (dot maps) as they naturally occur in the state.

Pate, J. S. and K. W. Dixon. Mineral Nutrition of *D. erythrorhiza* Lindl. with special reference to its tuberous habit. Aust. J. Bot. 26 : 455-464 (1978)

The parent tuber supplies more than 80% of the nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, sodium and zinc in the leaf rosette while calcium is almost unchanged. The new season's tubers are also very efficient in acquiring these elements especially phosphorus

and nitrogen from the rosette and from insects trapped by the plants. The habitat soil that was enriched in these elements produced tubers with higher levels of elements. Growth on full mineral culture solution or distilled water produced tubers with low levels of minerals. The tuber mineral composition varied greatly between habitats, especially in relation to phosphorus, nitrogen and zinc. It was not clear exactly what effect a previous season's fire had on the tuber composition since results were too variable.

Rooney, S. C. et. al. 1979. *Drosera linearis* Goldie rediscovered in Crystal Maine. *Rhodora* 81 : 145.

Crystal Bog in Aroostook County, Maine is the only herbarium location for *D. linearis* in Maine, there having been seven collections and the last of these in 1935. In June, 1978, two stands of about one hundred plants each were rediscovered in this same location by the authors. They were accompanied by *D. rotundifolia* and *D. intermedia*.

Schnell, DE. 1979. A critical review of published variants of *Sarracenia purpurea* L. *Castanea* 44 : 47-59.

This is the full paper of which a lengthy summary appeared previously in CPN (CPN 7 : 74-76, 1978). The paper should be consulted for arguments supporting the conclusions of that summary. (Reprints: DE Schnell, Rt. 4, Box 275B, Statesville, NC 28677).

Schnell, DE. 1978. *Sarracenia rubra* Walter: Intraspecific nomenclatural corrections. *Castanea* 43 : 260-261.

The author formally names subspecies proposed in his previous paper, "Intraspecific variation in *Sarracenia rubra* Walter: Some observations" (*Castanea* 42 : 149-170, 1977. See CPN 6 : 59). These include *S. rubra* ssp. *rubra* along with ssp. *jonesii* (the 1972 Wherry

nomenclature retained), ssp. *alabamensis* and ssp. *wherryi*. A description of the fifth taxon proposed by the author — ssp. *gulfensis* — is in press. (Reprints: DE Schnell, Rt. 4, Box 275B, Statesville, NC 28677)

Schnell, DE 1978. Systematic flower studies of *Sarracenia* L. *Castanea* 43 : 211-220.

Morphometric studies of *Sarracenia* petals are reported for the first time, and tabulated along with other multiple flower characters of various species, subspecies, etc. of the genus. It is concluded that flower characters are more taxonomically useful in this genus than previously thought. Also, some of the characters are of value in determining relationships of populations within the genus. Includes table of characters and figure of "average" flower petal shapes determined morphometrically. (Reprints: DE Schnell, Rt. 4, Box 275B, Statesville, NC 28677).



Recently I observed one of my *Drosera burkeana* plants. It was in bloom, and I was looking at the flowers. I glanced down at the stalk and noticed a lot of gnats that seemed to be stuck on it. I looked at the stalk closely and noticed that it had little tentacles with dew on it. All of the *D. burkeana* plants were the same, so I was wondering if this was normal. Is it? P. W., Ranson, WV

Yes. The stems are "glandular pubescent" and are capable of trapping small insects. L. C. S.