

Three *Nepenthes* from the Padang Highlands

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The Padang Highlands are situated near the equator in West Sumatra. The principal town in this region is Bukittinggi which is nestled between the two mountains, Mt. Merapi (2,891 m) and Mt. Singgalang (2,671 m). Much of the Padang Highlands are covered in rice fields although the higher mountainous regions are concealed in lush tropical rainforest.

There are unmarked walking tracks to the summits of both Mt. Merapi and Mt. Singgalang. These tracks are extremely steep and treacherous, particularly after rain. The ascent and descent of each mountain requires a full day's steady scramble. During April 1983 an expedi-

tion to the summits of Mt. Merapi and Mt. Singgalang was undertaken. Three species of *Nepenthes*, *Nepenthes bongso* Korth., *Nepenthes gymnamphora* Nees and *Nepenthes singalana* Becc. were observed and photographed.

Mt. Merapi was an active volcano that last erupted in 1926. The summit of the mountain is devoid of vegetation and covered in pumice stone and solidified lava. A strong odour of sulphur permeates the air near the summit.

An ericaceous forest begins at about 2,500 m on Mt. Merapi. In the gulleys at 2,600 m several plants of *Nepenthes bongso* (Continued on page 12)

Byblis liniflora

Bruce Pierson

(P.O. Box 179, Albion Park, NSW
2527 Australia)

This annual species proves very easy in cultivation. It is easily grown from seed, however the seed needs a resting period before sowing, and it will not germinate if the temperature is too low. Seed harvested in late autumn, should be stored in the fridge until early spring, when it can be sown on a mixture of 2 parts peat to 1 part sand.

I find a 100 mm pot adequate to accommodate 6-8 plants, and I prefer to grow this many to a pot; they tend to support each other, as they develop quite a long stem in their growing season. Without support, they tend to trail over other pots, and make a nuisance of themselves.

Watering is easy, using a water tray, with a depth of water of around 26 mm. A sunny location, with a little shade, seems to suit this species very well. In

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Byblis liniflora

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Byblis limiflora (Continued from p. 10)

order to obtain seed, it is necessary to tap all open flowers daily in order to allow the anthers to release their pollen onto the stigma. Cross pollination is unnecessary, as the flowers are self-fertile.

Seed may be collected when the seed capsules have turned brown, and just started to split. When grown in this manner, this plant is a really attractive species when in full flower, with several lilac flowers open at any one time on each plant.

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BOOK REVIEW

Cheers, Gordon. 1983. Carnivorous Plants. Globe Press, 95 pages.

This book is written by Australian nurseryman Gordon Cheers who has been working with CP for some time now. Except for some scattered typo problems, the book is well produced with many excellent (photographed, plated and printed) color photos along with world range maps. The species presented for discussion are a well balanced, representative group—all genera are covered. An asset of the book is the emphasis on culture and propagation. The book is written for popular consumption, but plant descriptions are adequate. The book will have wide application and interest beyond Australia.

DES

Greg Harmison (7918 Briaridge, Dallas, TX 75248). (WB) any *Heliamphora* or *Drosera cistiflora*.

Johannes Marabini (Am Grundla 24, 8522 Herzogenaurach, West Germany). (Sell) Limited number of *Nepenthes maxima* seedlings. (Trade) *Nepenthes lowii* seedlings for *Nepenthes villosa*. (Want) *Nepenthes dubia*, *N. inermis*, *N. leptochila*, *N. pectinata*, *N. petiolata*.

Lee's Botanical Gardens (P.O. Box 7026, Ocala, Fla. 32672) (WTB) *Utricularia reniformis*, *U. endressii*, *U. alpina*, *U. dusenii*, *U. racemosa*, *U. violacea*. (T) *U. dichotoma*, *U. caerulea*, *U. livida*, *U. uliginosa*, *U. resupinata*, *U. monanthos*, many more.

Keith Shoemith (32 Penda's Mead, Lindisfarne Way, Homerton E9 5PX, London, ENGLAND): *Nepenthes* and other CP for sale or trade. Write for list.

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