



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1982

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER of the
RARE FRUIT COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL, Inc.

EDITOR: RAY THORNDIKE

CHAPTER MAIL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 16003, TAMPA, FL 33687

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 2:00 PM ON THE SECOND SUNDAY.

NEXT MEETING.....SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1982 AT 2:00 PM

MEETING PLACE.....FLORIDA CITRUS ARBORETUM
BUREAU OF CITRUS BUDWOOD REGISTRATION
3027 LAKE ALFRED ROAD
WINTER HAVEN
(SEE DIRECTIONS ON LAST PAGE)

PROGRAM.....OUR HOST: MR. LEON HEBB OF THE
BUREAU OF CITRUS BUDWOOD REGISTRATION
MR. HEBB WILL GIVE US A GUIDED TOUR
OF THE ARBORETUM WHICH COVERS 6½ ACRES
AND HAS MORE THAN 230 SPECIMENS IN ITS
COLLECTION OF CITRUS AND CITRUS RELATIVES.

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Abraham & Edith Freedman, 10113 Pepperidge Court, Tampa 33615, Tel. 884-1144

Robert & Ann Forkel, Route 5, Box 441, Lutz 33549, Tel. 949-4082

Roland & Esther Williams, 6215 Oran Street, Tampa 33610

John C. McMichael, 4104 West Leona Street, Tampa 33609, Tel. 839-6159

James P. Sweat, Jr., P.O. Box 116, Balm 33503, Tel. 634-3401

ADDRESS CHANGE:

Chris & Lo-An Nguyen, 16542 Forestlake Drive, Tampa 33624

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REPORT OF NOVEMBER 14, 1982 MEETING

President Bob Heath requested volunteers to help Maja Byvoet on the Library Committee. Bob Forkel, Randy Naugle and Christine Prodanas volunteered their services. Others are welcome to do likewise. Some means of storage and transport must be devised for the library, since it cannot be stored on the premises of our meeting site.

President Heath announced plans for a work session at the Seffner site on Saturday, December 4th. Work will be started on our Demonstration Planting project. It is planned to construct a small bridge over the brook drybed in addition to some survey work. Volunteers were requested to bring their own tools. Leland Terrell volunteered to be Bob Heath's assistant on this project.

Next, President Heath asked for volunteers to assist Chairman Bill Lester with the Plant & Seed Exchange Committee. In the Chairman's absence someone is needed to conduct the Plant Drawing. Also, it is felt that it is very important to have a more active and better organized seed acquisition and exchange program. Volunteers included Romagene Vaccare and Randy Naugle.

Kay Netscher announced that the Tampa Bay Chapter would participate in the "Florida Holiday Festival" to be held at Curtis Nixon Mall on November 18th. Christine Prodanas volunteered to assist Kay and Betty Dickson in setting up and manning our display. A budget was discussed for the purpose of future exhibits and for furnishing speakers at other clubs in the area.

Walter Vines suggested the formation of a study group to look into the potentials of tissue culture. It was decided to form a committee at a future date. Our February program will be devoted to this subject.

Bill Ryland, Secretary

FLORIDA HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

On November 18th at Curtis Nixon Mall, Gasparilla Room, Tampa, the University of Florida Home Economics Extension, IFAS, sponsored a "Holiday Festival" whose theme was "An Old Fashioned Thanksgiving" with demonstrations, about 40 exhibits, including "Edible Landscaping", "Wild Edible Plants", "Rare Fruits", "Agricultural Commodities", "Gift Ideas to Make", "Centerpieces", "Decorations", "Spices", "Herbs", "Wild Game" and three excellent demonstrations by Ruth Fowler. Our chapter had a three table display with citrus varieties, subtropical and tropical fruits - some from Tom Economou's November 14th program - small fruit trees, posters and books, manned by Kay Netscher, Christine Prodanas and Betty Dickson. This was the first time for such a large event and members are urged not to miss next year's program.

Betty Dickson

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, NOVEMBER 26, 1982

The following business concerned this meeting of the board. Treasurer's Report: Current balances , Checking Account \$7,873.79, Savings Account \$8,620.83. A working budget was established for the Demonstration Planting at Seffner with \$100.00 being appropriated for the bridge construction. A self-supporting fund was established to permit the Plant & Seed Committee to purchase quality plants for the monthly drawing. \$100.00 was appropriated to establish the fund. Authorization to purchase a Kodak Carousel slide projector was granted. Board members were authorized reimbursement allowances for travel to board meetings at the rate of 20c per mile. Expenses will be submitted quarterly to the Treasurer.

The possibility of land acquisition for tree plantings was discussed. It could be by purchase or by donation. Our Non-Profit Corporation status allows donations of property, real or otherwise, to be tax-deductible items. We also need the donation of a suitable office quality electric typewriter and the Carousel projector mentioned above. The December 31st deadline for tax deduction purposes is approaching very rapidly, so anyone with suggestions on these matters should please contact any of the board members at the earliest possible date.

Results of the tree sale were announced. Gross: \$15,498.33, Net: \$4,385.34. 1435 trees were sold at cost to about 40 members, which materially affected the Net.

A new meeting site at the Tampa Bay Center Mall, Buffalo & Himes, near Tampa Stadium is being examined. It will be available starting in March. We have outgrown Seffner already.

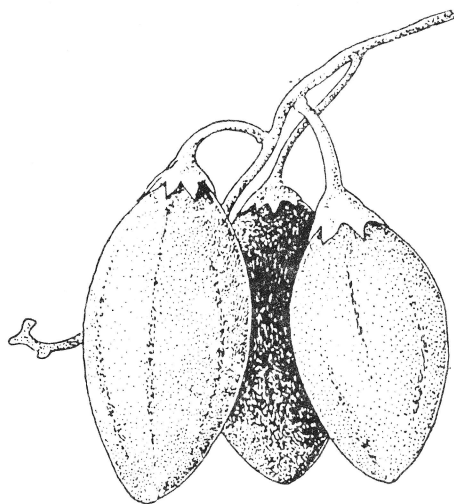


FIG. 1. The tree-tomato (*Cyphomandra betacea*), a fruit produced by a half-woody shrub from South America, closely resembles the tomato in character, and is useful in the same ways as the latter.

The Tamarillo should commence bearing at two years of age and, being a short-lived tree, may decline at 5 to 6 years. A complete N-P-K fertilizer, either 6-6-6 or a standard citrus formulation, is quite suitable applied three times per year. Irrigation in drought periods is a necessity for proper plant growth, fruit size and yield. Aside from nematodes, the only major pests seem to be aphids, caterpillars and white flies. Virus infection necessitates removal and destruction of all infected plants.

Although the Tamarillo is relished in its South American homeland and is widely grown in other parts of the world such as Sri-Lanka (Ceylon), India, Malaysia, etc., it seems that only in New Zealand is the fruit presently being produced on a systematic, commercial scale.

COLD PROTECTION

With an unusually warm start, this winter may be one of the mildest on record. It could revert to form at any time, however, and the wise grower will be prepared. Mr. Seymour Goldweber of the Dade County Extension office has prepared a list of steps to take in order to insure the best protection.

1. Maintain all plants in good condition. A healthy plant has more resistance.
2. Remove all mulches or ground covers prior to frost or freeze. Bare ground will release its absorbed heat to help warm the plants above.
3. Compact soil surfaces with water in advance of frost or freeze. Wet soil will release more heat than dry soil.
4. When sprinkler irrigation (overhead, of course) is used for protection, the water must be turned on before freezing temperatures set in and must never be turned off until all danger of freeze has passed.
5. A dry plant will not suffer cold injury as quickly as a plant with wet foliage. Unless uninterrupted application of sprinkler water can be maintained throughout the danger period, plants should not be wetted.
6. Unprotected container-grown plants in the open should be moved under cover. Large trees or overhanging eaves, preferably with southern exposure, is recommended.
7. Plants heavily pruned during the fall or winter will have less resistance to cold than full canopied plants. A full canopy prevents rapid radiation of heat from the center of the plant. Also, severe pruning may stimulate new growth that would be subject to great damage.
8. Do not use oil sprays during the winter months.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORTCurrently Active Memberships as of November 14, 1982:

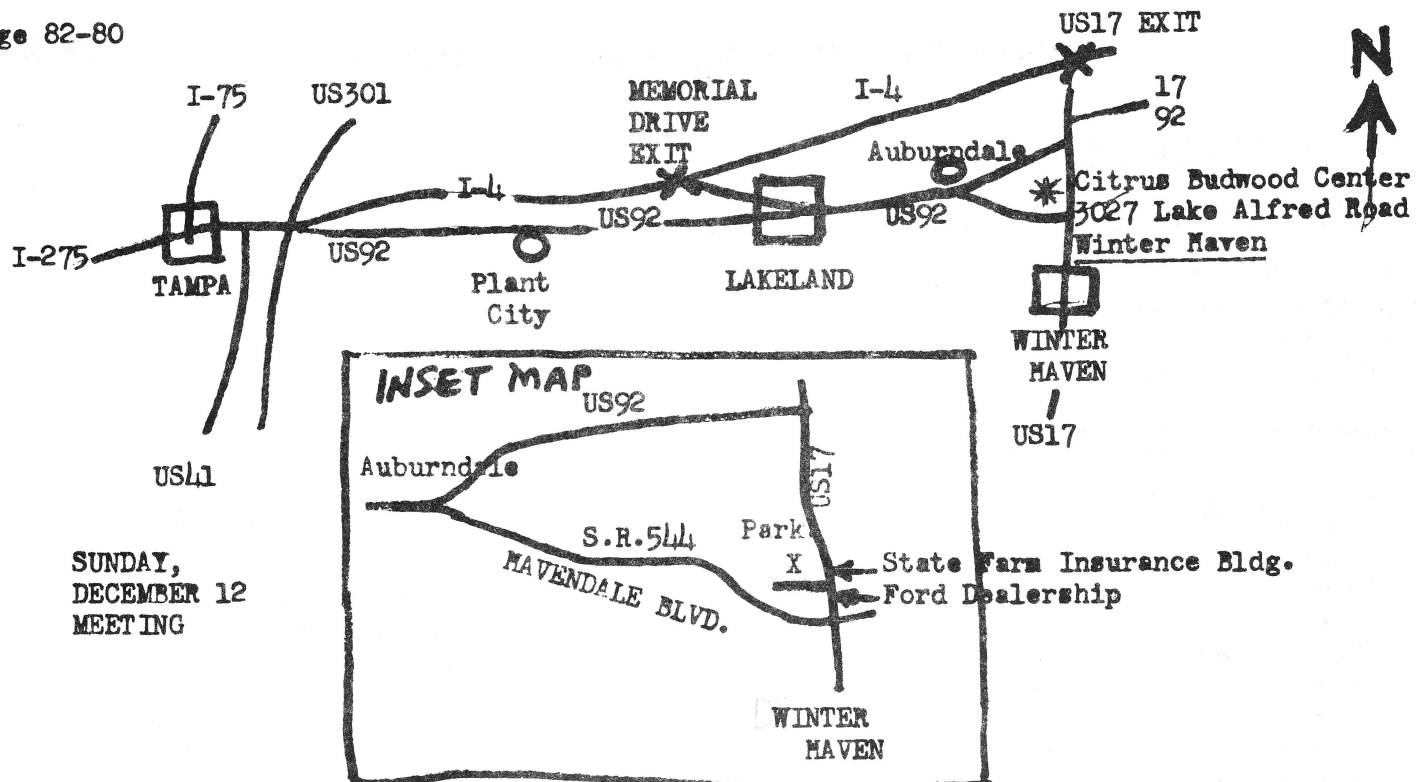
Single Memberships..... 57
 Family Memberships..... 69
 Total Memberships..... 126
 Total Number of Members..... 196

Geographical Distribution of Memberships:

<u>Hillsborough County - 67</u>	<u>Pinellas County - 25</u>	<u>Pasco County - 7</u>
Tampa 34	St. Petersburg 12	Brooksville 2
Lutz 9	Clearwater 9	Holiday 2
Odessa 7	Largo 2	Land O'Lakes 1
Seffner 3	Tarpon Springs 1	New Port Richey 1
Temple Terrace 3	Madeira Beach 1	Zephyrhills 1
Brandon 2		
Dover 2		<u>Other Counties - 16</u>
Valrico 2		
Riverview 2	<u>Polk County - 8</u>	<u>Other States - 3</u>
Thonotosassa 1	Lakeland 6	California 2
Gibsonton 1	Winter Haven 1	Michigan 1
Plant City 1	Kathleen 1	

NOVEMBER MEETING PLANT DRAWING RESULTS

<u>PLANT</u>	<u>DOMOR</u>	<u>WINNER</u>
1. Mamoncillo (Spanish Lime)	Armando Mendez	Bob Duke
2. Mamoncillo	Armando Mendez	?
3. Pepper Plant (small, hot)	Armando Mendez	Glen Myrie
4. White Sapote	Armando Mendez	Pam Miller
5. Seedling Avocado	Armando Mendez	Pat Duke
6. Manihot (2)	Christine Prodanas	?
7. Chayote	Christine Prodanas	?
8. Banana	A. & L. Stark	Walter Vines
9. Seedling Avocado	Glen Myrie	Maja Byvoet
10. Seedling Loquat	Glen Myrie	?
11. Carissa	Glen Myrie	Terry Heath
12. Blackberry Jam Fruit	Tom Patterson	Henry Stewart
13. Dovyalis Hybrid	Walter Vines	Romagene Passavant
14. Seedling Mango	Betty Dickson	Henry Stewart
15. Seedling Mango	Betty Dickson	Maja Byvoet
16. Mamoncillo	Betty Dickson	Bill Ryland
17. Mamoncillo	Betty Dickson	Maja Byvoet
18. Naranjilla	Betty Dickson	Maja Byvoet
19. Naranjilla	Betty Dickson	Romagene Vaccaro
20. Naranjilla	Betty Dickson	Terry Heath
21. Sugar Apple	Betty Dickson	Dave Rush
22. Sugar Apple	Betty Dickson	Jean Miller
23. Sugar Apple	Betty Dickson	Marilyn Preston
24. Variegated Pineapple	Herb Hill	Glen Myrie
25. Chaya (nettle-free var.)	Herb Hill	A. & L. Stark
26. Chaya (" " ")	Herb Hill	?
27. Roselle	Harold Seekins	?
28. Papaya	Ray Thorndike	Joe Fonte



SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 12
MEETING

Take I-4 to Memorial Drive Exit into Lakeland. Stay on Memorial Drive East, becoming US92 to Auburndale and Winter Haven. In Auburndale, take RIGHT fork at light (HAVENDALE BLVD.) to US17, Winter Haven. Turn LEFT (NORTH) on US17 (Lake Alfred Rd.) a couple of blocks to Ford Dealership. Look sharp and turn in at sign (Citrus Budwood Ctr.) at drive (turn LEFT - WEST) between Ford dealer and State Farm Insurance Bldg. Park in designated area. PLEASE DO NOT CONFUSE THIS SITE WITH LAKE ALFRED EXP. STATION....

Tampa Bay Chapter Newsletter
Rare Fruit Council International, Inc.
3114 Troy Avenue
Lakeland, Florida 33803



P. JUDSON NEWCOMBE
3114 DEER PARK
TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617