



# NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1993

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

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: BOB HEATH, THERESA HEATH, ARNOLD STARK, LILLIAN STARK.

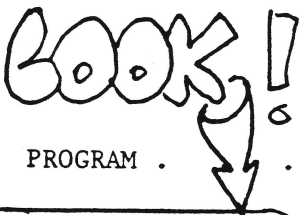
PRESIDENT: LILLIAN STARK

CHAPTER MAIL ADDRESS: 313 PRUETT RD, SEFFNER FL 33584  
(INCLUDING RENEWALS)

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 2nd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 2:00 p.m. (1:00 pm this month)

NEXT MEETING. . SEPTEMBER 12, 1993

MEETING PLACE. . THE HOME OF JANET CONARD, 919 W. HENRY AVE., TAMPA, PHONE 239-9246.  
You will find Janet's house on the north side of Henry Ave., between Kenneth Ave. and the river, nine blocks west of Florida Ave., and four blocks north of Hillsborough Ave. Take I-75/275 to the Hillsborough exit and go west to Florida, Highland or Ola, and then north to Henry Ave., then west on Henry to Janet's house.



PROGRAM . . POT-LUCK (COVERED DISH) LUNCHEON AT 1:00 P.M. Please bring cold dishes such as salads, luncheon meat, breads, desserts, etc. that do not have to be warmed up, unless you have a favorite that you would like to bring that is hot. We do have a microwave. If you have any folding chairs, please bring them, too. There will be a plant raffle and a very important planning session for next month's annual plant sale. PLEASE BE THERE!!!

## TREE SALE NOTES:

**\*\* PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THE ENCLOSED FLYERS - SALE IS OCTOBER 16 AND 17. \*\***

- 1) Members may supply unlimited numbers of small plants (smaller than 1 gallon pots). Anything bigger in quantities of more than 4 must be cleared in advance. Call Bob at 879-6349 or 870-1788 (days) or 289-1068 (eves.) OR Arnold at 654-4198 (days) or 621-4987 (eves.) by October 10 for approval.
- 2) Members supplying plants should bring them Friday Oct. 15 from 3:00 til 6:00 p.m. or, if necessary, before 10:00 a.m. Saturday morning, and assist in the Saturday set-up. They must also be available Sunday afternoon to assist with the after-sale clean-up if they expect to get paid.
- 3) All members' plants brought for sale must be labeled with the plant name and price, and must be accompanied by a completed manifest.
- 4) Members who work at least 1/2 day will be entitled to a 25% discount on plants. They may be selected between 11:00 and 12:00 on Saturday and Sunday. However, they are to be put in storage until 5:00 p.m. each day.
- 5) Only those members who work at least two half days will be entitled to select plants remaining on the sales floor after 4:00 p.m. Sunday at a 50% discount.
- 6) Non-working members (surely there aren't any of those) will only be entitled to a 10% discount on plants during 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.
- 7) No plants may be moved from the sales floor between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.
- 8) Workers must sign the roster each half day to get credit for working.

(Continued next page)

- 9) Anyone who can provide the use of 4-wheel dollies, garden type carts or flat bed carts, please bring them to the Armory very early on Saturday.
- 10) Work time: Saturday & Sunday: 8:00 a.m. till ?  
(PLEASE PLAN ON HELPING WITH CLEAN-UP.)
- 11) Please publicize the sale to everyone you know (and even people you don't know).  
POST THE FLYERS!!!
- 12) Remember: YOU are needed to make this sale a success, and without a successful sale there is no RFCI!
- 13) Due to time constraints, RFCI will not be providing lunch on Saturday & Sunday. Bring your own lunch. However, beverages will be provided thru the mornings.

\* \* \*

## What's Happening

August-September 1993

by Paul Zmoda

This part of the year is probably the best time for many of our treasured fruiting plants to really grow. With adequate water you may expect Lychees, Carambolas, Jujubes, Plums, Bananas, Annonas, and others to "put on weight". Use fertilizers judiciously. It is far better to under fertilize, and then add a little more later, than to just dump too much on at once, especially if watering is inadequate. Fertilizer components are, after all, mostly various kinds of salts. Salt solutions draw water away from living cells, causing trauma to plants. This can cause cessation of growth, stunting or death, so go easy. Using organic compost is a "gentle" way to fertilize, and it seems that it is hard to overdo it that way.

Choose planting sites carefully: place a potted specimen here or there, but leave it for 2-3 weeks at a time to allow for favorable adjustment to local conditions before committing to a permanent location. Remember to research each species so that, come Winter, you will have provided for some cold protection. Don't feel too badly about plants dying once in a while. All plant growers, from beginner to expert, lose a specimen or even whole groups of plants from time to time. Don't get discouraged-learn from your mistakes. Keep a notebook and ask questions of those who attempt to grow similar plants. After a while you will find that you have certain species figured out so that they become foolproof, or close to it.

Now is a prime time to start planting the more heat-tolerant types of beans. How about Jack or sword beans, winged beans or yardlong and other pole beans? Southern peas are excellent, and can be grown throughout the summer, requiring little attention and water. They all can do satisfactorily in unimproved, drier soils, but will perform best in soils enhanced with organic matter and water. There are so many kinds of beans, some with edible leaves, pods, seeds, stems, and even roots. These legumes also fix nitrogen, thereby enriching the soil.

Watch your Avocado leaves for infestations of Lacebugs. Lacebugs are insects which form dirty-looking colonies underneath leaves. They suck the sap causing dried out brown patches, especially along the larger leaf veins. Treat with sprays of soap or malathion.

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Member and author Monica Brandies is presently writing a book on Xeriscaping for Florida homes. She is looking for homeowners who have landscape plans with xeriscaping a high priority and who would be willing to be interviewed about what they had before, what they changed and why, and how xeriscaping has made a difference. She is most interested in typical Florida homes, rather than grand ones. Please call her at (813) 654-1969.

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## Raffle: August

Plant Name	Donor	Winner
Borinquen Pumpkin	Charles Novak	Jim Murrie
Borinquen Pumpkin	Charles Novak	Samm Philmore
Borinquen Pumpkin	Charles Novak	Bob Heath
Borinquen Pumpkin	Charles Novak	Frank Burhenn
Borinquen Pumpkin	Charles Novak	Diane Friedman
Borinquen Pumpkin (2)	Charles Novak	?
Wampi	Heath	John Bell
Passion Fruit	Heath	Sandi Schroff
Yellow Passion Fruit	Heath	Nancy McCormack
Beauty Berry	Heath	Ronald McDonald
Spanish Lime	Heath	Scott Daniels
Imbe	Heath	Charles Novak
Jaboticaba	Heath	Charles Novak
Sweet Lemon	Heath	Scott Daniels
Passion Fruit	Burhenn	Gene Wagenseller
Passion Fruit	Burhenn	Walter Vines
Loquat	Janet Conard	Sandi Schroff
Loquat	Janet Conard	L. McKone
Fig	Janet Conard	?
Puerto Rican Pepper	Zmoda	Sandi Schroff
Puerto Rican Pepper	Zmoda	Jim Langford
Tomatillo	Zmoda	Scott Daniels
Surinam Cherry	Zmoda	K. McKone
American Beauty Berry	Zmoda	J. May
Luffa Squash	Zmoda	N. McCormack
Black Mulberry	Zmoda	Rick Schroff
Fig	Zmoda	Jesse May

## Tasting Table: August

Al Roberts: Raspberry-grape-blueberry punch

Janet Conard: Peach upside-down cake

Frank & Alice Burhenn: Lemon Cake

Nancy McCormack: Pecan rolls, pound cake

Paul Zmoda: *Passiflora alata*

Kathryn McKone: Lemon cheese bars

Charles Novak: yellow passion fruit

## New Members

Sam & Judy Ramirez 5518 W. Linebaugh Ave. Tampa, FL 33624 (813)961-4403

*Thank You Thank You Thank You*

To Richard Schroff for being the high bidder on the lovely yellow cattleya guava.

## TROPICAL FRUIT

For our program this month, we watched a tape made by "ECHO", which is the Education Concerns for Hunger Organization. This tape is the first in a series of tropical fruit videos, edited by Dr. Carl Campbell, and this one is "An Introduction to Tropical Fruit." The aim of this video is to introduce tropical fruit to those people who are unfamiliar with them so they may understand what is available and decide what they would like to grow themselves.

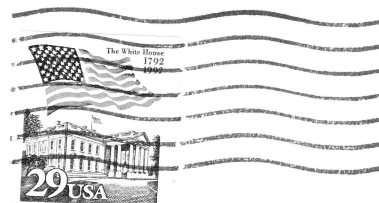
Dr. Campbell indicated that the tropics have very small temperature ranges throughout the year at any particular elevation and in order to find different temperatures, one must go from the lowlands up to the higher lands and on up into the mountains. He has broken down the presentation of tropical fruit trees into three categories with the first one based on the lowlands. He classifies the lowlands as land between sea level and roughly 800 meters, which is approximately 2400 feet to 3000 feet. The mid-elevations are from 2400 feet up to 6400 feet, and the highlands from 6400 feet up to approximately 11,000 feet. Above this elevation very few trees grow; mostly it's just grasses and shrub plants. The lowlands have the greatest diversity of tropical fruit.

**Coconut**

The first tree that Dr. Campbell mentioned was the coconut which is one of his favorite tropical fruit. Most people see coconuts growing near the ocean and think that they need to be growing near salt water, but this is not true. Coconuts grow very well on high ground without any salt content in the soil. However, they are tropical and do need lots of water for proper growth. We saw several pictures of coconuts growing both in the tropical islands and also in south Florida.

(CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER RFCI  
313 PRUETT RD  
SEFFNER FL 33584



FIRST CLASS MAIL

P. JUDSON NEWCOMBE  
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TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617