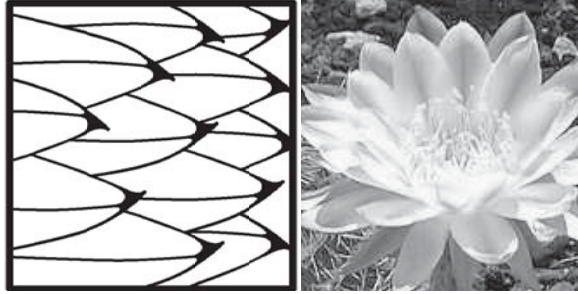


Central Coast Cactus
& Succulent Society
c/o Nick Wilkinson, Editor
1719 14th Street
Los Osos, CA 93402



On the Dry Side

SEPTEMBER 2008

Inside this issue —

- 2008 Speakers
- Upcoming Events
- Hospitality News
- Cal Poly Open House & Sale
- Plant of the Month: Senecio

September Meeting Recap

As always, we welcome newcomers and offer a free succulent or cactus. We're excited the membership in CCCSS continues to grow! Rob Skillin presented our plant of the month, Lithops. Native to South Africa, they're challenging to grow, but worth it. When beautifully flowering in late summer or fall, water. After flowering, DO NOT water. Let old leaves dry up and do not water in winter. Speaker of the month was Fritz Light. He gave our eagerly attentive audience an informative presentation on plant pests and pathogens. Fritz prefers to encourage environments that support natural pest enemies by avoiding monoculture, the cultivation of only one type of plant. (The perfect excuse to continue collecting different succulents and cacti!) Fritz discussed mealy bugs, whiteflies, ants, aphids, scale, snails, slugs, weeds, and aloe cancer. Mealy bugs cause damage by sucking plant's sugar. Look for white sticky webbing, especially in rosettes, or on root systems. Control topically, except on Dorstenias and Adeniums, and not in sun, with a solution of 70% alcohol / 30% water. This dissolves waxy body coatings. For ants, use boric acid in capfuls where they crawl. Scale can be high power hosed, or as a last resort, Orthene insecticide. Snails won't cross copper. Weeds should be pulled because they compete for nutrients, water, and photosynthesis. Mites travel on wind and spread Aloe cancer. Cut out infected parts. We thank Fritz for shedding Light on the ubiquitous problem of pests in our gardens, and we appreciate his dedication to natural biological controls, rather than the use of harsh poisonous chemicals.

-Eva Zayha



Charles Spotts People, Plants and Places of Oaxaca

Our own Charles Spotts will take us on an exploration of the valleys and plants north and south of Oaxaca.

Then we'll explore provincial Spanish Colonial, Aztec and Mayan ruins.

Thanks Charles.....

Cal Poly Plant Conservatory OPEN HOUSE for CCCSS Members & Friends:

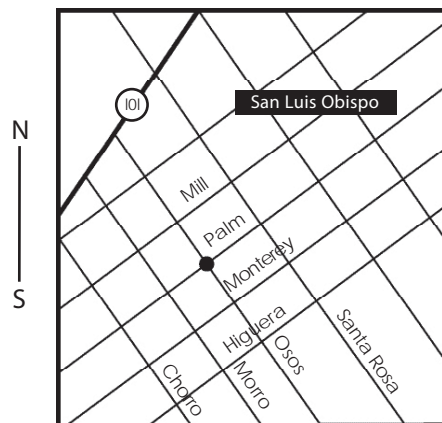
Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 5:45pm &
Monday, Sept. 15 @ 4:30pm:

Lots of succulents will be available on a donation basis.

E-mail Fritz Light at
ztirfthgil@gmail.com
or phone 788-0383



NEXT meeting:



Sun, Sept. 14'th
at 2:00 pm

SLO Public Library
(large room)

995 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo
805-781-5991

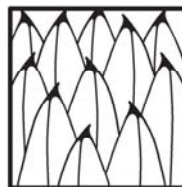
next.....

BOARD—MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on Sept. 14th right after our General Meeting. As always, members are welcome.

Upcoming Speakers:

October - Tom Glavich: Tiny Plants of South Africa
Tom will have plants for sale.



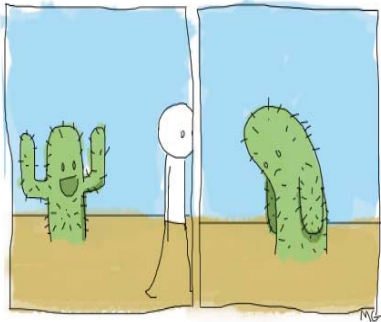
Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society
e-mail; markusmumper@gmail.com

All submissions to the CCCSS newsletter must be submitted two weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

PRESIDENT Mary Peracca 550-6977	VICE PRESIDENT Charles Spotts 237-2054	SECRETARY Eva Zahya 546-8202	CCSA AFFILIATE Rob Skillin 473-0788	TREASURER Edie Price 489-8491
EDITORS Nick & Kara Wilkinson 528-8880	ASST. EDITOR Markus Mumper 773-1499	PUBLICITY Joan Field 773-6644	LIBRARIANS Martin Howell & Jeanne Hanyasz 544-5389	HOSPITALITY Maggie Wagner, 773-1499 Pat Gilson, 481-5596

A one time free newsletter will be shipped out to those who sign in at the monthly meetings. After this, dues must be paid in order to continue this service.

Some people don't understand:



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potter / artist
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Upcoming

- SEP 20-21 Monterey Bay Area C & S Society Show and Sale
 115 Third St. (Jardins de San Juan), San Juan Bautista
 (Nick Wilkinson of Grow Nursery will be a vendor)
- SEP 28 Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction
 18127 South Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez
- OCT 4-5 C & S society of San Jose Show & Sale
 1111 Bellomy St., Santa Clara
- OCT 11 Docent Tour: Aloes and Other Succulents
 S.L.O. Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creak Rd., S.L.O.
- OCT 11-12 Bakersfield C & S Society
 East Hills Mall, Bakersfield, CA 661-588-0224
 (Nick Wilkinson of Grow Nursery will be a vendor)

Special Announcement: Congratulations to Kara & Nick Wilkinson upon the birth of their first baby boy Cruz, an eight pound three ounce.

hospitality news:

Thanks to Carol Mortensen, Bruce Mundt and Terry Skillin for providing last meeting's treats.

This month Joann Spotts and John Kuden will host. We're looking for one more Savory. If your interested in providing a snack for this or future meetings please contact Maggie Wagner, 773-1499 or Pat Gilson, 481-5596.

CCCSS Library

CCCSS now has a library of books that can be checked out by CCCSS members. You will find the most updated list of books available for check out at each meeting. Please contact librarians Martin Howell & Jeanne Hanysz, 544-5389, for more information and availability.

* Any book lost or damaged will require a replacement fee.

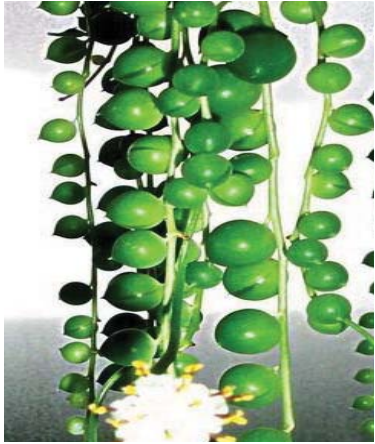
Senecio^{L.}

Class: Magnoliopsida

Family: Asteraceae

Subfamily: Asteroideae

Tribe: Senecioneae



The genus Senecio, named by Carl Linnaeus himself, occurs throughout the world. Leaf, stem and tuber succulents, annuals, perennials, aquatic forms, climbers, shrubs and small trees, over 1,500 species in all, are currently described within the genus

One source states that the word Senecio derives from the Latin word senex - an old man or woman - alluding to the white bristly pappus [an appendage or tuft of appendages that crowns the seeds and aid seed dispersal through wind action] that resemble the white hair of an elderly person.

Since this genus is so widely dispersed there cannot be any hard rules of cultivation other than that they are generally drought resistant and typically not very frost tolerant.

Amongst the plants interesting to landscapers are:

Senecio mandraliscae - also known as Blue Finger. A familiar chalky blue ground cover plant. This plant is not good for slope stabilization though because, like Ice Plant, the root structure is shallow.

Senecio serpens - similar to above but with smaller leaves.

Senecio cineraria - known as Dusty Miller. A shrubby perennial two to three feet tall with woolly white leaves.

Senecio hybrids and cultivars - like *Kalanchoe* and *Echeveria*, there are numerous varieties of plants



available at nurseries that cannot be found in nature. These have been optimized for easy cultivation and use in xeriscapes.

Collectors plants:

Senecio praecox - one of the "broom stick" Senecios, is a beautiful plant. The leaves, present year 'round under favorable conditions, are not succulent but the relatively thick trunk and limbs form an attractive plant.

Senecio pendulus - an articulated plant with attractive purple green lines against a lighter grey green background, commonly named the Inch Worm. The plant "leap frogs" along the ground with each segment rooting before sending along another.

Senecio kilimanjari - resembling a Yucca. A large plant ten to fifteen feet tall that is found on Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa. I've never seen this plant in cultivation. Anyone know of a source?

And most have grown *Senecio rowleyanus*, commonly known as String of Pearls. This is an easy to grow plant that looks attractive in hanging pots.

Senecio - A common genus found on six of the seven continents and most major islands - and also at your local nursery.

Book Recommendation
[Succulents: The Illustrated Dictionary](#) by Maurizio Sajeve & Mariangela Costanzo

