

SUMMARY

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Ben Wijffelaars found out that the cover pictures of a *Mammillaria plumosa* cluster in Succulenta August 2008 and April this year seem identical. However, these photos were taken by two different people, i.c. Bertus Spee and Wolter ten Hoeve, but at the very same time and location. Bertus mentioned that the cluster consisted of 30 heads and Wolter 60. Ben counted 62 heads, so Wolter was (almost) right.

In his series of articles on the old 'Verkade' books from the 1930's, Theo Heijnsdijk deals with *Mammillaria decipiens* ssp. *camptotricha*. This well-known cactus was first described in 1905 as *Mammillaria camptotricha* by the German Erich Dams. Characteristic features are slender elongated tubercles, long twisted flexible spines and small white flowers. Several cultivars are known, for example cv. 'Mme Marnier' (shorter tubercles and spines), cv. 'Bru', also known as forma *brevispina*, with about 5 very short spines, and 'var. longispina' (with very long spines). Cultivation is easy, the plants are self-fertile.

Bertus Spee again presents 4 nice succulents by means of photos with short descriptions. This time that is *Tephrocactus weberi* var. *deminutus*, *Echinocereus scheeri* var. *obscuriensis*, *Mammillaria carmenae* and *Selenicereus grandiflorus*.

Wiebe Bosma went to southern India and found *Ceropegia juncea*, an endemic species with climbing succulent stems from the Apocynaceae (former Asclepiadaceae) family. This is one of the approximately 60 *Ceropegia* species from this country. *Ceropegias* have peculiar lantern-like flowers with hairs inside the floral tube. Pollinators (flies) can only escape after the flower has withered.

Lothar Diers and Hansjörg Jucker describe a new *Lobivia* subspecies from the Rio Pilcomayo area, Bolivia, as *Lobivia krahn-juckeri* ssp. *echinopsoides*. This taxon differs from the type species by having more spines per areole, shorter distance between adjacent areoles with the ribs closer together. Flower, fruit and seed exhibit no fundamental differences. The name refers to the resemblance to an *echinopsis*.

Henk Ruinaard visited the Valley of Fires, a volcanic area in the state of New Mexico, USA. The 5000 year old lava flow is now a suitable habitat for many succulent plants. Henk pays special attention to *Echinocereus coccineus* ssp. *coccineus*.

Herbert Thiele reports about the parodias of Amblayo, a region in the north-Argentinian province of Salta. In 1970 the German Alfred Lau collected 3 plants from this area provided with his field numbers L 567 (*P.*

hummeliana, red flowers), L 568 (*P. uhligiana*, red flowers) and L 570 (yellow flowers). Strangely enough, the latter has never been described. The author stresses the importance of ecological factors, because these plants were found to grow in different rock types.

With part 4, Henk Ruinaard finishes his study on inert substrates. In this, he deals with the topics when one should water, what fertilizing mixtures one should use and where to acquire these substrates. He gives names and internet sites of companies where you can buy bims, lava and flugsand, including prices.

Wolter ten Hoeve summarizes the contents of other journals on succulent plants.

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