

Summary

Rob Bregman

Columnist Ben Wijffelaars looks back at the cold and snowy period we experienced in the first week of January. He is a bit worried about his plants, as well as the electricity bill.

In his series on the 'Verkade' handbooks from the 1930s, Theo Heijnsdijk deals with *Echeveria setosa*. This Crassulacean species was discovered and first described in 1910 by the German botanist Carl Albert Purpus. Strangely enough, the exact type location in Mexico is still unknown. *E. setosa* is a very variable species, so many varieties have been described, with var. *deminuta* being most common in collections. The genus *Echeveria* was named after the Mexican botanical designer Atanasio Echeverria (spelled with double r). At present, this genus consists of 138 species. For more than a century hybrids between different *Echeveria* species have been created by many growers and hobbyists.

In part 143 of his ongoing series called 'In the spotlight', Bertus Spee discusses *Aloe cipolinicola*, *Crassula hemisphaerica*, *Echeveria dactylifera* and *Ortegocactus macdougallii*.

Aat van Uijen presents part two of his series on epiphytic cacti. This time *Rhipsalis campos-portoana* is the subject, a species from the coastal woods of Brazil, with cylindrical stem segments, campanulate flowers and, quite remarkably, orange fruits.

In our series about the frost tolerance of succulents, Aiko Talens is the next author to outline his method of getting his plants through the winter period. He has a large collection of cacti and other succulents. In winter, most of his many African succulents are stored indoors, whereas he leaves his cacti in an unheated greenhouse. He takes into consideration which plants he chooses to cultivate under these circumstances.

Herman Vertongen tells us about his 2006 search for *Trichocereus randallii* in Bolivia. This species was discovered in the early sixties by Friedrich Ritter, who provisionally named the plant *Soehrensia* spec. nov. However, it turned out later that it had already been described by Martin Cardenas as *Trichocereus randallii*.

By showing my two 53 years old *Coryphantha radians* specimens, I like to invite and encourage all Succulenta members to tell something about their very first self-sown succulent plant which is still alive. A remarkable phenomenon is the movement of the filaments toward the style after touching, thus closing the floral tube for any animal looking for nectar. This is called thigmonasty.

Paul Theunis reacts to a previous article about cacti in Europe (mostly in the Canary Islands). In its natural habitat (Argentina), *Tephrocactus articulatus* occurs in a hotter climate than that of Tenerife. Paul also comments on a recent article by Andre van Zuijlen: *Gymnocalycium pflanzii* should be *G. delaetii*, and *Echinopsis terscheckii* does indeed occur in Salta, Argentina.

Wolter ten Hoeve gives abstracts of the most interesting articles published in foreign journals on succulent plants.

Finally, Tom Twijnstra advocates *Anacampseros* as a genus of attractive and virtually indestructible little succulent plants, spreading their seeds all over the place.

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