

Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads

By Tom Wolfe &

Eileen Kahl

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

This list is compiled to be a
guide for many bromeliad
species and some hybrids.

- (1) Many variables factor into cold hardiness, including the condition and location of the plants along with the climatic conditions of a particular cold event
- (2) Wind velocity can dissipate radiational heat from the ground
- (3) No wind (calm) can allow frost under 38°
- (4) Frost—some plants will tolerate temperatures below freezing for a short period but be severely injured by frost
- (5) Cold duration
- (6) Location of plants: in ground, under trees, in pots, in hanging baskets, tree branches (more vulnerable elevated when surrounded by cold air)
- (7) Cold following unseasonable warmth
- (8) It is recommended that, prior to a hard freeze, you water your bromeliads. The water in the cups may insulate the caudex so that the caudex will survive and the plant can pup.
- (9) Mother plants may die but pups will survive

16⁰-21⁰ F

Aechmea

apocalyptica
aquilega
blumenavii
calyculata
caudata
comata
cylindrata
distichantha
(all varieties)
gamosepala
kerteziae
ornata var. nationalis
recurvata
(all its varieties)
triangularis
winkleri
wittmackiana

Billbergia

chlorosticta is now saundersii
distachia
horrida
nutans (and its hybrids)
pyramidalis
(including 'Striata' and 'Kyoto')
sanderiana
saundersii (formerly chlorosticta)
'Theodore L. Mead'

Bromelia

flemengii
serra

Deuterocohnia

meziana
schreiteri

Dyckia

All species *except*
marnier-lapostollei

Fascicularia

bicolor
pitcairniifolia is now bicolor
ssp. canaliculata

Hechtia

marnier-lapostollei
stenopetala
texensis

x Neophytum

'Ralph Davis'

Neoregelia

'Marcon'
macwilliamsii
spectabilis

Nidularium

fulgens
procerum
regeloides now rutilans

Puya

Most species

Quesnelia

arvensis
quesneliana
testudo

Tillandsia

baileyi
ionantha
recurvata (ball moss)
usneoides (Spanish moss)

Vriesea

atra
barilletii
carinata
corcovadensis
ensiformis
flammea
friburgensis (all varieties)
gigantea
incurvata
lubbersi
'Mariae'
phillipocoburgii
platynema
rodigasiana
scalaris
schwackeana
simplex
vagans

22⁰-27⁰ F

Aechmea

'Burgundy'
eurecorymbus
'Foster's Favorite'
nudicaulis
ramosa var. festiva
rubens

Billbergia

amoena stolonifera
'Catherine Wilson'
'Muriel Waterman' (severely damaged by frost)

22⁰-27⁰ F con't

Vriesea

bituminosa
guttata

Canistrum

aurantacum
lindenii
(is now *Edmundoa lindenii*)

Hechtia

argentea
glomerata
montana

xNeomea

'Strawberry'

Neoregelia

'Catherine Wilson'
compacta
cruenta

Vriesea

erythroclactylon

28⁰-32⁰ F

Acanthostachys

strobilacea

Aechmea

'Bert'
blanchetiana (frost sensitive)
bracteata (frost sensitive)
bromelifolia (frost sensitive)
chlorophylla
dactylina
fasciata
fendleri
filicaulis
fosteriana (frost sensitive)
fulgens
lamarchei
lingulata
lueddemanniana
mariae-reginae
miniata
mulfordii
nudicaulis
orlandiana
pectinata
pimenti-velosoi
pineliana
(also var. *minuta*)
pubscens
triticina

weilbachii

Alcantarea

gigantea
imperialis

Androlepis

skinneri

Billbergia

amoena (all varieties)
leptopoda
meyeri
morelii
rosea
speciosa
vittata
zebrina

Bromelia

balansae

Deuterocohnia

brevifolia
brevispicata

Guzmania

berteroniana
lingulata
lindenii
monostachia

Hechtia

mexicana

xNeophytum

'Galactic Warrior'

Neoregelia

ampullacea
avalon
burle-marxii
carolinae in all its forms
'Dexter's Pride'
'Fosperior'
johannis
johannis rubra
kautskyi
laevis
macrosepala
melanodonta
'Morrisoniana' (Foster
hybrid)
pineliana
'Rien's Pride'
Sarmentosa
'Sheba'

Nidularium

amazonicum
burchellii
(is now *Canistropsis burchellii*)
ferdinando-coburgii

innocenti
procerum
rutilans

Pitcairnia most species

Portea

kermesina
leptantha
petropolitana (all varieties)
silverae

Quesnelia

edmundoi
humilis
mamorata

Tillandsia

bartramii
fasciculata
xfloridana
paucifolia
setacea
simulata
tricolor
utriculata

Vriesea

bituminosa
fosteriana
glutinosa
'Lucille'
'Mon Petit'
'Purple Cockatoo'
'Rex'
'Rosa Morena'
saundersii
'Seminole Chief'

32⁰-40⁰ F

There are a multitude of bromeliad species and hybrids that will survive temperatures between 32°-40° F, though there are some that will be damaged or killed by temperatures in the 40's.

(January 2007)

<http://fcbs.org/>

Some information was gleaned from lists compiled in prior years by Karen Andreas, Dale H. Jenkins, Al Muzzell, & Tom Wolfe