

Epi News

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HOW TO SAFELY MOVE YOUR HOUSE PLANTS

It's not uncommon for a plant loving family to have 30 to 40 plants, ranging in size from small to giant. It's a healthy trend in home life, but can pose a problem on moving day.

There was a time when the recommendation was to give plants away rather than to try to move them. Today persons moving wouldn't think of leaving their plants behind.

In many instances, plants can be loaded on the moving van. However, because plants may get too warm or too cold, particularly on moves of long distances, the best method may be to move them in the car.

Here is a calendar of steps to be taken in preparing plants:

Three Weeks Before Moving Day: Tell your agent if you plan to move plants in the van. Call your local Dept. of Agriculture to check on regulations for moving plants from your present state to your new location.

Any plants in clay pots should be repotted in unbreakable plastic containers. They must be big enough to hold the root system, but only large enough to hold the plant.

Two Weeks Before Moving Day: To kill any parasites that may be on the plant or in the soil, place your plants in a black plastic bag for about six hours with a bug/pest strip or a conventional flea collar. Put bag in a cool, shady area.

Moving Day: Conventional packing cartons are adaptable to moving plants. The plants should be securely anchored so they won't slip when the box is lifted. Dampen newspaper or packing paper and wrap the pot and leaves. Place pot in a box, make sure it fits snugly in the bottom. Make sure the limbs are cushioned with paper. Place dampened paper loosely around the top of the plant to further protect the leaves.

Remember When?

EPIPHYLLUM SHOW

The Epiphyllum Society of America proudly announces that the Third Annual Daytime Epiphyllum Flower Show will be held at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum Lecture Hall, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif., on Sunday, May 20, 1962, from 12 Noon till 5:00 P.M. The theme of this year's show will be Polynesian. Admission is free.

We invite the public to attend; it's a unique treat we offer you this year—Epiphyllum plants in bud and bloom, hundreds of exotic Epiphyllum hybrid cut flowers, table and floor displays, corsages and centerpieces, all using hybrid Epis. In addition, we will display hanging baskets as well as show colored slides of Epiphyllum hybrids—two firsts this year.

Mark your calendar NOW.

MADLINE MCGILL
2962 Emerson Way
Altadena, Cal.

This ad comes from the
CSSA Journal, Vol. XXXIV,
2, March-April, 1962,
p. 63.

January 10 program -
on Hummingbirds
by Alberta & Don Shoemaker
of San Fernando

Plants should be watered normally before packing during the warm months, only slightly during the cold months.

Punch air holes in the sides of the box and fasten lid loosely. If you are moving the plants in a car avoid putting them in the car trunk, unless there is no other option, as heat or cold can cause damage.

On The Road: Be sure when you park your car that you leave a window open and park in a shaded area in the summer, the opposite in the winter.

At Your New Home: Unpack plants as quickly as possible. Re-

move them through the bottom of the box to avoid breaking branches. Don't overexpose your plants the first few weeks.

If you don't have space to carry plants, take cuttings. Place them in a sterile mix or put cuttings in a plastic bag with damp cotton or paper towels. They should be in good shape to take root at your new home.

EPIPHYLLUM COLLECTION FOR SALE

Due to illness and advanced age, I am offering my collection of Epiphyllums, consisting of over 1000 plants, most of which are specimen plants from two to five feet tall with many branches, for \$250.00. F.O.B. yard. I have neither time or facilities to pack. It is supposed to be the oldest collection in the state, in excellent condition and containing many fine plants, not upon the market. This price includes also many varieties of climbing and other cacti.

H. M. WEGENER
1190 Leighton Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

Superior Quality EPIPHYLLUMS

From America's largest and most beautiful Epiphyllum gardens.

It is not too late to start your unrooted cuttings and small plants for spring flowers. Do not miss this issue of our well illustrated catalog with cultural instructions, etc. Remaining copies at 10 cents.

VENTURA EPIPHYLLUM GARDENS
MRS. W. D. MONMONIER
201 McFarlane Dr., Ventura, Calif.

These ads come from
the CSSA Journal,
Vol. XIII, # 9, Sept.
1941, p. 156.

Welcome New Members!

Jack & Carrie Stafford
820 Jefferson Ave.
Chula Vista 92011

Robert E. Dusch
342 Camino del Cerro
Grande Ave. 475-0036
Bonita 92002

Joseph L. Seals
Sunset Magazine
3055 Wilshire Blvd.
Ste. 660, 380-9680
Los Angeles 90010

← The large article to
the left was submitted
by Blendina Boyle

Happy New Year to all!

Late Renewals:Memberships

Evelyn Hickey 420-2967
123 Brightwood
Chula Vista 92010

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Albright
7968 Jackson Way
Buena Park 90620

Robert Leffler 465-5396
5156 Judson Way
San Diego 92115

New Address

Nicholas R. Keough
P. O. Box 632 938-2668
Big Pine 93513

For the month of February in honor of our U. S. President's birthdays, all the gentlemen of the society are requested to bring one baked cherry or apple pie for the Meeting's refreshments.

---Gwendolyn Johnson

RHIPSALIS

The genus *Rhipsalis* is called such, because the word means wickerwork in Greek (some of the plants have a wickerwork of branches). Other common names for some of the species are: Mistletoe Cactus (*R. cassutha*), Rice Cactus (*R. cereuscula*), and Snowdrops (*R. houletiana*). There are approximately 60 species (some may be synonyms) that are native to tropical and subtropical regions, extending from southern Florida and the West Indies, through Mexico and down all the way to Argentina, with the greatest concentration in southern Brazil. *Rhipsalis* is the only exception to the rule that the cactus family is limited (naturally) to the Western Hemisphere (only Bromeliads and Hummingbirds are). One or two species of *Rhipsalis* are found in tropical West and East Africa, the island of Madagascar, and the island of Ceylon. All kinds of theories have been advanced why this is so. Perhaps they were introduced by migratory birds.

With so many species, it is natural that this genus is divided up into subgenera. *Eurhipsalis* consists of those species that have smooth, cylindrical stems such as *R. capilliformis*, *mesembryanthemoides*, and *teres*. *Ophi-orhipsalis* has plants with bristly, cylindrical stems like *R. aculeata*. *Goniorhipsalis* contains plants with angular stems such as *R. triangularis* and *pentaptera*. *Phyllorhipsalis* includes those plants that look like small Epiphyllums with leaf-like joints e. g. *R. houletiana*, *rhombea*, *pachyptera*, and *warmingiana*. Some of these plants often become red or even maroon if given enough sunlight.

Even though some species of *Rhipsalis* appear to be small Epiphyllums, they are easily distinguished when in bloom. *Rhipsalis* flowers have no tube, are much much smaller in proportion, have fewer petals, and a short pistil. They bloom in great profusion and may have up to as many as 7 buds per areole (as in the case of Jean Pasko's *R. pachyptera*). Flowers are regular, white, cream, yellowish, pinkish, or even carmine (*R. angustissima*). The small berry-like fruits decorate the Rhips in several colors: white to red to golden yellow. Some flowers are scented (*R. lumbricoides*=oranges). *Rhipsalis* plants make graceful baskets that contrast the larger Epiphyllums and other relatives. Their cultural requirements are exactly the same.

REFERENCES:

- Backeberg, Curt, Cactus Lexicon, 1976, pp. 440-449.
Cutak, Ladislaus, Cactus Guide, 1956, pp. 61-64.
Haselton, Scott E., Epiphyllum Handbook, 1946, pp. 132-133.
Innes, Clive, The Complete Handbook of Cacti and Succulents, 1977, pp. 37-41.
Lorenz, Elmer J., "Rhipsalis Anyone?", Pacific Horticulture, ^{Vol. 37, #3, 7/76} ↑, pp. 30-36.

Send all news items and articles to: R. G. Latimer Jr., 5990 Lake Murray Blvd., La Mesa, Ca. 92041

Send all membership renewals or new memberships to: Dolores Moss, 8551 Neva Ave., San Diego, Ca. 92123

Membership SDES is \$3.00, ESA is \$5.00



Rhipsalis rhombea

upper drawings by Kurt Schulze



Rhipsalis prismatica



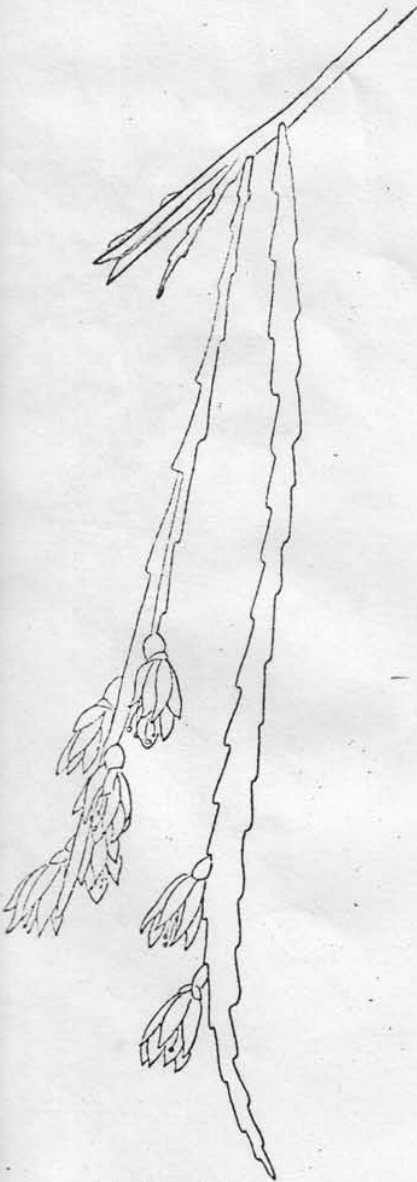
Rhipsalis tonduzii



Strophocactus wittii (See Nov.-Dec. 1978 ISSUE OF EPINEWS)



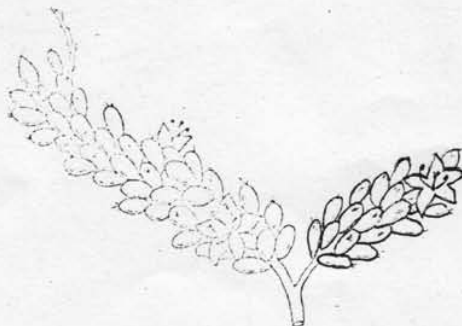
Rhipsalis pachyptera



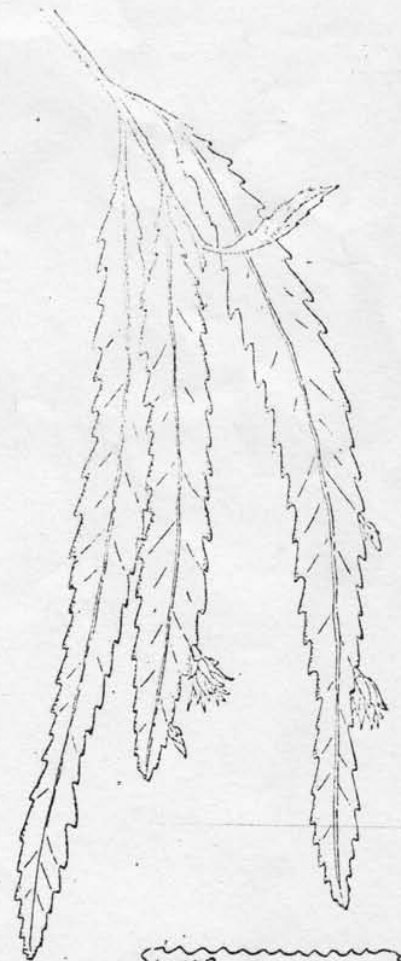
Rhipsalis warmingiana



Rhipsalis heteroclada



Rhipsalis mesembryanthemoides



Rhipsalis houlettiana

LOWER
Drawings by Charlotte Guerrant