

TROPICAL FERN AND EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY, INC. NEWSLETTER

Volume 17, Issue 28
March 2017

MEETING REMINDER •

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2017 AT 7:30 PM

IN THE GARDEN HOUSE AT

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN

BARBARA MCADAM, WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY/IFAS EXTENSION SERVICE, WILL DISCUSS THE 39 IMPERILED BUTTERFLIES OF FLORIDA, WITH INFORMATION ON PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS IN YOUR HOME GARDEN ON MARCH 27, 7:30 P.M.

THIS WILL BE AN UPDATE ON "FLORIDA FRIENDLY" LANDSCAPES.

SEE YOU THERE!

Speakers for TFEPS, 2017

- January: Bruce McAlpin, Sansevieras worth growing
- February: Reggie Whitehead, Ferns of the World
- March: Barbara McAdam, South Florida's imperiled butterflies
- April: Paul Wetter, Setting up a small reverse osmosis system
- May: Chad Husby, Tropical Conifers
- June: Jeff Wasielewski, Hurricane-worthy tropical fruit trees
- September: Debra DeMarco, Designing a Garden
- October: auction
- November: Jason Lopez, Fairchild's conservation work in the Caribbean
- December: Holiday Party

Opening the Door to Growth

By John Banta

It all started more than 100 years ago when a Japanese botany student was curious about the amazing growth of pollen tubes from the tiny pollen grains to the remote ovules. His questions weren't answered for almost 100 years until some Russians extracted from over 200 pounds of pollen, collected by bees from rape seed (*Brassica oleifera*) a small amount of a substance they named "Brassinosteroide". It was present in pollen grains at about 200 parts per billion. When scientists began to study this steroid they were mystified because it effected both ethylene production and ethylene inhibition. How could the same substance cause the opposite actions in the same plant? After a lot more research they found the answer. The phase of growth the plant was in at the time of the steroid application made all the difference.

Plant growth is a tightly regulated sequence of events controlled via RNA by means of transcription factors that promote the production of proteins that act as keys to unlock various growth actions. The inhibition of ethylene occurred because the plant was in the process of setting fruit, once the fruit was set then ethylene was needed to cause the fruit to ripen. The stage of growth the plant is in determines the affects of the steroid action. The most effective time to apply steroids is at the seedling stage when the transcription factors are accelerating vegetative growth. The results are impressive.

The limited availability of brassinosteroids until now means that nobody has used them on fern cultures.

There are wonderful adventures waiting for us all.

REMINDER:

Get your favorite plants ready for display at the upcoming spring sale!



Mounting Plaques

Made of 1" x 3" Pressure Treated Lumber

12" x 12" - \$ 8.00

15" x 15" - \$ 11.00

18" x 18" - \$ 15.00

24" x 24" - \$ 20.00

Contact – Bob Benaim

305-793-9755 or

bobbenaim@gmail.com

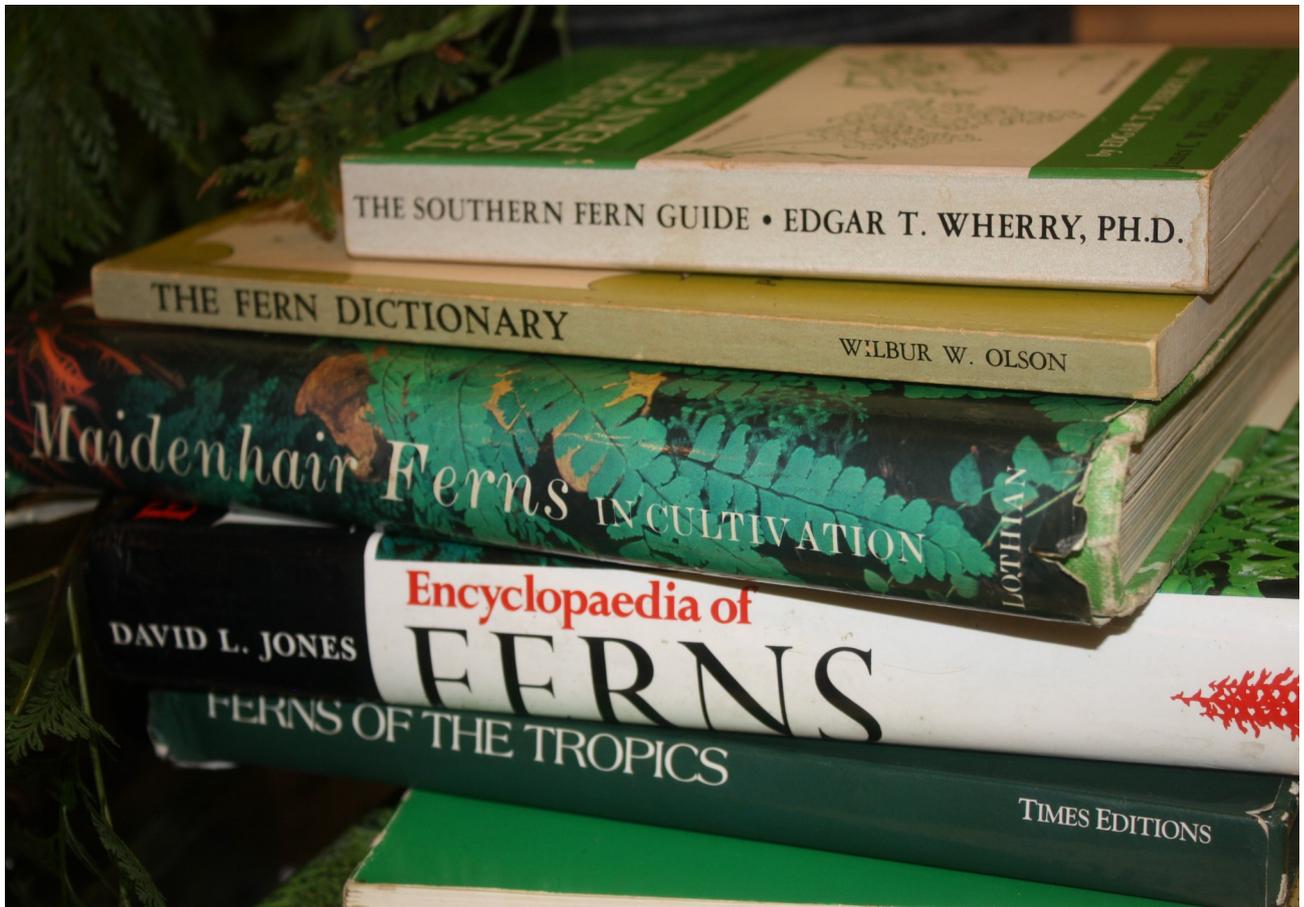
TFEPS February 27, 2017 meeting

Speaker: Reggie Whitehead

Topic: Ferns of the World



PLEOCNERWA IRREGULANS - REGGIE WHITEHEAD FERN COLLECTION



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Reggie Whitehead fern collection



Continued, page 4

Reggie Whitehead fern collection



TFEPS NEWEST LIFE MEMBERS

Jesse Durko

Salvador Escutia

Chip Jones

WELCOME TO TFEPS NEW MEMBERS

Derek Gabaldon

Karson Kult

2017 OFFICERS:

President: **Chad Husby**

Vice President: **Georgia Tasker (305) 661-1039**

Secretary: **Craig Morell (305) 667-1173**

Treasurer: **Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755**

DIRECTORS at LARGE:

Vivian Waddell (305) 665-5168 [2017-2019]

Leonard Goldstein (305) 667-4609 [2017-2019]

Ellis Brown (305) 484-7997 [2016-2017]

Linda Bell (305) 484-7997 [2016-2017]

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Marnie Valent

2017 DIRECTORS:

The board consists of TFEPS officers, the immediate past president, and elected directors at large.

2017 COMMITTEES:

Hospitality:

Emalyl Israel (305) 235-0886

Martha Bogaard (305) 661-2305

Membership:

Sherrin Smith (305) 213-2598

Sheila & Michael O'Dea (305) 253-4907

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Ralph Hernandez (786) 261-4856

Special Sales:

Marie Nock (305) 232-2257

Show & Sales:

Vivian Waddell (305) 665-5168

Webmaster:

Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755



Membership Application - 2017

We offer 4 different memberships options:

Yearly: _____ \$ 15.00 for individual _____ \$ 17.00 for two members at the same address

Lifetime: _____ \$ 125.00 for individual _____ \$ 150.00 for two members at the same address

Yearly dues are for calendar year - January - December

This is for a New Membership: _____ or for Renewals: _____

Please Print

Name: _____

Phone: H or C: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Phone: H or C: _____

E-mail: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State _____

Zip Code + 4: _____ + _____

H = Home Phone **C** = Cell Phone

Enclose check payable to: TFEPS

Please mail to: TFEPS – Membership

P.O. Box 902094

Homestead, Florida 33090-2094