

Bromeliads---Epiphytes You Will Love!

What are bromeliads? They're epiphytes---air plants.

Where do they grow? They're neotropical.

Why are they different? They use their roots to hold themselves in place, receiving water and nutrients in their cups and through their scales.

Popular groups of bromeliads

Aechmea (ACK-mee-uh or EEK-mee-uh)

Aechmea fasciata---Silver Vase plant, Urn plant
Usually spiny margins, brightly colored bracts

Vriesea (VREE-see-ah)

Vriesea ----flaming sword plant
Mexico and Brazil---most are epiphytic and have urns.

Guzmania (Gooz-MAHN-ee-uh)

Very colorful inflorescences, smooth leaf margins

Billbergia (Bill-BERG-ee-uh)

Variably colored leaves, pendent inflorescence with
brightly colored bracts and contrasting flowers

Neoregelia (Nee-oh-reg-EL-ee-uh)

Brightly colored leaves, spiny margins, small flowers in center

Cryptanthus (Crypt-AN-thuss)

Earth star: variably colored striped leaves, small central flowers

Tillandsia (Till-AND-see-uh)

Generally soft, whitish green or silvery-gray leaves with scales,
smooth leaf edges, often very colorful flowers



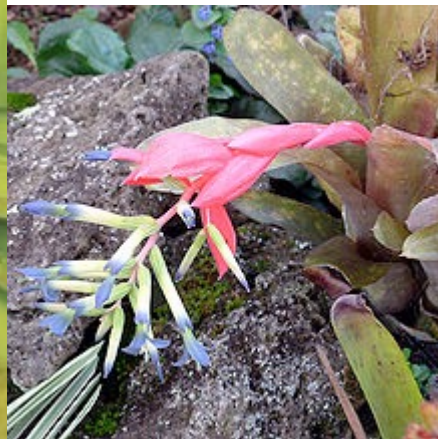
Achmea fasciata



Vriesea splendens



Guzmania



Billbergia



Neoregelia

Cryptanthus



Tillandsia aeranthos



Puya raimondii