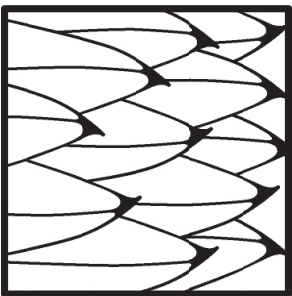


On the Dry Side

October, 2011



Central Coast Cactus
& Succulent Society
c/o Markus Mumper
780 Merced St.
Pismo Beach, CA 93449

Inside this issue: CCCSS October Meeting Recap

- Upcoming Speaker
Mark Muradian
Thanks to **Rob Skillin** and **Gene Schroeder** for leading an open discussion on cacti and other succulents.
- Genus of the Month
Sedum and *Sempervivum*
We also had open tables for members to bring their own plants for sale. Thanks to all who participated in both the selling and buying.

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Speaker of the Month _____

Mark Muradian

Constructing his large outdoor cactus and succulent garden required moving many yards of soil and tons of rock.

Mark's solution: use a bulldozer and forklift. Mark will show how large plants are moved and placed in the garden, the winter protection he has devised and his unique style of urban plant salvage.

Mark is a third generation fruit and grape farmer in the Fresno area. He has been interested in cacti and other succulents for over twenty years and currently is Vice President and Program Chairman for the Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society. Ten years ago he began producing pottery for his own plants. Others so admired his pottery and he started making them to sell.

Mark will bring a variety of pottery pieces with him to display and sell. His gardening style is unique and his pottery superb!

Don't miss this very special and enjoyable presentation!

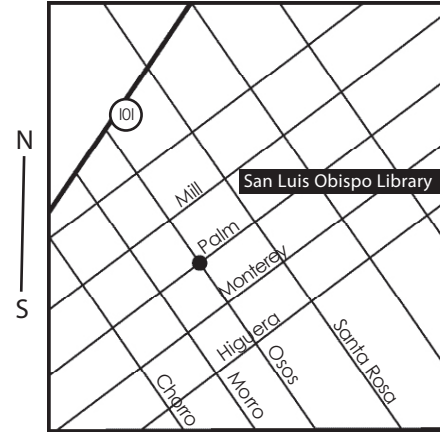


NEXT meeting:

Sun, Oct. 9'th at 2:00 pm

San Luis Obispo Public Library

995 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo

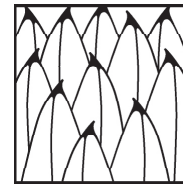


NEWS FROM THE AUGUST BOARD MEETING:

- Maggie Wagner and Jan Moon will take over Library duties. Jeanne & Martin are helping in the transition.
- The CCCSS re-sale permit is in process so that we can have our own control of re-sale taxes for our club.
- Still looking for an assistant newsletter editor. Anyone interested please contact Markus Mumper.
- Jim Harlow suggested that the club may adopt a public space to cultivate and maintain in SLO County.

BOARD—MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on October 9'th right after our General Meeting, as always all members are welcome.



Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

e-mail: markusmumper@gmail.com

All submissions to the CCCSS newsletter must be submitted two weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| PRESIDENT Gene Schroeder 929-2161 | VICE PRESIDENT Nick Wilkinson 528-8880 | SECRETARY Jan Moon 927-1310 | CSSA AFFILIATE Rob Skillin 473-0788 | TREASURER Edie Price 489-8491 |
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A one time free newsletter will be mailed out to those who sign in at the monthly meetings. After this dues must be paid in order to start a subscription.



Prometheum (Sedum) sempervivoides

Upcoming Events

November 8 - 9

San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

Los Angeles County Arboretum: 9:00am - 5:00pm

301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA

December 2 - 3

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Winter Show & Sale

Anaheim United Methodist Church: 12:00pm - 7:00pm, 9:00am - 5:00pm

1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA

March 17 - 18, 2012

Midwest Cactus & Succulent Society Spring Show & Sale

Cleveland Botanical Garden

11030 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH

March 30 - April 2, 2012

Cactus & Succulent Soc. of Australia and the Ballarat Cactus & Succulent Soc.

Hoppers Crossing, Victoria, Australia

www.cssaustralia.org.au

May 5 - 6, 2012

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

Sacramento Garden and Arts Center

3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA

May 12 - 13, 2012

San Diego Epiphyllum Society Annual Show & Sale

Balboa Park Botanical Gardens

Casa Del Prado, Rm. 101, Balboa Park, CA

Hospitality News

Sign up to bring refreshments and get a 4 inch plant!! You must sign the **Hospitality Sign-Up sheet** and bring refreshments to get a plant. We need refreshments for each monthly meeting and we need to know who is bringing them. Thanks to everyone who has been contributing to the refreshment fund; donations can be made at the refreshment table.

~Pat & Ann

Sedum and Sempervivum—rooftop mats

Sedum and Sempervivum are mat-forming succulents which have been used for hundreds of years in Europe and Asia as living roof coverings. Ready grown mats of mixed hardy Sempervivums and Sedums are grown commercially for this purpose. According to legend this was thought to ward off storms or witchcraft.

These two genera are similar in their ability to form creeping mats, both are rosulate members of the Crassula family, but they are quite distinctive in habitat and culture. Both are excellent for garden plants and pot culture.

Sempervivum, in Latin, means “living forever”. The members of this genus grow and spread during drought, hot sun, and even layers of snow, brightening the garden year after year. Even if they are dug up by animals the unearthed “hens” and their little “chicks” can easily be repositioned in the soil and they will carry on as if nothing had happened. Sempervivum is native to the alpine and mountainous regions of Europe, the Mediterranean islands, and Western Asia, usually found between 3000 and 8000 feet in elevation – they are alpine plants. About 50 species have been identified but they hybridize readily and over 3,000 cultivars have been named.

Sempervivums form rosettes of fleshy, sharply tipped leaves. Some have downy hairs along the edges. They propagate profusely by stolons which radiate from the perimeter of the main plant to form large mats. The main plant will eventually bloom producing a small pink, purple, or yellow star-shaped flower at the tips of long stalks arising from the center of a rosette. Once the flower is finished the “mother plant” will die back, but can be easily replaced by one or more of the smaller offsets.

Sempervivums need very little water, they will rot if overwatered. They are perfect for rock gardens and desert-type landscaping. They grow in poor soil and do best with lots of sun to maintain the striking colors exhibited by many of the cultivars.

Representative species include:

Sempervivum arachnoideum (alps, apennines, pyrenees). Densely tufted compact rosettes covered with a cobwebby veil of long interwoven hairs.

Sempervivum ciliosum (E. Europe). Globose, leaves incurving, light green to reddish brown, margins with stiff spreading cilia.

Sempervivum tectorum (pyrenees, alps, apennines, balkans). Rosettes large, open. Leaves green sometimes tinged in red.

Several *Sempervivum* species (*S. aizoides*, *S. tortuosum*, and others) have now been transferred to the genus *Aichryson*

Some popular cultivars: ‘White Christmas’, ‘Bronco’, ‘Lilac Time’, ‘Sprite’, *S.xgiuseppii*.

Sedum. Sedum is the largest genus in the crassula family, having more than 400 species of creeping mats and small shrubs. They are found in subtropical and temperate zones throughout the Northern Hemisphere with just a few Southern hemisphere species in Peru. Species richness is highest in North America (especially Mexico); Asia is second, and Eurasia third. The representatives of each continent are endemic to that continent. The genus is a diverse group, probably representing many evolutionary lines. The definition of the genus is not well defined; many members recently known as Sedum, have been transferred to other genera, but may still be found as Sedum in the trade and in horticultural books. They are known for their colorful, fleshy, succulent foliage and their flashy yellow, pink or white flowers. Sedum foliage color can include green, purple, blue, yellow, or even variegated with multiple colors.

Sedums prefer well-drained, moist soils, although many are highly drought-tolerant. In nature most sedums occur in light shade or partly sunny sites, although a few are adapted to full sun situations. Many species are frost hardy.

There are two basic body plans for sedum plants, the ground-hugging, mat-forming sedums and the tall, clump-forming forms. Both make excellent groundcovers as well as attractive container plants. Some sedums have highly succulent globular leaves, others have flat, serrated leaves. Many of the latter forms have been transferred to other related genera.

Popular Sedum species with globular succulent leaves include:

Sedum acre. Numerous stems from thin stolon-forming clumps. Native to the Balkans but widely naturalized worldwide. Easy to propagate from stem fragments. Grows and flowers freely in a well-drained sunny location. Contains alkaloids making it toxic to herbivores. Has been used as an emetic in traditional medicine.

Sedum burrito (*morganianum*), the ‘burros tail’. Native to Southern Mexico with long pendent stems and glaucous blue leaves. Used generally as a hanging basket plant.

Sedum dasyphyllum. A mounding sedum with blue-green pebble like leaves topped by small white flowers. The dominant form in C and S Europe and Anatolia.

Sedum hintonii. Native to Mexico. Densely hairy leaves arranged in rosettes

Sedum lanceolatum. Native to the mountains of Alaska and Canada and southerly through the Rockies and coast ranges. Dense rosettes of succulent grey-green lance shaped leaves which redden in full sun and which bear heads of bright yellow star-shaped flowers. Has been used as a laxative.

Sedum spathulifolium. Native to the West Coast of North America from Washington to Baja California. Drought-tolerant and fully hardy. The leaves are edible, used in soups, as a garnish, or stir fried

Many Sedum species will now be found in newer treatments under one of the following genera:

Hylotelephium. Flat leaved sedums. All until recently classified as part of *Sedum*. About 30 sp. Mostly in E. Asia (Russia, China, Japan, Mongolia, Korea), N. America (2 sp.). Perennial herbs. Includes *Sedum telephium* (Europe, W. Asia), *S. spectabile* (China, Korea. ‘Autumn Joy’)

Monanthes. About 12 species. Annual to perennial shrublets. Glabrous or glandular-hairy covered with bladder-cell idioblasts. Canary Islands. Includes *Sedum laxiflorum*

Prometheum. Dense rosettes, named after the Greek legend figure Prometheus who stole fire from Zeus and was chained to the Caucasus for punishment. The type species, formerly *Sedum sempervivoides*, exhibits blood red flowers and is native to the Caucasus. About 8 species are found in Greece, Turkey, Armenia, and N. Iran.

Phedimus. Flat leaved sedums, includes *Sedum kamtchaticum*, (Siberia, China, Japan, Korea); *S. spurium* (Caucasus)

Rhodiola. Flat leaved sedums, perennial herbs with well developed rhizomes, erect to creeping. Includes more than 50 species formerly classified as *Sedum*. *Sedum coccineum* (E. Himalayas), *S. pachyclados* (W. Himalayas), *S. roseum* (rose-root, Scotland and Norway)

Rosularia. Dwarf perennial herbs, glabrous or glandular-hairy stemless rosettes. Many species are confused with *Prometheum* and *Sedum*. Native to Eastern Mediterranean, Asia Minor and Near East. Includes about 5 former *Sedum* species, including *Sedum rosulatum*
~Charles Spotts