



Colorado
Cactus &
Succulent
Society

YOUR 2025 EDITOR:
SCOTT BURKHOLDER

MONTHLY PLANT SHOW

Monthly Plant Show Plants

Cactus - *Echinocereus*

Succulent - *Adromischus*

Detail are in the newsletter

[Mini Plant Show!](#)

[Botanical Journey](#)

[Plus Photos
and More!](#)

March 2025, Vol 29 No. 3

The Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society promotes education, enjoyment, cultivation, and conservation of cacti and other succulents among our members and the larger community.



Panayoti Kelaidis presenting
"A Superbloom Trifecta"
at the February Meeting
Scott Burkholder Photo

UPCOMING MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 18th, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Denver Botanic Gardens - Gates Hall

Presentation: East Meets West

Presenter: Laura Swain

Details:

Come along on a botanical journey - from the ericaceous coast of New England, to the unexpected peaks of West Texas, through the vast expanse of the Eastern Plains, and the otherworldly canyons of the Colorado Plateau - join Laura as she shares her enthusiasm for becoming a gardener in one of the most challenging climates.

SUCCULENT BITS

March Meeting

March's meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18th, at the Denver Botanic Gardens in Gates Hall.

See You There!

Monthly Plant Show

This is a great opportunity to practice showing plants for the Big Plant Show in April!

Remember, if the weather is poor next week, and it could be, to protect your plants from the cold!



East Meets West
Laura Swain Photo

2025 PLANT SHOW & SALE

- 1) Start collecting beer flats -
Check at the local liquor stores, and just about any small boxes are fine!
- 2) Get those plants ready for to show -
It'll be time to start prepping them for action, and don't forget to find some boxes for transporting them.
- 3) Prepare to volunteer -
There's plenty to do!

Mailing List updates

We are in the process of updating the CCSS Member mailing list! If you know of a member that's not receiving either club emails or newsletters, please send their name and email address to Scott at seisnoir@comcast.net!

Thanks!!

Entering the DBG After Hours

One of the things you'll need to know is how to enter the Denver Botanic Gardens after hours. PK has given us the code for the Pinyon Gate: **4791#**

Take this number with you!

2025 Show and Sale Notes

As you might imagine, we are busy preparing for this year's Plant Show and Sale! Here are a few of the things that are happening:

- We are editing the Show Rules to add clarity. Last year, we had folks entering multiple plants into individual species categories. The rules specify only one plant per category. We will expand this to three plants per species, as that's the most ribbons that can be awarded for each category. This year we'll ask plant exhibitors to respect this rule.
- We try to have a 5 pm cut-off time for entering plants in the Show. Please, if possible, have your entry cards completed in advance!
- We are writing rules to specify who receives the 20% discount. This discount is meant to encourage and reward those who volunteer at the Show and Sale. Last year, we gave the volunteer discount to just about everyone who asked and smiled. This year, we will only give the 20% discount to those who volunteer.
- Members in good standing will be able to and invited to participate in the Member's sale Friday Night. Any member who arrives at 5 pm for the Member's Sale will be welcome to check out and choose plants before we admit the general public Saturday morning.

That's the heavy stuff. However, other items that you should be aware of include:

- Volunteer! The 2025 Volunteer Sign-Up Genius webpage should be active as you're reading this newsletter [Click Here to Volunteer!](#)
- Start collecting beer flats and small boxes for guests shopping for plants. With two hands a guest will select two plants. But a guest with a box will often fill that box with plants! Those boxes are an important part of the sale.
- Please start prepping your plants for the Plant Show! My plants are starting to break dormancy and I suspect your plants are also starting to show "signs of life", if not starting to bloom! The Plant show is an important part of this event as it gives guests a look at what their plant could become. *Oh, and winning ribbons is cool.* This includes finding boxes and containers to transport your plants to and from the Fairgrounds! Remember, it snowed last year and history tends to repeat itself!
- Hopefully, as you read this, I'll have the volunteer Sign-Up on the website ready to go! So please start thinking of how you'd like to volunteer and get ready to sign up.

Thanks,

Scott Burkholder
2025 Show and Sale Chairman
Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society

At the Show and Sale!
Scott Burkholder Selfie



"East Meets West" - Laura Swain



East!

Laura Swain Photo



West!

Laura Swain Photo

East Meets West!

Come along on a botanical journey - from the ericaceous coast of New England, to the unexpected peaks of West Texas, through the vast expanse of the Eastern Plains, and the otherworldly canyons of the Colorado Plateau - join Laura as she shares her enthusiasm for becoming a gardener in one of the most challenging climates.

Laura Swain

Laura Swain is a horticulturist at the Denver Botanic Gardens where she specializes in arid-adapted native plant collections, including North American Steppe, Dryland Mesa and Sacred Earth gardens. Laura is incredibly passionate about creating resilient landscapes for the future. She works at the intersection of ecology and horticulture – building human-friendly habitats with a focus in plant-pollinator interactions and low maintenance inputs. Her stewardship practice involves studying plant communities in situ, elevating native species, and highlighting their form and function in the urban ecosystem. When she's not in the gardens, she's taken her hatchback to places it surely shouldn't go to see weird plants in weird places.

Laura has spent most of the last decade working in public horticulture, while dabbling in permaculture design, as well as residential and commercial landscape design. She began her formal training with the Natural Lands and Conservation team at Winterthur Museum Garden and Library; she went on to study plant taxonomy, collections management, and plant-pollinator interactions at the University of Delaware Botanic Gardens. As a senior horticulturist at Heritage Museums and Gardens in Cape Cod, MA she helped to curate and maintain the historic Dexter Rhododendron collection as well as the North American Hydrangea Test Garden. From the Blue Ridge Mountains to the White Mountains, and now to the Rockies, Laura brings an unmatched enthusiasm for connecting people with the natural world through education and great plant selection.



CCSS Monthly Plant Show - Pedro Galvez

The Rules:

The mini shows are a way to up member engagement and to get them excited to show their plants in the Judged Show in April.

The rules for judging are similar to the criteria of the actual show except we're not as critical. This is a great opportunity to offer any tips and critiques on plants entered to give members an idea of what a show plant should embody. Usually the mini shows are judged by the speaker or special guest. We have entry cards similar to the ones for the show.

Entries will be award points based on what "ribbon" they get. 3 for blue, 2 for red, 1 for yellow. Those points will be counted and will be added to each members tally toward prizes that will be awarded at the end of the year. Prizes TBD, but they'll be great!

If you're entering plants, please try to arrive a few minutes early to complete the plant entry cards! And, like the Plant Shoe and Sale, there is a limit of three plants per category.

This month's categories are:

Echinocereus

Echinocereus, is a genus of ribbed, usually small to medium-sized, cylindrical shaped cacti, comprising about 70 species native to the southern United States and Mexico. These cactus can be solitary but usually branching with large flowers and edible fruit. Several of the species are cold hardy, tolerating temperatures as low as -10°F , but only in dry conditions. Our state cactus, the "Claret Cup Cactus" is *Echinocereus triglochidiatus*.



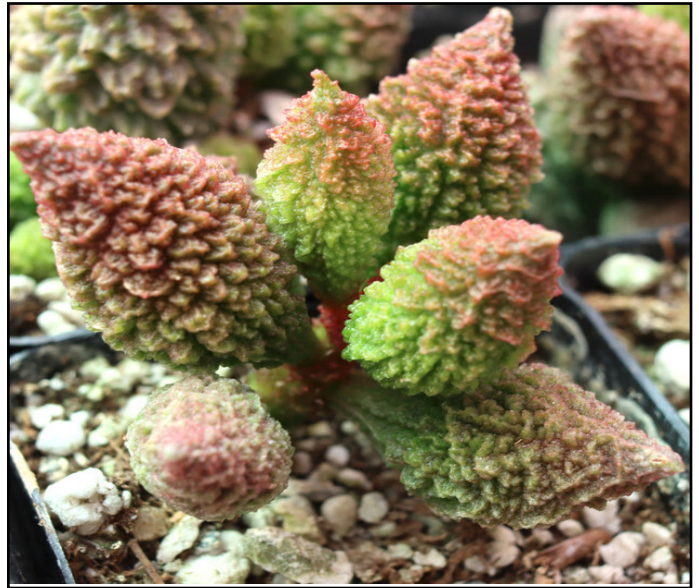
Echinocereus triglochidiatus
Pedro Galvez Photo

CCSS Monthly Plant Show (continued)

Adromischus

Adromischus, is a genus of thick stemmed and succulent leaved plants. Leaf morphology in this genus is quite diverse, ranging from smooth to very crinkly while the colors vary from spotted to lime green to red. Endemic to southern African they are in the family Crassulaceae. The name comes from the ancient Greek adros (=thick) and mischos (=stem). They are easily propagated from leaves and stem cuttings. An evergreen perennial genre they are easy to grow as long as you don't water to frequently, especially in winter.

from Wikipedia.com



Adromischus marianae f. herrei

from MountainCrestGardens.com

Large Euphorbia Looking for New Home

Euphorbia trigona

The Club occasionally receives requests for re-homing large plants. Here's an African Milk Plant, roughly 10-11 ft tall, that has out-grown it's spot by the window.

These plants are cute when they're young, but like St. Bernard puppies, they get large relatively quickly! Yes, they look like cactus but they grow like euphorbias!

This plant appears well grown and in good shape. If you are interested please email for more photos and the plant's owner's email.

Scott at seisnoir@comcast.net



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS:

March 18th, 2025 - Monthly meeting at the Denver Botanic Gardens

April 26th & 27th, 2025 - Lead Pipe Locked Date for the 2025 Plant Show & Sale

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