

BROMELIACEAE – BROMELIAD OR PINEAPPLE FAMILY

Plant: herbs, mostly epiphytic on trees

Stem:

Root:

Leaves: mostly basal forming sheaths on stem, stiff and narrow, alternate, sometimes grass-like or more rarely scale-like

Flowers: mostly perfect or rarely imperfect, mostly regular (actinomorphic) but rarely irregular (zygomorphic); flowers in spike-like heads or panicles; bracts sometimes colored; 3 greenish sepals; 3 large petals which are white or colored; 6 stamens; ovary superior or inferior, 3 carpels; 1 style; ovary with 3 chambers

Fruit: berry or capsule, some seeds are winged

Other: mostly in tropical or subtropical areas; spanish moss and pineapple are well known; Monocotyledons Group

Genera: 3 subfamilies, 56+ genera; locally - *Tillandsia* (spanish moss and others)

BROMELIACEAE – BROMELIAD OR PINEAPPLE FAMILY

Spanish Moss; *Tillandsia usneoides* (L.) L.

Spanish Moss

Tillandsia usneoides (L.) L.

Bromeliaceae (Bromeliad or Pineapple Family)

Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia

Notes: epiphytic on trees; flower small and green to yellowish green to white; leaves filiform, 4 to 8 and 2-ranked, usually twisted; slender branching stems to 5 m: summer

[V Max Brown, 2006]

