

# JULY 2023

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## **President's Corner**

What goes better with Plumeria?

Air Conditioning or a Cold refreshing beverage or a Luau? YES a Luau!!!! Yes, Our Luau has been set for October 15th at The Bay Area Community Center! Details to follow.

I must congratulate all the Sellers and thank all Volunteers at our June Show and Sale. Without you sellers, we would simply miss out on a wonderful Saturday morning talking about all things Plumeria! However, make no mistake, our gracious volunteers are the heartbeat of a great show and sale.

Thank you, Thank You, Thank You all!

We set an all-time high sale wise.

The Sale grossed just over 58K, we processed 258 credit card transactions and countless cash transactions. Over 1400 plants were sold, roughly 25 of our custom tumblers were sold in addition to our remaining PSA Hats!! Our Plumeria and stained-glass raffle was a tremendous success, please look for an even larger raffle coming in Aug.

Remember, please invite your friends and family to our upcoming Aug 5th sale. Same location, The Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Rd 1, Seabrook TX Hours are 9am till 1pm.

You should be getting email updates on both The PSA and IPC23. Please check your spam or junk folder for our emails! Remember to add events@theplumeriasociety.org to your email address book so you are receiving all our digital content!

We did have a keynote speaker change for IPC23, please see the IPC Blast! Please continue to look for more BIG NEWS coming from IPC23!!

For those who are interested in running for a PSA Officer position, we will be forming an election committee very soon. Please reach out to any current officer if interested.

Remember to add events@theplumeriasociety.org to your email address book so you are receiving all our digital content!

Thank you all again for your support of the PSA.

John T. Burford PSA President 2022-2023







International Plumeria Conference 2023 (IPC23) September 28-30

(Thursday afternoon thru Saturday evening) Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Garden

It has been seven years since the previous IPC, so it's time to gather together again from around the world!

The 3rd International Plumeria Conference is sponsored by the Plumeria Society of America and run by mostly Southern California volunteers.

We are fortunate to hold our conference at the Arboretum, a gorgeous 127-acre natural and historic wonder with plant collections including rare and endangered species from all over the world. Plus, the renowned, curated Plumeria Grove!

Our featured speakers are notable, experienced plumeria growers covering a wide range of climates and skills. Our keynotes are renowned in this field and will bring vital, practical information to conference attendees.

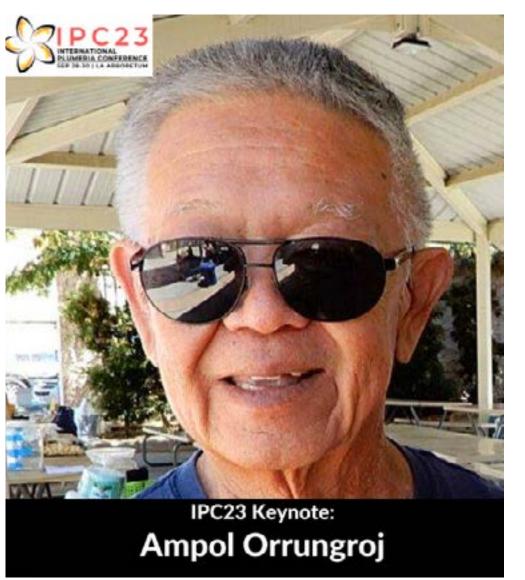
The event also includes full access to one of the most beautiful and expansive botanic gardens throughout the event, a guided tour through the Arboretum's spectacular 120-tree Plumeria Grove, an authentic Hawaiian luau, and the opportunity to meet fellow plumeria growers from around the world.

Follow the conference for updates and/or to volunteer:

@plumeriaconference2023 www.IPC2023.com







Ampol Orrungroj was born and raised in Thailand and remembers sitting under the plumeria trees and taking in the fragrance as a child. When he moved to the United States, he continued his love for all plants, leading to opening his nursery in San Marcos in San Diego's North County in 1987.

His collection of sansevierias and gasterias led to his becoming the largest supplier in San Diego. He expanded into house plants, poinsettias, and of course, plumeria. He retired a few years ago. While many plumeria growers may not know his name, he has had an incredible impact on the plumeria community that has spread across the US. For years, his plants were known to be the healthiest, best-growing plumerias in So Cal.

His planting and fertilization methods were followed by many. And, in the early 70s, he was the first person to graft plumeria. A Conversation with Ampol Orrungroj Ampol will be interviewed in the keynote session so we can mine his remarkable knowledge about growing plumeria.

He is known for his quick wit and gentle instructions. He will share his planting and fertilization methods, stories of connecting with other early growers in So Cal, and his discovery of grafting and why he grafts plumeria. We'll also have an open question-and-answer time.



Ampol Orrungroj is a master grafter, having being the first person in North America to graft plumeria—about 20 years ago. He is a retired nurseryman who shares his method of grafting in this pictorial article.

## **Supplies**

- grafting knife (Tina brand is the best)
- rubbing alcohol
- cotton balls
- Sharpie<sup>®</sup> pen
- ball head straight pins
- 1/2" wide, cheap electrical tape
- bamboo stake
- twist ties
- paper towels
- metal name tag
- 2 mil clear plastic bag (www.uline.com)

Temperatures at night should be over 50 degrees F. for successful grafting.

To begin, clean your knife with a cotton ball soaked with rubbing alcohol. Reclean your knife after each cut.

As you cut, rock your knife to move it through the plant tissue—especially necessary with harder stems.

Make a horizontal cut on the host plant and remove the top.



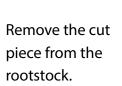
Starting between the cambium and bark, begin to cut a V in the rootstock. Use a rocking/ wiggling downward motion to complete the cut in one stroke. When one side is done, turn the plant, and repeat on the other side.





Notice Ampol's unique V cut: straight downwards at the beginning, then curving slightly to the base of the cut. Rotate the scion 180 degrees and repeat the shaping process on the other side of the scion.







The next step is to shape the scion into a V. Use slow, deliberate strokes, removing thin slices with each pass. A straight and smooth surface is the goal.







With the scion cut to a V, check to see if there is a match. 100% fit on both sides is needed—no gaps. Use a Sharpie to place marks on the scion "flaps" if they extend above the exposed root stock.





Use a ball pin on each side to fasten the scion "flaps" to the rootstock and secure the scion.



Stagger the ball pins—this will help when wrapping with Using electrical tape, wrap from the bottom up. When wrapping, create pressure and compression on the union.

Leave the ball pins exposed and wrap around them. Remove the pins, then go back and wrap the sections where the ball pins were.

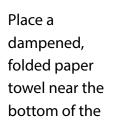


Place a bamboo stake next to the plant for support and to hold the plastic bag at least 3" above the plant. It's not necessary to put the bamboo stake into the soil. Use twist ties to hold





Cover the plant with a plastic bag.



Gather the plastic at the bottom of the plant and tie off with a twist



Poke a few holes in the top of the bag. Leave the bag on for 15 days. This creates a little greenhouse for the plant.

Attach a tag marked with the name of the plumeria variety and the date of the graft.



Put the plant in a bright light and warm location. Do not put in full sun. If grafting an in-ground tree, place a paper bag over the graft to protect it from excessive heat.

Remove the electrical tape in 30 days. The soil should be a bit moist, but not wet. Don't water the plant until there is leaf growth.

There is a 100% graft take with this method.



For more detail go to: http://tinyurl.com/hduuprl









# 2023 PSA June Sale





















**Joining the PSA** ... www.theplumeriasociety.org





by Sherry Halbrook



## **ISSUES AT THE GROVE**

This has been a strange year for our plumeria grove at the South Texas Botanical Gardens, leaving us trying to figure out what is going on with some of our plumerias. We have 89 plumerias that were put back into the ground on March 4th. With the cooler spring, it was a slow start waking them up but now the majority are full of leaves and blooms. We have 16 that are not responding as they should, no leaves, multiple nodes at the tips and down the branches. Some have maroon tips and very short maroon leaves at the tip and not growing any further. Others, have a very smooth tip, a cream color but no further growth. A few have leaves that have grown out, but the leaves are about 6", skinny and pale green in color.

I reached out to a couple of growers and members of PSA, and both thought it may be a result of herbicide exposure. The Botanical Gardens does not use herbicides in this area because of the potential run off into the wetland area. Next, I talked to Kevin Gibbs, the County Extension Agent with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Center. Kevin checked with Dr. Kimberly Cochran in the department, and she thought we had a plant pathogen, said we should drench them with a fungicide and not fertilize. We did this treatment on June 17th, and plan to retreat in one month.

On some of the plumerias, we cut away some of the tips to see if normal growth will appear. So, at this point, we left some as they are and cut some the tips to see if there will be any changes.



I'm wondering if this problem may have started while the plumerias were in the greenhouse over the winter. We had several days of rain after we put them in the greenhouse in November. The greenhouse was not opened for a week or two. The ground moisture was wicked into the greenhouse under the mulch probably causing some condensation. I noticed in early December, some tips were rotting and



Danny's Plumeria Advise: Support: Information & Plant Sales: Shipping and Pick Up Visit the Hundreds of Mature Ground Grown Trees In San Diego <u>dnkashou@gmail.com</u> Follow us on IG and Facebook @dannys\_plumeria Danny Kashou FB 619-518-3356



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some rot was starting at the leaf nodes in the middle of the branches. We cut many of the branches back, opened the doors daily if temperatures were 50 and above and had an industrial fan at the entrance to move the air around.

I wanted to share this information and photos to see if anyone has seen or experienced this before. You can reach me at sherhal@aol.com with any comments and suggestions.

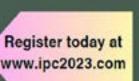
Other than these issues, most of the plumerias at the grove are blooming and looking great. The plumerias have been a major attraction for the South Texas Botanical Gardens for many years.





In the world.









## http://www.thePlumeriasociety.org

Our new website is easier to navigate and to find information about plumeria care, cultivar registration, society news, events, and much more! Since the website is new, please check for updates and to see added features such as the flower identification database and a members only newsletter archive! Below is the current member only login and password information that will be needed to access the website's newsletter archive.

### Log in: psamember Password: Scottpratt93 Twitter feed: @Plumeriasociety



Joining the PSA ... www.theplumeriasociety.org

Click on "Join the PSA" tab at the top of the home page. To join by mail, select PDF. To join online, select Online Form (Paypal).

When joining by mail, send a check to: The Plumeria Society of America, Inc. P.O. Box 22791 Houston TX 77227-2791, USA Our Meeting dates are as follows.

**Dues are :** \$35.00 Digital and \$50.00 Printed.

## Meeting dates are:

July 11th October 10th

## Sale dates are:

Aug 5th

Meetings are held at Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, Texas.



The Bay Area Community Center

### Purpose of The Plumeria Society of America

- 1. Promote interest in and increase knowledge of plumeria hybridization, propagation, and culture of plumerias.
- 2. Share this knowledge with hobbyists interested in plumerias.
- 3. Provide a register for recording, identifying, and classifying by name new types and varieties of plumerias.
- 4. Encourage and unite plumeria enthusiasts around the globe, throughout America, and across the seas.



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