

January program: Cultivation and germination of *Pediocactus*, *Sclerocactus* and *Toumeyia*, by Steven Brack.

These 3 genera are more northerly than the commonly grown cacti from Mexico or the border regions of the USA. They live with much colder winters, often with snow covering the plants, and with cold spring rains. Because of this, their cultivation and germination is much different than for most species of cacti. They need an extended period of freezing and thawing to help trigger germination. Also summer rainfall from thunderstorms is less than for the more usual grown kinds of cacti.

There will be a discussion of the cultivation of these plants, and then people that wish to participate can sow some seeds to take home with them. Pots, soil, seeds, and labels will be provided.

The cost will be \$5 per pot with 2 kinds of seeds per pot. Four kinds of seeds will be brought in so that at most 2 pots with 4 kinds of seeds for \$10 will be available. People that wish to sow seeds should bring in a water tight tray that is at least 4 inches by 8 inches with sides about 3 inches tall. Then the pots can go outside to be exposed to freezing and thawing.