News and views: Veriegated Nepenthes alata.
The title was changed for the electronic version 5 January 2025. The original is below.

The family of plant parasites *Pseudococcus* (Coccus), mealy bugs or plant lice, can really be a problem for growers of *Sarracenia*. I have known the problem well, and if left unchecked, the results will be an infestation of these pests at epidemic proportion, and much reduced crop of *Sarracenia*. Check inside the interior of older *Sarracenia* pitchers, where they conveniently nest. If you see more than one, chances are there's an infestation, since they're able to reproduce quickly. Check also at the base of leaf petioles where they meet the rhizome; another clever nesting and hiding spot for these pests. The most effective and safe treatment against these pest is the use of Isotox®. I am grateful to Dave Kutt for informing me on this highly effective insecticide. Isotox® is systemic and will rid your plants of these parasites once and for all. Give them a double treatment several days after you intially treat them. Be sure to treat the pitcher plants infested at their crowns. GOOD GROWING!

Variegated *N.* alata
Photo by I. Kusakabe

Isamu Kusakabe (5-14-6 Chitosedai, Setagaya, Tokyo, Japan 157)

I've enclosed a picture of *Nepenthes alata* 'variegata' which was discovered at a local nursery. This is a beautiful foliage plant but it's rather hard to bear pitchers. The leaves are highly variegated with white and green striations, but the one pitcher shown here does not seem to have this trait.

Jim Miller, (2319 Ninth St., Green Bay, WI 54304).

Due to the nation-wide gas crunch, I have not had as many opportunities to explore the Wisconsin and Michigan bogs as I might have wished. I did however, have the pleasure of visiting Cedarburg Bog at the invitation of Millicent Ficken, *Professor of Zoology* and Director of the University of Wisconsin Field Station there. The bog is a 2,000 acre preserve, over half of which is owned now by the state. It is located near Cedarburg and Saukville just north of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

This late in the summer, the bugs were quite a nuisance. They nearly form clouds around your head as you enter the bog and pause only long enough to occasionally bite.

The carnivorous plants are found here in several locations but I had only time enough to visit one location which is a string bog deep in the preserve area. As might be expected, *Sarracenia purpurea* ssp *purpurea* was found here in incredible numbers, not only in the open spots but well into the surrounding woods as well. The soil here is mainly rich peat and decomposed matter so that walking is nearly impossible without sinking several feet into the ooze.

The main objective of my initial visit was locating *Drosera linearis* and I was rewarded by the sight of thousands of plants all through this location. While this species is apparently on the decline elsewhere, here it is quite prolific forming dense colonies. They are certainly on the increase here as nearly every plant was seen to have many maturing seed pods while others were still in flower. All the plants were found growing in the open spots in full sun. As expected, *Drosera rotundifolia* was found as well, but in this location they were found on slightly higher ground growing on sphagnum and