Pacific Northwest Palm and Exotic Plant Society - Assessment of practices and goals

1. Your current age (in years) is:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
less than 20		0.0%	0
20 - 40		10.0%	10
41 - 50		34.0%	34
51 - 60		33.0%	33
61 or greater		23.0%	23
	answere	ed question	100
	skippe	ed question	3

2. You are:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
male		81.8%	81
female		18.2%	18
	answere	ed question	99
	skipp	ed question	4

3. You have been a member of the society:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 1 year.		3.0%	3
Between 1 and 5 years.		47.0%	47
Between 6 and 10 years.		28.0%	28
Between 11 and 20 years.		18.0%	18
Greater than 20 years.		4.0%	4
	answere	ed question	100
	skipp	ed question	3

4. Which choice below best describes	s your geographic location?		
		Response Percent	Response Count
Greater Vancouver (including the North Shore, Richmond, and Delta).		47.5%	47
Fraser Valley (East of Greater Vancouver to Chilliwack).		7.1%	7
Southern Vancouver Island, including the Gulf Islands.		16.2%	16
Puget Sound area, including Seattle.		9.1%	9
Other areas of the Pacific Northwest, including southern Washington and Oregon.		4.0%	4
North America other than those listed above.		12.1%	12
Europe, including Great Britain.		4.0%	4
	answere	ed question	99
	skipp	ed question	4

5. Over the last ten year period, which USDA climate zone would you estimate applies to your specific location? These are based on average winter lows, with rare excursions into the warmer range of next colder zone.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Never freezes (USDA zone 10)		3.1%	3
Average winter lows 25 to 30F (-3.8 to -1.2C)-(USDA zone 9b)		18.4%	18
Average winter lows 20 to 25F (- 6.6C to -3.9C)-(USDA zone 9a)		23.5%	23
Average winter lows 15 to 20F (-9.4C to -6.7C)-(USDA zone 8b)		21.4%	21
Average winter lows 10-15F (-12.2C to -9.5C)-(USDA zone 8a)		20.4%	20
Average winter lows 5-10F (-14.9C to -12.3C)-(USDA zone 7b)		6.1%	6
Average winter lows 0-5F (-17.7C to -15.0C)-(USDA zone 7a)		2.0%	2
Colder than zone 7a		5.1%	5
	answered question		98
	skippe	ed question	5

6. In addition to the USDA zone (based only on winter lows), which description best matches your specific garden conditions?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Cool Maritime, with abundant rainfall (more than 750 mm(30 inches)/yr) and cool summer daytime temperatures (typically less than 25C)		59.8%	55
Maritime but inland, with abundant rainfall (more than 750 mm/yr) and high summer daytime temperatures (typically greater than 30C)		13.0%	12
Cool Maritime but drier, with pronounced summer drought and less rainfall (500 - 750 mm/yr)		14.1%	13
Wet Continental, with hot summer days (>30C)		8.7%	8
Arid Continental, with hot summer days (>30C)		4.3%	4
	answere	ed question	92
	skipp	ed question	11

7. The size of your garden is:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
none		4.0%	4
patio or balcony		5.0%	5
small (as in a townhouse garden)		3.0%	3
medium (bigger than townhouse, but less that 100 square metres or 1000 square feet)		32.0%	32
large (greater than 100 square metres or 1000 square feet)		56.0%	56
	answere	ed question	100
	skippe	ed question	3

8. Your membership status in the society at this time is:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
current member (dues paid or will be paid shortly)		62.7%	64
past member		37.3%	38
answered question		102	
skipped question		1	

9. Which choices below best describe the reason(s) that you chose to let your membership lapse? Check all that app			ply.
		Response Percent	Response Count
I have chosen to no longer grow palms or exotic plants.		3.7%	1
I grow palms and exotics, but the club has not retained my interest.		25.9%	7
I have moved, so I no longer have a suitable garden.		14.8%	4
I have become a member of another plant specialty club that is taking up much of my time.		3.7%	1
I would like to belong, but membership dues are too high.		29.6%	8
I don't need the club because I can get all the information about palms and exotics that I need from the internet.		25.9%	7
I found that participation in most events was impractical because I live too far from a local chapter.		40.7%	11
	answered question		27
	skippe	ed question	76

10. If you have comments on your choices or have other reasons to let your membership lapse, please enter them here.		
	Response Count	
	20	
answered question	20	
skipped question	83	

11. Enhance member's knowledge of the wide variety of form and foliage of plants suitable for gardeners in zones 7-9, especially those plants with tropical or other unusual attributes.			
Response Re Percent 0			
1		54.2%	32
2		35.6%	21
3		10.2%	6
4		0.0%	0
answered question		59	
	skippe	ed question	44

12. Facilitate the sharing of plant knowledge among members			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		43.1%	25
2		46.6%	27
3		6.9%	4
4		3.4%	2
	answere	ed question	58
	skippe	ed question	45

13. Increase the repertoire of plants available to members by encouraging the testing of new cultivars or species						
		Response Percent	Response Count			
1		22.4%	13			
2		50.0%	29			
3		22.4%	13			
4		5.2%	3			
	answere	ed question	58			
	skipp	ed question	45			

14. Develop and promote methods of plant protection and cultivation						
		Response Percent	Response Count			
1		36.2%	21			
2		39.7%	23			
3		22.4%	13			
4		1.7%	1			
	answere	ed question	58			
	skipp	ed question	45			

15. Increase the local availability of palms and other exotic plants						
		Response Percent	Response Count			
1		25.4%	15			
2		47.5%	28			
3		25.4%	15			
4		1.7%	1			
	answered question		59			
	skipped question		44			

16. Help members plan and integrate palms and other exotic plants into successful landscaping					
		Response Percent	Response Count		
1		24.1%	14		
2		44.8%	26		
3		31.0%	18		
4		0.0%	0		
	answere	ed question	58		
	skipp	ed question	45		

17. Encourage the general public to widen their repertoire by integrating palms and other exotic plants into general landscaping						
		Response Percent	Response Count			
1		27.1%	16			
2		50.8%	30			
3		18.6%	11			
4		3.4%	2			
	answere	ed question	59			
	skipp	ed question	44			

18. How do you feel about the ways that you receive news and event information from us? Based on your experience, rate each method from "very effective" (on left) to "not effective at all" (on right)

					Rating Average	Response Count
email	61.7% (37)	36.7% (22)	1.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.40	60
flyers (mailed)	36.2% (21)	43.1% (25)	15.5% (9)	5.2% (3)	1.90	58
Hardypalm website	25.5% (14)	56.4% (31)	14.5% (8)	3.6% (2)	1.96	55
Hardy Palm International (HPI) journal	78.7% (48)	18.0% (11)	3.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.25	61
reports at quarterly meetings	36.0% (18)	28.0% (14)	24.0% (12)	12.0% (6)	2.12	50
	answered question					61
				skipped	question	42

19. For a dialogue with other members, which methods (or events) seem to be most effective for you? Choose "Very effective" on the left and "not effective for me at all" on the right.

					Rating Average	Response Count
chat forums on the hardypalm website	38.0% (19)	30.0% (15)	20.0% (10)	12.0% (6)	2.06	50
email	40.4% (21)	44.2% (23)	9.6% (5)	5.8% (3)	1.81	52
quarterly meeting	37.0% (20)	24.1% (13)	22.2% (12)	16.7% (9)	2.19	54
tours and barbeques	51.0% (26)	13.7% (7)	17.6% (9)	17.6% (9)	2.02	51
	answered question					58
	skipped question					

20. Quarterly general meetings.							
					Rating Average	Response Count	
participation	37.5% (15)	27.5% (11)	22.5% (9)	12.5% (5)	2.10	40	
usefulness	40.0% (14)	45.7% (16)	14.3% (5)	0.0% (0)	1.74	35	
	answered question					40	
		skipped question					

21. Garden tours and other social events (such as barbeques).							
					Rating Average	Response Count	
participation	54.1% (20)	16.2% (6)	24.3% (9)	5.4% (2)	1.81	37	
usefulness	76.5% (26)	11.8% (4)	11.8% (4)	0.0% (0)	1.35	34	
	answered question					37	
		skipped question					

22. Exotic plant sales (as a purchaser)							
					Rating Average	Response Count	
participation	34.2% (13)	39.5% (15)	18.4% (7)	7.9% (3)	2.00	38	
usefulness	44.4% (16)	44.4% (16)	5.6% (2)	5.6% (2)	1.72	36	
	answered question					38	
	skipped question					65	

23. Exotic plant sales (as a vendor)						
					Rating Average	Response Count
participation	20.0% (4)	20.0% (4)	20.0% (4)	40.0% (8)	2.80	20
usefulness	29.4% (5)	35.3% (6)	11.8% (2)	23.5% (4)	2.29	17
	answered question					21
		skipped question				

24. Contributor to the journal (Hardy Palm International or HPI)							
					Rating Average	Response Count	
participation	27.9% (12)	18.6% (8)	25.6% (11)	27.9% (12)	2.53	43	
usefulness	63.9% (23)	27.8% (10)	2.8% (1)	5.6% (2)	1.50	36	
	answered question					44	
		skipped question					

25. Joining the the club executive						
					Rating Average	Response Count
participation	21.6% (8)	24.3% (9)	8.1% (3)	45.9% (17)	2.78	37
usefulness	41.9% (13)	22.6% (7)	12.9% (4)	22.6% (7)	2.16	31
				answered	question	37
	skipped question		66			

26. Provide local contact or organization assistance to members in areas that have no active chapter. (The best part of the club for many Vancouver area members has been the social and interactive communication aspects provided by meetings and other gatherings.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
1		53.1%	26
2		42.9%	21
3		4.1%	2
4		0.0%	0
	answere	ed question	49
	skippe	ed question	54

	Response	Response
27. Make "interactive" or "workshop style" meetings more frequent. (There was great enthusiasm displayed at the last general meeting, which had this format.)		

		Response Percent	Response Count
1		59.2%	29
2		36.7%	18
3		4.1%	2
4		0.0%	0
	answere	ed question	49
	skipp	ed question	54

28. Change HPI from a paper journal to an online journal. (This would dramatically reduce printing costs so the cost of membership would drop.)				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
1		19.2%	10	
2		17.3%	9	
3		21.2%	11	
4		42.3%	22	
	answere	ed question	52	
	skippo	ed question	51	

29. Enhance the hardypalm website to make it easier for members to interact. (Although there are already forums listed on the site, most tend to be centered elsewhere)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		44.0%	22
2		42.0%	21
3		10.0%	5
4		4.0%	2
	answer	ed question	50
	skipp	ed question	53

30. Enhance the Hardypalm website so membership fees can be paid online. (This proposal (if Paypal is used) would cost a few
dollars extra per membership, but would make renewing easier)

		Response Percent	Response Count
1		23.5%	12
2		27.5%	14
3		23.5%	12
4		25.5%	13
	answere	ed question	51
	skippe	ed question	52

31. Do you have any suggestions for enhancing communication other than those listed? Please enter your suggestion(s) in the text box below.

	Response Count
	14
answered question	14
skipped question	89

32. Expand the club focus to include succulents, ponds, and other specialty areas (This has already happened to some extent with succulents, and a broader palette would broaden our membership base.)

		Response Percent	Response Count
1		40.4%	21
2		42.3%	22
3		13.5%	7
4		3.8%	2
	answere	ed question	52
	skipp	ed question	51

33. Have joint meetings with other related specialty plant groups. (Similar rationale to the previous question.)			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		28.0%	14
2		46.0%	23
3		20.0%	10
4		6.0%	3
	answere	ed question	50
skipped question		ed question	53

34. Change the society's name to better reflect its aims. (Clarifying the meaning of "Exotic Plant" in the society's name has entailed considerable discussion. Perhaps a club name change would be in order once its meaning is better defined).			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		11.5%	6
2		40.4%	21
3		32.7%	17
4		15.4%	8
	answere	ed question	52
	skippe	ed question	51

35. More emphasis on integrating palms and exotics into landscape designs. (A variety of tools are available for this, some on the web and some workshop based).				
		Response Percent	Response Count	
1		49.1%	26	
2		45.3%	24	
3		3.8%	2	
4		1.9%	1	
	answere	ed question	53	
	skippe	ed question	50	

36. Do you have any changes to the club's objectives that we haven't considered that you think would enhance our society? Please enter your suggestion(s) in the text box below.		
	Response Count	
	9	
answered question	9	
skipped question	94	

37. In the context of this society, which choice below best describes a hardy exotic plant to you? Please rate each description from left (an excellent description) to right (doesn't match my description at all).

					Rating Average	Response Count
Any plant with tropical form and foliage (habit and leaf not found in temperate zones).	67.3% (35)	21.2% (11)	5.8% (3)	5.8% (3)	1.50	52
Any plant that is marginally hardy in your climate zone.	39.2% (20)	31.4% (16)	21.6% (11)	7.8% (4)	1.98	51
Any plant with unusual form or foliage, not necessarily tropical.	39.2% (20)	25.5% (13)	15.7% (8)	19.6% (10)	2.16	51
Any plant with that adds previously unavailable form or foliage to your gardens in your area.	33.3% (17)	33.3% (17)	19.6% (10)	13.7% (7)	2.14	51
Any plant not commonly used in your area.	32.1% (17)	22.6% (12)	17.0% (9)	28.3% (15)	2.42	53
	answered question				53	
	skipped question				50	

38. Do you think there a definition of Exotic plant" that we didn't list? Please elaborate in the box below.				
	Response Count			
	10			
answered question	10			
skipped question	93			

39. The Hardy Palm International journal has varied in emphasis and content over the last eighteen years, but certain themes tend to recur. Some of these themes are listed below. Please rate them from left (I really like this) to right (time to give this a miss).

					Rating Average	Response Count
articles or reprints on new hardy palm or other exotic plant species	79.2% (42)	20.8% (11)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.21	53
articles about climate and climate change	35.8% (19)	47.2% (25)	13.2% (7)	3.8% (2)	1.85	53
articles about garden planning or other plant utilization	47.2% (25)	47.2% (25)	5.7% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.58	53
reports on local plant trials and survival techniques	86.5% (45)	11.5% (6)	0.0% (0)	1.9% (1)	1.17	52
reports on garden tours	50.9% (27)	32.1% (17)	13.2% (7)	3.8% (2)	1.70	53
regular reports (updates) from areas within the chapter	53.8% (28)	36.5% (19)	5.8% (3)	3.8% (2)	1.60	52
reports from other locations or societies	41.2% (21)	35.3% (18)	17.6% (9)	5.9% (3)	1.88	51
	answered question				53	
	skipped question				50	

40. Do you have any suggestions (format or content) on how HPI could be improved?		
		Response Count
		10
	answered question	10
	skipped question	93

41. What is it about PNWPEPS that you find most valuable? Select all that apply, but rank them from extremely valuable to not valuable at all. You may use the same rating more than once if you wish. Extremely valuable (on left) --- Not valuable at all (on right)

					Rating Average	Response Count
Learning information about new hardy palms and other exotic species.	88.7% (47)	11.3% (6)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.11	53
Meeting individuals that have the same interests.	47.2% (25)	37.7% (20)	11.3% (6)	3.8% (2)	1.72	53
Having the opportunity to test new species or cultivars.	51.9% (27)	30.8% (16)	11.5% (6)	5.8% (3)	1.71	52
Learning about palm and exotic plant protection and cultivation methods.	79.2% (42)	15.1% (8)	5.7% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.26	53
Obtaining seeds or plants that are otherwise hard to obtain.	56.6% (30)	26.4% (14)	15.1% (8)	1.9% (1)	1.62	53
Learning how palms and exotics are used in effective landscape design.	61.5% (32)	23.1% (12)	13.5% (7)	1.9% (1)	1.56	52
Educating by example the general population about the wide range of plant choices available.	43.4% (23)	34.0% (18)	20.8% (11)	1.9% (1)	1.81	53
	answered question					53
	skipped question				50	

42. If you found aspects of the society valuable that are not on the list above, please enter them here.			
		Response Count	
		7	
	answered question	7	
	skipped question	96	