

Exploring Nature's Artistry

A Visit to the ISOCC Cacti and Succulents Show in Janakpuri, Delhi

By Dr. Deepshikha P Sharma

The Allure of Blue Cacti

Another highlight of the show was the display of blue cacti, including the stunning Blue Myrtle cactus. Their unique blue hue comes from a waxy coating called cutin, which protects them from intense sunlight and minimizes water loss. This adaptation not only ensures their survival in harsh climates but also gives them an ethereal, otherworldly beauty. Their presence added a surreal charm to the exhibition, leaving visitors in awe of nature's ingenuity.

Marvels of Euphorbia

The Euphorbia spiralis was another showstopper, drawing attention with its dramatic spiraling structure. This succulent, with its geometric elegance, underscored the diversity and artistry of the plants on display. The variety and ingenuity seen in these plants made the exhibition a visual and educational treat.



Best in Show Flowering Succulent



Agave Snow Glow



Blue Myrtle-Cactus (L.) Euphorbia spiralis (R.)



Blue Cactii Varities



Astrophytum magnificum
Best in Show



Esposotoa

Prize-Winning Beauties

The competition section of the show featured prize-winning entries that left visitors spellbound. Among the winners was the Noto cactus clump, celebrated for its abundant, vibrant blooms that turned the plant into a living masterpiece. Other notable prize-winning entries included flowering cacti like the California barrel cactus and the delicate yet striking Rebutia heliosa. These plants, showcased with pride, reflected the dedication and skill of their caretakers.

A Celebration of Nature's Resilience

The ISOCC Cacti and Succulents Show was more than just an exhibition; it was a celebration of the adaptability and artistry of the plant kingdom. From rare species to mutated marvels, every plant told a story of survival and beauty. Visitors not only admired the plants but also learned valuable tips about their care, ensuring the legacy of these unique species continues to thrive.

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On a bright and vibrant weekend, nature enthusiasts and plant lovers gathered at the Cacti and Succulents Show organized by the Indian Society of Cacti and Succulents (ISOCC) in Janakpuri, Delhi. This spectacular exhibition showcased a mesmerizing array of cacti and succulents, celebrating the diverse adaptability, and sheer beauty of these hardy plants.

A Visual Feast of Rare Varieties

The event was a botanical treasure trove, with rows of stunning plants in every imaginable shape, size, and color. Rare and exotic species stole the spotlight, including the intricate Mammillaria polythete, the compact and flowering Rebutia heliosa, and the vibrant California barrel cactus in full bloom. Other standout specimens included the beautiful Mellow cactus, the striking Gymnocalycium stenoplurum, and the spiky Conoideus.



Melocactus conoideus



California barrel cactus



Mammillaria polythete



Gymnocalycium stenoplurum



Rebutia heliosa



Cristate and Monstrose Cactii

Visitors were also enchanted by the Pachypodium rosulatum, a unique succulent native to Africa, and the fascinating Espostoa grafted varieties. Each plant seemed to tell a story of resilience and uniqueness, captivating visitors with their intricate forms and colorful blooms. The Fascination of Cristate and Monstrose Varieties Among the rare exhibits, Cristate and Monstrose cacti and succulents stood out for their unusual growth patterns. These plants, shaped by genetic mutations often caused by viral or bacterial infections, showcased nature's unpredictable creativity. Cristate varieties form fan-like shapes, while Monstrose specimens exhibit irregular, asymmetrical growth. Despite their unusual origins, these plants adapt beautifully, becoming living sculptures that are highly prized by collectors and enthusiasts.