

# Leonardo Versieux



## **Brazil: Bromeliads of the Tropics**

***Brazil: Bromeliads of the Tropics*** is an inspired reimagining of Mulford Foster's classic *Brazil: Orchid of the Tropics*, centering on one of the country's most captivating plant families—bromeliads. Foster's original 1946 book wove together travel narrative, cultural insight, and botanical exploration; this talk offers a fresh perspective through the lens of bromeliads, highlighting their ecological roles, diversity, and visual splendor within Brazil's rich tropical landscapes. While maintaining Foster's spirit of admiration for Brazil's flora, this presentation updates the narrative to spotlight bromeliads as emblematic of the country's botanical treasures.

## **Biography**

Leonardo Versieux is a Brazilian botanist passionate about tropical biodiversity and plant systematics. With a particular focus on bromeliads, his research and fieldwork have contributed to our understanding of these vibrant and ecologically significant plants. Versieux brings both scientific insight and heartfelt appreciation to every botanical story he shares. He has a PhD in *Alcantarea*, the giant bromeliads from Brazil, which will also be depicted in his talk.