

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden



Courtesy Vetterle & Reinelt

TUBEROUS BEGONIA . . Camellia Variety

VOL. VII — No. 7

JULY, 1940

TEN CENTS

The BEGONIAN

Monthly Publication of the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Business and General Offices: 757 Athens Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

Affiliated with the American Horticultural Society

● Annual Membership Fee, One Dollar per Calendar Year—Seventy-five Cents of which is for a year's subscription to the BEGONIAN. Subscription to non-members, One Dollar a Year.

● Entered as second-class matter January 30, 1940, at the post office at Los Angeles, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

● Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman, January, 1932 in Long Beach, California.

● **ADVERTISING RATES:** One inch, one insertion only \$1.25. All other advertising space at \$1.00 per inch. Commission and Cash Discount: Agency commission 15%. Ads contracted for 3 months take 10% discount, for 6 months take 15% discount, for 1 year take 20% discount. Additional 2% cash discount if paid before 10th of month following insertion. Seasonal change in copy allowed.

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THE EDITOR felt a bit low just before going to press this month because the staff had planned on a 20-page magazine and while we had the ads to warrant it, lack of material of the quality we wish to carry in the BEGONIAN was not there.

So, believing that our correspondents had let us down we got out the old shears and re-vamped the entire layout so it would appear in reasonably good form.

First thing Monday we headed for the printers, turned dummy, copy and pictures over to them and proceeded to see "Gone With The Wind."

Returning that afternoon we found the mail box loaded with material that would have meant a great deal to the staff two days earlier. And to be perfectly frank we don't know which gives one the heaviest dose of that all-gone feeling—lack of material before press time, or too much after the dummy is made up and in the hands of the printer.

Any publication has to have a deadline. And the printers set a deadline for us; if we don't meet it, it not only delays the BEGONIAN but causes confusion at the mailing house.

The American Begonia Society is no longer a neighborhood garden club. It is an international society represented by **the only publication of its kind in the world**—"devoted to the sheltered garden." It is published each month through the efforts of its officers who donate their time and knowledge to it for love of a hobby.

The staff would welcome copy from all the members of the ABS. But please get your copy in before the 15th of each month. If you wait until the last minute something will come up to throw a monkey-wrench into things and we, being at the half-way mark in our regime, would like the last six months to far surpass the preceding ones.

Your cooperation will be an incentive for us to meet the demands for more and better material, questions and answers and a bigger BEGONIAN.

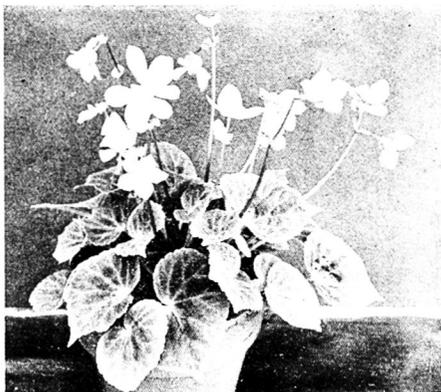
BEGONIA DAVISII

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE, Director of Nomenclature

BEGONIA DAVISII, Veitch. This begonia was collected by Mr. Davis, an Englishman, for Messrs. Veitch, near Chupe, Peru, at an elevation of 10,000 feet. It flowered for the first time under cultivation at the nursery of Messrs. Veitch in July, 1876. It is an excellent pot plant and may also be used in the shaded rock garden or wall garden. It was introduced into the nursery trade in 1879.

Davisii, Veitch, is one of the parents of the multiflora type tuberous begonias. In the past, several very good double varieties of this plant were produced, among them being Davisii hybrida flore pleno, Davisii flore pleno, Davisii plena superba, Davisii lutea plena, Canary Bird, M. Casset, and others. Plants of this type were low-growing. Some of the single named varieties were Miss Constance Veitch, Scarlet Gem, Novelty, and Mrs. Arthur Potts. Unfortunately none of these hybrids are now in cultivation.

The culture of begonia Davisii, Veitch, is the same as for the tuberous hybrid begonias. Propagation is usually by seed, although cuttings may be used as well as divisions of the tuber.



Begonia Davisii, Veitch.

Life size of plant to top most flower—six inches

Botanically this species belongs to section Huszia, Klotzsch, along with *B. octopetala*, *L'Her*, *Veitchii*, *Hook. F.*, *B. rosaeflora*, *Hook. F.*, *Froebelii*, *A. DC.* & *B. Baumanii Lem.* The plants in this section are mostly tuberous.

Description: Root tuberous, almost round, of a greenish-brown color and small. The plant will grow to a foot tall, its very short stems being numerous, succulent, green with a touch of red, and having few scattered

downy hairs. The leaf stems are up to five inches long, greenish with pale red stripes, with few scattered downy hairs, with a red area about a quarter of an inch long at the end of the stem where it joins the leaf. Leaf slanting, round heart-shaped, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in size, is a glossy dark green above, with broad nerves slightly raised; underside the veins are green and the leafblade reddish, with few scattered hairs. Margins are scalloped-toothed, with hairs protruding occasionally from the teeth. Flower stems, carried from the leaf axils, to 7 inches long, are red and free of hairs. Scarlet flowers appear from two to five on a stem, males being four-petaled, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. The backs of the petals are lighter. The few stamens are held by filaments separated from the flower base. Female flowers are 5-petaled, the vertical petals being larger than the horizontal ones as in the males. Seed pods are three-winged, one of which is much longer than the others, the three-celled placenta being divided into two folds with seeds produced on the four surfaces. Stigmas are three-divided. Each stigma is divided into two segments which are screw-like, with two twists.

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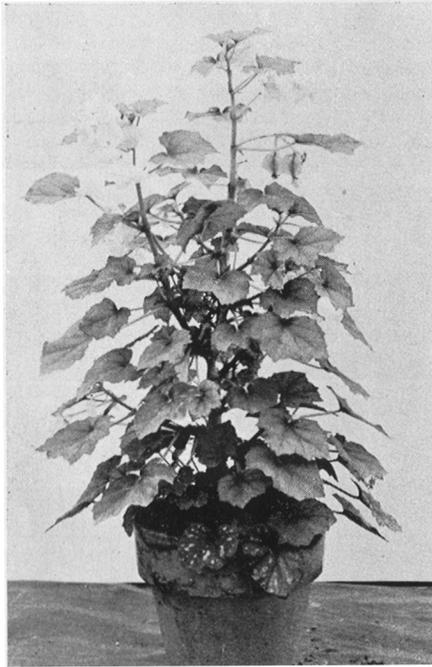
BEGONIA DREGEI

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE,
Director of Nomenclature

BEGONIA DREGEI, Otto & Dietrich, was named by Otto and Dietrich for its discoverer, F. J. Drege, a German collector, who found the plant in 1836 growing at an elevation of 4000 feet on the Natal Mountains in the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. This plant is the same as *B. caffra* Meisner, *parvifolia* Graham and *reniformis* Hort. (hortorum — of the garden).

Dregei is an excellent pot plant and succeeds well indoors when it is placed in a position to its liking. During summer it may be planted out of doors either in the soil or by submerging the pot into the soil. It may be planted in the regular fibrous begonia soil mixture. The plant may be propagated by

Description: The root is tuberous and often attains the diameter of four inches. Unlike *Davisii*, *Pearcei* and the tuberous hybrids, the stems do not die down to the tuber as woody tissues extend through the swollen stem base and up into the stems. During the rest period the stems remain either with or without leaves and when that period is past, growth is resumed. Frost will kill the plant down to the tuber and if it is at or above the surface of the soil, it too will suffer. The growth is upright, to two or three feet, but if support is given, a greater height will be attained. The mature stems, much branched, are brownish in color like the tubers; the little appendages on the stem where the leaves come off (stipules) remain for quite a long time and are papery and brown, of a triangular shape, $\frac{3}{16}$ inch wide and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch long. The leaf stem, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long, is reddish but lighter than the main stem. The leaves are unequal, heart-shaped, $1\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, terminating to a point. The margin is slightly lobed and toothed. The upper side of the leaf is a bronze-green color, with deep red veins and a red spot where the leaf joins the stem. Seedling plants will often have small spots or circular rings of a silver color on the early leaves. The underside is purplish red while occasionally only the veins are colored and the leaves are light green. The flowers are produced near the tops of the stems during the summer. The flower stem, which grows from the leaf axil, carries three male and two female flowers. In the house or in a shaded glasshouse, the flowers are white, but when they receive strong sunlight through a window or are grown out of doors under lath alone, the flowers are tinged with pink or rose. Plants raised from seed vary in this regard. (At any rate, the ability to color shows that the rose in *Weltoniensis* Clark was obtained from *Dregei*, Otto & Dietr. when it was obtained by crossing *Sutherlandii*, Clark, with *Dregei*, Otto & Dietr. The rose color of *Weltoniensis*, Clark, has been a mystery to the hybridizers and was an inexplicable problem). The flower stem is short and usually just long enough to carry the flowers out beyond the leaves. The male flowers have two petals which are almost kidney-shaped, being wider than long. The anthers are each carried from the flower base by its individual filament. The females have five petals. There are three stigmas, each having two screw-like branches with one twist. The seed pod, $\frac{3}{8}$ inches long, has three wings of which one is slightly longer. The pod is three-celled and seed is produced around the solid placenta.



Begonia Dregei, Otto & Dietrich
Life size of plant—one foot tall.

stem cuttings, seeds, or by division of the tuber (this latter practice is not usually advisable as it endangers the parent plant.)

Being an excellent seed parent, *Dregei* was used as such to produce "Gloire de Lorraine" (*Socotrana* Hook x *Dregei* Otto & Dietr.) as well as *Weltoniensis*, Clark (*Sutherlandii*, Hook fil. (son) x *Dregei*, Otto & Dietr.)

Botanically this species belongs to the section *Augustia* Klotzsch.

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

National Garden Show Treasure Island — May 25th to September 25th

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ALL AMERICANS should have the opportunity of visiting Treasure Island this year where they will see depicted: "America! Cavalcade of a Nation!"

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Members of the ABS however, will have an added incentive for attending as the East Bay Branch is exhibiting in one of the most important spots on the Island which is being attended by thousands daily and where ABS literature is being distributed by East Bay members under the direction of Mrs. Harriette Bridges, northern representative of the Begonian.

On July 22 from 3 to 5 o'clock, East Bay branch members will serve tea in the Hostess House and at 8 p.m. that evening the regular monthly meeting will be held in the gardens. Plan your vacation trip so you may have the added pleasure and thrill of visiting, meeting and enjoying the hospitality of our Bay District members.

● **EAST BAY:** Meets fourth Monday in each month at the Berkeley City Hall, in the Council Chambers at 8 p.m.

● **GOLDEN GATE BRANCH:** Meets the first Wednesday of each month at 1060 Francisco St., San Francisco, at 8 p.m.

FIBROUS BEGONIAS

Answers Supplied by MRS. BESSIE BUXTON, author of "Begonias and How to Grow Them", Peabody, Mass.

Q. What type of fibrous begonia can be used attractively in hanging baskets?

A. *Manicata aureo-maculata* grows well in a hanging basket. It must have a sunny window to develop good color, and sandy soil. Then the white spots will flush pink, and the edge of the leaf will have a hair line edge of red. The pink flowers come in the Spring. *B. glaucophylla* has the true trailing habit, and is a winter bloomer. The leaves are smooth, light green, deeply veined, with slightly ruffled edge. The flowers are coral-red, the buds striped with white. Marjorie Daw, which is a cross between *glaucophylla* and *rubra*, also grows well in a hanging pot, and *Foliosa*, the fern-like begonia is very beautiful grown in this way, for the fern-like sprays hang gracefully. *B. glabra* may be grown in a hanging pot, or it may be staked; either way is good. *B. scandens alba* may be grown in a hanging pot, if you wish, but it always remains small so does not "hang" very much. Sometimes *B. sunderbruchi* looks well in a hanging pot—it depends on the way your plant grows. It may have an upright habit, and it may droop gracefully. Almost any of the rhizomatous group may develop a hanging form, and look well in a hanging pot.

Q. Are *Alba Scandens* and *Glaucophylla* considered fibrous begonias?

A. Yes, as far as I know, but I confess I have never looked closely at the roots. When I transplant them, I am anxious to disturb the roots as little as possible.

Q. What makes *Alba Scandens* drop its leaves in the Fall?

A. Pure cussedness, I believe. The handsomest—and the poorest plants I ever saw, were grown by the same grower—an expert—in two different years. I saw them in the Spring each time, so it is not always in the Fall that the leaves drop. It is difficult to grow.

Q. Will fibrous begonias propagate from leaf cuttings?

A. Some will — notably *phyllomaniaca*, and the rhizomatous types, but cuttings are quicker and surer for most of them.

Q. Do fibrous begonias require an acid soil?

A. Yes, acidity produced largely by leaf mold.

Q. Will fibrous begonias do better when planted in the ground or in a pot?

A. The cane types, and all the strong growers do better in the open ground, but

become too large to pot in the fall, so cuttings should be taken in the Spring and grown on in pots, ready for the Winter. Delicate types should not be risked in the open, nor those with velvety leaves, like *Cathayana*, or the *Smaragdina* group.

Q. Does pinching back cause the fibrous varieties to branch out?

A. Yes, with the sturdy growers, but not with the delicate ones, except with great discretion.

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Rex Begonias

Answers Supplied by
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Q. I have been told to remove all blooms from the rex begonias as soon as they appear. Is this correct?

A. We remove the blooms in the Fall so as to conserve their strength for Winter.

Q. Do rex need more shade than tuberous and fibrous begonias?

A. Yes.

Q. Do rex begonias do better as a potted plant than when planted in the ground?

A. Excellent plants can be grown either way providing good oak leaf mold is used.

Q. When should rexes be re-potted?

A. When the roots reach the bottom of the pot, which is as often as three times a year.

Q. Do rex begonias need fertilizing?

A. Attention to re-potting at the proper time has proven much more beneficial than using fertilizers.

Q. Does rex begonia seed come true?

A. No. The practice of growing from seed is for the purpose of obtaining new varieties of outstanding merit.

Q. How can I bring out the natural coloring in rex leaves?

A. Avoid too much sun and drying winds.

Q. What other plants look well in a rex begonia grouping?

A. Ferns, gloxinias, impatiens, streptocarpus, semperflorens.

Eleventh ABS Baby



• Organization of the Santa Barbara Branch of the ABS was completed at a meeting of begonia growers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Frey, 1820 Laguna Street, Santa Barbara.

The following officers were elected:

Rudolf Ziesenhenn.....President
 Mrs. Elsie Frey.....Vice-President
 Mrs. Harriett Worden.....Secy.-Treas.

Clarence A. Hall, Public Relations Director, welcomed this branch into the American Begonia Society.

Mr. W. T. Kemper, president of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd branch, talked on the growing conditions in Santa Barbara. He prophesied a large, lively branch for us here.

Mr. Weitz told about the making of the By-Laws for Ventura.

Ventura members present were W. T. Kemper, president, and Mrs. Kemper, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Hall, Mrs. Rudolph, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Weitz and Austin Perley.

Santa Barbara members were Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Ziesenhenn, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Frey, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Peep, Mr. and Mrs. George Worden, V. J. Ciriali, Mrs. J. L. Frank, Fred D. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. James Wait, Miss Mable Reynolds, Miss Elsie Frey, Mrs. R. B. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Perkins and Mr. and Mrs. John Morrell.

Refreshments were served and Mrs. Frey's begonia garden visited.

The Ventura members brought to us such a feeling of true friendship and encouragement that it was with regret that the meeting was adjourned. A regular meeting date will be announced soon.

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Tuberous Begonias

Answers Supplied by **FRANK REINELT** of Vetterle & Reinelt, Capitola, Calif.

Q. Should tubers used in baskets be pinched back to make more attractive? If so, when should this be done.

A. When the first bud shows, pinch the heart out only to make them branch.

Q. How much sun should tuberous begonias get to produce many flowers?

A. None directly, but as much light as possible without burning.

Q. How should they be fed?

A. Either weak liquid manure or mix cottonseed meal in the soil which goes in the bottom of pot. They will reach it in time when necessary. Feed sparingly at all times.

Q. Can I still take tip cuttings from my tuberous begonias?

A. You can anytime if growth is not too far advanced. When sprouts from tubers reach three to four or more inches they can be directly cut off at the base and rooted in sand. Cuttings without basal ring will not root nor form tubers.

Q. Should we re-pot our tuberous begonias after they are in bloom?

A. Yes, if necessary.

Q. How do you divide a tuber to get more of the same plant?

A. Either cut tuber in half if sufficiently large early in Spring when it starts showing life. Charcoal the cuts and expose to sun for few days to heal for planting. Better method is to take cuttings from large tubers.

Q. Are tubers only good for one year?

A. Tubers are good for as long as you keep them healthy. There are tubers in existence over twenty-five years old, reaching enormous size and still growing as strong as ever.

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• Beginning this month, new members may still receive all back numbers of the Begonian, or pay 10c a month for the remaining months of 1940, plus \$1.00 for the year 1941. Our bookkeeping system and lack of sufficient office help makes it necessary that all memberships end with the month of December. We cannot accept memberships for less than a year. **One dollar paid at any time will entitle the new member to the twelve Begonians issued during that year.** \$1.60 will entitle the member to the July to December Begonians of this year and to the twelve issues of 1941.

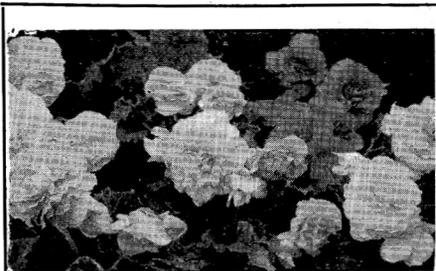
We still have a few complete volumes of the 1939 Begonian which may be had for \$1.00 as long as they last.

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Alfred D. Robinson to Welcome Members



THE ANNUAL pilgrimage to Rosecroft has been set for Sunday, July 14, where, at 11 a.m. Mr. Alfred D. Robinson will speak to those who are fortunate enough to make the trip.

For the benefit of newer members of the Society and those who are not familiar with this annual visitation we will say that this is one of the important events on the yearly calendar and you and your friends will anticipate next year's pilgrimage as much as those who have made the trip each year look forward to another.

Rosecroft Begonia Gardens are at 530 Silvergate Avenue in Point Loma, a few miles north of San Diego. Those who wish to bring a picnic lunch may enjoy it in a huge parking space adjacent to the Gardens.

Plan your day to take in the Montalvo Gardens at 4455 Montalvo, San Diego, where Mrs. Ella Marguerite Fewkes will welcome new members and greet old friends.

Ventura Visitation

• Members of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch at Ventura will open their gardens on Sunday, August 11 to Begonians and their friends.

Some large estates with lath and glass houses filled with some of the rarest specimens of plants to be seen in any private gardens will be included in the complete list of addresses which will appear in the August Begonian. Make a note now to keep this day, AUGUST 11, open for a wonderful trip and a taste of the well-known Ventura hospitality.

• Mrs. Swanson of Ben-My-Chree, c/o Carcross, Alaska, would like to correspond with other members of the ABS.

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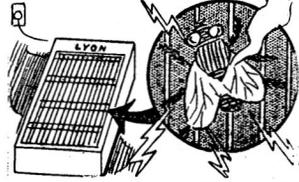
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Semperflorens Begonias

Answers Supplied by J. N. NUTTER
Treasurer of the ABS.

Q. What varieties of semperflorens begonias (bedding) grow well in full sun?

A. In Long Beach nearly all varieties are found growing well in full sun. Farther inland, they do much better in semi-shade.

It is doubtful if any varieties can withstand the terrific heat of our central states without adequate protection from the sun and hot winds.

Q. Should bedding type begonias be cut back in the Fall?

A. Yes. Many of them will make good plants the next Spring. It is a good idea to make plenty of cuttings, however, as the mortality rate is sometimes rather high, and the new plants are usually nicer than the old ones.

Q. Can you propagate semperflorens from cuttings?

A. Yes. Most types can be propagated very successfully from cuttings. It is best to take the little sprouts from the base of the plant. See Mrs. Buxton's Begonia Book, page 95.

Q. Name some of the dwarf varieties.

A. This depends largely upon what you mean by "dwarf" and under what conditions the plant is raised. Two favorites in this vicinity are Tousandschoen and Pink Pearl. Bijou de Jardin is a dainty little plant, well worth while. Luminosa grows about eight inches tall, has bronze foliage and fiery red flowers. Pink Luminosa and Snow Queen are good. Carmine has beautiful mahogany-red foliage and bright pink flowers.

Q. Can semperflorens be used in hanging baskets?

A. All except the tall-growing plants make nice hanging baskets, especially when used with other plants, such as trailing Lobelia, Ivy Geranium, Browallia, etc.

One of the nicest little semperflorens that I have seen is Gustav Lind, commonly called Westport Beauty. It has deep pink, double flowers and makes a lovely pot plant. It is very temperamental, however, so you had

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Series of Non-Technical Descriptions



WITH THIS ISSUE of the *Begonian*, the Nomenclature Department is inaugurating the publication of non-technical descriptions of Begonias now in cultivation. There is an urgent need for descriptions understandable to the layman and of sufficient detail to enable each member to identify all of the plants in his collection.

A photograph of the variety described will accompany each description for it is felt that a picture of a plant is very helpful if supplemented by a detailed description which points out the main characteristics and also presents details which are too small to show up in the photograph. For this purpose only small, typical specimens will be used in order to get a close view so the details of the leaves and flowers may be seen. In cases where plants differ only in leaf shape, the various leaves will be photographed together.

The descriptive material will be drawn up from living plants and will be checked with the true botanical descriptions. The differences between closely related varieties will be pointed out.

It must be taken into consideration that the environment of the plants as well as the cultural methods employed will to a certain extent make the various plants vary in color of flower, leaf and stems, size of plant and nature of growth. For example *Coralline de Lucerne* may be only a foot tall and sometimes "leggy" and have rose or pink-colored flowers when grown indoors while out in the garden plants six feet tall are common and twelve foot plants may be seen with beautiful clusters of red flowers.

The name which follows the begonia name designates the man who first described the plant and it is truly a part of the plant's name. In many cases the same name has been applied to different plants of the same genus and in these cases the man's name attached to the plant name is the only way of signifying the difference. For example, there is *parvifolia*, R. Grah., which is the same as *Dregei*; *parvifolia*, Klotzsch, from Brazil; and *parvifolia*, Schott, also from Brazil. In each case the plant listed is different from the others.

In addition to giving the description, the history of the plant, its use, culture, and propagation will be given. For those who have a much deeper interest in the study of the *Begonia*, the botanical position (section) of the plant in the genus will be given, showing what other species are closely related to it.

Later a key will be presented to aid in determining the various species and varieties.

The Nomenclature Department welcomes any suggestions which will help to make this department more useful.

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The 1940 ILLUSTRATED SPRAY CHART and RECORD will be sent to BEGONIAN readers FREE upon request.

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Ventura ABS Member Wins Bronze Medal

• Mrs. W. O. Monmonier, owner of the Epiphyllum Gardens of Ventura, Calif. was awarded a bronze medal in the cut flower, cactus division, of the New York world's fair flower show.

Mrs. Monmonier shipped her entry to the New York fair via air express through the local Railway Express agency. The flowers left Ventura at 5:42 a.m. Friday, June 14 and arrived the next morning at 9:15 in New York.

• Anyone living in the vicinity of Redwood City, Calif., interested in a branch of the ABS, write to Mrs. Verna Schath, 1105 Madison Ave., Redwood City.

• Dear Editor: I believe this would be a very good time for you and I to pause in our work long enough to thank everyone who has helped us obtain advertising for the Begonian. This should include Mrs. Liedler and Mr. Williams of Long Beach, Mrs. Nicklow of Los Angeles, Mrs. Elva Hartley and Mr. Harrison of Inglewood, Mr. Hall of Ventura, and particularly Mrs. Harriette Bridges in Berkeley.

—Mrs. C. H. Harris, Adv. Mgr.

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FIBROUS BEGONIAS

Q. How can one get more plants from Scharffiana?

A. This begonia comes readily from seed. Seed seems to be most fertile if the plant is exposed to strong sunlight (under lath) and hand pollinated.

Q. What are Loma Alta and Morgana?

A. These are California seedlings of the Thurstoni type but with larger leaves and blooms very handsome.

Q. Can the fibrous types of begonias and rex begonias be planted under the same spaced lath for good results?

A. Rex begonias like more shade but the two types are growing side by side in many lathhouses.

Q. What is a good potting soil for fibrous begonias?

A. Our mixture is one-half leaf mold, one-quarter cow fertilizer, one-quarter sandy loam composted in four-inch layers over some months. Charcoal and a sprinkling of Vigoro help.

Q. Name a few summer-blooming begonias.

A. The Lucerne and Rubra families. Tuberous, Fuchsioides, Multiflora Rosea, Ricinifolia, the bedding types. In fact at least seventy-five percent of all begonias.

Q. I have seen a plant called Prunifolia with shiny leaves and one with hairy leaves. Which is Prunifolia?

A. The hairy one.

Q. When is a good time to fertilize fibrous begonias and what is a good fertilizer?

A. When in full growth, practically all summer. Rosecroft uses Floranid and Vigoro.

Q. When is the best time to move begonias?

A. When they are growing—not in their resting periods.

Q. Does it do harm to wet rex begonia leaves?

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REX, GLOXINIAS

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Answers Supplied by ALFRED D. ROBINSON of Rosecroft, Point Loma.

A. The rex begonia species comes from a country with 400 inches of rainfall in a year. Wetting the leaves is absolutely beneficial if not done when the sun hits them or when the moisture pools on them.

Q. In planting begonias outside what is the best exposure?

A. Generally the North side if not exposed to wind. However, good specimens are to be seen facing all points of the compass.

Q. How often should begonias be watered?

A. The roots of begonias are small and very near the surface which calls for moisture there and this may mean watering every day most of the summer.

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Inter-Branch News

• **Ventura**—Mr. Arthur J. Stewart of the Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens gave an illustrated lecture on native plants as ornamentals at the June 11 meeting. Pictures of the many vari-colored varieties of Ceane-
thus were most impressive. The Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch sends greetings to our neighboring club just started in Santa Barbara.
—WALTER R. KNECHT.

• **Long Beach**—Mr. Jerry Starr presided at the regular June 4 meeting of the Dyckman branch held in the gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Blades. Mr. Palestine was the speaker and answered questions rapidly fired at him by those present. While gathered near the big rock fireplace guests were served hot dogs, cookies, coffee and tea. There were many out-of-town guests and visitors who are always welcome.
—ESTHER RANDALL.

• **Inglewood**—You have heard her as a hillbilly; you have heard her kindly philosophy; you have heard her on gardening; you never heard a better explanation of a sermon than the one she gives; so come and hear **MIRANDY** talk on lathhouse addicts! Friday, July 5 at 8 p.m. In addition, there will be a display of that vision of beauty—velvet ecstasy—**GLOXINIA!**

A 15-minute discourse on this plant will be given by Leslie Woodriff.

—MRS. ALICE NICKLOW.

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Mrs. A. C. Willard
Stanwood, Wash.
Dr. G. Allen Kriz
806 No. 11th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

• Lack of space prohibits running a complete list of new members. More next month.

FERNS

Answers Supplied by ELLA MARGUERITE FEWKES
of Montalvo, San Diego, California.

Q. My Holly fern has small round brown spots on the under sides of all the leaves. Is this a disease?

A. If the spots are fuzzy, dull brown it is spore. If it is a waxy, shiny spot it is scale. Spray with one and one-half per cent solution of Nicona. Dead scale will have to be picked off as it never releases. Nicona is the only spray I know that will impregnate the wax on the scale.

Q. A Boston fern which grew beautifully last year looked very bad this winter (under same conditions) so I cut all the fronds off. New growth is very slow in starting. What shall I do?

A. In cutting the fronds off you created a heavier root system. If no fertilization was given the fern that is perhaps your trouble. Ferns once a year should be given a larger container with a good rich soil added. During the year liquid fertilizer (cow manure water) should be used once a week.

Q. Can ferns be fertilized?

A. Ferns must be fertilized. To grow properly they must be crowded otherwise they will make all root and very little top.

Q. Will ferns grow in the sun?

A. No. A wooded condition. I mean the same condition as you find them in the woods or being shaded by rocks. They will not be healthy in absolute shade either.

Q. What soil mixture shall I use when repotting ferns?

A. Three buckets leaf mold, one bucket peat moss, one-quarter bucket sand, one pound Nitroganic, 5-10-5, or Vigoro. Water once a week with Vitamin B1.

Q. What other plants shall I use in a Fern bed?

A. It is difficult to suggest other than fern plantings on account of rank growth. If ferns are young and small any shade plant that blooms can be dotted in among the ferns

provided they are kept in pots to enable same to be removed when ferns begin "to take the earth."

Q. What are some of the hardier types of ferns, yet not too common, for use in the lathhouse?

A. Pteris varieties. Davallia types, both hanging baskets and pot or planted in the ground. Maidenhair, excepting Gloriosa Farylense; in fact any type of fern one finds in the average nursery or fern establishments. They are far more hardy than many other forms of plant life and will stand a lot of abuse.

There is something I would like to bring out emphatically: The pink fronds on ferns are not DEAD but NEW fronds just developing. That also is true with those putting out green ones. When a frond is dead or dying it has a rusty brown dead look and will be fully matured. This applies mainly to maidenhair types.

• Will Branch Secretaries please send a copy of their by-laws for the editor's files?

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7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29	30	31	»	»	»				

MEETING DATES

HERBERT DYCKMAN BRANCH

Tuesday, July 2, 7:30 P.M.
1845 Lemon Avenue.
Mrs. Frank Graves, Sec'y.-Treasurer,
651 Loma Avenue, Long Beach.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, July 3, 8:00 P.M.
1060 Francisco St., San Francisco.
Harry F. O'Donnell, Secretary.
1575 - 31st Ave., San Francisco.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Friday, July 5, 8:00 P.M.
Woman's Club, 325 No. Hillcrest Blvd.
Mrs. V. SirKegian, Secretary,
413 West Ellis Ave., Inglewood.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BR.

Tuesday, July 9, 8:00 P.M.
Coca-Cola Hall, Ventura.
Mrs. Irene Van Fossen, Sec'y.-Treas.,
349 Jones St., Ventura, Calif.

MARGARET GRUIENBAUM BRANCH

Tuesday, July 9, 1:30 P.M.
Home of Mrs. Howard Comly,
Hatboro, Pa.
Mrs. Wm. L. Paxson, Secretary,
Willow Grove, Pa.

LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

Thursday, July 11, 7:30 P.M.
Community Hall, 9th & Lime, Long Beach.
Mace Taylor, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer,
520 East Esther St., Long Beach.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Friday, July 19, 7:30 P.M.
Arcadia City Hall.
Mrs. A. N. Hartwell, Secretary,
1719 Alamitas Ave., Monrovia.

EAST BAY BRANCH

Monday, July 22, 8:00 P.M.
Hostess House, Treasure Island.
R. L. Barnhard, Secretary,
2419 Oregon St., Berkeley, Calif.

SYRACUSE BRANCH

Richard C. Atwood, Sec'y.-Treas.
1405 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, N. Y.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

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East Street, Middleton, Mass.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

For information write to
Mrs. Harriett Worden, Secy-Treas.
1224 E. Montecito St., Santa Barbara.

- There will be a National Officers' and Directors' meeting at the home of Mrs. Ruby Leidler, 5858 California St., Long Beach, Friday, July 12 at 7:30 P.M.

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