

# The BEGONIAN

*Devoted to the Sheltered Garden*



RICINIFOLIA BEGONIA

# The BEGONIAN

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# PREPARATION FOR HOUSING BEGONIAS DURING FALL AND WINTER (In Eastern Pennsylvania)

by SELINA JONES

**A**T this season of the year it is time for us to be thinking about plants we are going to care for in the winter. No doubt most of us who have Begonias have had either some or all outdoors during the summer. To me, this year has been rather a trying season—very hot, dry, many down-pours and sticky days, however, this should not mean discouragement. Plants either survive or they do not. Some of mine did not.

For successful winter housing of begonias, the following have proved helpful in my experience:

1. Select your best plants.

2. Examine the plant to see if the pot is large enough to accommodate the root system until spring. If not, repot it now so the plant will get a good start before bringing it indoors. Do not wait until December or January before repotting. Sometimes the plant will drop its foliage and will not regain its leaves the rest of the winter.

3. If your plants have not been repotted with fresh soil before the summer months, it would be a good idea to do it now. Be sure to use good soil mixture using the formula given for this locality.

4. Pick off any dead leaves and cut off leggy branches.

5. When bringing plants indoors be mighty careful not to bring them in too suddenly. Bring your plants from your lathhouse or sheltered garden to the porch for three or four days (provided the porch is not on the windy side of the house). After this period of time bring the plants to an open window or place them where they are to be for the winter. Try to have them facing the sun in the same direction as they were outside. After the plant has been indoors for a couple of weeks, try turning it a very little each day. My experience is that some begonias are very temperamental and just won't stand being turned at all.

6. Start feeding your plants sparingly

at first, being very careful not to force any plant that will be dormant in the winter. My suggestion is Vitamin B-1 or Barnyard Tea every 2 weeks. It is better to apply a very weak liquid cow manure using it about every 10 days. I find Vitamin B-1 keeps the plant healthy and pepped up, but does not produce new growth.

7. If possible spray the plants each morning and do not over-water. I never spray on a cloudy day.

When getting the plants housed for the Fall and Winter allow as much fresh air to come into the room as possible.

The above applies to Fibrous rooted Begonias.

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## To Whom This May Concern:

• It grieves me much, to have to bring to light the fact, that some discord is creeping into this fine organization. However, I feel by doing so this little misunderstanding can be righted.

Last week I learned of a very unpleasant circumstance existing. Rumors, undesirable rumors at that, coming from a few of the older members.

Perhaps it is due to the lack of information, which I believe it is, or it may be that it is an impossibility to realize we are no longer a one branch affair, but an organization of national recognition. Whatever it may be, I would like to state at this time that the society as a whole is very anxious to give the exact information needed. It is stated specifically in our constitution that each branch have a National Representative for the definite purpose of taking back to the branches a complete report of the business transacted at the national board meetings.

If the representative were given the time to give the report in its entirety, I feel sure this would eliminate all idle chatter.—The Editor

# MORE ABOUT "WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

by TRISTRAM COFFIN WHITAKER

MUCH of the discussion about Begonia Names is not only needless, but at times verges on the ridiculous. I wish to mention a few as samples of this wrangling. *B. Glaucophylla Scandens* has been called by numerous misfitting names for many years, now it is proposed to call it plain *Glaucophylla*, which only describes the leaf whereas, when *Scandens* is added it fully describes the plant, also, informing one that it is a vine of the climbing type plant. I think it should be *B. Glaucophylla Scandens*.

I also do not feel I can accept the name of *B. Aconitifolia* for *B. Faureana Metallica* as I see very little resemblance in the leaf to *B. Aconite* in the first place, and in the second place the name *Metallica* suits it very well.

The *B. Faureana Argentea* (sometimes wrongly called *Diadema Erecta*) said to have been named about 1895 for Mr. Felix Faure, President of France, has recently been renamed *B. Aconitifolia* Var. *Hildegard Schneider*. Why may I ask should a plant well named and known have its name ruthlessly changed?

I also can see no reason for calling a Pink *Rubra*, "*B. Coccinea*" as it is named in one collection in the East, or in fact any of the numerous *Rubra* Varieties.

*B. Lady Waterlow* has been mistaken for *B. Digswelliana* while *B. Digswelliana* has also been misnamed.

*B. Ingrami* has been grown in California and other places as *B. Robusta*

which is incorrect as there is a *B.* plant from Java by that name which is entirely different.

I am for changing the name of any *Begonia* when it is proven that it has been incorrectly named, but let us not lay hand suddenly on an old variety and give it a new deal.

## Philadelphia and Vicinity

by SOPHIA E. WHITAKER

• The program of the Philadelphia and vicinity branch of the A. B. S. for the Winter Season of 1941 and 42 will continue the study of *Begonias* by groups. Our guide will be the book on "*Begonias*."

Mr. Whitaker, Branch President, will again make his greenhouse collection of more than 300 varieties available for study.

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# MY BEGONIA CATHAYANA

by ELSIE M. FREY

ONE of the treasures of my clothouse is Begonia Cathayana, a species from China. It is about three years old and I find it a hardy begonia, not as tender as I have always heard it described. It grows upright and has four stalks which are very well branched. It is 30 inches tall. A beautiful begonia, the stems and leaves are fleshy, clothed with long, crimson, soft hairs, interspersed on the branches with a few white ones. The leaves are long-stalked around 8 inches long, crimson below, green above, except the crimson veins, with a paler zone.

Cathayana blooms with hairy flowers, vermilion in color, from August into winter. I grow it in an 8 inch clay pot in leafmold and loam, and I water and care for it as I do other fibrous begonias.

I have ripened seed on my Cathayana along with a few cuttings and have shared them with a grower who also finds the plants perfectly hardy both from cuttings and from seed.

Last year I crossed Cathayana with a spiral Rex and this year have some seedlings that are mostly spirals and look very interesting.

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## News From the East Bay Branch

by GEO. PASCOE, Secretary

• The August meeting was held at the home of Mr. Howard Gilkey, who made such splendid work of the Oakland Spring Garden Show.

Mr. Gilkey recently returned from a trip to Alaska and showed a wonderful collection of colored pictures which were enjoyed by all.

Before the meeting a visit to Mr. S. S. Fletcher's garden was made. Mr. Fletcher having the largest collection of Fibrous begonias in this district, has 150 varieties and also a beautiful collection of Rex Begonias.

Mr. Remmers, staff photographer of the Begonian, was guest of the evening after which light refreshments were served in the dinning hall of Mr. Gilkeys.

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## Begonia Care For October

by PRESIDENT DYCKMAN

• Rex begonias should still be in good condition. Do not feed again this fall.

Fibrous plant may need pruning. Cut out old wood. Give the winter bloomers one more feeding.

Cut off the long bare branches on your Semperflorens. This will enable them to bush out for the winter months.

If a plant in your lathhouse is not doing well, change its position until you find the proper place for that particular plant. This applies to all shade plants.

Try planting your fibrous in the ground where they will have more sun. Keep their roots cool. This will give you healthier and sturdier plants. Mr. Robinson of Rosecroft is making extensive tests with his fibrous in the sun.

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• Why not a year's subscription to The BEGONIAN as a birthday or other gift?

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• Don't forget January 15 is deadline for 1942 dues.

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# House Plants for South Windows

• Among the plants that will do well in the south windows of the house during the winter months none is more delightful than the Saintpaulias — the darling little African violets with their happy faces that have become so popular during the last few years.

Though the Saintpaulias, discovered by a German in Africa, have been grown since 1893 they languished in hot-houses with out making a striking impression on the homemaker until almost five years ago. At that time American horticulturists began centering their efforts on cultivating and refining the plants and now the United States exports them to Europe.

The improvement in the African violets has added greatly to their popularity, for now the indoor gardener can have house plants that will bloom continuously throughout the winter months. These newer varieties have better foliage, bloom more abundantly and have large flowers of showy colors. The names of the new varieties are very dashing. There is Blue Boy, with extraordinarily long stems that stand upright and perky, and with flowers of intense blue. Sailor is a huskier little plant, very free flowering, continuously showing its flowers of bright sea-blue. Commodore holds its rank because of its large flowers of a reddish violet cast, and its leafage of dark green of an unusually good quality. Amethyst is a real treasure, with its abundant flowers of the color of the

jewel for which it is named. Its background is a spring-green setting of leaves. Neptune has flowers of a violet cast while Viking's blooms are a dark rich blue. The handsomest of all is Norseman, but it is less generous with its blooms than the other varieties. However, its splendid flowers of bright-violet-blue against a light green circle of leaves have an airy gracefulness that is irresistible.

The African violets all want light and enough water to keep the earth moist. Overwatering is dangerous to them and overhead sprinkling will cause the leaves to decay. The plants can remain in the same pots two or three years. The African violets are reminders of spring and a row of them on a window sill gives almost the same thrill as the first outdoor violets of early spring, even though the Saintpaulias, however, are not true violets.

Courtesy Christian Science Monitor

## Hollywood Branch to Have Noted Speaker

• At their next branch meeting Hollywood will be honored by having as their speaker of the evening, Mr. S. Homer Walrath.

Mr. Walrath is a gentleman who has worked with begonias and soils for over 60 years, having started as a boy of ten.

A couple of his accomplishments are having recently completed a book on Begonias and testing seeds and tubers for many Eastern Seed Companies.

I'm sure all begonia lovers will want to hear him. Remember the date Oct. 7, at Plummers Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

• Have you started a branch in your community?

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# NAMES

by HELEN K. KRAUSS

**B**EG. *Glaucophylla*, according to Moeller's *Deutsche Garten-Zeitung* 1883, was developed in the gardens of Comte de Limminghe in 1882, approximately ten years before J. D. Hooker described it in the *Curtis Bot. Mag.* Its parentage is not given.

Synonyms are—*Comte de Limminghe*, *Limminghei*, *glaucophylla scandens* and *glaucophylla splendens*.

Beg. *Roezlii* was discovered in Peru, 1876 by Benedict Roezl, who sent seed to Edward Regel, Director of the Bot. Gard. at St. Petersburg. About a year later Roezl discovered a beautiful *Begonia* in Mexico and sent seed to Benary of Erfurt which was also named *Roezlii*. In 1884 J. D. Hooker called attention to this duplication of names and changed the name of the second *Begonia* to *Lyncheana* in honor of Erwin Lynch, curator at the Bot. Gard. at Cambridge, England. In the *Gardener's Chron.* 1884-85 and in *Regel's Gartenflora* 1885 corrections were made. Beg. *Roezlii* was re-discovered in recent years at the Machu Pichu ruins in Peru and for a time was called Machu Pichu until its identification was determined. For a time it was also called *bracteosa*, which name emanated from Chicago, but fortunately that name has almost been eliminated.

Beg. *coccinea*, was first discovered by Ruiz and Pavon in 1784, during their travels in South America and reported in *Travels of Ruiz, Pavon and Dombey* in Peru and Chile. It was re-discovered in the Organ Mountains of Brazil about 1840 by Mr. Lobb and distributed by Veitch and Son. Mr. Donald, in the *Journal of the Hort. Soc. London* 1846, announced the use of *rubra* as a synonym. The name *rubra* properly belongs

to a species from Java described by Blume in 1830. *Corallina* is another synonym frequently met with in gardens and *Begonia* lists of horticulturists both here and in Europe.

## Correction: More About "What's in a Name?"

by HELEN K. KRAUSS

• Correction—*Begonia fuchsioides* var. *miniata* is listed in Nicholson's *Dict. of Gard.* 1887 with a description similar to the one given in the September issue of the *Begonian*. *Cinnabarina* is listed as a var. of *fuchsioides*.

### TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

Saintpaulias — *Sunderbruchii* — *Peltatas*

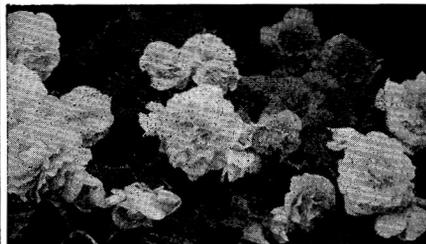
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# BENEFIT TO THE EXHIBITOR OF USING THE POINT SYSTEM OF JUDGING BEGONIAS AT FLOWER SHOWS

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

**T**HE Directors of the American Begonia Society have adopted the point system of judging begonias at flower shows as set forth on page 149 of the September, 1941, Begonian.

A careful study of the points and insistence of the society and members that this system be used in judging the plants at all flower shows will result in an increased interest in exhibiting begonias as well as keener competition and a higher standard of perfection in the plants exhibited.

Flower shows are invaluable to the society in furthering the interest in begonias and it is only at flower shows that the individual growers have an opportunity to compare their carefully grown plants with those equally carefully grown of fellow society members, or begonia raisers who have not yet joined the society. To have each individual exhibit carefully scrutinized, with definite points for each noted, will result in fairer, more scientific and unbiased judging. The point system, on the other hand, gives the exhibitor an opportunity to perfect his plants before exhibiting them and, when they are placed side by side with competing plants, he will benefit for future exhibiting by comparing his exhibit with other in his class, after the awards have been made.

Any person planning to exhibit plants in a show which uses the American Begonia Society's point system of judging should look over the points given under the various headings of the particular section in which he wishes to compete, months in advance. It is very easy to see just what the plants will be judged and scored on. For example, under the "Fibrous Begonia Specimen," fifty points are given for cultural perfection. That is, if a plant is perfectly grown, the exhibitor is given fifty points; however, if, for example, the plant is not very bushy, or if it is not symmetrical, being one-

sided, points will be deducted. Under "foliage," the judges will deduct points if the leaves are dusty, have holes, are deformed due to insect attacks, or are not a rich, healthy color. If a few leaves are yellow, or have holes in them, it would be to the advantage of the exhibitor before showing the plant to cut them off.

If a plant is a good Lucerne, it should not receive as many points as an equally good Tingle Mallet under "Difficulty of Cultivation," for Lucerne is very easy to grow. "Quantity and quality of flowers" is important, but if the particular variety has a seasonal habit of bloom and is not in bloom at the time of the show, the plant will not be penalized for lack of bloom but points will be given just the same. The number given, however, will be determined by the general condition of the plant; outstanding plants bringing a high score on all the other qualities will usually be given the additional points flowers, though not at the time in bloom. An example of this was the beautiful Templini at the Inglewood show during the National Convention.

Correct and suitable labeling brings five points and in close competition may decide the winner. This last point should help tremendously in getting the correct names on the plants and in furthering the interest in maintaining uniform names.

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# THE BEAUTY OF GARDENS CARRIED INTO OFFICE

by MISS EDNA ZIESENHENNE  
Director

**B**EING a lover of flowers, it is only natural that one should want to have something growing indoors that they may receive inspiration and refreshing thoughts while having to work. When I received a lovely Saintpaulia in full bloom, I was so delighted with it, that I took it down to the office where I am employed and placed it on the table in the waiting room, where it grew and bloomed continuously for over a year. It was only after some unappreciative persons dropped hot cigar or cigarette ashes in the flower pot, that the plant began to decline. It eventually died and we missed seeing those bright blue flowers.

Then one day, while out walking, I passed a florist shop, where there were many of the Blue Boy Saintpaulias blooming in the window. I purchased one plant and took it to the office, taking precautions to place it where the general public would not abuse it. This plant thrived in the closed office at night, and soon outgrew the flower pot. We not only re-potted the plant, but divided it as well. Every one of the plants grew beautifully, and when they were given to other members of the office force, they enjoyed them all the more, in owning a plant.

We had heard of growing plants from leaves, and whenever a plant suffered an accident by having one of the leaves knocked off, it was immediately placed in an individual pot and soon another plant was starting to grow. We used straight leafmold, and when a plant had grown to maturity, we would give it liquid fertilizer occasionally. Our offices soon began to look more like a nursery, and soon the janitor would complain that it was becoming more difficult to do his work because of the numerous

plants — why wouldn't he, at one time there were actually eighty-six (86) plants, sizes ranging all the way from tiny plants to full grown plants in bloom. It is impossible to say the exact number of plants that our office has given away, but we know we have made many people very happy by giving them a plant that will grow so easily and give a long season of blooms.

It has been said that it is almost impossible to grow Saintpaulias from seed, however, we have accomplished this also. One of the plants developed a seed pod, and it took almost a year to mature. Then when it was thoroughly dried, we tenderly opened the pod and shook the fine dustlike seed in a box of moist leafmold. We kept this box under glass and it was months before we found a tiny green speck showing. We grew four strong plants from seed, and they are still growing, but it will be months before they will be in bloom. It is a long drawn out process, growing them from seed, and we can readily understand why nurserymen grow them from cuttings. However, there is always a chance of the unusual when growing from seed, so we are looking forward to the day when our seedlings begin to bloom.

(Editor's note: I just can't resist taking this time to express my appreciation to Miss Ziesenhenné, for passing on such a splendid thought. Busy office hours, at this time when our busy world is so full of intoxicating developments, and yet, time has been found in enjoying nature.

Can't we hear from others who have successfully carried out this theme "Business Combined with Nature." I am sure these suggestions will prove helpful in maintaining our equilibrium.)



## Riverside Branch is Newest Addition

• The Riverside branch of the A. B. S. was formed September 3, 1941 at the home of Mrs. Jessie A. Topham, 4620 Arlington Ave., Riverside, California. This branch has 30 charter members.

Mr. Dyckman, National President, explained the order of business of branches and then conducted the election of officers. They elected as their officers the following:

Mrs. Topham.....President  
 Mrs. E. S. May.....Vice-President  
 Mr. Harry M. Wallace.....Sec'y-Treas.  
 Mrs. Zelma Parks....Nat'l Representative

Plans were made to meet at the members homes on the second Friday of each month.

Mr. Dyckman talked on begonias, outstanding in their varied types. The first meeting closed with light refreshments as the members inspected Mrs. Tophams garden.

The A. B. S. welcomes you and extends their whole-hearted support.

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## Do You Know . . .

• that the membership of the A. B. S. is way over the 2,000 mark?

that Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Grey was voted in the Society as an honorary director due to her splendid contribution in spreading the interest of raising begonias as a hobby and the splendid work she has done on hybridizing?

that redwood boxes are showing a preference over pottery in the raising of begonias?

that the American Begonia Society is much better financially than it was this time last year?

that Mr. Wilson's "Unique Grass" really routs out devil grass?

that it is a known fact that Begonia Cathayana can be grown as easily as other begonias?

that the A. B. S. is getting publicity through the New York Journal and American Newspaper due to their horticultural editor, Mr. E. C. Vick?

that shredded redwood bark is exceptionally good for Camellias and Azaleas, also, if used as a mulch for tuberous begonias, it will eliminate the falling of the buds?

that the Glendale officers have already started work on the 1942 convention?

that 10 new branches have been formed since the first of the year?

that the time has come for us to become more conscious of our constitution?

## Picture on the Cover

• Ricinifolia has large bronzy-green leaves, 20 inches across — almost large enough for a parasol — on three foot hairy stems. They are shaped like the ricinus or castor bean. The plant is a cross between Heracleifolia, a Mexican species, and Peponifolia, produced in 1847. The young leaves are deep red and the flowers rose-pink, on four-foot stalks.

The plant in the picture was grown by Mrs. Howard Headley of Long Beach.

The description of the plant was taken from Bessie Buxton's book on "Begonias and how to grow them."

# Bulbous Begonias

## BEGONIA SOCOTRANA

• There is only one species of begonia with a true bulb. This is *B. socotrana*, from the hot, sandy island of Socotra in the western part of the Arabian Sea. This is a winter bloomer, with peltate leaves, and the blooms borne above the foliage. It is of interest mainly because it has been the progenitor of several beautiful strains of winter-flowering begonias that have been especially popular in Europe. These begonias are considered rather temperamental and difficult by most amateurs. A glass house with controlled heat is almost indispensable for their culture.

## BULBOUS HYBRIDS

The crossing of *B. socotrana* and *B. dregei* has produced the Gloire de Lorraine strain, including such favorites as Melior and Lady Mac. Crossing *B. socotrana* with various tuberous hybrids has produced the Hiemalis strain, also extremely popular in Europe. It includes such varieties as Ensign, Elatior, Winter Perfection, Mrs. Heal and Incomparabilis. Other crosses with various varieties of Rex, fibrous and tuberous begonias have created many interesting winter-flowering begonias rarely seen in this country.

## CULTURE

During the summer, bulbous hybrids should be watered lightly, and kept in filtered light, in a moist atmosphere, and with good ventilation. In the fall they should be given more sun and air to insure hardening. About the middle of August they should have their last repotting. For soil, use equal parts of loam, half-decayed flaky leaves, well-rotted manure, and sand, with the addition of about one-fourth charcoal.

Bone meal or other fertilizer containing phosphates should be added to bring out good flowers.

Do not keep the plants too warm, about 65° F. is the best temperature during the summer. During the blooming period they may be kept a little cooler, but with a night minimum of 55° F. If the soil seems to become depleted, light fertilizing with manure water is desirable.

## PROPAGATION

Propagation is by leaf cuttings and should be started in November or December. Select mature but relatively small leaves, cutting off so as to leave a short section of the leaf stem attached. Prepare a flat or box about two inches deep with a mixture of peat moss and sand, or sharp sand alone. Insert the leaves so they will neither touch the soil or each other. It is well to sprinkle charcoal over the soil to prevent damping off. Bottom heat should be used, keeping the temperature slightly above 70° F.

Root formation will have started in about three weeks, and some two weeks later sprouts will develop on the base of the leaf stem. When the sprouts are about two inches high they should be transferred to two inch pots. For soil, use leaf mold or compost with about one-fourth charcoal. By the first of May small bushy plants should have developed and should again be repotted, using a somewhat richer soil. The temperature may be allowed to fall gradually to about 65° F. The plants should be pinched back at the tips to induce a well rounded plant. Never allow the plants to become pot-bound.

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• Mention the Begonian when visiting the nurseries.

# CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SOIL CORRECTION

by WILLIAM F. JONSON

**M**ANY plants and shrubs, including camellias, azaleas, roses and others, require a neutral or acid soil in order to flourish, and the general structure of the soil in many parts of the country is calcareous which means lime structure, and therefore high in alkalinity. A yellow appearance of its leaf structure on a plant is generally known as chlorosis, and it can be caused by other factors but usually it is caused by an excessive amount of lime in the soil.

Soils containing an excess of lime usually contain iron also but the excessive amount of lime interferes with the absorption and utilization of this iron by the plant. Lime induced chlorosis appears first on the younger and more rapidly growing shoots but, if not corrected, it will spread to the older parts of the plant or shrub.

Since much advice has been given in favor of using aluminum sulphate to change alkaline soil where lime predominates to an acid structure, especially in areas where acid-loving plants are grown, we have made many laboratory tests and devoted much observation to this subject. And our findings show that a great deal of damage has been the result of over-use of this material which builds up a non-soluble, toxic coagulation in the soil and around the base of plant structure. The point of toxicity will vary as some plants are more sensitive to the aluminum sulphate toxicity than others, and unfortunately azaleas are one of the more sensitive varieties. Hence, we have prepared the following thesis, containing practical and proven recommendations which may be safely followed to replace the use (and particularly the dangerous **over-use**) of aluminum sulphate.

## SULPHUR

Since sulphur is an important factor in changing soil from alkaline to neutral as well as the acid side, and since it becomes a factor to the soil, turning through a gradual chemical process into a form of gypsum highly beneficial in

character; and since it corrects to a certain degree alkaline soil structure with no hazardous afterlap, we feel that it is far safer, sounder and more constructive to be used than aluminum sulphate.

Sulphur perpetuates itself in the soil structure and its presence there is a definite factor to repel fungus. Placed in the soil, it oxidizes it into sulphur-dioxide which reacts directly with the calcium lime or any other alkaline base and forms sulphite. Sulphur-dioxide naturally combines with water and forms sulphuric acid; this, in turn, combines with the basic structure of the soil area and forms more sulphates which will naturally create perfect, neutral, (slightly on the acid side) soil for raising beautiful plants.

The only precaution which must be observed in using sulphur is to imbed it at least 6 inches below the surface of the ground, because if it happens to be scattered too close to the surface and a warm temperature develops, sulphur fumes may release themselves and cause a scorching of the lower structure of plants growing in that area. (Sulphur, as a control for fungus, functions only by temperature releasement; otherwise, it lies inactive. This is one great objection to using it as a dust on roses and other varieties of plant life for fungus control). But where sulphur is properly imbedded in the soil, it does no injury and becomes part of a perfect soil structure highly beneficial to plant life.

If no plant life is growing in the soil, you can scatter a good proportion of ground sulphur, intermingling it freely with the soil, in the ratio of 2 to 2½ pounds per 100 square feet at one application. If the soil is highly alkaline, you may have to make a second application through the season.

## IRON

Iron, of course, is all-important to plant life if plants are to attain their full beauty of bloom and fine green foliage. Soils containing an excess of lime usually contain iron, also, but the iron is not available to plant life because it

becomes instantly absorbed by the calcium lime structure and the presence of the excess lime in the soil quickly renders unavailable any iron which may be applied in a non-soluble form. Therefore, it is necessary to apply iron in suitable amount directly to the plant in the form of a dissolved solution that is quickly available. We recommend iron copperous ferrous. Dissolve about 2 ounces of iron copperous ferrous in 3 gallons of water and pour it liberally around the base of the plants. This method renders it quickly available to the plant. But, in those instances where you wish to make it available over a longer period of time, you can use it dry and mulch it into the soil, in the proportions of about 1 to 1½ ounces to each 3, 4 or 5 year old shrub . . . and proportion it to younger ones accordingly. When you use it in dry form, however, you must water thereafter in order to hasten its availability to the plant to a proper degree, but used in this way it will continue to be available to the plant over a much longer period.

#### MAGNESIUM SULPHATE

Since we have now presented the fundamental principles with regard to iron as well as sulphur for the creation of a perfect soil we herewith make this additional suggestion: that you spray or sprinkle foliage, plant and blooms with magnesium sulphate, (4 oz. to 3 gals. of water) as this will give you the finest possible correction of mottled leaf, small leaf and rosette-like leaves (if these are prevalent). The foliage absorbs the magnesium readily and it is at the same time the greatest regulator you can use, replacing zinc sulphate or zinc oxide. And acting as more or less of a buffer releasing the acid in the soil very slowly so that it is kept available to the plant for a prolonged period of time; it also has a counteractive effect on any possible toxic action of the copperous.

If you prefer not to use it in liquid form, you can scatter it from 1½ to 2 feet away from the base of the plants, along with your iron copperous and sulphur.

Again, if you want to combine this treatment with your spraying operation, you can use magnesium sulphate by mixing it into your diluted spray material. Add 4 oz. of magnesium sulphate to every 3 gals. of diluted spray; or the same proportions can be used with any

sprays which you may be using for the purposes for which they are intended. No unfavorable chemical reaction will result from this procedure, and immediate improvement will be apparent in the lusciousness of the foliage and new growth.

Understand, I am not opposed to the virtues of aluminum sulphate for the purpose of correcting alkalinity in the soil, provided it is used within the boundaries of reason. But I am opposed to its excessive use because it undoubtedly creates a highly toxic, non-soluble substance detrimental to plant life. And since we can use iron, sulphur and magnesium to such beautiful advantage without destroying plant life but rather enhancing it. I feel that this little cautioning may be of service to those who desire to grow better plants.

Courtesy Golden Garden Magazine

## Eva Gray Branch Donates to British Relief

• The Eva Kenworthy Gray branch on August 30, sponsored a garden tour and tea for the benefit of the British Relief.

Seven gardens and lathhouses were visited and the silver offering at the tea, with the sale of small begonia plants, made it possible to turn over \$101.00 to the British Relief Fund.

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# MEETING DATES

1941 OCTOBER 1941						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	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	

# AND SPEAKERS

## DOMINGUEZ BRANCH

Wednesday, October 1, 7:30 P.M.  
Dominguez Community Church,  
21503 Prospect at Adams  
Mrs. Clyde Reynolds, Secy.-Treas.  
2635 Jackson St., Dominguez, Calif.  
Speaker: E. R. Van Fleet.  
Subject: Camellias, Azaleas and Gardenias.

## SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, October 1, 8:00 P.M.  
1060 Francisco St.,  
Harry F. O'Donnell, Secy.-Treas.,  
1575 31st Ave., San Francisco.

## PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Wednesday, October 1, 10:00 A.M.  
Home of Mrs. Albert H. Gere, Secy.-  
Treas.  
362 Brookway, Merion, Pa.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, October 2, 7:30 P.M.  
College Hall, Santa Ana J. C.  
917 No. Maine St., Santa Ana.  
Mrs. E. W. Carrell, Secy.-Treas.  
214 No. Yale, Fullerton.

## INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Friday, October 3, 8:00 P.M.  
Woman's Club, 325 No. Hillcrest Blvd.  
Mrs. Rose Hescoek, Secretary,  
4209 West 111th St., Inglewood.  
Program: Two friendly enemies in a  
mystery program. Sounds foolish, but  
it is going to be a surprise.

## HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Tuesday, October 7, 7:30 P.M.  
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Bl.  
Mrs. Helen Ehret, Secy.,  
7507 Lexington Ave., Hollywood.  
Speaker: Mr. S. Homer Walrath  
Subject: Soil, Seedage & Fertilizer.

## PALOMAR BRANCH

Tuesday, October 7, 8:00 P.M.  
Vista Inn, Vista, Calif.  
Margaret Rutherford, Secy.-Treas.,  
Route 2, Box 340, Escondido, Calif.

## THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BR.

Tuesday, October 7, 7:30 P.M.  
American Legion Hall.  
North California St., Ventura.

## HERBERT DYCKMAN BRANCH

Tuesday, October 7, 7:30 P.M.  
Home of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Starr,  
3585 Brayton Ave., Long Beach.  
Mrs. Anna Smith, Secy.-Treas.,  
250 Home St., Long Beach.

## PASADENA BRANCH

Wednesday, October 8, 7:30 P.M.  
La Casita Del Arroya,  
177 So. Arroya Blvd.  
J. Ellsworth Youtz Jr., Secy.,  
334 W Green, Pasadena.

## LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

Thursday, October 9, 7:30 P.M.  
Community Hall, 9th and Lime, L.B.  
Mrs. Ethel G. Arbuckle, Secy.-Treas.,  
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park.

## SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

Thursday, October 9, 7:30 P.M.  
Girl Scouts Headquarters  
1838 San Andres St., Santa Barbara.  
Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, Secy.,  
246 W. Alamar Ave., Santa Barbara.

## RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Friday, October 10, 7:30 P.M.  
Home of Mrs. Harriet E. Meyer,  
4219 Sunnyside Drive, Riverside.  
Harry M. Wallace, Sec'y-Treas.  
3455 Spruce St., Riverside.

## NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Saturday, October 11, 10:30 A.M.  
Home of Mrs. John Gibbons,  
658 Main St.,  
Mrs. B. W. Skinner, Secretary.  
54 Essex St., Lynnfield, Mass.  
Subject: Rubra Group.  
Speaker: Mrs. Gibbons.

## PHILADELPHIA & VICINITY BR.

Monday, October 13, 2:30 P.M.  
Green Tree Flower Gardens  
5343 Greene St. Gtn.  
Mrs. Sophia E. Whitaker, Secy.-Treas.  
5343 Greene St., Germantown, Phila.,  
Pa.

## SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, October 13, 7:30 P.M.  
Home of Mrs. A. M. Rogers,  
5005 E. Mountain View Drive, San  
Diego.  
Mrs. Clarence Moore, Secy-Treas.  
4548 Cherokee Ave., San Diego.  
Subject: Rex Begonias & pest control.

## Meeting Dates and Speakers (Continued)

### NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Friday, October 17, 7:30 P.M.  
Houghton Park Clubhouse,  
Atlantic Ave. and Harding, L.B.  
Mrs. H. A. Cuyler, Secy.-Treas.  
5676 Olive Ave., Long Beach.

### GLENDALE BRANCH

Monday, October 20, 8:00 P.M.  
329 No. Brand Blvd.  
News Press Bldg.  
Mrs. M. B. Dewar, Secretary,  
709 Milford Ave., Phone Cltrus 17517.

### EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Tuesday, October 21, 7:30 P.M.  
Home of Mrs. John E. Howe,  
325 Dunemere, La Jolla.  
Mrs. Henry O. Colt, Secy.-Treas.,  
7221 Olivetas, La Jolla, Calif.

### EAST BAY BRANCH

Monday, October 27, 7:30 P.M.  
Berkeley Council Chambers.  
Geo. Pascoe, Secy.-Treas.,  
2125 McGee Ave., Berkeley.

### MARGARET GRUENBAUM BR.

Tuesday, October 28, 1:30 P.M.  
Home of Mrs. Frank Mather,  
Hatboro, Pa.  
Mrs. Wm. L. Paxson, Secretary,  
Willow Grove, Pa.  
Program: Anniversary (2 years old)

### SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Mrs. A. N. Hartwell, Secretary,  
1719 Alamilas Ave., Monrovia.

### SANTA MARIA BRANCH

Mrs. Peter Mehlschan, Secy.-Treas.  
Nipomo, Calif.

### SYRACUSE BRANCH

Richard C. Atwood, Secy.-Treas.,  
1405 East Fayette St.,  
Syracuse, N. Y.

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• The National Board meeting will be October 14, at 7:30 P.M. Home of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Remmers, 5734 Lucia Walk, Long Beach.

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