

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens



B. HERACLEIFOLIA VAR SUNDERBRUCHI

The BEGONIAN

Monthly Publication of the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman, January, 1932

General Offices: 1618 Fickewirth Ave., El Monte, Calif.

Affiliated with the American Horticultural Society

● Annual Subscription Fee: One Dollar and Fifty Cents.

● Entered as second-class matter, September 21st, 1946, at the Post Office of El Monte, California, under the act of March 3rd, 1879.

● Advertising Rates: \$3.00 per inch, one column wide. Three months discount of 5%, Six months less 10% and One year less 20%. Seasonal changes allowed in contracts over three months. Closing date for articles 10th of each month, and 12th for Advertisement copy.

STAFF

Maria Wilkes.....*Editor and Business Manager*
158 S. Oxford Ave., Los Angeles 4, Calif.

Bessie R. Buxton.....*Co-Editor*
114 Central Street, Peabody, Mass.

Assistant Editors—Dr. W. C. Drummond, Miss Charlotte M. Hoak and Mrs. Jay C. Jenks.

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. Myrtle Shepherd Francis, Ferd P. Neels, Herbert P. Dyckman, J. Paul Walker, T. H. Smith, Fred Riedman, J. S. Williams, Dr. W. N. Casey, Frank Harrison, Harold W. Hart, Clarence A. Hall, Arthur E. Nelson, Harold W. Hart.

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Mrs. Annie C. Robinson Frank Reinelt
Mrs. Henry H. Buxton Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Gray
T. H. Goodspeed T. H. Everett
George Otten E. D. Merrill

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Henry H. Buxton.....Peabody, Mass.
Mrs. Lee Krauss.....Wynnewood, Pa.
Mrs. John G. Clark.....San Diego, Calif.
Mrs. Emma M. Carleton.....Berkeley, Calif.
Fred Willard.....Pasadena, Calif.

Please make Membership Checks payable to American Begonia Society and address to Roy K. Dere.

OFFICERS

Mrs. Mary Hazel DrummondPresident
1246 No. Kings Road, Los Angeles 46, Calif.

George L. JohnsonPresident-Elect
1320 Ramona Road, Arcadia, California

W. E. Walton.....*Treasurer*
1415 Acacia Ave., Torrance, Calif.

Mrs. A. N. Hartwell.....*Corresponding Secretary*
1719 Alamitos Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

Roy K. Dere.....*Membership Fees*
1618 Fickewirth Ave., El Monte, Calif.

Mrs. Frances Downing.....*Organization Chairman*
The A.B.S. Round Robins, 422 Strong St., Bowie, Texas.

Mrs. Helen K. Krauss.....*Director*
The Clayton M. Kelly Research & Nomenclature Committee, Wynnewood Plaza, Wynnewood, Pa.

T. John Parker.....*Questions-Answers Chairman*
8531 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles 36, Calif.

Mrs. E. Carrell.....*Seed Fund Administrator*
214 North Yale Street, Fullerton, Calif.

Mrs. John W. Crowder.....*Librarian*
9838 Easton Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Mrs. Jay C. Jenks.....*Publicity Chairman*
and *Chairman Speakers' Bureau*
1414 Quintaro Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

Frank E. Clark.....*Director Public Relations*
2168 Cooley Place, Pasadena 7, Calif.

Mrs. Russell Bailey.....*Chairman*
Exhibits and Flower Shows
4535—50th Street, San Diego 3, Calif.

Mrs. Sue McRaeDirector One Year

Hugh W. HixonDirector Two Years

J. W. BaileyDirector Three Years

CONTENTS

THE FIRST LONG BEACH FLOWER SHOW	169
BEGONIA HERACLEIFOLIA SUNDERBRUCHI	(Front Page) and 170
MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE PLANT SHOW	170
FIRST ARMCHAIR EXPLORER'S CONVENTION	171, 182, 183
APPRECIATION	172
CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS	172-184
THE AIRY-CHARM OF NERINES	173-174
TRANSPLANTING BEGONIA SEEDS	175
BEGONIA MONTALVO GARDENS (with Sketch)	176-177
REDLANDS ANN. BEGONIA TUBERHYBRIDA AND REX FIESTA With Photo by Wm. Elmer Kingham, Redlands	178-179
BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN GARDENS—BOOK REVIEW	180
ERRATA RE BOOK	181
NOTES DIRECTORS' ROUND ROBINS	181
BRANCH NEWS	183
BEGONIA DAYI—B. NEGRO-VENIA	184
UNUSUAL SUCCESS WITH CALLA LILY, ROOTING TUBEROUS BEGONIA	184
PRIMULAS	184

THE FIRST LONG BEACH FLOWER SHOW

By *Nellie Callon, Hollywood, California*

Upon entering the foyer, on your right was the very informative booth of Capt. Dere, A. B. S. membership chairman, with a filed supply of "Begonians," both current and back issues. Some fine specimens of fibrous rooted, Rex, and a beautiful tuberous, in bloom, which was given to the Branch getting the most new members.

On the left the educational display of one of, if not our most important inter-club activity. This is the "Seed Fund," or "Arm Chair Explorers." This department contacts Begonia collectors all over the world, asking them to send Begonia seeds from their countries. These seeds are then packaged and distributed to the members of this department. Read Mrs. Carrell's articles in the Begonian.

In the main auditorium one came face to face with the magnificent booth of the National Board. All visitors just gasped when they saw this artistic display. The center of interest was a group of beautiful, salmon pink and apricot Tuberous Begonias.

The first booth on the right was by the Orange County Branch, which took second prize in the exhibit. A waterfall, ending in a beautiful pool, all surrounded by gorgeous Rex Begonias and exquisite Maidenhair Fern. With the best Rex in the show and other varieties of Begonias for highlights and moss walls for background.

The next Begonia booth was by the Hollywood Branch. An interesting Jungle effect which received much favorable comment from the general public and received a "Special Award."

Passing many booths of great beauty, entered by many exhibitors. The happiest thought about these is that almost all of them used many, many Begonias in their displays. As this was not exclusively a Begonia Show, this was quite an honor and "feather in the cap" of Begonias. Then the exhibit of the North Long Beach Branch.

Another Jungle effect, named "Origin of the Species," but quite different from the Hollywood Branch. The North Long Beach Branch was responsible for the very excellent Banquet and entertainment Saturday evening.

Then came the artistic exhibit of the San Gabriel Valley Branch, which took first prize for the discriminating selection and displaying of their plants.

Through the archway we went to see the Begonia Flower arrangements. Words cannot describe the beauty of some of these.

There were begonia arrangements for all occasions. The Bridal Suites in Tuberous Begonias were superbly lovely.

Coming from the rear down the east side we came first to the display of choice specimen plants by the Glendale Branch. The manner of staging was made possible by a simple but very effective adjustable plant stand from the inventive mind of Harold Hart. Then came the exhibit of the Parent Chapter of Long Beach. (The first organization and the beginning of The American Begonia Society, founded by Mr. Dykeman with a group of seven people). Just think of having the honor of starting an organization which has in a few years spread to several countries beyond the United States.

Then the very well designed exhibit of Bellflower Branch, which took third place in the booth exhibits.

Next to it was the very elaborate exhibit by the Inglewood Branch. They had many magnificent individual plants which took many ribbons. One of their ferns, grown and owned by Roy Frost, won the Supremacy Award, also the best Begonia in Section 1 of Division A by Robert Bezones.

Doubling back up the east side we passed the Santa Monica Bay Branch exhibit. The manner in which they brought out the beauty and usefulness of the *semperflorens cultorum* begonia was most interesting. This is an item which is often overlooked by Begonia growers.

We came next to the tables of individual exhibitors. Magnificent exhibits of specimen plants of Fibrous, Rex, Spirals, Miniatures and so on and on.

Then across to the table of colorful, blooming Tuberous rooted Begonias. These need no words. They speak for themselves.

The Long Beach Flower Show was certainly a success. The Drummond Challenge Cup was won by Louise M. Jenkins. The Gonda Hartwell Cup was won by Mrs. Perry Grout, also of Orange County Branch.

The Pacific Flower Shows, Inc., plans to hold this show every August. The premiums were noteworthy, the cups costly and beautiful. Decidedly we must be planning from now on for next year and what we shall do to make the public begonia and shade plant conscious.

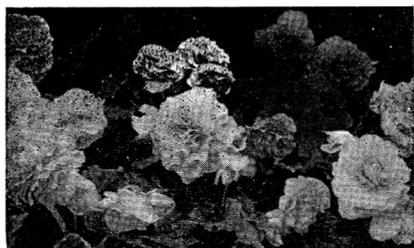
We accepted the invitation for our annual convention from the San Gabriel Branch. This will, we understand, be held separately from the big show in Long Beach.

ASPARAGUS DEFLEXUS

An extremely graceful variety of *Asparagus Scandens* var., with long sprays of soft feathery foliage. An excellent ever-green plant for pot culture. It can be trained to grow like a fern, to climb, or may be used in a hanging basket. Grows equally well in sun or shade. Thrives under ordinary care given house plants. \$1.00 each postpaid, immediate delivery.

OAKHURST GARDENS

345 W. Colorado Street
ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA



THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT
AND FINEST NEW DEVELOPMENTS

of the

PACIFIC STRAIN

of

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

Write for Catalog

Vetterle and Reinelt

Capitola, California

• We hear of losses of tuberous begonias due to the ravages of the Strawberry Weevil. Be on the lookout and learn how to combat

Begonia *Heracleifolia* Sunderbruchi

By Charlotte M. Hoak, S. Pasadena, California
(See Cover)

Begonia heracleifolia Sunderbruchi, one of the most popular and widely distributed of the "Star" begonias, is one of the descendants of the rhizomatous Mexican species. *B. heracleifolia*, discovered about 1830, is an old favorite that is probably of American origin as it is not mentioned in any of the old editions of Curtis or other European authorities. It came to the gardens of Northern California in the early nineties and was here in Southern California in 1906. Rust's Nursery listed it as *B. nigricans*.

The leaves are bronze-green, deep cut into seven or nine long, narrow lobes. The number of lobes being dependent upon the culture the plant is given varying from the very small nine-lobed leaves to the twelve or fifteen inch ones on a well-fed plant. The underside of these leaves is dark red mottled with light green, the veins are hairy and there is a thick collar of coarse red hairs tipped with finer white ones at the point where the stem and leaf join. The red spotted stems are thickly set with long, silvery hairs. The light green bands, splashing down the ribs are a distinguishing mark of the beautiful leaves of this begonia.

The flowers, borne on fairly tall stems in early spring, are a clear, rosy-pink. The leaves are usually small and immature when the bloom panicles are in full flower. Both male and female flowers have two petals.

Refer to "Begonian," July, 1944 and Krauss book for further details.

FALL EXHIBITION OF HOUSE PLANTS FEATURING BEGONIAS

The New England Branch of the A. B. S. in cooperation with Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and Massachusetts Department of Agriculture will stage a comprehensive show of all types of HOUSE PLANTS, admission free. September 5th and 6th, 1947, at the Horticultural Hall, Boston 5, Mass.

The schedule leads one to expect much of interest since there will be educational exhibits and many kinds of potted plants, vines, dish-gardens, etc. More shows of this kind should be fostered. Good luck to all who participate.

this pest with especial cleanliness in culture and the use of "prevention better than cure" policy. When we are able to suggest something of a helpful nature, we shall pass it along. Send for your copy of Tuberous Begonias and their Culture, from Roy K. Dere.

FIRST ARMCHAIR EXPLORERS CONVENTION MEETING

By Florence Carrell, Fullerton, California

We Armchair Explorers had a grand time at the convention. Our booth was located near the entrance to the show, and everyone stopped to see us, both coming in and going out. We gave free packets of begonia seed to all, some 2000 packets were handed out, also much Begonia Society Literature. The begonia seeds were donated by Dr. W. C. Drummond. On display was a large map of the world with the countries from where the seed was secured plainly marked with red thumb tacks, from these came streamers which led to groups of begonia plants grown from the seed secured from these countries—Mexico, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Columbia, Java, India, Africa and Hawaii. Many unusual and very interesting begonias were on display, among them were *B. alnifolia*, *involucrata*, *squamosa*, *isoptera*, *Ambon species*, *Dominican species*, *estralensis*, *cucullata*, *Colombia species*, *decandra*, *dregei* and many others. There were 40 new members who joined our crew for our next exploration voyage. Begonia seedlings in jars, also fern seedlings growing in glass jars were on display and received much attention.

At 10:30 Saturday morning we held a meeting for Armchair Explorers, and a large crowd gathered—a summary of the meeting follows.

First there was a talk by your skipper. "For a good many years I have enjoyed corresponding with folks in other countries, ever since 1935 when I joined the A. B. S. and got interested in growing begonias and other rare plants from seed. It is such a pleasure to remember back to those early days of our Society, when as a stranger I was met at the door by a reception committee who greeted all and extended so much friendliness that one couldn't help but immediately know that he was among friends. It is this friendliness that has helped to make the Society what it is today. The late Clayton Kelly had just organized the Armchair Explorers group of folks who pooled their money for purchasing begonia seeds. A great many very fine types of begonia seeds had been secured by him, and there was much interest in the growing of seedlings. I like to think that I am carrying on with the work that Mr. Kelly started.

Growing new plants from seeds is truly the choicest of hobbies, to my way of thinking.

A very inexpensive hobby (at least to start with) for it is absolutely your own fault if you find out later that you can't live without a glasshouse, for it is very possible to grow all the begonias from seeds that you possibly wish, by using the glass bottle method. Ssh, ssh,

a good way to get a small glasshouse is to line your windows with bottles, jars, and flats of seedlings—for soon the other members of the family will decide that you really should have that longed-for greenhouse! (It worked for me). There is always so much to look forward to in growing from seed, the first thrill is the obtaining of the seeds; next the fun of carefully planting and tending the wee seeds; and the excitement of one morning finding tiny leaves above the ground; the daily watching to see them develop and get to a size for transplanting; then to watch the leaves for changes and identifying marks; finally the bloom and the showing of the plants to some fellow begonia grower—such fun for folks of any age! This hobby isn't one you tire of easily for there is such a challenge in the growing of seedlings—there are usually a few seedlings which differ from the others, here you may have something really fine and unusual; there is the opportunity of crossing your own seedlings and the thrill of growing begonias from seeds continues.

The Armchair Explorers are scattered all over the United States, 31 states are represented. This past year we had 156 members who contributed towards the purchase of begonia seeds. California leads with 64, Florida 10, New York 8, Illinois 6, etc. In 1946 we had 64 members so this is a gain of 92 over last year. It makes me wonder how many Armchair Explorers we will have in 1948.

There were 35 different kinds of begonia seeds sent out during this past year, divided as equally as possible, no one received seed of each kind, and not less than 20 packets of seed were sent to each person. Last January the contributors and the packets of seed were counted and an equal number of packets sent to all those who had their names on the list at that date, those sending in later had to take what was left over. You see, your skipper needs the money ahead of time so that the seed can be ordered, and we must get it packaged up as far in advance as possible, too, for it is truly a big task now with so many members. The seeds sent out this year were from Costa Rica, 9 kinds, the island of Dominica in the West Indies, 3 kinds, Mexico 2 kinds and the Dominican Republic 1 kind, the others were secured in this country.

We haven't even scratched the surface in our search for begonia seeds. Africa is a country rich in begonia seeds although they are little known to the people living there. One seed

Continued on Page 182

APPRECIATION

By Frank E. Clark, Director of Public Relations

I wish to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to Mrs. George Johnson of San Gabriel Branch and her committee for the excellent display made by them for the National Exhibit at the Long Beach Flower Show. I wish also to thank the many branch members who have been in attendance each day of the show and the many who loaned us the very beautiful plants used in the exhibit.

IMPATIENS

Vavrai

This beautiful new Impatiens makes a rounded bushy plant, 2½ ft. in diameter and just as tall, with large, shiny foliage of Oliveri type and lovely shell pink flowers from February to December. Grows wonderfully well in shade or part sun.



Each \$1.50

(Please Add 3% Sales Tax to All California Orders)



Send 25c for our new catalog,
or Free with Order

PAUL J. HOWARD'S

California Flowerland

11700 National Boulevard

LOS ANGELES 34 CALIFORNIA

SPECIALTY BEGONIA SHOP

Camellia - Fimbriata and New Ruffled
Novelties

TUBEROUS ROOTED BEGONIAS

also
HANGING BASKET TYPES

as well as
Seedlings and Cut Flowers of These

POTTED BEGONIAS & PRIMROSES

McMill's Begonia Garden

1108 Madison Ave., Redwood City, Calif.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Due to lack of space at this late hour, the digest on the fine reports will have to be postponed to the next issue. One feature was the establishment of five new branches in the six month's tenure of office by Mrs. W. C. Drummond and the other two were—TWO invitations for the 1948 Convention of the A. B. S. The Branch at Miami, Florida, sent our Society an invitation which sounded very alluring, but because of the great distance and the traveling inconveniences that may still exist by that time, it was thought best to postpone the acceptance until another time. The other spirited and attractive invitation came from the San Gabriel Branch, of California, which was accepted with happiness.

The Convention Dinner was an unusually happy affair. Gordon Baker-Lloyd was the Master of Ceremonies and it was he who installed the new officers in such a novel manner that instead of the solemnity associated with the occasion it was a series of laughter. The delightful dinner arranged and served by a very competent committee headed by Mrs. Herbert Dyckman, was greatly enjoyed, the flowers and decorations were beautiful. The Convention Committee also provided some interludes of entertainment by well chosen artists which all lead to the large crowd being in a particularly happy mood by the time the speaker of the evening took the floor. All who have heard Mr. Alfred Carl Hottes always expect much, but in this case he surpassed himself and everyone was transported by the inspiration that imbued every word he said. None of those present will forget the evening.

The money prizes were presented by Mr. George Lawrence, the cup for the best Rex in the Show was presented by the donor, Mrs. Gonda Hartwell and likewise for the best tuberous begonia by the new president Mrs. Mary Hazel Drummond. The Editor had the pleasure of conferring the SWEEPSTAKES CUP donated by The Pacific Flower Shows, Inc., for Messrs. Byron Round, R. G. "Scotty" Hudson and Ed Taylor, to Mrs. Ann Smith of Long Beach. Sunday saw nearly everyone at the show again and by one o'clock they left for a tour of the following gardens before wandering their way home. Eleven came from San Francisco, one from Berkeley, but the one who traveled farthest was Mr. F. R. Wheatly of Vancouver, B. C., and we are still regretting that the crowded program did not permit seeing the fine collection of colored slides of Begonias in Vancouver he brought with him.

Convention Ticket Chairman Mrs. Harry H. Boyd was also chairman for the tour to the

See Page 184

THE AIRY CHARM OF NERINES

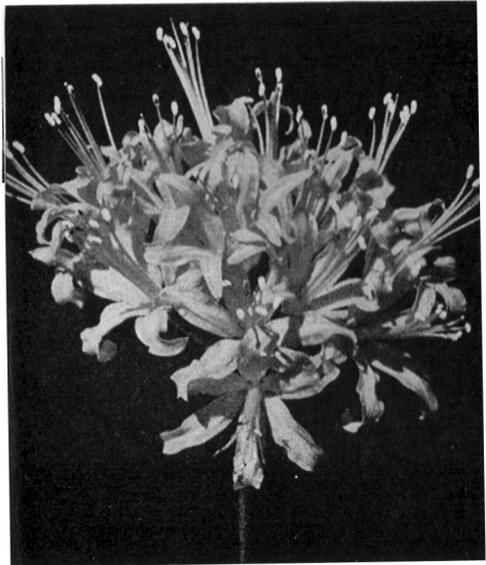
By Charlotte M. Hoak, South Pasadena, California

In his recent book, "Your California Garden and Mine," Sidney B. Mitchell calls our attention to the fact that Nerines are strangely neglected in California. Until they found a congenial home in Southern California, which corresponds to their South African habitat, these desirable fall-flowering amaryllids had been little grown. They were first tried by Frank Reinelt, of Capitola, who imported a fine collection of named hybrids from Barr and Sons, England, and one thousand *N. Fothergilli* major from Mauger and Sons, in Guernsey. His difficulties in establishing them in an uncongenial climate may be found in his very informative article published in the July, 1946 number of the Journal of the California Horticultural Society.

In 1938, after a series of wet winters and severe freezes, he abandoned the project of raising them and sold the entire stock to Mr. Bauman of Palos Verdes Begonia Farm, who has an ideal place (in a warm spot under lath-shade) to propagate them coupled with a fine appreciation of their value and the patience to carry on the painstaking work of further hybridizing.

The Nerines, native to South Africa, have been known for two hundred years or more. In colder climates they are greenhouse subjects. The only place they were grown out-of-doors was in the Island of Guernsey, where a ship-wrecked cargo of them established itself and grew and multiplied amazingly. One of their species (*N. sarniensis*) became known as the famous Guernsey Lily. Through culture and hybridizing, the English developed a very fine strain of hybrids, *N. Fothergilli Major* being one of the most outstanding varieties. For eight years the work of hybridizing has been carried on by Mr. G. A. Bauman and Dr. J. K. Reticker of the Palos Verdes Begonia Farm. In six years the 6000 bulbs purchased have increased to more than 40,000.

Hybrid Nerines are the close competitors with the popular cymbidium for favor; and, when garden lovers are acquainted with their rare beauty, they will be very widely grown in Southern California gardens. Nerines are of easy culture, the bulbs are long-lived and may be propagated from seed and offsets, taking four years from the former and two or three from the latter method. The flowers are readily hybridized. They need good drainage and will thrive in a compost of sandy loam with a little leaf mold added. Like many of the other amaryllids, they do better if not given too much space. In planting, the neck and crown of the bulb should show above the ground.

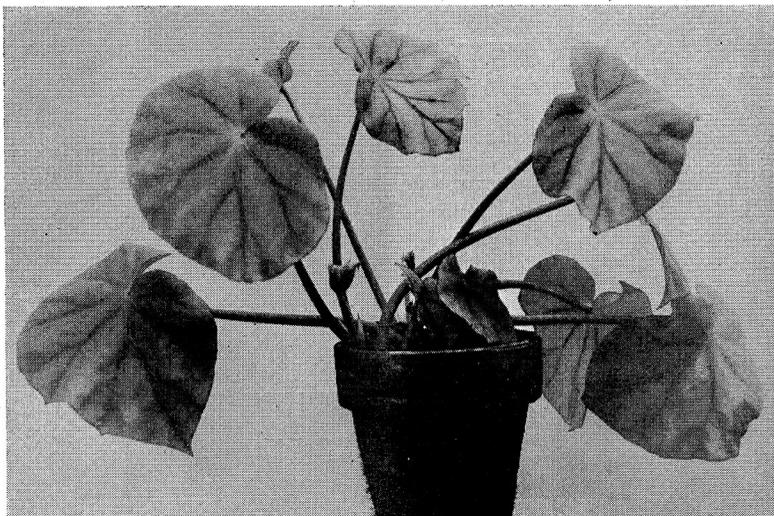


NERINE FOTHERGILLI MAJOR
Courtesy the Palos Verdes Gardens

Once in four or five years they need repotting; and, once established in the ground, they need not be moved. An out-of-door plant, they do not like frost, and grow better with even temperatures. They are natural sun-lovers, but will take partial shade. They are fall bloomers—August, September and October, some late bloomers extending their flowering period into November. Nerines vegetate and grow leaves, with few exceptions, after blooming up to April or May and then they lose their leaves and go into a dormant period, when they should be completely dried off for this summer rest period in the direct sun with no water at all and in the soil.

If you want to get a real thrill, grow Nerines—the fine named hybrids. Nothing surpasses them for sheer beauty of color and form. The colors range from white through different pinks, deep rose and rich scarlet, but their real brilliance is due to their shining gold and silver dusted sheen. They fairly dazzle you in the sunlight, and under artificial light they scintillate with a thousand brilliant points of light. There is an airy grace about the graceful umbels of flowers, the curled and twisted petals and exerted stamens which defies description in cold black and white. Because of these fine qualities and their ability to stand up over a long period of time, they are the flowers par excellence for flower arrangements and corsages.

(Continued on Next Page)



BEGONIA DAYI

Beautiful houseplant, thick yellow-green leaves, with deep chocolate-brown veins.

\$1.50 each, f. o. b. Santa Barbara

1130 North Milpas St.,

Santa Barbara, Calif.

RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE—Begonia Specialist

Out of the fine list of these hybrid Nerines you may be able to select the very types you have been wanting.

In his article above-mentioned, Frank Reinelt expresses his preferences. His favorite is the large Salmon Perfection with its beautiful

pale salmon coloring. Mrs. Elwes, with its wonderful clear pink, meets with his favor. Rosella, Baracole and Miranda have outstanding excellencies. Rosella has large bright rose-pink flowers with reflexed petals; Baracole is a rich old rose with a deep stripe, beautifully gold-dusted; Miranda, aside from its glowing rich cerise, has large flowers, a good truss, and is a strong grower. Lucifer has a marvelous deep crimson coloring; he considers it the nicest dark red.

Go down the list that is being sent out. Select the strong growers, like Empire Day, Fothergillii Major, and Thalia. Large trusses are very desirable, so select Peter Barr, Blazing Star and Roweana. Reflexed petals are exemplified in rose Knight Templar, soft pink Lady Mary Shelley and coral-red Ronald. The gold-dusted ones, Red Hussar, Royal Dragoon and Talisman, are luminous and striking. Perhaps you may end as one Nerine fan did by saying: "You can take the whole collection and hardly make a mistake; even if very similar, they are all beautiful." Long ago in ancient Persia they had a proverb concerning the narcissus; let us restate it for Nerines, rendering it thus: "If you have two loaves of bread, sell one and buy Nerines, for Nerines are food for the soul."

LEATHERMAN'S GARDENS

**BEGONIAS—FERNS—FUCHSIAS
PELARGONIUMS—GERANIUMS
NOVELTY PLANTS**

6 LABELED REX BEGONIAS—\$3.00
6 LABELED FIBROUS ROOTED BEGONIAS \$3.00

We Ship Anywhere — Price Lists
925 Lee Ave. El Monte, Calif.

CINERARIA SEED

Campbell's Giant Flowered Hybrids

Immense flowers in shades of blue, rose, pink, lavender, salmon and white, or semi-dwarf plants.

Pkts. 50c postpaid

Ask for our Reference Garden Catalog

CAMPBELL SEED STORE

Since 1907

Pasadena 1, California Department B

TRANSPLANTING BEGONIA SEEDS

By Louise Schwertfeger, Santa Barbara, California

To transplant Begonia seedlings successfully, we must first study and understand the internal structure of Begonia plants. The stems of the average Begonia contains very little woody substance but are constructed and composed of a great deal of cellular tissue. The cellular tissue is arranged in the stem to resemble infinitesimal glass tubes through which the plant food flows. These tiny tubes when filled with plant substance serve to hold the stems and the leaves upright. The tubes once broken or injured fail to fully reconstruct themselves. The cellular tissue is sometimes broken down through lack of moisture. To bruise or break either the stem or the root system of the tiny seedling is usually fatal. Tender handling of the plants will insure against loss in transplanting.

Begonia seedlings should be transplanted as soon as the third leaf has unfolded. At this time the root has made sufficient growth and is not apt to be injured when removing the seedling from the seed pan. The root soon begins to branch and at this stage of growth you will find that the roots have intertwined, and in lifting the seedling to transplant there is danger of bruising the young plant.

The process of transplanting requires a steady hand and a great deal of patience, for the seedling must be treated as an extremely delicate and fragile individual. Transplanting Begonia seedlings reminds me of the care one uses in making the intricate stitches in the designs of fine embroidery.

As a good cook collects her ingredients and pre-heats her oven when preparing some special dish, so must the Begonia-grower prepare his equipment before beginning the delicate task of transplanting his minute and precious seedlings.

I will give you a recipe that for me has spelled success in growing Begonias from seedlings.

- One pan of seedling Begonias
- One prepared flat of leaf mold
- One space marker
- One pointed instrument
- One hand spray with water
- One large piece of glass

Thoroughly soak the seed pan so as to assure easy removal of the seedlings without injury to the root. Choose a redwood flat that will give good drainage. Place about one inch of leaf mold (screened through a coarse mesh) evenly in the bottom of the flat. Sift over this about one-half inch of finely screened leaf mold. Soak the flat until all of the soil

is thoroughly moistened. Using a narrow slat about seventeen inches long, drive shingle nails half-way through and an inch apart, this serves as an excellent marker. Press the marker into the soil giving it a slight side to side movement and you obtain a straight line of spaced holes. Repeat across the flat, preferably as you transplant. There are many individual methods of lifting the young plants from the seed pan. I find that a straight pen is easily managed. Place the point of the pen beneath a leaf of the seedling and very gently lift the seedling straight up. It will cling to the pen and can thus be carried to its hole in the flat. Be sure the hole is in proportion with the roots of the seedling being planted. Let the tiny plant drop deep into the hole keeping the three leaves even with the surface of the flat. Use a finger to gently push the soil well around the seedling until there is no air space left either beside it or beneath it. This seems to be the deciding step, for unless you use considerable patience the cellular tissues are apt to become broken. As each row is planted give the seedlings a generous sprinkling, this settles the soil around the root.

Never dig into the seed pan if you wish to save the maximum number of plants. By lifting out the larger ones very gently, the underdeveloped seedlings can go undisturbed and may be saved for a later transplanting.

With the flat fully planted with the precious young plants, cover it with a glass to retain the moisture. Leave some space for ventilation. They should in ordinary circumstances need no attention for about three or four days. Place the flat in a position in your cloth-house or lath-house where it will have plenty of filtered light. Be sure the flat is where it has good air circulation from the bottom, this helps to prevent damping-off. If transplanted with the proper tender care you should have few fatalities. Never let the young plants become dry, keep the soil moist at all times, either by regular soaking from the bottom or by careful top sprinkling. Remove the glass from the flat before the young plants become spindly. Rare Begonias and Rex require a longer time of protection than do tuberous seedlings or the semperflorens.

Watch for insects and other pests as they are your greatest enemies. Care in watering and good air circulation will help combat damping-off.

Each Begonia-grower acquires his own method of caring for his young plants, methods acquired through patience and experience.

B. MONTALVO GARDENS

By Alice M. Clark, San Diego, California

Over ten years ago, Erla Marguerite Fewkes planted the seeds from a pod she found on *B. Scharffi*. One of them grew into a hairy fibrous which Mr. Fewkes named B. Montalvo, for the street on which they lived in Ocean Beach. The last Rosecroft catalogue lists a rex begonia, which was also a Fewkes hybrid, under the same name. So far, I have not been able to find it in any local collection and it may be lost, but to avoid any possible confusion it seems best, with Mrs. Fewkes' permission, to rename the fibrous begonia of our sketch B. Montalvo Gardens, for the place of its origin.

B. Montalvo Gardens is a fine specimen of the hirsute type. It is very bushy, with five healthy, branching stalks, coming up from the base of this 15 inch plant. When young, the trunks are a light succulent green, tinted red at the slightly swollen joints and thickly furred with long white hairs. As they grow, the color, except at the tip, becomes a plum red. The nodes are $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart. A broad pair of bracts, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long, pale translucent green, hairy and keeled, protect the new growth in each axil. These bracts dry up and stay on but are not noticeable. The yellow-green of the downy new leaf, pleated and pointed,

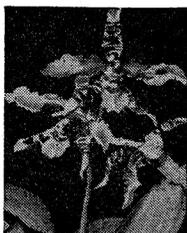
darkens to a rich olive-green as its red, white-hairy stem makes a 3 inch growth.

The bright luster of the top of the leaf is not dimmed by the short bristles that cover it. Sometimes puckered, it is always sharply creased by many strong veins that end in the toothed edges of a lighter green. The texture is firm and scratchy, rather than soft like similar types. The whole back is a network of red veins, completely fringed with white hairs, on a plum ground. The distinctive feature of this begonia leaf is that the margin underneath shows a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch border of clear light green. The leaves are slightly folded so the edges are more noticeable. At full size, they measure 7 inches to the pointed tip and 3 inches at the widest part.

B. Montalvo Gardens is a very free bloomer. Buds not visible in the painting are in every axil. Tiny blobs of red among many hairy green bracts, they develop very rapidly into lovely thick clusters of almost round petals. These seldom open and are pressed so tightly together at the edges that one side is convex and one concave. Inside are two slender white petals that curve closely over the ball of stamen. The outside is a creamy-white, glowing with thick-set, cherry-red hairs, closer together near the pedicel, which is an inch long, and pink-tinted.

The drooping peduncle reminds one of the *B. Scharffi* parent. It has a swollen base and is quite red despite its hairy white surface. The longer stem in my sketch extends 8 inches to the first pair of inch-long branches. The other bi-sections are shorter so the blooms are crowded. Tiny female flowers, tipped with pink fur, are visible in the lowest cluster, while an enlarged, full-grown specimen is pictured just below. $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches across when open, the center shows 3 pair of much-twisted yellow stigma. The seed-pod is pink, embellished with rose hairs. It is only $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long and the same width, with wings another $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to their blunt tips. The third wing is wider and twice as long.

The leaves of B. Montalvo Gardens resemble those of *B. Vesperia* in size, but the latter does not have the rose flush on the back. For some reason, Mrs. Gray's seedling, which is also very fine, and about the same age, is better known. B. Montalvo Gardens, with its perky leaves, thick growth, and drooping pink pendants should be greatly enjoyed by those who favor these plushy fibrous beauties.



TRUE ORCHIDS

The following choice orchids are all ideal pot plants, for home, conservatory or patio

LAELIA ANCEPS—Very showy orchid bearing purplish rose colored flowers. 3 to 4 on a stem. Ea. \$5.50 prepaid.

LAELIA AUTUMNALIS—Showy fragrant flowers of deep purple. A lovely orchid, easy to grow. Each \$5.00 Prepaid.

ODONTOGLOSSUM GRANDE—Borne 3 to 4 on a stem. Individual flowers about 5 inches across. Yellow, lined and spotted dark brown. Deep golden yellow throat. Each \$5.50 Prepaid.

Full Cultural Directions with Each Order

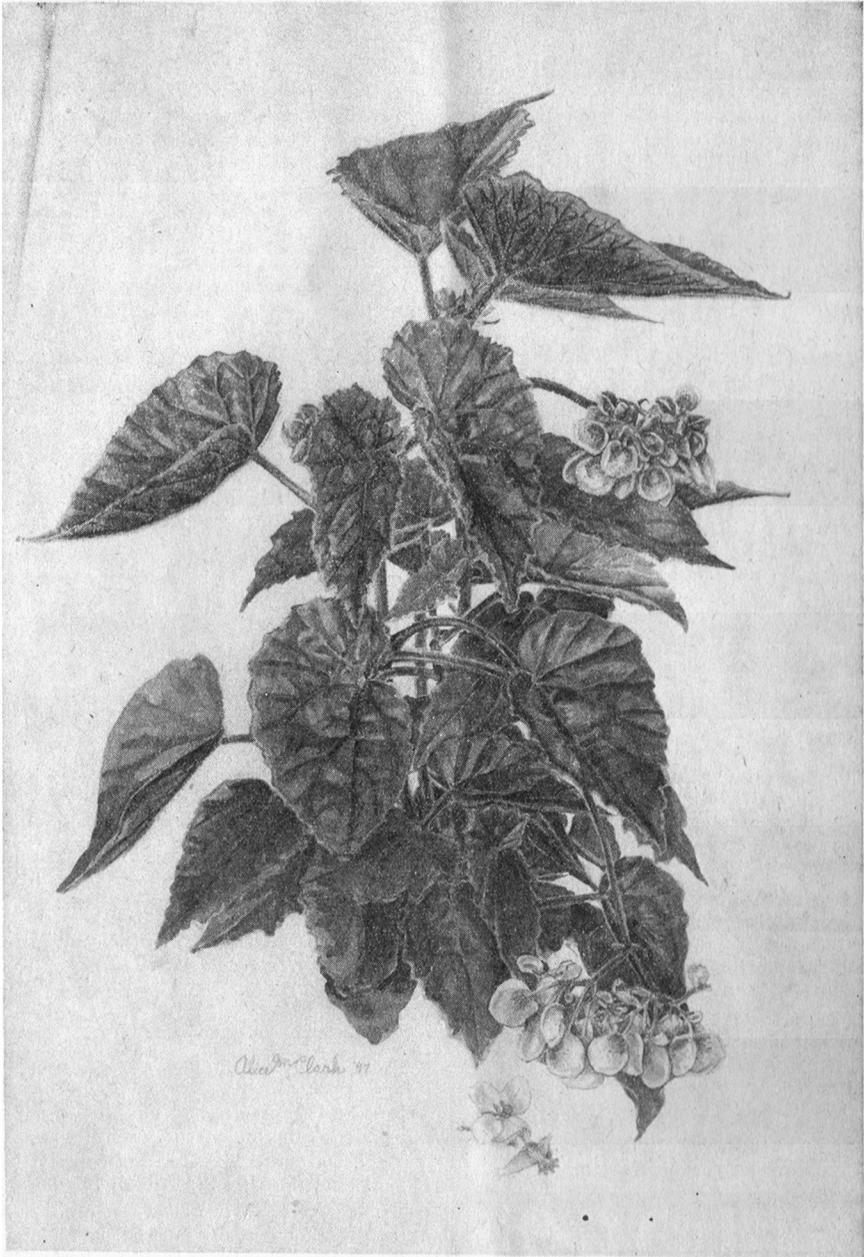
GERMAIN'S

Seed Growers and Horticulturists Since 1871

VAN NUYS NURSERY

6133 Ethel Avenue

Van Nuys, Calif.



B. MONTALVO GARDENS

Redlands Annual Begonia, Tuberhybrida and Rex Fiesta

By Maria Wilkes, Los Angeles, California

Early this summer the sixth annual "Open House" was held by Mrs. Anna Throop and her brother Charles Albrecht to share the unusual beauty of begonias that are supposed to be almost impossible to grow in the hot inland climate of Redlands, California. Hundreds of friends of these eminently successful gardeners come to marvel at the array of colorful flowers.

The entrance avenue to the house snuggled in the front of the Orange Grove is massed on both sides with the show-type of Tetra snapdragons. Much is said and written of the folly in replanting "snaps" in the same location year after year, but in this case it is entirely disproved for they seem to be more beautiful each year.

The outdoor living-room-barbecue and garden which lead to the glasshouse are always a gay show of color at all seasons aided by the long strip of pool lined with colored tiles which lends coolness to the atmosphere and reflects much of the blue of the sky—mirror fashion.

The first sight of the massed Begonia rex cultorum through the large panes of the glass-

house is a thrill not soon forgotten but that is just a promise of more to be seen as the doors are thrown open. The front section is reserved for the rex and maidenhair ferns, the central section is turned over to hundreds of *B. tuberhybrida* in all the various kinds, varieties and forms to give brilliantly colored effect. The ceiling is lined with hanging baskets heavy with plate-size blooms which are interspersed with large redwood baskets dripping with delicate maidenhair in many varieties and shades of apple and chartreuse-green, making an entrancing and engaging feast for the onlooker. This is the scene chosen for our readers this month, which though in black and white still gives a fair idea of what can be done under great climatic difficulties.

The potted plants are spread on the wire-shelved benches, the better to display their varied form and fascinating colors. This method of placement also facilitates ventilation and perfect housekeeping and ease of culture. There is never a blemish to be seen on these plants throughout the well-kept house. Mrs. Throop and Mr. Albrecht spare no effort to make the setting as pleasing as possible.

In season the cultivation of 25 varieties of richly colored Gloxinias add their quota of color depth—or it may be Pink Callas. The next section is loaded with some 250 orchids, mostly Cattleyas with about 50 Lycaste, all in splendid condition. Coupled with his fine sensitiveness about watering and other cultural aids, Charley Albrecht is a martinet about cleanliness and can maintain just the right humidity to suit the time of the year according to what is growing. All these plants have to stand the same conditions, the light seems to have been gauged to a nicety. Three sides of the house are solid moss walls up to the ventilating strip beneath the glass roof, the fourth side is the clear-glass front already mentioned which is lightly shaded from one o'clock forward with a large lightly leaved tree which permits dappled sunshine to fall on the house. The fine art of watering has certainly been mastered here. This special gift is hard to define and difficult to acquire. Mr. Albrecht does NOT overhead water his plants in the greenhouse at any time but he maintains a nice humidity which is liked by all the different plants in the house. The moss walls on three sides and the gravelled walks and floor help a great deal.

When it comes to soil mixtures, both these flower lovers are enigmatic, with a shrug of the shoulder they point to the orchard from where the soil is borrowed, the pile of leafmold

BEGONIAS and FUCHSIAS NEED NITROHUMUS!

Commercial and hobby growers are getting better flower and foliage color, and stronger plant structures since using NITROHUMUS in their potting soil.

The answer is in the milder but longer lasting organic food, and soil building humus contained in every bag of Kellogg's NITROHUMUS Fertilizers.

Use NITROHUMUS freely in potting and top feeding. Available at nurseries and garden supply dealers. Write for descriptive folder to Dept. 113

KELLOGG SUPPLY CO.

204 Sepulveda Blvd. Wilmington, Cal.
Phone Terminal 4-6479

KELLOGG'S

NITROHUMUS.

FERTILIZERS



(Photo by William E. Kingham, Redlands, California)

that has been well composted, a little fertilizer and some cottonseedmeal and then merely say—"there it is, we do nothing special. We get Frank Reinelt's best, give them ordinary care, cleanliness, a well ventilated house, correct watering and the rest falls in line without any bother at all."

Yet we remember that it was repeated admonitions that these plants could not possibly do well in Redlands which incited them to accept the challenge, and in each case, they have proven most emphatically that the experts were

all wrong and have had to reverse their opinions in favor of the Throop-Albrecht combine.

Until perfectly air-conditioned vans are made and are easily available, Anna Throop and her brother will expect their friends to come and see their lovely flowerers at "Flora-Acres" for the outside atmosphere would make short work of these splendid plants. Thus it is an event keenly awaited and greatly enjoyed, when word is sent forth that the best time of year has come—the tuberous begonias are blooming at "Flora-Acres."

BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES AND GARDENS

Review By Eleanor Crowder, Beverly Hills, California

Helen H. Krauss. Line drawings by Marjorie Ann Tobin. Begonia charts by Alpha H. Gere. 228 pages, illustrated, indexed. Macmillan Co., New York. July, 1947. \$4.00.

A new book is great news in the literary field of begonias, particularly when it has been as eagerly anticipated as the one by Mrs. Helen K. Krauss who is recognized as an expert on the subject. She is the nomenclature chairman of the American Begonia Society and is a frequent contributor to "The Begonian."

The author presents the first scientific study of begonias grown in America giving their history, origin of hybrids, their names and their culture. She is indeed qualified to do so because years of painstaking research have gone into the preparation of this book.

The bibliography is especially appreciated by the librarian for it reveals the extent of the research which includes botanical works and journals, scientific bulletins, unpublished manuscripts, periodicals, catalogs and other source material which undoubtedly took years of checking and perusal. Much of this fragmentary information was microfilmed by the author for a permanent record. The list of references also shows the paucity of published information on begonias for the general reader and illustrates the problem of the librarian who is anxious to furnish authentic information in a useful form to the society members.

The outstanding contribution of this book is the definite information which establishes the correct names for begonias. This should clear up the confusion that exists at the present time when many begonias are known by sev-

eral names. The American Begonia Society should accept this study as an authority for the nomenclature of all the varieties listed. The research extends back to "SPECIES PLANTARUM, 1753" which is accepted as the starting point "beyond which one does not go in search of a correct name." The principle of naming plants is by priority, the first published name and recognizable botanical description is the correct one, all others are synonyms.

The seven charts made by Alpha H. Gere illustrate the family trees of the principal groups and show an amazing knowledge and patience in their preparation. A glance will reveal the general classification and the genealogy of the related begonias.

The book is illustrated with black and white photographs of begonias and line drawings by Marjorie-Ann Tobin giving cultural directions. The index includes only the names of begonias included. A subject and person index would have enhanced the book for many of the well known hybridizers and leaders in the begonia world are mentioned in the text as well as general information which would have been easier to find through an index.

Mrs. Krauss writes clearly and concisely, the book makes fascinating reading which is unusual in a scholarly work of this kind. It is a real contribution to the knowledge of begonias. The general reader as well as the expert will profit from it.

There is practically no duplication in Krauss—*Begonias for American Homes and Gardens* and of Buxton—*Begonias and How to Grow Them*. All begonia growers should have both books for each has a field of its own. The librarian of the American Begonia Society is prepared to fill orders sent to her for either book.—Mrs. Eleanora Crowder, librarian, 9838 Easton Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Library Note:

Another scientific botanical study issued by the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University has been received by the library. It is "*Begoniaceae of Columbia*" by Lyman B. Smith and Bernice G. Schubert. The authors state, "We were quite unprepared for the rich development of the family in Columbia, where a third of the species proved to be new and well over half of them endemic." New scientific names are listed with a full botanic description of the findings.

The authors have also made studies of the Begoniaceae of Argentina, Peru, Bolivia and Guatemala in detail.

New South African Plants

BY SEED. 50¢ PER PKT., PLUS POSTAGE

LEUCOSPERMUM reflexum, GOLD MINE

as a cut flower, rare shrub.

LEUCADENDRON argenteum, SILVER

TREE, still rare tree of great beauty

MARIA WILKES

158 So. Oxford Ave., Los Angeles 4, Calif.

Protect your
BEGONIAS

from
NEMATODES

....with....

LAWN-A-GEN

Send for FREE Bulletin on Nematodes
Destruxol Corp. Ltd., Pasadena 2, Calif.



NOTES FROM DIRECTORS ROUND ROBIN

By Frances Downing, Bowie, Texas

Round Robinites soon learn short-cuts and specific methods of successfully rooting more and better cuttings of their preferred plants.

Plants from which cuttings are to be taken for propagation should not be fertilized for awhile. For the same reason that a hardier and sturdier plant will stand up better under difficulties, it is found that a plant should have very little if any water for about ten days before cuttings are taken. Hardened off thusly, the growth will be more resistant to rot in the propagating bench.

A New York grower finds that rain water is not as desirable as the regular tap-water. He feels that the former absorbs an over-abundance of the toxic gasses of the city air. He adds a small pinch of Hyponex to the water used for rooting and occasionally aerates the water by squirting air into the water with a small syringe, much as is done for some aquariums. This livens up the water and incorporates more oxygen into it which is just what the roots need. Others pour the water from one container to the other several times to achieve the same result.

In rooting *B. Rex cultorum* leaves he prefers to leave the stems on the leaf when placing it in water. Usually it is rooted in about 10 to 12 weeks.

The time-honored method of cutting the rex-leaf into segments from the vein junctures for making cuttings is used more generally but one California member roots the rhizomatous group by placing the leaf stems in water until rooted then transferring it to a small pot of light, porous soil from which it sends out new leaves. Most rhizomatous begonias rooted by this method put out at least two little plantlets. One leaf of *B. hydrocotylifolia* has given as many as five plants from the same leaf. Other rooting mediums are: peat and sand in equal parts, mica-gro, plain sand that has been sterilized, pure leaf-mold and sandy loam mixed with leaf-mold. (There are no reports yet from our members on Soil-Light or Vermiculite).

A Californian filled a cheese glass to within an inch of the top—then filled the glass with the usual concentrate of Plant-Chem, a packaged plant food, and the cutting was rooted very quickly in this. He found besides it was unusually easy to transplant. There is something to be said for the old methods of planting cuttings around the mother plant in pot or under shrubbery, bothering very little about them until potting time which usually produces a large percentage of sturdily rooted plants

that take the transplanting bravely . . . and withstand the rigors of house conditions better than the softer plants. A New York member rooted five tip cuttings in water from a tuberous rooted begonia in July, 1946, they were potted in the usual manner but only one, a very double orange, bloomed before Thanksgiving. The plant thrived in a south window all winter though it gained in height to the point of lankiness, and it had to be withdrawn from the sun on bright days in February and kept out of the sun altogether later. It kept on blooming until May 3rd, 1947. By that time it was 31 inches tall. Zero weather and house conditions had not stopped it all this time. It was fed with home produced dried chicken manure tablets inserted at the extreme edges of the pot, the room temperature was kept at a constant 75 to 80 degrees.

Ivy-Ever, a "touchy" begonia, is being grown successfully by a Massachusetts member. She rooted the cutting in a pot of soil with a growing plant. When it was rooted it was potted in a small pot in light, porous soil containing a little rotted cow manure. A sunny window and general begonia care has produced a lovely plant.

B. Limminghei (*glaucophylla*) is one that will not root readily in water but a Californian advises layering.

From New York comes this wise bit of advice: "Dirty pots, sub-irrigation and infected soils are ways of spreading nematodes to clean plants. Steam or chemical sterilization, or freezing the soil should be resorted to when the potting medium is suspected of harboring nematodes."

Those of us who belong to the American Begonia Society Round Robins feel that there is no end to the wisdom to be learned from this intercourse through correspondence. The old and the new are played against each other and generally speaking, success in solving our problems is ours. You are warmly invited to join us.

ERRATA—To Be Corrected in Book: BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES & GARDENS

At bottom of page 18, delete the comma between Begonia and Bunchi.

Chapter 7 should be headed TUBEROUS BEGONIAS, *not* Tuberous species.

On page 122, No. 10 should read: Flowers like a rose with a rosebud-like protuberance from the center.

Mrs. Krauss, a perfectionist at heart, regrets these typographical and technical errors were not caught before going to print.—The Editor.

Armchair Explorers

seller in Africa writes that the only begonia he knows of are *B. calabarica*, *dregei*, *geranioides*, *suffruticosa*, *richardsiana* and *sutherlandii* and that he might locate these seeds for us. Brazil and the Philippines are next in having large numbers of begonias, but so far I haven't been able to contact any collectors in these countries. Other countries showing around 50 kinds of begonias growing wild are the other South American countries, Central America, West Indies, East Indies and China. Securing good contacts is a difficult task—from a hundred letters written in the search for seed I am lucky to get a half dozen replies and only 1 or 2 offers to gather seeds. It is really a very slow process, but by keeping continually on the search we may eventually track down some really good begonia plants. I do want you to know that I have thoroughly enjoyed this work.

These Armchair Explorers seem never to be entirely satisfied with the number of kinds of seeds I secure, for they are continually writing to find out if I have some new kind of begonia seed, some ask for fern spores, impatiens, gesnerias, amaryllis and even India vegetable and gourd seeds. I have such a soft spot in my heart for all seed growers that I do my best to locate the seeds for them if possible. A few of our collectors have sent other than that which was ordered, the collector in Costa Rica sent such a lot of miscellaneous seed, writing that long tramps through the wilderness is not profitable unless considerable seed is secured and that it helped pay for oxen teams which had to be hired, etc., in order to get to some difficult locality where some certain begonias were growing. So from time to time various other kinds of seeds have been offered for sale. We have some very fine seed collectors who do their best to locate new species of begonia seeds for us. Our collector in the West Indies is more interested in trees than

in small plants, he would like to send tree seeds, but these I have been unable to dispose of. Now on hand are 5 kinds of begonia seeds just received from the West Indies—these will be saved for the 1948 Seed Fund. From India we will be getting more begonia seed, and am in hopes of having enough this time to go around to all the Armchair Explorers. One recent disappointment was to receive a torn empty envelope in the mail, all the way from Europe. This should have contained 25 packets of begonia seeds. Of course nothing could be done about this, the seeds had been paid for and the loss was ours. Such is the way the Seed Fund works, sometimes we make a very good seed buy, and other times get but a pinch of seed for our money, but by pooling our funds we eventually come out all right, none of us could afford to play the game alone, safety in numbers you know, so this is why we invite you to join with us.

I want to thank those who have helped this past year. Mrs. Viola Montgomery of Hughesville, Md., has made several thousand of those tiny seed envelopes and so has Mrs. E. T. Boeshar of Hollywood. Mrs. Boeshar was at our meeting so we thanked her in person. Mrs. Muriel Hylton of Huntington Beach has packaged practically all of the begonia seed sent out—and you can well imagine how much work that has been. It would have been impossible for me to have kept up the search for the seed and make and package the envelopes myself. Mrs. Hylton has helped so much with our booth as well, I appreciate so much having such a fine person to work with.

Mrs. Drummond, our new A. B. S. president talked, also the past president, George Lawrence. Miss Charlotte Hoak gave a very fine review of Mrs. Krauss' new book: "Begonias for American Homes and Gardens," Mrs. Marie Minter who has charge of the Armchair Explorers' Correspondence Club told us of this new department, Mrs. Louise



Listen to Mirandy
Sat., KECA, 8:45 A.M.

*Easy to Handle
No Mess, No Fuss*

Eliminates hand spreading. Likwid GRO fertilizes as you water. Ask your dealer about Likwid GRO today.

Price: 1 qt., 75c; 1 Gal., \$1.75

PESTLESS PRODUCTS CO.
PASADENA 2, CALIFORNIA

BRANCH NEWS

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD Branch of the American Begonia Society held its regular monthly meeting at the Alice Bartlett clubhouse, with Mrs. Otto Schwertdferger, president of the Santa Barbara branch, as guest speaker, who outlined the history of fibrous and rhizomatous types of begonias from 1770 until the 20th century.

The speaker had many rare potted plants with her, which she used to illustrate her talk. She told of the natural habitats of the flowers, including Africa, Sumatra, Java, Guiana, the West Indies, Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela.

The door prize was a "White Star" Rex begonia, donated by the speaker, and won by Mr. and Mrs. Sundfors.

We certainly can recommend Mrs. Schwertdferger to all the other branches who might be interested in "species" of begonias.

Schwertdferger who grows begonias to perfection told of her method of growing and caring for tiny begonia seedlings. Dr. W. C. Drummond gave in detail several methods for growing begonias from seed. Mr. Rudolph Ziesenhenné of Santa Barbara, who was one of the long list of judges, gave a splendid talk on the growing of begonias. The following questions were discussed:

What success did you have with your begonia seeds? Would you prefer more seed in a packet and fewer kinds? What type of seeds do you prefer, tuberous, fibrous, rex, etc.? Suggestions for improving the Seed Fund?

The first meeting of the Armchair Explorers was a great success. Thank you Mr. J. W. Bailey of Altadena for helping set up our booth and dismantle at the end of the show, your help was much appreciated. Thanks to everyone who attended and we will be planning a bigger and better meeting next year, and we hope some of you in other states will be able to be with us.

Send in your \$2.00 for your participation in "the new exploration" NOW. Seed available is: Aristeia, Morea, fern spores, mixed begonia seeds and India gourd seed at 25c per packet plus stamped envelope.—Your skipper, Florence Carrell.

**COMPLETE SELECTION OF INSECTICIDES
AND GARDEN NEEDS**

RIGID MANUFACTURING CO.
HOME AND GARDEN STORES
320 South Atlantic Blvd.
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PLEASE NOTE:

In this issue there is an advertisement for B. Dayi which may be the one we have been calling B. negro-venia for so long. The former is the one imported from Mexico City by Mr. Day and has five petals on the female flower. The latter may be a variety of it with red stems and only four petals for the female flower. Notes on these points reported to us or Mr. Ziesenhenné for forwarding to Mrs. Krauss will be appreciated. This is a begonia that always arouses much interesting comment. It is a beautiful pot-plant and a fine hanging basket. Seems to be unusually hardy—The Editor.



FUCHSIAS

AMERICA'S

FINEST COLLECTION

Catalog on Request
**Evans & Reeves
Nurseries**

255 S. Barrington
Los Angeles 24, Calif.

ORCHID SPECIAL

Here is your chance to start your own HARDY OUTDOOR COLLECTION at a minimum cost. A special importation enables us to offer plants of many fine varieties:

LAELIA ANCEPS STANHOPEA TIGRINA
LAELIA GRANDIFLORA
LAELIA AUTUMNALIS EPIDENDRUMS
ODONTOGLOSSUM GRANDE
AND ONCIDIUMS

Small clumps each \$1.49
Medium clumps each 2.49
Large clumps each 4.98
Orchid Fern Fiber per lb. .85

Also offered are large assortment of
CYMBIDIUMS reasonably priced
Please add 25c for mailing plus Calif. tax.

WINSEL-GIBBS NURSERY

1955 W. Florence Ave.
TW. 1564 Los Angeles 44, Calif.

EXPERTS USE THIS FERTILIZER

Past president American Fuchsia Society—many other experts—use this complete organic plant food for all gardening. A fish by-product concentrated. Dilute—pour or use hose proportioner.

PINT makes 20 gals. 80c
ATLAS CHEMICAL CO.
1 Drumm St., San Francisco 11, Calif.



ATLAS
FERTILIZER EMULSION

UNUSUAL SUCCESS WITH CALLA LILY BEGONIA

Two years ago, a Minnesota member of the Directors R. R. planted a Calla Lily begonia directly in the soil on the north side of her garage. The plant was a mass of red blooms all summer. When it was potted up in the autumn much of the old growth dropped off but by spring the 7-inch pot was filled with short shoots. All the leaves were white flecked with green. The plant was divided into eight parts and put on the north of the garage again. The next Fall seven plants were sent to friends and the eighth is still doing beautifully in its own home.

This is an unusual experience with the pretty Calla Lily begonia.—Frances Downing.

FUCHSIA—LA NURSERY

"Fuchsias In All Glory"

Ferns, Coleus, Ivy, Saint Paulia Violets,
And Other Shade Plants

No Catalog or Mail Orders Until
Further Notice — Visitors Welcome

3569 Atlantic Ave.....Long Beach 7, Calif.

Huntington Beach Tuberous Begonia Gardens

Bulbs . . Seedlings . . Blooms

FOR SALE

SPECIALLY PREPARED SOIL
for growing all kinds of Begonias and
Shade Plants for sale at all times

Order Early

Tubers for sale in Feb., Seedlings in May
No Catalogue—Price List on Request

HAZEL and R. G. (Scotty) HUDSON
PROPRIETORS

220 13th Street Huntington Beach, Calif.
Telephone 8311

PLANTSMITHS

SPOONIT

FOR SMILING GARDENS

Send me a 3c stamp to cover postage cost
and I will send you a generous trial can.
Or, if you used SPOONIT "before the
war," and wish to order some now, just
mail me a dollar bill for a big 32 ounce
can, postpaid (this includes California
sales tax).

PLANTSMITH

Box 818

Palo Alto, California

REQUEST OF BRANCH SECRETARIES:
Please send list of names and addresses of new
officers as soon as change is made, or dates
of meetings, to the editor.

Tuberous Begonias in Altamont, N. Y.

By Mrs. A. Desinger

We have what we consider an ideal location for our Tuberous Begonias. Last year we did well enough with them to have the honor of having them described with emphasis on texture, size and colors on the air. Pictures were taken by out of town papers and we thought the plants were almost good enough. We planted them in boxes 1 ft. x 1 ft. x 12 inches which were placed under some Chinese Elms facing south, the leafage of the trees giving them broken sunshine and allowing enough warmth. The soil mixture we used we now know to have been too heavy in clay and lacking in drainage. This year we hope to do much better. Our soil medium will be equal thirds of 3-year-old cow manure, clay and sand. We use rain water when moisture is necessary.

Our tubers have increased in size and seem healthy which leads us to hope for some very nice results. We are planning to have colored pictures taken that we may enjoy the beauty of the flowers after the season is over.

(Editor's Note:) Please try to take some extra pictures when a chance presents itself. The American Begonia Society slides and Moving Pictures Bureau is trying to organize some illustrated lectures for the membership.

PRIMULAS: It is time to start seeds of *Primula obconica*, and *Primula malacoides*. These are cool weather plants and do not care to be pampered. The usual lathhouse conditions on the shady-side seem to be ideal. Get good seed, it takes no more effort nor time to grow, but the results are much better.

FLUORESCENT LIGHT BETTER FOR ROOTING TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

A Colorado member of the Directors Round Robin has found that tuberous begonias started in the basement under fluorescent lights rooted much better than those started in the basement window. The growth was much more compact, the foliage generally a much better color and flowering started earlier.—Frances Downing.

gardens of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Walker, 515 W. 20th St., Long Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Schimley, 310 Morningside Ave., No. Long Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Smith, 53 Home Street, North Long Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williams, 2034 Florida Ave., Miss Laura Dodge, 3031 E. 3rd St., and Miss Florence Kelly, 285 Park Ave., all of Long Beach, which was a delightful finish to the meeting for 1947. Thank you, Long Beach, and members of A. B. S. for a memorable time.

Meeting Dates and Places

The next meeting of the American Begonia Society Board will be held in the Clark Hotel
Grill Room, Hill Street, Monday, September 22nd, 6:30 p. m.

- BELLFLOWER BRANCH**
1st Monday, Sept. 1st, 7:30 p. m.
Washington Street School Cafeteria
Sec.: Mrs. Edna Leistner, 610 Nichols St.,
Bellflower, Calif.
- THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH**
1st Tuesday, Sept. 2nd, 7:30 p. m.
Alice Bartlett C. H. 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Harry Meyer, Secretary, 111 Leighton Dr.
- SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**
1st Wednesday, Sept. 3rd, 7:45 p. m.
American Legion Hall, 1641 Taraval St.
Sec.: Mrs. Walter Ashe.
1855 - 33rd Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.
- SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH**
1st Wednesday, Sept. 3rd, 7:30 p. m.
University High School Horticulture Dept.
11800 Texas Ave., West Los Angeles
Mrs. Denman Bemus, Secy.-Treas.
345 So. Santa Anita Ave.
Brentwood, Los Angeles 24, Calif.
- ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH**
1st Thursday, Sept. 4th, 7:30 p. m.
Farm Bureau Hall, 353 So. Main St., Orange.
Doris Burdick, Sec.-Treas., Rt. 4, Box 296,
Anaheim, Calif.
- FOOTHILL BRANCH**
1st Friday, Sept. 5th, 8 p. m.
Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa.
Mrs. James M. Reed, Secretary
643 No. Wabash Ave., Glendora, Calif.
- LA MESA BRANCH**
2nd Monday, Sept. 8th, 8 p. m.
La Mesa Grammar School, La Mesa, Calif.
Sec.-Treas.: Dr. Constance Holmes
133 Prescott, El Cajon, Calif.
- NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH**
2nd Monday, Sept. 8th, 7:30 p. m.
HOUGHTON PARK CLUB HOUSE,
HARDING & ATLANTIC, NO. LONG BEACH
Mrs. Harry H. Boyd, 5670 Walnut Ave.
Long Beach 5, Calif.
- HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH**
2nd Monday, Sept. 8th, 6:30 p. m.
Lanes Memorial Hall, 1st Christian Church
Sec.-Treas.: Dorothy Lark
Box 16, Scotia, Calif.
- PASADENA BRANCH**
2nd Tuesday, Sept. 9th, 7:30 p. m.
Pasadena Public Library
Lester F. Harrell, Sec.-Treas.
668 Bellefontaine St., Pasadena, Calif.
- RIVERSIDE BRANCH**
2nd Wednesday, Sept. 10th, 8 p. m.
Mrs. T. W. Gall, Sec.-Treas.
4518 Bandini Ave., Riverside, Calif.
- HOLLYWOOD BRANCH**
2nd Thursday, Sept. 11th, 7:30 p. m.
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Mrs. Vera Lynde, Rec. Sec.
1030 N. Orange Grove Ave.
Los Angeles 46, Calif.
- SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**
2nd Thursday, Sept. 11th, 7:30 p. m.
Community Institute Centre
Room 5, 914 Santa Barbara St.
Santa Barbara, Calif.
Mrs. E. H. Mercer, Secretary
2019 Bath St., Santa Barbara, Calif.
- CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS BRANCH**
2nd Friday, Sept. 12th, 7:30 p. m.
Members' Homes
Mrs. Esther L. Randall, Sec., 3638 Cerritos Ave.
Long Beach 7, Calif.
- SEQUOIA BRANCH**
2nd Friday, Sept. 12th, 8 p. m.
Members' Homes
Mrs. Albert Lowery, Secretary
620 W. Grove St., Visalia, Calif.
- INGLEWOOD BRANCH**
2nd Friday, Sept. 12th, 8 p. m.
325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Laura Crandall, Secretary
2730 Redondo Blvd., Los Angeles 16, Calif.
- NEW YORK SUBURBAN BRANCH**
2nd Sunday, September 14th, 1947,
Parish House, St. John's Episcopal Church
Colonial Heights, Tuckahoe, N. Y.
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Norman Hedley
71 Willard Terrace, Stamford, Conn.
- PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH**
Irregular Meetings
May T. Drew, Pres.
Box 331, Narbeth, Pa.
- EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH**
3rd Monday, Sept. 15th
Community House, LaJolla
Tillie Genter, Sec.-Treas.
7356 Eads St., LaJolla, Calif.
- SO. ALAMEDA CO. BRANCH**
3rd Thursday, Sept. 18th, 8 p. m.
Scout Room, Markham School, Hayward, Calif.
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss
26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.
- SAN DIEGO BRANCH**
4th Monday, Sept. 22
Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave.
Mrs. A. P. Carlton, Sec.-Treas.
624 Arroyo Dr., San Diego, Calif.
- MISSOURI BRANCH**
4th Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2 p. m.
Mrs. Bruce Dill, Secretary
3715 Harrison, Kansas City, Mo.
- MIAMI, FLORIDA, BRANCH**
4th Tuesday, Sept. 23, 8 p. m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Mrs. W. G. Coffeen
1742 S. W. 10th St., Miami 35, Fla.
- WHITTIER BRANCH**
4th Tuesday, Sept. 23rd, 8 p. m.
Union High School, Room 19
Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.
Madeleine Hall, Secretary
509 Friends Ave., Whittier, Calif.
- EAST BAY BRANCH**
4th Tuesday, Sept. 23rd, 7:30 p. m.
Council Chambers, Berkeley City Hall
Mrs. Emma Carlton, Secretary-Treas.
1430 Oxford St., Berkeley 9, Calif.
- MARGARET GRUENBAUM BRANCH**
Mrs. W. E. Jones, Sec., Willow Grove, Pa.
- GLENDALE BRANCH**
4th Tuesday, Sept. 23rd, 8 p. m.
329 No. Brand Blvd., Glendale, Calif.
Charles Richardson, Secretary
1441 Fairfield, Glendale 1, Calif.
- SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**
4th Wednesday, Sept. 24th, 8 p. m.
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.
Mrs. Myrtle Jones, Secretary
132 May Ave., Monrovia, Calif.
- SANTA PAULA BRANCH**
4th Thursday, Sept. 25th, 7:30 p. m.
Memorial Hall High School
Mrs. C. F. Crang
907 Pleasant St., Santa Paula, Calif.
- LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER**
Last Thursday, Sept. 25th, 8 p. m.
Robert Louis Stevenson School, 5th and Atlantic
Cafeteria, Lime St. Entrance, Long Beach, Calif.
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. E. G. Arbuckle
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park, Calif.
- SANTA MARIA BRANCH**
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Peter Mehlschau
Nipomo, Calif.
- NEW ENGLAND BRANCH**
Mrs. M. W. Stewart
224 Armington St., Edgewood, R. I.
- ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH**
4th Friday, Sept. 26th, 7:30 p. m.
Loma Portal School
3341 Browning St., San Diego, Calif.
Mrs. J. P. Stibolt, Secretary
3738 Wawona Drive
San Diego 7, California

POSTMASTER
PLEASE NOTIFY ROY K. DERE
1618 FICKEWIRTH AVE.
EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA
OF ALL CHANGES
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

BEGONIAS, FERNS, DISH-GARDENS,
FUCHSIAS and allied garden needs
NICOL SHADE GARDENS

Open Sunday by App. Phone Torrey 7-4500
1035 So. Ardmore Bellflower, California

Palos Verdes **BEGONIA FARM**

4024 Pacific Coast Hi-Way
WALTERIA, CALIFORNIA

All Types of
BEGONIAS and SHADE PLANTS
Specialty: HYBRID NERINES

1½ miles E. of Redondo Beach, Hiway 101

BEGONIAS

SEND FOR PRICE LIST

We are again equipped to ship plants

GOBIN'S NURSERY
Rt. 2, Box 117, Paradise, California

CALIFORNIA Liquid Fertilizer

A PLANT FOOD OF QUALITY

8-8-4 Promotes General Growth
2-10-10 (Acid Food) Develops Fruits
and Flowers

Acidate, Corrects Alkalinity
Plant foods so potent that one teaspoonful
in a quart of water feeds your plant for
a month

For sale at all nurseries and garden
supply dealers



Manufactured by the
California Liquid Fertilizer Co.
34 Pico Street, Pasadena 2, Calif.

For Beautiful Gardens
PLANT AGGELER & MUSSER SEEDS

AGGELER & MUSSER Packet Seeds are the products of over a half century of beautiful gardens.

Let A & M SEEDS make this year's garden the best you've had.

Buy them with confidence.

AT YOUR LOCAL DEALER

AGGELER & MUSSER
SEED COMPANY
652 MATEO STREET, LOS ANGELES, 21, CALIF.

"3" in "1"

ACIDINE

A "MUST" FOR ACID LOVING PLANTS

Begonias	Camellias
Fuchsias	Gardenias

- 1 ACIDINE—Overcomes soil alkalinity and lowers the pH to a point within the optimum range of acid loving plants.
- 2 ACIDINE — Loosens the soil and makes plant foods available to the feeder rootlets.
- 3 ACIDINE — Kills snails and slugs on contact and is non-injurious to children or pets.

CONDITION YOUR SOILS NOW FOR FALL PLANTING

AVAILABLE AT LEADING SUPPLY DEALERS

Inquiries and Information Requests Invited

ACIDINE, 2240 Temple Street, L. A. 26, Calif.

Free Sample to Garden Suppliers