

The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

MARCH 1959

PRICE 25 CENTS

VOLUME XXVI, NUMBER 3



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General Offices, Dues, Address Changes or Magazines:

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Annual Subscription, \$2.50. Branch members pay dues to branch. Foreign rate, including Canada \$3.00. Air mail rate within U. S. \$4.50.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Torrance, California, under the act of March 3, 1879.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be: to promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants; to encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants; to standardize the nomenclature of begonias; to gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and companion plants; to issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and to bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

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Nomenclature and Registration Department

By EDNA L. KORTS

THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY wishes to invite all hybridizers and growers of begonia cultivars to register their new plants with our registration department. Lists of new begonia cultivars will be published regularly in *The Begonian* and supplements of our Buxton check list of begonia names will be published once a year.

This registration is free to all growers and cards will be furnished upon request to this department.

Through this registration and publication service the new names of your plants will be recognized internationally and be made available to the trade.

There are many beautiful begonias not registered and not available. Due to this oversight on the part of the growers, their plants cannot be considered for the Robinson Medal given by the A. B. S. each year for the best begonia. This is the highest award any begonia may win, and is only awarded after five years of study and testing.

All begonia cultivars must be named according to the provisions of the International Code of Nomenclature. A condensed version of the Code, received from Dr. George H. M. Lawrence of Cornell University, follows.

THE NEW CODE OF NOMENCLATURE

The new International Code of Nomenclature for cultivated plants was first published in February, 1958. It is a code designed to produce uniform practices throughout the world in the naming of all cultivars—whether of ornamental plants, vegetables, field crops and cereals, or of forest trees. It applies to cultivars, and hybrid groups from which they

may be selected, such as rose 'Peace,' *Lilium* 'Golden Sunset,' or the 'Worden' grape. It does not apply to scientific names of species or botanical varieties, such as *Lilium regale* or the Black Hills spruce *Picea glauca* var. *densata*—for these the directions of the Code of Botanical Nomenclature must be used.

The new code was authorized by an International Commission composed of eight persons each for agriculture, forestry, and horticulture. It is in effect now. It is being submitted for endorsement to the three international congresses or organizations representing those interests, but its usage is not contingent on their approval or authorization, since they nominated their representatives for the commission and the International Union of Biological Sciences appointed them and empowered them to do the job.

What is new in the code? Does it effect current activities of the special plant societies? What, in particular, should every plantsman know about it?

The present code is short. It is simpler to use than its predecessor. It is provided with a good index. While there are no changes in the basic principles of the 1953 code, several changes have been made so that it will be more acceptable to users. Among them are the following.

1. From January 1, 1959 onwards, a new cultivar name, to be legitimate under the code, must be published with a description, but before this date no description was necessary.

This means that henceforth a name will not be accepted as validly published if merely printed in a list, or if accepted in a registrar's records

(with or without a description). Both name and description must be published.

2. The term cultivar is accepted and used throughout the code, wherever the term variety was used in earlier editions. Anyone is free, however, to use the term variety if he so wishes.
3. Considerable latitude and authority are given to societies maintaining registration activities. Each registering authority should bring its activities within the framework of the code, noting that:

- a. registration is the acceptance of a cultivar name and its inclusion in a register;

- b. cultivar names may be registered only when in conformance with the code (provisional registration occurs when a new name is accepted and entered in a register; final registration takes place when it is published with a description);

- c. permission for registration of a new name must be granted by the originator (the terms *originator*, *describer*, and *introducer* are defined in Art. 54 of the code).

4. From January 1, 1959 onwards, the following directives become effective.

- a. The name of a new cultivar must be a fancy name, not one in Latin form (earlier names in Latin form are retained, however). [Art. 15]

- b. A cultivar name must be distinguished from other names, either by placing the abbreviation cv. before it or typographically (e.g., by enclosing it with single quotation marks, or by using upper case capitals). [Art. 16]

Double quotation marks must not be used to identify a cultivar name.

- c. No cultivar name may consist of more than three words (abbreviations or numerals are counted as words), and preferably of not more than two words. [Art. 20]

- d. To be acceptable, any catalog or publication containing a new cultivar name must be clearly dated, at least as to year. [Art. 25]

- e. The date of a cultivar name is that of its valid publication [Art. 30]; prior to January 1, 1959, it is that of either publication or acceptance by official registration.

- f. A name must be rejected if published without permission of the originator or introducer of the cultivar. [Art. 35]

- g. When a cultivar is introduced from another country, its original name must be used except as provision for transliteration [Art. 36] or for a commercial synonym [Art. 37] may apply.

The code is provided with an appendix covering registration of new cultivar names. It is to be noted that these are in the form of recommendations, not directives, for the guidance of registrars so that more uniform practice may result.

Article 21 of the code lists twelve conditions under which cultivar names published after January 1, 1959, will be inadmissible. These should be known by all concerned.

To the frequent question of what happens to violators of the code, the answer is, nothing. There is no enforcing agency. There are no penalties, as such. There is, however, the moral responsibility of organizations to consider the code, to determine whether they will endorse and adopt it, and whether they will ensure that its directives will be followed in their own publications and such registration activities as each may pursue. If this is done, only acceptable cultivar names, and their cultivars, should be admitted in their official shows, should be accepted in competition for any award, or should be accepted in advertising copy.

All persons actively concerned with names and naming of cultivated plants should possess and be familiar with this code. Copies are available in the U. S. A. from Dr. Donald Wyman, secretary of the American Horticultural Council, Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass. (50 cents, postpaid), or in sterling areas from the secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, London, England.



Demonstration Garden

The delightful garden setting, pictured above, by the San Gabriel Valley Branch at the Los Angeles County and State Arboretum, was set in the *Sunset* Demonstration Garden which had been planted with succulents for low maintenance. The *Pasadena Star-News* sponsored this show, under the direction of its garden editor, Dave Gillfillan, and Glenn Hiatt of the Arboretum staff. The newspaper gave wide publicity and provided the ribbons and cups. This garden setting, which was designed by Margaret Moore, flower show chairman of the San Gabriel Branch, received the blue ribbon. She also received several ribbons on displays of begonias, ferns, and flower arrangements.

The President's cup, awarded to the most spectacular exhibit carrying out the theme of the show, was awarded to Sunnyslope Gardens for its lavish display of cascading chrysanthemums. Other displays were cut chrysanthemums, new rose introductions, bonsai, naturalized gardens, orchids, flower arrangements, ferns, azaleas and commercial products. A jeep train tour of all the Arboretum was provided for the 20,000 visitors to the show.

Picture courtesy Pasadena Stars-News.

Seeds, Seedlings and Hybrids

By DON HORTON

Heterosis Begonias

A GROUP of begonias that are all too often overlooked, or relegated to the rank of "common" flowers, are the semperflorens begonias. The rank amateur gardener usually recognizes the value of this class of begonia more quickly than the more advanced shade plant specialist. He sees these not as common representatives of a large group of unusual and exotic plants, but as flowers that are easy to grow, that bloom throughout the year, and supply colorful foliage effects as well as brilliant flower color.

The past few years have seen great advances made in the development in new varieties of semperflorens begonias and begonia people are again "discovering" the value of semperflorens. Perhaps the greatest advances in repopularizing bedding begonias have been made by Mr. Ernst Benary and his heterosis begonias.

Heterosis is a scientific term describing a phenomenon commonly called "hybrid vigor." It is a fact that when two different pure bred species are crossed the resultant offspring grow with a vigor that cannot be accounted for in the genes of either parent. This first generation is spoken of as the F₁ generation and when the seeds of the first generation are planted the next generation is called the F₂ generation and so on.

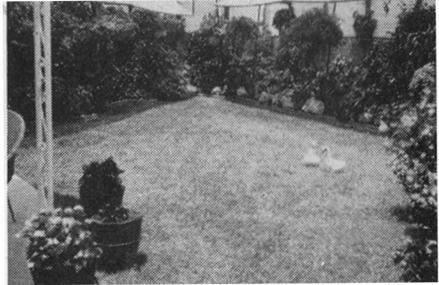
When the two different pure bred parents are crossed all of the offspring (F₁ generation) will be the same as one another because each has the same genetic make up. Their offspring (the F₂ generation) will not be uniform.

Vigor and uniformity are what characterize Mr. Benary's heterosis begonias. The Seed Fund is offering five varieties of these famous semperflorens this month and this is a wonderful opportunity.

B. 'Sleeping Beauty' has a dark rose flower; 'Lucifer' has extremely dark fo-

liage and scarlet flowers; 'Red Thousand Wonders' has red flowers; 'Pink Profusion,' pink flowers; and his famous 'Organdy' group is composed of ten different varieties of plants growing with the same habit but with flower colors from white to red in a formula mixture.

The heterosis semperflorens seeds are easy to grow. You can employ the sealed jar method as with more difficult begonias, or you can sow them on the surface of the soil mix in a pot or flat and cover with glass for protection. They germinate readily and grow quite rapidly. Prick them out of their seeding medium when they are large enough to handle and transplant them into a flat. When they are three or four inches high, move them into the garden spacing them about a foot apart in a mass planting.



*Backyard where John potters and pots.
Picture by Stan Spaulding.*

B. 'IRON CROSS' FROM CUTTINGS

I USED brown sphagnum moss, wet, which I put in a regular clay pot. After placing both wedges and leaf cuttings, I covered the pot with glass. The planting "took" almost 90 per cent. This was done at the end of August. Now, five months later, I have three- and four-leaved plants ready to pot individually. I owe my knowledge of this successful method to Marie Turner, well-known hybridist and member of A.B.S.

JOHN THIEBEN

Begonias, the Hirsute Group

By MRS. ERNEST C. DREW

(This is the first of a series of programs on the Hirsute Group to be given by Mrs. Drew to the William Penn Branch, A.B.S.)

Before undertaking treatment of the highly confused Hirsute Group of begonias, I want to use a little time to remind you of the bases of the classification of plants. Plants are classified by their methods of reproduction. Hence, the first division is between plants that reproduce by flowers and seeds and those that reproduce by other methods. Since we know that begonias have flowers and make seeds, we can by-pass the "other methods." Of these, the subdivisions are (1) plants with seeds not enclosed in an ovary, (2) plants with seeds enclosed in an ovary. Begonias produce seedpods (ovaries), so we can forget the less protected kinds. Plants with ovaries are divided into two classes: (1) those that send up a single first, or seed, leaf (cotyledon), such as corn, lilies, etc., (2) those that send up two seed leaves. Tiny as newly germinated begonias are, the two cotyledons are plain to see.

Both classes are divided into families. Our family is Begoniaceae, characterized by clusters bearing male and female organs in separate flowers. The petals are not united. The ovaries are inferior in position (under the petals), usually three celled and winged. There are three stigmas, often bent or twisted. There are usually many stamens. (Begonias are so varied that every descriptive statement must be qualified).

In this family some five genera are recognized, but only one genus, *Begonia*, is in general cultivation. According to Bailey, *begonia* is "distinguished

largely by the number, position and distinctness of the perianth parts and attachment of the ovary."

The genera are further divided into species and man has recombined the many begonia species into numberless horticultural varieties, or cultivars.

The genus *Begonia* is so varied that no horticultural classification familiar to me is fully satisfactory. I understand that Klotzsch, to whose Sections Mr. Ziesenhenné refers in his descriptions establishing new species, based his classification on the inner structure of the ovary, a botanical basis. For most of us, some more easily observed characters must be used. The old grouping of tuberous, rhizomatous, and fibrous rooted is simplest, though some are puzzled even here, saying, "But they all have fibrous roots." The reply is, "Yes, but some have other structures, under or near the surface of the ground, that distinguish them." Both Mrs. Buxton and Mrs. Krauss, in their books on begonias, made further classifications. Most of us accept Mrs. Krauss' groups.

Let me say parenthetically that no one need accept any one classification. He (including she) may make his own, publish it, and try to get it generally adopted, but, if he accepts someone's classes, he has to stick to them in detail and not arbitrarily reassign various plants privately.

As you know, Mrs. Krauss set the Rex apart from the Rhizomatous group, where the earlier ones belonged. She also divided the Fibrous Rooted kinds as Cane Stemmed, Hirsute, *Semperflorens Cultorum*, and had a multitude left over in Miscellaneous. These three separate groups are distinguished, not only by certain physiological characteristics, but by ancestry. That is, only the offspring

of certain species are assembled in a group, something too often forgotten.

After this overlong preface, we come to today's subject: the basic species of the Hirsute group. Again I have to generalize a little. Too few people remember the first sentences of this chapter, in which Mrs. Krauss states the restriction that here "hirsute" does not include all begonias with hairy leaves. It refers only to the kinds with bearded flowers, some of which have leaves smooth and shiny. There are eight basic species. Of these *B. scharffi*, *B. scharffiana*, and *B. metallica* have been most used in producing new kinds: *B. echinosepala*, *B. angularis*, and *B. sanguinea* somewhat less; and *B. luxurians* and *B. gigantea* very little.

B. scharffi, sometimes called *B. haageana*, is one of my favorite begonias, one I find most easy to grow. It makes a bushy plant, many stems from the ground, many small close set branches, slow growing, rarely getting oversize. All parts are hairy, soft and white on stems, petioles, and mature leaves, rosy pink on new leaves and the outer surfaces of petals and ovaries. Indeed, the small, unfolding leaves are more delicately lovely than the flowers. Though the upper surface of the leaves is green, the whole aspect of the plant, seen against the light, is rosy, colored by the under surface of the leaves, especially the darker veins. The fully developed leaves are soft in texture, ovate in shape, narrowing gradually to a point, sometimes elongated almost like a tail. They vary greatly in detail, some rounder, some shallowly lobed at one side in different patterns, which have led to the separation of numerous named varieties, which I find impossible to identify. The flower clusters, sometimes spectacular in size and coloring, may appear at any season, or not at all, contrary to most of the members of this Group, which bloom regularly in late Summer or early Fall. *Scharffi* likes Winter sun and looks pale without it, but burns easily in Summer, even in an east exposure. Its one abomination is wet feet. It must be kept dry, especially in August and September. Un-

fortunately, it shows its distress by wilting, a symptom that leaves one wondering whether to water or not.

B. scharffiana, which once gave its name to the whole group, is a less familiar, because a less easy subject, at least here in the vicinity of Philadelphia. One is proud just to keep a plant of it alive for two years, without expecting it to thrive. It is less colorful than *scharffi*, though the dark green leaves are solid dark red below. The whole plant is covered with soft, short, white hairs, which give it a downy appearance, though, in fact, the leaves have more substance than those of *scharffi*. Their shape is more nearly round, abruptly pointed, and have overlapping lobes, a character that often helps identify its descendants. The stems tend to droop, another character inherited by some of its many offspring, though others are tall and strong stemmed. I have never seen it in bloom. Mrs. Krauss describes the flowers as small and pale pink. This is said to be difficult to propagate, which may account for the high price charged for a small plant.

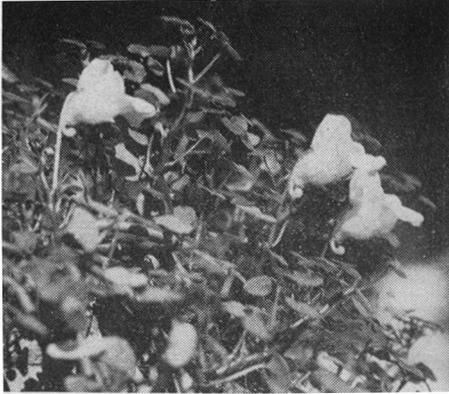
B. metallica lives up to its name by producing glistening, dark green leaves, with few hairs above and more below, where the veins make a strong pattern in red so dark as to approach purple. A leaf just emerging from its budsheath may gleam like a ruby. The mature leaves are very onesided and have one, two or more pointed lobes on the larger side, in various patterns, no two alike. This is a less busy plant, with slender stems marked by red bands, at the nodes. It is not a difficult plant, though it looks delicate, nor is it hard to increase from stem cuttings.

Our next species, *B. echinosepala*, is a changeling. For years this name was borne by a begonia suggestive of *B. metallica*, but with smaller more trimly ovate, cupped leaves. In February, 1957, *The Begonian* published an article, illustrated by a photograph of an herbarium specimen of quite a different plant which the author, E. Irmscher, insists is the true *B. echinosepala*. In Sep-

(Continued on Page 65)

The Creeping Jewelweed

By DR. GEORGES M. MOREL



Impatiens repens

The yellow flowered Jewelweed *Impatiens fulva* and *I. pallida* common in the woods from Florida to Newfoundland, are familiar to those who live in the East. Their capsules, which explode so violently on being touched, have earned for the plants the sobriquet of Touchmenots. In the early morning, when the dew is still on them, the drooping waxy leaves are edged with tiny drops of water glistening like jewels (hence the name Jewelweeds).

Looking through that magnificent publication, the "Flore des Serres et Jardins de l' Europe," published during the last century by L. Van Houtte, the great Belgian horticulturist, I ran into a colored picture of a very strange member of this family: the *Impatiens repens* Moon. It had slender, procumbent, branched stems of a purplish color, small cordate leaves and large golden yellow flowers, slightly hairy. The plant was introduced from Ceylon more than hundred years ago, in 1848 and, like many other beautiful plants, had disappeared from our gardens. A few years ago, I was fortunate enough to introduce it again. The tiny yellow seeds that I got germinated readily. The stem branched quickly; the plant grew first slowly, but, soon, produced long slender stems more than three feet long, hanging from the

basket. It was planted in pure leaf mold.

Less than three months after the germination, flower buds were formed and in a few days the large golden flowers opened.

This *Impatiens* is a big eater; it has to be planted in a large container, in rich soil, like leaf mold with old manure and some bone meal. Even so, the soil becomes quickly exhausted and it is necessary to prepare new baskets each year, with young plants. The seed pods are very rare in cultivation and are formed only after hand pollinisation. But, as with all the *Impatiens*, propagation by cuttings is very easy.

COVER STORY

B. haageana W. Watson

A REAL confusion reigns on the subject of this species which so many writers confuse with *B. scharffiana* Regel. The two plants are, however, clearly different. In 1887 seeds of these two species were sent from Brazil, by Dr. Scharff, to Haage and Schmidt of Erfurt. Part of these seeds were also sent to Dr. Regel at St. Petersburg; some to Kew Gardens. Regel gave the name *B. scharffiana*. Dr. Hooker wrote on this subject in the Botanical Magazine, and Messrs. Haage and Schmidt informed him that with the seeds from which grew the plant shown herewith, *B. haageana*, would be found seeds of two other species or varieties. Of the three plants obtained, one is very beautiful, of compact habit, becoming (16" to 20") tall, another three to three and one-half feet tall, with flowers smaller, but without pollen. The third has the appearance of the first, but is smaller and drooping (*Gartenflora* 1888, Page 127). Hooker described another under the name *B. scharffi*.

A little later it was established that these two plants were different and, to avoid any confusion, Kew decided that *B. scharffi* Hook should henceforth be called *B. haageana* W. Watson.

BERT SLATTER

Care and Feeding of 'Birds'

By ROSANNA HORTON

A SCOTCHMAN returning from South Africa in 1770 brought back a feathery blue and orange flowered plant, which he introduced to Kew Gardens in England. This was named in honor of King George III's wife's family, Strelitz, and even today is known as *Strelitzia reginae*. Los Angeles knows it more familiarly as the Bird of Paradise, its city flower.

According to Anthony Todaro of Garden Grove, differences in the leaf of this plant as well as the flower can contribute to a fascinating collection. Todaro, who is an amateur grower, became so interested in these plants that he lathered over a considerable portion of his lot to raise them. He also became so enthusiastic that he ventured to make his first public speech, sharing his experiences at a recent meeting of the Orange County branch in Garden Grove Grange Hall.

It will be noted that even high-priced bouquets of the "Birds" will feature leaves of the plants along with the flowers. The true *Reginae* leaf blade is 3 inches wide, from 9 inches to a foot long, on a leaf stem from 3 to 5 feet long. Other varieties have strikingly larger leaves, or leaves with a short blade on a long stalk.

The flowers of some varieties may have a red throat, or may combine blue and yellow rather than blue and orange.

Whereas the *Regina* develops into a rounded, moderate-sized plant, its big brother, the *Strelitzia nicolai*, may grow to 30 feet. It tends to be one-sided, with the leaves growing in a single plane. The leaves are large and more banana-like. The flowers are white with a pale blue tongue.

In between in size is the *Strelitzia augusta*, which grows to 18 feet and has an all-white flower, also birdlike in form.

Seeds of the South African plants also share the exotic appearance, being brilliant orange and black. They have an oily surface, suitable for floating on water.

The smaller *Reginae* plants must be planted where they will get at least half-day sun. By planting next to the house you can assure more protection due to the radiation of heat from the walls.

Nicolai can go anywhere in the yard because they get tall enough to receive sun.

Todaro states that the *Reginae* may also be planted in containers, which can be wheeled in or out, depending upon the warmth. He disapproves of planting in containers because this means the plant does not get as big, and he cherishes large specimen plants. For this same reason he does not encourage dividing plants, but if you must, he suggests waiting until late spring or early summer when the weather warms up. They should be planted high with the crown on top of the ground so that water does not collect on the crown and rot it.

Soil conditions do not seem to matter, as they thrive in sand, adobe, even gravel if given fertilizer and watered thoroughly twice a week.

"Birds like to have their foliage washed off. They are heavy eaters, like a puppy. I give mine a good organic fertilizer—chicken—or blood and bonemeal once every two months. You should not feed when frost threatens, or it will nip off new growth."

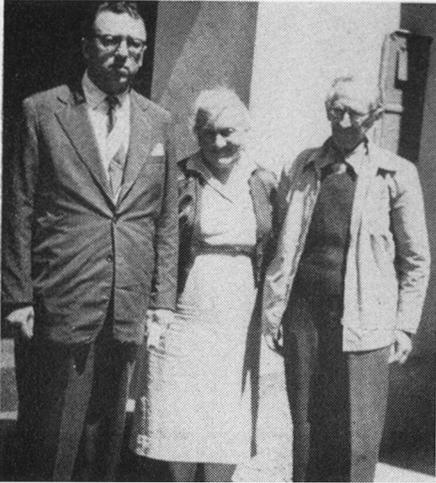
Todaro described pollinating birds of paradise, which he does from February to May. The resulting seeds he plants in a mixture that has been sterilized with rootone or other fungicide. He keeps the baby seeds warm with a soil cable, and then later plants in quart juice containers.

Todaro showed a wide acquaintance with palms and banana trees and was able to impart considerable information with enthusiasm and with remarkable poise for one who had never spoken in public before.

Don Horton, president, presided over the meeting, which attracted an audience of 50 persons.

Jaunt to Brazil

By SYLVIA LEATHERMAN



Left to right—Oswaldo Handro, Botanical Garden, Sao Paulo, Brazil, Mrs. Brade and Dr. Brade. Taken in front of the home of the Brades on the out-skirts of Sao Paulo.

A GREAT many experiences which I will long remember took place on my recent trip to Brazil; the trees laden with plants in the virgin rain forests, the small towns, with their typical narrow cobblestone streets, old buildings, and always the sense of cleanliness—not littered streets, but the shine of recent scrubblings. The exotic plants, the fabulous flower show, the friendliness of the people, I could go on and on enumerating these fond memories. One of my most enjoyable visits was out on the outskirts of Sao Paulo, where I spent over a half day and enjoyed a delightful lunch. This visit was made possible through the Botanical Garden at Sao Paulo. Permission was granted for the use of the truck carryall and Dr. Oswaldo Handro took us to visit with a very charming couple, Dr. and Mrs. Brade.

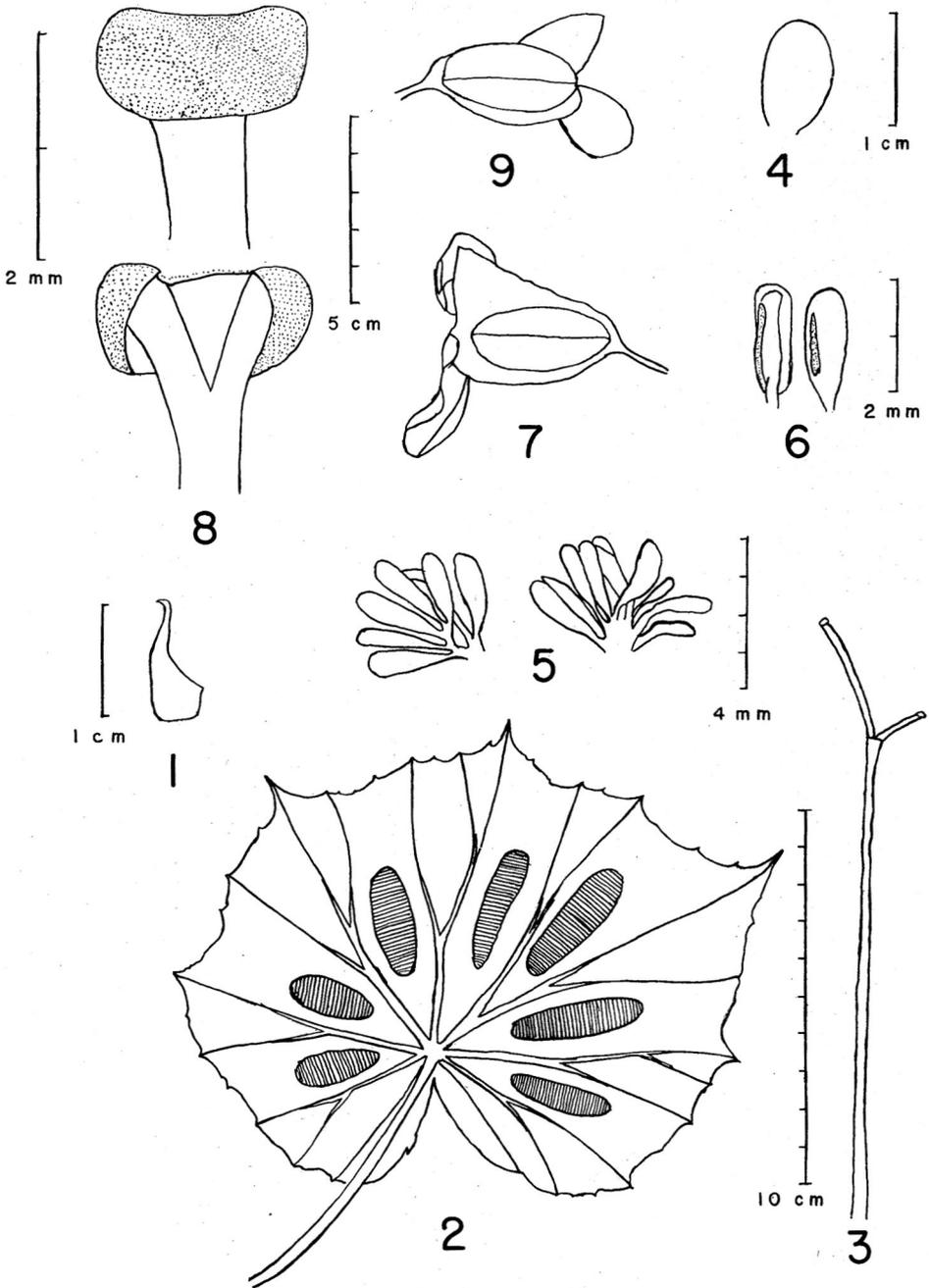
Dr. Brade received the very distinguished medal of Merito D. Joas VI for the most valuable and greatest number

of works presented by one person, classification of Brazilian Flora. This medal was created on the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Botanical Garden in Rio de Janeiro. Four medals, in all, were presented. The late F. C. Hoehne also received one of the medals.

Dr. Alexander Curt Brade was born in Germany and he received his degree, doctor of philosophy, at Marburg, Germany. When Dr. Brade was twenty seven years old he and his wife left Germany and went to Costa Rica where they lived for two years and then moved to Brazil where they have lived for forty-eight years. Dr. Brade worked in Brazil as an architect, being a graduate of that school. Dr. Brade's nephew went inland to locate grounds for Japanese immigrants to cultivate land to enable them to grow food for Brazilians. Dr. Brade was in charge of the erection of the buildings which required him to go inland. Dr. Brade fell in love with the flora of Brazil and decided to make this his life work. He has never received a diploma in botany. Dr. and Mrs. Brade never studied Portuguese and they gradually picked it up. His wife, Johanna, lovingly referred to as Hanna, has been his right hand. Dr. Brade would make trips collecting materials and would take these home and his wife prepared all of his specimens. Mrs. Brade does all of his translations.

At the age of seventy-seven, with a heart condition, Dr. Brade is retired, so I was told. However, with his love of plants he still continues with his desk work. The mention of a begonia of which I desired information immediately started the unveiling of a great many papers by Dr. Brade. His drawings are the most exquisite pieces of art I have ever seen, the original drawings magnificent. I felt very honored to have been given some of Dr. Brade's works which I brought home with me and in turn

(Continued on Page 62)



Begonia Kennedyi Zies.

Begonia Kennedyi

CONTINUING the study of Dr. Houghton's *Begonia* "types" I have been studying *B. plebeja*, Liebm. from the original description as well as a photograph of the type specimen. Fortunately, I have been growing *B. plebeja* for many years, having obtained it from San Jose, Costa Rica. There are many begonias that vaguely resemble this plant but closer study of them proves they are not this plant. The following plant is one of these which has been confused with *plebeja*.

BEGONIA (section **MAGNUSIA** [Klotzsch] A. DC., subsection **GIREOU-DIA** [Klotzsch] Wbg.) *plebeja*, Liebm., var. *Kennedyi* (Houghton) Ziesenhenne, new variety, herbaceous perennial: stem a creeping rhizome, cylindrical, 3 inches long, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter, not branching, foliage at the top; internodes about 1/16 inch long; leaf-stem scars, light brown: stipules (figure 1) remaining, papery, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch long; $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide, triangular, long pointed, terminating in a long hair, woolly hair on back: leaf-stem cylindrical, 3 inches long, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter, clothed with woolly brown hair: leaf (figure 2) above bare, medium green, irregularly oblong reddish blotches between nerves; below, light green with irregularly oblong reddish blotches between nerves, scattered hairs, nerves prominent, moderately thickly covered with long brown hairs; shortly egg-shaped, tip shortly acuminate, basal lobes rounded deeply heart-shaped, main nerves running out to short gradually tapering points, margin finely toothed with short thin hairs, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 5 inches wide, nerves 8-palmately: inflorescence (figure 3) a cyme, few-flowered, flower-stem cylindrical, 5 inches long, $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in diameter, few hairs, flower stem $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long: male flower (figure 4) petals 2, egg-shaped, blunt, $\frac{5}{16}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide, margin even, stamens (figure 5) about 12, filaments of unequal length, inserted at different levels on a raised torus, anthers (figure 6) wedge-shaped, connective protracted, $\frac{3}{32}$ inch

long, $\frac{1}{32}$ inch wide: female flower (figure 7) petals 2, elliptical $\frac{3}{8}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, styles (figure 8) 3, persistent, united $\frac{1}{16}$ inch, free $\frac{1}{16}$ inch, papillae on the tip and around the outer edge; capsule (figure 7) $\frac{9}{16}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, 3-winged, largest horizontally ascending, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long at the top of the capsule, $\frac{1}{32}$ inch long at the base, $\frac{3}{32}$ inch at pod tip; ovary oblong, blunt, $\frac{9}{16}$ inch long, $\frac{3}{16}$ inch wide, 3-celled, placenta 2-divided with seeds on both sides.

Old Panama. Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Rose, No. 19809 over written No. 18508. June 1914, United States National Herbarium No. 761196. Paratype: Old Panama. Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Rose No. 18508 June 1914. New York Botanical Garden. Most of the leaves are so shriveled that they are not typical of the shape. The leaf in the upper right hand corner is typical of the species.

Another sheet in the New York Botanical Garden marked *B. kennedyi* by Dr. Houghton, I do not consider to be this species. It has the same collection number. Panama, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Rose. June 1914. No. 18508.

Begonia kennedyi is listed as a variety of *B. plebeja*, Liebm. because the flowers are almost identical. However, variety *kennedyi* differs from *B. plebeja* by its petals being elliptical instead of round; the largest wing quite often arises from the middle of the length of the pod (figure 9); the filaments are inserted at different levels on a raised torus; the leaf is much wider and the basal lobes are more prominent; the petioles and peduncles are less rangy; the leaf at the tip ends less abruptly and the veins terminate into longer lobes on the leaf margin; the margin is much more finely toothed; the stipules are narrower and longer pointed with only a short fine hair protruding.

Kennedyi is easily distinguished from *B. uvana* C. DC. by its finer teeth on the margin and by its larger marginal lobes.

The seed pod of *wvana* is much shorter and rounder. The largest wing does not ascend as *kennedyi's* does.

The plant is named after Prof. P. B. Kennedy, agrostologist of the University of California, by Dr. Houghton in gratitude for his work in this family.

Dr. Arthur D. Houghton in his thesis "The Begoniaceae of North America" proposed a variety of this plant which he called variety *costaricensis*. His *costaricensis* is really *B. plebeja*, Liebm. In the thesis *B. kennedyi* was listed as number 127 with *costaricensis* as number 127a.

The plant No. 125 described as *B. spicara* I am now positive is a species distinct from *plebeja*, Liebm.

BEGONIA (section **MAGNUSIA** [Klotzsch] A. DC., subsection **GIROUDIA** [Klotzsch] Wbg.) *plebeja* Liebm., var. *Kennedyi* (Houghton) Ziesenhenné, var. nov. Herba perennis: rhizomate repente, cylindrico, 7.5 cm. longo, .95 cm. crasso, haud ramoso, apice foliato; internodiis ca. 2 mm. longis, cicatricibus hepaticis; stipulis persistentibus, papyraceis, 9.5 mm. longis, 6.15 mm. latis, longe triangulatis, apice piliferis, extus hepaticis lanatis, carinatis: petiolis teretibus, 7.6 longis, .35 cm. diametro, hepaticis lanatis: foliis supra nitidis, viridibus, inter nervos maculis solitarris oblongis rubris obsitis; subtus dilutebus viridi, aequaliter maculatis, modice hepaticolanatis, nervis densis hepaticis modice lanatis instrectis; ovatis abrupte, acuminatis, lobis basilaribus rotundatis oblique condatis, in nervorum terminis grosse acuminato-dentatis; marginibus denticulatis et ciliatis, 16.5 cm. longis, 12.7 cm. latis; nervis 8 palmatim dispositis: inflorescentia cymosa, pauciflora, pedunculis axillaribus, teretibus circiter 12.7 cm. longis, circiter 2 mm. crassis, sparsim hepaticolanatis; pedicellis 3 mm. longis; tepalis masculinis 2, albis, glabris, obovatis,

BEGONIA VERSICOLOR (Fairy Carpet); B. CRISPULA; B. VELLOZOANE BRADE; B. FOREST OF VAUX; CANE BEGONIAS (Old and New); RARE AND UNUSUAL HOUSEPLANTS

CATALOGUE 25c

TROPICAL PARADISE

3810 Bales Avenue, Kansas City 28, Missouri

obtusis, 8 mm. longis, 6.5 mm. latis; staminibus 12, filamentis inaequilongis 0.8-1.2 mm. longis, in toro convexo vix insertis sublatis toris; antheris oblongo-cuneatis, obtusis, 1.75 mm. longis, 1 mm. latis, connectivo producto; tepalis femineis 2, albis, oblongis, 1 cm. longis, .65 cm. latis; stylis 3, 2 mm. longis basi connatis, parte libera 2 mm. longis, apice lunulato-bilobis, stigmatibus marginalibus fere capitatis, persistentibus; capsula 1.43 cm. longa, 1.28 cm. lata, inaequaliter triangulari, ala maxima margine superiore ascendente, erosa, 6.5 mm. longa, basi 1 mm., reliquis costiformibus angustissimis: ovario oblongo obtuso 1.42 cm. longo, .48 cm. lato, 3-loculato; placentis bilamellatis, unidique ovuliferis.

—B—

Jaunt to Brazil . . .

(Continued From Page 59)

I have given copies of these to the American Begonia Society's library.

Dr. and Mrs. Brade do not speak English and therefore this information was translated for me. I am deeply indebted to my friends Ethne McGehee and Peggy Pollard for their help in translating while I was in Brazil.

This is such a small tribute for a man that has done so much with begonias and other plants. I only wish each and every one could meet this charming couple and I hope in the future it will be possible for some of Dr. Brade's works to be used in *The Begonian*.



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Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

B. cathayana (Hemsley)—China. The aristocrat and most beautiful of all begonias, but unfortunately requires almost constant greenhouse conditions. Although sometimes grouped with rex begonias, it is erect to 2 feet high with fleshy stems covered with soft crimson and white hairs. The leaves are emerald-green velvet with a silvery green zone, wine veined, with colors reversed beneath to ruby velvet, green-veined and zoned. Flowers salmon-orange. Seed sent to seed fund by a plant specialist in France. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

It would be a very pleasant experience to own a plant of the above but frankly it is not for those who can not provide proper growing conditions. Considered a collector's item.

Our good friend Mr. Ernst Benary (Germany) has furnished seed of his own introductions and we can think of no better way to enhance the beauty of your garden this summer than to start these seed now. We have grown most of them the past few years and can highly recommend them for durability and color. They are F1 hybrid strain and for absolute uniformity they are unexcelled, and their hybrid vigor makes them better adapted to outdoor bedding than some of the older varieties. See story by Don Horton.

No. 1 B. semperflorens heterosis Lucifer—Brilliant scarlet flowers with deep, bronzy foliage. Good outdoor plant almost everblooming. 25c per pkt.

No. 2 B. semp. het. 'Organdy'—(New) An excellent mixture of F1 hybrids in shades of red, pink and white. Plants are uniform and well adapted for outdoors. 25c per pkt.

No. 3 B. semp. het. Pink Profusion. A vigorous, dense grower with many coral-pink flowers, green leaves with red veins. Did exceptionally well in our door trial gardens exposed to full sun and high temperatures. 25c per pkt.

No. 4 B. semp. het. 'Sleeping Beauty'—Small growing with great masses of pink flowers. 25c per pkt.

No. 5 B. semp. het. Tausendschon Red—Long time favorite, small growing, clear red flowers. 25c per pkt.

No. 6 B. semp. het. Tausendschon

Pink—Dwarf, bright pink. 25c per pkt. Packets will be generous as we are in the happy position of having ample supply of seed.

Listed below are seed of the prolific and colorful multiflora begonias—also from Mr. Benary. Being free flowering they make a blaze of color, whether as an outdoor bedding plant or in the greenhouse, holding their flowers better than some of the larger types and will stand a few days in the house as a cut flower. With the exception of the semperflorens groups they will stand more sunshine than any other begonia. They are cultivated in the same manner as the other tuberous hybrids but with less effort.

Friends who have travelled through Belgium and Switzerland have remarked of seeing pots of multiflora begonias for sale at road side stands along the highway and were impressed by the great number of flowers borne on one plant. There is still plenty of time to grow plants for your summer time enjoyment.

B. multiflora, Mme. Helene Harms—Soft canary yellow—Generous pkts. 25c

B. multiflora, Tasso—Pink. 25c per pkt.

B. multiflora, Wilhelm Eysser—Fiery red. 25c per pkt.

MISCELLANEOUS BEGONIAS

B. Rex. Seed from a collection of beautiful plants (U.S.). 50c per pkt.

B. Fleecealba—A hybrid by Florence Knock. A.B.S. No. 2. 25c per pkt.

B. Dominican species No. 18—Small white flowers with maroon centers. 25c per pkt.

B. Colombia species No. 17—Good begonia, small leaves similar to *B. foliosa*, white flowers tinged with red. 25c per pkt.

B. Brazil species—Red and pink mixed and described by the collector as having copper colored leaves and red stems. Will have proper identification later. 25c per pkt.

B. Sarabelle—Small, erect with small leaves silver spotted, red flushed beneath flowers white, tinged pink. Distinctive. 25c per pkt.

B. semperflorens gracilis Martiana—Pink flowered variety, requires shady location. 25c per pkt.

B. semperflorens Salmon Queen — Salmon-red flowers and dark foliage. 25c per pkt.

B. small cane type—All varieties previously offered. 25c per pkt.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

Umbellata Texa—**Gesneriaceae** — Orange-scarlet flowers, excellent pot plant. 25c per pkt.

Episcia dianthiflora — Mexico. Small, elliptic, dark green leaves and flowers which are white, without markings, or only faint purple spots inside, and distinguished by ciliate or deeply fringed margins on corolla lobes. 35c per pkt.

Impatiens repens—See story by Dr. Morel. In order to produce seed, blooms must be pollinated by hand. We would appreciate it if some one would do this so that we may have seed for distribution. 25c per small pkt.

Choice gloxinia seed from Holland. Names listed as they appeared on packages:

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora — **Gierths Blue**. Med to velvety purple blue with flexible leaves. 25c per pkt.

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora — **Gierths Red**. Scarlet red with flexible leaves. 25c per pkt.

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora—**Gratulation**. Most popular commercially. 25c per pkt.

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora Anja Egels —Very large scarlet with flexible soft leaves. 25c per pkt.

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora Symponie en Rose. 25c per pkt.

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora—**Subliem**. 25c per pkt.

Gloxinia hybr. grandiflora — **Schweizerland**. 25c per pkt.

Allophyton mexicanum (Tetranema) 'Mexican Foxglove'—Long, ovate dark green leaves, purplish stalks with clusters of sweet, little nodding, trumpet shape flowers, orchid colored with large, lobed, whitish lip and purple-violet throat. 25c per pkt.

Clivia Belgian hybrids — Aristocrats of the amaryllis family. Handsome plant with wide, dark green strap leaves and huge cluster of orange-red flowers borne on tall, stiff stalks. Requires deep shade if grown outside. 2 seed for 25c.

Rohdea japonica (Japan China) Durable plant with thick rhizome. Basal, thick leathery leaves; flowers white, aroid-like;

fruit a red berry in clusters. Good house plant. 4 seed for 25c.

OTHER GENERA

Halesia carolina—Silverbell or snow drop tree. Handsome small tree admired for their profusion of white flowers in the spring. They prefer sheltered sites, rich, well drained soil. Seed are hard and should be stratified before planting. 25c per pkt.

Ixora coccinea — (East Indies) Evergreen shrub, grown outdoors in mild climates, can be used as a greenhouse plant elsewhere. Leathery leaves, clusters of dark scarlet, tubular flowers with spreading lobes. 25c per pkt.

Morea angusta—**Iridaceae**—South Africa. Narrow leaves, iris-like flowers with spreading yellow petals. 25c per pkt.

Eriocereus martini — **Cactaceae** — Large white flowers tinged with pink. 25c per pkt.

If any one has an extra copy of *The Begonian* for **December 1938** — please contact the seed fund.

In answer to many queries we have received we would like to state that it is impossible for us to identify plants grown from seed sent to new members by the Membership Secretary. The Waltons have various sources for seed used for this purpose therefore it would be impossible to know the type of seed sent out by them.

We are very pleased to have so many favorable reports from members who received seed of *B. Iron Cross*. Two reported perfect germination and many have from five to nine plants.

The following is taken from a letter that came to us from New Zealand:

"I have many nice seedlings from the seed you have sent me, the German rex yielded such a lot of tiny plants but are too small at present to determine color. Have many plants from the rhizomatous seed, some have beautiful shapes and markings. I would like you to know how much I have appreciated all the seed you have sent and of the pleasure I have had in going out every day to see something new spring up. We have very few begonias here in New Zealand and every one is green with envy over my beautiful plants."

We though it would be nice to share this bit of news from N.Z. with you.

The frustrations and worries connected with the seed fund are many but they are soon forgotten when we hear we have made someone happy or life a little more pleasant.

Instructions for growing begonias from seed are now available on request from the Seed Fund.

Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
4316 Berryman Avenue
Los Angeles 66, California

—B—

Hirsute Group

(Continued From Page 56)

tember of the same year, it was reported that the Begonia disseminated by the Seed Fund as *B. schmopetala* has proved to be *B. echinosepala*. (Query: Did some one misread handwriting on a label?). This newly distributed species is all green and almost all smooth, only a few hairs on the petioles. The leaves are small and narrow, the edges finely serrate. My plant is slender, with delicate, drooping branchlets. It has not bloomed. The flowers are said to be white and to have large hairs on the males, thus justifying its name (Echino means spiny). I have not seriously tried to increase it, because I do not find it attractive.

Now come the two kinds whose inclusion in this group troubles many people, because both *B. angularis* and *B. sanguinea* are completely without hair. Apparently this includes the flowers, for no description I can find mentions bearded flowers. Our people wish these two had been described elsewhere and merely mentioned as parents of hybrids with bearded bloom. *B. angularis*, sometimes called *zebrina*, is tall, with erect, ridged stems and leaves of grey-green taffeta, grey veined, long oval in shape, toothed and waved at the edges. The flowers are small and white, on short stems. I have not grown *angularis* but other members of the Branch have fine specimens. It has given us a number of handsome and colorful descendants. *B. sanguinea* is less common. It

grows to medium height, with many red stems from the base. The leathery leaves are dark green above and crimson below. I have not seen the flowers, described as "small, white, in long, loose inflorescences." It, too, has produced fine offspring.

B. luxurians is the least begonia like of begonias. It is often called palmlike from its height and because its leaves are compound, many narrow leaflets, with a crown of smaller leaflets surrounding the sinus. Alice Clark, in *The Begonian*, 1946, p. 118, says that the flowers are "covered with a white fuzz that even extends to the threadlike stems that support the male flowers. . . the tiny female flowers are fringed." Hereabouts, this is considered difficult and is seldom seen, but those good growers in New England produce prize specimens.

The preceding species are all native to Brazil. The last of the list comes from India. *B. gigantea* earns its name as the tallest of the species found in that country, yet it is only two to three feet tall. A picture in the Journal of the New York Botanical Garden, 1940, shows many slender unbranched stems, with a few ovate-pointed leaves near the top of each, and a close cluster of flowers apparently terminating each stem, a condition unusual in the genus. The description calls the plant "sparsely pubescent," growing from "a thickened base," leaves light green, flowers pale pink. I do not believe that it has been widely distributed in this country.

(Further programs will present some of the commonly grown offspring of these species. As the names of these cultivars are badly mixed, the writer will welcome help from anyone who has untangled any of the knots.)

—B—

Visit the Annual Camellia Show at beautiful Descanso Gardens in La Canada. Open daily at 1418 Descanso Drive, 8 a.m. to dusk. Free admission and parking. Show closes March 8. Camellias, azaleas, and rhododendrons will be in bloom during the remainder of the spring.

Here & There; Which & Where



Picture taken September 6, 1958. Seeds planted in Feb. Transplanted outdoors first week in June. Started blooming middle of July. They are on east side of house, having morning sun until 11 a.m.

Please convey my gratitude to the people who make it possible for new members to receive such well selected seed. I'm enclosing a picture of a few of the hundreds of plants I was able to grow from my free packet. They are appleblossom pink with slightly ruffled leaves, beautiful in every respect.

Very sincerely,
Mrs. Arlyn W. Evans
5500 Mirror Lakes Drive
Minneapolis 24, Minnesota

—B—

Gentlemen:

I had my first experience at growing Begonias three years ago. They were grown on the Northern side of the house in a flower box filled almost full of stones with about six inches of soil on top. This was just plain garden soil with no peat or anything mixed in. The flowers were beautiful and the plants huge in size. They were fed liquid Rapid Gro Fertilizer about once every two weeks thoroughly soaking the leaves, stems, and roots. Of course, any excess water could readily drain through to the rocks underneath. Last year we moved into a new home with no flower box and

the plants were set directly into the ground after attaining a height of three or four inches. They promptly rotted, both the stem first and then the tuber, causing them to be discarded. It was a pretty disgusting situation and I was ready to give up. But this year I kept remembering the big beautiful flowers I had succeeded in growing the first year and decided to try again. In fact, as I write this letter I have several which appear to have gotten a wonderful start and in fact have clumps of flowers on them. This is early for this part of the country, but they were placed outdoors about May 1st. after growing indoors since March 1st. Since planting outdoors the temperature has ranged from 80 degrees during the day down to 32 degrees at night. This could be one of the causes of my problem. While some of the plants are doing so well, others planted in the same location have again completely rotted causing them to be discarded too. Others have leaves which are disintegrating and may also die in time. This is probably caused by powdery mildew. Some leaves have taken on a very sickening appearance turning almost blood red. If any of your back bulletins explain the reason for this and the cure I would appreciate having these instead of any newer ones. Most articles on Begonias which I have read give neither the cause nor the cure for these conditions.

I have also read articles which stated that Begonias do not like water on the leaves. This seems almost impossible since the first time I grew them they were soaked with the hose and appeared to love it. Yet, in their present location they seem to rot if there is the slightest excess of water in the soil. I have reached the point where I am afraid to water them at all either the leaves or the soil around them. The present soil mixture consists of peat moss, vermiculite and regular soil. Would the

(Continued on Page 70)

Leaves From Our Begonia Branches

NOTICE

Bert Slatter, National President, asks that the name, full address, and phone number of each branch be sent to Mrs. Irma Jane Brown, at 3528 Revere Avenue, Los Angeles 39, national secretary, so that her records will be current and complete. Also please send to editor.

—B—

BESSIE RAYMOND BUXTON

The Bessie Raymond Buxton branch met at the home of Mrs. Frederick Kingsburg. A botanical study of begonias was the subject of the meeting and all members present took part in the question period. Mrs. Nancy Alvord, leader of the day, had prepared a program, and each member took notes. Plans were made for the branch exhibit in the 88th annual New England Flower show, March 10-15.

—B—

FOOTHILL

The January meeting, held at La Verne community bldg., was a happy affair, with President-Elect Charles R. Lovejoy installing the officers for the coming year. They are: Mrs. Rodney D. Talcott, president; Mrs. Wayne C. Ferguson, vice-president; Mrs. R. N. Weaver, treasurer; Miss A. Esther Smith, recording secretary; Mrs. C. W. Hall, corr. secretary; Percy Zug, national representative.

There was a potluck dinner with the tables beautifully decorated in honor of the golden anniversary of the Weavers, Tillie and Robert, faithful charter members. A handsome golden wedding cake was presented to them and cut to be served to all. An ABS pin was given to the retiring president, Mrs. Gragg; it was also her birthday so a happy song was sung for her. A plant sale ended the meeting and all found a delightful assortment of very fine plants.

ELSA FORT

Our first meeting in 1959 was in Moorestown at Iantha Jenkins' home. As we enjoyed a delicious dessert which none of us had tasted before, our eyes kept wandering to a bay window filled with begonias such as we seldom see outside a greenhouse in this part of the country in January. If there is such a thing as a "green thumb," Iantha really has it.

Elizabeth Johnston, our new president, presided, after a short speech of acceptance and thanks.

Marian Jones, new program chairman, read the outline for this Year's study. We suggested a few changes, realizing meanwhile, we have many interesting programs to which we may look forward.

Elsa Fort Weber helped us find the proper culture and identify parentage of the lovely plants which Mrs. Alvord brought us from New England in September.

We could have stayed on and on, but our watch hands began to point toward dinner time, so we were forced to say "Au Revoir" until February.

—B—

GLENDALE

A recent speaker was Fred Gamble, who showed colored slides of his beautiful orchids. Clarence Hall gave a very interesting lesson on *B. 'Ricinifolia'*. "Begonias in the Spring" was the subject of Mrs. Coralee Walters at the following meeting.

—B—

LOUISIANA CAPITAL

Our new officers for '59 are Mrs. R. E. Watts, president, 4937 Oaklon Drive; Mrs. J. B. McCullach, vice president; Mrs. Leslie E. White, secretary-treasurer, 3013 Addison, Baton Rouge. Meetings are held in homes of members on the first Friday of each month.

REDONDO AREA

Attention all epiphyllum lovers! Joe Tavor will be the speaker at the April 24 meeting, having epiphyllum as his subject and will show colored slides of them also. Come and bring all the questions you have about "eppies" for he is the fellow who can answer them. Meeting at regular place, 2308 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach.

—B—

RHODE ISLAND

The Rhode Island branch, at the January meeting, set a July date for their show, entitled "Begonias and Other Houseplants." This is the first show of the branch. The group's first cultural project is that of having each member grow two tuberous begonias—of the same type and color. Each member will show the better of the two in a special class. Each member is to keep a diary of all culture and progress of their tubers.

Chairmen for the show are: Show Chairman, Mrs. Earl Harrington, Edgewood; Co-chairman, Mrs. Walter Brown, North Providence; Show Secretary, Miss Ruth Harrington, Providence; Award Chairman, Mrs. Ralph Olney, Coventry; Co-Chairman, Mrs. John MacShane, Fisheville; Entry Chairman, Mrs. Rudolph Pearson, Warnick Neck; Classification, Mrs. Virginia Withee, Mrs. Geraldine Daly, Coventry; Membership Chairman, Mrs. Elsie Hughes, Coventry; Plant Sale Chairman, Mrs. Nicholas Porter, Warwick Neck. There will be awards in every class.

—B—

RIVERSIDE

New officers elected and installed in the Riverside branch for the coming year are: Mrs. E. B. Cordell, 4294 Madrona Rd., Riverside, president; Mrs. C. F. Joris, San Bernardino, vice-president; Mrs. C. P. Krock, Grand Terrace, recording secretary; Mrs. C. E. Prior, 4345 Fifth St., Riverside, corresponding secretary; Rowland Maddox, Riverside, treasurer; R. H. Terrell, Riverside, nat'l representative.

SACRAMENTO

The following staff of new officers and committee chairmen will preside for the new year:

National Director, Clarence Fallon; President, Esther Long; Vice-President, Willis H. Cole; Secretary, Ollie May Fehr; Treasurer, Al Smith; Directors: Plant Sales, F. F. Wells and Clifford Crouch; Refreshments, Martha Laret; Program, Roy Wiegand; and Publicity, Caroline Drake.

Committee Chairmen: Decorations, Lottie Crouch; Librarian, Mae Sullivan; Sunshine, Ruth Gunther; Telephone, Mary Smith; Registration, Bertha and Ed Schnauss; and Nomenclature, Ruthanne Williams.

—B—

SAN FRANCISCO

On Feb. 4, the twentieth anniversary party honoring our past presidents was held. Although our Club was founded twenty years ago, our Charter as the S. F. Branch was received in 1946.

Orris Martin, our program chairman, turned over the entire evening to Art Boissier and his crew of past presidents. This was *their* night. Art asked each past president to bring something for the Nomenclature table as the Old Masters can show us how, and HOW! The past presidents had a full program planned including cultural talks and demonstrations, pictures and stories of past events in our Society.

A select and bountiful supply of large size and high quality tubers in a wide range of types and colors had been procured by Orris Martin, for exchange for cards received at the January meeting. There was a small supply of begonia seeds, also, for the adventurous ones.

A birthday cake rounded out the evening.

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of the Large Berry Market. . .*

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Here & There . . .

(Continued From Page 66)

cold weather cause them to cease growing and rot? I have thought that I might dig a hole and place three bricks on end leaving the bottom open. Then I would leave the bulb in the pot, setting the pot over the brick and covering only the pot with soil. What do you think? One article stated that the soil should not come in contact with the stem. Yet other articles say the bulb should be planted from one to two inches deep. Both can't be right can they? The stems have been rotting off at the base which is where the soil comes in contact with them. I have also read that liquid fish food is excellent for Begonias. Is this preferable to an all-round plant food such as rapid gro which contains 23% nitrogen, 17% phosphoric acid, and 21% potash? All are necessary in some proportion for healthy plants. Also, do they like a somewhat acid soil as I have read

in some articles? Any back issues of your bulletin containing any of the above answers will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,
Gus Crosswhite
1913 Palo-Verde Dr.
Youngstown 14, Ohio

—B—

The magazine has been very interesting as always and the Seed Fund has been excellent. Mrs. Gee does a wonderful job and has some mighty interesting seeds in each column. I'm afraid most people don't realize all the work that must be done by the officers of the Soc. for our pleasure.

Evalyn Kurzhals
2410 W. Eastwood Ave.
Chicago 25, Ill.

—B—

All copy for *The Begonian* must be received by the editor not later than the first of the month preceding date of publication.

Minutes, National Board, January 26, 1959

The regular monthly meeting of the National Board, A.B.S., was called to order by President Slatter at 7:45 p.m. January 26, 1959.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Walton.

Pres. Slatter then introduced new branch representatives, Mrs. Leona Cooper, Glendale Branch; Mrs. Lucille Thompson, Inglewood Branch; and Mrs. Opal Ahern of Redondo Beach Branch.

Aims and Purposes of the Society were read by Pres. Elect Lovejoy.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. In this connection it has been called to the attention of the Secretary that a correction should be made in the Minutes of the October meeting. It was stated in the Minutes that Pres. Elect Lovejoy had visited the San Diego Branch. This was in error, and the Minutes should read that Pres. Elect Lovejoy had accompanied some members of the Inglewood Branch Study Group to a meeting with members of the San Miguel Branch at Sierra Vista Gardens, Lemon Grove.

Treasurer Mrs. Pearl Parker gave her report for the two months, Nov. 24, 1958, to Jan. 18, 1959. Report filed for audit.

Pres. Elect Lovejoy reported that he had visited the Foothill Branch and installed officers for the

New Year, that he had also installed new officers for the San Gabriel Valley Branch. Mr. Lovejoy also reported that the Insurance Committee, consisting of Vice Pres. Alva Graham, Treas. Pearl Parker and himself had met with the Insurance Representative relative to combining various insurances for the A.B.S. Mr. Lovejoy read a letter giving the recommendations of the Insurance Representative and the committee and offered a motion that the changes be made. Motion seconded by Mr. Hall. Motion carried. Mr. Lovejoy reported that the meeting room in the South Gate City Auditorium would be available to the National Board of the A.B.S. at a rental of \$5.00 per month. Moved, seconded and carried that the South Gate location be adopted as a meeting place for the balance of the year.

Mr. Howard Small of the San Gabriel Valley Branch, as Chairman of the Arboretum Glass House Committee, reported that sufficient money has been made available for construction of the glass house and that building is under way. The committee is now working for additional money to erect a lath house alongside of the glass house and some money is on hand for this purpose. Mrs. White, of the Long Beach Parent Chapter, reported that they expect soon to have \$100.00 to contribute to the glass house fund.

Owing to the fact that Pres. Elect Lovejoy had to

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leave the meeting early Nomenclature Chairman Mrs. Korts requested permission to make a recommendation that the Board consider a three year appointment of the Nomenclature Chairman, explaining that since the American Begonia Society is now acting as International Registration Authority for Begonias it would entail much follow-up work. The suggestion was tabled for future action.

Vice Pres. Alva Graham called the attention of the Board to an ad in *The Begonian* for three pamphlets for 25c and stated they are well worth sending for.

Membership Secretary Walton gave his report from Nov. 19, 1958, to Jan. 18, 1959, showing 123 new and 350 renewing members for the two months, with total membership receipts of \$1220.99.

Begonian Editor Mrs. Brest was unable to attend the meeting due to illness and no report was given.

Pres. Slatter reported that business manager John Thieben was also unable to attend on account of illness and that his report would be given later.

Research Director Mrs. Leatherman gave a report on her department and read a letter from the Botanic Gardens of Rio de Janeiro stating that the American Begonia Society had been awarded a medal. Mrs. Leatherman suggested that a waterproof case be purchased, to contain the medal and letter, that it be placed on exhibit in the Arboretum. Mrs. Graham that the waterproof case be purchased. After some discussion as to the advisability of placing the letter and medal in the glass house, Mrs. Graham withdrew her second and Mr. Terrell withdrew his motion. Matter tabled for future action.

It was then moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Walton, that a permanent record be made in the Minutes of the fine work done by Mrs. Leatherman for the Research Department which had resulted in the medal being awarded to the American Begonia Society. Motion carried.

Public Relations Chairman Mr. Hall reported that he had received a letter from Mrs. Shirley Reed of Peabody, Mass., stating that she had contacted the nine survivors of Mrs. Bessie Raymond Buxton and that they were in complete accord in allowing the New England Branch to change the name to the "Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch." Letter filed.

Librarian Mrs. Sault gave her report for the period Nov. 25, 1958, to Jan. 26, 1959, showing books loaned, sold and purchased. Mrs. Sault also reported Glass House. Moved by Mr. Terrell, seconded by Mrs. Korts, seconded by Mrs. Arbuckle that Dr. Fletcher be sent a copy of *The Begonian* each month. Motion carried.

Mr. Roy Joyce reported that owing to the fact she had turned over to the Treasurer the sum of \$446.96 to apply on the Buxton Check List account.

Nomenclature Chairman Mrs. Korts read letters from Dr. H. R. Fletcher and Dr. George Lawrence relative to International Registration of begonia names. Mrs. Korts presented an article for publica-

tion in *The Begonian* relative to International registration of begonias without charge and asked for approval by the Board. Moved by Mrs. Leatherman, seconded by Mrs. Thompson that Mrs. Korts' article be approved for publication. Motion carried. Moved the National Board had not taken action at the November meeting relative to a joint show with the California National Fuchsia Society, the project has been tabled for this year.

Seed Fund Chairman Mrs. Gee not being present her report for the two months, Nov. 19, 1958, to Jan. 18, 1959, was read by Mrs. Parker showing \$205.49 turned over to the Treasurer.

Mr. Walton presented an offer from the Flower & Garden Magazine offering coupons to be mailed to A.B.S. members for use in subscribing to the magazine, that the A.B.S. would receive a small profit from each subscription. Moved by Mrs. Sault, seconded by Mrs. Leatherman, that we accept the offer. Motion carried.

Branches reporting: El Monte, Glendale, Inglewood, Long Beach Parent Chapter, Pasadena, Redondo Beach, Riverside, West Valley and Orange County Branch.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Irma Jane Brown, Secretary

Calendar

- March 7-14, International Flower Show, New York Coliseum.
- March 9, Philadelphia Flower Show opens.
- March 10-15, 88th Annual New England Flower Show.
- March 25—Glendale, Kenneth Terry, "What to do in the Garden in the Spring." Usual time and place.
- April 9, Inglewood, 11th Annual President's Dinner. Dr. Robert E. Atkinson, speaker. Inglewood Women's Club, 6:30 p.m. Tickets, \$1.85.
- April 24—Redondo Area. Speaker, Joe Taylor, "Epiphyllum." Usual time and place.

C O N T E N T S

Nomenclature and Registration Department.....	51
Demonstration Garden	53
Seeds, Seedlings and Hybrids	54
B. Iron Cross From Cuttings	54
Begonias, the Hirsute Group	55
The Creeping Jewelweed	57
Cover Story, B. haageana.....	57
Care and Feeding of 'Birds'	58
Jaunt to Brazil	59
B. Kennedyi	60-61

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