

The BEGONIAN



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Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

VOL. 38 NO. 4



B. cristobalensis Ziesenhenné

Courtesy of Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenné

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Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editors, the Society or its officers.

BEGONIA FRIGIDA

by Carrie Karegeannes, *Research*

Readers of the article on *Begonia* flowers in the February 1971 "Begonian" might be interested on some further notes on *B. frigida* A. DC. and its bisexual flowers. Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture in January 1862 reprinted the following in an article from the Garden Chronical, without giving the author:

"Before laying down my pen I may just observe that the curious

pecularity in the flowers of *B. frigida*, noticed in these pages about a year ago, is inherited by the young seedlings raised from the original plant. The same proportion of the flowers is still hermaphrodite, and the female organs superior. I have repeatedly tried to raise seed from these anomalous flowers fertilized by their own pollen, to see if the plant could be induced to make some further progress in this direction, but always without success. The seed from which young plants were raised was produced by the normal flowers of this *Begonia*."

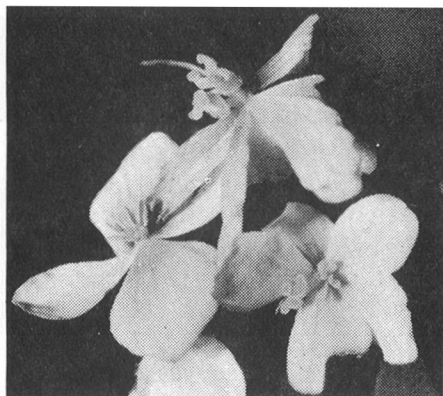


Photo taken at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens by Eleanor Yarrow. Bisexual flowers of an unidentified *Begonia*. Normal male flower on the left. Top and right, malformed flowers with pistals surmounted by stigmas.

Editors note: Charles Chevalier notes in Les Begonias "Malformations of the generative organs appear in very variable aspects. Thus, for example, the two sexes deformed and imperfect can be united in the same flower, under different forms, and present thus all the characteristics of a hermaphrodite flower."

"At times there is a change of sex, cases of transformation of a male flower into an imperfect female flower are quite frequent."

"The stamens of the male flower were replaced by a considerable number of pistals surmounted by their stigmas and having their unrolled placentas covered with bare ovules".

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be:

TO Stimulate and 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* and companion plants;

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*.

BEGONIA CRISTOBALENSIS AND BEGONIA TACANÁ

by Rudolf Ziesenhenné

In The Begonian, Volume 37, January 1970, on pages 5 to 10, I presented an article establishing the identity of two *Begonias*, *Begonia daedalea* Lem. and *B. strigillosa* A. Dietrich, a research which was necessary to identify *Begonias* Mr. Thomas MacDougall has collected in Mexico. Although I pointed out in the article that *B. strigillosa* A. Dietrich has a green leaf with no markings whatsoever, most people seem to have in mind the beautifully marked leaves of *B. daedalea* Lem., commonly believing that the plants *B. strigillosa* A. Dietrich and *B. daedalea* Lem. are one and the same. Because of this "strigillosa leaf-marking idea" there is apparently confusion of identity also when the *B. strigillosa* is recorded as the parent of a *Begonia* hybrid.

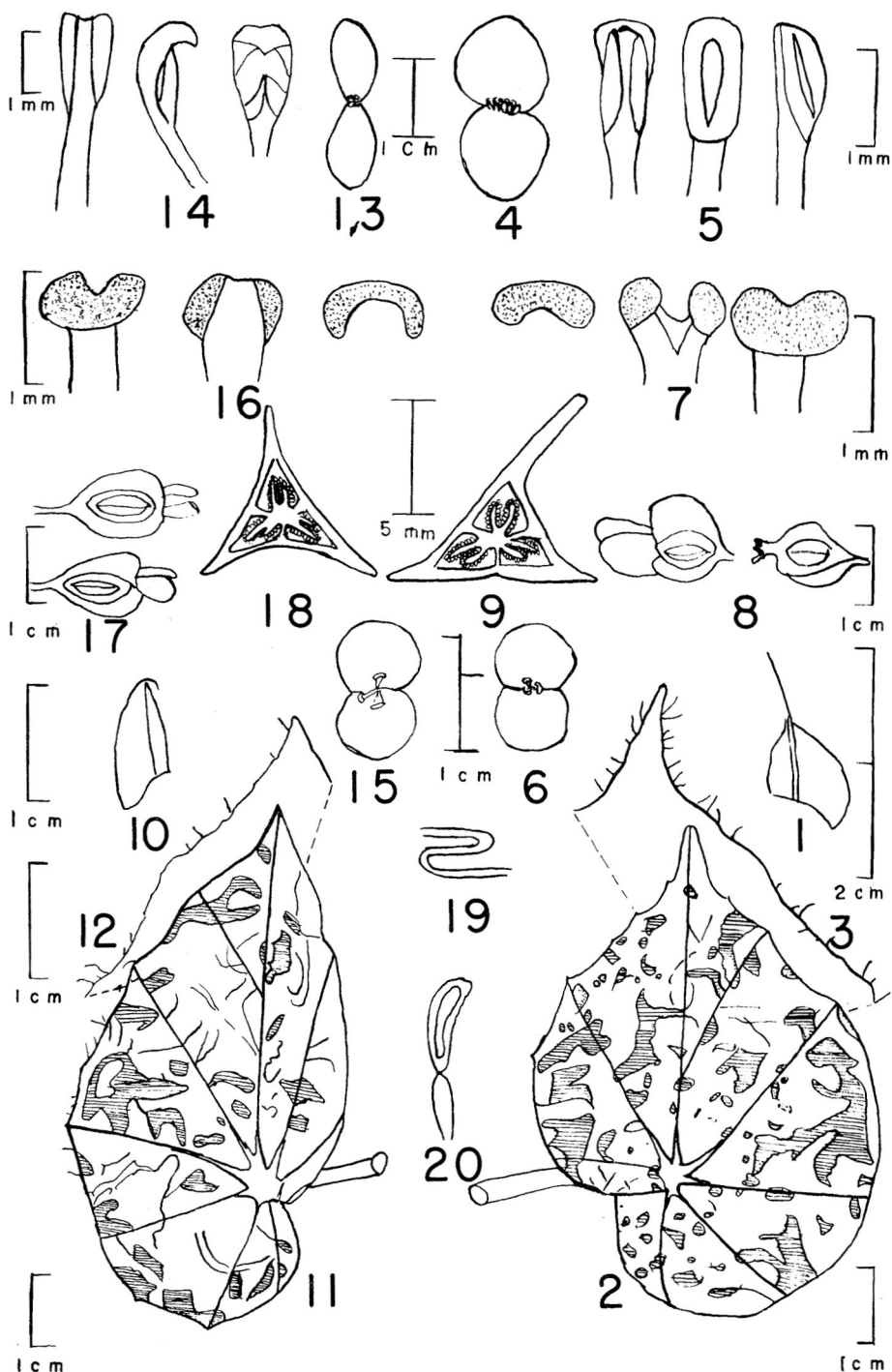
In Europe in the fall of 1969 I saw *Begonia* plants of *B. 'Perle Lorraine'* Lemoine, syn. *B. 'Bertha von Lothringen'*, a cross of *B. polyantha* x *B. daedalea* produced in 1901 labeled in various greenhouses as *B. strigillosa*!

Other *Begonia* hybrids of *B. daedalea* Lem. I have found recorded are *B. 'Smaragadina maculata'* 1895, *B. 'Triomphe de Lorraine'* (Victor Lemoine), *B. 'Triomphe de Lemoine'* (Victor Lemoine), all allegedly produced by crossing *B. daedalea* Lem. onto *B. socotrana* Hook. There is also listed *B. 'Triomphe de Nancy'* (*B. socotrana* x *B. daedalea*) but in the same book its parentage is listed as *B. socotrana* x *B. roezlii* (Victor Lemoine).

I must admit that I added to the confusion. In The Begonian of

February 1947, on page 27, appears in my advertisement a picture labeled "*Begonia strigillosa*". This plant was found by Mr. MacDougall at San Cristobal las Casas in May 1964 and given his collection number C. 30. As a result this plant has perhaps been used in hybridizing under the name *B. strigillosa*. I believe '*Norah Bedson*' (*B. bowerae* x (so-called) *B. strigillosa*) is a case in point. I believe the "strigillosa" in this case was Mr. MacDougall's C. 30 which I am now naming *B. cristobalensis*. Subsequent crosses using *B. 'Norah Bedson'* will of course carry the same strain. Indeed, we already have published in the November 1970 "*Begonian*" on page 253, *B. 'Aries'* and *B. 'Mercury'* as having had parents *B. 'Norah Bedson'* x *B. 'Leslie Lynn'*! We have also the registered plants to be printed in *The Begonian* soon *B. 'English Knight'*, *B. 'Tracery'*, *B. 'Jodrell Bank'*, '*Many Colors*', all with parents *B. 'Norah Bedson'* x *B. 'Clifton'*. The C. 30 strain continued in the registered plants *B. 'Red Spot'*, *B. 'Red Spider'*, *B. 'Black Watch'* and *B. 'Scottish Star'*.

Under the designation "strigillosa" Mr. MacDougall has sent to me ten plants of the rhizomatous type which have chocolate markings. I also have ten other plants from Mr. MacDougall which are different with chocolate spots on the leaves and many cultivars in my collection have markings on the leaves. The plants from the wilds are under study and drawings are being made of all parts of the plants in an effort to determine their relationship to



B. tacana. B. cristobalensis.

PLEASE TURN PAGE

each other and also to known *Begonia* species.

I have determined that Mr. MacDougall's plant number C. 30 (now *B. cristobalensis*) is new to science. I believe that his plant C. 74, which I am naming *B. tacaná* (accent necessary), is also new. Because these two plants are miniatures and have the same type markings on the leaves, I am picturing them together so a clear understanding of them is possible.

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Begonia (section *Magnusia* (Klotzsch) A. DC., subsection *Gereoudia* (Klotzsch) Wbg. *cristobalensis* Ziesenhenne, new species, herbaceous perennial; stem a creeping rhizome, fleshy, circular, one inch long, 1/4 inch in diameter, seldom branching, foliage confined to the tip; dull surface, light green; lenticels few white; leaf scars spaced very closely together; stipules (figure 1) remaining green a long time, finally drying, thin, broadly egg-shaped, sharp pointed, 1/4 inch long, 1/4 inch wide; keeled off center at the base towards the inside edge, running the full length of the stipule and about 1/16 inch beyond the tip, then terminating in a fleshy hair 3/16 of an inch long, keel 1/64 of an inch high, 4 thin hairs 3/64 of an inch long arising from the top edge of the keel, margin even; leaf stem dull, circular, two inches long, 1/8 inch in diameter, a few scattered simple hairs up to 1/8 inch long, light green; leaf (figure 2) leathery when alive, papery when dry, dull, bare, Scheeles green (Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart) 868/3, dotted and marked oxblood red 00823/3; below the colors are paler, few scattered

reddish-brown simple hairs, egg-shaped, tip blunt with a point, base inside edge with a shallow lobe, base outside lobe large, margin (figure 3) toothed at the end of the nerves, the rest slightly irregularly undulate, short hairs along the edge to 1/16 inch long, 2-3/4 inches long, 1-3/4 inches wide, palmately 8-nerved; inflorescence a cyme, few flowers, blooms in winter; male flowers (figure 4) petals 2, pink, egg-shaped, base flattened, tip blunt, about 1/4 inch long and wide; stamens 12 (Figure 5), filaments free, about 1/32 inch long, anthers slightly wedge-shaped, tip blunt, about 1/16 inch long, connective not prominent; female flowers (figure 6) transversely broadly elliptical, tip rounded, base rounded 11/32 inch long, 3/32 inch wide; styles (figure 7) 1/16 inch long, base slightly two-lobed, stigma papillae on tip and outer edge; capsule (figure 8) about 1/2 inch long, 3/8 inch wide, elliptical; 3-winged (figure 8 and 9), largest rounded, 1/2 inch long and 3/8 inch wide, other two marginal, rounded 1/16 inch long and 3/8 inch wide; ovary (figure 9), 3 celled, placenta 2-divided and carrying seed on all surfaces. Holotype MacDougall C. 30, Mexico, Chiapas, San Cristobal las Casas, May 11, 1946, in herbarium of Rudolf Ziesenhenne, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103.

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LATIN DIAGNOSIS

Begonia (section *Magnusia* (Klotzsch) A. DC., subsection *Gereoudia* (Klotzsch) Wbg.) *cristobalensis* Ziesenhenne spec. nov. *Herba perennis: rhizomate repente, carnosio, circulari, 4 cm. longo, 5 mm. crasso, raro ramoso, foliato apice; opacis, viridis; lenticellis albidis; cicatibus hepaticis, dispositis arte; stipulis viridis longaevis, aridis postremo, tenuibus, late*

ovatis, acutis, 9 mm. longis, 7 mm. latis, carinatis terminantibus pilis, 6.5 mm. longis; marginibus integris; petiolis opacis, teretibus 5 cm. longis, ca 2.5 mm. diametro, viridibus, pilis ferrugineo-hirsutis, sparsis, 3 mm. longis: foliis papyraceis, viridibus Scheeleanis 868/3 (Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart), guttatis, reticulatis sanguineis bulbalis 00823/3; subtus coloribus paleis, ferrugineo-hirsutis simplicibus paucis, ovatis, obtusis cum acumine; lobis basilaribus profundis; lobis basilaribus intis non profundis; marginibus dentatis, undulatis irregulariter, ciliatis 2 mm. longis, 6.8 longis, 4.5 cm. latis: palminerviis nervi 8: inflorescentia cymosa, pauciflora: tepalis masculinis 2, rosis, ovatis, obtusis, 1.2 cm. longis, 1.2 cm. latis; staminibus 12, filamentis liberis 1 mm. longis; antheris oblongo-cuneatis, truncatis, 1.5 mm. longis, connectivo producto: tepalis femineis 2, rosis, transverse late ellipticis, obtusis, 9 mm. longis, 1 cm latis; stylis 3, basi 1 mm. connatis, parti libera 2 mm. longis, apice lunulato-bilobis, fasciis continuis vix spiraliter totis instructis; capsula 8 mm. longa, 5 mm. lata, elliptica, glabra, inequaliter trilobata; ala maxima ovali, obtusa, 4.5 mm. longa, reliquis angustis; ovario 3-loculata, placentis bilamellatis, undique ovuliferis.

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Begonia (section *Magnusia* (Klotzsch) A. DC. subsection *Gereoudia* (Klotzsch) Wbg.) *tacaná* Ziesenhenné, new species, herbaceous perennial: stem a creeping rhizome, fleshy but with some wood fibers present, circular, 1-1/4 inches long, 3/16 inch in diameter, seldom branched, tip covered with foliage; internodes extremely short, dull surface, pod green 061/1 (Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart): stipules (figure 10) drying so quickly that I was unable to obtain a mature green one, remaining, like paper, egg-shaped, tip sharp-pointed, very slightly keeled about 1/4 way from inside edge, running the full length of the stipule and terminating in a short hair 1/16 inch long, margin even:

leafstem 3 inches long, about 1/8 inch in diameter, few scattered simple reddish-brown shaggy hairs 1/4 inch long: leaf (figure 11) leather-like when alive, papery when dry, dull, bare, Scheele green 868/3, irregularly narrow net-veined-like, colored oxblood red 00823/3; below the colors are paler, dull, bare, leaves egg-shaped, tip sharp-pointed, basal lobe well developed on the outside, rounded, basal lobe on the inside very shallowly produced; margin (figure 12) irregularly undulate with a small tooth at the end of each nerve, irregularly ciliate, hairs 1/16 inch long, 2-7/8 inches long, 1-1/2 inches wide, palmately 9-nerved, 6 prominent: inflorescence a cyme, few-flowered, blooms in winter, flower-stem like petiole: pedicels 1/4 inch long: male flowers (figure 13) petals 2, white, thin, elliptical, slightly cupped, tip blunt, base narrower. 1-3/8 inch long, 13/16 inch wide; stamens (figure 14) 8-9 united at base 1/16 inch, filaments 1/16 inch long, anthers inverted egg-shaped, tip blunt, curving forward, 1/16 inch long, connective slightly produced: female flowers (figure 15) petals 2, white, thin, circular, tip blunt, base flattened, 1/4 inch long, 1/4 inch wide, styles (figure 16) connected at the base 1/32 inch long, 3 styles 1/16 inch long, slightly 2-divided, stigma papellae on the tip and outer edge; capsule (figure 17) 3/8 inch long, 3/16 inch wide, elliptical, ends rounded, green, wings marginal and almost equal, about 3/32 inch long, green, thin, blunt; ovary (figure 18) 3-celled, placenta 2-divided and carrying seeds on all sides.

Mexico, Chiapas, Unión Juárez, slope of volcano Tacaná at 6,000 ft.

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MacDougall C. 74 March 11, 1950. Type. Co-type MacDougall C. 224. Mexico, Chiapas, Union, Juarez, La Vega de Guadalupe. November 24, 1960. Type and co-type in the herbarium of Rudolf Ziesenhenné, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103.

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LATIN DIAGNOSIS

Begonia (section *Magnusia* (Klotzsch) A. DC., subsection *Gereoudia* (Klotzsch) Wbg.) *tacaná* Ziesenhenné spec. nov. *Herba perennis: caule rhizomate repente, carnosio, circulari, 3 cm. longo, 5 mm. crasso, raro ramoso, foliato apice, internodiis approximatis, opacis, viridis valvaris* 061/6 (Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart): *stipulis cato siccis, persistentibus, papyraceis, ovatis, acutis, carinatis humilis, terminatibus pilis 2 mm. longis, marginibus integris, 1.1 cm. longis, 5 mm. latis; petiolis opacis, teretibus, 2.5 mm. diametro, 7.6 cm. longis, viridibus, pilis ferrugineo-hirsutis, sparsim, 6 mm. longis; foliis papyraceis, opacus, nudis, viridibus Schleeleianis 868/3, reticulatis sanguineis 00823/3; subtus coloribus paleis, opacus, nudis, ovatis, acutis, lobis basilaribus profundis, lobis basilaribus intis non profundis, marginibus undulatis, irregulariter, dentatis, ciliatis 2 mm. longis, 7.1 cm. longis, 3.9 cm. latis; palmatinervis, nervi 9, 6 manifeste: inflorescentia cymoso, pauciflora: tepalis masculinis 2, albis, ellipticus, obtusis cupulis leviter, 1.1 cm. longis, 7 mm. latis; staminibus 8-9, basi unitis 1.5 mm., filamentis liberis 2 mm. longis; antheris obovatis, obtusis, curvis prosum, 1.7 mm. longis, connectivo-producto: tepalis femineis 2, albis, circularis, obtusis, 6.5 mm. longis, 6.5 mm. latis; stylis 3, basi 1 mm. connatis, parti libera 2 mm. longis, apice lunulato-bilobis, fasciis continuis vix spiraliter totis instructis; capsula 9 mm. longo, 5 mm. lato, elliptico, obtusa, trilobata, 1 ala 2.1 mm. longa, rotundata, 2 alis 2 mm. longis, extremitatibus rotundis centratis rectis; ovario 3-loculari; placentis bilamellatis, undique ovuliferis.*
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In horticulture it may be possible for hobbies to confuse *Begonia*

'Perle Lorraine' Lemoine with *B. tacaná* because the leaves have similar markings and shape. However *B. tacaná* has a short green rhizome while *B. 'Perle Lorraine'* has an upright stem which is flushed red and not rhizome-like in appearance.

B. tacaná and *B. cristobalensis* can be easily distinguished from *B. daedalea* Lem. as the latter has peltate leaves which overlap, which is illustrated by figure 19, where the petiole is attached to the leaf blade closest to the leaf margin and *B. daedalea* has five anthers which are quite distinctive because of their peculiarly jointed anthers shown in figure 20.

B. strigillosa A. Dietrich has a leaf (see photo on page 6 of January 1970 *The Begonian*) with a large tooth at the end of each nerve at the margin of the leaves, and ten stamens.

B. tacaná and *B. cristobalensis* are, I feel, clearly illustrated and described and their differing characteristics are clearly shown.

REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

Note: The American Begonia Society is the International Registration Authority for the genus *Begonia*. See "How to Register Begonias", December 1967, p. 266 and "Nomenclature News", August 1968, p. 157. For information contact Rudolf Ziesenhenné, ABS *Nomenclature Director*, 1130 N. Milpas Street, Santa Barbara, California 93103.

No. 272 — *Begonia* (lubbersi x platanifolia) 'Phantom'

B. 'Phantom' is a shrubby, intermediate cane, originated by Peter P.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 96)

HYBRIDIZATION

by Belva Nelson Kusler

(Based on a slide lecture given at the 1970 Eastern Regional Begonia Convention)

Hybridization of *Begonias* may occur in three ways: natural, random, and planned. "Natural" is as it occurs in nature -- the pollen is transferred from one plant to another by wind, animals, insects, or just naturally drifts down from one plant upon another or itself. "Random" may be illustrated thus: a *Begonia* grower may have several *Begonias* in bloom at the same time. And looking at them may think, "I wonder what would happen if I crossed this one with that one", and proceeds to do so. The third is "Planned" and that's the only kind of hybridization that I do.

The following requisites summarize my approach to *Begonia* Hybridizing:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Imagination | 4. Cultivation |
| 2. Research | 5. Selection |
| 3. Pollination | 6. Distribution |

The first requirement, "Imagination", is a very necessary quality. From it comes the view of what I want to produce, my dream. I might hope to put the leaf of *B. listida* upon a plant the size of *B. imperialis*, or the year 'round blooming habit and large blossoms of 'Lil O'Neill' on a *B. foliosa*, a species with tiny leaves.

"Research" comes next. Without it I risk the frustration of having spent the time and effort to produce a fine hybrid, only to find that someone has made this cross prior to my work. The long period of waiting for the plants to mature and to come into bloom, the selection, the testing, and perhaps even distribution, will have been for naught.

Therefore, to avoid this disappointment, I find it wise to research all plants I wish to use. There is the Buxton Check List, available from the American Begonia Society, with its supplements published in The Begonian. It is a list of *Begonia* species, and hybrids with their parentage. I have my own Check List, which Mr. Kusler calls "The Stud Book", in which I list *Begonia* hybrids with their parentage.

When I have decided which *Begonias* I want to work with, I search for descriptions wherever I can find them, studying their characteristics. If they are species, I study their progeny, if any. If they are hybrids or cultivars, I study the parents, as well as their offspring. This search may give me clues as to which characteristic of a plant are dominant, which parent is responsible for a given trait, which traits are the results of combination. I then may have some idea of how to proceed in order to produce the desired plant. However, in my work, I find the results are rather variable; one cannot accurately predict the outcome. Commercial hybridizers who work with closely related plants (such as *semperflorens* or *tuberhybrida*) have a better opportunity for prediction than is possible in my frequent combinations of widely diverse types.

After researching the projected cross, the next step is to acquire the plants. In the early years it was relatively difficult; sometimes I would wait or search for years before I could find the source of a

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plant. Now it's a little easier. If I can't get the plant I sometimes get seeds of it, but of course that delays, for a year or two, the beginning of the actual hybridizing.

Let's go on to "Pollination", assuming that one has succeeded in getting the desired stock and bringing the plants into bloom simultaneously. Now this isn't as easy as it sounds, particularly if one is working with seasonal bloomers -- for instance, a summer bloomer and a winter bloomer. However, with the use of fluorescent lights one can frequently alter the blooming cycle so that blossoming times coincide.

In the transfer of the pollen, I do not wait for the middle of the day, or for the sunny day, nor do I examine the pistils with a magnifying glass to try to determine if they are receptive. It is easier to take a male blossom, or a brush, and transfer the pollen directly on the female, the next day repeating the process. If it's a cross that might be difficult to make, such as crossing *Begonia* types, e.g. a rhizome with a cane, or a tuberous with a cane, I fertilize a number of blossoms. If the plants are compatible, a seed pod may form, but if it has not been successful, that is not proof of incompatibility. Let's assume that the cross "takes". Generally, I leave the seed pod on until ripe and dry, but there are some *Begonia* plants, e.g. *B. deliciosa*, whose blossom stems twist while drying, spilling out the seed from the capsule. Other *Begonias* may drop their fertilized seed pods before they are ripe, a situation which may be handled by placing a small hammock of thin plastic beneath the seed pod to catch it as it falls.

We are now ready to thresh the seed from the dry pod, being careful to separate, if possible, all chaff from the seed. I examine all seeds under high magnification before I plant them. (This is a precaution used when planting species seed also, especially if they have come through the mail without adequate protection. Sometimes a packet of seed received thus will be a total loss, with not one seed remaining uncrushed).

It might be useful to give here, as an example of a really determined project to produce seed, my experience with a plant created by crossing *B. solananthera* with *B. albo-picta*. I pollinated several hundred blossoms on the plant with pollen from a number of *Begonias*. Most of them dropped off before drying but I saved them to ripen. From the large volume of chaff, I winnowed out four lone, plump seeds. I planted the four, they germinated, grew to maturity, no two alike, steady bloomers, but none of the four good enough to distribute. All of them inherited the carmine markings at the base of the petals from the *B. solananthera* x *B. albo-picta* parent, which in turn had inherited the trait from *B. solananthera*.

"Cultivation". If I have a large amount of seed from a fertilized pod, I plant only part of it, reserving the remainder as insurance in case something should damage or destroy the seedpan or seedlings. The saved seed I place in a small packet in a sealed jar in the refrigerator. If the crossing has produced only a small amount of seed, I plant it all. The seed pans are put in large, closed, clear plastic sweater boxes and kept in the living-room in daylight until the seedlings are approximately one-fourth of an inch tall, though some-

times they are not moved to the fluorescent light area until they are an inch tall and have been transplanted into flats.

If many seedlings have appeared from a given planting, I am obliged to cull at the first transplanting, to reduce the volume. Since this is a hybrid seed, and there may be wide variation in the plants, I take a cross-section of the pan, including the small, medium, and large seedlings. If I were to choose only the large and most vigorous, I might be automatically culling out the medium and small growers, or the slow. The seedlings grow under the lights until they crowd the flats, at which time they are put into small pots. The next step is a shift into larger pots, at which time weak-stemmed plants, poor growers, and those with other defects are eliminated. They continue under lights until they are seven to nine inches tall (unless it develops that they are miniature or dwarf plants, in which case they sometimes remain until maturity). The next move is to the living-room window area or the greenhouse, or out-of-doors in the glasshouses if it is summer.

Until three years ago this past summer, I didn't have a greenhouse, having produced all of the Kusler Hybrids under lights and in house windows, except the last six introduced, which were "proved-up" in living-room and greenhouse. They are primarily house plants, though they thrive in greenhouse or out-doors where the climate is salubrious.

Once the plants are in the living room windows, I bring them on as fast as I can. The canes usually come into bloom as soon as they are mature. There is a difficulty with seasonal bloomers as one some-

times has to grow them on past the point of maturity until their blooming season arrives. The group of seedlings from which 'Victoria Kartack' was chosen came into bloom when only five months old and a few inches tall. When a cane is raised from seed, it usually has to grow to a respectable size before it blossoms the first time, but thereafter, cuttings from it will usually come into bloom when only a few inches tall.

Perhaps we can consider this the point at which "Cultivation" merges with "Selection". Let us say that I have produced what I consider a rather successful cross with many seedlings that look promising. This can be both "good" and "bad". It's "good" because then there is a much greater chance, the percentage is much better, that I will have produced one or more desirable hybrids from the crossing. But it's also "bad" because of the difficulty of finding room for so many plants. Where to put them?

Having shifted the plants to the living-room or greenhouse, now is the time that is the most interesting; their characteristics, generally, have become established and one sees what the mature plant looks like. But one still doesn't know what the blooming habit is going to be, if it's going to be profuse, if it's going to be year 'round, seasonal, or sporadic. Growing the plants for a year beyond maturity should make this known. By this time, usually, I have selected favorites among them. Though they all may be good plants, there will be characteristics that are more desirable in some than in others. For example, let's say that I have raised thirty seedlings from a cross, then cut the number down to

PLEASE TURN PAGE

ten. Now it begins to be very difficult, generally, as there are other new hybrids that are fast approaching maturity and needing the space, but I must go slowly with culling from the ten.

At this point I propagate from them and raise the propagated *Begonias* along with the original plants from seed, so that I can compare. This is a very important step, particularly in canes or shrubby types, because a plant from seed (a hybrid as well as a species) is, as a rule, considerably more shrubby than that raised from a cutting of the same plant. Therefore, one can scarcely decide from the original plant whether it is one that would ultimately be suitable for naming and distribution. After raising the plant from seed and the plant from a cutting of it, for a year or more, or maybe two or three, it's about time I made up my mind what I want to do with them.

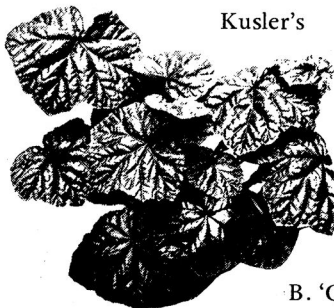
Perhaps I have decided that one of the *Begonias* has sufficient merit to be tested further, by other growers. I propagate, get small plants ready for shipping; I have alerted test growers in various parts of the United States. I send them plants which they raise under varied conditions: greenhouse, fluorescent light growing, window sill and out-of-doors. They raise these small plants to maturity, observing them as I have -- the blooming period, leaf and blossom color, plant shape, how well they tolerate hot weather and cold weather, etc. Some of the testers give me a running report, while others wait until they have raised the plants to maturity. After the opinions have been received, I seek a consensus, but occasionally I

still am not sure. So sometimes I keep the plant under observation for several additional years.

When I have settled on a plant to be introduced, the next step is "Distribution". There is not much point in producing a hybrid if growers don't have an opportunity to raise it. In my hybridizing, I want as many people as possible to have the pleasure -- and pleasure I hope it is -- of raising my hybrids. After these many years, I have dealers in most sections of the country, who handle my plants. However, if I were just beginning hybridizing and was ready to introduce my first plant, I think I'd choose one of the simplest methods of distribution. I would depend first of all on the friends who tested it. I would name the plant and release it to them, and they could share it with commercial growers, with their friends, or with whomever they wished.

The expectation of making money from hybridizing may well end in disappointment, because it can cost infinitely more to produce the hybrid than they earn, particularly in my climate.

So, for me, hybridizing *Begonias* remains my work and my pleasure, not a profession but more than a hobby, a means of creating beauty, though it requires patience, some sacrifice, and much labor (albeit a labor of love).



Kusler's

B. 'Crispie'

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

"Begonias from Seed — Sowing and Growing" gives step-by-step easy to follow instructions and encouragement for beginning seed growers. Price 25¢

No. 1 — *B. versicolor* — China

Miniature terrarium plant. Three inch leaves are toned mahogany, emerald, silver, apple-green and maroon. *B. versicolor* will not survive in dry conditions, temperatures should be from 70–75 degrees and humidity should be high. Seed requires from 3 to 6 weeks to germinate, even longer in some cases where conditions are not right. Fair amount of seed but please do not request more than one packet, we do not have that many. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

(Note from Chuck Tagg, California)

"We have discovered that our *B. versicolor* prefers a soil medium of straight unmilled sphagnum. Since bare rooting our plant and wrapping the root ball in sphagnum moss, it has started growing forwards again. If you have trouble in growing this plant, try this method — we think you will like it."

No. 2 — *B. Rex* — 'Changeant'

This special strain offers a wide variety of colorful leaf patterns and are more easily produced from seed than leaf cuttings. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3 — *ecuadore* sp.

Seed were offered a few months ago and we can now report that the plants are outstanding having an almost black leaf on top and deep red beneath. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

(Note from a grower in Europe)

"The seed from India you distributed last fall were very interesting but some of them were incorrectly named — *B. rubro-venia* turned out to be *B. tenuifolia* and *B. josephi* var. *minor* is not that species but I have not been able to identify it."

No. 4 — *tenuifolia* — Java

Upright and short branched. Many pointed, tapering leaves, deep green above, lighter below, with rosy veins. Large abundant delicate pink flowers. Price 50¢ per pkt.

No. 5 — *B. domingensis*

Flowers profusely with large inflorescences of small white flowers with a crimson center. Price 50¢ per pkt.

No. 6 — *B. tomentosa* — Brazil

Thick, succulent leaves of rich green with downy hair beneath. Pink rimmed white flowers with short red whiskers. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 7 — *roxburghii* — India

Medium sized, medium green leaves, heart shaped, with saw-toothed edges, covered with small raised dots and fine white hairs; fragrant white flowers. Good *Begonia*. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 8 — *B. sikkimensis* — India

Stems erect, about a foot high; leaves broad ovate, about 4 x 6 inches toothed and ciliate; flowers, pedicels and bracts bright red. This *Begonia* requires a longer time for seed to germinate than some of the others. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 9 — *evansiana*

Attractive, fairly hardy bulbous *Begonia* for semi-shade or borders.

PLEASE TURN PAGE

Bulbils form where leaf joins onto the stem and may be stored and planted in spring. Flowers large and pink. One of the easiest to grow from seed. Price 50¢ per pkt.

No. 10 — B. sc 'Frosty'

Semperflorens with bronze leaves and glistening white flowers; small growing and hardy. Price 50¢ per pkt.

Note from Florida:

"The *Gynura* seed I purchased from you several months ago have germinated after 4 months over bottom heat. The *Adiantum* and *Platyserium* fern spores have also germinated very well."

Greenhouse plants:

Streptocarpus rexi var *biflorus* — Small growing with twin flowers. Price 50¢ per pkt.

Sinningia x 'Doll Baby' — Very popular small growing *Sinningia*. Blue slipper flowers. Price 50¢ per pkt.

Anthurium — Black flowers, small growing, good foliage. No identification. Comes from Costa Rica. Price 50¢ per pkt.

Other genera:

Jarilla — Seed collected in Mexico. See elsewhere in magazine for description and information. Price 25¢ per pkt.

Send request for seed to:

Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
234 Birch Street
Roseville, Calif. 95678

A subscription to "The Begonian"
would make a nice Birthday gift or a
Gift for any occasion.

JARILLA

by R. H. Terrell, *Sonora, Mexico*

Meet a poor uncultured country cousin of the papaya family, a leafy mesophytic, rather succulent herb, dioecious, and perennial from a crown of erect tubers, apparently an endemic of the short tree area of Sonora, between the desert and the tropics. The plant grows from two to three feet high, resembling the papaya, usually having a single unbranched trunk and large notched leaves borne on a long petiole. The flowers are produced in the axils, the male being borne on long branching stems. They are small cream colored stars with a jasmine like odor. The female flowers are larger, bell-shaped, borne on a very short stem.

The fruits grow to about the size of a hens egg, ovoid in shape with the upper end flattened and the lower end pointed. It has five longitudinal ribs converging at the point and terminating in an elevated peak or crest at the rim of the flat top of the fruit. When ripe the fruit turns yellow or red and the red color with the rib and crest give it the common Spanish name of "Cresta de Gallo" (cocks comb). The fruits are casually eaten by the natives and have an exotic, piquant flavor suggestive of lemon.

To grow the Jarilla in our gardens, plant the seeds in May in good loam having plenty of humus. Keep the planter moist but not sopping wet. If it has not sprouted by the end of June, give it a thorough soaking, then water no more until the soil is fairly dry, then repeat this treatment until the plant emerges. After this water liberally about every three

(CONTINUED ON BOTTOM OF PAGE 91)

BEGONIA BASICS

for Beginners

by Elda Haring, *Greenwich, Connecticut*

SOIL MIXES FOR BEGINNERS:

The problem of what soil mixes to use for potting *Begonias* is most puzzling to beginner growers. In reading books and articles we become confused for it would seem that each individual grower has his own favorite soil mix; or a book will give so many suitable combinations that it is not surprising that the beginner becomes bewildered. In visiting Florida *Begonia* enthusiasts this winter, I have found them all growing lovely plants but each uses a different potting mix. As most readers of this column know, for my plants, I like a mix of 2 parts garden loam, 1 part sand and 1 of peat moss. But garden soils vary from state to state. Some of them are heavy clay and some are sandy. Some are very light with no moisture holding qualities. Soils in some states are badly infected with nematodes, small insect pests that attack roots of plants, stunting their growth. How then could I hope to assist beginners all over the country to solve their problems? If you have

been growing other indoor plants successfully, using soil from your own gardens, you will find that *Begonias* will do well with these. Individual varieties and species often do much better, however, if we add other basic ingredients. My advice to beginners is not to attempt complicated mixes at first. Learn a great deal about the particular variety you are growing before adding manure or fish meal or other nutrients to your potting soil.

Do read The Begonian carefully each month. Reports in Round Robins are always helpful for they report what members are doing where they live. Other articles written by experts from all over the country contain much basic information. The best bet for the beginner who does not have access to good garden soil is to grow plants in the packaged potting mixes that are available in every garden supply shop and in supermarkets everywhere. Apartment dwellers, of course, cannot usually obtain garden soil nor can those who live on small lots, spare soils from their gardens. Packaged potting mixes will solve the problem but these mixes tend to be very dry and often pack. Water does not drain quickly through them. Therefore, I suggest you add to each 2 quarts of the mix, 1 pint of builders sand. If you find it difficult to obtain where you live, use parakeet gravel which is available in every grocery store in small packages. I have tried this in my experiments

PLEASE TURN PAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 90)

days being sure there is good drainage.

About October the plant will dry off at the base and fall over. Lay the pot on its side and keep the soil barely moist until the middle of May or June, water well until it sprouts then treat as above.

The plant should bloom and bear fruit in its second year. If you want fruit you should grow both the male and female plant.

and have found that *Begonias* grow very well in such a mix. Please keep in mind that I am making this recommendation especially for those beginners who are uncertain what to use when first starting out with growing *Begonias* if it is not possible to use a soil mix similar to my favorite one. Incidentally, I have also found that leaves and cuttings root readily in a mixture of ½ packaged mix and ½ parakeet gravel. In the future there will be more in these "Begonia Basics" about various soil mixes used with success in many parts of the country.

Begonias will grow to specimen size in pure sand if you will feed them a diluted solution of RAPID-GRO every week, using ¼ the recommended strength for house plants and I have also grown many *Begonias* successfully in a mixture of 1/3 each, vermiculite, perlite and milled sphagnum as well as in ½ sand and ½ peat moss. I might also add that the packaged potting soils based on the famous Cornell Mix called Jiffy-Mix or Redi-Earth are also excellent for use as potting soils for *Begonias* but to these it is preferable to add perlite or parakeet gravel for aeration and as these mixes are very light the addition of the above materials will give greater stability to the pot, especially if you are using plastic pots.

APRIL

A gush of bird-song, a patter of dew,
A cloud, and a rainbow's warning,
Suddenly sunshine and perfect blue —
An April day in the morning.

Harriet Prescott Spofford

RESEARCH REPORT

Donations to the Research Fund, totaling \$85.00 have been received this month from the following Branches:

Buxton Branch

Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch

William Penn Branch

These donations bring the Research Fund to \$693.52.

Word has been received from Dr. Rutland of the University of Georgia that work will start soon on the Research Project on artificial media.

Research on the *Begoniaceae* is being done in two other areas by J. C. Arends in the Horticultural Laboratory at Wageningen, The Netherlands and by Dr. Fred Barkley of Northeastern University, Boston. At present Dr. Barkley has three graduate students working on genetics and developmental anatomy of *Begonias*. J. C. Arends has published a paper on "Somatic Chromosomes Numbers in *Elatior Begonias*".

The Foothill and the San Gabriel Valley Branches of California have joined in the Herb. Warrick Question and Answer Project.

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu
Research Director



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JUDGES ARE NEEDED

by Ruth Pease, *Director, ABS Judges Course*

The hue and cry from different show committees has been "where do we find trained *Begonia* Judges"? On the other side of the coin, we have had those interested in learning how to judge ask "when will we have another judging class"? To answer these needs, another class in judging *Begonias*, as well as other shade plants, began in November 1970.

Class sessions include the following:

Introduction to the course

- (1.) What a judge expects of a flower show and plants.
- (2.) What is expected of a flower show judge.
3. *Begonias* having *semperflorens* characteristics
4. Rhizomatous *Begonias*
5. Shrub-like (bare leaved) *Begonias*
6. Shrub-like (hairy leaved) *Begonias*
7. Cane-like and Thick stemmed *Begonia* groups
8. *Rex cultorum*
9. Semi-tuberous, tuberous species and tuberhybrida *Begonias*
10. New cultivars, collections and displays
11. Summary of the *Begonia* course.

Scheduling of guest speakers to give instructions in judging Ferns, Fuschias, Gesneriads, Bromeliads depend largely upon their availability during a season when shows are prevalent. These classes will be announced as soon as possible.

Emphasis is being placed on the fact that judges should be growers. Homework is required of those planning to receive their sophomore judges cards on completion of the course. Conscientious judges are needed. Exhibitors and show personnel will also benefit from the information given in these lessons.

Have you a question about judging? Many are asked in class. The questions and answers about judging, classification, point scoring and different *Begonias* appear in the mimeographed copies of the class sessions. We are updating the 1965 course by reviewing the 1969 ABS approved classification and point scoring systems, and the judging and show procedures as we know them now. Therefore, anyone ordering the course now will receive the 1965 information and mimeographed copies of the class sessions as they are completed for the one price, \$5.00.

If you have taken the 1965 course and wish the mimeographed copies of the information gathered during the current class workshop, send \$2.50. They will be mailed as completed. Postage is included in the above figures. We look forward to hearing from many of you. Send checks payable to the American Begonia Society to:

Mrs. Ruth Pease
Director, ABS Judges Course
8101 Vicksburg Avenue
Los Angeles, Calif. 90045



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY BOOKLETS

Point Scoring System for Judging
Begonias \$1.25

A Suggested Guide to Classification
of *Begonias* for Show Purposes \$1.50

ORDER FROM: Ruth Pease
8101 Vicksburg Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90045

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Robins are flying, full of new ideas, questions, answers and comparing notes.

B. serratipetala:

Jane Neal of England, writes that she saw a magnificent plant of *B. serratipetala* at Wageningen, but like hers, this plant has never borne a male flower. Also like her plant, will not set any seed, no matter what they try to pollinate with. Jane would like very much to have seed of any *B. serratipetala* that carried both male and female flowers, and was selfed before it set seed.

B. prismatocarpa:

Jane writes that *B. prismatocarpa* should do well under the same conditions as *B. versicolor* — warmth, high humidity and peat. It is a delightful little *Begonia* and should present orange two petaled flowers in the late summer. The female has a wingless ovary, and the tiny male has three scarlet stripes on his upper tepal. Jane reports that no one in England has gotten seed, but she noted that in the spring the mature plant drops a leaf complete with stem, and this roots and produces another plant in double quick time.

B. boweri:

A year ago, Thelma O'Reilly of La Mesa, California sent to Jane, a "*B. boweri* as grown on the California coast", a plant she labeled as *B. boweri nigra-veinia*, and another *B. boweri nigra-media*. Jane already had *B. boweri nigra-marga*. Jane selfed seed from all of them. *B. boweri nigra-veinia* proved steril. *B. boweri nigra-media* was very fertil as was Thelma's *B. boweri*, also Jane's

own *B. boweri nigra-marga*. But the difference in the seedlings has been startling. All were germinated at the same time; *B. boweri nigra-media* had produced about 75% *boweri* — some plants with heavier markings, 20% are *boweri nigra-media*, 5% are *boweri nigra-veinia*. The *boweri nigra-marga* seed gave *marga* and *media* in equal numbers; and the *B. boweri* appears to have only *boweri* seedlings. The flowers have already opened on the *B. boweri nigra-media* and seem to have a greenish color over the white. Jane is waiting for Thelma's *B. boweri* or Mac's (Mac Intyre of England) to flower this year, because she feels certain that they were a delicate pink. Incidentally, seedling plants of Mac's *boweri* (it shows heavier stitching than Thelma's) are in no way different to Thelma's. Jane wants to set seed from the whole collection and send it out to growers, to grow on and note the difference. Jane also reports that a leaf cutting of *B. boweri nigra-media* reverts to *B. boweri nigra-marga*.

Growing from seed:

John Yochum of Princeton, Indiana reported germination on seed planted October 20th: *B. 'Red Wonder'*, *'Helene Harmes'*, *wollnyi*, *'Leuchtfleur'*, *'Luminosa Compacta'*, *'Tasso'*, *'White Christmas'*, *'Kathy'*, *plumieri* (*plumeri*?) and *'Linda'*. He had transplanted them January 1st using a modified ink pen to lift the seedlings in transplanting. He believes he has been leaving the seedlings in the seed pan too long. In this transplanting he used equal parts peat moss, perlite and sand in plastic boxes that were 12 x 24

inches x 2 inches. He placed the seedlings about an inch apart and they were thriving.

To start 1971 out right, John planted seed of *B. megaptera*, *hydrocotylifolia*, *versicolor*, *xanthina*, and *schmidtiana*, Gene Daniels' hybrid tuberous box 45, Parks Nos. 0302, 2685 and 2772 and had germination in two weeks. For this batch of seed he used another method. He filled a 2¼ inch pot almost full of perlite (to within ¼ inch of rim) and finished filling with finely sifted leafmold. He sowed the seed on the sifted leafmold and set the pot in a plastic box (he found a plastic sweater box that would hold 19 of the 2¼ inch pots). He soaked the perlite overnight before putting it in the pots. Distilled water was added in the sweater box until the pots were setting in about ¼ inch of water, the lids were put in place, then placed on a heat cable. John has found this the most satisfactory method of planting seed so far. A minimum of space is required and there is no danger of the seed pans drying out and the tiny seedlings are far more easily detected than in previous mediums he has used.

Kusler hybrids:

Rosetta White of Abilene, Kansas has found that wedge cuttings of leaves will root faster and send up plantlets than the whole leaf cuts. She has put leaves to root of *B. 'Miyo Berger'*, *'Victoria Kartack'*, *'Posy Wahl'*, *'Clara Elizabeth'*, *'Lil O'Neill'*, *'Marjorie Sibley'*, *'Peggy Stevens'* and *'Margaret Stevens'*. Rosetta also reports she put leaves and rhizome cuttings of *B. 'Raquel Wood'* down to root and had one leaf send up plantlets that were entirely different. The leaf is more

like *'Bow-Nigra'* texture, is indented and pointed with very noticeable white hairs on the edge of the leaf. The edge is so dark it almost looks black. She has put down leaves of the new plant to see what they will look like.

Pat Burdick of Burnsville, Minnesota reported that she put her Kusler hybrid plants in the garden last summer, in a row, and they all bloomed the whole time.

Hazel Harmon of Ottawa, Kansas has the idea that she gets very few female blossoms on her *B. 'Laura Englebert'* when it is in the basement. She put one plant upstairs in a West window and it has more and larger flowers. She thinks it will have female bloom up there. Hazel reports fragrance of *B. 'Martha Floro'* and *B. 'Marjorie Sibley'*. *B. 'Grace Lucas'* does a lot of queer things for her. She feels that you must get a good strong plant growing with some age on it and then it won't give you any trouble. She has a three year old plant from which she has taken many cuts, mostly to shape it, and it still looks good. Hazel keeps *B. 'Miyo Berger'* and *B. 'Grace Lucas'* in a warm place.

Begonia seedlings:

Mae Blanton of Mesquite, Texas reported her *B. socotrana* seedlings have grown steadily through the winter in the protection of a bubble bowl in her home and are looking more like the real thing now. She hopes to keep them going until spring and then let them go dormant for the summer.

Mae has three seedlings of her own cross of *B. ulmifolia* x *echinosepala* and they are becoming very interesting plants. They have leaves

PLEASE TURN PAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 95)

of a very rosy shade of iridescent color like changeable taffeta (it took a bit of getting used to at first because she thought the leaves were water soaked and losing vigor until she discovered they changed as you moved into a different view of them), very sparsely hairy with red veins. It should make a pretty basket plant as it curves down and branches well as both parents do.

Something to remember:

Jane feels that mixed seed is due to someone not realizing that it is wind disseminated seed and that the air can be full of seed you cannot see or it is sticking to clothes and hands. Jane had a lesson on that last spring. She had a plant of B. 'Virbob' growing on the kitchen window sill in a completely closed tank. Also it was nowhere near the greenhouse. Yet a vertiable sea of seedlings came up in it last spring. Jane must have come in from the greenhouse and gone straight to attend to this plant and from her hair and clothes, a mixed batch of seed must have dropped. There were semps and completely unidentifiable plants there. She grew a lot from curiosity but there was nothing of interest among them.

If you would like to be a part of this great and interesting group of *Begonia* growers, write to:

Mrs. Anita Sickmon
Round Robin Director
Route 2, Box 99
Cheney, Kansas 67025

DEADLINE for all material submitted for "The Begonian" is the 1st of the month preceeding the next months issue.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 84)

Lee, 1852 31st Street, San Diego, Calif. 92102 in 1969. It first bloomed and was distributed in 1970. Distinctive because of red sinus, leaf color and pattern; sparse white-hairy collar; woody stem, slightly swollen at base, very succulent when young. Leaves are irregularly pointed, 10 x 7 inches; margins acutely lobed, thin, chatoyant; prominent red veins; smooth green petioles; stipules persistent; leaves emerald green, irregularly silver striped and spotted. Flowers are white, fused pink, quite large, arising from leaf axis and held in a pendulous cluster on short stems; blooms fall and winter. Available from Leatherman's Gardens, 2637 N. Lee Ave., South El Monte, Calif. 91733. Registered October 28, 1970.

No. 273 — *Begonia* ('Scottish Star' x 'Zip') 'Red Planet'

This medium, plain-leaved rhizomatous *Begonia* was developed by M. L. MacIntyre, The Cottage, New Platt Lane, Cranage, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, England in 1969 and first bloomed in 1970. Similar to B. 'Norah Bedson' but the pattern on the leaf is more reticulated, with a red spot at sinus and much more vigorous and larger. Leaves are oblique, cordate, acuminate, 2½ x 3½ inch, uneven and slightly wavy; texture is smooth with green veins; petioles 7 inches long, flushed pink; stipules light green, 1 x ¼ inch; flowers light pink, ½ inch on 12 inch flower stem, blooming in winter and spring; available in Spring 1971 from M. J. Kartuz, Wilmington, Mass. Registered November 10, 1970.

(To be continued next month)



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**The following selection of books are
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- * *Gesneriads And How To Grow Them*. \$7.95
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- * *All About Begonias* \$5.95
by Bernice Brilmayer
- * *So Say The Experts* \$2.00
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the Westchester Branch, A.B.S.
- * *Ferns We Grow by Sylvia* \$3.85
Leatherman and Dorothy Behrends
- * *Begonias Slanted Toward the* \$3.00
Beginner by Dorothy Behrends
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- The Begonian—Complete reprints* . . \$6.00
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**CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE
NATIONAL BOARD MEETING
February 22, 1971**

The meeting was called to order at 7:55 p.m.
After the opening ceremonies, ten officers and
eight Representatives answered roll call.

Reports:

Treasurer; receipts \$1,171.15; disbursements
\$1,134.60; Balance 2-18-71 \$1,540.13.

Membership Chairman; new members 76; re-
newals 128; total members 2,161.

Advertising Manager; receipts \$92.75; unpaid
accounts \$57.50.

Judges Course Director; receipts \$32.75 sales of
3 judging courses, 2 refresher courses, 6 point
scoring books and 3 classification books. Letters
have been sent to Branches advising of a charge
of \$2.50 for the mimeographed supplements to
the judges course.

"Begonia Boat" editor; 16 1 year subscriptions
received, 16 bulk and hoped for more.

Research Director; \$692.52 in Research Fund.
Round Robin; request for new flights received
and assigned.

Show Committee Co-Chairman; theme of 1971
show to be "World of Shade Plants". Program
to consist of cultural articles from the various
shade plant societies, meetings held each month
and progressing well. Show Schedule Committee
meeting held and recommended a species divi-
sion be included of the various classes.

Slide Librarian; three slide programs sold, re-
ceipts \$6.25, new slides donated by Thelma
O'Reilly and Gene Daniels.

Public Relations Director; Buxton Branch to
host the Eastern Convention October 8-9th,
1971, invitation extended to attend; announced
formation of a new branch, the Monterey
Branch by Mrs. Hatfield of Marina, Calif.

Motion that the Branch Directory be printed
every other month beginning with the May
issue. Motion that advertising space of ABS
departments to be determined by Editorial
Committee to be appointed.

Motion to authorize Awards Committee to
publish booklet outlining rules concerning the
various awards.

Motion made to request Editor for a written
report dealing with motions and recommenda-
tions by the special committee reported January
22, 1971.

Motion made and tabled 1-22-71 was recind-
ed and a new motion to appoint an Ideas Com-
mittee was approved; committee to receive
ideas from general membership, to make recom-
mendations to the appropriate officers of the
Board and to submit their own ideas.

Motion to accept the invitation of the San
Miguel Branch to hold a Regional Meeting in
La Mesa April 25th, approved.

After Branch reports, the meeting adjourned
10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Irene Grannell, Secretary

MRS. BERT ROUTH
Louisburg, Missouri 65685

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CALENDAR

April 9 — San Gabriel Valley Branch
7:30 p.m., WORKSHOP Meeting,
Arboretum Nursery. Visit to Be-
gonia Glasshouse.

April 13 — Glendale Branch, 8:00
p.m. Speaker; Rudy Ziesenhenné —
introducing some of his new culti-
vars. Plant table furnished by Rudy.

April 20 — North Long Beach Branch
7:00 p.m. — Pot Luck — Speaker;
Betty Wylder, "Herbs and Witch-
craft".

April 20 — Seattle Branch, 7:00 p.m.
Speaker; Clarence Eastwood, "How
to Make an Espalier".

April 25 — National Board — Re-
gional Meeting. Sunday, 1:00 p.m.
La Mesa Adult Recreation Center,
8550 La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa. Dona-
tion Plant Table; please bring plants.

May 6 — Westchester Branch, 7:30
p.m. Speaker; Mr. W. Cocke,
Epiphyllums from Seed, with slides.

May 6 — Whittier Branch, 7:30 p.m.
Speaker; Ruth Pease, "Growing and
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