

The BEGONIAN

DECEMBER, 1972

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

VOL. 39, NO. 12



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

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CONSTITUTION REVISION APPROVED!

In our recent balloting pertaining to the revision of our By-Laws, Article VI, Annual Dues, Section 1, the results were as follows: In Favor 857; Against 156. (The Constitution of the American Begonia Society as revised appears in the center-fold of this issue.) A telephone poll of members of the Board of Directors ABS expressed appreciation of the membership's confidence in the recording of the overwhelming affirmative vote.

BRANCH NOTES

December 6. San Francisco Branch. Combined installation of officers and annual Christmas celebration. Catered dinner at the Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, \$5.00 each person. Happy time at 6:15 with dinner at 7:00. Entertainment by the Foothill College singers. Bring a wrapped gift for a child, indicating if it is for a boy or girl, giving approximate age. Gifts will be collected by Mr. Sherry of the Fire Department.

December 7. Westchester Branch. Annual 'Whoopee Party'

December 7 — Whittier Branch. Annual Christmas Party of the Begonia and Fuchsia Whittier Branches. Pot Luck dinner at 6:30 P.M. Bring your own table service and vegetable, salad or dessert. Meat will be furnished by the branches. Christmas Tree and gift exchange. Please mark your gift "his" or "hers".

December 19. Seattle Begonia Society annual Christmas Party. Time and place to be announced later.

COVER PICTURE

B. decora Stapf. A terrarium plant. Photo by R. Jansen, courtesy of Dr. J. Doorenbos.

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*;

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*.

SEVENTH EASTERN CONVENTION

By Edna M. Stewart

Show Chairman

It was a friendly, happy group who gathered in Webster Hall Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pa. on the afternoon of Sept. 28th to renew old friendships and make new ones. This was the Seventh Begonia Convention sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Branch. This Branch started the Eastern Conventions, being host to the first one in 1966, and it has been sponsored by other Eastern Branches in the intervening years.

Our Convention rooms were all together on one floor. We had a large flower show room that gave ample space to display plants. We had beautiful specimens brought in from New York by the Golding and Thompson families. There were tables with lamps and chairs for folks to gather and visit in a large hallway. We decorated it with large specimen plants from the Wyrzten and Stewart greenhouses. The nicest setting we have ever had for a Convention, in my opinion.

We had four members present who have attended all conventions. Mrs. Ernest Drew from Narberth, Pa., Mrs. Lester Fox from Mass., Mrs. Frank Peck from Rhode Island, and Mrs. Mark Stewart from Pa. We had visiting Begonia members present this year from Oregon, Georgia, North Carolina and four ladies from Florida. Members came from New York, Mass., New Jersey, Virginia, Rhode Island and Penna. Most were members of branches but some were members-at-large.

For our Program, Mr. Kartuz and Mr. Myrtzen had both been to California this past summer and taken many pictures which they showed and described. Mark Golding showed and talked on his bottle planting method. Jack Golding told how his room lighting worked. He had explained at last year's convention how he was setting it up. Arlene Peck talked on hybrids created in the New England district. The Edward



Left to right: Mrs. Corliss Engle of Buxton Branch; Dr. Fred Barkley, President of Buxton Branch; Mr. Toby Lothman of Knickerbocker Branch, Mrs. Carrie Karegeannes of Annandale, Va.; Miss Iris Cohen of Syracuse, N.Y.; Mrs. May Taft Drew of Narberth, Pa., Wm. Penn Branch.

Thompsons told of their growing of begonias and Carrie Kargeannes told of some of the problems of hybridizing. Mrs. Thompson read a paper prepared by Mr. L'Hommedieu on the research program. Mr. L'Hommedieu was unable to attend. Jack Golding was our banquet speaker. He showed slides and talked on "What is a Begonia?" A very fine description of the parts of a begonia and pictures of all parts, even to the root system.

A non-competitive exhibit of begonias was shown in the dining area by James Wyrzten and Edna M. Stewart. Mrs. Stewart displayed an exhibit of Mrs. Mae Blanton's new hybrids. She also had a propagation display and a number of seedlings grown from Rex Changeant seed.

A bus trip on Saturday afternoon through Pittsburgh, stopping at the Pittsburgh Garden Center to view a fall flower show; a tour of the Aviary where birds and flowers mix; and a visit to the Blockhouse where early American history was made.



B. 'Preussen'. Best of Show



Mr. & Mrs. Edward Thompson of Southampton, N.Y., L.I. Branch; and Mr. Michael Kartuz of Wilmington, Mass., Buxton Branch.



Mr. Frank Kerin, Awards Chairman of Western Pa. Branch presenting trophy to Mark Golding of Knickerbocker Branch for the Best in Division K, Novel Methods of Growing.

We had an excellent plant sale directed by Mrs. Alfred Slee. She had many helpers. Mr. McWhorter from S.C. had sent us 100 rexes by United Parcel for our sale.

The show chairman wishes to thank all those who attended, those who contributed plants for sale, and those who purchased them. Also, the judges and the members who set up the floor show and cared for it. And special appreciation to our speakers who were interesting and

informative. And certainly all who made it a success.

Awards were presented to the following:

BEST IN SHOW

Gorham Silver punch bowl permanent trophy

A.B.S. Perpetual Trophy

Won by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Thompson for B. 'Pruessen'



B. lubbersii. Best of division

SWEEPSTAKES

Gorham Silver bowl

A.B.S. Perpetual Trophy

won by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Thompson

DIV. D SEMPERFLORENS CHARACTERISTICS

Gorham silver cup

won by Mrs. Robert Wozniak

DIV. E RHIZOMATOUS

Gorham silver cup

won by the Thompsons for B. 'Bunchii'

DIV. F REX CULTORUM

Gorham silver cup

Won by the Thompsons for B. 'Robin'

DIV. I HOUSE GROWN BEGONIAS

Gorham silver cup

won by Edna M. Stewart for B. 'Clara Elizabeth'

DIV. J BEGONIA COLLECTION. 5 DIFFERENT KUSLER HYBRIDS

Gorham Silver cup

Won by The Thompsons

DIV. K NOVEL METHODS OF GROWING BEGONIAS

Gorham Silver cup

Won by Mark Golding for bottle growing.

DIV. L NOVICE CLASS

Gorham silver bowl

Won by Robert Horvath

* * *

Awards donated by:

American Begonia Society

Buxton Branch

Knickerbocker Branch

Connecticut Branch

William Penn Branch

Western Pennsylvania Branch

Murray D. Morrison

John W. Provine

Mrs. Alva Graham

Mrs. John Fediaczko

Mrs. Joseph DeCroo

Mrs. Edna M. Stewart

Plant awards by:

Anderson Greenhouse,

Phillipsport, N.Y.

Routh's Greenhouse, Louisburg, Missouri.



Division K winner by Mark Golding

REPORT OF THE RESEARCH DIRECTOR

A donation to the Research Fund has been received from the Portland Branch which brings the Fund to \$147.52. This is very encouraging to the Research Director as it is the first donation since June, 1971.

I went out to Rutgers University recently to check our project with Dr. Moser. He was still in need of some of the semi-tuberous and rhizomatous begonias. I was able to take him a few of them. Mrs. Rosetta White of Kansas sent eighteen different Kusler hybrids. Some of them are hybrids of the cane — rhizomatous cross and the cane — semi-tuberous cross. This collection is fairly complete now except for a few hard to find species. However, I feel that my promise to Dr. Moser of supplying all of the begonias that he would need, will soon be fulfilled.

Dr. Moser has finally been able to get a student to work on the project. He has promised to send me a photo of her, together with a photo of the greenhouse and plants being used in the project. This will be sent to *The Begonian* along with information concerning the student and her work with the plants.

An interesting report was received from our research committee member, M. L. MacIntyre of England. He went to the Royal Botanic Gardens of Edinburgh last month and was shown around by the Curator Mr. R. L. Shaw. His visit was all too short as he only had an hour to spare, but he saw many interesting species which he had not seen before, in particular a *Symbegonia* from New Guinea and a *B. sutherlandii* with hirsute leaves that were soft and

velvety to touch. Mac thinks that the *Symbegonia* may be the variety *sanguinea* as it has dark maroon leaves and deep red flowers. This will make another *Symbegonia* under cultivation besides the one described by Dr. J. Doorenbos in the June, 1971 *Begonian*. Mac was presented with a list of all begonias grown at Edinburgh. He finds that they have five New Guinea species and he hopes to go there in another month to see what they are like.

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu
Research Director

EDITOR'S APPEAL!!

To give *The Begonian* the colorful cover that we have been talking about we must have color slides or transparencies, or color photographs. Would you check into your treasures to see if there is a begonia rare and unusual that can be used. Please don't be faint of heart and show too much humility in this endeavor. There is a great opportunity (and I needn't add the thrill) in having your prize plant shown in print. For your protection send it registered mail, and we will return it the same way.

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BEGONIA SHOWS — QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION: Do the names really mean that much on plants entered in shows: What if an exhibitor does not know the name of his Begonia?

ANSWER: Yes, the names do count. Our scoring system allows five points for correct and suitable labeling of Begonias entered in the show. These points are as follows:

Correct name	2
Neatness	1
Lettering legible to public	1
Suitable label for public viewing	1

One point could mean the difference in winning or losing an award in close competition.

In answer to your second question, the classification and registration chairmen can assist in identifying plants; however, there are those Begonias that defy identification and a label stating "unidentified" is better than none.

There are many look-alikes in the semperflorens Begonias and a tag with "semperflorens seedling" or "semperflorens cultivar" is acceptable when the correct name is not known.

At times, judges recognize a plant during judging and may make a note of the name on the exhibitor's entry tag. This would not mean an assist to the exhibitor if at that time the plant were to be point-scored in close competition, but it will help in the future.

QUESTION: What are we to consider the authority for correct spelling of Begonia names?

ANSWER: We have A Suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes approved by the Board of Directors of the American

Begonia Society in 1969. This publication, with corrections noted by Jack Golding in the January, 1972 Begonian, should be used for correct spelling of Begonia names. Catalogs on species and hybrid Begonias are currently being prepared by the Director of Nomenclature. These will give us a further reference to use in the future. For many years we referred to the Buxton Check List (now out of print) and its supplements.

QUESTION: I am studying the lesson on semperflorens in the Judges Course and mention is also made of *schmidtiana* and its cultivars. Do you know the names of any?

ANSWER: I cannot recall any at this time; however, those that I have seen must have been crossed with semperflorens. The leaves, whether a deep bronzy red or a deep green carry the same characteristics as the foliage of *B. schmidtiana*. These plants were compact, taller growing than the *schmidtiana* I have.

QUESTION: Wouldn't it be better to have the judges score all of the entries in New Introductions rather than having them each make a selection and score it afterwards?

ANSWER: Some do this on their own, but this will be incorporated in the instructions given to the team of judges assigned to this division.

QUESTION: What ethics, if any, should be followed by judges?

ANSWER: Naturally, there are ethics that should be adhered to, but I believe the best I can say here is that judges should respect each other. This is discussed in Lessons 1 and 2 of the Judges Course. Reruns of the

course have been assembled and are available for \$6.00.

QUESTION: In scoring a plant by itself, is there a difference in the points given than when a plant is being judged against others for an award?

ANSWER: Yes. We have seen this in our class sessions. As a rule, scores were higher when a plant was scored alone. When there were other plants to use as a measuring stick, the scores were more realistic.

QUESTION: Are judges to be questioned about their decisions during judging?

ANSWER: It would be best to wait until all judging has been completed. Then, if there seems to have been an injustice or several complaints about a decision, the show chairman has the right to request another team

of judges to rejudge the particular entry in order to satisfy all concerned. To be fair, the highest and lowest scores of the six judges should be eliminated, and the average of the remainder of the scores used to determine the outcome of the entry.

Questions printed in these articles have been received in the mail, some were asked in class sessions of the judges course, and others asked by members and non-members during personal conversations.

If you have had problems in your area and wish to ask questions, write to me and I will try to answer personally as well as in this column in a way that will be helpful to all

Ruth Pease

Director, ABS Judges Course
8101 Vicksburg Avenue
Los Angeles, Ca. 90045

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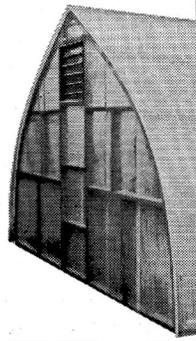
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BEGONIA 'EXOTICA'

By J. S. Womersley

Chief, Division of Botany, LAE, New Guinea

So misleading is the article by Wallace A. Wagner in the June, 1972 issue of the *Begonian* that I must, in all fairness to this country of Papua New Guinea and to botanical science, offer these comments.

The introductory paragraph must have been written to describe this country some fifty years ago. The country is mountainous, hot on the coast, wet and steamy in some areas, elsewhere decidedly dry with a monsoonal climate. Rainfall patterns vary greatly and to speak of an average rainfall for the country is meaningless. Typical rainfalls are Port Moresby (monsoonal) 40" per year, Lae, well distributed but a definite wet season and drier season, 176" per year. The highest recording is on the south coast of New Britain, 400" at Gasmata. Highland towns are seasonally dry with 60-80" per year.

Government and economic development has come rapidly to New Guinea. Prior to 1939 Papua, an Australian Territory was dependent on the Australian Government for an annual grant. New Guinea, administered by Australia under a mandate from the League of Nations had considerable income from gold and copra and was financially independent. With the cessation of hostilities the Territory of Papua and the newly granted Trusteeship of New Guinea were jointly administered by Australia. Today, self government is just around the corner with December, 1973 as the target date. The House of Assembly has 104 elected

members of whom only a few are non indigenous. The annual budget is of the order of 160 million dollars Australan. Roads penetrate widely from Lae to the highlands. The 360 mile trunk route to Mount Hagen carries over 400 trucks, some up to 50 ton semi trailer type vehicles. Driving time by car to Mt. Hagen from Lae is about 11 hours. The highest point on the road exceeds 8,000 feet above sea level.

Beyond Mt. Hagen rural roads extend to the north, west and south. At the end of one of these roads is Baiyer River. Here is the home of the plant which has acquired the colloquial name of *Begonia* 'Exotica', a name which must, I think, be credited to A. B. Graf. The original discovery of this plant was made by the present writer with A. G. Floyd on November 26th, 1954. The field note which accompanies the herbarium collection reads "An erect herb up to 4 feet in a creek (stream). Leaves dark green with purplish pink patches. Flowers pink. Altitude 3000 feet above sea level.

My recollection is that the plants were in dense shade and well protected by surrounding vegetation. On the specimen we hold and in my memory the inflorescences were lateral, not terminal as described for *Begonia breviramosa*. Duplicates of the original collection, under the number NGF 6846 were sent to the herbaria at Leiden, Brisbane and the Arnold & Gray Herbarium.

For some years plants of this species grew well in Lae and from these

distributions have been made to botanic gardens throughout the world. In recent years this fine plant has largely disappeared from cultivation in New Guinea. Several return visits have been made to Baiyer River seeking this plant without success. No attempt has been made by botanists to name this or any of the many hundreds of specimens of *Begonia* which have been collected since 1946 in Papua New Guinea. This is largely due to the fact that Irmischer had most if not all of the collections of *Begonia* from New Guinea in Berlin when the herbarium there was bombed in 1945. These collections were not among those which survived. It is therefore necessary to work from the descriptions which in themselves are based on dried specimens and are not related to growing plants.

The soil in which this plant was growing in nature was alluvial, acid with humus, well drained, yet probably always moist. There was no association with limestone.

We have had further collections of either the same species with differently coloured leaves or a closely related species from several places on the coastal areas of New Britain. This plant is occasionally seen in cultivation in New Guinea.

Comparison of the specimens NGF 6846 with Irmischer's description of *Begonia brevirimosa* reveal, in addition to the inflorescence differences referred to above a number of other points of difference which indicate that the tentative identification from Edinburgh cannot be substantiated.

In conclusion a plea for horticultural work with the *Begonia* species

in New Guinea. The number of species is considerable but many warrant introduction to horticulture. A collector could easily spend a full year in the field travelling widely. Provided the basis of collections is scientifically sound considerable guidance and help could be provided.

J. S. Womersley
Chief, Division of Botany
LAE, New Guinea



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- Classification Guide Compiled by . . . \$1.25
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CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Tuberous Begonia seed should be sown now for early summer blooming, and we offer the following varieties and suggestions for sowing: Sow in January and February. Best germination results are from seed sown February 15th to March 1.

The planting medium and containers should be sterilized with steam or soil fumigant to prevent growth of fungus or weeds.

Use shallow flats or seed pans with ample allowance for drainage. Fill to a depth of one-half inch with moist, well decayed leaf mold, and level. Using a piece of ordinary window screen, sprinkle a thin layer of decayed leaf mold evenly over the surface. Moisten this thoroughly with a light spray of sterilized water. Broadcast the seed, taking care to spread it evenly over the surface to prevent crowding. Dusting the seed with Rootone will make it easier to see on the dark leaf mold.

Water carefully with a light spray of sterilized water. Do not cover the seed. Cover the flats with sheets of glass and darken them with paper until germination. Fog lightly with sterilized water during the fourth day.

Seed will germinate in six to ten days at a constant temperature of 65-70 degrees. As soon as the seed show small white specks, the paper should be removed. Do not remove the glass until after the tiny plants appear. Use extreme care in watching that the surface of the soil does not dry out at this stage of growth.

The glass should be propped open

gradually and then removed. Water carefully as needed. Sterilized water should be used until the third leaf shows on the small plants. The plants may be watered with fresh water for fifteen to twenty days before transplanting. A good mixture for transplanting contains six parts well decayed leaf mold, one part loam, one part sand. After the first transplanting, the seedlings are spaced one inch apart in flats filled to a depth of one and one-half inches. When they become crowded they are transplanted again—this time spaced two or more inches apart.

After the first transplanting, the seedlings respond very well to weekly or bi-weekly applications of a fertilizer solution prepared by diluting ONE tablespoon of fish fertilizer in THREE gallons of water. In five or six weeks they will be ready for potting or planting in the garden.

Seedlings treated as annuals in California and other areas having long growing seasons, produce an abundance of large, beautiful flowers quite rapidly. They bloom from July through November and are a pleasing sight when massed in large areas. Seedlings produce tubers at the end of the season. The following are available now:

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CONSTITUTION

of the American Begonia Society

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the American Begonia Society and shall be conducted on a non-profit basis. The main office of this Society shall be within the County of Los Angeles, California.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. 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;

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.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons who are interested in begonias shall be eligible to membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may revoke the membership of any member for just cause.

Section 2. There shall be three classes of membership in this Society, known as Annual, Life, and Honorary.

Annual Members. Annual members shall have all the usual privileges of membership, and shall pay dues of an amount stated in the Bylaws. Annual Membership shall be for one year from date dues are paid.

Life Members. Life members shall have all the usual privileges of membership. The payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall entitle any person to Life Membership and Life members shall be exempt from any further payment of dues. Life Memberships shall not be subject to cancellation or refund of any part of dues for any reason.

Honorary Members. Any person whom this Society shall deem worthy of the honor may at any Annual Meeting be elected an Honorary Member by a two-thirds vote of the members present; and such election shall specify whether such Honorary Membership is Annual, terminating at the next Annual Meeting, or for life. For each person elected an Honorary Life Member, fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be transferred from the current funds of the Society to the Life Membership Fund. Honorary Members shall have all the usual privileges of membership and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

Section 3. Each Annual, Life or Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Society. Membership shall cover the immediate family, except that only one member of the family shall receive the official publication and exercise the right to vote, unless additional dues are paid.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be: President Emeritus, President, President Elect, Past President, three Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, one Director from each Branch Society, and one Director for each Department of the Society.

Section 2. The President Emeritus shall be Herbert P. Dyckman, Founder and First President of this Society.

Section 3. The President Elect, one Vice President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary shall be elected in August each year by ballot, each member of the Society being entitled to one vote. The President Elect shall serve one year as President Elect, one year as President, and one year as Past President; the Vice President shall serve for three years, the Treasurer and the Secretary shall serve one year. These officers shall be installed at the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. A Director shall be elected annually by each Branch Society and shall serve for one year.

Section 5. All remaining officers shall be Directors to serve as heads of departments, and shall be appointed annually by the President, subject to the approval by a majority vote of the above named elected officers.

Section 6. Any appointed officer may be relieved of his office for just cause, and/or for the good of the Society, by a majority vote of the Elective Members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President Emeritus, the eight officers elected by the entire membership of the Society, the Branch Directors — one elected by each Branch Society — and the Department heads appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society at a time and place to be designated annually by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII. BRANCH SOCIETIES

Section 1. Any group of seven or more members of this Society who wish to affiliate themselves to forward the work and purposes of the Society may be organized into a Branch Society, and upon approval of the Board of Directors shall be issued a Charter.

Section 2. The Charter of any Branch, upon approval of the majority of the Board of Directors, may be suspended, and after due hearing before said Board, upon action of a majority of the Board, may be withdrawn.

ARTICLE VIII. FUNDS

Section 1. The current funds of the Society shall be expended only upon order of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Neither the Board of Directors, nor anyone delegated by them, nor any of the officers, shall incur any debt or liability in the name of the Society beyond the available or maturing funds in the hands of the Treasurer, excluding money and securities held for a specific purpose.

Section 3. All monies received for Life Memberships shall be invested by the Treasurer as may be directed by the Board of Directors, and only the interest accrued therefrom shall be used for the current expenses of the Society.

Section 4. The fiscal year shall start on September first.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting. Such amendments shall then be submitted by mail to the membership in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. The Membership Secretary shall mail a ballot covering the proposed Amendment to each member of the Society within thirty (30) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated, with the request that the member vote, upon said Amendment and mail his ballot to reach the Secretary within sixty (60) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the Amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors, when published in the official publications of the Society.

ARTICLE X. RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings, and the decision of all questions not specifically covered by this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI. ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Section 1. This Constitution and Bylaws shall be subject to the same rules of adoption laid down in Article IX concerning Amendments, and upon adoption shall go into effect, superseding all former Constitutions and Bylaws, when published in the official publications of the Society.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors; shall appoint the heads of the various Departments; and shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society.

Section 2. The President Elect shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the latter, or whenever the President is unable to perform the duties of his office.

Section 3. The Past President shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee. This committee shall consist of the Past President, Treasurer, and Business Manager, and shall submit an annual budget for the approval of the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting of the Society. Any proposed expenditure in excess of \$50.00 shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for recommendation before being voted upon by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Vice Presidents, in the order of their seniority, shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of, or the disability of the President and the President Elect. The Vice Presidents may be assigned by the President the duties of one of the appointed officers outlined under Article II of these Bylaws.

Section 5. The Directors elected by each Branch shall attend the meetings of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society when possible, shall make such reports and recommendations as will further the interests of the Society, and shall file an annual written report of the Branch activities with the Secretary of the American Begonia Society at the last regular meeting of the Board of Directors prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall receive and account for all monies of the Society and shall pay out the monies under the directions of the Board of Directors. He shall file bond in such surety company and in such sum as the Board of Directors may determine. He shall make, to the Board of Directors monthly, and to the Society annually, a report of all receipts and disbursements. The annual report made by the Treasurer shall be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society and shall be accompanied by a report of audits made by an audit committee of two members appointed by the President.

Section 7. The Secretary shall keep the records of the proceedings of the Society and of the Board of Directors, shall conduct necessary correspondence, and shall have charge of the records of the Society,

except such basic records as are necessary for the proper functioning of the various departments and offices. The Secretary shall condense the minutes of the regular Board meetings, and shall transmit them to the Editor for publication in **The Begonian**, not later than the first day of the month following the regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II. APPOINTED OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The officers to be appointed by the President as Directors to serve as heads of Departments shall be as follows: Editor, Business Manager, Membership Secretary, Research Director, the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director, Nomenclature Director, Public Relations Director, Librarian, Chairman of the Speakers Bureau and Slide Library, Chairman of the Flower Show Committee, Historian, Chairman of the Committee of Awards, Chairman of the School for Judges, Parliamentarian, and such other heads of Departments as shall hereafter be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Editor shall have charge of the Publications Department and shall, under the direction of the Board of Directors, prepare and issue such publications as the Board of Directors and Society shall authorize and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall require of him. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 3. The Business Manager shall act as business agent for the Board of Directors and for the Publications Department; shall act as advertising manager for the official publication and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may require of him. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses, if any.

Section 4. The Membership Secretary shall receive all dues, which shall be deposited immediately with the Treasurer; keep an accurate roster of the membership of the Society; and have charge of the mailing and selling of back numbers of the official publication, less than one year old; and of the sale and distribution of all other special bulletins and directories. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 5. The Research Director shall have charge of the Research Department; of arranging for the testing of begonias in test gardens in different locations throughout the country; and of collecting information relative to the culture, propagation and housing of begonias and companion plants.

Section 6. The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director shall have charge of the importation of seed of new begonias and companion plants, and the distribution of the same to the membership. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 7. The Nomenclature Director shall have charge of determining and establishing correct names of species and established varieties of begonias; of approving and registering all newly developed horticultural varieties of begonias; and shall cooperate with the Editor in the publication of the results of his work.

Section 8. The Public Relations Director shall have charge of the Public Relations Department; of contacting prospective members; promoting and assisting in the formation of new Branch Societies; and seeing that the affairs of the Society receive the fullest publicity.

Section 9. The Librarian shall establish and maintain a circulating library for the use of the officers and members of the Society; shall preserve three copies of all publications of the Society and shall have charge of the mailing and selling of all issues of the official monthly publications over 12 months old. The Board of Directors shall determine his allowable expenses.

Section 10. The Chairman of the Speakers Bureau and Slide Library shall provide lists of speakers and a slide library for the use of the Branches.

Section 11. The Chairman of the Flower Show Committee shall prepare show schedules and encourage begonia shows and the use of begonias in flower shows, and maintain a register of the American Begonia Society Trophies.

Section 12. The Historian shall maintain a complete history of the Society.

Section 13. The Chairman of the Committee of Awards shall be the representative of this Committee on the Board of Directors. The duties of this committee are outlined in Article V of these Bylaws.

Section 14. The Chairman of the School for Judges shall have charge of the instruction and examination of potential Begonia Judges, and will accredit those qualifying, the names of whom shall be submitted to the Board of Directors with his regular monthly report.

Section 15. The Parliamentarian shall see that all proceedings of the meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors are conducted according to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society and where a question is not specifically covered there, Robert's Rules of Order is to be cited by him.

ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the administrative and executive body of this Society; shall transact all business of the Society between Annual Meetings; arrange for Annual Meetings and any special meetings; establish and appoint such special committees as may be necessary to promote the objectives of the Society; approve the establishment of Branch Societies and issue charters to them; and make such regulations as may be necessary for the good of this Society.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet at least four times a year and/or monthly on call of the President, or in his absence by the President Elect, the time and place to be published in the official publication.

ARTICLE IV. DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. The activities of the Society shall be divided into Departments and Committees under the charge of officers elected or appointed for such department or committee.

Section 2. The Department Directors may recommend the appointment of such special officers, assistants, or specialists as may be necessary to properly conduct the affairs of their departments.

Section 3. Each Department Director shall make a report at the annual meeting and such other reports as may be required by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEE OF AWARDS

Section 1. The Committee of Awards shall consist of six members and the Nomenclature Director. Two members will be appointed yearly for a three year term by the President, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. In the event of a vacancy it shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors, for the balance of the unexpired term. The President shall appoint the Chairman of the Committee of Awards.

Section 2. The Committee of Awards shall study each year the system of ratings and awards and make its recommendations of general policy to the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Committee of Awards shall receive and study carefully the reports of the judges and on the basis of this study shall make its recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Committee of Awards shall grant the awards of the American Begonia Society, including the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal, the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, and such other special awards as may be established and approved by the Board of Directors, subject to such regulations as the Board of Directors may adopt.

ARTICLE VI. ANNUAL DUES

Section 1. The dues of annual members shall be determined by the Board of Directors of this organization at necessary intervals of not less than one year through a majority vote of the Board of Directors including proxy votes of branch representatives not present at the initiating meeting. Members in arrears thirty days shall be dropped from the rolls of the Society and their names removed from the mailing list of the official publication until the arrearage has been paid.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. The President shall appoint, not later than 150 days before the Annual Meeting, a nominating committee of three, who shall be Presidents or Past Presidents of Branch Societies. This Committee, not later than 90 days before the Annual Meeting, shall report to the Board of Directors at least two nominations for each elective office to be filled at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Additional nominations may be made by a petition signed by at least fourteen members of the Society, if made and delivered to the Secretary at least 80 days before the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. An official ballot containing the names of all nominees shall be mailed to each eligible voter at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Eligible voters shall mail their ballots to the Secretary of the Society not later than 14 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Only ballots received seven days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be counted.

Section 5. The Secretary shall deliver the ballots on the seventh day preceding the Annual Meeting to a committee of three members appointed by the President. This committee shall count the ballots and make an immediate report in writing to the Secretary of the results of the election, together with the ballots cast, after which all candidates shall be notified of the results of the election immediately by the Secretary.

Section 6. Vacancies in office, either elective or appointive, shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Elected Members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM

Section 1. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum for the Annual Meeting or any special meeting.

Section 2. Fifteen members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for any Board Meeting.

ARTICLE IX. BRANCH SOCIETIES

Section 1. Any member of this Society may affiliate with any Branch Society provided he meets the requirements for membership in that Branch.

Section 2. Each Branch Society shall have a Constitution and Bylaws, both of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society; it shall require that one member of each family maintain membership in the American Begonia Society; it must include among its officers a President, a Secretary, and a National Director, each being a different person; it may determine its own officers, other than those specified above; it may make additional qualifications for membership; it may determine the manner in which its local activities shall be financed; and it may determine its own activities and meetings provided that those activities and requirements in no way conflict with the National Constitution and/or Bylaws.

Section 3. Each Branch Society shall file with the Secretary of the American Begonia Society a copy of its Constitution and Bylaws and all subsequent amendments.

Section 4. Each Branch Society shall file with the Membership Secretary of the American Begonia Society the names and addresses of all new members, together with their dues, as received.

Section 5. Each Branch Society shall furnish the Secretary of the American Begonia Society with the names and addresses of all officers of the Branch immediately following elections.

ARTICLE X. PROPERTIES

Section 1. All properties and physical assets of the Society are under the control of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Approval must be obtained from the National Board before the disposal of any property of the Society. This shall apply to material going to individuals as well as institutions.

Section 3. Each officer, whether elected or appointed, shall be responsible for a complete account-

ing of Society properties through equipment lists, book lists or inventory of other Society properties to the President Elect at the time accounting for the year is closed, prior to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the Bylaws may be initiated by a majority vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting or special meeting called for this purpose, or by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. Such amendment shall then be submitted by mail to the membership in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. The Membership Secretary shall mail a ballot covering the proposed amendment to each member of the Society within thirty (30) days after the amendment is initiated, with the request that the member vote upon said amendment and mail his ballot to reach the Secretary within sixty (60) days after the meeting at which the amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors when published in the next issue of the official publication of the Society.

STANDING RULES FOR FUTURE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

National Board Duties

1. Appoint a Convention Advisory Committee of five members, that have had Convention experience, to be replaced upon expiration of term. Committee will outline a system that will take care of all the minor details that are so essential to the success of a National Convention.

- a. Two to serve 3 years; two to serve 2 years; and one to serve 1 year.
- b. Chairman of this committee to be the President of the A. B. S. each year.

2. Establish Headquarters at the Convention and arrange conferences for our various working divisions. Keep a register of all officers, delegates and A. B. S. members. (Convention addresses and phone numbers.) Provide a bulletin board for contacts among our officers and delegates. Hold Open-House at Headquarters the evening preceding the Annual meeting, having our Founder and Mrs. Dyckman, our President and other Board officers as hosts.

a. Arrange for at least two National Officers to be on duty at all times.

3. Have supervision of Competitive Show as per subdivisions:

- a. Prepare Show Schedule for Host Branch.
- b. Provide clerks and judges and standard material with which to work. Judges should not be charged registration and should be given programs. Also be allowed travel expenses and transportation to show from where judges are housed, if necessary.
- c. Make Competitive Show Awards, Trophies, certificates of award and Robinson Memorial Medals.
4. Collaborate with Host Branch on Brochure. Have A. B. S. Flower Show Schedule printed herein for benefit of Show visitors.
5. National Board officers to provide material for the Nomenclature Begonia Study show in which every possible known begonia might be presented. This exhibit to be in the same room with educational displays. Glass show cases for rare plants could be provided. This Show to be open and free to all members of the A. B. S. during the period of the Convention and to have space for Round Table discussions with two members, qualified to assist visitors with their problems, in attendance at all times.

6. Saturday Afternoon Meeting; Time, 2:30 p.m. which will provide more time for delegates to return to hotels and dress for the evening.

- a. Require all National Officers to submit written Annual Reports at the Board meeting preceding the National Convention (eliminating these reports at Convention.)
 - b. Recognize each National Director present who will report the number of Branch members present.
 - c. Prepare a constructive program.
 - d. Confine business meeting to acceptance of bids for the next Convention; change in the Constitution and By-Laws or those matters requiring the vote of the entire membership, report on ballots and result of election. Allow limited period for discussion of suggestions pertaining to the expansion and improving of the American Begonia Society.
7. Saturday Evening Meeting.
- a. Select the installing officer, allowing President Elect the courtesy of choice if desired. Plan a uniform installation to be used at each Convention, with some latitude given to the installing officer to use in his or her opening and closing remarks.
 - b. Installation would include recognition of Past President and National Directors.
 - c. National Show Chairman presents the Award for the Competitive Show.

Convention Host Branch

Pre-Convention Activities.

Any branch wishing to Host the Annual Convention should so state at the previous Convention.

Host Branch should set a date for a Convention as close to the Labor Day weekend as possible, subject to approval by the National Board.

Any and all information regarding buildings, finances, date of convention, banquet arrangements, housing facilities, shall be included in a formal letter to the National Board as soon as possible.

1. Provide suitable quarters for competitive how and have complete charge of setting up show for judging, and provide entry blanks; also make cash awards.
2. Provide suitable quarters for afternoon and evening Convention meetings.
3. Have full charge of Saturday evening banquet. During the banquet reserve the meal-time for chatter and visiting. Mix the delegates and members. (We meet with our own Branch members twelve months of the year.) Have the period of introductions and entertainment follow the dessert.
4. Have full charge of housing delegates.
5. Have full charge of local flower show. Make awards (if any) for this show.
 - a. Sell tickets to the general public only.
 - b. Collect Registration Fee from delegates and A. B. S. members.
 - c. Provide suitable badges.
6. Plan Sunday Garden Tour.
7. Provide suitable quarters for the National Board to use as Headquarters and Conference room at the site of Convention. Provide nomenclature room for Educational displays and round table discussion. Space may also be needed for Seed Fund. Library and Research Departments.
8. Host Branch to select speaker, submitting name of speaker and subject for approval of the National Board; care for his entertainment, accommodations and transportation during the Convention.
9. Any and all monies raised through the A. B. S. by approval of the National Board must be accounted for to the Board.
10. Provide Public Liability Insurance and First-Aid.

No. 4—B. Tuberhybrida — Clear rose.

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In addition to the above large type we offer the following multiflora type. If seed are sown early they will start flowering in about four months and are invaluable as bedding and pot plants, are low growing, do not require staking, and will take more sun than the larger type.

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No. 8—B. Multiflora 'Leuchfeuer'

Abundance of orange-scarlet flowers on small compact plants. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 9—B. Rex — Germany

All of the popular colors and color combinations. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 10—B. 'Color Queen' New.

Bright scarlet semperflorens type with variegated leaves which are mottled with white and green. Mottling deepens to pink out doors, as green leaves turn bronze. Choice and not many seed. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 11—B. sc 'Linda' Rich rose.

Very free flowering, large flowered and compact. Resists disease and ad-

verse weather. Early. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 12—B. sc 'Caravelle red' Bright orange-scarlet.

Early with large two inch florets and large leaves. Price 50 cents per pkt.

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ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Interest in robins is picking up with the new season. A request has been received for an all-Colorado flight if there are enough interested Begonia growers living in Colorado to participate.

I am pleased to announce that Elda Haring has consented to serve as one of our co-directors, giving us a total of six co-directors in this department.

A number of experiments are being carried on by the robin members and results are being compared. Anita Sickmon of Kansas has been experimenting quite a bit with lime, after noting how many descriptions of Begonias mentioned that they were found on the limestone rocks in the limestone hills. On some plants she uses a small amount of lime; on others she has used a whole handful. One plant in particular made two new leaves in a short time after the use of lime. She is using lime water on many of her species to see if they will improve and grow faster. She is researching Begonia material and listing Begonias found growing on limestone. Many are found in Mexico and Central America.

Vernia Routh of Missouri uses lime on top of the sand in her cutting bench and on all her Begonias. She feels it helps the plants and discourages snails.

Vivian Stewart of Washington saws seashells for art work, saving the powder from the sawing, using it around her plants. Some have already showed signs of improvement.

Olive Lever of New Zealand has a prapogator outside along one side of the glasshouse with a heating

cable going in the sand at night only. She really neglected this bed for months, not even watering it so it only received water from rain that leaked into it. When she opened it in July to prepare it for spring cuttings she found that it was full of masses of baby plants from leaves she had poked in and forgotten. She had not even turned the heaters on because she thought they would be dead anyway. Even hard to grow plants like *B. imperialis* were thriving.

Patt Schumacher of Florida shared what her father had taught her about rooting cuttings in water and being successful in transferring them to growing mix or sand, depending on whether it was a hard or soft stem, just as soon as the roots struck. By that, he meant as soon as the roots had formed enough to be visible. For Begonias, he recommended the sharp sand, kept evenly moist but not soggy. Patt finds this works best with cane and leaf cuttings. The next transplanting was into a very porous mix. She has been trying a little different method with some success: on sturdy leaves and canes, she puts them into foam cup with long sphagnum (the fresh kind) and puts some water in it. She finds that as the water level drops, just by adding enough water to keep the sphagnum wet, little plantlets form faster, that she can feed with a weak solution, they do not rot and seem to tolerate the switch into growing mix very well. She usually transplants into the foam cups the first time, as she finds that they like it.

Claire Roberts of New Mexico en-

closed a beautiful picture of four *B. brevirimosa* (syn. 'Exotica') plants. She says her plants do not collapse when she takes cuttings; they go right on growing as if they didn't know the difference. Two larger plants in the picture were her stock plants, both had had cuttings taken from them (one of them twice) and they didn't seem to mind in the least.

Rosetta White of Kansas said her *B. brevirimosa* plant had leaves on top of the plant only but was sending up shoots from the roots so she cut the tip cuttings off and rooted them. At each node on the stem it looked as if the new shoots were starting so she cut each of these nodes off the stem and put them to root. Each node was sending up a plant, she reported.

Rosetta has been spraying her plants with Lysol solution to keep them from mildewing with the temperature getting colder.

John Yochum of Indiana reports that he has been using clear plastic drinking glasses that are available locally in supermarkets at 24/79¢. By stacking about ten of these glasses, it is possible to drill a 1/4" hole through the bottoms of all ten at once with very little fracturing of the plastic. These make ideal size pots for transplanting from 2 1/4" pots, as they are about four inches deep with sloping sides.

Yvonne Wells of Texas in August reported that her *B. subnummularifolia* was still in bloom for it's fourth year in a row. This is the only Begonia she has had to bloom for so long constantly.

Evelyn Hurley of Massachusetts

had a two year old *B. 'San Miguel'* blooming for the first time in September.

Peg Belanger of Rhode Island grew some *B. semperflorens* 'Danica Red' from seeds and says they are very brilliant outside in her area. She is rooting some cuttings of it to try under lights this winter.

Peg keeps three water containers of different colors, in which she has three different fertilizer solutions. She alternates use of each in regular watering. About every other month, she waters with plain water until it flushes out the bottom holes of the pots to eliminate buildup of fertilizer salts in mix.

Vivian said she puts a sack of steer manure (from garden store) in a can of water for liquid feeding. She puts a few drops of Black Leaf Forty insecticide in the water to keep any bacteria or water-breeding insects from living in the water. After she has used the manure over and over, she then mixes it with any potting mix she uses for plants. There isn't enough strength left in it to harm anything and it is a very good mulch.

Hazel Harmon said that her *B. ficicola* blooms real good just when it takes a notion. She supposes it scattered seed for some are coming up and growing around the mature plant.

Rosetta has found that most of the bowl plants will grow beautifully for her setting on the open bench. She has better luck with them there than she does in bowls. She has tried *B. rajah*, *B. ficicola*, *B. 'Eagleshamii'* and other bowl plants. The only one

(Continued on Page 279)

NEW PLANT LIFE 'FUSED' AT BROOKHAVEN LAB

For the first time, a new, mature life has been developed by combining the cells of two different species.

Scientists at Brookhaven National Laboratory announced today they have produced a totally new tobacco plant by "fusing" the genetic cells of two different plants in a technique called parasexual reproduction.

The process completely bypasses the normal reproductive processes and could have widespread importance to food production.

Dr. Peter S. Carlson of Islip, a member of the team that did the research, said, "We hope the technique will become standard for plant breeding. There are no implications for test-tube babies or mouse-man hybrids or anything in the realm of science fiction like that."

Carlson, 27, is an assistant biologist at the Upton lab. The other team members are Dr. Harold Smith of Shoreham, a senior biologist who has been with the lab for 14 years, and Rosemarie D. Dearing of Copiague, a research assistant who has worked at Brookhaven for 10 years.

Carlson said the experiment took about a year. They could not begin the research, he said, until the techniques for separating large numbers of leaf cells and dissolving their cellulose walls became well developed — about a year ago.

The team fused wall-less cells of different tobacco plant species.

They put a mixed batch of normal and fused cells into a culture medium which only would support the fused cells containing the desired hybrid genes.

Once the fused cells grew into

colonies, they were removed and placed in another medium to allow only growth from the hybrid combinations.

The new shoots and leaves that were formed were then grafted onto freshly cut stems of one of the parent plants where they grew into fertile, mature plants.

When they were examined, the hybrid produced by the leaf-cell fusion resembled in every respect the hybrid between the same two species produced by standard sexual techniques.

According to Carlson, the problem now is to use the technique developed on tobacco for other important plants, such as wheat.

Most of the important plant experiments have been done on tobacco and carrots, he said, partially because they are easy to use but also because the tobacco companies have long funded research.

If the technique can be used on such crops as wheat, it has important implications for the development of new crop species that might be resistant to disease or have a higher crop yield.

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PROPAGATION

By E. A. McWhorter

Columbia, S.C.

The propagation of rex and rhizomatous leaves has been the most difficult task for me to accomplish in my dealings with Begonias. The following explains two methods that have failed for me and also the methods that have worked satisfactorily.

For the first method I placed my cutting into a small cup or pot, filled with very wet, coarse brown sand (locally called river bottom sand). Then I placed the small pot onto dampened sand inside of a pan, then I covered the pan with polyethylene and then placed the pan on top of a light fixture. For the amount of work and trouble involved, this method only yielded a fair percentage.

For the second method I put equal parts of well dampened vermiculite, perlite and peat moss into a sandwich bag. Then I placed my cutting into the bag, folded the bag down securely and hung the bag on a wire line with a clothespin. With this method too many of the leaves rotted; perhaps, the medium was too wet but I do not feel that this was the case.

The methods that have worked most successfully are:

1. Medium of $\frac{1}{2}$ peat moss and $\frac{1}{2}$ builder sand. Place the cutting in a two inch pot and keep it well dampened.
2. Medium of $\frac{1}{2}$ vermiculite and $\frac{1}{2}$ perlite. Put medium in a two inch pot and then place cutting. Keep well dampened.
3. Medium of $\frac{1}{3}$ peat moss, $\frac{1}{3}$ perlite and $\frac{1}{3}$ vermiculite. Keep well dampened.

4. On cuttings that are very hard to root, try putting $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of dry perlite in the bottom of a jar. Wet some unmilled sphagnum peat moss, ring it out well and place this on top of the dry perlite. Place cutting inside the jar and tighten the lid on.

For all the cuttings that I feel may not root, I have a two by five foot bed consisting of $\frac{1}{2}$ perlite and $\frac{1}{2}$ vermiculite on black polyethylene which keeps roots, etc. out of the medium. Then I chop up my leaves and broadcast on the medium. Keep the medium dampened but also have it fixed so that it will drain well.

In all of the methods mentioned, I put the cuttings in pots and then set them on the ground. This, I believe, keeps the leaves in an area where it is cooler and the humidity is much higher.

Care of Young Plantlets

Once you have successfully rooted a leaf wedge, stem or part of a rhizome of either a rhizomatous or rex, do not be in a hurry to remove it from the small pot. Let it remain in the small pot until the root system is thoroughly developed. This can be determined when the roots protrude through the bottom holes of the small container. When the young plantlet gets to this stage and you are ready to remove it from the pot, remove excess roots by gently breaking off the excess roots protruding from the pot. This will help remove the plants with ease without tearing up the young plantlet.

While the young plantlets are still

in these small pots, I usually apply about one teaspoon of 20-20-20 per two gallons of water at every other watering. You can also use a root stimulant, one teaspoon per gallon, as an alternate.

Watch the plants for mealybugs, aphids and red spiders. I usually sprinkle my plants periodically with a very weak solution of malathion, one teaspoon per two gallons of water.

As soon as the young plantlet has developed, I place it on the bench where it will get more sunlight. Once the plants have developed root systems, the young plants require very much light; however, do not allow the soil medium to dry out. It is very important to keep damp (not wet) soil at all times. Keep the humidity at 50% or higher if at all possible to prevent the leaves from drying. Have adequate ventilation to prevent mildew problems; if this does occur then apply Captan as directed on the package.

Disease and Pests

Disease and pests is a problem I have had very little trouble with since I started an intensified program of using insecticide and pesticide.

In the early spring I apply a solution of malathion and chlordane, one tablespoon of each solution to two gallons of water to an area of 28 square feet. With this method I try to get the mealybugs, red spiders and aphids. I also apply a generous amount of systemic on the surface of the soil in the benches. I have never been bothered with aphids, but have occasionally had a few mealybugs. My biggest problem has been slugs

and snails, a problem I have attacked from all angles. I found that the malathion and chlordane had no effect on them, also I tried putting beer in a lid and found that it had little effect on them. Then I applied Snarol to the benches in generous amounts. This I find has helped control the problem better than anything else previously mentioned. I feel sure that there are other methods which I have not tried that would control these pests satisfactorily.

I believe in applying these chemicals at intervals to control these pests. I do not wait until they appear and then start to control them. I am sure praying mantis and ladybugs, etc. would work satisfactory for some, but in the amount of area that I have I believe it is not a desirable method. I usually apply these chemicals on a monthly basis. Do not inhale the fumes of the systemic, be sure to follow the directions on the container carefully.

At quarterly intervals I apply Nemagon. Follow the directions and safety precautions very carefully, I do not take any chances on getting nematodes. When all these chemicals are applied, I usually abandon the greenhouse for three days, except, to enter for short periods of ten to fifteen minutes only. These fumes have had an effect on me by creating a nauseous feeling when I remained for a long period of time.

If you grow these plants in the home, alcohol would be an alternate method which would not create an offensive odor. However, I have found by using alcohol that it left small spots on the leaves and that it took a great deal of time to investi-

gate each plant and apply the alcohol.

Classification of Ease of Growth for Specimen Plants

The following is a list of plants which I am presently growing and have grown in the past. These are classified as easy to grow specimen plants. The three classes are Easy—Medium—Hard according to the conditions under which these plants exist as far as tolerance, disease and resistant growth.

Easy:

Bunchii, Black Monarch, Bronze Giant, Can Can, Comtesse Louise Erdody, Curly Stardust, convolvulacea, Comet, Chantilly Lace, Cora Miller, Curly Silver Sweet, Donnell, Evergreen, Erythrophylla, Fairy, Fireflush, Grand Duchess, Gwen Lowell, Grey Feather, Gigi Fleetham, hispida cucullifera, His Majesty, Heracleicotyle, heracleifolia var. Sunderbruchii, Indian Sun Mask, Jack Frost, Leslie Lynn, Lucy Clossen, metallica, Mountain Haze, Marion Louise, Peace, Purple Stardust, Roberta, Randy, Silver Greenheart, Sir Percy, Templinii, Tingley Mallet, Verde Grande.

Medium:

American Beauty, acetosa, Brocade, Curly Merry Christmas, Crinkles, Curly Harlequin, Dew Drop, Dotty, Ember, Fire Opal, Filigree, Fantasy, hydrocotylifolia, Harlequin, Iron Cross, Merry Christmas, Mikado, manicata aureo-maculata, Midas Touch, Norah Bedson, Patsy, Persian Brocade, Roxanne, Spaulding, Shirt Sleeves, Stonewall, Salamander, Sir Yowell.

Hard:

Black Knight, Credneri, cathayana, Crestabruerii, Duartei, Edith M., Erythrophylla Helix, Fuscomaculata, Forty Niner, Joe Hayden, lubbersii, Lillian, Little One, Mohegan, Mulberry, Old Smoky, pustulata, Queen Mother, Red Berry, Scepturn, serratipetala, Silver Helen Teupel, Silver Sweet, Venetian Red, Wild Grapes, Weltoniensis.

ROUND ROBIN

(Continued from Page 275)

she hasn't been able to grow on the open bench is *B. versicolor*.

Somehow, sharing growing secrets and swapping ideas makes growing Begonias so much more fun! Snapshots of lovely plants or plantings enclosed in a robin can offer inspiration for a better way to enjoy your own plants: a moss wall, Begonias growing in rocks or wood, a rare specimen well grown, a beautifully landscaped bowl. Another flight on terrariums has just been launched; a robin on windowsill gardening is awaiting a few more members. There is a place in a robin waiting for you. Just write:

Mae Blanton
Round Robin Director
Rt. 4, Box 159A
Lewisville, Texas 75067

Seasons Greetings and All Our Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.

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The Seattle Begonia Society

Sends to All of You, our
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and

BEST WISHES 

For all of 1972 and 1973

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NORTH is north, and SOUTH
is south and

The SAN MIGUEL BRANCH
put it ALL together

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holiday season,

A joyous CHRISTMAS

And a prosperous NEW YEAR.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

BEST WISHES FOR THE
HOLIDAY SEASON

and

THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR

GLENDALE BRANCH



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TO ALL

BEGONIA LOVERS

MIAMI BEGONIA SOCIETY

*Season's Greetings and
Warmest Wishes for the New Year
To all of our Friends.*

North Long Beach Branch

Glory to God in the Highest
And on Earth
Peace, Good Will Toward Men.

San Gabriel Valley Branch



*A very joyful Christmas
And all the Season's cheer.*

May the 1973 Season
be your best Begonia year.

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*Seasons Greetings and Best
Wishes from Salina, Kansas.*

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HAPPY GROWING IN
THE COMING YEAR

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

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at Christmas*

And a Most Happy New Year.

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MEMBERS

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The Hope of Christmas Guide You
The Peace of Christmas be with You
Always.



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Of Christmas be with You
Always.*

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Throughout the New Year."*

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At Christmas Time and
Throughout the New Year.
REDONDO AREA BRANCH*

*May every joy of the Christmas
Season be yours and may the
New Year bring you Happiness.
EAST SIDE BRANCH*

BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. F. N. Sinex
34 Thackery Rd., Wellesley, Mass. 02181

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Sunday of each month
Mrs. Priscella Beck, Secy.
R D No. 1, Box 121,
Mystic, Conn. 06355

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS, BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. George W. Hopkins, Secy.
1619 S. Beckley Ave., Dallas, Texas 75224

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School
Telegraph at Stuart, Berkeley, Calif.
Miss Carol E. Orpin, Secy.
428 Norvell Street
El Cerrito, Calif. 94530

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Grace Fisher, Secy.
770 Monroe Ave. N.E., Renton, Wash. 98055

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Gladys Máttuket, Secy.
1801 Azalea Drive, Alhambra, Calif. 91801

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
First Methodist Church, Marshall Hall
3205 D Street, La Verne, Calif.
Mr. Robert I. Wilson, Secy.
544 Fountain Drive
Mira Loma, Calif. 91752

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Miss Lola Price, Secy.
628 Beach Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J. 08044

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand
Mrs. Katharine Alberti, Secy.
3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90068

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH

Mrs. John H. McKay, Secy.
5116 Baton Rouge Ave., Baton Rouge, La. 70805

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Secy.
5926 Jackwood, Houston, Texas 77036

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Horticultural Society of N.Y.
128 West 58th St., New York
Miss Margaret Huger, Secy.
505 East 82nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10028

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Great Western Savings and Loan Bldg.
6300 East Spring St., Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Paul E. Powell, Secy.
3031 Shakespear Dr., Los Alamitos, Calif. 90720

LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Planting Fields Arboretum
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
Henry Sweitzer, Secy.
51 Hayrick Lane
Commack, L.I., N.Y. 11725

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Sear's Garden Center
6201 Florida St., Baton Rouge
Mrs. Johnnie L. Tanner, Secy.
1962 Cederdale, Baton Rouge, La. 70808

MESQUITE BRANCH

Mrs. Billie Lyles, Secy.
928 Calle Reale, Mesquite, Texas 95149

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Mrs. Marie Evans, Secy.
610 63rd Drive, Hialeah, Florida 33012

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Friday, 11 a.m., Member's Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Mrs. Glenn Lucas, Secy.
Kansas City, Mo. 64109

MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts., New Monterey, Calif.
Frederick Bell, Jr., Secy.
P.O. Box 527, Pebble Beach, Calif. 93953

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
525 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach
Barbara Welty, Secy.
4741 Hazelbrook
Long Beach, Calif. 90808

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Club, Walnut St. and Garden Grove Blvd.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Mrs. R. L. Nevins, Secy.
1913 Aspen Circle, Fullerton, Calif. 92631

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Anne Stiles, Secy.
East Delaware Trail, R.D. No. 2, Medford, N.J. 08055

PORTLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lavene Jenkins, Secy.
9920 S. W. 53rd Ave., Portland, Oregon 97219

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m.
R. H. Dana School Cafetorium
135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.
Mrs. Margaret Buell, Secy.
18500 Mansel Street
Redondo Beach, Calif. 90278

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Miss Marcella Flynn, Secy.
7 Fairfield Ave., East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 12 noon. Homes of Members.
Mrs. John Marx
1216 La Jolla Rancho Road
La Jolla, Ca. 92037

RUBIDOUX BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:00 p.m. West Riverside Memorial Hall
4393 Riverview Drive Rubidoux, Ca.
Dorothy Ansevics, Sec./Treas.
4063 Opal St. Riverside, Ca. 92509

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Mrs. Betty Tillotson, Secy.
3912 Wildrose Way
Sacramento, Calif. 95826

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS

4th Monday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Wayne Smith, Secy.
1823 Highland, Salina, Kansas 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Mrs. Louise Eby, Secy.
1137 Hillside Blvd. So. San Francisco, Calif. 94080

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Mabel Anderson, Secy.
16609 Cypress St., Covina, Calif. 91722

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Porter Hall, 7:30 p.m.
University & La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa
Mrs. George Bayse, Sr., Secy.
2347 Langmuir St., San Diego, Calif. 92111

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol
Miss Gladys M. Grant, Secy.
460 Mountain Dr., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH

4th Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Northern Calif. S & L Assn.
10250 South Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd.
Cupertino, Ca.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Calvary Lutheran Church
7002 23rd Ave., N.W.
Mary Sanderman, Secy.
13045 37th N.E., Seattle, Wn. 98125

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Y.M.C.A. Bldg., 5200 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Bernie Crosby, Secy.
231 Bethel St.
Ventura, Calif. 93003

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. Henry Flaherty
606 South Third, Salina, Kansas 67401

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House
430 South 156th Burien
Sally Harding, Secy.
11632 1st Ave. S., Seattle, Washington 98168

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. R. M. Bannison, Secy.
Rt. 2, Box 155 Dickinson, Texas 77539

TEXASTAR BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center
1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
Mrs. V. O. Harman, Secy.
306 Cody, Houston, Texas 77009

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club
8020 Alverstone St., Los Angeles, Calif.
Ramona Greb, Secy.
441 Hillside Lane, Santa Monica, Ca. 90402

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. every other month
Pittsburg Garden Ct., 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.
Mrs. Irene Fediacko, Secy.
125 Arlington Ave., Butler, Pa. 16001

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Center
5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier
Miss Anne Rose, Secy.
14036 Ramona Drive, Whittier, Calif. 90605

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members
Mrs. Stuart J. Bracken, Secy.
727 Mt. Moro Rd., Villanova, Pa. 19085

CONDENSED REPORT OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY October 23, 1972

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society was held on October 23, 1972 in the South Gate Auditorium. After the usual opening ceremonies, seventeen officers and eleven branch representatives answered roll call. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The secretary read a letter from the Santa Clara Branch in which the enclosed check for \$10.00 was designated for the Catalog Fund instead of the Christmas Greeting in the Begonian.

The Treasurer reported receipts of \$1,419.41; disbursements \$1,221.49; leaving a balance on hand of \$1,701.90. The Membership Secretary reported 114 new members; 123 renewals; total membership this month 2,482; last year 2,329. Funds received and deposited \$1,159.46. Circulation Manager reported total Begonians dispersed 2938; total mailing expense \$54.68. The Advertising Manager reported receipts \$120.95; unpaid balance \$30.00. Advertising Manager read a letter from a new magazine devoted to amateur greenhouse growing called Plants Alive. After discussion a motion was made and carried to approve reciprocal ads if terms are satisfactory.

The Judges Chairman reported receipts for publications sold \$64.00; expenses \$10.58. Nomenclature Director reported 300 copies of the Point Scoring book revised and reprinted.

The Research Director's report was read. A donation of \$25.00 was received from the Portland Branch. Balance in the Research Fund is now \$147.52, after the disbursement of \$600.00 to Rutgers University. A student has been found to work on our research project. The Treasurer reported \$75.00 had been received from the Seed Fund Administrator. The Show Chairman reported a profit of \$2,100.00 from the Show. Next year's show will be co-hosted by the San Gabriel and Orange County Branches. Slide Librarian reported that she needs new pictures for the library.

South Coast Botanic Garden representative reported they are having a membership drive. Public Relations Director reported approval of new By-Laws for the Redondo Area Branch. Mr. Barnett reported we would have a color cover in November at no additional cost.

A motion was made and carried to print about 2500 copies of the Constitution and By-Laws to be given to new members. A motion was made and carried that all funds from the 1972 Show in excess of \$1,000.00 be placed in the Catalog Fund.

Respectfully submitted,
Irene Grannell, Secretary

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