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The BEGONIAN



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

NATIONAL CONVENTION AND SHOW

By Gene Daniels, *Show Chairman*

It has taken the A.B.S. many years of conventions to finally come up with a real "live-in" convention and shade plant show!

That is exactly what we have for you this September 6-8 at the Francisco Torres Conference Center, 6850 El Colegio Road, Goleta, Calif. Next months *The Begonian* will detail the many seminars and activities taking place over these three exciting days. Full information on housing at the conference center may be had by writing our new housing coordinator, Mrs. Ethel Arnold, 1734 Pampas Ave., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93101 or phone (805) 966-1454.

The convention is not limited to those who desire to stay at the conference. Many members will be coming for one day only and others will be staying at home in the Los Angeles area and making two trips, or staying in other accommodations in the Santa Barbara area. There are even a few members planning on making a campout of the affair by staying at one of the campgrounds just north of Goleta. Reservations are necessary for space in these campgrounds.

The show schedule is published in this issue of *The Begonian*. It is imperative that exhibitors read and follow the new rule number 4 which is a major change in entries.

Rule number 4 reads as follows:

"4. All entries must be made Thursday, Sept. 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. *Any person entering more than 10 plants must arrive by 7:00 p.m. or make prior arrangements with the show chairman by phone or mail. Any person or family planning to enter more than 15 plants must send or telephone a list of these plants with pertinent data to assist the classification chairman, Mrs. Nettie Daniels, P.O. Box 83, Camarillo, Ca. 93010, phone (805) 482-4935 not later than Wednesday, September 4; or Thursday until 3:00 p.m. at (805) 968-0711.* This list need not be absolutely accurate as its purpose is to minimize the prob-

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COVER PICTURE

Begonia olsoniae grown and photographed by Don Worth of the San Francisco Branch of the A.B.S. Don Worth teaches photography in the Art Development at San Francisco State University.

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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*.

BEGONIA "TRIPETALA" IS BEGONIA x SUNORCHIS C.Chev.

By J. Doorenbos

Department of Horticulture, Post Box 30
Wageningen, The Netherlands

In 1836, Otto and Dietrich published a review of the begonias grown in the Berlin Botanic Garden. Some of the species they described were new, e.g. *Begonia meyeri*, a plant originally sent by Riedel from Brazil to St. Petersburg from where it had been distributed to other botanic gardens.

Some years later a *Begonia meyeri* was sent from Berlin to Kew. Here it came to the attention of J. D. Hooker, who described it in the *Botanical Magazine* of 1844. Hooker was apparently unaware of Otto and Dietrich's publication. His short and rather vague description differs in one respect from that of the previous authors: he states that the female flowers have two petals. The accompanying picture, however, shows that there are three female petals, that the leaves are peltate and that the placentae are divided. This is all quite different from the original *B. meyeri*, which has five female petals, entire placentae and leaves with the petiole attached to the side.

The first to notice this discrepancy was Klotzsch. From his treatise of 1854 it appears that he has seen Otto and Dietrich's plant, but knows Hooker's plant only from the literature. Nevertheless, the data are clear to him. In his work, in which he split up *Begonia* into numerous genera, he calls the former *Gurltia meyeri* and the latter *Rachia meyeri*.

Ten years after Klotzsch's treatise Alphonse de Candolle published a monumental monograph in volume XV of his *Prodomus*. What he has to say on the subject is remarkable. Although he has seen a herbarium specimen of Hooker's plant and admits that it convenes with the picture (which nevertheless he calls erroneous), he is convinced that *B. meyeri* Otto & Dietr. (*Gurltia meyeri* Kl.) is the same as *B. meyeri* Hook.f. (*Rachia meyeri* Kl.). Moreover, he regards this plant as no more than a variety of *B. tomentosa* Schott. One would have expected



Begonia x Sunorchis C. Chev.

De Candolle to call this *B. tomentosa* var. *meyeri*, but (perhaps because he felt that there was something unsatisfactory about the epithet *meyeri* after all) he calls it *B. tomentosa* var. *ericaulis*, *B. ericaulis* being a name given by Visiani in 1844 to the same plant called *B. meyeri* by Otto & Dietrich eight years previously.

Here the matter could well rest if Hooker's plant did not exist anymore. It is still around, however. Several years ago I received from a European collection a plant that bore the name of *B. tripetala* which was identical in every detail with Hooker's picture of *B. meyeri* in the *Botanical Magazine*. Recently, seed was distributed by the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund of The ABS under

the same name. This name, which has never been published, is unnecessary, however.

Browsing through the horticultural literature, I found the same plant described in Charles Chevalier's book 'Les Begonia' (1938). He called it *Begonia sunorchis* believing it had been found growing on an orchid imported from Tropical America. If this story were true, the plant would be a wild species, but this seems highly improbable. In the first place, one would expect that plant collectors would have found it. A second and more valid argument is that the plant has many characteristics of a hybrid, e.g. the irregular shape and the variation of

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FAIRYLAND PRESENTS . . .

B. 'BROWN EYES' — A miniature with textured leaves of silvery green with brownish purple spiderwebbing diffusing to a soft purple glow between veins. Truly an indescribable plant and winner of Best New Rhizomatous Introduction and Best New Introduction in the 1973 ABS Fullerton Show. (See cover and article)

B. 'TIGER STAR' — A medium sized star with 5" leaves of a soft lime green overlaid with rich chocolate brown tiger striping.

B. 'DONALD DUCK' — Double Red Tuberos x *B. solanthera* — An elegant basket plant accented with Bright red single and semi-double 2" flowers. A YEAR ROUND BLOOMER.

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B. 'Brown Eyes', B. 'Tiger Star' and B. 'Donald Duck' were exhibited at the 1973 ABC Fullerton Show and are now available in very limited quantities. Shipment of plants starting in July on a first-come-first served basis.

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ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Excitement is growing among many of the robin members—those who are planning to attend the National Convention in Santa Barbara in September. Plans are being made for them to have a place to meet so they won't miss seeing each other as so many have done in the past. If you are planning to go, write: Debi Miller, 919 Hickory View Circle, Camarillo, California 93010, telling her what days you plan to attend so she will know you will be there. She and her committee are making big plans for you so don't miss the extra fun!!

A number of robins have been experimenting with some of the exotic begonias, trying to find a way to grow them outside of bowls. Elda Haring, North Carolina, discovered that *B. rajah* grows faster in a bowl in long grained sphagnum moss. The other plant of it in their potting mix was slower growing but just as handsome. She had *B. prismatocarpa* in long sphagnum in a bowl. Another planted in a bonsai dish, planted in potting mix, uncovered, was growing much more slowly and blooming. She had some teeny-weeny plants of it started from bits of cut up leaves.

One morning Arline Peck of Rhode Island discovered tiny white stuff at the roots of her *B. versicolor* in a bowl. She diagnosed her trouble as soil mealybugs. She took the plant out of the bowl washed all moss from the roots, then set them in a weak solution of tobacco juice. She took the sphagnum the plant was growing in, put it into a pail and put hot water over it. She brought

it to a boil on the stove, then drained and cooled it before replanting *B. versicolor* in it. She reported the plant doing much better, with only one leaf lost to the treatment.

In answer to many questions, Rosetta White, Kansas, said *B. versicolor* does take spells of collapsing. When it does, she tears it apart, replants, puts a plastic bag over it, fastening bag with a rubber band, puts plant where it is cool with plenty of light and it usually puts forth a very nice plant. She has saved several this way.

Pam Braun, Tennessee, makes a stand for her planted bottles, similar to those used for displaying bottles with ships in them. She uses two pieces of wood, cutting a crescent shape at the top of them, using bottle as pattern. She drills two holes for dowels on each board, gluing dowels into the holes. This makes more room for plants since you can use whole side of bottle instead of just the bottom.

Casey Marchlewicz, Illinois, enclosed an article from the Chicago Tribune on light gardening, including an interview with her concerning her terrariums. She enclosed pictures of her beautifully landscaped terrariums that were entirely different from those she had last year. One was a clever underwater scene, with a jewel chest complete with jewels, a rock holding a hulk of a ship on one side and filmy ferns providing depth to the planting of begonias and other plants.

Bonny Bersch, California, hung a strip of chicken wire behind the light fixture to hang pots on at vari-

ous locations (higher, nearer lights or lower, further away, nearer ends of tubes or closer to center of tubes). When she buys a plant she wants to try under the lights, she wraps a piece of florists wire around the pot and folds end of wire into a hook to fasten over the mesh.

Connie Holcombe, Virginia, was unhappy about how sluggish, scrawly and dull some of her plants were during the winter, especially rexes and miniatures. She had always been leary of feeding plants too often because so much is said about the dangers of overfeeding. She didn't feed the plants under lights any more than those on window sills, which was about $\frac{1}{4}$ strength every six weeks during late fall and winter. They did seem to be slowing down but none went dormant. When she fed every three weeks beginning in February, they really changed with new growth, new green, more color in the colorful rexes.

Bill Parlin of New York told of cutting back more than two dozen of his named tuberous begonias, most of them in prime condition. They had been blooming beautifully through the winter under lights. Now they were getting leggy and would soon be past prime. So, he cut them back to a couple of leaves each and most of them could be expected to break at the base and throw out new growth, he said, in effect producing a new plant within three months. It still took a lot of willpower, though, as he must have thrown out 40-50 very nice blooms.

Hazel Kipp, Florida, enclosed a beautiful picture of *B. 'Acibar'*, (F. O. Michelson hybrid). She said this

plant is a true miniature only five inches tall (without its bloom) with none of the faults of it's parents, *B. acida* and *B. bartonea*.

Lois Covey, Florida, said she had grown *B. acida* for many years without difficulty, first in a wire basket, then a clay basket. She found it did better in the latter, but it has needed constant feeding, otherwise it stands still.

Tony Collard, Ontario, decided to line his greenhouse with plastic last fall. Since it had an aluminum frame, he bolted strips of wood (lattice) to the inside of the aluminum frames before attaching plastic. This past winter he kept temperatures at 68° with less fuel than the previous winter when he kept temperatures at 60°. Tony starts stem cuttings in water in the window of his home during the winter. He can keep an eye on them easily and as soon as there is a good dense root system, he starts adding soil to the water until finally he has a mud pie consistency, at which time he stops watering until the soil has dried to correct condition. This allows the plant to gradually adapt roots from water to soil.

Norman Tillotson, California, told how he hybridizes begonias. He

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PUBLICATION NOTICE

All material for publication — articles, notices, photographs — should be sent to the Editor, preferably five weeks before date of publication. Deadline is the first of the month preceding month of publication.

Advertising copy and inquiries should be sent to the Advertising Manager.

ON DISTRIBUTION OF SEVERAL COLOMBIAN SPECIES OF BEGONIA

By W. Scott Hoover

Department of Biology, Colorado College

During this last summer, some collecting was done on the Cordillera Occident of Colombia. My original intent was to locate *Begonia killipiana* Smith and Schubert. This species was located, as were eight other ones, in an area near Viente de Julio in the Department of Cauca. The following passages deliver certain observations and ideas concerning this group of species and their habitat, as well as extend ideas on particular distribution patterns.

This area of the Western Cordillera is classified ecologically as very humid tropical. The nine species collected in this area were located from altitudes ranging approximately from 1800 meters to 2800 meters. The distribution of species from the Rio Tambito to the upper mountainous elevations are very selectively determined, because certain species were observed only at particular regions of altitude. The approximate difference in elevation is near 1000 meters and the corresponding difference in temperature is substantial, though no direct measurements were taken. All collections were made on July 20 and 21 and from Aug. 18 to Aug. 19.

These observations are tabulated in table 1, listing the species collected and the section to which each belongs.

With the limited information available, few relationships can be drawn, though certain aspects of the data appear significant. Three of

the four species in the section *Casparya*, *Begonia killipiana*, *B. hexandra*, and *B. toledana*, were all collected at the high upper elevation zone. Each exhibits the horned fruit which characterizes this section. *B. libera*, also placed in the section *Casparya*, was observed at the lower altitude zone. The one other species abundantly in flower was *B. tiliifolia*, which was observed only at the upper elevation zone. The remaining species, *B. glabra*, *B. holtonis* and the two *B. maurandiaes*, all had winged fruits and were distributed from the lower to the upper elevations, as Table 1 indicates.

Considering the particular distribution, no apparent correlations presently are observed between the data. In this unit of classification, it is important to observe the degree of disturbance of the area chosen for study, since a dense forest often showed variation from a disturbed pathway. Much more data is neces-

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TABLE 1

Data collected on relative distribution based on altitude, type of fruit, and particular distribution based on special patterns of species in the Western Cordillera.

Species/Section	Fruit type ¹	Relative distribution based on altitude				Particular distribution ²
		Lower zone	Middle zone	Upper zone	High Upper zone	
<i>Begonia tiliifolia</i> C.DC. - Ignota	winged	Not Observed	NO	X	NO	Clusters
<i>Begonia maurandiae</i> A.DC. - Gobenia (peltate leaf)	winged	NO	X	X (abundant)	NO	Even/ Isolated
<i>Begonia maurandiae</i> (non-peltate leaf)	winged	X (scarce)	X (scarce)	NO	NO	Isolated
<i>Begonia glabra</i> var. <i>amplifolia</i> Smith & Schubert - Pritzelia	winged	X	X	NO	NO	Isolated
<i>Begonia holtonis</i> var. <i>macrophylla</i> Smith & Schubert - Meionthera	winged	X	X (abundant)	NO	NO	Even
<i>Begonia killipiana</i> Smith & Schubert - Casparya	horned	NO	NO	NO	X	Even
<i>Begonia hexandra</i> Irmisch. - Casparya	horned	NO	NO	NO	X	Clusters
<i>Begonia toledana</i> var. <i>macrophylla</i> Smith & Schubert - Casparya	horned	NO	NO	NO	X	Clusters/ Isolated
<i>Begonia libera</i> Smith & Schubert - Casparya	horned	X (scarce)	NO	NO	NO	Isolated

1. Direct observations could determine the fruit type when the plant was in flower, otherwise Smith and Schuberts (1946) monograph was referred to.

2. Particular distribution refers to specific distribution in the area where the species were observed. This classification system is defined as either isolated, clusters, or even. Each of these are defined as follows:

A. Isolated — refers to a species distribution where the individuals are often separated by a considerable distance, resulting in only a few observations of a species.

B. Clusters — a pattern of distribution where the individuals occur in close association to one another, consisting of 10 or more individuals in an area between 1 meter and 10 meters square.

C. Even — a pattern referring to individuals which are separated relatively equally from one another.

BEGONIAS I CAN LIVE WITHOUT

By Lois Covey

201 Lake Boulevard

Tarpon Springs, Fla. 33589

The world of begonias is one of endless variety and presents seemingly infinite choices to the grower. One cannot possibly grow them all. Usually, the enthusiastic beginner is non-selective. His appetite for begonias is voracious, almost as large as the family itself. He gladly clutches at every random leaf or cutting or rooted plant that comes his way. Most of them propagate quite easily, and after he has learned how simple it is to stick a leaf or cutting down into a bed of medium, he is elated to watch the speed with which they grow. No waiting seven years for a bloom, as with an orchid. Begonias often start blooming while still barely rooted cuttings. So the avid beginner becomes a collector very soon.

Before long, he finds out all begonias are not alike. Some are easy, some are difficult, some are baffling, many present a challenge, some flourish, others become sulky and stand still. Worst of all, some even fade away for no apparent reason, despite close attention and tender loving care. So he comes to the conclusion that he does not want to grow all of them after all. He likes some of them more and more, and dislikes others. In fact, he soon loves some

of them and actually hates others. He has become discriminating in his choices. He learns to say "No" when certain cuttings or leaves are offered to him.

I have been through all this in my fifteen or so years of growing begonias. The most important lesson I have learned is that there actually are *begonias I can live without!* I will share my list of my most hated begonias with you, realizing always that tastes differ. What may be one woman's dish of ice cream may well be another's poison. So my list will not be like yours. Make your own and see.

B. 'Aquamarine'. This plant has a most beautiful deep green leaf, flecked with a network of silver, a leaf designed especially to intrigue the unwary beginner by its beauty. It roots easily and grows quickly. Soon you have a large pot, full not of beautiful green and silver leaves, but of leafless rhizomes—long, twisting, curling, cavorting rhizomes, a veritable Medusa-snake-like tangle of curly rhizomatous locks, sprawling in all directions over the edges and down the sides of your pot. At the end of each rhizome is a small cluster of greenish-silver leaves. I have tried everything—nipping, pinching, cutting back, all to no avail. I have taken off end tips and rerooted them, hoping for a bushy plant of beautiful leaves. But since I have never achieved it, away goes *B. 'Aquamarine'* into outer oblivion.

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B. ulmifolia. This begonia has plenty of leaves, light green, resembling those on an elm tree, on long bushy stems. Sometimes there are white flowers at the ends of the long stems. Did I say "long stems"? Yes, long stems which try to reach the other side of your lath-house, long stems which know no bounds and keep on growing longer and longer. Nothing neat and compact here. Nothing really beautiful either. Such a plant, if it had claws on the end, would reach out and grab you. If you plant it in the ground and train it up a trellis, it will soon reach the roof and head for the sky — out of sight! It took me only a short time to decide that this plant was useful only on the compost heap, and not worthy of a place in my collection.

B. hispida cucullifera. For a long time I coveted this plant, but it was hard to find. It has lovely green leaves on which tiny plantlets grow like little perching butterflies (botanically "adventitious growth") — a wonderful "conversation piece." Finally, I found a plant, but our friendship was short and we soon parted company. I liked it well enough, but apparently it did not like me. I found it mysterious and elusive, I couldn't tell what its needs were or how to meet them. Leaves fell off for no logical reason, and all my coaxing could not bring it back to life. Now I find I can be quite happy living without it.

B. 'Tingley Mallet'. This begonia has red leaves, imagine! Not a vermilion red, but a soft rosy red, with almost a silver sheen. It is attractive and makes a pleasant change when placed in the midst of a cluster of

green ones. It also has soft rosy pink flowers and is a good bloomer. Therefore, why banish it? For one reason only, it dies on me! Why, I do not know, and even the experts I have consulted can give me no answer. It is not pleasant to watch a beautiful plant die, so now I live without it. (NOTE: Don't throw it out if you are smart enough to keep it alive.)

B. foliosa. This, too, is a truly beautiful begonia, with drooping fernlike foliage, made up of tiny shiny green leaves, and, in season, delicate showers of small pinkish-white snowflake flowers. It is ideal for a hanging basket, but it has strange habits. One day it will be flourishing, then as soon as you turn your back, it will start drooping, even though its soil is amply wet. Worse than that, it often falls apart, literally — covering the ground (or bench) beneath with bits and pieces. If you are lucky, some of them may take root and grow. For me, they don't. So I have learned to live without *B. foliosa*. Of course, each time I find a young plant to buy, or some friend insists on giving me one, I gladly accept and start the same ritual of growth, beauty, and suicide all over again, a heartless procedure.

B. acetosa. I love this begonia, with its round (almost velvety) green leaves and deep maroon undercolor. I have had many plants of it — despite reports I have heard of the difficulty of growing it. I have tried keeping it on the dry side, on the wet side, on the high bench, on the low bench, or beneath the bench,

(Continued on Next Page)

but cannot seem to find a spot it really likes and where it will thrive. Right now, to my astonishment, I have two fine plants that are breaking the rule of passing out prematurely. So maybe I can end on a ray of hope—maybe I won't need to discard it after all.

B. bartonea ('Winter Jewel'). Truly a jewel, with beautiful tiny-veined leaves covered with dainty pink flowers often through the year, not only in winter. But I wish it would tell me its secrets. Other growers give advice—no drafts of cold air, evenly moist, even warmth, etc., etc., perhaps even a bowl plant. But it has the bad habit of going limp, of falling over without reason, of dying on me, which I am unable to explain. I have not entirely banished it. As soon as one plant disappears, I usually replace it, wondering how long the new one will be with me. Maybe it just has a short life-span—I do not know. When I have it, I love it. When it leaves me, I miss it very much.

B. manicata aureo-maculata. I have always loved all plants with variegated leaves. This begonia has green leaves splotted with yellow in intriguing patterns. I have never seen a large specimen plant, but if it can be achieved, I am sure it must be one of the most striking. I have found it difficult to grow, though I have tried all sorts of tricks and secrets and ruses, and followed everybody's advice. I have tried it in special soil and in soilless mix, but it thrives in neither. Perhaps due to the lack of chlorophyll. It is beautiful even as a small straggly plant, because each leaf has an unusually designed pat-

tern, but sooner or later, it says good-bye and leaves me. For this reason, I have reluctantly decided that I will have to live without it.

So it goes. Since there are so many begonias to choose from, since so many will perform beautifully and repay us for our loving care, why bother with the erratic ones? Why not just decide to live without them? At the moment these are the begonias that have proven most difficult for me. Your own list may be quite different.

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ANNUAL SHOW
of the
American Begonia Society

September 6, 7, 8, 1974

Francisco Torres Conference Center
6850 El Colegio Road
Goleta, California

1974 SHOW SCHEDULE

Annual Show of the American Begonia Society

At Francisco Torres Conference Center

6850 El Colegio Rd., Goleta, Calif. 93017 (just north of Santa Barbara, Ca.)

Sept. 5, 1974 (Thursday) 10:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Note: Any person entering more than ten plants must arrive by 7:00 P.M. or make prior arrangements by mail or phone! No Exceptions.

IMPORTANT — READ NEW RULE #4

Sept. 6, 1974 (Friday) Judging: Start 10:00 A.M.

Preview: following dinner 8:00 - 10:00 F.M.

Sept. 7 and 8: Public Showing 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

The basic class is for the potted plants. Trellised plants are considered potted plants.

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BEGONIA

Class

1. Superba type as *B. sceptrum*, *B. 'Sophie Cecile'*
2. Mallet type as *B. 'Tingley Mallet'*, *B. 'Arabelle'*, *B. 'Faustine'* (green)

All Other Canes:

3. Low canes (under 2 ft.)
4. Medium canes (2 ft. to 4 ft.)
5. Tall canes (over 4 ft.)
6. Trailing as *B. 'Florence Carrell'*, *B. limmingbeana*

DIVISION B — SHRUB-LIKE

HELEN BAILEY MEMORIAL
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
SHRUB-LIKE BEGONIA

Large Leaved (Bare Leaved):

Class

1. As *B. 'Dorothy Grant'*, *B. 'Braemar'*, *B. caraguatatubensis*
2. Fleshy stemmed as *B. 'Phyllomaniaca'*, *B. 'Paul Bruant'*, *B. 'Gilsonii'*

Medium Leaved (Bare Leaved):

3. *B. 'Thurstonii'*, *B. 'Credneri'* *B. odorata*
4. Quite fleshy stemmed as *B. ulmi-folia*, *B. parilis*

Small Leaved (Bare Leaved):

5. Acuminata type as *B. 'Catalina'*, *B. 'Richmondensis'*, *B. 'Rutherfordiana'*
6. Other than acuminata type as *B. foliosa*, *B. fuchsoides*, *B. 'Multiflora Rosea'*, *B. domingensis*

Hairy Leaved:

7. Wide leaved, upright growth as *B. tomentosa*, *B. 'Alto Scharff'*
8. Narrow leaved, upright growth as *B. bradei*, *B. listida*
9. Compact as *B. olsoniae*, *B. acida*

DIVISION C — THICK STEMMED (NOT JOINTED)

BEST THICK-STEMMED
BEGONIA TROPHY

Brittle Stemmed:

Class

1. Large leaved as *B. 'Rudy'*, *B. ludwigii*
2. Small leaved as *B. 'Richard Robinson'*

Woody Stemmed:

3. Thick stemmed as *B. pilifera*, *B. incana*
4. Taller growing as *B. kellermanii*, *B. 'Marie Reed'*, *B. 'Tamo'*

Thicket:

5. As *B. J-11*, *B. friburgensis*

DIVISION D — SEMPERFLORENS CHARACTERISTICS

REDONDO AREA PERPETUAL
TROPHY FOR BEST
SEMPERFLORENS BEGONIA

Species:

Class

1. Semperflorens type
2. Schmidtiana type

Cultivars:

3. Single-flowered
4. Semi-double and double-flowered
5. Variegated foliage as *B. 'Calla Queen'*, *B. 'Charm'*
6. Schmidtiana cultivars

DIVISION E — RHIZOMATOUS

JOHN R. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIA

Leaf size will be determined by the
greatest dimension of the majority of
leaves.

Small Leaved (under 3''):

Class

1. Even margin
2. Cut or compound
3. Crested or spiral

Medium Leaved (3'' to 6''):

4. Even margin
5. Cut or compound
6. Crested or spiral

Large Leaved (6'' to 12''):

7. Even margin
8. Moderately cut margin
9. Deeply cut margin or compound
10. Crested or spiral
11. Giant-leaved (over 12'')

Rhizome-like Erect Stem:

12. Even margin as *B. manicata*
13. Cut or compound as *B. kenworthyae*, *B. carolineifolia*
14. Crested margin as *B. manicata crispa*, *B. 'Madame Queen'*

Rhizome Jointed at Soil, with Erect Stem:

15. As *B. deliciosa*, *B. tenuifolia*, *B. hemsleyana*

Distinctive Foliage:

16. *B. imperialis* and *imperialis*-like plants as *B. pustulata*, *B. 'Silver Jewell'*, *B. 'Emerald Jewell'*
17. Exotic types (without rex background) as *B. 'Crystal Lake'*, *B. rajab*, *B. griffithii*, *B. goegoensis*, *B. versicolor*, *B. crispula*
18. Compact hairy as *B. acetosa*, *B. 'Laura Jane'*

DIVISION F — REX CULTORUM

GONDA HARTWELL
CHALLENGE TROPHY FOR
BEST REX BEGONIA

Leaf size will be determined by the
greatest dimension of the majority of
leaves.

Small Leaved (under 3''):

Class

1. Spiral
2. Non-spiral

Medium Leaved (3'' to 6''):

3. Spiral
4. Non-spiral

Large Leaved (over 6''):

5. Spiral
6. Non-spiral

Upright Stemmed:

7. Spira 1
8. Non-spiral

DIVISION G — SEMI-TUBEROUS AND TUBEROUS SPECIES

BEST SEMI-TUBEROUS OR
TUBEROUS SPECIES TROPHY

Class

1. Semi-tuberous as *B. dregei*, *B. 'Weltoniensis'*
2. Tuberous species and first generation (F_1) hybrids as *B. cavum*, *B. pearcei*, *B. 'Santa Barbara'*, *B. davisii*, *B. boliviensis*, *B. 'Torsa'*

DIVISION H — TUBERHYBRIDA

PALOS VERDES BEGONIA FARM
CHALLENGE TROPHY FOR BEST
TUBEROUS BEGONIA

Both single and multiple-stemmed up-
right plants are acceptable.

Class

1. Multiflora
2. Single-flowered
 - a. Plain
 - b. Crested or frilled
3. Double
 - a. Roseform
 - (1) Solid color
 - (2) Picotee-flowered
 - b. Ruffled flower
 - (1) Solid color
 - (2) Picotee-flowered
4. Trailing
5. *B. socotrana* and its hybrids as Hiemalis types and Cheimantha types

DIVISION I — SPECIES

INGLEWOOD BRANCH
MEMORIAL PERPETUAL
TROPHY FOR BEST
SPECIES BEGONIA

Species Begonias may be entered in
this or in other Begonia Divisions.

Class

1. Cane-like
2. Shrub-like
3. Thick-Stemmed (Not Jointed)
4. Semperflorens
5. Rhizomatous
6. Semi-tuberous and tuberous

DIVISION J — BEGONIA GROWN IN A CONTAINED ATMOSPHERE

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
BEGONIA GROWN IN A
CONTAINED ATMOSPHERE

Terrariums, bubbles, or other contain-
ers providing an enclosed atmosphere for
plant growth.

Class

1. Species
2. Hybrids

DIVISION K — BEGONIA HYBRIDS IN CULTIVATION 25 YEARS OR LONGER

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
BEGONIA IN CULTIVATION
25 YEARS OR LONGER

All Begonias grown in any manner
may compete in this Division only.

Class

1. Cane-like
2. Shrub-like
3. Thick-stemmed (Not Jointed)
4. Semperflorens
5. Rhizomatous
6. Rex
7. Semi-tuberous and tuberous

DIVISION L — BEGONIAS GROWN IN HANGING BASKETS AND WALL POCKETS

WILLIAM L. TAYLOR
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
HANGING CONTAINER
BEGONIA
FERD NEELS MEMORIAL
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
WALL POCKET BEGONIA

Class

1. Baskets
2. Wall Pockets

DIVISION M — NOVEL GROWN BEGONIAS

BEST NOVEL GROWN
BEGONIA TROPHY

Class

1. Totem Pole

2. Rocks
3. Driftwood
4. Bark
5. Unique Container Grown

DIVISION N — NEW BEGONIA INTRODUCTIONS

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
NEW BEGONIA INTRODUCTION
HERBERT P. DYCKMAN
PERPETUAL AWARD FOR THE
MOST DISTINCTIVE NEW
FIBROUS BEGONIA
JOHN THIEBEN PERPETUAL
AWARD FOR THE BEST NEW
RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIA
INTRODUCTION
(other than Rex)

Entries in this Division are not eligible
for any other Division trophy.

Original stock plants must have been
in cultivation at least 36 months.

Eligible plants may not have been
shown in competition before this year's
Annual Show.

The hybridizer need not have grown
the plants; the grower may enter plants
with the hybridizer's permission. Entry
forms must show names of both grower
and hybridizer, date of germination.

A plant not in bloom should be accom-
panied by a description of the bloom
and time of bloom.

A plant is not eligible if it has been
released either by sale or gifts; distribu-
tion of a few plants for testing does not
constitute release.

Class

1. New Hybrid introductions
2. Other than hybrids as species,
mutations

DIVISION O — BEGONIA COLLECTIONS

BESSIE RAYMOND BUXTON
BRANCH PERPETUAL AWARD
FOR BEST COLLECTION OF
FIVE BEGONIAS, EACH FROM
A DIFFERENT CLASS

(Entries in this Division are not eligi-
ble for any other Division Trophy or Best

Begonia in Show Trophy.)

Exhibitors are responsible for arrangements of their own entries.

COLLECTION OF FIVE BEGONIAS:

Class

1. All plants from the same division, but different classes
2. Each plant from a different division

DIVISION P — NOVICE GROWER

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD
BRANCH PERPETUAL TROPHY
FOR BEST BEGONIA GROWN
BY A NOVICE GROWER

All Begonias grown in any manner by Novice Growers compete in this Division only.

Class

1. Cane-like
2. Shrub-like
3. Thick Stemmed
4. Semperflorens
5. Rhizomatous
6. Rex
7. Tuberous

DIVISION Q — STUDENT DIVISION

BEST ENTRY IN STUDENT
DIVISION TROPHY

Open to all 20-year-olds and under. Plants grown in any manner by a student may compete in this Division only.

Class

1. Begonias
2. Other Shade Plants

DIVISION R — EDUCATIONAL BEGONIA DISPLAYS

BEST EDUCATIONAL BEGONIA
DISPLAY TROPHY

Notification of an intended entry in this division must be sent to the Show Chairman by *August 1, 1974*.

Class

1. Displays pertaining to begonias
2. Displays pertaining to the enhancement of the American Begonia Society.

DIVISION S — PHOTOGRAPHS OF BEGONIAS

BEST BEGONIA PHOTOGRAPH
TROPHY

Open to anyone residing outside 250 mile radius of Show.

Class

1. Black-and-white print
2. Color print
3. Color slide

Make certain that the name of the plant and the exhibitor's name and address are on each picture. It is better to do your writing on masking tape (or comparable material) and paste it on the back rather than write on the back of pictures. If a picture is to be returned, enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Send entries to: Mrs. Nettie Daniels, Classification Chairman, P. O. Box 83, Camarillo, CA 93010.

DIVISION T — PLANTERS

BEST PLANTER TROPHY

A single container with an artistic arrangement of several different *rooted* plants.

Class

1. Predominantly Begonias
2. Other Shade Plants

DIVISION U — MINIATURE GARDENS

BEST MINIATURE
GARDEN TROPHY

Not to exceed 30" square. Begonias predominating.

DIVISION V — FERNS

ARTHUR STRANDBURG
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR
BEST FERN

Class

1. Adiantums
2. Ferns under 2 ft.
3. Ferns 2 ft. to 4 ft.
4. Ferns over 4 ft.
5. Tree Ferns
6. Platyceriums

DIVISION W — OTHER SHADE PLANTS

BEST SHADE PLANT (other than
Begonia) TROPHY

Class

1. African Violets
2. All other Gesneriads
3. Orchids
4. Bromeliads

5. Fuchsias
6. Vines and trailing shade plants
7. Asparagus
8. Bonsai
9. Shade plants not listed above

DIVISION X — ARRANGEMENTS AND CORSAGES

BEST ARRANGEMENT OR CORSAGE TROPHY

Foliage and accessories permitted in all classes. Artificial plant materials will not be permitted. Material need not have been grown by the exhibitor.

Arrangements:

Class

1. Begonia flowers and foliage (other than tuberhybrida)
2. Tuberous Begonia flowers
3. Begonias and other shade plant material
4. Rex Begonia foliage predominating
5. Other shade plant material not listed
6. Miniature not to exceed 5".

Corsages:

7. Begonia flowers
8. Other shade plant material

RULES FOR THE 1974 A.B.S. ANNUAL SHOW

1. The Show Chairman shall have complete charge of all exhibits from the opening to the closing of the show.

2. Competition is open to all who wish to enter. However, *only* A.B.S. members are eligible to compete for the Perpetual and Challenge trophies.

3. There will be no exhibitors fee.

4. All entries must be made Thursday September 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Any person entering more than 10 plants must arrive by 7:00 p.m. or make prior arrangements with the show chairman by phone or mail. Any person or family planning to enter more than 15 plants must send or telephone a list of these plants with pertinent data to assist the classification chairman, Mrs. Nettie Daniels, P.O. Box 83, Camarillo, Ca. 93010, phone (805) 482-4935 not later than Wednesday, September 4; or Thursday until 3:00 p.m. at (805) 968-0711. This list need not be absolutely accurate as it's purpose is to minimize the problems of classification and registration, and no penalty will be enacted if the actual entry differs a bit from the list. However, more than 15 plants may not be entered without adherence to the above rule!

5. All entries must be checked with the Classification Committee *before* registration. Competitive entries must be made according to the Show Schedule or be disqualified. Additional classes may be created at the discretion of the Classification Chairman.

6. There will be Begonia Divisions for Growers, a Begonia Division with classes for Novice Growers, and a Division for Students (limited to 20-year-olds and under). A Novice Grower is one who is entering the A.B.S. show for the first time. Each exhibitor will compete in his own Division except for certain Specific Awards. A Novice Grower or Student may enter as a Grower if he wishes to compete with Growers for Special Awards, i.e., Best New Introduction.

7. An exhibitor may enter more than one plant in any Class provided each plant is of a different variety. However, each entry may compete in only one Class.

8. *All* entries exhibited in competitive Classes must have been grown by the exhibitor and have been in his possession at least three months prior to the Show. Arrangements and Corsages excepted.

9. Containers and plants must be clean and neat. The Show Chairman shall have the right to exclude, refuse, or remove any diseased, infected, or unsightly exhibits.

10. All plants should be clearly labeled. Errors will not disqualify but judges will recognize correctness in close competition. Synonymous names are acceptable.

11. No artificial plant material may be entered in any Class or Division, including the Arrangements and Corsages Division.

12. All plants shall be placed by the Placement Committee. Exhibitors in the

Begonia Collection Division are responsible for the arrangements of their entries. Credit is given for arrangement.

13. The Show Chairman shall assume complete charge at the start of judging, and no person will be allowed to interfere with the judges. Only the Show Chairman and personnel authorized by him will be permitted in the Show during judging.

14. No exhibitor or judge may change the Class of an entry without the consent of the Show Chairman.

15. Entry cards must remain sealed until the Show Chairman declares all judging complete.

16. The judges shall make awards according to merit only. If the entry is without merit, the judges shall make no award regardless of the number of entries in the Class.

17. Only entries receiving first place Class awards may be considered for Division trophies.

18. The judges may use only the Point Scoring System for Begonias as approved by the American Begonia Society.

19. Judges are to follow A.B.S. judging procedures prescribed by the Judging Chairman and the Show Chairman.

20. All Begonia entries must receive 85 points to be eligible for Perpetual or Challenge trophies. Entries must receive 90 points or more to be eligible for

Cultural Awards.

21. A Sweepstakes Trophy will be awarded to the exhibitor with the most blue ribbons in Begonia Divisions.

22. The judges' decision will be final for awards. If the Show Chairman determines that according to good common judging practices a gross injustice has occurred, it shall be the duty of the Show Chairman to have the questioned exhibit reviewed by the board comprised of a new team of judges selected by the Show Chairman.

23. The A.B.S. will exercise due caution in safeguarding exhibits but will not be responsible for loss or damage to the property of an exhibitor. Exhibitors are responsible for watering and other care of their entries.

24. No exhibit or award may be removed before the end of the Show without the consent of the Show Chairman. Any violation of this rule may result in forfeiture of any or all awards.

25. All Perpetual and Challenge trophies will remain in the possession of the Show Chairman for engraving immediately after the Show. Trophies will be engraved as soon as practical and made available to the winners.

26. All Perpetual trophies and those Challenge trophies not retired must be returned to the Show Chairman *four weeks* prior to the next ABS Show.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Each Class will be judged for First (Blue Ribbon), Second (Red Ribbon), and Third (White Ribbon) on merit only. All Blue Ribbon winners in a Division will be judged for Division Trophies.

An entry must receive 85 points to qualify for a Division, Perpetual, or Challenge Trophy.

A Perpetual Trophy is never retired. A Challenge Trophy may be retired to an exhibitor who has won it three times, not necessarily consecutively.

A.B.S. Sweepstakes Trophy will be awarded to the grower with the most blue ribbons in the Begonia Divisions.

An A.B.S. Cultural Award will be given to the winner of each of the following Begonia Divisions if it receives 90 points or better: Cane-like, Shrub-like, Thick Stemmed, Semperflorens characteristics, Rhizomatous, Rex, Tuberos (including Tuberos Species) and New Introductions.

Exhibitors will compete for Division Trophies only (see Show Schedule), except for the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY PERPETUAL AWARD FOR BEST BEGONIA IN SHOW. Exhibits in the New Introductions Division, the Novice Grower Division, and the Student Division are not eligible to compete for this award.



FRANCISCO TORRES
CONFERENCE CENTER

6850 EL COLEGIO ROAD
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93017
TELEPHONE (805) 968-0711

FLORIDA BEGONIA SHOW

By Helene Jaros
Miami Begonia Society

The Miami Begonia Society held their annual show at Fairchild Tropical Gardens, April 27th and 28th. There were 155 plants entered. Mr. Ray Weakley was Show Chairman.

Member John Sousa won general sweepstakes with 16 blue ribbons, he also won Best Rex Begonia, B. 'Helen Teupel' and Best Begonia exhibited by a member, B. 'Medora'. Other winners were, Best Hanging Basket, B. 'Silver Pustalata' exhibited by Mr. Don Fleming; Best Miniature, B. 'Dawn' exhib-

ited by Mrs. Bernice Decker; and Best Begonia exhibited by a non-member, B. 'Iron Cross' exhibited by Mr. Gerald Blodinger. Terrariums and unusual containers were entered, showing different ways begonias can be grown.

Mrs. Bernice Decker exhibited an educational display of begonias. Mrs. Decker showed ways of propagation from seeds and leaves. This exhibit also presented a good soil mixture for South Florida weather. Members answered questions on varieties, cultures and propagation. Our President, Mr. Paul Lowe, put in a beautiful display of miniature begonias from his greenhouse.



Begonias in unusual containers. In cart exhibited by Mrs. Helene Jaros is a collection of Rex Begonias. Mr. Ray Weakley exhibited Begonias in a cork float and a conch shell. The soil in these containers was made up of peat and perlite.



Best Hanging Basket Begonia in the show, B. 'Silver Pustalata' exhibited by Mr. Don Fleming.

Pictures by Charles Jon Jaros

BEGONIAS
HOUSE and GARDEN PLANTS

Send for List—10c

MRS. BERT ROUTH
Louisburg, Missouri 65685

BEGONIAS OF THE BOYACA, COLOMBIA

By W. Scott Hoover

Department of Biology, Colorado College

The species of *Begonia* observed in the Department of Boyaca were several in number and much varied in their habitat and morphology. Seven different species were collected in all, some of which were in flower and could be identified. Considering these species and the habitats they exploited, no factor was observed that was common to all the species, though specific observations appeared significant. The following paragraphs describe those characteristics which seem most important.

At an approximate elevation of 2,800 meters, near the capital Tunja, were located two species having the horned fruit. *Begonia ferruginea* L.f. and *B. urticae* L.f., both of the section *Casparya*, were observed abundantly along the road from Cienega to Miraflores. Necessity demands a brief mention of the exquisite splendor of *B. ferruginea*, for a lack of any such acknowledgment would certainly suggest insult, as well as deny the existence of the plant. An observer of this species could not help consider it an appropriate symbol for the beautiful. Besides just its ethereal form, were other aspects of *B. ferruginea* which deserve mention.

The habit of this species was that of a cane-type begonia. A certain amount of sclerenchymous tissue had developed around the base of the plants, which had a diameter of 1.5 cm on occasion; the nodes were swollen in all cases, as well. A certain characteristic of this species appeared consistently and is of possi-

ble significance. On no occasion was *B. ferruginea* observed as an isolated plant, for the surrounding vegetation served to support the *Begonia*. It seemed that in order for this species to gain an upright position which determined its survival, for no mature individuals were observed apart from other types of vegetation, it was necessary to utilize the other plants adaptive mechanisms.

An observation perhaps worthy of description concerns *B. urticae*, that species having a representative population ranging from Costa Rica to Peru. Within the particular population of individuals observed here in the Boyaca, a certain variation and relationship appeared among certain anatomical characteristics. Quantitative data were not collected, thus the following description is an impression rather than a hypothesis. Observations revealed that the majority of those individuals possessing the smaller leaves exhibited an inflorescence having both staminate and pistillate flowers and fruit. Another group of individuals were characterized generally by leaves of much larger size, estimated at nearly two to three times the lateral dimensions of the small leaves, and an inflorescence that included mostly staminate flowers and a rare pistillate flower. In many cases, the large-leaved individuals displayed no inflorescence at all.

This road, along which collecting took place, passed from a high altitude down to approximately 1,300 meters. A very well defined area

was noticed where *B. urticae* was no longer observed. When, after little more descent, *B. ferruginea* was not observed either, questions abounded. The appearance of the forest seemed to remain constant through this transition, in terms of any possible disturbance from man. Observing this phenomenon suggests that there may be certain environmental factors acting upon these species which determine their selective adaptation to the upper elevations.

Upon reaching the village of Miraflores, time was allotted to discovering begonias that may occur around this area. Success was presented upon finding *Begonia patula* Haworth, of the section *Begoniastrum*. Consistently, this species was observed growing in soil nearly sat-

urated with water. The question arises as to whether *B. patula* is always found in such marshy habitats. In the event that it is found only under these environmental conditions a certain unique quality about this species will have been defined; for here is a *Begonia* successfully exploiting an ecological niche which perhaps few other begonias occupy.

Along a path leading to some rather dense forest, was located another species, still unknown to the writer. The species was a cane and possessed a winged fruit, though all floral parts had long since dried up and fallen off. Reaching the intended forest revealed one other species whose identity also remains unknown to this author. Only a few

(Continued on Page 193)

THE LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL FERN SOCIETY

presents

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL FERN AND EXOTIC PLANT SHOW

Saturday, July 27, 1974 — 1 PM to 10 PM

Sunday, July 28, 1974 — 10 AM to 9 PM

The outstanding GARDEN AND PATIO SHOW of the Southland, emphasizing the tropical look in Southern California landscaping. The largest collection of specimen ferns to be seen under one roof.

GARDEN AND PATIO DISPLAYS: Lavish entries by specialist plant societies, high school horticultural classes, individuals displaying their hobbyist skills, and a variety of commercial exhibits showing actual application of their products.

EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS: Ecology and composting, California native ferns, life cycle of ferns, herbarium specimens, raising ferns from spores, fern literature.

DEMONSTRATIONS: Platycerium mounting, composting, planting and care of terrariums and scenarios, bonsai culture.

COMPETITIVE PLANTS: Entries of all types of shade plants open to everyone — no limit on number of plants entered in one class or in the show — trophies, ribbons and cash awards.

SALES: Ferns of all kinds including unusual staghorns; bromeliads; African violets; many rare, unusual and exotic plants; unique containers of many types of unusual materials; macrame hangers; terrariums; horticultural supplies of all kinds.

PRIZE DRAWINGS: Several drawings each day during the show; Major Prize Drawing for GLASSHOUSE and many other fantastic prizes at 7 PM Sunday.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, POMONA, CALIF. GATE 1 — BUILDING 5

Admission: \$1.00 donation, children under 12 free

VALUABLE 100 PAGE FERN ANNUAL MAGAZINE — FREE

FREE PARKING IN LARGE LOT NEXT TO BUILDING

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

These pamphlets are a great help to the new Begonia growers:

- Begonias from Seed —
Sowing and Growing\$.25
- Begonias in General —
basic cultures\$.50

Jl 1—*B. cinnabarina*
Tuberous, flowers soft orange, fragrant. per pkt. \$1.00

Jl 2—*B. circumbolata*
A dense shrub, about 2 ft. high, leaves palmately 9-lobed, flowers large, purplish pink. per pkt. \$1.00

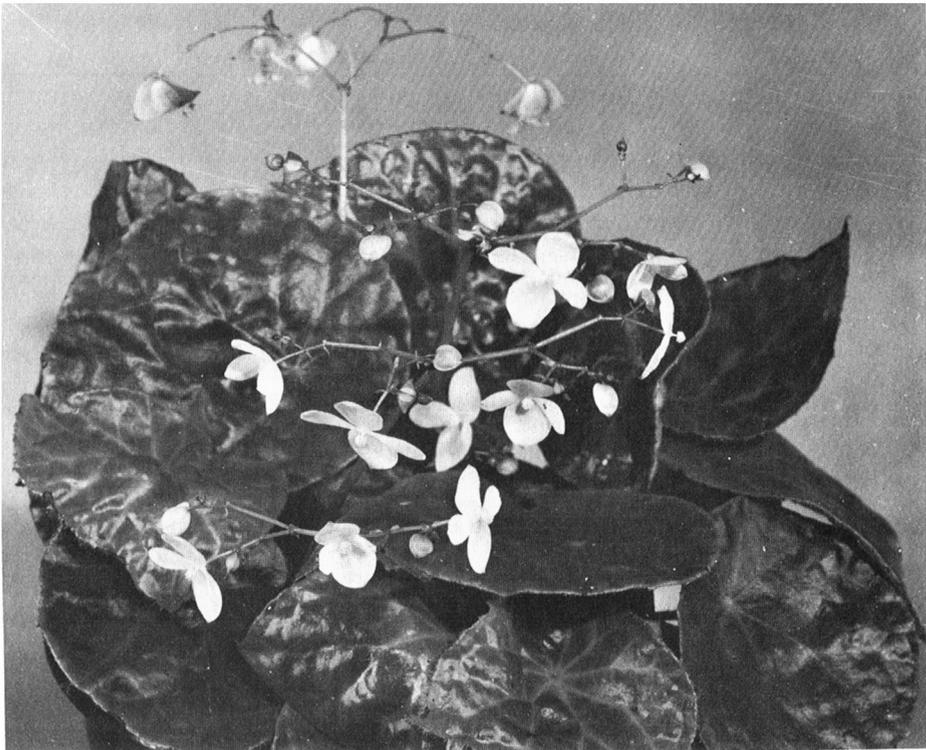
Jl 3—*B. epipsila*
Compact shrub from Brazil (1 foot high) with smooth, dark green

oval leaves, red beneath, white flowers. A beautiful plant.

per pkt. \$.50

Jl 4—*B. evansiana*
China. Grows to one ft. or more tall; stems are erect, bulbils form in the leaf axils. Hardy type begonia and if grown in the open ground the bulbils will drop to the ground and new plants will appear in the spring. Leaves are medium size, to 6 inches long and slightly more than half as wide at the base, narrowing toward the pointed tip, and are green with purple veining. The flowers are large bright pink in forked axillary and terminal clusters.

per pkt. \$1.00



Begonia (unidentified) from Sumatra

Photo by R. Jansen

The Begonian

Jl 5—*B. hillebrandia sandwicensis*

A tuberous plant of the family of the Begoniaceae from Hawaii. About 11½ ft. high, green leaves and large inflorescences of white flowers in the autumn. per pkt. \$1.00

Jl 6—*B. hypolipara*

Rhizomatous with thick, soft leaves, oval and nearly entire, fairly large white flowers in winter. per pkt. \$1.00

Jl 7—*B. luxurians*

Brazil: Leaf like a small-scale palm, fuzzy and limp. Inflorescences are large and colorful; the beauty of the foliage more than compensates for the modesty of the blooms. per pkt. \$.50

Jl 8—*B. maculata*

Not much information on this one, it comes from Brazil, and grows like a weed in their Botanic Garden. It isn't known to me if the leaves are spotted, but I do know the flowers are red. per pkt. \$.50

Jl 9—*B. 'Maphil'*

This is a bowerae seedling and the results may vary. Lovely with well-mannered growing habits — can be restrained to pot or basket. Handsome foliage — satin stars with sharply marked veins, artistically spattered between with gold or chartreuse and chocolate-brown; dainty sprays of baby-pink flowers. per pk. \$.50

Jl 10—An unidentified species from San Lorenzo

It is related to *B. villipetiola*, but somewhat larger and with flowers tainted with pink. per pkt. \$.50 see picture

Jl 11—Species from Sumatra

Unidentified (section Reichen-

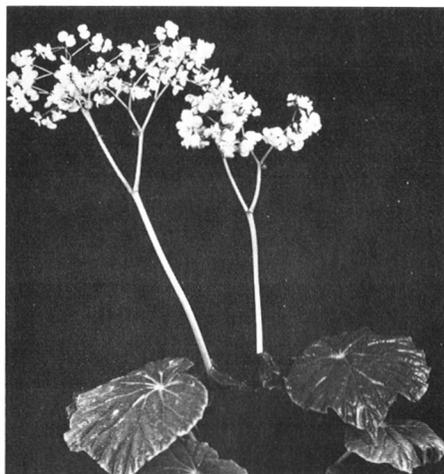
heimia) A compact rhizomatous plant with roundish, peltate leaves, bright green, and white flowers. Very floriferous. per pkt. \$1.00 see picture

FERN: Spore

Platynerium Grande. The large stag-horn fern everybody wants. It is a prize winner in each show it is entered. per pkt. \$.50

Please make all checks and money-orders payable 'American Begonia Society', and mail to: Mrs. Pearl E. Benell, Seed Fund Administrator, 10331 Colima Rd., Whittier, Calif. 90604.

I'm asking you to bear with me, I am unable to package the seeds to fill the orders as fast as they come in. Also, may I ask that you send any questions not directly pertaining to the seed fund to Public Relations director, or to the Research Director. It is too time consuming for me to give you the answer you should have. My mail is piling up. Thank you.



Begonia from San Lorenzo, Colombia (unidentified, possibly *B. villipetida*) Photo by R. Jansen

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

Avid Begonia enthusiasts will tell you, "The only thing more dazzling than one tuberous begonia is a score of them." If you have ever seen such a collection of color you know what they mean.

Having such a show in one's garden may be too much to hope for, but having several tuberous begonias to brighten the garden this summer is possible. Nurseries have to offer, now, inexpensive seedling tuberous begonias which were started in flats. They will bloom a little later than tubers started earlier in the season, and somewhat less profusely the first year, but the blooms are equally impressive and delightful.

Nurseries offer these begonias in a variety of colors and forms, including the ruffled camellia and rose forms which headline the new hybrid types. The individual flowers are a study of perfection. To view these blossoms in masses is an unique experience.

In planting seedling begonias, choose a well-drained spot and insure a rich, porous soil. You can use organic material to achieve this (peat moss, leaf mold, etc.) or choose a recommended, ready-to-use, nurseryman's planter mix that incorporates the essential ingredients.

Many gardeners prefer growing begonias in clay pots and rely on them as a portable color display throughout summer and early fall. Six-inch or seven-inch pots should be used. A potting mix of peat, leaf mold and sand is a desirable planting medium.

The amount of shade you give begonias depends on the locality. In

coastal gardens, part sun is best. Inland, a minimum of morning sun can be tolerated, but neither should begonias be planted in full shade.

While veteran gardeners may have individual ideas on feeding begonias, the plants do respond to plant food. Your nearby nursery has plant foods specially formulated to enhance the blooming capacity of such flowering plants as begonias. These must be applied every two or three weeks. A yellowish tinge to the foliage usually indicates a need for food; a bluish tinge in an indication of too much food.

(By special permission of
CALIFORNIA GARDEN.)

NATIONAL CONVENTION & SHOW

(Continued from Page 167)

lems of classification and registration, and no penalty will be enacted if the actual entry differs a bit from the list. However, more than 15 plants may not be entered without adherence to the above rule!"

This rule has been put into effect specifically because of problems which developed in 1973 due to late arrivals and a pile up of people and plants all at the same time. It will be enforced!



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A Suggested Guide to Classification
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Los Angeles, Calif. 90045

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

We are pleased to be able to submit to you the nominees for the elected offices of the American Begonia Society for the next two years. Unfortunately there is neither time nor space to tell you all the many nice things we know about them. However, we are happy to be able to introduce each of them to you briefly:

Charles "Chuck" Richardson 1st Vice President

Chuck is a practicing architect and has been an active member of the ABS for more years than he cares to admit. He was treasurer of the Society in 1953-54. He is presently serving as president of the Glendale Branch in addition to his current National Board duties as 1-year Vice President.

Walter Hansen—2nd Vice President

Walter is a past president of the Theodosia Burr Shephard Branch and their National Representative at the present time. He is currently serving the ABS as 2-year Vice President. When asked how he makes his living, he just says that he's "in oil".

Margaret Lee—3rd Vice President

Marge, a past president of the San Miguel Branch, and another long-

time member of the ABS, has served the Society in the past as parliamentarian, awards chairman, National Representative, etc. She is another member who has traveled many miles for many years to serve on the ABS Board.

Peggy McGrath—3rd Vice President

Peggy McGrath, past president of the San Gabriel Valley Branch, and an ABS member of long standing, has served on the ABS Board as parliamentarian, secretary, and is presently serving as Director, Public Relations.

Margaret Ireton—Secretary

Margaret, the incumbent secretary of the Society, has proved herself to be well qualified for the job during the past year. She and her husband, Dr. William Ireton, belong to the Westchester Branch, but live and grow Begonias in Bakersfield, Calif.

Walter Barnett—Treasurer

Walter is a public accountant by profession and has been doing an excellent job as treasurer of the ABS for the past 8 years. His never ending drive to develop a better Society earned him the Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award last year.

Walter Pease, Chairman
Nominating Committee

Please remember: your ballot must be postmarked by August 23rd. And let's everybody vote!!

You can help your Society by placing a 10c stamp over the permit number!

COLOMBIAN SPECIES OF BEGONIA

(Continued from Page 172)

sary before this category can become fully useful. One rule of logic is applicable, though: that every species will exhibit a certain pattern of distribution. Whether the various patterns conform to the categorical system established here (clusters, even, or isolated) is another question, but these appear to cover all possible situations.

Extending this idea to a further level, with the understanding that all species do have a certain definable pattern of distribution, we may consider a question: What is the selective advantage, if any, of a particular distribution pattern? Since we are not dealing with a specific anatomical characteristic possessed by a majority of individuals within the species population, certain problems are presented. In essence we question whether the form of special arrangement between different individuals occurring in a habitat is of some adaptive significance to the entire species.

The factors influencing patterns of distribution are many and varied. They may include such variables as the abundance of insects feeding on the plants, degree to which the habitat is disturbed, force of wind and water, and the type of seed capsule.

Each factor may contribute something to the pattern of distribution, which makes the problem extremely complex. With an accumulation of data, eventually some distinct correlations may appear. In the event that knowledge of particular distributions become available, the question of selective advantage still prevails.

Such a discussion serves only to present the specific problems involved in research on *Begonia*, and does not attempt to develop any theories. The solution remains with time and is locked within each species, for everything is already there; it is a case of describing it with a certain degree of correctness.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Dr. Bernice Schubert for determinations of the species collected within the section *Casparya*.

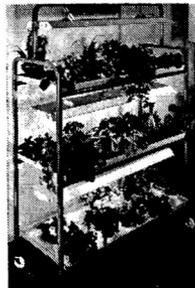
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BEGONIAS OF THE BOYACA

(Continued from Page 187)

individuals were observed of this species, some of which were seedlings.

A final journey into the forests of the Boyaca revealed two more begonias, which still remain to be determined. Both were cane-types and possessed the horned fruit. The altitude where these species were located was approximately 2,300 meters. The abundance of these two species cannot be considered excessive, for only one individual of each was observed at this particular location.

Thus are presented several observations of the *Begonia* found. Observation is only applicable to substance that has evolved prior to the time the observer observes, for the act of observing is not possible if substance does not exist. One can ask whether relationship is observable or not; a difference here being that relationship involves an integration between forms of substance. Integrating is a function of mind only, though the substance which is integrated is observable. The mind is more actively involved when dealing with relationship, than just sense observation, for it is another level of mind that relates. Thus, on one hand, relationship is observable because the substance that comprises relationship is observable. On another hand relationship is not observable because the mind serves to integrate substance into relationship. The components of relationship (i.e. substance) are observable, though the act of integrating those components is not. Of course the mind observes itself, but this is another

feature altogether.

Because the species of the *Begoniaceae* already exist, and are metabolically complex, the degree to which they can be observed approaches an infinite level. Just consider one species and the variety of scientific investigations that could be conducted.

BEGONIA "TRIPETALA"

(Continued from Page 169)

the female flowers and a high degree of infertility.

A cytological analysis did not yield definite results yet, but it seems certain the plant has between 32 and 34 chromosomes. The exact number could possibly be 33, in which case the plant would be a hybrid between a species with 28 and one with 38 chromosomes. These parents could well be *B. peltata* Otto & Dietr. (*B. incana* Lindl.) and *B. tomentosa* var. *eriocaulis*, respectively. Both species were present in the collection at Berlin in 1836. This could also explain how Hooker came to receive it as *B. meyeri*: what he got was seed of *B. tomentosa* var. *eriocaulis* (*B. meyeri* Otto & Dietr.) pollinated by *B. peltata*. This is no more than a hypothesis, however.

Begonia x sunorchis, as it must now be called, is not a particularly beautiful begonia. It is a shrub, 3 or 4 feet high, with brownish stems, green peltate leaves and inflorescences with numerous small white flowers. Its main interest appears to be that it is a plant which caused two famous taxonomists to drop a stitch.

Please contribute slides of Begonias to the A.B.S. Slide Library.

Standing Rules for Convention and Annual Show

1. The president shall be deemed general chairman of the convention.
 2. The general chairman of the convention shall appoint a convention advisory committee to provide general leadership and supervision of the convention plans and activities. It is recommended that the general chairman include members with past convention experience.
 3. An open house should be arranged to be held the evening preceding the annual meeting.
 4. The general chairman of the convention shall appoint a show committee chairman (Sec. 11 of Article II, By-Laws) whose responsibility shall also include the planning, setting up, and supervision of the convention show.
 5. The show chairman shall appoint and coordinate duties of committee chairmen, be in charge of the show, and collaborate with the host branch on brochures, space for the show, and courtesies for the clerks and judges.
Show Committee:
 - a. Show chairman, with special committee, is responsible for show schedule and show rules.
 - b. President is ex-officio show chairman.
 - c. President of hosting branch is assistant show chairman.
 - d. 1st Vice President (Standing Rules, No. 3).
 - e. Show secretary; takes minutes of show committee meetings, prepares show correspondence.
 - f. Show treasurer and two assistants shall be responsible for recording accurately the show fund expenditures and receipts, making a final report within one month to the Board of Directors, and transferring the balance of the show funds to the Society treasurer at that time.
 - g. Judging chairman (Judges Course Director) shall secure judges and clerks for the show, assign them to teams and give appropriate instructions.
 - h. Staging and placing chairman shall be responsible for layout design and actual placement of entries according to show schedule.
 - i. Entry registration chairman and an assistant (Classification Chairman) shall be responsible for preparing Division and Class sheets according to the show schedule and registration of entries; and shall work closely to assure entries are properly classified and entered according to show schedule, and issue exhibitor's plant tags.
 - j. Trophy chairman shall be responsible for the return of perpetual and challenge trophies a month prior to the show; shall obtain trophies needed according to show schedule and show rules; shall purchase ribbons; and shall have perpetual and challenge trophies engraved.
 - k. Tabulating awards committee will be comprised of the show chairman, judging chairman and registration chairman.
 1. Publicity chairman shall be responsible for placing show information in magazines four to five months prior to show date, preparation of posters, writing articles for newspapers and notifying branches.
 - m. Show photographer shall take photos of trophy-winning exhibits and prepare photo spread for publicity of the show.
 - n. Plant sales chairman shall obtain plants for sale, price them and sell them at the show.
 - o. Hosts and hostesses chairman shall be responsible for obtaining members and Board of Directors officers to represent ABS and to speak with visitors at the show.
 - p. Snack Bar chairman shall provide suitable food if required at the show.
 - q. Clean-up chairman shall be responsible for dismantling the props used in the show, for replacing any and all furniture displaced during the show, and cleaning the facilities.
6. Meetings:
 - a. The president will arrange for a Board meeting sometime during the day or evening prior to the annual meeting for all officers and national directors of each branch society to consider matters of importance and to set agenda for the next day's annual meeting.
 - b. The president may arrange for the annual meeting to start with luncheon at 12:00 noon, business to be conducted in the dining room, if possible. Reports of officers and branch representatives, limited to one page, will be first on business agenda; copy of officer's report to be given to the secretary of the ABS. Recognition of each National Director present will be given and he will report the number of branch members in attendance. Business will include changes in Constitution and/or By-Laws, acceptance of bids for the next convention and other matters requiring the vote of the entire membership.

c. The Saturday evening banquet will include installation of new officers after each biennial election, the incoming president being given the choice of the installing officer. Outgoing officers, in election years, and current officers, in interim years, and committee chairmen should be introduced. ABS past presidents present should be acknowledged and introduced, together with other distinguished guests. A program, appropriate for the occasion, should be arranged by the president. The National Awards chairman shall present the American Begonia Society's annual awards.

7. The convention host branch (branches), having invited the officers and members of the ABS to hold the convention in its vicinity, should set a date for the convention as close to Labor Day week end as possible, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Details of the forthcoming convention should be included in a formal letter to the Board of Directors as soon as possible, giving details regarding buildings available, finances, date of convention, banquet arrangements, housing facilities and whether or not to charge admission. Host branch will:

- a. Provide suitable quarters for competitive show.
- b. Provide suitable quarters for afternoon and evening meetings.
- c. Host preview.
- d. Act as hosts at the banquet meeting Saturday night.
- e. Sell tickets for the show, if applicable.
- f. Collect registration fee from delegates and members, if applicable.
- g. Provide suitable badges.
- h. Plan appropriate entertainment and garden tours.
- i. Investigate necessity of Public Liability Insurance and inform Board of Directors.

**NATIONAL ABS
CONVENTION
and
SHOW**

September 6 - 8

Goleta, California

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

(Continued from Page 171)

takes the male flower from a begonia, sets it in a flat box or tray, leaving it for 2-3 days. Taking it with a pair of tweezers, he holds it over a small, dark, flat bottle, tapping it with his other hand to see pollen visible on bottle. He uses a small camels hair brush, pulls it over the pollen then brushing it over the female bloom of the plant he wants to hybridize.

Write and let me know if you'd like to join us.

Mrs. Mae Blanton
Round Robin Director
118 Wildoak Drive
Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

CALENDAR

Sept. 20, 21; show by the Connecticut Chapter of the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society. Lafayette Plaza, 333 State Street, Bridgeport, Conn. Exit 27, Conn. thruway (I 95). Fri. 12-9:30 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

July 26 — Redondo Area Branch — 6:30 p.m. at Dana School, 135th Street and Aviation Blvd. Speaker will be Joe Littlefield. Potluck (bring your own table setting) and Donation Plant Table. All welcome.

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