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The BEGONIA



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COVER PICTURE — BEGONIA MORELII

By Gordon Lepisto, Twin Cities Branch

Here we have an attractive, compact terrarium plant, miniature, and always abounding with delicate pink tinged white flowers. True, this description could fit several beautiful begonias, but to me it brings to mind only this enticing Asian species, *B. morelii*. I have been growing the plant less than 4 years.

B. morelii loves high humidity and seems to grow best in a loose airy medium, similar to *B. versicolor*, but I have grown it in a dense soilless medium also. The small heart shaped leaves when new, take on a coppery pattern against bright green. Mature leaves are dark green, sometimes sprinkled with faint silver spots. The thin succulent stems rise directly out of the growing medium quite densely. I have had several of these begonias go dormant for several months at a time. I also find propagating by leaf cutting easy and fast.

My original plant was from seed and grew for some time in a bowl terrarium under natural light. It did extremely well, strong growing and healthy. The day came though for a move to a similar but slightly different environment. *B. morelii* now

grows under cool-white fluorescent lights, (14 hours) still in high humidity (90%) but uncovered on the open bench of my plant room. Besides the difference in light, it now receives constant fresh moving air. The medium is still airy, a coarse orchid fir bark kept moist at all times.

How this graceful little plant loves to send up those thin stems and burst into dozens and dozens of elegant flowers year around. Others have told me that it is difficult to grow, I have never found that to be the case. The styrofoam pots, as with all my plants, are slotted vertically 6-8 times up the sides, orchid fashion. In this humid atmosphere, this method seems to aid in healthy growth for my begonias and gesneriads.

The picture on the cover was reproduced from a Kodacolor II print. The plant was placed under 5000 kelvin fluorescent lights as the only lighting source. The camera: a 35mm SLR, Olympus OM-1, 50mm lens, with a simple +2 closeup lens attached to the normal lens. Camera was set on a tripod. Sometimes it's almost as much fun photographing as it is growing begonias.

CONVENTION '76 SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

The cover picture on the November *Begonian* and all the Convention pictures were taken by Gene Daniels, ABS photographer.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The purpose of this Society shall be:

- TO stimulate and promote interest in *Begonia* and other shade-loving plants;
- TO encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants;
- TO standardize the nomenclature of *Begonia*;

- TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonia* 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 *Begonia*.

NOTES ON B. MORELII

The plant was found in nature in the humid tropical climates, so that anyone who does not live where this sort of weather prevails will have to work to supply such an environment. One easy way is to grow the plant in a bubble or bowl with a cover. The planting medium can be sphagnum moss over an inch of perlite for drainage, so the arrangement is moist but the plant is not standing in water. The plant is semi-tuberous, with the fleshy tuber being somewhat subject to rot. The tuber is small, similar to the tuber of *B. dregii*. Like other plants with tubers, this one goes dormant and requires a rest. Occasionally it does not revive from this dormant state, so precautions should be taken to start a new plant while it is healthy and growing well. Fortunately, new plants develop from leaf cuttings in four to six weeks.

Also, the flowers set seed easily. The plants will grow to maturity in five to six months. One of the nice features of this plant is its long blooming habit. There are usually flowers to be found on the plant once it has set the first blooms.

Various growers have reported that it is difficult to transplant *B.*

morellii. Removal of some of the leaves seems to increase the chances for survival.

This plant is being grown in various localities by ABS members who have purchased plants from the Seed Fund. Others have been successful with purchased plants. Anyone who has grown this plant or who has had experience in making crosses with it is invited to comment on the results to the editors.

The official naming of this plant occurs with the printing of the description and Latin diagnosis in the article which appears on page 293. Carrie Karegeannes supplied the picture of the original specimen and the article. P.B.

REMINDER

Don't forget, we're still trying to get a Speaker's Bureau going, so be sure to get those completed questionnaires to me. If you don't have one yet, write me and I'll send you as many as you need.

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BEGONIA MORELII IRMSCHER

ex Karegeannes

The late Dr. Edgar Irmscher, noted German botanist, in March 1962 (*Begonian*, Vol. 29, pp. 47, 56) described a pretty new species sent him for determination by Dr. Georges Morel of Versailles. Dr. Irmscher gave it the name *Begonia morelii* in honor of Dr. Morel. The Latin description of the new species failed to be published, however, and through the years that ABS members have been growing this plant it has not been validly christened.

After Dr. Irmscher's death, his Latin description apparently was lost. Dr. N. Hallé, specialist at the Museum of Natural History in Paris, has most kindly translated Dr. Irmscher's German description into Latin for us and, on the occasion of our Christmas cover showing *B. morelii* growing in cultivation today, the *Begonian* has the privilege of validating Dr. Irmscher's name. We thank Dr. Hallé, Dr. Heine of the Paris Museum, and Dr. Morel for making this possible.

Dr. Irmscher's original article is reprinted below with the added Latin diagnosis, as well as the original illustration from Dr. Morel. The holotype specimen of *B. morelii* is in the Irmscher Herbarium.

By C. Karegeannes, ABS Research Committee.

NEW SPECIES

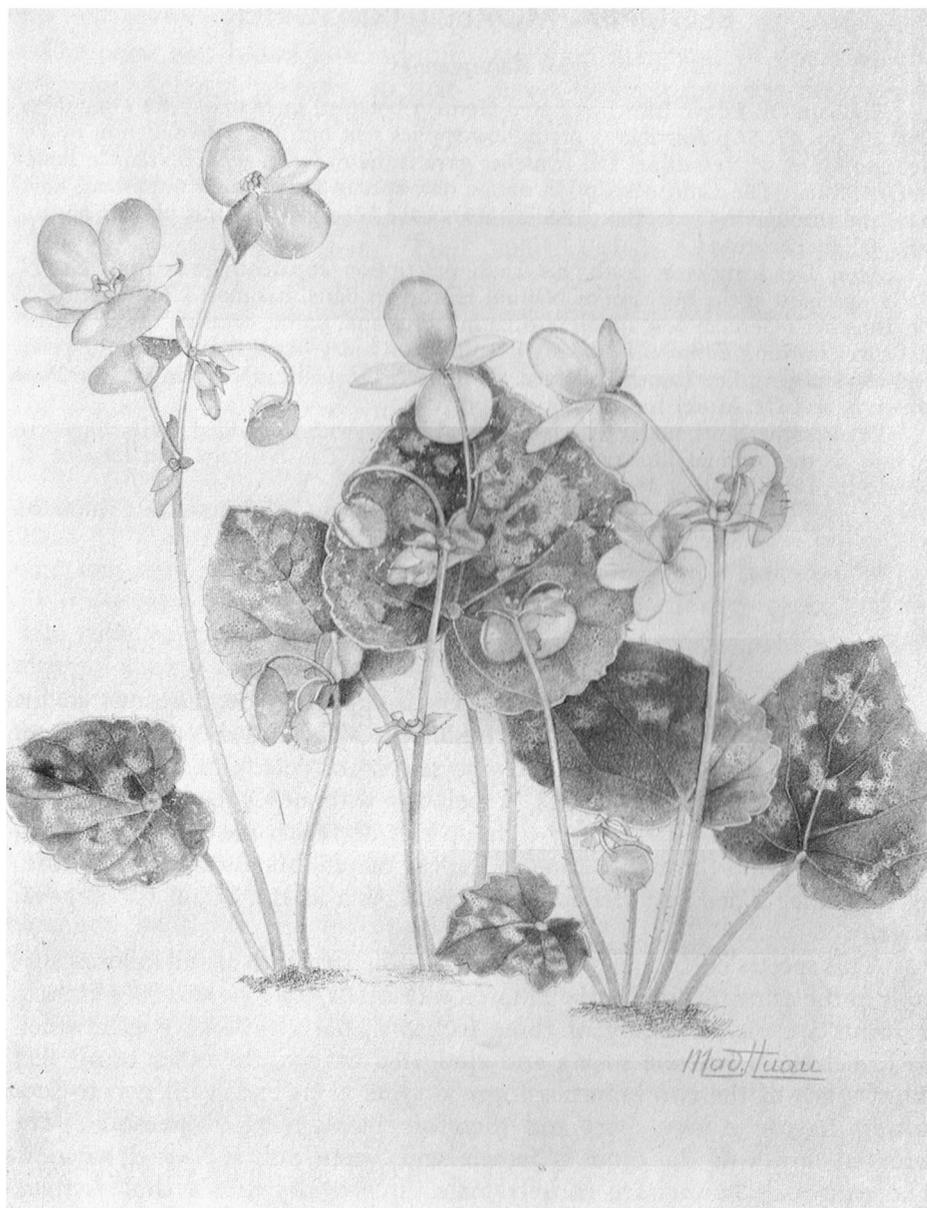
By Edgar Irmscher

I have obtained this new species which appeared spontaneously in the cultures of the Station Centrale de Physiologie Végétale, at Versailles, from Dr. Morel, Director of this Station, who sent it for determination.

According to his characters, it belongs without doubt to the Asiatic section *Reichenheimia*, the forty-eight species of which are distributed from India and Ceylon through Burma to the big Sunda Islands and to the north up to China. Then one can admit Tropical Asia as the origin for *Begonia morelii*.

This species is especially remarkable for the structure of the inflorescence built in the same manner as the inflorescence of *Begonia cardiophora* Irmsch. It forms a cyme consisting of three forked dichasia following each other. Each dichasium has one strong and elongated branch, the other being very short. Each of the two branches forms a cyme at its end, with two to four flowers having a very short and therefore barely visible internode. The terminal flower of the cyme is female and, when old, is bent downward. The remaining flowers are entirely male. It provides thus a shoot system, which stimulates a grape branching in which the strong forked dichasial branch apparently forms the main axis.

I am very glad to thank Dr. Morel, after whom this species is dedicated, for being good enough to add an illustration prepared in his Institute and for translating the text into English. Dr. Morel has already sent, a few years ago, seeds of this species to the A.B.S. Seed Fund as *Begonia sp?* near *Begonia thwaitesii*. The members who have received these seeds can give to their plants the name *Begonia morelii*.



Begonia morelii Irmischer

from original drawing
kindly loaned by Dr. Georges Morel
Directeur de Recherches
Station Centrale de Physiologie Végétale
Versailles, France

DESCRIPTION

Begonia morelii Irmscher

New species — Section *Reichenheimia*.

Low herbaceous plant with almost tuberous rhizomes 0.8-2 cm long, 0.5 cm thick, from which leaves and inflorescence develop; petioles thin, 2-2.8 cm long, barely hairy. Leaves sparsely hairy on the upper face, lower face shortly bristly especially on the veins. Lamina cordate in contour, 2-4 cm long, 2.8-4 cm wide in the middle, indented heart-shaped at the base with a rounded lobe 0.5-1.7 cm long and 1.7-2.5 cm wide towards the outside and a broad margin towards the inside. Apex widely acute, margin double dentate, rarely almost crenate, with apiculate notch. Inflorescence coming from the base, 8-11 cm long, forming a cyme, with 2-3 dichasia following each other. Of these, one branch is longer, 1-3 cm long; the others very short, 0.1-0.3 cm long or almost missing. The two branches form a cyme of 2-4 flowers, the internodes being very short; the flowers seem often to be arranged in an umbel. The terminal flower of the cyme is female, all others male. Bracts of the cyme almost leaf-like oval or elongated oval 1-3.6 cm long, 1.7-4.3 cm wide, under a hand lens, covered scarcely and irregularly with minute black glands. Male peduncle 0.7-2.2 cm long. Tepals 4, the 2 exteriors almost circular or widely oval 7-9 cm long, 7-8 cm wide, the interior elongated to linear 5-7 cm, 1.5-2.4 cm wide. About 22 stamens all turned on the same side, a little bent with filaments 1-2 mm long, almost coalescent on the base. Anthers elongate 1-1.2 mm long almost emarginate at the tip, forming a hood, the slits bent together towards the top, dehiscent when dry. Bracts of the female flowers minute, one or two, lanceolate, 0.5-0.8 mm long, remote from the ovary. Female peduncle 0.8-2 cm long, often sharply bent downward. Tepals 5, the two exteriors obovate 7-9 mm long, 4.5-7 mm wide, the interiors narrow, the central 5-7 mm long, and 2-3 mm wide. Pistil 3.2 mm long, base 0.6 mm long, caulescent at the top, lunate and two-lobed, stigma developed as a papillose spiral band. Ovary tripartite 6-8.5 mm long, 4-4.3 mm wide; with non-divided placentas, three winged. The wings decurrent at the base, more or less unequal, the larger equal-sided, almost triangular 2.5-3 mm long in the middle, blunt at the top, the two others with two wings half oval, in the middle, 1.2-1.5 mm long.

Has appeared spontaneously in the cultures of the Station Centrale de Physiologie Végétale at Versailles, France.

Begonia morelii Irmscher ex Karegeannes, sp. nov. (sect. *Reichenheimia*).

Planta humilis, herbacea; rhizoma tuberculatum, 0.8-2 cm longum, 0.5 cm crassum; folia inflorescentiaque e rhizomata orientia. Petioli graciles, 2-2.8 cm longi, glabrescentes; foliorum limbus supra sparse hirsutus, subtus breviter setosus, praecipue secus nervos et venas, oblique cordatus, 2-4 cm longus, 2.8-4 cm latus, basi cum lobo limbum partim tegente, extus (i.e. marginem versus) 0.5-1.7 cm longo et 1.7-2.5 cm lato, intus (i.e. basin laminae versus) cum margine lato limbum tegente; folii apex obtusiusculus, margo bidentatus, raro fere crenatus et cum apice emarginato. Inflorescentia 8-11 cm longa, cymosa, cum 2-3 dichasiis superpositis, quodque dichasium ramo maiore unico, 1-3 cm longo, et 1-2 ramis brevissimis, 0.1-0.3 cm longis vel deficientibus, duo rami cymum 2-4 florum formantes, internodiis brevissimis: flores hoc modo saepe pseudo-umbellatim dispositi, ut videtur. Flos terminalis cymi ♀, ceteri ♂. Bractae foliaceae, ovaes vel elongatae, 1-3.6 cm longae et 1.7-4.3 cm latae, sub lente sparse irregulariterque glandulis nigris minutissimis obiectae. Peduncles ♂ 0.7-2.2 cm longus. Tepala 4, duo exteriora fere orbicularia vel late ovalia, 7-9 cm longa, 7-8 cm lata, interiora, elongata ad linearia, 5-7 cm longa, 1.5-2.6 cm lata. Stamina circa 22 omnia secunda (i.e. ad idem latus vergentia), paullum plicata, filamenta 1-2 mm longa, ad basin fere coalescentia. Antherae elongatae, 1-1.2 mm longae, apice ± emarginatae, cucullum formantes, rimae apicem versus convergentes, in statu sicco dehiscentes. Bractae floris ♀ minutae, 1 vel 2, lanceolatae, 0.5-0.8 mm longae, ab ovario remotae. Pedunculus ♀ 0.8-2 cm longus, saepe valde reflexus. Tepala 5, duo exteriora obovata, 7-9 mm longa et 4.5-7 mm lata, duo interiora angustata, unum centrale 5-7 mm longum et 2-3 mm latum. Pistillum 3.2 mm longum, basis 0.6 mm longa, apicem versus caulescens, lunatum bilobatumque, stigma apicala, taeniiformae, papillosum. Ovarium tripartitum, 6-8.5 mm longum et 4-4.3 mm latum, placentis haud divisivis, tripartitum. Alae basin versus decurrentes, ± inaequales, ala maior cum latere aequale, fere triangulare ad medium, 2.5-3 mm longa, apice obtusa, ceterae alae duae minores ± bipartitae, duabus partibus semiovalibus, ad medium 1.2-1.5 mm longis.

Sua sponte occurrit in caldariis instituti centralis physiologiae vegetalis (gallice Station centrale de Physiologie Végétale) in urbe Versailles dicta. — *Begonia morelii* Irmscher, nomen, in *Begonia* 29 : 47 (1962), descr. angl. cum icone.

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BOTANICALLY SPEAKING, WHAT ARE THE BEGONIACEAE?

By Kalil Saleem Boghdan II, *Bedford, Massachusetts*
and

Fred Alexander Barkley, *Tegucigalpa, Honduras*

This is the second of a series of articles on what is a *Begonia*. For a bibliography, see the first of the series: Barkley, Fred A. *Begonia* Studies. *The Begonian* 42: 83-88. 1975.

What are the BEGONIACEAE and what is *Begonia*?

Begonia is a genus of plants. The BEGONIACEAE is the family to which *Begonia* belongs. There are three genera in this family, *Hillebrandia* Oliver (1866), with one species in Hawaii, *Symbegonia* Warburg (1894), with about fifteen species all of New Guinea, and *Begonia** [Tournefort *ex*] Linnaeus (1753) with over a thousand species and growing naturally from New Guinea to China, from Madagascar and South Africa to the Sahara, and from northern Argentina to northern Mexico and the West Indies.

The BEGONIACEAE are characterized as having the ovary (ovulary) below the attachment of the perianth, i.e. as having an inferior ovary. *Hillebrandia* has a perianth of ten parts in two cycles (Fig. 1a & 1b), the inner of which are small and insignificant, and in this genus the ovary is only partly inferior.

Symbegonia has the perianth of the pistillate flowers united into one cycle, and the ovary is completely inferior (Fig. 1d.). *Begonia* has a completely inferior ovary (Figs. 2 & 3) and the perianth is of less than ten parts in the pistillate flowers and these are never in two cycles.

The BEGONIACEAE have been considered to be part of, or closely related to, a number of families of plants that have inferior ovaries, the PAPAVERACEAE (the papayas), the CUCURBITACEAE (melons), and others. They are now** best treated as a separate order. While all of them have united carpels and at least partly inferior ovaries, tetralogical (abnormal) flowers have been found with separate, superior carpels. The origin and near relationships of the BEGONIACEAE being obscure for the present, it apparently is best treated as a separate monotypic order, the BEGONIALES.

Usually the plant body of the *Begonia* is quite herbaceous (rarely shrubby with woody stems), although the vascular apparatus in many species has some woody tissue. In some species the stems are much branched while in others the stems may be upright and unbranched. While the stems of most species are slender, some species have very thick stems (Fig. 4), which then according to the species may be upright or sprawling. Many have the bases of the stems much enlarged and forming tubers. A few have tubers with the stems so reduced as to appear absent. One species forms bulbs. A

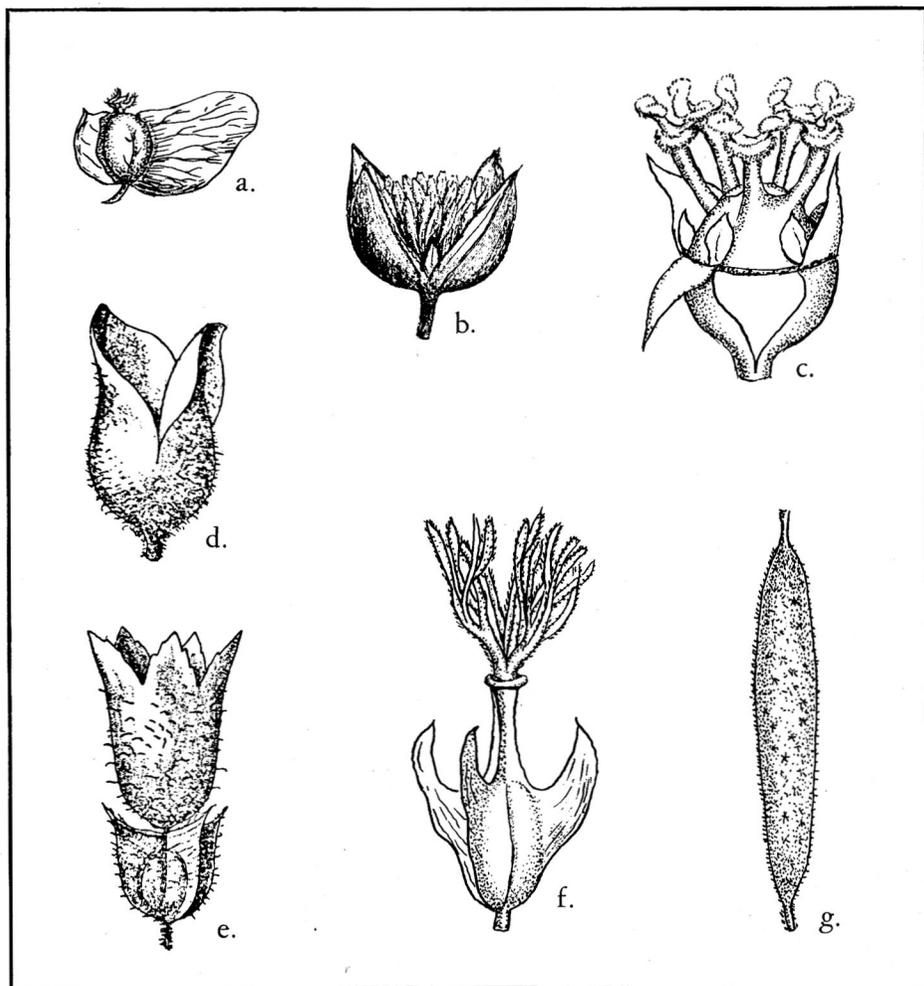


Figure 1. Flowers and fruits of BEGONIACEAE. a. Fruit of *Begonia lobata* Schott. b. Staminate flower of *Hillebrandia*. c. Pistillate flower of *Hillebrandia*. d. Staminate flower of *Symbegonia*. e. Pistillate flower of *Symbegonia*. f. Fruit of *Begonia cordifolia* A. DC. g. Fruit of *Begonia eminii* Warburg. Enlarged. After Irmscher in Engler & Prantl. Figs. 1a, 1c, 1f, & 1g. drawn by Rosemary D'Andria.

number of species have slender, more or less twining stems which climb by producing aerial roots. The leaves are netted-veined and often have long petioles (leaf-stalks), the lamina (blade) usually is very asymmetrical (Fig. 3) with margins varying from entire to deeply cut, and each leaf is subtended by a pair of

usually conspicuous stipules, which in some species become quite persistent. The leaves are usually simple, but in some species there are palmately compound leaves (Fig. 4). Some species of *Begonia* have petate leaves (Fig. 5).

The plants are always monoecious, although in some cases the two types

of flowers are produced at different times, thereby appearing to be dioecious. The ovary of *Begonia* is always inferior (Figs. 2 & 3). The ovary is usually not more than two times as long as broad, but in some species is much elongated (Fig. 2).



Figure 2. *Begonia mannii* Hooker f. From *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, permission given by the authors. Drawn by Rosemary D'Andria.

Winged fruit is considered characteristic of *Begonia* (Fig. 3), however, there are species in both Africa and the Americas with long wingless fruits (Fig. 2). The insertion of the ovules (and seed) in the fruit varies much between species. The number of tepals varies from two to

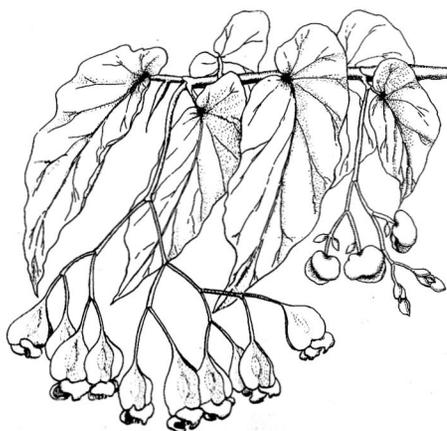


Figure 3. *Begonia coccinea* Hooker. From *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, with permission of the authors. Drawn by Rosemary D'Andria.

about eight, but is usually constant for each species. Usually the number of tepals in the staminate flowers is different from the number in the pistillate flowers of the same species. The stigmas and styles vary greatly, and often may be elongated and even much branched. The number of stamens and their insertion also varies greatly between species, although constant within a species.

The name **BEGONIACEAE** is conserved by international rules of botanical nomenclature and cannot be changed.

Technically the **BEGONIACEAE***** may be defined as:

BEGONIACEAE C. A. Agardh. Mostly perennial herbs with watery stems and thick rhizomes or tubers.

A translation by Alva Graham of
LES BEGONIAS

by Charles Chevalier
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Several climbing by aid of roots. Leaves usually asymmetrical, variously shaped, simple or palmately compound, a few peltate; radical or distichous (alternate in two ranks) and with large, often persistent stipules. Leaf surfaces are easily wetted, glabrous to densely and heavily pilose. In the axils of leaves of some species shortened axillary branches produce many small tubers. Inflorescences axillary, dichasial; the first axes usually end in staminate, the last (and sometimes the last but one) in pistillate flowers. The staminate flowers with two valvate or four decussate, corolline (petal-like) tepals; anthers many, free or variously united, the connective often elongated as appendages beyond the anthers and the anthers variously shaped. The pistillate flowers with two to five tepals, the ovary usually completely inferior or rarely only partly inferior; usually with two or three locules and axil placentae often divided and projecting far into them. Ovules many, anatropous; styles usually free, but often much branched. Ovary usually winged. The fruit is a horny, or sometimes papery, leathery or fleshy, variously winged or wingless capsule or rarely a berry. Seeds many, minute, without endosperm. Often reproducing from adventitious buds on cut parts of the plant (especially leaves). Genera: *Hillebrandia*, *Symbegonia*, and *Begonia* (*Begoniella*, *Semibegoniella*). All tropics, usually in moist and somewhat shaded soil, mostly terrestrial, a few epiphytes. Some continuously flowering, others flowering for short periods apparently controlled by temperature, moisture and light,

and then often in species producing subterranean tubers.

Begonia shows more variation than almost any other family of plants. *Begonia* show variation in almost every imaginable way in their structures, and yet an elusive something shows them to be obviously *Begonia*!

Begonia mannii Hooker f. with its almost symmetrical leaves, stiff stems, and waxy, almost sessile flowers in compact inflorescences, elongate, slender, wingless fruits, can be compared with *B. olsoniae* Smith & Schubert with its very assymmetric leaves, more relaxed stems, flowers in open elongated inflorescences, and with conspicuously winged fruit, or *B. carolineifolia* Regel, with its palmately compound leaves, open inflorescence, winged fruits, and greatly thickened and often contorted stems, and one immediately realizes that they are unmistakably *Begonia*. And so it is with the countless species, greatly differing, and yet so alike.



Figure 4. *Begonia carolineifolia* Regel. From *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, with permission of the authors. Drawn by Doris Jenkins.

Thus *Begonia*, and its family the **BEGONIACEAE**, offer countless, often exquisitely beautiful plants, very different among themselves, yet forming a unified complex that makes itself felt by anyone looking carefully at those plants.

Begonia, fascinatingly beautiful and variable, sooner or later acquires lovers from those who linger long enough to take a good look.

* Mr. Jack Golding has called attention that as a first declension noun the Latin plural of *Begonia* should be *Begoniae* (when used as a technical name). Most botanists avoid the use of such Latin generic names in the plural. When used as a common name in the English language, the plural of 'begonia' is 'begonias'. Used as a common name it is neither italicised nor capitalized (unless it is the first word of a sentence.)

** Many persons think that everything in botany is definite and unchangeable, but there are many cases where personal opinion must be used, and this often with some disagreement from other botanists.

*** The last satisfactorily complete technical exposition concerning this family is that of: E. Irmscher. Engler & Prantl's *Die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* (Ed. 2) 21: 548-588. 1935. Unfortunately it has never been translated into English (but it should be).



Figure 5. *Begonia lubbersii* E. Morren. From *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, permission given by the authors. Drawn by Elizabeth Schaefer.

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per pkt. \$1.00
- Dc 3 — *B. malabarica*: 1783; Ceylon. One of the oldest known begonias. A thick-stemmed upright. Grows to 2 ft. Small, deeply toothed leaves, which are white spotted when young, covered with short white hairs. Leaves grow to 6 inches long, and 2½ inches wide. Flowers are bright pink.per pkt. \$.50
- Dc 4 — *B. masoniana* Imscher: 1959; Singapore. Very popular rhizomatous plant. Leaves are very pebbly, and very distinctive, green with mahogany replica of the German iron cross, which may fade in too much sun. Requires careful watering, roots rot when too wet, and leaves crisp at the edges when too dry. Flowers greenish white in late spring and summer. Slow growing from seeds.
per pkt. \$1.00
- Dc 5 — *B. rotundifolia*: 1783; West Indies. Sometimes called the 'Pennywort' begonia. Rhizomatous, with rhizomes slender and creeping. Small leaves, almost round with basal lobes usually overlapping; glossy light green, crenately lobed. Flowers pink. ...per pkt. \$.50
- Dc 6 — *B. scharffiana*. This plant was received from Mr. L. Maurice Mason as an unidentified species from the mountains in Brazil. This blooms completely white.per pkt. \$.50
- Dc 7 — *B. setulosa*: 1840; Guatemala. This isn't a very well known plant. Shrub-like, growing to 1 to 2 ft. high. Rather small leaves, and pink blooms.per pkt. \$1.00
- Dc 8 — *B. subvillosa*: 1885; Brazil and Argentina. Name means 'shaggy, soft hairy'. Velvety, ovate leaves, green over and under, irregularly toothed, stems succulent. Flowers are white or pink. Does not branch easily.per pkt. \$.50
- Dc 9 — Mixed rex seed from West Virginia. This is a different source than those I had previously advertised, so different variations are possible.per pkt. \$1.00
- Dc 10 — Mixed tuberous. This is a collection of the finest basket types, selected from thousands of varieties from Oregon. Only the choicest baskets were selected.per pkt. \$.50 or 3/\$1.00

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Mrs. Ann Council, Library Intern Student, and
Mr. Charles Long, Administrative Librarian of N.Y. Botanical Library

New Library Project

The ABS Board of Directors asked the Research Department to take over the project of compiling all materials on hybrids and cultivars in all periodicals. This involved finding someone with a knowledge of researching such material at a large botanical library. Carleton L'Hommedieu, the Research Director, was able to arrange for the services of an intern library student, Mrs. Ann Council, to work on the project under a grant from the ABS Research Fund. The work will be carried out

at the New York Botanical Garden Library and will probably take several years to complete. Mr. Charles Long, Administrative Librarian, will supervise the project.

Mrs. Council wrote this introductory article about the project when she first started late this summer. It was delayed in appearance by the concentration on show materials. After you read it, you'll have some appreciation of what a big job she has undertaken and how fortunate ABS is to have her services.

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WHAT'S A LIBRARIAN DOING IN THE BEGONIAN?

By Ann Council

Ann Council is completing a Master's Degree in Library Science at the Palmer Graduate Library School of Long Island University. As a participant in the New York Botanical Garden's Library Intern Program she is Library Assistant at the Cary Arboretum in Millbrook, New York. This unique facility is being developed by the New York Botanical Garden as one of the world's outstanding botanical research and educational centers. In addition to the American Begonia Society project, she is engaged in a survey of the environmental literature holdings of the academic and special libraries of the Mid-Hudson Valley area. She has provided bibliographic assistance for several tropical/exotic environmental studies, one of which is the recently published *Amazon Jungle: Green Hell to Red Desert?* co-authored by Dr. Robert J. A. Goodland, Ecologist of the Cary Arboretum and Dr. Howard S. Irwin, President of the New York Botanical Garden and Director of the Cary Arboretum.

Librarians now-a-days like to think the "Marian" image has faded, but if Central Casting had to fill a part it isn't difficult to picture what they might select. The fusty attendant of dusty tomes stereotype could still prevail. Unfair!

Have you ever considered how the librarian views you? In the literature of the library world you are a "patron," a "client" and, as traditional library practices meld with the emerging technology of information science, the impersonal term "user" has currency. A patron is a "supporter, benefactor, a champion, or advocate" according to dear old Webster and, indeed, that is what you are when you step through your library's front door. Without your use, your pa-

tronage, the existence of libraries would be pointless.

The central theme throughout library school education today is that of service. Librarianship is a service-oriented profession with its primary concern being how most efficiently and effectively to serve as an interface between you and the information you seek. The cataloger engaged in assigning classification numbers, the shelver whose seemingly menial task is of critical importance are aware of this. It is most apparent, however, in the work of the reference librarian whose particular focus is knowing where to look to find the answer or showing you how to locate it yourself. In the latter instance the librarian takes on the function of teacher as well.

Reference librarians have a much-loved collection of works to which they turn as "ready reference." These are the especially useful sources which have proved most helpful in providing quick, concise answers. The works in this type of core collection depend on the kind of library and its patrons. Ready reference works on hand at a large public library differ considerably from those on the shelves of a library that serve a clientele with a special interest; a botanical library, for example.

Especially dear to the heart of a librarian is this concept of a compact, comprehensive, definitive source which will provide the answer to any question asked in a particular subject area, although admittedly this falls into "the impossible dream" cate-

gory. So, when the American Begonia Society considers the compilation of an encyclopedic work on the genus *Begonia* the thought gladdens the heart and causes the eye to sparkle, for the end product will closely approach this ideal — a reference work in which one can find the answer to virtually any question posed about begonias.

To bring this accomplishment to pass the New York Botanical Garden Library, a macrocosmic example of a reference work in a specialized subject area, will be the primary source for published *Begonia* material. Here is the largest collection of botanical and horticultural literature housed under one roof in the Western hemisphere. It contains well over 100,000 bound volumes, 5,300 serial publications both current and retrospective, 265,000 reprints and pamphlets, and a cornucopia of manuscripts, archival treasures and botanical art.

Of particular interest to begonia-philis is call number RBR fQK211 .H45 1651. It will take you to the Rare Book Room and Francisco Hernandez's *Nova Plantarum, Animalium et Mexicanorum Historia* where the first known description and illustration of a begonia is on page 195. Try 634.06 Am22 and *The Begonian* is at hand from Volume 1, Number 1 to the most current issue.

It was from a core of 7,500 volumes assembled in 1896 with emphasis on plant taxonomy and horticulture that this collection has grown. Today it takes in such fields as floristics, phytogeography, ecology, pre-Linnean botany, early American botany, botanical bibliography and biography, environmental studies, education and forestry studies, plant

anatomy, morphology and physiology, biochemistry, statistics, and paleobotany. This is potentially "one-stop shopping" for botanical information.

Occasionally, when the answer or the work to provide it cannot be found in the collection on the Library's own shelves, an interlibrary loan is an expedient and successful means of producing what is wanted. The Library is a member of several interlibrary loan networks, one of which provides access to over 40 medical and scientific libraries in the New York metropolitan area. A second system, in addition to bringing the large and specialized collections of other libraries in the State within reach can, via computer terminal, tap a data base all over the country including those of the Library of Congress. A telephone call or note to the indicated holding library brings a photocopy of the article or the loan of a book. When necessary, interlibrary loans are international through such institutions as the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and Edinburgh or the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique of Paris.

Librarians do not like an unanswered query. Believe me, a difficult problem will occupy the mind, time, and effort of a good reference librarian long after the search may have been called off because of limitations set by the patron. A librarian friend with special experience and expertise or a fellow professional, someone met at a Special Libraries Association Convention, can sometimes produce what is needed. Librarians do not take well to holes in the net.

(Continued on Page 311)

FERTILIZING

By Elda Haring

It is not possible to set forth hard and fast rules for fertilizing begonias for much depends on where and under what conditions you grow them. Those of us who must grow them indoors most of the year have problems quite different from those who grow them out-of-doors in relatively frost-free areas. The available nutrients in your potting mix will dictate the need for additional fertilizers. If you use one of the so-called soilless mixes it is likely that those nutrients in the mix will be depleted in a short time and the plant will need supplemental feeding. If, on the other hand, you are using a potting mix containing garden soil plus organic materials such as compost or peat moss and other plant foods, it may not be necessary to apply additional fertilizer for several months.

The essential nutrients needed for all plants are nitrogen, which stimulates leaf and stem growth; phosphorus to encourage good root growth, flowers and the development of fruit or seed; and potash to promote vigor and good growth. Good garden soils normally provide these nutrients in varying amounts along with calcium and certain trace elements. Many growers, to avoid soil-born diseases, use either sterilized potting mixes or those containing vermiculite and screened peat moss with small amounts of superphosphate and lime.

A basic potting mix used by many begonia hobbyists is comprised of peat moss, vermiculite perlite, lime and a small amount of a complete

fertilizer such as 5-10-5. To the uninitiated these figures indicate that the latter contains 5% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 5% potash. Begonias grown in these mixes need supplemental feeding after six weeks when they are fed each time they are watered with an extremely dilute water soluble fertilizer, i.e. $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon to a gallon of water. Once a month the soil in the pots is thoroughly flushed with clear water to eliminate an accumulation of fertilizer salts.

My own potting mix is composed of 2 parts of weed-free top soil purchased at the local garden nursery, 1 part Canadian or German peat moss, 1 part of builders sand to which is added for each two bushels of the mix one 3 inch flower pot of dolomite lime and one of Mag-Amp, a slow release fertilizer in pelleted form. It contains 7% nitrogen, 40% phosphorus and 6% potash. Plants grown in this mix require no additional feeding for 4 to 6 months, at which time they are fed $\frac{1}{8}$ strength water soluble fertilizer twice a month while the plant continues to be in active growth. No plant food is given if the plants appear to be undergoing a resting period as evidenced by the lack of new stems or leaves.

Here in North Carolina the begonias in my greenhouse tend to rest from November to January and consequently they are not given additional feeding during this period. Young plants from cuttings or plants growing under fluorescent lights may

continue to grow and if so they are fed $\frac{1}{2}$ strength twice a month. Constant personal observation, due to the widely varying conditions of the plant's environment, is needed to decide when to withhold plant food.

If you have had but little growing experience it would be wise to choose a simple feeding program until you have learned to observe the effect on the growth of your plants. Do not expect to see immediate results after feeding as it usually will take several weeks to observe an improvement in plant growth. If powdered rather than liquid plant foods are used, measure the recommended quantities accurately for they are highly concentrated. A teaspoon means a level not a rounded one. An overly concentrated solution can damage the roots. If the soil in the pot is very dry, water thoroughly some hours before applying plant food to avoid fertilizer burn.

If you use a soilless mix and follow a constant feeding program, use a product that specifies on the label that it can be used for this purpose. Some will indicate a dilute solution of $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon while others may indicate $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon per gallon of water. This may be premixed and kept in covered containers ready for use. Feed each time you water the plant. Such a dilute solution, even when used on dry mix, will not damage tender plants.

Foliar feeding is often used as a supplement to a regular fertilizing program. Directions for this method of feeding are indicated on the container. Apply by spraying or misting leaves, completely wetting them until they are dripping.

If you are growing begonias in the garden, dry fertilizer may be applied during the growing season. Cultivate lightly into the soil and thoroughly water immediately. If you are an organic-minded gardener you may want to use cottonseed meal, fish meal or commercially dried cow manure and bonemeal. These materials should also be incorporated into the soil around the plants and watered immediately since they are very dry and remove moisture from the soil to the detriment of the plant. As plants can utilize foods only in solution, I cannot stress too strongly to the inexperienced that these nutrients must be watered in as soon as they are applied. In my experience cottonseed meal and fish meal often contain eggs and larvae of small moths whose grubs feed on the roots and do extensive damage. We do not therefore incorporate them in our potting soil but we do use them for fertilizing many plants growing in the outdoor garden.

For organic gardeners who prefer not to use chemical fertilizers there are a number of good products: fish emulsion with a formulation of 5-5-1 which contains chelate of iron; Blue Whale, 6-2-1 and Sturdy 0-15-14. Used alternately these produce plants of unusual beauty. Many of our best growers alternate water soluble fertilizers to take advantage of the trace elements contained in each one.



FERTILIZER PRODUCTS

Form	Brand Name	Formula	
		N P K	
Inorganics			
Powder	*Spoon-it	18-20-16	CI
	*Plant Marvel	12-31-14	TE
	*Ra-Pid-Gro	23-19-14	
	Miracle Gro	15-30-15	
	Garden Life	10-52-17	
	*Hyponex	7- 6-19	
	*Hyponex	10-41-15	
	*Peters Stim-U Plant	15-30-15	
Liquid	*Schultz Instant	10-15-10	
	*Follets Wach-us-Gro	8- 8- 8	TE
	*Ortho-Gro Liquid	12- 6- 6	
Pelleted (Slow release)	*Mag-Amp	7-40- 6	
	*Osmocote	18-18-18	
	*Precise	8-11-15	TE
Organics			
Liquid	Sea Born	4- 2- 3	
	Blue Whale	6- 2- 1	
	Sturdy	0-15-14	
	*Fish Emulsion	5- 5- 1	CI
Powder	*Fish Meal	10- 5- 0	
	*Cottonseed Meal	6- 3- 2	

N-P-K

TE

CI

*

Per cent nitrogen, phosphorus, potash
with trace elements

with chelated iron

On my shelf at present. Over the years, I have used all of those listed. Some brand names are nationally known and available, but others may be purchased locally or by mail order.

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

One question that is asked so often about the Round Robin program is, "What topics do the robins cover?" There are 75 RR flights now, on the following topics: General culture (10 flights), Greenhouse culture (4), Windowsill Growing (2), Odd/Rare (1), Miniature Begonias

(4), Rexes (5), Propagation (5), Bowls and Terrariums (4), Tuberos (2), Gesneriad (1), Canes (2), Growing Under Lights (6), Seed Growing (6), General Culture Flight open to Men Only (1), Hybridizing (4), Ferns (1), Rhizomatous (2), Species (1), Mounted (1), Semper-

florens (1), Riegers (2), Photography (1). There are also All-California, All-Texas, All-Florida, All-Canada and even International Robins. Of course, new flights are started all the time. Why don't you join us?

More and more growers all over the country are planning to devote a room in their homes to growing begonias. Bob Hamm, Texas, has some hints for people considering such a step:

1. Use waterproof paint in the room for everything, as any other paint will mold due to the high humidity in the room.
2. Rather than having wooden shelves, try wire mesh over a wood frame for benches. This helps keep the air circulating and keeps mildew down.
3. Put a small vent fan on a thermostat to circulate the air and cool the room if it gets too warm.
4. Use a separate space heater or hook one into the fan thermostat.
5. Remember, the humidity will be higher, so you can grow more plants outside of enclosed containers. You may have to lighten your growing mix to compensate for less evaporation.
6. If you have room, try tiered benches with lights on the ceiling and under each bench. Remember, lamps will all cast light so there can be a space between

lamps and areas without lights directly over them will still be bright enough for plants.

Here's an idea from Mae Blanton for some of us who are frustrated by slow-rooting begonias. She says, "The auxins for rooting are concentrated in certain portions of the plant and can move about. If you can put something that roots quickly and easily — such as coleus — in with a begonia cutting, it will give the begonia cutting some of the fast rooting abilities of the other plant. Old-timers used to insert an oat seed in the end of a cane cutting because the oat seed produced rooting enzymes FAST as it sprouted easily. Experiments have been reported using willow, honeysuckle or other fast-rooting cuts."

Vivian Stewart, Washington, was bothered for over a year with white fly in her greenhouse. She doesn't like to use insecticides, so she bought four lizards, who have just about cleaned up the greenhouse!

Vivian also makes the following suggestion for cleaning clay pots. She says if you soak the pots overnight in Chlorox water with a little Wisk added, they clean up with a small wire brush and very little effort. Says Vivian, "It was actually a pleasure to clean them, and they look like new pots."

Jim Newbold, Florida, has a suggestion for all of us who use wire baskets. "Use one half shredded cypress mixed with sphagnum (for lining) — soaked for an hour or two — squeeze out and pack through the wire. The cypress holds moisture much longer."

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Finally, here's a bit of moral support from Barbara Neptune of California for all of us who get discouraged occasionally. "The 'feel' of it (begonia growing) grows in you — each success adds to interest, interest leads to skill."

Please join us. You can meet some marvelous people, and can learn a great deal.

Debi Miller
Round Robin Director
919 Hickory View Circle
Camarillo, California 93010

IN MEMORIAM

Fred Martin of the National Begonia Society of England died on September 29, 1975. Mr. M. L. MacIntyre of the N.B.S. has written about Mr. Martin:

"I have just looked up the first N.B.S. bulletin I received which was autumn, 1960, in which he reported that he received an autographed copy of Dorothy S. Behrend's book. He said he had corresponded with her for many years and that he had distributed many plants in Great Britain via her generosity.

"He was Hon. Secretary and Treasurer in 1960 and for many years before that. He answered all queries on species and hybrids and now that he is gone, the N.B.S. has asked me to take over that task. He will be greatly missed by all members here."

Mildred L. Thompson wrote: "I have corresponded with Mr. Martin prior to, during, and subsequent to the publishing of the *Thompson Begonia Guide*. Mr. Martin was a very kind man and he was very helpful to Ed and me in our work."

Business Venture

Walter and Ruth Pease, both of whom have been very active participants in the Westchester Branch and in numerous capacities on the National ABS Board, have opened a new business. PLANT TALK is the name of their shop which opened just before Thanksgiving in the Los Angeles area. They are specializing in exotic plants for indoors and out, plus expert advice on plant care. A feature of the boutique is a landscaped area where staghorn ferns, bromeliads, gesneriads, etc. are displayed in a landscaped setting. Decorative containers, books about plants, gift items and accessories are available, too. PLANT TALK is located at 6383 La Tijera Boulevard, Los Angeles, 90045.

CORRECTION

There is an error in the chart of the Kusler Hybrids Family Tree which was printed in the *Begonian* in August on pages 190 and 191. The parentage for *B.* 'Delphine Fosmo' is not correct. Its seed parent is *B.* 'Laura Englebert' (not *B.* 'Lenore Olivier'). Members should correct their August copies for future reference.

Since the chart was prepared the following hybrids have been registered, so the registration numbers can be added to the chart:

<i>B.</i> 'Murray Morrison'	No. 506
<i>B.</i> 'Alva Graham'	No. 507
<i>B.</i> 'Jack Golding'	No. 508
<i>B.</i> 'Mabel Corwin'	No. 509

Jack Golding of the Knickerbocker Branch discovered the error while setting up a branch display of the Kusler hybrids at the Eastern Begonia Convention.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Travel from the southwestern to the northeastern areas of the country and back, with a bonus of visits to the Arnold Arboretum and the Northeastern University and Montreal Botanical Gardens, with buying stops at Kartuz's and Logee's, has meant neglecting some presidential correspondence and duties but has paid dividends in understanding and cooperation. Five westerners, ABS Past President Mabel Corwin, former ABS Awards Chairman Hazel Snodgrass, Santa Barbara's Past President, Barbara Philip, Rudolf and I had ten days in New England.

We've started a new year with satisfaction for work done by ABS officers and members and plans for broadening the Society's influence in the new year. We heard compliments about the *Begonian* and after a full afternoon with a joint meeting of the editorial board and publications committee, we know better things are ahead.

Santa Barbara Branch, with a small active membership, would not have succeeded with the 1975 ABS National Convention and Show were it not for the cooperation of branches and members throughout California and helpful visitors from the East Coast and Japan.

Buxton Branch, hosting the 1975 Eastern Convention and Show, likewise experienced the joy of having cooperating branches taking active roles in planning and execution of convention plans. The four senior judges from California were impressed by the beauty and perfection of exhibits, plants and educational. Buxton's past president and ABS

Northeastern Public Relations Director, Corliss Engle, brought in many excellent plants (although the area had been plagued by many days of rain) and carried home many trophies. The eastern branches are to be congratulated for a beautiful show and convention; all ABS looks forward to the 1976 Eastern convention in Pittsburgh.

Jean Pasko of San Diego County was the top prize-winning exhibitor at the National Show, bringing her plants more than 200 miles, as did Mabel Corwin who brought plants in the trunk of her car. We look forward to San Diego's national convention and hope all members will earmark savings to attend both conventions in 1976.

By mandate of the eastern branches and officers, ABS may now be able to balance its budget without the grueling physical and emotional program of robbing Peter to pay Paul. The sentiments expressed by the eastern ABS board members in accepting responsibility in fiscal matters were that "We now feel a part of the national American Begonia Society." May that feeling continue.

ABS did not finance our trip east, although there are funds earmarked for invited officers travel both to and from conventions in any part of the United States. Last year income from the National Convention was over \$4000 and a percentage was set aside to start an on-going fund for this purpose. I offered to reimburse our invited eastern representative for expenses of travel.

Rental of a station wagon enabled the five of us to see parts of the country we had always longed to see

— especially the beautiful fall colors of New England. Our trip culminated in the delightful show and banquets at which a quiet North-eastern University physics professor MC'd with humor and feeling; we loved every minute of it.

ABS Past President Clarence Hall did a grand job at Goleta bringing humor into a group joined together by growing and scientific interests. His Sacramento Branch's large delegation was impressive at the ABS convention.

It is hard to believe that it is again time to wish our members a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY HANUKKAH! It is a privilege to share these greetings for a second year with fellow workers and friends. Thank you all for a delightful year, for fine conventions, and your support. Margaret Ziesenhenn

A Letter to the Editors

The author of the letter is a member of ABS from the Netherlands. He does substantial work in breeding semperflorens, tuberous and rex begonias.

* * *

"For many years I have been looking for *B. baumanii*, a strongly scented tuberous species, that seems now to be extinct in Europe.

"I would feel very much obliged to you, if you would mention a request for seeds and tubers of, if pos-

sible, a selected and strong scented form of the species, in my name and address. Also my interest is in any scented tuberous begonia hybrids, with the exception of 'Yellow Sweetie'. As for the species, seeds as well as clones are welcome. Of course I will either pre-pay or reimburse any cost involved for the material."

Those readers who desire to answer this request, should write to:

Zelimir K. Tvtkovic Sahin
Uiterweg 34
Aalsmeer 1210
The Netherlands

LIBRARIAN

(Continued from Page 304)

If my enthusiasm for my field of study and the opportunity to apply my skills to such an exciting endeavor shows through, I am not abashed. Your regard for the Family BEGONIACEAE, Genus *Begonia* by involvement in this project shows equal enthusiasm. Although it is unlikely that I have swayed any of you to espouse Melville Dewey, it is almost a certainty that I will come away from this undertaking a *Begonia* fancier.

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East Bay Branch, Berkeley, Ca.



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R D No. 1, Box 121,
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EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Northbrea Community Church, Berkeley, Ca.
Julia M. Huwe, Secy
743 Albemarle St., El Cerrito, CA 94530

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Douglas Hart, Secy
6005 121st S.E., Bellevue, WA 98006

EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Phipps Conservatory
Beverly Coyle, Corr. Secretary
144 McCurdy Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15235

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

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

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

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

GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunnyside School
9972 Russell Ave. at Brookhurst, Garden Grove, Ca.
Loretta Stocks, Sec'y.
2668 Redlands Drive, Costa Mesa, Ca. 92626

GERALDINE DALY BEGONIA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Arline G. Peck, Secy.
Eagle Peak Road, Pascoag, R.I. 02859

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 ROCHESTER BRANCH

Third Sunday, Members' homes
Thea S. Tweet, Secy.
280 Weymouth Dr., Rochester, N. Y. 14625

HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m.
Parrish Memorial Hall, Southampton, N.Y.
Mildred L. Thompson
310-A Hill Street, Southampton, N.Y. 11968

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 New York
128 West 58th St., New York
Samantha G. Langer, Secy.
361 East 50th Street
New York, NY 10022

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Great Western Sav. and Loan Bldg.
6300 E. Spring St., near Palo Verde
Long Beach, California 90818
Mrs. P. E. Powell, Secy.
3031 Shakespeare Dr., Los Alamitos, Ca. 90720

LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Planting Fields Arboretum
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
Sandy Hecht, Secy
2 Bonnie Court, Merrick, NY 11566

MESQUITE BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Members homes
Mrs. Mae Blanton, Secy.
118 Wildoak Drive, Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
55 South West 17th Road, Miami, Florida
Mrs. Alma Crawford, Secy.
14250 Madison St., Miami, Florida 33158

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.
Mrs. Mary Peterson, Sec'y.
24522 Pescadero Rd., Carmel, CA. 93921

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Mercury Savings and Loan Assn.
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach
Miss Carol Ruane, Secy.
2133 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
First Christian Church,
1130 E. Walnut Street, Orange, California
Mrs. Norma Taylor, Secy.
2414 N. Bristol, Santa Ana, Ca. 92667

PORTLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Otelia Klobas, Secy.
35330 S.E. Dunn Rd., Boring, Ore. 97002

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m.
R. H. Dana School Cafetorium
135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.
Mrs. Susian Shaner, Secy.
5026 W. 122nd Street, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members
Juana Curtis, Secy.
4107 Taos Dr., San Diego, Ca. 92117

RUBIDOUX BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., West Riverside Memorial Hall
4393 Riverside Drive, Rubidoux, Ca.
Mrs. Cindy Gray, Secy.
22601 Whittier Street, Colton, CA 92324

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Sandra Graves, Secy
9 Rosemead Circle, Sacramento, CA 95831

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS

4th Monday, 1:30 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Jesse B. Harper, Secy.
Route 3, Salina, Kansas 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Mrs. H. C. Banks, Secy.
1279 35th Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94122

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart, Secy.
169 Mauna Loa Dr., Monrovia, Ca. 91016

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.
Casa del Prado (Rm. 104)
Balboa Park, San Diego
Mrs. Nova Gillis, Secy.
11885 Walnut Rd., Lakeside, Ca. 92040

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol
Mrs. Patricia Hill, Secy.
1339 Mission Ridge Road, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH

4th Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Springer Elementary School
1120 Rose Ave.
Corner of Springer, Mountain View, Ca.
Mrs. Elizabeth K. Sayers, Secy.
369 Ridge Vista Ave., San Jose, Ca. 95127

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.
Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave. N.E.
Judy Boling, Secy
10025 39th Southwest, Seattle, WA 98146

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St.,
Ventura, Ca.
Mrs. Bernice Barker, Sec'y
3316 Porter Lane, Ventura, CA. 93003

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshler Flold House
430 South 156th Burien
Helen Harbord, Secy
17859 S.E. 196th Drive, Renton, WA 98055

TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH

Mrs. Grace McDougall, Secy.
Plum St., Inverness Highlands
Inverness, Florida 32650

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Bank of Fort Worth
Mrs. Richard Ellis, Secy.
2117 Hillcrest, Ft. Worth, Texas 76107

TEXASTAR BRANCH

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

TWIN CITIES BRANCH

Pat Burdick, Secy
1910 Skyline Dr., Burnsville, MN 55337

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club
8020 Alverstone Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.
Barbara Mack, Secy.
424 Oregon St., El Segundo, Ca. 90245

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday 11:00 a.m. every month
Pittsburgh Garden Center, 1059 Shady Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Marie Treat, Secy
604 Nobletown Rd., Pittsburgh, PA

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. John W. Watson, Secy.
209 Pembroke Ave.
Wayne, Pa. 19087

Note to branch secretaries: please promptly notify the editors of changes in meeting place, date, and changes in secretary's name and address.

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 5, 1975

The meeting of Board of Directors of American Begonia Society was called to order by President Margaret Ziesenhenné at 5 p.m., September 5, 1975, at Francisco Torres, Goleta. A quorum of board members was announced and many visitors welcomed.

A report of the ballot counting committee appointed by the president confirmed presidential appointments of Public Relations Directors Barbara B. Jackson, Washington D. C.; Mae Blanton, Texas; and Margaret Ireton, Central California; ABS Corporate Secretary Rochelle Rose; Annual Audit Committee, William Walton and Gilbert Estrada; and establishment of an Auditing Committee to audit current bills.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the report of the ballot counting committee be accepted.

Amendments to the ABS Constitution and By-Laws proposed by Parliamentarian Peggy McGrath were distributed, read, and discussed. Another amendment was proposed from the floor to limit the office of elected officers, other than branch representatives, to two years in any position. These amendments were to be proposed at the next day's annual ABS membership meeting.

Motion made, seconded, and carried that all bank accounts be charged to delete the name of former treasurer Walter J. Barnett and include the signature of the new treasurer, James Porter.

The president introduced the new secretary, Rochelle Rose, and acknowledged the faithful services of Mr. Barnett and Margaret Ireton the retiring secretary. After branch reports, the meeting adjourned.

Rochelle Rose, Secretary

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