

July 1975

The BEGONIAN



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

FROM THE EDITORS:

This issue consists of three sections: the regular features and articles, the Index to the twelve issues dated 1974, and also information pertaining to the National American Begonia Society Show to be held in Santa Barbara. For your convenience, the pages which relate to the Show Schedule are the centermost pages. They can be removed to form a Show Booklet by opening the center staples. Likewise, the Index can then be lifted out and placed with the 1974 issues if the reader desires. If left in place, the Index pages will be consecutive. We hope this arrangement is satisfactory to the readers.

The Eastern Branches especially are supporting an Eastern Regional Show as announced in the June issue. This Show Program appears in the regular pages. Both Eastern and National Shows have many features of interest for everyone. We hope to publish several articles about these events for those who will be unable to attend in person. We do urge our readers to participate as fully as resources, time and money allow.

"THE BEGONIAN" ADVERTISING RATES

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TOO MANY PLANTS?

By Pearl E. Benell

Many of you who have planted seeds are amazed at your good fortune when you find that so many of them grow into fine sturdy plants! May I make some suggestions as to the benefit of such a problem? In these days of inflation/recession, most of your gift problems are answered. You can easily add colorful ribbons and take the plants to friends in hospitals, rest homes, or shut-ins at home. Of course, plants are perfect gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, holidays of all kinds. What a hit you will make when you take a plant to a person just to say 'thank you for being you'. Sharing your plant hobby shows that you have a personal interest in the recipient.

COVER PICTURE

B. 'Cleopatra' grown by Douglas and Goldie Frost of Garden Grove, California, Mr. and Mrs. Frost hybridize and propagate begonias and fuchsias as a hobby. The plant on the cover was grown in an unheated plastic house. Photo by E. Bates.

Photographs accompanying "How to Produce Begonia Seed" by J. Doorbos were taken by R. Jansen.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

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*.

OLD HYBRIDS RECALLED IN TRANSLATION

by Carrie Karegeannes

Research Department

One of the charms of reading early begonia literature is learning where some of our favorite plants came from and something of their history. Another is reading about and seeking pictures of oldtime favorites that are no longer grown.

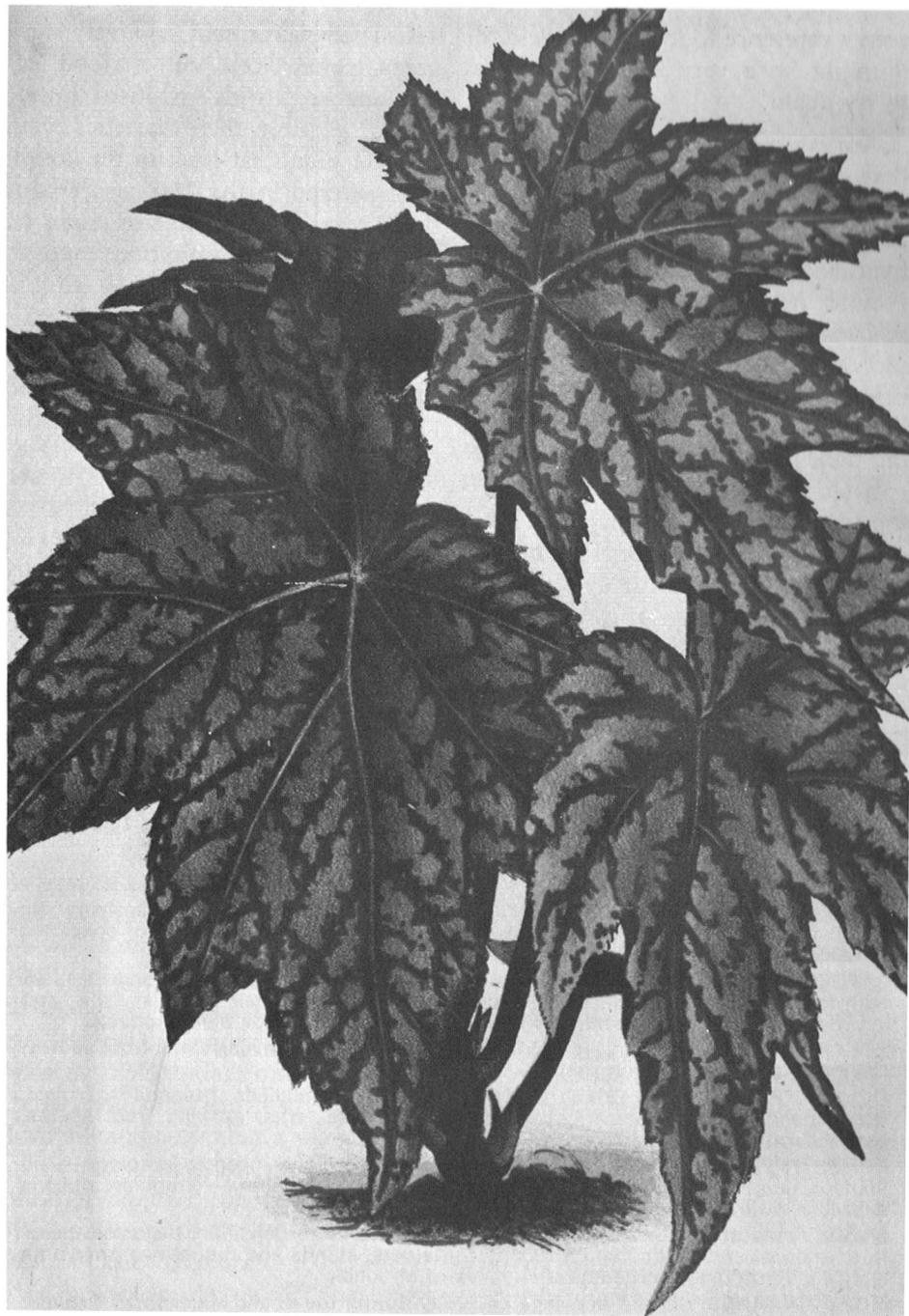
Through the ABS Library, some members have been able to read Alva Graham's delightful English translation of Charles Chevalier's *Les Begonias*, originally published in French by the Curator of the Botanic Gardens of the University of Liege, Belgium, in 1938. Until now only a few copies of this English typescript have existed, and only a very few copies of the original French book remain in the world today. But at last Alva Graham's English translation, *Begonias*, is being printed and will be available to all of us. The book will include illustrations of many of the begonias described by Chevalier; some are color reproductions of plates from periodicals of that time and others are new black-and-white photos of begonias Chevalier knew.

In addition to the history of cultivated begonias and of the development of our modern Tuberhybrida, *B. semperflorens* cultivars, *B. rex* hybrids, and other groups, the Liege curator described and gave cultural information on a great many species and hybrids. Since he knew and grew these begonias as living plants, his pages contain much information meaningful to growers. He also gave a horticultural classification, which

he thought more useful for gardeners than a botanical one would be.

Many, perhaps most, of the begonias are still grown today. Others seem to have disappeared. We have read in the *Begonian* of one lovely hybrid that Chevalier described — *B. 'Prestoniensis'*, a popular English cultivar of the 1850's, a cross of *B. cinnabarina* and probably *B. incarnata*. Some ABS members have tried crossing these two species again. Another very attractive one — from the illustration in *Revue de l'Horticulture Belge et Etrangère* in 1885 — is *B. 'Mira'*, a hybrid of *B. goegoensis* x *B. diadema* by Desbois. The reproduction shown with this article is a photo of that plate, mentioned by Chevalier on page 222 of his book (page 74 of the Graham translation now in press); it will be one of the black-and-white illustrations in the new book.

As Chevalier noted, *B. 'Mira'* resembled its father. The illustration shows silver-splashed-on-green, deeply lobed leaves influenced by *B. diadema*. It looks a beautiful plant, but may have been difficult to grow and possibly was soon lost, since I have not found reference to it in other publications, not even in Karl A. Fotsch's *Die Begonien* of 1933. *B. 'Mira'* may not have been grown in America; neither Helen Krauss nor Bessie Buxton, writing in America a little later than Chevalier, mention it in their books. It would be interesting to know if anyone has



Begonia 'Mira', hybrid of *B. goe-*
goensis by *B. diadema*, from *Revue*
de l'Horticulture Belge et Etrangère,

1885, reproduced in Alva Graham's
translation of Charles Chevalier's
Les Begonias.

seen a reference to it in America, and it might be a very interesting cross to try again.

Among other enticing old hybrids that may no longer exist is *B. xanthina* 'Marmorea,' pictured in color in the new book. Chevalier wrote of hybrids obtained by Louis Van Houtte in 1853 from crossing *B. xanthina* and *B. rubrovenia* (also pictured in the new book). The hybrids looked rather like *B. xanthina*, but had erect stems and red stripes on their sulfur-yellow flowers, contributed by *B. rubrovenia*. *B.* 'Marmorea' leaves were bright green marbled with white zones. The reverse cross (as Alphonse de Candolle gave the parentage in *Prodromus Systematis Naturalis* in 1864) produced *B. xanthina* 'Gandavensis,'

which Chevalier said had very dark green leaves "iced with maroon, often marked with whitish tints." Again, possibly these varieties were delicate plants, at least in the conditions offered in the 1800's. Perhaps if we tried them again, we might be able to offer them conditions more to their liking?

Wouldn't it be fun if ABS members tried these or others of the old-time crosses — and described and photographed the results for the *Begonian*?

A translation by Alva Graham of

LES BEGONIAS

by Charles Chevalier

(Original in French)

Publication date: July, 1975 Price \$10

Distribution through the ABS Library.

THE LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL FERN SOCIETY presents

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL FERN AND EXOTIC PLANT SHOW

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DEMONSTRATIONS AND CONSULTANTS: Begonias, bromeliads, gesneriads, bonsai, exotic plants, ferns, platycerium mounting, Japanese ferns, growing from spores, basket ferns.

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; begonias; many rare, unusual and exotic plants; unique containers, stands and mountings; 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 P.M. Sunday.

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HOW TO PRODUCE BEGONIA SEED

By J. Doorenbos

*Dept. of Horticulture, Agricultural University,
P.O. Box 30, Wageningen, The Netherlands*

As everybody knows, begonias can be propagated by cuttings. Most species root very easily, only a few (e.g. *B. platanifolia*) are really difficult. Several species are also capable of regenerating buds. Such species can be grown from leaf cuttings, a very rapid way of propagation for such diverse species as *B. prismatocarpa*, *B. sudjanae*, *B. bogneri* and of course *B. rex* and its hybrids.

Begonias can also be reproduced from seed, but many amateur growers seem to find this difficult: they cannot get their plants to produce seed, and once they have it they don't know how to sow it or how to nurse the young seedlings. This is a pity, because propagation by seed has several advantages over propagation by cuttings. It may sound unbelievable, but it is often easier and quicker to grow a begonia plant from a minute, almost invisible seed than from a sizable cutting. In the second place, seedlings are generally troublefree, while cuttings always take all the troubles of the parent plant (virus, bacteria, nematodes, mites, mildew, as the case may be) with them. A third advantage is that a plant usually produces many more seeds than cuttings, so that the rate of multiplication is much higher. Moreover, seed is easier to ship.

In order to get seed, one must have both anthers and pistils. In *Begonia* these never (except as an abnormality) occur in the same flower. In other words, *Begonia* flowers are

unisexual: they are either male (with anthers) or female (with pistils).

As a rule, *Begonia* are monoecious, the male and female flowers are found on the same plant. A few species, however, are dioecious: a given plant forms either male or female flowers, but never both. Examples are *B. viscida* and certain forms of *B. micranthera*. It is sometimes very hard to tell if a certain species is monoecious or dioecious. Some plants may form only female flowers for months or even years on end, and then suddenly male flowers will appear. I have observed this in several African species, for instance *B. mauricei*, *B. molleri* and certain forms of *B. mannii*. The opposite, male flowers and only occasionally female flowers, is found in *B. squamulosa*. Apparently this not only occurs under greenhouse conditions but also in the wild. Several species have been described as dioecious which are in reality monoecious, for instance, *B. squamulosa*. Factors like plant age, temperature, light intensity and daylength may play a role here, although this has not been clarified yet. It would also be interesting to see if the formation of male flowers is stimulated by the application of gibberellin and the formation of female flowers by auxin or by an ethylene releasing compound like etephon.

In some *Begonia* (e.g. *B. herbacea* and *B. squamulosa*) the male and

female flowers are borne separately, but in the majority of species they are to be found in the same inflorescence. Invariably, the male flowers are the first to bloom. Often there are still male flowers on the inflorescence when the female flowers open, but there are also many species (*B. acida*, *B. vitifolia*, *B. fuchsoides*) in which all male flowers have been shed before the female ones appear. In these cases one may have a profusely flowering plant and yet be unable to produce seed, unless one has the foresight to store pollen, which will be discussed later on.

Considering the unisexual flowers and the way they are grouped in the inflorescence one would expect *Begonia* to be typically out-breeding plants. However, there are some species, e.g. *B. hirtella* and *B. francosis*, which have developed mech-

anisms for selfpollination (see the *Begonian* of November 1970). Also species with dense inflorescences in which male and female flowers are open at the same time (e.g. *B. dregei*) may set seed without any outside help. Most species, however, need some agent, other than gravity, to transport the pollen to the stigmas.

It is still unknown how female begonia flowers are pollinated in nature. In view of the showy petals and the strong smell of several species it seems reasonable to suppose that insects play an essential role. In our greenhouses, however, the only insect that visits the flowers is the honey bee which collects pollen from the male flowers but does not bring about pollination as it never visits a female flower. (How it tells them apart is a mystery, but it



Closeup: Pollination of a begonia by hand.

must of course be remembered that the senses of sight and smell of a bee are quite different from ours).

Some people have suggested to me that the wind would be the pollinating agent in begonias, but I am inclined to keep to the insect hypothesis. Two observations are pertinent here. The first is that the buds of *Begonia squamulosa* are covered with nectar. True, it sits on the outside rather than the inside of the petals, but nevertheless it is hard to see what its function could be if it is not to attract insects to the inflorescence. In the second place I would like to point out that the male flower of *Symbegonia sanguinea* has the shape of a half-closed shell (the petals are partly joined) and it is hard to see what other agent than an insect could bring the pollen to the stigmas of the female flower which are at the bottom of an inch-long tube.

The absence of natural pollinators in our greenhouses has the advantage that (unless one wants to do scientific experiments) no special measures are required to prevent undesired cross-pollination. We ourselves have to be the pollinating agent.

The pollen is formed in the anthers. These are round or oblong, and usually numerous. They open by slits or pores to release the pollen, at least in the natural habitat. Under our greenhouse conditions the anthers often remain closed. To cause them to open, it often helps to let the flower dry out. Producers of hybrid seed of *B. semperflorens* pick the male flowers and leave them overnight under a strong lamp:

To see if the pollen is being released one can take a flower between thumb and second finger of the right hand and hold it above the thumb nail of the left hand. The flower is now tapped gently with the forefinger of the right hand. If all is well the pollen will be seen to descend on the thumb nail. To pollinate, the same procedure is repeated above the stigmas of a female flower (see photo).

If the anther does not open by itself, one can try to open it with a needle. This usually means that the pollen must be brought on the female flowers by mechanical means. One should take care not to damage the stigmas; the best instrument to use is a soft artist's brush.

In some cases, there is no pollen. Sometimes the male flower drops off prematurely. This is usually an indication that the plant in question is a hybrid, but bud drop may also occur in true species when these are grown under adverse conditions (too wet, too dry, too dark, etc.). Some species, for instance *B. brevirimosa*, *B. serratipetala* and *B. violaeifolia*, have never formed pollen yet. In *B. venusta* and occasionally in other Asiatic species the anthers are enlarged and spongy, and no pollen is formed. No doubt the growing conditions are at fault, but we don't know yet in which way.

When the female flowers open later than the male ones, one can try to store the pollen. I am not aware of any serious work on this aspect with *Begonia*, but it seems safe to advise that if pollen is to be stored it should be kept out of the light in a cool and dry place. Per-

haps it keeps well in a refrigerator (many pollens do) but if one starts to experiment in this direction one should take care that when the pollen is taken out it should warm up slowly and in a closed container, so that no water can condense on it which would have a detrimental effect.

In most species plants will set seed with their own pollen. There are a few cases of self-incompatibility, however. Our plants of *B. minor* (syn. *B. nitida*) form clouds of pollen, but never set seed. The same holds true, unfortunately, for *Symbegonia sanguinea*. Before concluding that these species are incompatible we must of course consider the possibility that the external conditions are not right (although I have pollinated *B. minor* in all seasons). We have been pollinating *B. staudtii* for years but only once obtained a good seed set. When a plant sets seed after self-pollination there usually is no sign of a decrease of vigour of the seedlings as a result of inbreeding. However, adverse effects of inbreeding have been reported for tuberous begonias, so it seems wise to cross-pollinate the plants whenever possible.

When the female flower has

been pollinated fertilization can take place. The first outside indication that this has taken place is that the petals fall off. Unfertilized flowers drop off as a whole, although in some cases, e.g. *B. incarnata* and *B. malabarica*, they may remain on the plants for months. These species and a few others, e.g. *B. wollnyi*, are also exceptional in that in fertilized flowers the petals are retained (and sometimes even stay colored) until the fruit is ripe.

The fact that the fruit has set does not mean that it will also reach maturity. The developing seeds produce hormones which attract food substances to the fruit. If the number of seeds is too small, this food stream is not sufficient and the fruit aborts. The same happens when too small a number of fruits develops on a large inflorescence. In this case, the whole inflorescence drops off. Therefore, when pollinating plants with large inflorescences (*B. vitifolia* var. *grandis*, *B. parviflora* a.o.) one has to take care to pollinate a large number of female flowers. The shedding of fruits or whole inflorescences may be prevented by the application of an auxin (e.g. naphthyl acetic acid). In this way it is sometimes possible to obtain seed from plants where self- or cross-pollination would otherwise be unsuccessful. However, this technique is perhaps a bit too sophisticated for the amateur.

The fruits of *Begonia* are very diverse. Most species have dry fruits but there are also species with spindle-like or round fleshy fruits. The dry fruits open with slits at the bottom end (near the stem). These should be harvested timely, prefer-

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TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

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How to pollinate a begonia: a male flower is held above a female flower and gently tapped with forefinger to liberate the pollen.

ably just before they open, i.e. at the moment the fruit stem turns brown, otherwise the seed will be lost. The fleshy fruits of species like *B. molleri* and *B. seychellensis* have a green leathery coat which envelops spongy tissue (yellow in *B. molleri*, red in *B. seychellensis*) in which the seeds are embedded. These fruits split open lengthwise when ripe. The fruits of *B. ficicola* and others of the same section (*Scutobegonia*) do not seem to open at all. When they are ripe, the fleshy tissue just rots away and the seeds are liberated.

These seeds are very difficult to harvest.

The seeds of *Begonia* are usually round or elliptic, sometimes spindle-like (e.g. *B. eminii*) or beaked (e.g. *B. solananthera*). Their color is brown in various shades (yellowish, light, dark, etc.) The seed of *B. villipetiola* is orange, that of *B. olsoniae* (syn. *B. vellozoana*) is purple. In storage the seed of most species becomes dark brown in the long run. The seed can be kept for months without losing its viability.

(Continued on Page 165)

PROPAGATION OF BEGONIAS BY CUTTINGS

A talk by Edna Stewart, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Let's begin with the semperfloren or wax begonia as it is commonly known. It is mostly started from seed and used as a bedding plant, and is becoming more popular every year. Semperflorens cultivars can also be started from vegetative growth. Basal growth or side growth make the best cuttings. Top growth, while it will root, will quite often not branch but just grow tall. Pinch the top growth from your stock plant to cause it to put out side or basal growth. A leaf pulled from a semperflorens will also root and make a nice cluster of plantlets. It is slow to do so, a cutting is much quicker.

Right here it is time to tell you that I never use anything to remove cuttings except my fingers. I just snap the cuttings from the stock plant. If they do not snap readily neither will they root readily. If I have to use a knife to remove a cutting that will not snap off then I do not use any more cuttings from that plant.

Also, I think that I should state here that I use dry vermiculite to set the cuttings, watering lightly when the container is full. If you wet the vermiculite first and then set your cutting you are compacting the vermiculite too tightly and exclude air from around the cutting. Water with warm water and place container in a warm place. A heating cable speeds up rooting.

From a calla begonia use the greenest foliage you can find for cuttings. Cuttings with much white in the leaves are likely to rot. Basal cut-

tings are best from the callas.

Soil, peat moss, perlite, leaf mold, sand and vermiculite are all rooting mediums. They may be used separately or in any combination. Any mixture of these materials may also be used for potting of rooted cuttings. Some propagators advise potting cuttings when roots are one fourth inch long. If they are put in a warm location and if watering is done very carefully after potting this procedure works very well. I usually leave mine in the vermiculite until they have good root systems.

Many begonias will root from leaves. All rhizomatous and rex begonias do so. They will also root from pieces of rhizome. A whole leaf may be trimmed down, cut in sections, each with a good vein, and even the outside trimming of the leaf will root at each vein. Stem should be cut to an inch in length. New growth may come from the end of the stem or at the sinus of the leaf — the place where the stem and leaf join. *B. serratifetala*, *B. cubensis*, *B. rajah*, *B. versicolor*, *B. nurii*, *B. prismatocarpa* and *B. herbacea* all will root from leaves, as will many other species.

Hirsute begonias will root from a leaf but I have never known one to make a plant. The hair on the stem of a cutting of a hirsute begonia should be rubbed off before placing to root. These cuttings root very easily but sometimes they may stand for a long time before rooting or dying.

Cane begonias are probably the

ANNUAL SHOW
of the
American Begonia Society

September 5, 6, 7, 1975

Francisco Torres Conference Center
6850 El Colegio Road
Goleta, California

1975 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. 4, 1975 (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 RULE #4

Sept. 5, 1975 (Friday) Judging: Start 10:00 A.M.

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

Sept. 6 and 7: Public Showing 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

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

DIVISION A — CANE LIKE

EDNA KORTS PERPETUAL
TROPHY FOR BEST CANE
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. limmingheana*

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. 'Multi-flora 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'*

Thickset:

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 back-
ground) as *B. 'Crystal Lake'*, *B. rajah*,
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 Stemed:

7. Spiral
8. Non-Spiral

DIVISION G — SEMI-TUBEROUS AND TUBEROUS SPECIES

BEST SEMI-TUBEROUS OR
TUBEROUS SPECIES TROPHY
PALOS VERDES BEGONIA FARM
CHALLENGE TROPHY FOR BEST
TUBEROUS BEGONIA

Class

1. Semi-tuberous as *B. dregei*, *B. 'Wel-
tonensis'*
2. Tuberous species and first genera-
tion (F1) hybrids as *B. cavum*, *B. pearcei*,
B. 'Santa Barbara', *B. davisii*, *B. boliviensis*,
B. 'Torsa'
3. Tuberhybrida multiflora
4. Tuberhybrida single-flowered
 - a. Plain
 - b. Crested or frilled
5. Tuberhybrida double
 - a. Roseform
 - (1) Solid color
 - (2) Picotee-flowered
 - b. Ruffled flower
 - (1) Solid color
 - (2) Picotee-flowered
6. Trailing
7. *B. socotrana* and its hybrids as
Hiemalis types and Cheimanthra
types

DIVISION H — 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 I — BEGONIA GROWN IN A CONTAINED ATMOSPHERE

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

Terrariums, bubbles, or other containers providing an enclosed atmosphere for plant growth.

Class

1. Species
2. Hybrids

DIVISION J — 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 K — BEGONIAS GROWN IN HANGING BASKETS AND WALL POCKETS

WILLIAM L. TAYLOR
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
HANGING CONTAINER
BEGONIA

FRED NEELS MEMORIAL
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
WALL POCKET BEGONIA

Class

1. Baskets
2. Wall Pockets

DIVISION L — NOVEL GROWN BEGONIAS

BEST NOVEL GROWN
BEGONIA TROPHY

Class

1. Totem Pole
2. Rocks
3. Driftwood
4. Bark
5. Unique Container Grown

DIVISION M — 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 accompanied 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; distribution of a few plants for testing does not constitute release.

Class

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

DIVISION N — NEW BEGONIA INTRODUCTIONS BY A COMMERCIAL NURSERYMAN

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR BEST
NEW INTRODUCTION ENTERED
BY A COMMERCIAL
NURSERYMAN IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM BOWER

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 eligible for any other Division Trophy or Best Begonia in Show Trophy.)

Exhibitors are responsible for arrangements of their own entries.

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, 1975*.

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: Ms. Katharine Alberti, Classification Chairman, 3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068.

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 1975 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 4 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 planing to enter more than 15 plants must send or telephone a list of these plants with pertinent data to assist the classification chairman, Ms. Katharine Alberti, 3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068, phone (213) 851-4020 not later than Wednesday, September 3. This list need not be absolutely accurate as its 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 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.



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easiest to root. Cuttings should not be too long. Lower leaves should be removed and flowers should be removed. Leaves that are too large may be cut in half or trimmed to a suitable size. I like cuttings about 4 to 5 inches long and prefer top growth to side growth. I like cane begonias to grow tall and sturdy and bloom where flowers can be seen and appreciated. Some are natural sprawlers and make beautiful hanging baskets.

I use vermiculite only once for rooting. Whatever is left in the flat after cuttings are removed I let dry out and then add it to the potting mix. Some people report they cannot use vermiculite. I think they keep it too wet. I use only 2 to 3 inches in flats and I have wonderful success with it.

HOW TO PRODUCE BEGONIA SEED
(Continued from Page 163)

Even seed stored for over a year often germinates.

Shipping seed is more difficult than one would think. In the first place, the tiny seeds creep through every slit of a paper bag. These bags have therefore to be sealed off very carefully with tape. In the second place, the seed is very sensitive to the pressure that is likely to occur in the mail bags. If the seed bags are not protected by cotton wool, plastic foam or a similar shock absorber it is likely to lose its capacity to germinate. It may still look all right to the naked eye, but the microscope will reveal the cracks caused by pressure. I have received seed irretrievably damaged by the post-mark!

COVER PICTURE —
April 1974

On the cover of the April, 1974 issue of the *Begonian* a hillside begonia garden was shown. At that time the identity of the garden was not known.

The picture was recognized later by Mrs. Gilbert Estrada. The garden belonged to her aunt, Mrs. Emily Cornett, who with her late husband, Mr. Walter Cornett, belonged to the ABS Glendale Banch for many years. Their garden was at 1824 Los Encinos in Glendale and featured rex and cane Begonias. This garden was formerly owned by Mr. Ross, who raised begonias commercially in the midforties. The hillside has since been bulldozed to make way for buildings.

Mrs. Cornett now resides at the Verdugo Towers in Glendale, and Mr. and Mrs. Estrada, members of the Redondo Branch, live at 7914 Springer Street, Downey, Calif.



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ROUND ROBIN NOTES

There's no time like the present to join some of the round robin groups. Why miss out on a chance to make new friends and learn more about growing begonias at the same time? There is a place just for you in the robins — and we miss you when you don't join in the fun!

Hazel Kipp, Florida, reported on their fourth annual Robin-sponsored Clinic (started by the late Lois Covey), held early in March. With twenty-nine attending, it was the best ever. Hazel was encouraged by the large number of young people who attended.

Dora Lee Dorsey, Florida, reported on her Branch's information booth at a recent open house for all the clubs in her area. She used some of her prettiest specimens of different types and placed a register where those interested in attending their Branch meetings could sign up, with 31 signing.

Early last fall Casey Carsten of Texas cut back her *B.* 'Esther Albertine' fairly severely but decided *B.* 'Sophie Cecile' and *B.* 'Norah Hanson' didn't really need similar treatment. It was a good lesson. *B.* 'Esther Albertine' is lovely and lush while her sisters are looking leggy and tired.

Jackie Witt, California, finds her canes grow very well if they are potted in small pots, even if they get a bit rootbound. She only repots them in a pot one size larger, preferring to keep plant roots somewhat confined. In fact, *B.* 'Sophie Cecile' is in a 5" pot and yet she stands almost 30" high with five good-sized stems.

Marvin Kahr in Iowa had two large angelwings, in large urns in his basement, that remained dormant during the winter. Last fall he even threatened to discard them as after a time they get so woody and brushy. But he took them in anyway. Set in a dark corner they began showing bud tips this spring and were coming back to life. Now they are really going to town.

Millie and Ed Thompson, New York, find *B. lubbersii* likes a lot of sun; in summer it gets about six hours a day in their location. It blooms almost constantly and is very fragrant. It is kept in their greenhouse in winter. They keep it tightly potted to keep the plant compact. They find *B. decora* grows nicely for them in long-fibered moss with a small amount of perlite. When it is watered, they feed according to directions on the plant food container. It definitely requires terrarium care with a closed cover. Grown under lights, it propagates fairly easily using the same moss/perlite mix in a closed container.

Elaine Ransom, British Columbia, says her *B.* 'Sumatra species' is very pretty in a 3" pot. It had been blooming for a long time, less than 3" high and no more than 4-5" across although it has fairly large leaves for a miniature.

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Janice Caffey, Texas grows her plants on metal shelves, on which her husband mounted lights, in an enclosed porch on the east side of her house. On colder nights she uses an 'infrared' light bulb that she put into the regular ceiling fixture, plus heat going through the door of her living room into the area.

Gloria Wakefield, Illinois, gave simple instructions for the paper towel method she has used with success: take a piece of paper toweling, wet it, wring it out as dry as possible; the paper is then laid in the bottom of a small flat (a clear plastic box is ideal); the leaves are just laid on top of the toweling, stem side touching; the box then is covered with clear plastic. Given a good place under lights, it is amazing how soon roots begin to form. Also, the leaves don't seem to rot as much as in soil. Don't let the paper towel dry out. If it needs to be watered just spray sparingly (leaves and all).

Erich Steiniger, Ohio, has several *B. venosa* and the ones with the most light, and in places where his watering is rather haphazard, are quite felted and dense in growth. He is looking forward to seeing them bloom and enjoying their perfume.

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- ★ Plastic Pots - by the dozen
- ★ Polypropylene Shade Cloth
- ★ Polyethylene Film

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Yvonne Wells of Texas knocked the top out of her *B. incana* accidentally and thought for a long time she'd lose it but it put out several stalks from the soil line making it a bushy plant. It even bloomed. The *B. incana* has the sweetest blossoms, white with a bright orange center, really striking. Her *B. kellermannii* was making a bushy plant, also in bloom. *B. kellermannii* has very pale pink flowers.

Mickey Meyer, Australia, has found that *B. 'Sir Percy'* makes a very interesting parent plant when hybridizing. Using it with *B. Acida*, she got a lovely hybrid she named *B. 'Roka'*. The leaves have small faintly pink blisters all over. There is another, pairing *B. 'Sir Percy'* with *B. 'Emerald Jewel'* pollen that gave her leaves with dimples and quite a lot of pink on the edges.

Asked to recommend a good camera for photographing plants, Gordon Lepisto of Minnesota recommended, for a good moderate 35mm SLR, a Nikkormat with a F:1.4 lens. It is extremely reliable and well made and the lenses are among the best in the world. He advises one to stick to an economical set of plus

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lenses (+1, +2, +3). They work beautifully for almost all close-up plant work. Just screw into the front of your normal lens, no compensation for exposure, etc.

Marian Fazio, New York, has a daughter getting married this fall. She is trying to grow lots of small, bushy begonias to give out as favors at the wedding. She is having 3" ceramic pots made in the shape of wooden buckets. She thinks everyone will enjoy receiving a living plant for a favor

To join us, write:

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



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MAN'S BEST FRIEND?

Plants have long been known to be important as filters of pollution in the air, as well as a source of oxygen. Now new experiments are showing that water plants may also be able to serve as an efficient and inexpensive filter and disposal system for polluted waters near industry and cities. Some plants seem to absorb toxic metals readily and to metabolize other chemical pollutants.

A National Aeronautics and Space Administration laboratory has also been experimenting with ways to convert the plants that have absorbed chemical pollutants into bio-gas, similar to natural gas, and to turn plants that have filtered sewage effluent into high-grade animal food and fertilizer.

Studies of water hyacinths at NASA's National Space Technology Laboratories in Bay St. Louis, Miss., have shown such promising results that NASA has installed a special system with water hyacinths as the final filter to remove chemical pollution from the 13,500-acre laboratory's wastes. And NASA, Mississippi, and the city are studying use of water hyacinths as a final filter for the city's sewage lagoon.



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Point Scoring System for Judging Begonias	\$1.25
A Suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes	\$1.50

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2 people in 1 room of a unit*

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1 person in a unit.*

* 1 unit = 2 rooms, each with 2 beds.

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CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

- Jl 1 — *B. engleri*: 1904, from tropical Africa. Curious tall, shrub-like plant with curly, red-haired stems; dark green, wide leaves with white hairs; rose-pink blooms on long peduncles in spring and summer. Easily grown from seedsper pkt. \$1.00
- Jl 2 — *B. evansiana*: From China, grows to one ft. or more tall; stems erect, bulbils form in the leaf axils. Hardy type and, if grown in open ground, the bulbils will drop to the ground and new plants will appear in the spring. Leaves are medium size, narrowing towards pointed tip, and are green with purple veining. The flowers are bright pink in forked axillary and terminal clustersper pkt. .50
- Jl 3 — *B. foliosa*: 1825. Fibrous plant, good basket form with graceful, lacy appearance. Foliage small, almost fern-like. Tips should be removed to make a nice full plant. Loveliest of the small leafed group. Likes lots of moistureper pkt. .50
- Jl 4 — *B. fuchsoides*: A 3 ft. high, cane type shrub, with small leaves and rather small brilliant red flowers in fairly large inflorescences. A magnificent speciesper pkt. .50
- Jl 5 — *B. laciniata*: Rhizomatous from Thailand. Leaves roundly ovate on long petioles. Leaves are unequally cordate and acutely lanceolate. Large, pink flowers. Grows two to three ft. in heightper pkt. 1.00
- Jl 6 — *B. mannii*: A form collected near Nkong-samba in Cameroun. Rose-leafed. Medium stems erect; branches long and arching; leaves are shiny and ovate-pointed, glossy green, paler beneath; irregularly toothed. Flowers are pale orange-red.per pkt. 1.00
- Jl 7 — *B. molleri*: Species from West Africa; grows to 2 to 3 ft., branches arching; leaves oval, perfectly symmetrical, smooth and shiny. Flowers large, white, separate, or only a few in an inflorescence.per pkt. 1.00
- Jl 8 — *B. odeteiantha*: A unique begonia from Brazil. Small purple stems. Leaves deep green with a wavy margin. This plant is unusual in that it has a long internode, then very short nodes with three or more leaves coming out almost touching and surrounded with large whitish stipules then another long internode. The flowers are small and hang in loose clusters on pendant stemsper pkt. .50
- Jl 9 — *B. 'Orange Rubra'*: A low to intermediate slender cane. Light green, medium size "angel wing" type leaves. Makes a nice basket or wall-pocket with real orange colored drooping clusters of flowers. *Seeds from this hybrid can produce pink or rose-colored blossoms.*per pkt. 1.00
- Jl 10 — *B. sutherlandii*: Tuberous species from South Africa, 1868. Slender stems; branches drooping; leaves lance-shaped, delicate green, toothed, sometimes red-veined. Graceful and suitable for hanging containers. Flowers orange to yellowper pkt. 1.00

Jl 11 — *B. villipetiola*: Rhizomatous. Leaves hairy, oval; flower stems 2 ft. high, hairy, with numerous white flowersper pkt. 1.00

Free tuberous begonia seeds: include request with your order. If no other order, please send 25¢ for postage and handling.

Credit is given towards future orders if seeds specified are not in stock. Many members are growing from seeds. It is not possible to have enough of all varieties to fill all orders. It is advisable to list alternates.

All orders — to ease the time-consuming work of the seed fund chairman, and speed your order along, please send a stamped self-addressed envelope. Make all checks or money orders payable: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, and mail to: Mrs. Pearl E. Benell, 10331 Colima Rd., Whittier, CA 90604.

CALENDAR

July 12-13 — San Gabriel Valley Branch — 28th Annual Show — Saturday 1 p.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Los Angeles Arboretum in Arcadia. Plant sale of various begonias and shade plants.

July 14 — Hampton Branch, 7:45 P.M. at Parrish Memorial Hall, Herick Road, Southampton, Long Island, N.Y. Plant sales, Library and Slide Library open at 7:30 P.M. Teresa Babinski will speak on Tuberous Begonia. The begonia of the month will be *B. pearcei*.

July 19 and 20 — Sacramento Branch presents ninth annual begonia and companion plant show, "Begonias Indoors and Outdoors." 2 to 8 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. No admission charge.

Sunday, July 20, 1975 — Annual Trophy Award Show, San Francisco Branch, 12:00 to 6:00 P.M. The Annual Begonia Show is being held at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way. Admission is free. Twenty-two trophies will be awarded to members in both novice and advanced classes for begonia plants

and arrangements judged to be "Best in Show." Demonstrations on how to make begonia corsages and the general culture of all types of begonias will be given by outstanding exhibitors. Plant sales will consist of many different, hard to get, types of begonias and other plants in full bloom.

July 25 — Redondo Area Branch 6:30 p.m. at Dana School, 135th Street and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif. Potluck (Bring your own table service). Speaker: Joe Littlefield who will show slides of "Fascinating Caribbean," with a garden chat on begonias and shade plants. Visitors welcome.

July 31st through August 3rd. A combined show of begonias, fuchsias and shaded plants will be presented by the Seattle Branch of the American Begonia Society and the Greater Seattle Branch of the American Fuchsia Society. PLACE: The Northgate Mall, 310 N.E. Northgate Way. HOURS: 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday and Noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Admission FREE. Displays of begonias and fuchsias, a shoe box float table, blossom tables, two plant sales and education tables.

TENTH EASTERN REGIONAL BEGONIA CONVENTION
Horticultural Hall — 300 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass. 02115
September 25, 26, 27 — 1975

PROGRAM

Thursday, September 25:

- 6:00-10:00 P.M. Flower show entries
- 8:00 P.M. Coffee and social hour

Friday, September 26:

- 8:00- 9:00 A.M. Late flower show entries
- 9:30-12:00 Noon Flower show judging
- 9:30-10:45 A.M. *Tray Gardening* by Mark Golding
- 11:00-12:15 P.M. *Miniature Begonias* by Corliss Engle
- 12:30 P.M. Buffet luncheon
- 1:45-4:30 P.M. Bus tour of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University and an exhibit of the Arboretum's herbarium specimens of *Begonia*
- 6:00 P.M. Cocktail hour — Midtown Motor Inn
- 7:00 P.M. Awards Banquet — Midtown Motor Inn
Species Begonia by Rudolf Ziesenhenné
Flower show awards presented by Frank Kerin,
Show Chairman
- 10:00 P.M. Informal meeting of elected officers of all branches, conducted by Mildred Thompson and Corliss Engle — Midtown Motor Inn

Saturday, September 27:

- 9:30-10:45 A.M. *Begonias Under Lights* by Jack Golding
- 11:00-12:15 P.M. *Begonia Basics* by Evelyn Cronin
- 12:30 P.M. Buffet luncheon
- 2:15- 3:30 P.M. *The Culture of Begonia and How It Relates to Horticultural Classification* by Edward and Mildred Thompson
- 3:30 P.M. See flower show, see Boston, or browse through rare begonia books in the library upstairs at Horticultural Hall
- 5:00 P.M. Close of flower show to public
- 6:00 P.M. Cocktail party at flower show
- 7:00 P.M. Banquet — Midtown Motor Inn
Hybridizing Begonia by Belva Kusler

Sunday, September 28:

- 8:00-11:00 A.M. Remove exhibits from flower show

(Unless otherwise noted, all seminars and functions will take place at Horticultural Hall)

TENTH EASTERN REGIONAL BEGONIA CONVENTION

Horticultural Hall — 300 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass. 02115

September 25, 26, 27 — 1975

FULL REGISTRATION — includes all programs, meals and tour:

For each person registering before September 10\$38.00

For each person registering after September 10 40.00

PARTIAL REGISTRATION:

Friday, September 26 only — includes programs, meals and
tour, per person\$22.00

Saturday, September 27 only — includes programs and meals 18.00

Friday banquet only or Saturday banquet only 10.00

Directions and flower show schedule will be sent upon receipt of registration.

Make checks payable to Buxton Branch, A.B.S. and mail to:

Mrs. C. Norman Collard, Registration Chairman

Box 860, Pocasset, Mass. 02559

Tel. (617) 563-3629

TENTH EASTERN REGIONAL BEGONIA CONVENTION

Registration Form

Name..... Branch.....

Street.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

Full registration \$.....

Partial registration: Friday \$..... Saturday \$.....

Friday banquet only \$..... Saturday banquet only \$.....

Total amount enclosed \$..... Number of people.....

**ROOM RESERVATIONS for
TENTH EASTERN REGIONAL BEGONIA CONVENTION**

Midtown Motor Inn—220 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02115

September 25, 26, 27—1975

Arrival..... Departure.....

Rates: Single at \$19.50 plus 5.7% tax

Double at \$29.50 plus 5.7% tax

Name.....

Street.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

\$4.00 additional for third party

Reservations held until 3:00 p.m. unless accompanied by deposit

Convention registration does not include price of rooms. All members are asked to write for room reservations directly to the Midtown Motor Inn. A block of rooms is being reserved for us until September 10. Please make your reservations early. The Midtown Motor Inn has requested that you use the form above in order for you to get the reduced convention rates.

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CONDENSED MINUTES OF ABS BOARD MEETING MAY 17, 1975

Regular monthly meeting of the American Begonia Society Board of Directors was called to order by President Margaret Ziesenhenné at 3 p.m., May 17, 1975, at 3354 Cliff Dr., Santa Barbara, a quorum being present. Mrs. Elaine Gill of Santa Barbara Branch was named acting secretary for Secretary Ireton.

President thanked Thomsens for inviting the board to their lovely garden. Santa Barbara Branch President Burgess welcomed the visitors.

REPORTS:

First VP Richardson: Glendale Branch has prepared a list of **Begonians** to be shipped to Lee Baker of Charlottesville, Va. who is compiling the ABS bibliographical index of the **Begonian**. Librarian Lydia Austin will be contacted for missing issues. He had received many letters from interested "at large" members in response to **Begonian** article and will prepare lists of ABS members in areas of inquiries.

Treasurer Barnett: Funds on hand 4/18/75 \$2078.21; receipts \$1492.34; disbursements \$1669.44; balance 5/18/75 \$1901.11. President asked Treasurer in future to include current balances in savings accounts in report, showing accurate condition of ABS funds.

Editor Edgar Bates: Reported on Editorial Board meeting at Ziesenhenné's; a set of new color covers for the **Begonian**; an ABS reservation and donation pre-printed envelope costing Show Committee \$181.00 for printing and insertion, to be in July **Begonian** along with 1975 Show Schedules and Programs of National and Eastern Conventions, and 1974 **Begonian** index; discussion with publisher of the forthcoming Alva Graham English translation of Charles Chevelier's 1938 **Les Begonias**; asked Treasurer to supply actual costs of the **Begonian** for past few months as he estimates costs are near \$3.70 per member per year; will contact Dr. Fred Barkley re. possible publication of Ph.D. dissertations.

Treasurer Barnett: Supplemental information regarding publication of Alva Graham's 1953 **Les Begonias** translation — how idea originated, progress of proof-reading and indexing, possible date of completion 7/1/75, no cost to ABS.

President: Reported she had heard from Clarence Hall, ABS past president, that he had been verbally informed by telephone that ABS apparently meets qualification under State of California income tax code, as a charitable, non-profit organization.

Advertising Manager Mabel Corwin: Reported using the new advertising schedule donated by the **Begonian** publisher in contacting prospective advertisers; East Coast Advertising Manager is also using the new forms; it is too soon to tabulate any results from their efforts; told of ad exchange with L. A. Internation Fern Society.

Circulation Manager Edle Krupnick: Membership Secretary had prepared and sent out 4199 issues of the June **Begonian**.

President, for Awards Committee: Advised members to submit nominations for ABS top awards to Walter Pease by July 1.

Business Manager Estrada: Inventory of storage garage was presented; brought up continuation of welcome to new members as enclosed by Seed Fund Chairman when she mailed seed, now being done by Membership Secretary.

Treasurer Barnett moved that the welcome letter of the ABS in the size required be authorized.

The Treasurer cited IRS Publication 463 and explained what was required when submitting bills; he must retain reimbursement records for three years.

Since the Finance Committee is inoperative because of the vacancy in the past president's post the President asked that the Board approve the formation of a Finance Advisory Committee chaired by the business manager, Gilbert Estrada. The motion was made by Mrs. Krupnick, seconded and passed unanimously.

President reported having received reports from Mae Blanton, Round Robin chairman, and from Jackie Garinger, membership chairman. Treasurer reported for Pearl Benell, Seed Fund director; business manager and his wife had assisted Mrs. Benell during the month and load is becoming more normal.

Show Chairman Burgess urged national cooperation in putting on the 1975 Show and Convention; he expressed need for a publicity chairman; he invited the board members to come to Barbara Philip's home for the next Show Committee meeting at 10 a.m. May 25. Cliff Lindberg of Ventura is coordinating plant acquisitions; he told of other plans for the September 5-7 National Show.

Branch Reports: Representatives from North Long Beach, Westchester, Redondo, Glendale, Garden Grove, Santa Barbara Branches told of recent activities.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at about 4:30 p.m.

Reported from tapes by
M. Ziesenhenné, Pres.

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

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