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*The* BEGONIAN



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

## COVER PICTURE — B. 'ORANGE RUBRA'

By Gordon Lepisto, St. Paul, Minn.

This cane-like begonia, popularly referred to as a small angel wing, is widely grown and loved. Prized for its spectacular salmon-orange flower clusters, the plant remains under two feet at maturity and is everblooming.

*B. 'Orange Rubra'*, (*B. dichroa* X *B. 'Coral Rubra'*) is a Woodriff hybrid, registered in 1947. It received the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal in 1954. I can testify to its vigorous, dependable growth, the profuse brilliant flowers appearing on the plant while quite young.

I grow all my plants under cool-white fluorescent lights in a humid, controlled, walk-in terrarium. Until 6 months ago I had never grown cane-like begonias because of lack of room and bright light. At that time I received my first cane begonias from a good friend, Barbara Neptune, Porterville, Calif., who encouraged me to at least try. Included was *B. 'Orange Rubra'*, the young plant shown on the cover.

Pessimism prevailed in my thoughts as I inserted the tip cuttings into a coarse bark chip medium. But they all rooted, flourished and flowered. This continues to amaze me, as canes usually require stronger light than I provide and prefer their

growing medium to dry out some between watering. I keep the bark chips wet at all times, humidity at 90%, still they thrive, remain compact and continually bloom like there's no tomorrow, especially *B. 'Orange Rubra'*. I do pinch the tips of my canes to encourage branching and base growth and presently have none over 1 foot high.

I often think back to those years of growing without the companionship of these lovely, elegant angel wings since, for the most part, they are easy to grow.

**COMMENTS ON PLANT PHOTOGRAPHY:** I use 35mm single lens reflex cameras, (A Minolta XE-7 Auto. and Olympus OM-1) and prefer Kodacolor II, a negative color film for prints. Illumination for most of my plant photographs are 5000 Kelvin fluorescent tubes, primarily used in the Graphic Arts. For close-up work, (as in the cover picture) I use inexpensive +1 to +3 close-up lens attachments which require no increase in exposure, are convenient and perform well. As in most plant photography, the backgrounds should not distract from the subject. Causing the background to be out of focus often helps.

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### 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*.

## WATERING

By Elda Haring

When a beginner asks how much and how often to water a begonia a speaker may answer "When it needs it." Nothing irks me more. The beginner is asking for help, having had very little if any experience in growing plants. It is most difficult to tell anyone how often and how much he must water his plants for conditions of temperature, light and humidity are varied all over the country. In relatively frost-free areas many plants in the begonia family are grown out-of-doors — either planted directly to the garden or in partly protected lath and glasshouses. These plants must be treated quite differently from those that are grown indoors in the living area, sun porch, under fluorescent light or in the greenhouse. Proper watering depends on the habit of growth, the warmth and humidity in the growing area.

Many species of begonias come from the tropics and tropical plants vary in their growth which is either continuous or limited to wet and dry seasons. In some parts of the tropics length of daylight tends to remain the same throughout the year and there is often little variation in temperature. Where temperatures do drop growth of the plants slows down. In the cooler temperatures of our winters the plant is not in active growth and it is unable to take up much water. In the most cases during the winter months we can give the plant the equivalent of a dry season by keeping water to a minimum. That is what we mean when we say to keep the plant "on the dry side." Not quite understanding the

meaning, the inexperienced grower will often withhold water and give the plant desert-like conditions which are detrimental to its growth. Every plant, even the cactus, needs a certain amount of moisture at the root ball at all times in order to thrive and flower.

Should the potting mix become dust-dry or dry to a concrete-like texture the begonia will make a gallant effort to survive but often the leaves will take on a papery or glassy aspect, dry up and fall from the plant. The *B. semperflorens* types will do this if they do not have adequate water for good growth, as do some of those with shiny green leaves such as *B. convolvulacea*. If the plant is given adequate water when this condition is noticed, the leaves will again take on their characteristic shine and the plant will revive. Some of the rhizomatous and cane begonias if too dry will show their resentment by wilted leaves and soft rhizomes or stems.

I go through my collection frequently touching the leaves and if they do not feel crisp and turgid the plants are immediately watered. I must grow my begonias indoors and I keep saucers under every pot. When watering, I pour water into the top of the pot taking care not to pour water over the crown. When water appears in the saucer I let it remain for twenty minutes to a half hour and if some water remains in the saucer I feel that the plant has had adequate water and pour off the excess. The plant, if in active growth showing new leaves and stems, is

watered again as it *approaches* dryness.

If someone tells me he waters his plants in the morning but must do so again that afternoon I know that the temperature in the plant room is high, the humidity low and the plant has *never* received adequate water. If this is your problem, make your own test. Place pot in the sink, tub or bucket adding enough water to overflow the rim of the pot. If the root ball is very dry, many bubbles will rise to the surface. Permit the pot to stand in water until bubbling stops, let drain and do not water again until the soil in the top of the pot appears to be drying out. As some varieties of the begonia can be damaged by water standing on the leaves, take care not to submerge the entire plant until you have learned which ones are likely to be damaged by this treatment. In the case of the calla lily begonia, for instance, I have found that submerging the entire plant is damaging, for drops of water remaining on the stems can cause rotting, particularly if the weather is chilly and humid.

Now and then I hear someone remark that this or that begonia wants "wet feet." This, I feel, is a poor choice of words for immediately the inexperienced grower pictures a soil mix kept saturated, possibly with water standing in the saucer below. The experienced grower knows that such a condition will in time exclude oxygen from the soil and roots resulting eventually in loss of the plant. "Wet feet" actually refers to a constant slightly moist condition, neither wet nor saturated, for such saturation encourages fungi and bacteria that cause root rot. During the winter

months if no new leaves or tips are showing it is safe to water *lightly*. However, to be in good condition the plant should never be dry to the point of wilting. A young plant grown from a cutting in summer and placed under fluorescent lights, in the average living room window, or in a warm greenhouse may continue to grow throughout the winter. In this case it should be carefully tended, watered and fed to keep it in good growing condition. If you live where you grow begonias out-of-doors you have probably learned how to handle them according to conditions of your own weather, temperature and humidity. In central Florida where summers are warm and humid less water is needed than in the winter months when the weather is inclined to be cool and dry. However, the beginner must be warned to be ever alert for danger signals. I have seen begonia plants in Florida suffering from lack of adequate water during winter with drooping and drying leaves, limp rhizomes and stems because the grower was afraid to keep them adequately watered during the winter months having had experience of plants rotting from over-watering during the hot and humid rainy days of summer in Florida.

If a plant has been damaged by over zealous watering the damage becomes apparent when stems or rhizomes rot at the soil level, leaves yellow and fall off and the plant becomes weak and limp. Should this condition occur, remove as much of the saturated soil as possible, repot in fresh potting mix and wait a few days before watering sparingly. If the plant is a choice one and cannot be easily replaced, take a cutting for

insurance. Although limp, submerge the entire cutting, leaves and all, in water and if the plant cells have not been irreparably damaged the cutting will, after a few hours become crisp. Then it can be removed for propagation.

It is very important that the beginner understand that, in order to thrive, no collection of plants can be watered on a regular schedule. Plants that have filled the pot with roots will need more water than those whose roots have not penetrated to the bottom of the pot. Plants growing in small pots dry out faster than those in larger ones. The potting mix in clay pots tends to dry faster than that in plastic ones.

There are some species of begonia that need to be kept constantly moist and if permitted to dry out to the point of wilting cannot be revived, e.g. *B. versicolor*. But in experimenting with this species in pots not covered in terrariums I have found that the soil can be allowed to dry somewhat, the danger signal being a slight drooping of the leaves. The leaves should always feel crisp to the touch and if they are the slightest bit soft or limp it is essential to give water immediately. The humidity where I grow these plants under lights usually stays at 50 percent, but in my workroom it is about 40. Should this plant dry to the point of severe wilting it does not quickly recover. If you live in a part of the country where there is great heat with humidity very low this begonia does need the protection of a bubble or terrarium to keep it moist. If the medium in which it is growing dries in the bowl, *B. versicolor* will wilt even though enclosed.

Many rexes, canes, hirsute and rhizomatous types of begonias if completely wilted will revive if given the deep water treatment. Such a condition must not be permitted to develop too often for it weakens the plant. Therefore, it is important for the inexperienced grower to be on the alert for signs of stress. Each plant must be observed individually, for many react differently to over or under-watering. Specimens of *B. 'Emerald Jewel'* and *B. 'Silver Jewel'* in my collection, if suffering from lack of sufficient water, will drop almost imperceptibly. That is why I urge you who lack experience to go through your collection often touching the leaves. If they feel crisp and turgid all is well. If they seem the slightest bit soft and droopy, water is indicated. But water carefully and adequately. Touching the soil in the pot is also a good way to be sure the soil mix seems moist. The combination of dry mix and drooping leaves means your plant has been neglected and needs attention. Keep in mind that too much water is probably more damaging than not enough.

Do not worry too much about chlorine in your tap water. It does not usually damage plants of the be-

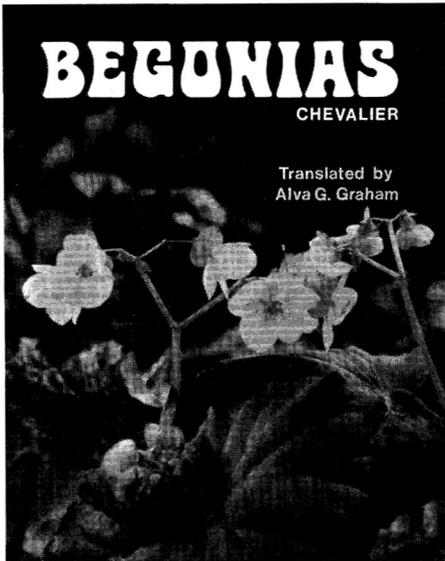
(Continued on Page 229)



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

## BOOKS FOR BEGONIA LOVERS

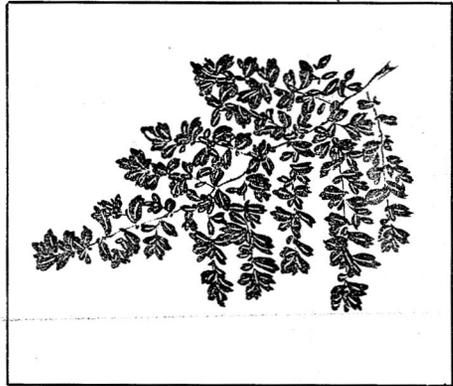
Begonia enthusiasts will want to consider these recent books as additions to their personal collections:



Alva Graham's translation of *Les Begonias* by Charles Chevalier. This classic book of begonia descriptions was originally published in 1938 in French. The new work contains Mrs. Graham's translation of the text, color plates of begonias described by Chevalier and reproduced from early periodicals, and a large number of modern black and white begonia photographs.

Alva Graham, a former *Begonian* editor, translated the original a number of years ago. Some typed and photo-reproduced copies are privately owned at present. She donated the manuscript to the American Begonia Society and has been intimately involved in the preparation of the book. It contains 185 pages in a large format with paperback cover. Order from the ABS Library at \$10 per copy.

*The Thompson Begonia Guide*, by Mildred L. Thompson, editor of the *Twiglette*, newsletter of the Hampton Branch, is an important horticultural reference work. It contains statistical information for 1700 different begonias. The looseleaf format permits easy referral to sections on classification, parentage of hybrids, bloom information, cultural listings and propagation, as well as a forthcoming section on culture. The book contains numerous black and white drawings, both illustrative and decorative.



*B. foliosa* illustration  
from *Thompson Begonia Guide*

This work was privately published by the author's husband, Edward Thompson. The first edition was distributed this spring and was sold out immediately. A second printing is being prepared. Copies may be reserved by writing directly to Mrs. Mildred Thompson, 310-A Hill St., Southampton, N.Y. 11968.

*The Species of the Begoniaceae*, by Fred A. Barkley and Jack Golding. This is another book privately published by the authors. Fred Barkley

is now Professor of Botany at Universidad Nacional Autonoma, Honduras. He was Public Relations Director of the ABS until his recent departure for Honduras. Jack Golding is current editor of the Knickerbocker News and a former Vice President of ABS.

This book is a compilation of published names of the species, varieties and synonyms for begonias and related plants. It can be purchased directly from Jack Golding, 47 Clinton Ave., Kearny, N.J. 07032 for \$5.50 (postage paid).

*Tuberous Begonias*, by Brian Langdon, is now available from the ABS Library. The text and colored pictures are devoted entirely to tuberous begonias. The book was originally published in England four years ago by Cassell. The second printing has just been completed. Copies may be ordered at \$12.80 plus postage.

*Begonia*, by Isamu Misono, contains over 300 excellent color photos and over 100 black and white photographs and drawings of begonias. The text is in Japanese, but all begonias are identified by English and scientific names. There is some promise of a supplementary translation being available at a later date. It may be ordered from the ABS Library for \$20 plus postage.

These books will be on display at the ABS Show and Convention in Santa Barbara. All orders from the ABS Library should include 50¢ postage per book. Residents of California, add 6% tax. Make checks payable to ABS Library and mail to Mrs. Lydia Austin, 15329 Eastwood Avenue, Lawndale, Ca. 90260.



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# HOW BEGONIA WALLICHIANA GOT ITS NAME BY MISTAKE

By J. Doorenbos

*Department of Horticulture, Agricultural University,  
Wageningen, the Netherlands*

An important aspect of the work of a taxonomist is the classification of organisms into taxonomic categories (families, genera, species, etc.). Once an organism has been classified, it has to receive a proper name. This involves little science, as the naming of established categories consists mainly of complying with the agreements laid down in the International Rules of Nomenclature.

As a horticulturist I have neither the knowledge nor the facilities to make a thorough study of the taxonomic relationships within *Begonia*. All I can do is to identify my plants and give them their proper scientific names. Usually, identification is the most difficult task, but occasionally one runs into unexpected difficulties with the nomenclature, even when the identification is beyond doubt. The following case history may serve as an illustration of the kind of problems that may arise.

When E. G. Steudel listed all scientific begonia names which existed at the time in the first volume of the second edition of his *Nomenclature Botanicus*, which was published in Leipzig in 1841, he found that the epithet *parviflora* (small-flowered) had already been used three times for a begonia: by Schott in 1827 for a Brazilian species, by Wallich in 1831 for a species from Nepal and by Poeppig and Endlicher in 1835 for a species from Peru.

Steudel retained *B. parviflora* Schott because it had priority, for

*B. parviflora* Wallich he suggested the name *B. wallichiana*, and for *B. parviflora* Poepp. & Endl. the name *B. micrantha* (also meaning small-flowered, but whereas *pariflora* is Latin, *micrantha* is Greek).

This would have been an elegant solution if Steudel had not made an error. The *Begonia parviflora* which he assumed to be the oldest and therefore legitimate one did not exist: Schott had not written *parviflora*, but *parvifloria*.

This brings us to Wallich's *B. parviflora*. This name was published in a work usually referred to, for short, as *Wall. Cat.*, although the full title is: "A numerical list of dried specimens of plants in the Herbarium of the East India Company Museum, collected under the superintendance of Dr. Wallich of the Company's Botanic Garden at Calcutta." It is not a printed book, but a lithograph from the handwritten manuscript. Here we find as No. 3674: '*Begonia parviflora* B. Hamilt. e mont. Morung'.

Although we have here a reference to a herbarium specimen, collected by Buchanan-Hamilton in Nepal, there is no description whatsoever of the plant. Wallich's publication of the name *Begonia parviflora* is therefore not valid. Consequently, the legitimate *B. parviflora* is the Peruvian plant of Poeppig and Endlicher, and Steudel's name for it (*B. micrantha*) is superfluous.

But back to *B. parviflora* Wallich.



*B. wallichiana* Lehmann

The name may not be valid, but the specimen exists. As we have seen, Steudel proposed the name *B. wallichiana* for it, but as he did not add a description either, the publication of this name was invalid too.

In 1850, however, Lehmann described *Begonia wallichiana*, thus validating the name. This description was not based on Wallich's specimen, but on a plant growing in the Botanic Garden at Hamburg which, according to Lehmann, belonged to the same species. This identification was accepted by subsequent authors, also by Alphonse de Candolle in the famous monograph of *Begonia* in volume 15 of his *Prodromus* (1864).

De Candolle made a very important observation, namely, that the plant described is very much like *Begonia franconis* Liebmann. This, however, is a species from Central America, while *B. parviflora* Wallich = *B. wallichiana* Steud. is from

Nepal. To explain this, De Candolle suggested that the species might have been imported into Indian gardens as a weed. On his great authority, this hypothesis has held out to the present day (it is to be found in the works of so great an expert as the late E. Irmscher). It stands or falls of course by the correctness of Lehmann's identification.

We now have to turn to a paper by Kurz published in 1871 in a German and an English version. In it he describes four new species of *Begonia* from Burma. One of these is *Begonia modestiflora*. This species gets involved in this story in 1879, the year of C. B. Clarke's treatise on *Begonia* in J. D. Hooker's "Flora of British India." When, on page 640 Clarke comes to *Begonia modestiflora*, he drily adds *Begonia parviflora* Wall. Cat. 3674 from the Morung Hills as a synonym.

It is one of the amusing turns of

this story that on page 655 of the same work Clarke describes *B. wallichiana* (that is, the plant of Lehmann) and gives as the only locality: 'Morung Mountains, Hamilton ex Wall. Cat.'. Now this is an amazing case of absentmindedness: Clarke is talking here about the same specimen, and this obviously cannot belong to two species. He may well express his severe doubts whether the *B. wallichiana* he describes has ever been found in India: when the only specimen has to be referred to another species, it clearly has not.

The true situation is that the name *Begonia wallichiana*, Stuedel 1841, meant for *Begonia parviflora* Wallich 1831 from Nepal, became attached to an American species, because in the first valid publication of the name by Lehmann in 1850 it was accompanied by a description of this American plant.

What are the practical consequences? Fortunately, there are none. No established name has to be changed, except that in scientific publications where the authors of the names are given we should no longer write *Begonia wallichiana* Stuedel 1841 but *Begonia wallichiana* Lehmann 1850. The correct name for *B. wallichiana* Stuedel (which has never been cultivated) is *B. modestiflora* Kurz.

A few words about *B. wallichiana* Lehmann. It seems that there exists no material collected in the wild. The plant is still occasionally found in botanic gardens, but it has become very rare. It is an upright, much branched plant of about 1 foot high. Unlike most begonias it is shortlived. It has very little merit as an ornamental plant.

*B. wallichiana* Lehm. is very much like *B. franconis* Liebm. Even Irmscher had great difficulties in formulating the distinguishing characteristics of the two species. It seems to me that from a taxonomic point of view there is much to be said for uniting the two. There is one practical objection to this, however. In this case, the oldest name would have priority, and this is not the straightforward, well-documented *B. franconis* Liebm., which was not published before 1853, but *B. wallichiana*, a name which but for a slip of the pen of Stuedel (*parviflora* Schott for *parvifolia* Schott) would not exist, and but for an incorrect identification by Lehmann would belong to another species.

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# CYSTOLITHS IN BEGONIA

By Ann Sears, *Northeastern University, Boston*

and

Fred A. Barkley, *Universidad Nacional Autonoma, Tegucigalpa, Honduras*

Many plants form crystals of calcium oxalate in their cells. Since this is insoluble or essentially so, it is an efficient way of disposing of the wastes of metabolism.

Much less common are the cystoliths, which are outgrowths of the cell walls in ground parenchyma and in the epidermis. These have calcium carbonate deposited on them. Cystoliths occur in the epidermis and in the ground tissue. Typical are the lithocysts with their suspended cystoliths such as are found in the fig, *Ficus* (Fig. 1).

In the technical "keying" or determination of species, one finds that some of the sections of *Begonia* are listed as containing cystoliths, while others are said to lack them. Interestingly enough, *Begonia* many times has cystoliths, but these are apparently not typical cystoliths since they are found paired in adjacent lithocysts, with the cystoliths extending from the common wall (Figs. 2, 3, & 4).

Cystoliths in *Begonia* was the subject of a master's thesis of the senior author.

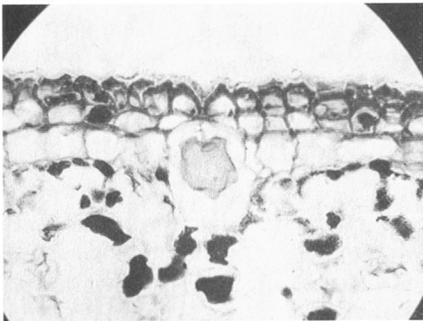


Fig. 1. A lithocyst seen in a cross section of a leaf of the fig (*Ficus*), with its suspended cystolith.

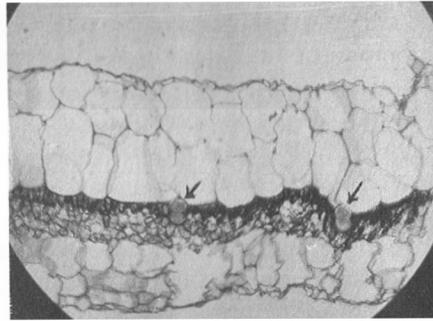


Fig. 2. A cross section of a leaf of *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo showing two double cystoliths (indicated by the arrows).

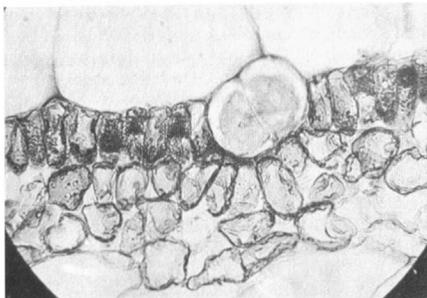


Fig. 3. An enlarged view of two lithocysts with their pair of cystoliths seen in a much enlarged section of the leaf of *Begonia acetosa* Vellozo.



Fig. 4. An enlarged view through the leaf of *Begonia bradei* Irmscher showing a section through one of a pair of cystoliths, sectioned parallel to their common wall.

## LETTER FROM JAPAN

The following article is a portion of a letter to the editors and serves as an interesting introduction to the article "Begonias and I" by Hiroshi Shigemi.

I'm enclosing a translation of a short article which I hope might be suitable for the *Begonian*. It is by Mr. Hiroshi Shigemi, a post office supervisor in Osaka, Japan, whose hybrids have appeared in recent issues. (See the *Begonian*, March '75. "New Registrations")

I found the article last November in the magazine, *Shumi no Engei* (Gardening as a Hobby). This happened to be the same time that I joined the Japanese Begonia Society, through the introductions of Mr. Mike Kartuz and Mr. Jutaro Orihata. Mr. Orihata put me in touch with Mr. Shigemi, who wrote informing me that he'd be delighted to have the article translated and published in the *Begonian*, and that his publishers had no objection.

The *Shumi no Engei* magazine is rather interesting; it is put out by NHK, the national educational television network, which does a Sunday morning gardening program, interviewing professional and amateur horticulturalists around the country and showing their collections. On the basis of these TV shows, a monthly magazine is published showing introductions to plant families,

growing techniques, and of course photographs. It's really helpful to see a technique shown on TV, then get it in the magazine to refer back to. I wish we had something like it in the U.S.!

Members of the Japanese society have given me a warm and enthusiastic welcome, and showered me with invitations to their homes and collections. They greatly admire the American society; many of them read our journal, and would be pleased if they in turn could contribute something to us. I thought the Shigemi article was a charming personal introduction, showing something of the different conditions in Japan, and something of the similar feelings that seem to be shared by begonia hobbyists everywhere . . .

As a grower I myself am a rank novice; moreover I'm in Japan working on my doctoral dissertation (in history, not horticulture!), and often find this interfering with my hobby.

Yours truly,  
Sharon H. Nolte  
Oimachi 5-28-19  
Shinegawa-ku  
Tokyo, Japan 140

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## BEGONIAS AND I

By Hiroshi Shigemi, Osaka, Japan

Translated by Sharon H. Nolte

Anton Chekhov is supposed to have said that, "Rather than becoming a playwright, I wanted to become a gardener." As for me, I failed to become a playwright, but did become a gardener. I got my start in gardening by virtue of growing up during the wartime and postwar food shortages, when vacant lots and even roadsides were converted into fields and planted with sweet potatoes, squash, and white radishes. Now, strangely enough, what I remember is not the hunger of those days, but rather the joy of a harvest that I had produced myself. This affinity for the soil continues in my gardening today and, ironically, might be called a product of the war.

At one time there was a fair amount of space in my garden, but it was gradually given over to decorative plants — flowering grasses, foliage plants — and now it is devoted mainly to begonias.

It seems strange that for begonias, unlike roses, I remember no dramatic encounter or first fascination.

A few years ago, when I was visiting a relative at Arima Hot Springs Shrine, I found clumps of *Shukaido* (*B. evansiana*) in the garden there, and took some home. I planted them under a tree and forgot about them for two or three years, until they shyly sent out flowers.

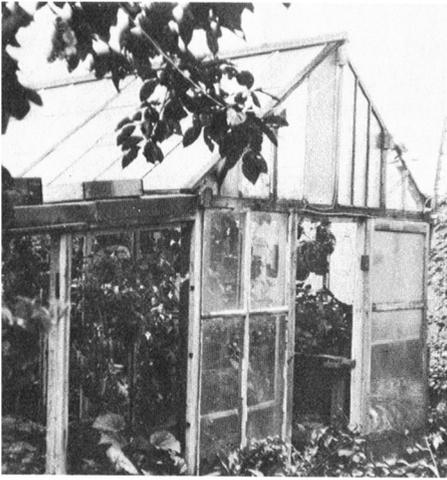
It was about ten years ago that I found a seedling catalogue and saw rex, shrub-like, and rhizomatous types for the first time; I felt as though any begonia in the world could be brought into my hands. At



Hiroshi Shigemi

that time you could easily count the available types, but my twenty or so rex varieties, in a couple dozen pots, were my pride and joy, and I had them carefully lined up in the windows of the post office where I worked.\* In no time at all I had a 48 square-foot greenhouse half full of begonias, and began hybridizing rexes.

In 1967 I learned of the existence of the Japanese Begonia Society. When I applied for membership, I learned from Mr. Iwazuru, who was president at that time, that he would shortly be travelling to my home city of Osaka. He came laden with cuttings of types I'd never seen before. Thus I began to meet other begonia lovers, and I must say that meeting the people proved even more rewarding than meeting the new begonias. Begonias (in Japan) are hardly marketed at all; instead they are spread from one individual to another via a single leaf or stem. In



Hiroshi Shigemi's green house

this way members are spontaneously afforded a set of courtesies, and the pride of returning a favor.

Now I have collected nearly four hundred species in my greenhouse. I've turned into a night gardener, who heads for the greenhouse in the dark and returns in the early morning. I am teasingly asked "if perhaps you love begonias more than your wife," and, by my third-grade daughter, "Which comes first, the begonias or me?". Still, my daughter helps me transplant, and plays gatekeeper when I'm away, guiding visitors through the greenhouse and explaining the growing techniques. My wife on the other hand almost never helps out in the greenhouse. This seems to be some sort of strategem, since she does admire the beautiful plants. On those occasions when I must be away from home (peaceful, plant-loving soul that I am) I very meekly implore her to water my begonias, and appreciate her help all the more.

At present, pursuing the dream of a new hybrid, I've made a number of

crosses, but none have been completely satisfactory. I've tentatively named ten or so that don't deserve to be thrown out. During last year's oil shortage the heating in my greenhouse was inadequate, but I was delighted to find that in spite of the poor conditions, my seedlings proved relatively strong. With these seedlings, all my worrying helped not one bit, but on the other hand when I finally decided just to sit back and enjoy them, the begonias seemed to understand and respond. Like scenery, they can be appreciated more when you stroll along easily.

Another dream is that someday, if I have the time and money, I will go begonia collecting in New Guinea. It's said that there are many undiscovered and unnamed types there, and I just might find one. And the best part of a dream is dreaming it.

\*Translator's note: Many Japanese homes do not have central heating, and temperatures drop too low for begonias. Those growers who do not have greenhouses rely on terrariums, wardian cases, or, as Mr. Shigemi used to, take the plants to work. Large offices nearly all have central heating.

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## REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

Note: The American Begonia Society is the International Registration Authority for cultivars of the genus *Begonia*. Information regarding registration may be obtained from ABS Nomenclature Director, Rudolf Zieshenne, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

**No. 451 — Begonia (B. prismatocarpa X B. ficicola) 'Buttercup'**

Originated by Michael J. Kartuz, Kartuz Greenhouses, 92 Chestnut St., Wilmington, Mass. 01887, this plant is smaller and freer flowering than *B. ficicola*, with larger flowers than *B. prismatocarpa*; an excellent terrarium subject, the flowers are chrome yellow, orange reverse, striped red,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ "', ovaries cylindrical, four-sided,  $\frac{3}{4}$ "' long; flowers arranged opposite on 2" stems and bloom all year. Leaves are medium-green, ovate, cordate, peltate, 2 x 3"; margin undulate; texture glabrous, bullate; petioles sparsely hairy; stipules triangular, less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Developed in 1973, the plant first bloomed and is available through Kartuz Greenhouses; first published in 1975 supplement to Kartuz catalog. Mar. 17, 1975.

**No. 452 — Begonia (B. 'Chantilly Lace' X B. 'Black Knight') 'Patricia Ogdon'**

Developed in 1973 (and first bloomed in 1975) by Goldie Frost, 10622 Teal Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92640, this compact-type rhizomatous plant has distinctive tiger-striped leaf, light green with black veins, ovate, 2 x 3", margin crenate slightly hairy, texture smooth velvety, nerves eight, petioles short slightly hairy,

and stipules smooth; flowers are light pink,  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1" on 12" stem in late winter. Registered May 29, 1975.



*B. 'Patricia Ogdon'*

**No. 453 — Begonia (B. 'Dr. Jim' X B. dayi) 'Shenandoah'**

This rhizomatous begonia developed in 1973 (and first bloomed in 1975) by Goldie Frost, address above, has thick, ivy-like leaves, with thin red edging and red flecking on reverse, 8 - 10", very moderately cut, texture smooth, seven nerves, petioles and stipules smooth; flowers pink, 1 x 1", female flowers 3 - 5 petals, in spring and summer on 4' stem. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 454 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X B. dayi) 'Magic Valley'**

Distinct because reverse of leaves is pink, this rhizomatous begonia was developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, and first bloomed in 1975 with light-pink,  $\frac{1}{4}$  x 1" flowers, spring and summer, on 36" stem; leaves are dark green with

brown edging, grape-leaf-shaped; margin, petioles, and stipules smooth; 7-nerved; texture smooth, thick leathery. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 455 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X B. *dayi*) 'Phoebe Sessions'**

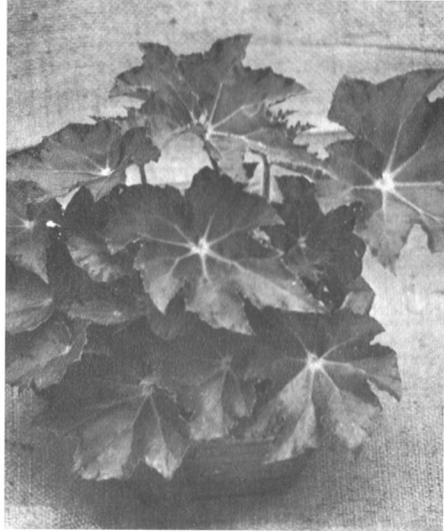
With large (6 x 8"), ivy-shaped leaves, showing the *B. dayi* seven veins, this rhizomatous begonia was developed by Goldie Frost, address above, in 1973 and first bloomed in 1975. Leaves are dull-green, mottled lighter green, with brown edging; margin is medium cut, texture thick and smooth; petioles and stipules smooth. Blooms bright pink in spring and summer on 36" stems, 1 1/2" petals. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 456 — Begonia (B. 'Pearlii' X B. *staudii* v. *dispersipilosa*) 'Pink Lemonade'**

A compact-type rhizomatous begonia developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, this plant has light grey-green leaves shining as though covered with dew, with reverse dark red; ovate; 3 x 5"; margin smooth; texture rough 6-veined; petioles slightly hairy; stipules smooth. Flowered first in late winter and spring 1975, light pink, 1/2" x 1", on 12" stems. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 457 — Begonia (B. 'Pearlii' X B. *staudii*) 'Frosty Knight'**

Goldie Frost, address above, developed this compact-type, rhizomatous begonia in 1973 and it first bloomed in 1975. The dark, grey-green, slightly pustulated leaf is darker and larger than *B. 'Pink Lemonade'*, grape leaf-shaped, 4 x 5"; margin crenate; texture rough; 6-veined; slightly hairy. Flowers light pink in spring, 1/2 x 1" on 12" stem. Registered May 29, 1975.



*B. 'Ed Bates'*

**No. 458 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X B. 'Dr. Jim') 'Ed Bates'**

A rhizomatous begonia with bright-green, black-margined leaves, this plant was developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, and first bloomed in 1975 in late winter. With 5 x 6" star-shaped leaves, margin moderately cut, texture smooth, 8-nerved, petioles slightly hairy, and stipules having hairy collar, the plant has 1/2 x 1" flowers on a 15" stem. Registered May 29, 1975.

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**No. 459 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X B. 'Dr. Jim') 'Alice G.'**

Very bright, shiny green leaves with black edging, deeply cut, star-shaped, 6 x 8", smooth, soft-velvety texture, 7-veined, with petioles hairy, and stipules hairy-collared, this rhizomatous begonia was developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, and first bloomed in late winter 1975 with baby-pink flowers, 1/2 x 1", on 15" stems. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 460 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X B. 'Dr. Jim') 'Mintie Bryant'**

Leaves of this rhizomatous begonia originated in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, are characterized by red stitching along veins on the upper side, which is dark-green, mottled with black spots; underside is red mottled; star-shaped, 5 x 6", margin moderately cut, texture rough, petioles very hairy, stipules hairy-collared. Flowered first in spring of 1975, light pink, 3/4 x 1 1/2", on 15" stems. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 461 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X 'Dr. Jim') 'Kosmatka'**

Distinguished because of its beautiful, velvet-black leaf with a white eye, reverse an intense red, this rhizomatous begonia was developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, and first bloomed with light pink, 1/2 x 1" blossoms on 12" stems in spring 1975. Leaves are 4 x 5" star-shaped, deeply cut, smooth, 7-veined, with petioles and stipules hairy. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 462 — Begonia (B. 'Persian Brocade' X 'Dr. Jim') 'Garden Grove'**

Developed by Goldie Frost, address above, in 1973 and first bloom-

ed with pink blossoms, 3/4 x 1 1/2", on a 15" stem in spring 1975, this rhizomatous begonia has grey-green, star-shaped leaves, mottled with lighter green, black-edged, 6 x 6", deeply cut, texture thick, rough, 7 hairy veins on reverse; petioles very hairy and stipules with hairy collar. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 463 — Begonia (B. 'Zip' X B. bowerae v. nigramarga) 'Sky Lab'**

Compact-type rhizomatous, this plant was developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, and first bloomed in 1974 in winter and spring, with light-pink flowers 1/2 x 1" on 6" stems. Leaves are heart-shaped, mottled green with white eye, reverse red along the 6 veins; 1 1/2" x 2", margin smooth, texture thick, smooth, with smooth petioles and stipules. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 464 — Begonia (B. 'Regency X B. 'Carousel') 'Ruth Pease'**

Very compact for a large-leaved plant; this rhizomatous begonia has dark-green, star-shaped, 6 x 6" leaves, moderately cut, with smooth, thick texture; 8-nerved; smooth petioles; stipules hairy-collared. Developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, it first bloomed in spring 1975 with bright pink flowers, 3/4 x 1 1/2" on 24" stems. Registered May 29, 1975.

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**No. 465 — Begonia (B. 'Black Knight' X B. 'Chumash') 'Cocoa Star'**

Distinguishable because of a 6-point-star leaf, slightly elongated and with a parasol appearance, this rhizomatous begonia was developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, and first bloomed in late winter and spring of 1975 with dark rose,  $\frac{3}{4}$ " flowers arranged in huge masses on 12-15" stems. Leaves are dark brown to black with red backs, 3 - 4", deeply cut, with smooth texture; very slightly hairy, smooth petioles. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 466 — Begonia (B. 'Black Knight' X B. 'Chumash') 'Whiskers'**

Very hairy leaf margins and petioles distinguish this rhizomatous begonia which was developed by Goldie Frost, address above, in 1973 and first bloomed in late winter and spring 1975 with bright-pink, 1", flowers on 8 - 12" stems. Leaves are black, reverse red, star-shaped, 2-3" margin moderately cut, texture smooth, stipules bearing collar of white hairs. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 467 — Begonia (B. 'Black Knight X B. bowerae v. nigramarga) 'Ella Frost'**

This compact-type rhizomatous begonia has darker leaves than most plants of its type. Developed in 1973 by Goldie Frost, address above, the plant first flowered in late winter and spring 1975 with white,  $\frac{1}{2}$ " blooms, on 6" stems. Leaves are light-green, with black veining, red-blotched on reverse; ovate,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2", margin crenate, texture smooth-velvety, 7-nerved with petioles and stipules smooth. Registered May 29, 1975.

**No. 468 — Begonia (B. 'Black Knight' X B. bowerae v. nigramarga) 'Heather Ann'**

Leaves of this compact-type rhizomatous begonia are very dark green with black splotches, resembling *B. nigramarga*, but larger and much darker; reverse red; ovate,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  x 2", margin crenate, texture velvety-smooth, 5-veined, petioles slightly hairy. Flowers near white,  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1", first bloomed late winter and spring 1975. Originated by Goldie Frost, address above, in 1973. Registered May 29, 1975.

NOTE: Files No. 452-468 by Goldie Frost, 10622 Teal Dr., Garden Grove, CA 92640, were prepared by Doug Frost, same address, and plants are available from the originator. Dorothy Behrends, Encinitas, CA., inspected the varieties and recommended them for registration.

**No. 469 — Begonia (B. 'Rogue' selfed) 'Tortoise'**

Tortoise-shell-like coloring distinguishes this rhizomatous begonia which was developed in 1947, distributed and first bloomed in late winter of 1948 with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " white blossoms, pod redspotted on 6" stem. Originated by Rudolf Ziesenhenné, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103. Leaves are mottled brown and olive green, red below; unequal heart-shaped with 7 shallow lobes,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  x  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ", margin entire with black bands at right angles; texture medium, satiny; 9-veined, light green; stipules evergreen, recurved, keeled, petioles red-streaked, few short hairs; triangular. Registered June 4, 1975.



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## ROUND ROBIN NOTES

With begonias there is always something new to learn — and a robin is a GOOD place to learn it!! What's your favorite kind of begonia or way of growing them: growing under lights, in greenhouse, on windowsill; miniatures, canes, rhizomatous; mounted and hanging plants, terrariums; species, odd and rare, rexes, or just general growing of all kinds? Join in the fun of sharing and comparing!

Barbara Young, Texas, discovered a neat way to make baskets so they're not so permanent. She lines basket with moss, then sets a potted plant in it. It looks like it is planted but she doesn't have the storage problem next winter. She finds they are easier to water, too.

Mildred Swyka, Delaware, bought a new cane begonia in an 8" pot with sphagnum peat and a little vermiculite as the planting medium. She found this medium needed lots of water — a quart at a time in a large dish under the pot. In no time, the water disappeared. She transplanted some of her Kusler hybrids into this medium, but used a little poultry grit (purchased from a feed store), mixing it in with the vermiculite and unmilled sphagnum peat. It only took a few days for them to perk up and they soon needed larger pots. All were doing just great.

Jeanette Kloppe of Texas received a *B. cathayana* a year ago. It came in sphagnum peat moss, therefore she kept it that way in a clay pot. She puts her finger over the drainage hole, fills pot up with water and waits a bit before letting it drain. She used 1/2 strength fertilizer with

every watering. She kept it in a jar last summer but grew in the open the rest of the time.

Mary Tyler of Michigan visited England this spring. Before she left she planted a begonia tuber that had started to sprout, putting pot and all in a plastic bag in an east window. The people who stayed in her house didn't touch the plant. When she returned, it was huge with two flowers. She stored the rest of her begonias in deep plastic boxes on a bed of gravel and covered the whole thing with clear cleaner bags. They were under lights with an automatic timer and did beautifully with no attention. She observed in Edinburgh, Scotland, they put a slow release fertilizer in the soil (the begonias were planted in the ground) and the plants are fed foliarly once a week and with a liquid fertilizer twice a month. That seemed like an awful lot of fertilizer to her but a *B. angularis* had 20 stalks and was 8 feet tall! Mary was disappointed that she didn't see very many begonias.

Elda Haring, of North Carolina, grew some tuberous begonias this year for a friend who was visiting Florida. One of them looked sickly with yellowed leaves so she gave it a couple of tablespoons dried blood and it not only turned a deep green but produced the largest blooms she had ever had. Walt and Elda gave a program for some Golden Agers — most in their seventies and eighties. You should have seen her plants when she came home with what was left of them! So many of them wanted cuttings, which Elda graciously shared with them.

Dora Lee Dorsey, Florida, told of a cute incident at the exhibit she had in the spring to interest new members for her Branch. She had *B. prismatocarpa* in an 8" dome and she put a small plastic bird in with it. The whole top of the bowl was covered with tiny green leaves and yellow flowers. A lady came by, looking. When she saw this one she asked, "Is that the grass that came up from the bird feed?"

Don and Billie Asmussen, Texas, got a four-tray hydroponic system last February and are having great fun experimenting with it. It feeds nutrients automatically three times a day. It is fantastic for rooting SOME cuttings. Leaves never wilt and even blooms stay on. In two weeks in most cases, sometimes less, you have good roots and can pop a cutting into potting soil. The move doesn't seem to bother it at all. They have had better luck with cane begonias than with the rhizomatous leaves.

Pat Burdick, Minnesota, grows succulents, as well as begonias. She finds their needs are much the same although they require different types of soil.

Edrie Wolfe of Indiana has tried covering the containers of dormant rexes. She used to lose hers every winter; they would go dormant and not recover. This time she covered them with plastic and they didn't go completely dormant. They have

started to grow again very early this spring.

Barbara Neptune, California, said that early in the beginning, she set herself a constant practice of "weeding out" plants. Since most of her plants come from afar, there are those that are not as good growers—or bloomers—for her. Also, some are much alike. So she often gives away plants. This makes friends for her since she chooses plants to fit the receiver's needs and skills. She is always upgrading her collection in this manner. That doesn't begin to mean BETTER plants, so much as what she likes best!

Erich Steiniger, Ohio, finds that growing begonias from seed is surprisingly fast. Within two months one can start wondering what becomes of what (at first they all look alike). The real problem is what to do with all those nice plants. So far he has done fairly well in finding takers. His wife has also helped by giving them away at parties as favors. And a few people are on the point of being "hooked" on begonias!

Yvonne Wells, Texas, said when she is in doubt as to a plant's special growing needs, she puts it in long sphagnum in a covered bowl. She watches it to see if it grows well and leaves it there if it does. If it doesn't, she tries some other way. She hardens it off slowly and takes it to the greenhouse. She finds most begonias like bowl growing, though, especially the species.

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## START AN A.B.S. BRANCH IN YOUR AREA

The begonia has enjoyed a long popularity and adapts quite readily to varying growing environments. In warm climates begonias flourish in shady gardens and lath houses. Their use in the California landscape is particularly noteworthy. Those of you in cold climates, imagine cane begonias intermingled with biennials and perennials in herbaceous borders; lath houses bursting with tuberous rooted begonias with blossoms literally the size of a dinner plate; *B. 'San Miguel'* grown as a basket plant hanging from the rafters of a porch. Yet one does not have to live in Southern California to enjoy the unique *Begonia* with its rich variations of pattern, texture and color.

Some of my correspondence this winter occurred with a young married couple living in Savoonga, Alaska. Teachers, both of them, they team-taught at an Eskimo school. Savoonga, an isolated island, boasted none of the amenities we all take for granted; television, movies, etc. By installing fluorescent lamps throughout their small house, even under a bird cage, this young couple was able to grow a variety of begonias and gesneriads. During the winter months the landscape was obscured by thirty feet of snow; indoors the little house was bright with small gardens under lights. How did they learn to cope with this barren wasteland? Through the various plant societies and the many wonderful publications and cultural bulletins available. Seed Funds and Robins brought much needed cultural expertise and the means of obtaining plants.

What relationship has the above with forming a Branch Society of A.B.S.? Just imagine how much more their enjoyment would have been if they could have met with other growers. Begonias are readily propagated by cuttings and seeds. Imagine a cutting or seedling exchange in Savoonga; happy people over a cup of tea comparing growing methods; the more experienced growers teaching neophytes at a workshop the mysteries of soil mixes and fertilizers, the differences within the various classifications, and ad infinitum.

The world of begonias can never fully be conquered; it is vast; it can be complex; it is challenging, it envelops one — one never grows just a few begonias. The sharing within a group can be one of the most rewarding things you can do. This sharing is only possible within a group devoted to the care and growing of one genus. There are numerous "at large members" who can and do participate through the wonderful departments provided by A.B.S. But how much more stimulating to share your hobbies with others. Far from being one-dimensional, you'll learn bits and pieces about other plants. The American Begonia Society recognizes this and encourages you to grow not only begonias but other shade loving plants.

Starting a branch is simply gathering a few people at a specified time and place and discussing the formation. Do you know that you need only seven members to form a Branch? Do you know that A.B.S.,

(Continued on Page 229)

## CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Be sure to stop at the Seed Fund Table at the ABS Convention in Santa Barbara to meet Pearl Benell and to learn more about the Seed Fund and growing from seeds.

- Sm 1 — *B. angularis*: Brazil species, 1822. Name means 'angular stems'. Tall aristocratic, with long, oval-pointed leaves of gray-green moire, strikingly veined with pearl-gray, toothed and undulating on edge. Short stemmed white flowers. ....per pkt. .50
- Sm 2 — *B. 'Fleecealba'*: This hybrid does come true from seed. It is an offspring of *B. sunderbruchii* and *B. leptotricha*. Huge cluster bouquets of white flowers, fleecy white leaves. Beautiful plant. ....per pkt. .50
- Sm 3 — *B. lindleyana*: Low, rhizomatous; broad ovate, short-pointed leaves, sparsely hairy and unevenly moss-green above and light green below; shallow lobed; as it ages they turn to reddish brown. Large loose cluster of pink flowers, standing well above the plant. ....per pkt. .50
- Sm 4 — *B. luxurians*: Brazil species. Leaf like a small-scale palm, fuzzy and limp. Inflorescences are large and colorful; the beauty of the foliage more than compensates for the modesty of the cream colored blooms. ....per pkt. 1.00
- Sm 5 — *B. picta*: Collected in the Himalayas, India. A small tuberous species, with variegated as well as plain leaves. Leaves vary from plain medium green, to leaves of bright green with bronzy brown markings, into leaves with purplish blotches. Lovely pink flowers. ....per pkt. .50
- Sm 6 — *B. wollnyi*: A semi-tuberous, with some tubers up to 5" across. Winter-blooming with pinkish white flowers on medium clusters. Sparsely branched stems, up to 18" tall. Leaves with purple veins silver splotches. Toothed margins. Leaves on new growth only. ....per pkt. 1.00

For those desiring something new and different, the next two hold great promise.

- Sm 7 — *B. wollnyi* X *B. cinnabarina* .....per pkt. 1.00
- Sm 8 — *B. cinnabarina* X *B. wollnyi* .....per pkt. 1.00
- Other seeds: *Kohleria lindeniana*; three gloxinia. Compact plant with velvety, vivid green leaves with silver veins. Small white bell-shaped blooms, with purple throat, appearing in late fall .....per pkt. 1.00
- Spore: *Pteris ensiformis 'Victoriae'* .....per pkt. .50
- Tuberous seed on request, free with order, without order...per pkt. .25

All orders, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. For orders originating outside the United States: please use money order payable in U.S. funds. Make checks or money order payable Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, and send to: Mrs. Pearl E. Benell, 10331 Colima Rd., Whittier, Calif. 90604.

## WATERING

(Continued from Page 210)

gonia family. If you feel that it does, draw the water and permit to aerate over night before using. Hard water contains a great deal of calcium and can contribute to salts build up in the potting mix. If this is the case always water from the top to flush out the salts. Rain water is considered very good for watering plants but if you live in a large city where air pollution is prevalent rainwater can contain harmful pollutants. Avoid using water that has been softened by chemical means. If you summer your house plants out-of-doors, watch them carefully. If the pots are placed in decorator urns with no drainage frequent showers could fill the urns with water resulting in the loss of the plants. And as our able and efficient president, Margaret Zieshenne, pointed out in the April issue of the *Begonian*, "Glasshouse and indoor plants need water all the time but in winter and early spring we sometimes forget that lath house and uncovered porch and patio plants, especially begonias, shed water, their leaves being layered like a shingled roof . . . we must take hose or watering can to the well foliaged begonia." This advice was given for California, but is good advice for all of you who summer your plants out-of-doors in other areas.

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## START A BRANCH

(Continued from Page 227)

through its Branch Relations Director stands at the ready to help and assist you in every way it can? Lists of members residing in your state will be mailed to you; information on the steps needed to form a branch and how to obtain a charter; a sample copy of suggested Constitution and by-laws; application blanks; extra copies of the *Begonian* if needed; how to conduct a meeting; suggestions for programs and fund raisers all will be mailed to you gratis. There is even a small allowance to help you defray expenses for those first few months of your initial organization. All of it is yours for the asking.

Do something nice for yourself. Start a begonia branch! For information write to:

Mrs. Evelyn Cronin, BRD  
88 Ledgeways  
Wellesley Hills, Ma. 02181  
617-235-6833  
Attention Begonia Growers

If you live in the North Texas/Southern Oklahoma area around Wichita Falls, Texas and would like to help form a new Begonia Branch of A.B.S., get in touch with:

Amn. Robert B. Hamm  
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Sheppard AFB, Texas 76311  
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**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF  
ABS BOARD MEETING  
JULY 28, 1975**

The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m., July 28, 1975 at the Southgate Auditorium, Los Angeles, Calif. 25 members of the Board answered roll call. The minutes of the meeting of July 23, 1975 were read and corrected.

The secretary read correspondence from Evelyn Cronin, who sent samples of forms she is sending to all branches; Carl L'Hommedieu, who reported funds received and suggested rules for determining grants from the Research Fund—a motion was made and carried that these rules be adopted and published in the **Begonian**; from the Franchise Tax Board establishing a delay of 6 months in determining tax status pending IRS decision; from Mae Blanton resigning as Round Robin Director—the resignation was accepted with regrets. Mabel Corwin resigned as Public Relations Director, assistant for Southern California. The president presented the following names to the Board for endorsement: Prof. Burnell Yarick as Public Relations Director, Lucy Yarick as Southern California Public Relations Assistant; Debi Miller as Round Robin Director and Gene Daniels as Photographer.

Walter Barnett resigned effective August 31, 1975. His resignation was accepted with regrets.

The Treasurer's report showed an ending balance of \$1,830.13. He also read amounts, including accrued interest in various funds, maintained for special purposes.

Charles Richardson reported on types of replies he has received from Members-at-Large.

Peg McGrath reported that she was preparing copies of suggested By-Laws changes for the annual meeting and would welcome any suggestions. Edgar

Bates reported on activities on behalf of the **Begonian**. A motion to purchase for \$1800. approximately 6 months supply of paper was made, seconded and carried. Mabel Corwin reported on new advertising.

The Circulation Manager reported sending 4,279 magazines in July. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Business Manager obtain bids for purchasing 2,000 envelopes each for first and second class mailings of the **Begonians**. Awards Chairman Pease reported that he was circulating within his committee letters of nomination which had been received.

Mrs. Ziesenhenné presented the name of Gilbert Estrada as head of the Financial Advisory Committee. His committee was approved: Walter Pease, Charles Richardson, Peggy McGrath and Margaret Taylor.

A motion was made that the signature card at Downey Savings and Loan shall carry 3 signatures, with 2 required for withdrawals. Motion carried.

A motion was made that the library account signature card be submitted so that Lydia Austin, as current librarian, could withdraw or that 2 other persons be authorized to do so in her absence. **Les Begonias** and **Tuberous Begonias** are now available.

Reports were made by Nomenclature Director, Seed Fund Director, Speakers Bureau Director, and Judging Director. A motion was made to allow an advance of \$100.00 to cover expenses of printing and mailing judges' courses. Motion was passed.

The President presented the name of James Porter, treasurer of the Ventura Branch to be ABS treasurer to fill the remainder of the term of Walter Barnett. Board accepted the appointment.

The Board agreed to allow Mrs. Ziesenhenné to contact several persons who were suggested as satisfactory nominees to serve as auditors for the annual audit.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

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## FROM THE EDITORS

The Show Committee has asked us to remind you that you still may mail a contribution in the green envelope tucked into the August issue to support the ABS Show. If the contribution is received in time, you will be eligible for a door prize whether you are present or not.

Beginning with this issue, the *Begonian* has been increased to contain 28 pages, by vote of the Board of Directors. We have received quite a few fine articles recently. We shall be interested to have additional contributions and suggestions from you.

## RULES FOR RESEARCH GRANTS

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu  
Research Director

After 5 years of conducting the Research Fund, the Director and present Committee have decided that a clear set of rules and regulations should be explained for the awarding of grants so that everyone will know the preliminary qualifications for eligibility.

Since the Fund has been limited, we have granted awards to qualified researchers at, or sponsored by, institutions, to work on projects that would contribute new knowledge in *Begonia*. The extent of interest in the ABS membership has been a significant consideration. All grants

for research must be channeled through a nonprofit institution.

Any applications to the Director for a grant should allow a minimum of three to four weeks for processing the request. A request may often require longer consideration and processing, depending on the nature of the project, the projects already being sponsored, and the funds available.

Since the beginning of the Research Fund in January 1970, these have been our policies. We have awarded grants totaling \$3050.

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to those who continue to support the Fund.

## FROM THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

"Yaricks' Backyard" airs 7:45 a.m. each Sat. morning KIEV, 870 Hz (a.m.) with discussions of hobby plants and gardens. Any A.B.S. Branch that wishes to announce meetings and/or shows should send data by Friday noon, to Burnell Yarick, 1457 Beaudy Blvd., Glendale,

CA 91208. (KIEV is 5000 watts.)

The same type of presentation is also aired over KUTE, 102FM, at 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month.

Both stations can be heard over the Southern California coastal basin.

## CALENDAR

September 9 — Glendale Branch meeting at 8 p.m. Speaker: Elda Gutzman, Orange County. Topic: Cane Begonias. Visitors welcome. Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand, Glendale, CA.

September 26 — Redondo Area Branch 7:30 p.m. at Dana School, 135th Street and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif. Program: "Our Little Flower Show." A Branch plant sale will be held. Visitors welcome. Door Prizes. Refreshments. Plant Table.

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