

June 1978

The BEGONIAN



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of the American
Begonia Society

The BEGONIAN

Founded by
Herbert P. Dyckman
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DEADLINES

Deadline for advertising and copy is the first day of the month preceding the date of issue.

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

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THE BEGONIAN

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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*.

BEGONIA PRISMATOCARPA 'VARIEGATION'

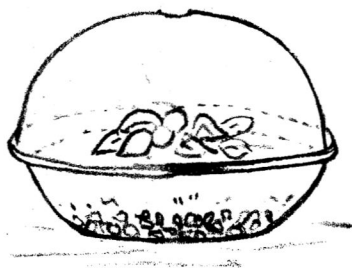
Cover Photograph by Sandy Weynand, East Moriches, N. Y.

The lovely cluster of leaves and blossoms on the cover are a portion of a plant grown by Joe and Sandy Weynand at their Gesneria Nursery. This cultivar arose as a mutation or sport branch on a normal plant of *B. prismatocarpa* which Sandy had propagated. She reports that she does not know of any special influence which might have caused the sport-ing, but it also occurs on some of the *Saintpaulias* which she grows (and which show a greater tendency to mutate than do begonias). The variegation has persisted and she has been able to propagate and distribute the plant. She often refers to it as "Variegated *prismatocarpa*" or "Weynand's variegated" but it was registered in November 1975 (*Begonian*, June 1976, p. 169) as *B. 'Variegation'*, with registration number 522.

The culture is the same approxi-

mately as for the normal form of *B. prismatocarpa*: It grows under fluorescent lights and in the greenhouse or in a terrarium or bubble. It flowers freely and the blossoms are pinkish in color in the bud stage and open to yellow as the normal *prismatocarpa*. It has not set seed, so there can be no report on the seedlings. The tiny plantlets from vegetative propagation come up almost white, and then develop the yellow and pale green markings near the leaf edges with the normal green center portion. The variegation may not be so pronounced in the summer if the growing area is very warm.

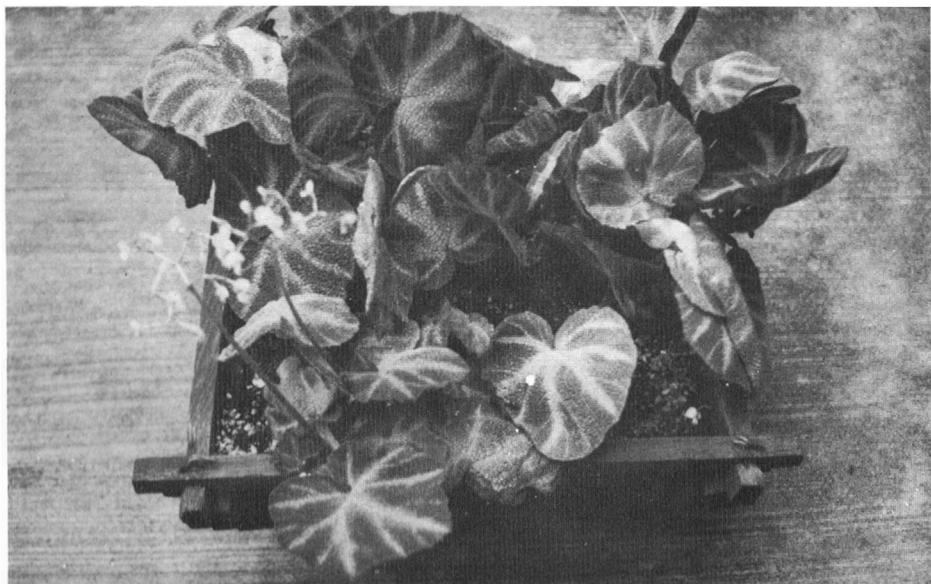
Sandy is very pleased and excited by this unusual occurrence. Going from a single branch to hundreds of plants has taken about four years, but it is now available for all. It will be prized by those who must grow in limited space.



To plant a typical bowl with *B. 'Variegation'* or *B. prismatocarpa*, first clean the bowl very carefully, put a layer of horticultural charcoal about a half an inch deep on the bottom and cover with fine grained potting soil or finely chopped sphagnum moss and perlite mix. The mix should be moistened with quarter strength fertilizer solution containing a few drops of Vitamin B1 solution. This must be moist, not dripping wet. The plants should be watered and allowed to drain before they are tapped from the original pots and placed into the mix in the terrarium. The mix should not be packed over the roots, just gently pressed around them. Small rex begonias and tiny ferns can be placed in the same terrarium to create an artful arrangement.

AN UNIDENTIFIED SPECIES FROM BRAZIL

By Bob Cole, Reseda, Calif.



A new species is attracting attention of begonia fanciers. It was sent to the United States by Burle Marx, a well-known collector and landscape architect. In appearance, it is a sort of reverse Iron Cross (*B. masoniana*) with a similarly rough textured leaf which is light green in the center and along the nerves, deeper olive to dark black brown in other areas. The obverse is deep red as are the stems and rhizome. The growth habit is the same as that of *B. acida*, a branching rhizome which spreads with maturity. It responds to the same sort of care. The flowers are white; the males have four tepals; the females five and the typical winged ovary. The young stigma is pointed, giving the flower the appearance of a *Solanum* blossom.

Editor's note: I have contacted several persons about the identity of this *Begonia* and so far no one has

said that it is a named species.

Dennis Torzeski of El Cajon, California, has succeeded in growing a mature plant of spreading habit by placing the wooden container in the vicinity of a waterfall and pool in his greenhouse.

Carrie Karegeannes reported that Dr. Gilbert Daniels of the Hunt Botanical Library in Pittsburgh had brought this and another unidentified begonia (the creeping one in the October 1976 Seed Fund listing) from Burle Marx's garden in Brazil in January 1974. His (Daniel's) plants were along the shelves and floor, protected by other large plants in the greenhouse. Carrie herself is finding terrarium culture satisfactory. She mentioned that Dr. Jan Doorenbos had not identified the species.

Rudy Ziesenhenné said that it was also new to him.

BEGONIA EPIPSILA BRADE

by Mildred L. Thompson, Southampton, N. Y.



B. epipsila

Photo by E. & M. Thompson

A Brazilian species, later named *B. epipsila*, was collected by A. C. Brade and Apparicio Pereira Duarte on August 28, 1946 in Alto da Boa Vista, Furnas, Rio de Janeiro, Distrito Federal. In these areas the summer temperatures are in the 70's at night and in the mid-80's during the day; in the winter the temperatures range in the mid-60's at night and in the 70's during the day. During the summer there is abundant rainfall (average 5-10 inches per month), usually every other day; whereas, in the winter the amount is decidedly less. The relative humidity ranges from 70% - 80% in summer, with some drier days in the winter.

Dr. A. C. Brade has contributed greatly to the botany of *Begonia*. He

named and described sixty-five species of *Begonia* collected in Brazil. Quite a few of these species remain in cultivation and are favorites of *Begonia* enthusiasts. In 1948 *B. epipsila* was named and described as a new species by Dr. Brade in *Arquivos do Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro*, Volume 8, pages 227-228; Dr. Brade also included a precise illustration of the species.

The name of this species was derived from the Greek *epipsilus* meaning "bare above." This phrase refers to the foliage; the upper surface of the leaves is glabrous, and the under-surface is matted with wool-like hairs.

For botanical classification *B. epipsila* is placed in the section Prit-

zelia (Klotzsch 1855) A. DC. 1859. There are over 100 species placed in this section, and, with the exception of only a few, all have come from Brazil. The male flower of species placed in this section have four tepals; anthers are longer than the filaments which are free. The female flowers have 5 tepals, and there are three styles each of which is divided twice. The fruit has three cells and three unequal wings. The leaves are markedly unsymmetrical with palmate-pinnate venation.

B. epipsila was first introduced into this country in the late 1940's when Mulford Foster brought back seeds after an exploring trip in South America. Since February 1949, seeds of this species have been offered frequently by the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund of the American Begonia Society. As a result, many growers have grown and enjoyed *B. epipsila*.

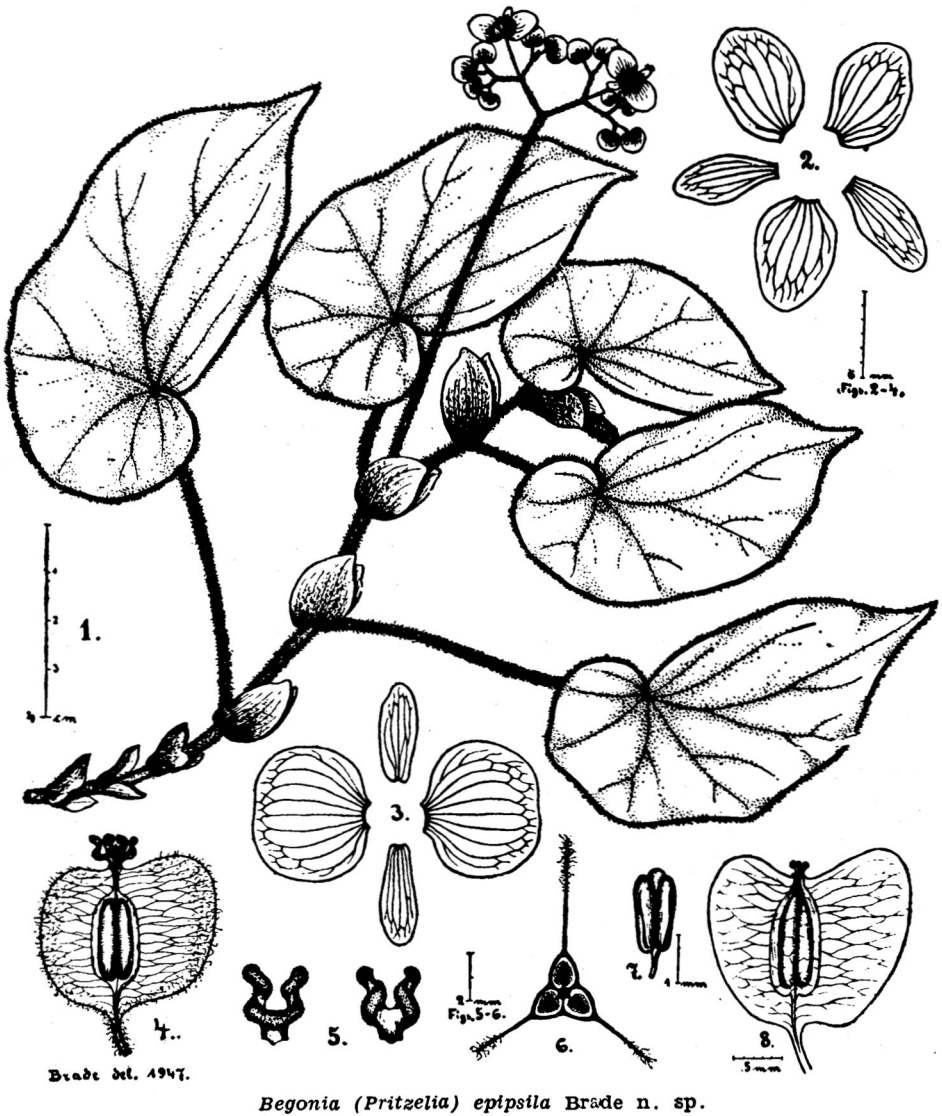
The extraordinary characteristics of *B. epipsila* have enticed some hybridizers to use this species in their work. As a result several significant cultivars have been introduced. Louise Schwerdtfeger developed both *B. 'Raythel'*, a medium-leaved, shrub-like plant, and *B. 'Zaida'*. In 1954 Marie Turner registered *B. 'd.' Artagnon'*, a wide-leaved, shrub-like basket plant, which resulted when *B. scharffiana* was used as the male parent. In 1971 Francis Michelson registered two cultivars using *B. epipsila* as the male parent: *B. 'Diepa'*, a thick-stemmed begonia; and *B. 'Venepi'*, a shrub-like begonia with *B. venosa* as the female parent.

For horticultural classification *B. epipsila* is "shrub-like, bare-leaved, medium-leaved [4" - 6" at maturi-

ty]" according to *The Thompson Begonia Guide*. At maturity the plant may reach 1½ ft. in height. The arching stems are well-branched. The light red stems are covered with light brown, wool-like hairs. The ovate-oblique leaves are glossy dark green and free of hairs; the under-surface is deep blood red and covered with a matting of rust-colored hairs. The apices of the leaves are shortly acuminate and the bases are cordate. The red cylindrical petioles, which are also covered with rust hairs, measure 1" - 3". The hairy, straw-colored membranous stipules are persistent. The red woolly peduncles are 4" - 6" long and are parted dichotomously several times. The membranous bracts are sparsely woolly. Small white fragrant flowers appear in profusion in the late winter and spring. The male flowers have four tepals, 20-30 anthers, and free filaments. The female flowers have 5 tepals, 3 styles with bifurcated puberulent stigmas. The ovary has 3 unequal wings.

This handsome species is not demanding and reacts favorably to the same general culture that is necessary for most shrub-like begonias. *B. epipsila* is particularly suited to being grown in a hanging container, because of its well-branched stems which naturally arch over the rim of a container, so that when the plant is full at maturity the container is often not visible. We have found that proper potting accommodations are of paramount importance starting from the time the plant is a mere rooted cutting; always be certain the plant is not overpotted. In our opinion the squatty clay or moss-lined

ESTAMPA 1



The drawing which accompanied the original citation of *Begonia epipsila* appeared in *Arquivos do Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro*, Volume 8, pp 227-228 (1948) and is reprinted here through the courtesy of Prof. Osvaldo Bastos de Menezes, Director.

wire containers are superior to other types of containers because they afford the proper aeration of the root system which is so vital to good root development. Any potting mix can be used as long as it is light, porous, and easily drained.

To insure compactness, it is prudent to pinch some of the tips at regular intervals; pinch some branches before the second or third node and pinch the terminal buds of other branches.

The most enticing characteristic of this species is the dark green, glossy foliage. Proper light is the most important factor for maintaining the rich color. We have discovered that proper light can be attained if the species receives early morning and late afternoon sun with filtered sunlight (amount of filtering must be regulated according to specific geographical locale), or bright light without direct sun for the entire day. If it gets too much sunlight, the foliage will become pale. Care must be taken, however, so there is sufficient light and sunlight so that the plant does not become "leggy." In the summer we hang *B. epipsila* outdoors in the filtered sunlight under

a tree, and in the winter it hangs from the greenhouse roof but not too close to the glass. Because of its size, *B. epipsila* could be grown in the fluorescent light garden only when it is a young plant. Naturally, as with all begonias, a regular fertilizing and spraying regime is all-important for a healthy, attractive plant that will be resistant to disease and free of pests.

The climate of the natural habitat of the species gives us the necessary clues to the specific needs of this species. The average temperature for most begonias, 58° - 72°, should be satisfactory; and, if possible, 60% - 65% humidity would prove advantageous.

The propagation of this species can best be attained by stem cuttings. It has been our experience that cuttings of this species take a little longer to root than many others; other than this longer time there are no problems in producing new plants. *B. epipsila* can also be propagated by sowing seed.

My thanks to Dr. Benjamin Herman of Tucson, Arizona for supplying me with the climatic conditions of the natural habitat of this species.

GLOSSARY

Glabrous — having no hairs on the surface.

Shortly acuminate apex (pl. apices) — the tip of the leaf comes to a small point and the sides of the tip are pinched in (concave).

Bifurcated puberulent stigma — the stigma or pollen receptacle is two-forked and covered with very fine, short hairs.

Parted dichotomously — divided into two distinct branches.

Terminal bud — the growing portion or tip of the stem or branch which is farthest from the main stalk.

"Leggy" — describing growth in which stems and stalks become elongated.

— Editor

WICKING

By Barbara Rogers, Tucson, Arizona

Having spent a really great weekend at the Begonia Convention, my first thoughts were, "the next move will just have to be to California." What fortune to be able to grow such beautiful begonias out of doors!

Then a few mornings later, while enjoying my first cup of coffee on the back patio, the sun beginning to rise in the completely cloudless, deep blue sky, my thoughts suddenly took a leap backwards and again 'there is no place like home' and Tucson.

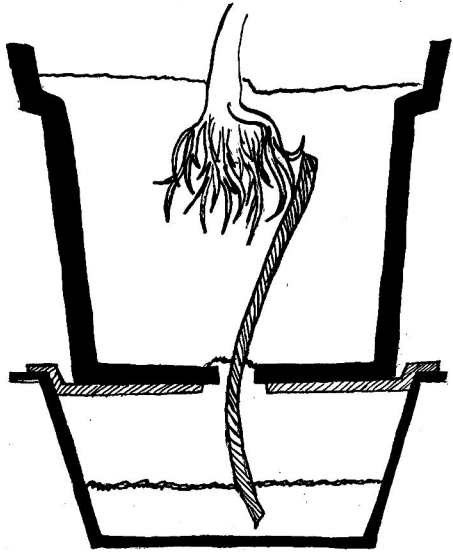
Now we certainly do not have everything, in fact very little comes easy here, when it comes to growing plants. We just have to find ways to make the best of it.

In summer we have very high temperatures and very low humidity. As I write this, we have a temperature of 97° and a humidity of 3%. We really have to lend a hand to mother nature and help her along.

Unless we have a yard with a large amount of trees for shade, we cannot grow many plants, except native desert types. Even then it takes a lot of water, which we are supposed to conserve. We may get along with pots of "semps" or perhaps the very hardy canes, if they get very good attention, on a patio.

I grow in two small greenhouses. These give me excellent growing conditions for begonias. They need very little heat in winter, and in summer with our high temperatures, I keep a cool vaporizer and an exhaust fan going through the heat of the days.

Like most begonia growers my plants have spread and almost taken



Drawing by Todd Holmes

over my house also. Here again is the problem of dryness, and we certainly cannot keep that high humidity throughout our house. So I overcome this problem by wicking my plants and, in extreme dryness, setting the wicked pots on pebble trays. I also wick all plants in house and in greenhouse when going on vacation. The plants in the house can be left for three weeks without additional care, but I do have someone fill the vaporizers in the greenhouses.

For wicking I have purchased various pots with their own matching reservoirs, but many plastic containers such as the liver boxes from the grocery store have served just as well. I make a hole in the lid about the size of a dime so that it will line up with the hole in the bottom of the plant pot. Occasionally some plastic pots will have to have new holes

made in them also. For the wick I use a 6-inch cut of acrylic rug yarn, or a strip cut from the body of pantyhose, 1/4" wide by 6" long. Using a wire with a small loop on the end, I insert the wick up through the hole in the bottom of the pot and through the soil. At this point I twist the wire away from the yarn, then pull the yarn down from the bottom of the pot so that a 4-inch tail hangs from the bottom and 2 inches remains in the soil. The tail goes through the hole in the wicking lid and into water in the reservoir/liver box. It takes one watering from the top to start the system working.

Since I constant-feed my plants, the water in the reservoir is really a feeding solution with 1/4 teaspoon fertilizer to a gallon of water. I use a very light soil composed of equal parts humus, perlite and vermiculite. My wicked pots are set in trays lined with pebbles or indoor-outdoor carpet which can be kept damp for additional humidity when necessary.

I find wicking is very successful for begonias and all the other plants I grow. It certainly is an excellent way of leaving your plant worries behind when you are on vacation or at a Begonia Convention.



A Bloom Cluster of Begonia 'Kentwood'

Grown and Photographed by Keith Mautino, Santa Barbara

Hybridized by Irene Nuss, Los Angeles, 1961

Description: A tall cane-like begonia with superba-type leaves. The blossoms are large with the females having well formed deep pink wings on the ovaries. There may be a very large number of blooms in a single cluster — from 60 to 80. Blooms in late summer and early fall.

american begonia society
1978 NATIONAL CONVENTION

BEGONIA BONANZA



SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

September 15-17, 1978

red lion motor inn

BEGONIA BONANZA

Program of Events

Thursday, September 14

- 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Registration and Flower Show Entries
Red Lion foyer

Friday, September 15

- 8:00 a.m. Judges Breakfast, Hospitality Room
9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Registration
9:00 a.m. Judging Begins, Donner Pass, Siskiyou and Cascade Rooms
9:30 a.m. Seminar, ABS Ikebana, Ed and Phyllis Bates
10:45 a.m. Seminar, Louise Bower, What's In a Name
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Open
12:15 p.m. Judges Luncheon, Sierra Room
2:00 p.m. Seminar, Elda Haring, Propagating for Beginners
3:15 p.m. Seminar, Clarence Hall, Remembrances of the ABS from
December 1937 to present date
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Open
8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. No Host Cocktail Hour, Red Lion foyer
8:30 p.m. Show Preview, Boutique and Plant Sale, Donner Pass,
Siskiyou and Cascade Rooms
Hospitality Room open to all following preview.

Saturday, September 16

- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Registration
9:00 a.m. Seminar, Carol Spediacci, Tuberous Begonias
10:00 a.m. Flower Show open to Public
10:15 a.m. Seminar, Rudy Ziesenhenné, Nomenclature
11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Luncheon and Annual Meeting, Redwood Ballroom
3:00 p.m. Seminar, Mabel Corwin, Round Robins
4:15 p.m. Seminar, Carrie Karegeannes, Species
5:00 p.m. Show Closes
5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Open
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. No Host Cocktails, Red Lion foyer
8:00 p.m. ABS Banquet, Redwood Ballroom
Master of Ceremonies — Tim O'Reilly
Awards Chairman — Thelma O'Reilly
Banquet Speaker — Scott Hoover, A Botanist's Adventure
in Papua, New Guinea
Hospitality Room open to all following Banquet

Sunday, September 17

- 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Garden Tours
10:00 a.m. Flower Show Opens
5:00 p.m. Flower Show Closes

BEGONIA BONANZA

Show Schedule

Red Lion Motor Inn

2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, California

September 14 (Thursday) Entries accepted between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

September 15 (Friday) 10:00 a.m. Judging begins

September 16 and 17 Open to the Public 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DIVISION A — CANE-LIKE

Edna Korts Perpetual Trophy
for best cane begonia

Class

1. Superba type
2. Mallet type

All Other Canes

3. Low (under 2 feet)
4. Intermediate (from 2' to 4')
5. Tall (over 4')
6. Hanging basket (any in Div. A)
7. Wall pocket (any in Div. A)

DIVISION B — SHRUB-LIKE

Helen Bailey Memorial Perpetual Trophy
for best shrub-like begonia

Class

Bare leaved

1. Large leaved (over 6")
2. Medium leaved (over 4" to 6")
3. Small leaved (under 4")

Hairy leaved

4. Wide leaved (over 3")
5. Narrow leaved (under 3")
6. Felted as *B. tomentosa*

Distinctive foliage

7. Unusual surface or coloring
8. Compact type as *B. 'Oh No'* or *B. acida*
9. Hanging basket (any in Div. B)
10. Wall pocket (any in Div. B)

DIVISION C — THICK-STEMMED

Class

1. Brittle stemmed as *B. 'Rudy'*, *B. 'Richard Robinson'*
2. Woody stemmed as *B. incana*, *B. 'Tamo'*
3. Thickset as *B. 'J-11'*, *B. sementacea*
4. Hanging Basket (any in Div. C)
5. Wall Pocket (any in Div. C)

DIVISION D —

SEMPERFLORENS CHARACTERISTICS

Redondo Area Perpetual Trophy
for best semperflorens begonia

Class

1. Semperflorens type
2. Schmidtiana type

Cultivars

3. Single flowered, green foliage
4. Single flowered, bronze foliage
5. Semi-double/double flowered with green foliage
6. Semi-double/double flowered with bronze foliage
7. Variegated foliage such as *B. 'Charm'* or *B. 'Calla Queen'*
8. Hanging baskets (any in Div. D)
9. Wall pocket (any in Div. D)

DIVISION E — RHIZOMATOUS

John R. Williams Memorial Perpetual Trophy
for best rhizomatous begonia

(Leaf size determined by the greatest dimension of majority of leaves)

Class

Small leaved (under 3 inches)

1. Even margin
2. Cut or compound
3. Crested
4. Spiral

Medium leaved (3" to 6")

5. Even margin
6. Cut or compound
7. Crested
8. Spiral

Large leaved (6" to 12")

9. Even margin
10. Moderately cut margin
11. Deeply cut margin or compound
12. Crested
13. Spiral

Giant leaved (over 12")

14. Even margin
15. Moderately cut margin
16. Deeply cut margin or compound
17. Crested
18. Spiral

Erect stem

19. Even margin
20. Moderately cut margin
21. Deeply cut margin or compound
22. Crested margin such as *B. 'Madame Queen'*
23. Spiral

Rhizome jointed at soil

24. As *B. deliciosa* or *B. tenuifolia*

Distinctive foliage

25. Imperialis like
26. Exotic type without rex background as *B. versicolor*
27. Compact, hairy as *B. acetosa*
28. Hanging baskets (any in Div. E)
29. Wall pockets (any in Div. E)

DIVISION F — REX CULTORUM **Sacramento Branch Perpetual Trophy**

for best rex begonia

Class

Small leaved (under 3")

1. Spiral
2. Non-spiral

Medium leaved (3" to 6")

3. Spiral
4. Non-spiral

Large leaved (over 6")

5. Spiral
6. Non-spiral

Upright stemmed

7. Spiral
8. Non-spiral

Hanging basket

9. Any in Div. F

Wall pocket

10. Any in Div. F

DIVISION G — TUBEROUS and SEMI-TUBEROUS

Class

Species and first generation hybrids (F-1)

1. Low growing such as *B. pearcei* or *B. sutherlandii*
2. Tall growing such as *B. 'Torsa'* or *B. martiana*

Socotrana Hybrids

3. Rieger/elatior type
4. All other
5. Hanging baskets (any in Div. G)
6. Wall pocket (any in Div. G)

DIVISION H — TUBERHYBRIDA

Class

1. Single flowered
2. Double flowered upright, marmorata
3. Double flowered upright, solid color
4. Double flowered upright, picotee
5. Trailing as *Lloydii* type
6. Multiflora
7. Hanging basket, other than *Lloydii*, (any in Div. H)

DIVISION I — SPECIES

Inglewood Branch Memorial Perpetual Trophy

for best species begonia

(Species *Begonia* may be entered in this, or in other *Begonia* divisions)

Class

1. Cane-like
2. Shrub-like
3. Thick-stemmed (not jointed)
4. Semperflorens type
5. Rhizomatous
6. Semi-tuberous
7. Tuberous

DIVISION J — BEGONIAS GROWN IN A CONTAINED ATMOSPHERE **San Gabriel Valley Perpetual Trophy**

Class

1. Begonia species
2. Begonia hybrids

DIVISION K — BEGONIA HYBRIDS IN CULTIVATION FOR 25 YEARS OR LONGER

San Miguel Branch Perpetual Trophy

(Begonias grown in any manner)

Class

1. Cane-like
2. Shrub-like
3. Thick-stemmed (not jointed)
4. Semperflorens type
5. Rhizomatous
6. Rex type
7. Semi-tuberous
8. Tuberous

DIVISION L — NOVEL GROWN BEGONIAS

Class

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

DIVISION M — NEW BEGONIA INTRODUCTIONS

American Begonia Society Perpetual Trophy for Best New Begonia Introduction

Herbert P. Dyckman Award for Most Distinctive New Fibrous Begonia

John Thieben Perpetual Award for Best New Rhizomatous Begonia (other than Rex)

Must be mature plants

Entries in this division are not eligible for any other division trophy. Original stock plants must have been in cultivation at least 36 months, and may not have been in competition in any prior show.

All entries must be registered with the ABS Nomenclature Director.

The hybridizer need not have grown the plants; the grower may enter plants with the hybridizer's permission. Show names of grower and hybridizer and date of germination on entry form. Plants not in bloom should be accompanied by a description of the bloom and the time of blooming.

A plant is not eligible if it has been released by sale or by gift; distribution of a few plants for testing does not constitute release.

DIVISION N — NEW BEGONIA INTRODUCTIONS BY A COMMERCIAL NURSERY

**American Begonia Society
William Bower Memorial
Perpetual Trophy**

for best new introduction by a commercial nurseryman

Begonias entered in this Division must be named and registered with the ABS Nomenclature Director and must have been released for sale within 1 year from previous annual ABS show.

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 for *Best Begonia in Show trophy*)

Exhibitors are responsible for arrangement of their own entries.

Class

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

DIVISION P — NOVICE GROWER Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch Perpetual Trophy

for best begonia grown by a novice grower

(Begonias grown in any manner by a novice grower may compete in this division only)

Class

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

DIVISION Q — JUNIOR DIVISION

Open to all 16-year olds and under —
Plants grown in any manner by a
Junior may compete in this division
only.

Class

1. Cane-like
2. Shrub-like
3. Thick-stemmed
4. Semperflorens
5. Rhizomatous
6. Rex
7. Tuberous
8. Other shade plants

DIVISION R — EDUCATIONAL BEGONIA DISPLAYS

Notification of an intended entry in
this division must be sent to the Show
Chairman by August 17, 1978.

DIVISION S — PHOTOGRAPHS OF BEGONIAS

Gordon Lepisto Memorial Award

Open to anyone residing outside 250
mile radius of Show.

Class

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

Make sure that the name of the plant
and the exhibitor's name and address
are on each picture or slide. It is better
to write on masking tape (or similar
material) and affix it to the back rather
than write on the back of the picture.
If a picture is to be returned, enclose a
self-addressed and stamped envelope.
Send entries to Mrs. Joan Coulat, 4111
De Paul Court, Sacramento, California
95821. Entries to arrive no later than
August 17, 1978.

DIVISION T — PLANTERS

A single container with an artistic ar-
rangement of several different *rooted*
plants.

Class

1. Predominantly begonias
2. Other shade plants
3. Miniature gardens, begonias pre-
dominating (not to exceed 30
inches square)

DIVISION U — FERNS

Arthur Strandberg Perpetual Trophy

for best fern

Class

1. Adiantum, Maidenhair varieties
2. Aglaomorpha, as *A. coronans*
3. Asplenium, Birdsnest
4. Davallia and Humata, as Rabbit's
foot
5. Dryopteris, as Autumn fern
6. Nephrolepis, as Boston and culti-
vars
7. Pellaea, as Button
8. Phyllitis, as *P. scolopendrium* and
cultivars
9. Platycerium, Staghorn
10. Polypodium, as *P. aureum* and cul-
tivars
11. Polystichum, any variety
12. Pteris, any variety
13. Other species and cultivars not
listed

DIVISION V — OTHER SHADE PLANTS

Class

1. African Violets
2. All other Gesneriads
3. Orchids
4. Bromeliads
 - a. Foliage only
 - b. Plants in bloom
5. Vines and trailing shade plants
6. Caladiums
7. Asparagus
8. Philodendrons
9. Other shade plants not listed, (Fu-
chsia, bonsai, etc.)

DIVISION W — ARRANGEMENTS

Class

1. Begonias predominating
2. Begonias predominating
(miniature)
3. Corsages (begonias
predominating)
4. Other shade plants

Drawing of the Begonia prospector find-
ing his bonanza by Patrick Graves, Sac-
ramento Branch.

RULES FOR THE 1977 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 exhibitor's fee.

4. All entries must be made on Thursday, September 14, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Any exhibitor entering more than 10 plants must arrive by 6 p.m. or make prior arrangements by phone or mail with the Plant Registration Chairman. Any exhibitor planning to enter more than 10 plants must submit a list of those plants to the Plant Registration Chairman, Mrs. Betty Tillotson, 3912 Wildrose Way, Sacramento, California 95826, telephone 916-363-9608, list to be received by her no later than Saturday, September 2, 1978. Minor changes to this list will be allowed if due to changes in circumstances. However, more than 10 entries may not be made without this advance information.

5. All entries must be checked with the Classification Committee at the time of 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 Committee and/or Show Chairman.

6. There will be a Begonia Division for growers, a Begonia division with classes for Novice growers and a Division for Juniors, 16 years old or under. A novice grower is one who is entering any ABS Show for the first time. A novice grower or junior grower may enter as a grower if he wishes to compete with growers for special awards.

7. An exhibitor may enter more than one plant in any one class provided each plant is of a different variety. (Plants entered as one of a collection or display are not eligible to compete as a single entry in another class.)

8. All entries exhibited in competitive classes must have been grown by the exhibitor and have been in his possession

for 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 shall be placed by, or under the direction of the Placement Committee. Exhibitors in the Begonia Collections Division and Educational Begonia Displays are responsible for the arrangements of their entries since credit is given for arrangement.

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

12. No artificial plant material may be entered in any Class or Division.

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

19. All Begonia entries must receive 85 points to be eligible for Perpetual or Challenge, or Division Trophies. Entries

must receive 90 points or more to be eligible for Cultural Awards.

20. A Sweepstakes Trophy will be awarded to the exhibitor with the most blue ribbons in the individual Begonia Division.

21. 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 a board comprised of a new team of judges selected by the Show Chairman.

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

23. 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.

24. 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.

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

Notes: 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 American Begonia Society Cultural Award certificate will be given to the winner of each of the Divisions: Cane-like, Shrub-like, Thick-stemmed, Semperflorens types, Rhizomatous, Rex, Cultorum, Tuberous and Semi-Tuberous, and Tuberhybrida provided the plant receives 90 points or more.

Two additional awards for a culture certificate may be awarded in the listed basic divisions: Cane-like, Shrub-like, Thick-stemmed, Semperflorens type, Rhizomatous, Rex, Semi-tuberous and Tuberous, and Tuberhybrida at the discretion of the Show Chairman or Awards Chairman. Also, where a Division winner does not obtain the necessary 90 points required for a certificate, the certificate allotted for that Division may be given in any of the remaining above listed Divisions or returned to the Awards Chairman.

Exhibitors will compete for Division Trophies only as per Show Schedule, except for the American Begonia Society Perpetual Award for the Best Begonia in the Show. New Introductions, Novice Grower, and Junior Divisions are not eligible to compete for this award.

Become a Member of the American Begonia Society

The following branches are nearby:

Sacramento Branch — The Show Host Branch
Marvin Vipond, Pres.
1917 Markham Way, Sacramento 95818

East Bay Branch
Lloyd Olson, Pres.
1244 Mountain Blvd., Oakland 94611

Monterey Branch
Don Englund, Pres.
1111 Harrison, Monterey 93940

San Francisco Branch
Carol Clements, Pres.
212 Goodhall Rd., Kentfield, Ca 94903

Santa Clara Valley Branch
C. L. Sayers, Secy.
363 Ridge Ave., San Jose 95127

There are 46 other branches. Write to the Branch Relations Director, Mrs. Evelyn Cronin, 88 Ledgeways, Wellesley Hills, MA 02181 for the name of the branch nearest you. You may become a member-at-large by sending annual dues of \$6.00 to Mrs. Jacqueline Garinger, Membership Secretary, 8302 Kittyhawk Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

By Mabel Corwin, Director

Certain begonias are frequently discussed because they are a challenge to grow. *B. listida* is one of those. June Ponis, Washington, grows *listida* cool with high humidity and the plant does fine. Several years ago she enclosed her front porch with fiberglass. She lined it with plastic, leaving an air space in between. Most of her begonias are grown there. Night temperatures go down to 40°.

Green moss

June had trouble with green moss on her seedling flats. Even though she sterilized the soil and used cooled, boiled water, it grew. Finally, she found it best to let the moss grow until it burned itself out and died. Then she raked the soil with a fork, planted the seeds, and had no more problems.

Algae control

Algae, or green moss, on seed flats is a problem for many growers. Jan Clark, North Dakota, gave this interesting information in her letter: The spores are in the air, and you get them no matter how well you have sterilized your medium. Simply put, algae means *too wet*. If the microscopic surface layer of your medium is dry, the algae (and also damping-off fungi) can't grow. The trick is to maintain this dry surface and at the same time keep a moist medium underneath. There are two ways to do this: by top dressing with something that dries very fast, and by maintaining good air circulation on the surface. Vermiculite stays very wet. Sand is the best bet. At the

greenhouse we prepare our seed flats with sterilized growing mix on the bottom, a thin layer of Jiffy Mix on the top, and then plant the seed by mixing with sand. For really touchy things we top dress the whole flat with a dusting of sand. Use builders sand, not river or lake sand or the colored sand for terrariums. These have round grains and don't disperse the seeds. They also clog the air movement. The second weapon against algae is good air circulation. The air circulation helps dry the surface. Covering with glass is better than enclosing in plastic bags. The plastic bag creates a much "tighter" house. Be sure the dampened seed flat is well drained before enclosing in a plastic bag. In the greenhouse where I work we leave them to drain on racks overnight before seeding.

Cuttings

Keith Mautino, California, reports: I have been taking leaf wedge cuttings and placing them in pony packs that bedding plants come in from the nursery. I place a piece of paper towel in the bottom of the container. This acts like a wick. It helps to draw in the water since you must water freshly planted seed and cuttings from the bottom. On top of the paper I put a layer of perlite for drainage. On top of this I put damp, finely sifted, sterilized leafmold mixed with vermiculite. Then I plant the seeds or cuttings and enclose in a plastic bag. This method works for me and I don't lose many cuttings.

B. bogneri

Elda Haring, North Carolina, re-

ported on her *B. bogneri*. The plant began to look sad so she took it out of the pot, washed it off and discovered a rather large tuber. She put it in the prop box and it was beginning to grow again. Some of the side shoots also looked as if they might grow so she put them in the prop box, too. She had pollinated it and had a little seed pod that began to go limp, so she put it on a paper towel to dry. There were a few little red seeds. She planted these hoping that it might sprout, despite the fact that it was picked before the pod was mature.

Terrarium mix

Dora Hale, California, told how she plants her terrariums. She uses sphagnum moss, chopped fine. She puts it in a large kettle, pours boiling water over it, and adds Schultz fertilizer. She covers it, and lets it cool. Then she squeezes the water out and fluffs it as she puts it in the terrarium with sponge rock.

Art Sackenruther, California, also uses sphagnum moss snipped into small pieces and mixed with Perlite for his terrariums. He puts small pieces of charcoal in the bottom of

old fish aquariums, then adds a couple inches of the moss Perlite mix and plants in this.

Wall pocket

Art told of making a wall pocket by cutting a wire hanging basket in half, attaching it to a redwood board 1"x10"x12". He planned to line the half-basket with moss and plant a begonia or two in it.

Mildew control

Pat Burdick, Minnesota, was having trouble with mildew in her greenhouse. A friend recommended the use of rose dust. She tried it and found it did control the mildew.

Notes

We are starting a new flight on Growing Begonias in Arid Climates. There is room for two more. It has been suggested that we have a robin on the scientific study of begonias — taxonomy, chromosome count, etc. If you are interested in these, or any other subjects, let me know.

I have a new, revised list of robins. I will be happy to send you one if you request it.

Mabel Corwin
1119 Loma Vista Way
Vista, CA 92083

Begonia Print Project

Six branches have either sent checks or indicated a pledge to the project to reprint in color antique Begonia prints from *Curtis Botanical Magazine*. The total pledged so far is \$275. An anonymous donor has promised \$25 if other individual donors will bring the total to \$100 for one of the prints. See the June *Begonian*, page 133 for complete details.

SPOONIT.



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PLANT FOOD dissolves instantly in water.
18-20-16 Analysis. Send \$1. for 3 oz. trial size
ppd. Ask about our PROFIT MAKER for your
club treasury. Dept. T at PLANTSMITH
1924 Plymouth St. Mountain View CA 94043

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Linda Miller, Director

This month all *Begonia* varieties listed have been tested. It is the goal as Seed Fund Administrator to provide you with approximate germination times on all varieties for sale. This is just one more way of giving you help. This current group was tested under light. Germination times will vary with your growing conditions. (Any comments and suggestions are always welcome.)

- JN 1 — *B. carrieae*: Mexico. Lovely hairy-leaved plant. Underside of leaves like felt. Rhizomes freely send out lateral divisions. Parent of many unusual hybrids. Germination time: 10 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 2 — *B. egregia*: Brazil. A thick-stemmed species, grows 3-4 ft., leaves lanceolate, hairy, large (up to 12 in. long). White flowers in winter through March, in large pendant clusters; the female ones are very fragrant. Germination time: 10 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 3 — *B. guaduensis*: A shrubby plant, up to 7 ft. high. Much branched (more or less fan-shaped). Flowers in winter in large bunches, white. Germination time: 12 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 4 — *B. incarnata*: Mexico. Frilly, fluffy-looking plant with light green leaves charmingly fluted and scalloped on the edge. Flesh pink flowers in winter. Germination time: 10 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 5 — *B. johnstonii*: Africa. Tall, loosely branched with pale green leaves and red-spotted stems; few but large, pink flowers. Germination time: 7 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 6 — *B. kellermanii*: Guatemala. Shrub-like with green, felted leaves. Leaves somewhat cupped. Flowers white. Germination time: 9 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 7 — *B. odeteiantha*: Brazil. Shrub-like, bare, medium, lanceolate leaves with purple-green stems. Flowers white. (See April 1978 cover article with photo). Germination time: 23 days. per pkt 1.00
- JN 8 — *B. scharffiana*: Brazil. Shrub-like with wide, hairy leaves, green with pink underneath. Flowers pink, covered with hair. Very special. Germination time: 12 days. per pkt 1.00

GESNERIADS:

- JN 9 — *Sinningia speciosa*-compact: "mini-gloxinia", mixed colors. per pkt .75
- JN 10 — *Sinningia speciosa*-Tigrina mixed per pkt .75
- JN 11 — *Boea hemsleyana* per pkt 1.00

Pamphlets available

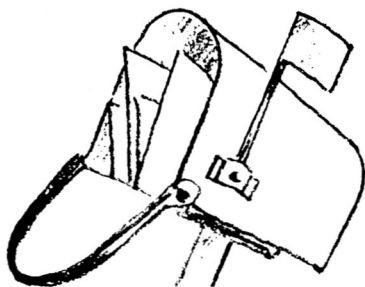
"Begonias from Seeds — Sowing and Growing"\$.25

"Begonias In General —

Basic Descriptions of Classes and Culture"50

California residents please add 6% sales tax. All customers, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Make all checks or money orders payable to: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund. Foreign customers, please pay in U.S. funds only. Mail to: Mrs. Linda Miller, P. O. Box 227, Gardena, CA 90247.

BEGONIA QUESTION BOX



Write to: Elda Haring
Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731

You will receive a prompt personal reply.

Question: There are several begonias I can't find any reference to in books. Can you tell me anything about them? **Answer:** I find all of these listed in *The Thompson Begonia Guide*. *B. pseudo-lubbersii* Brade, Brazil, 1957. Cane-like, tall. *B. quadrialata* Warburg, Congo, 1895, rhizomatous with distinctive foliage, unusual surface and/or unusual coloring, medium leaves. *B. subnummularifolia* Merrill, Borneo, 1926, rhizomatous small-leaved, entire/sub-entire. *B. suffruticosa* Meisner (formerly called *B. richardsoniana*) tuberous/semi-tuberous, Natal, 1840. All are species; the last one is occasionally available in the west, the rest are more rare.

Question: I have many black gnats flying around my begonias. I sprayed and dipped with malathion and Iso-tox and they disappeared but have now returned. I use bloodmeal in my potting mix. Could they be in the bloodmeal? **Answer:** Black gnats are usually present in humusy material. I spray the adults using the African Violet aerosol bomb containing pyrethrin and rotenone. Hold bomb 18 inches away from plants. Use 20 second spurts. Spray twice a week. When adults are killed no new eggs are laid but there may be some

unhatched in soil which will come out later on. Bloodmeal not only harbors fungus gnats but eggs and larvae of small moths. I would not use it in potting mixes.

Question: I grow rhizomatous begonias in my windows and under lights but they do not bloom. What am I doing wrong? **Answer:** Rhizomatous Begonias should be fed regularly through the growing season reducing water when they start to rest. Most of them bloom in winter when days are short. If you grow them in your living areas that are lighted at night, bloom is inhibited. Keeping lights on for only 9 hours during November and December would help them set buds under fluorescents.

Question: Can you recommend cane-like begonias suitable for growing indoors? **Answer:** If you have floor-to-ceiling windows you could try such tall growers as *B. 'Sophie Cecile'*, *B. 'Irene Nuss'*, *B. 'Esther Albertine'*, *B. 'Lucerna'* and *B. 'Dierna'*. If your windows are standard size try some of the low-growing cane-like as *B. albo picta*, *B. 'Lenore Olivier'*, *B. 'Orange Rubra'*, *B. 'Pin afore'* and *B. 'Wayne Newton'*.

Question: Could I use fresh rabbit manure in my potting mixes? It is pelleted and odorless. **Answer:** It is
(Continued on page 164)

BEGONIA BULLETIN BOARD

Pins Available

There are still a few rhodium plated ABS member pins available for \$4.50. The newest order for pins was for gold-filled emblems. Each have green enamel trim. The gold-filled ones sell for \$5.00. See the ABS Bookstore ad on page 164.

Boutique for Begonia Bonanza

The response of the Branches for contributions to the boutique has been, so far, gratifying.

To all the members who did not have the opportunity to see the Branch letter: We are asking for donations of plant related items — gadgets, hand-made pots, begonia paintings, begonia lore, etc. What ideas do you have?

We are waiting to hear from more of our members. Let's all get busy and "create"!!! Let's make the Begonia Boutique a "goldmine" at this year's Begonia Bonanza!!!

Nancy Lenhart,
Boutique Chairman
8799 Winding Way
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

San Gabriel Show

The Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia will be the location of the San Gabriel Branch Begonia Show, July 14, 15 and 16. This will be a judged show with ribbons and trophies awarded. Entries will be accepted on July 14 between 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. Contact Walter Barnett (213) 336-8635, for details.

For ABS members only preview plant sale of rare varieties from Porter's Tropical, Elda Regimbal, Woodriff's Fairyland Friday at 8 p.m.

Plants Wanted

We have been receiving favorable responses from the various branches in response to our appeal for plant donations for the National Convention and Show. Some branches have responded that due to distance or small membership they are unable to furnish plants. Three branches have sent a total of \$60.00 in contributions. We are grateful for this kind of enthusiastic response to assure the success of the 1978 convention and show, and encourage other branches to use this means of showing their support if for one reason or another they are unable to donate plants.

All 48 branches were contacted to determine what they could do insofar as plant donations were concerned. Responses have come from only 12 branches. Some say it is "too early". When you consider we must have some idea of how many plants will be donated in order to know how many it will be necessary to purchase, it isn't really "too early."

Lou Thompson, Plant Sales Chairman
Rt. 4, Box 616, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Los Angeles Fern Society

Show of Ferns and Exotic Plants

Los Angeles Arboretum July 21, 22, 23

Show — Seminars — Plant Sales

For entry information: Thelma Brunton, (714) 989-5165. Hdqtrs., (213) 877-3679.

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For a price list plus a year's worth of special offers and additions send \$1.00.

Open 10 AM - 5 PM Tues-Sat.

National History Book

Frances Estrada, newly appointed Historian, has been gathering material for the National History Book from those members with whom she has personal contact. She has sent letters to all ABS branches, requesting items of interest such as snapshots and newspaper clippings about activities. She would also like to have material pertaining to members-at-large such as pictures of gardens or plants, newspaper articles about their begonia related activities, etc.

The material sent should be from the current year's activities and names of persons should be written on the back of snapshots. Also the name of the branch or the locality of the member-at-large should be noted.

To make the book truly representative, materials from all areas will be welcomed. Your cooperation will be very much appreciated. All materials should be mailed to:

Frances Estrada
7914 Springer Street
Downey, Calif. 90242

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Judges Course	\$8.00
Classification Guide	1.50
Point Scoring Booklet	1.25
Fuchsia Sheets	1.00
Fern Sheets	1.00
Gesneriad & A.V. Sheets	1.00
Total for Begonia Material	10.75
Total for Other 3	3.00
Postage and handling for entire set75
Postage and handling for Classification Guide and Point Scoring only25

California residents, add 6% tax

Make checks payable to

Margaret Lee, Judging Director
1852 31st Street
San Diego, CA 92102

QUESTION BOX

(Continued from page 162)

not recommended that any kind of fresh manure be used in potting mixes. It should be well rotted or composted before using. Rabbit manure contains approximately 2 percent nitrogen, 1 to 2 percent phosphorous, and only 0.6 potash. It is considered a "hot" manure because of the nitrogen content.

BEGONIAS FOR BEGINNERS

By Elda Haring
Hard cover 9.95, Paperback 5.95

BEGONIAS by Chevalier

Translated by Alva Graham
Paperback 10.00

BACK ISSUES, THE BEGONIAN

\$.75 ea. Not all years are complete



ABS PINS

Green on gold tone emblem, \$5.00

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a magazine about
plants and gardens of the west.
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Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94122

The Indoor Light Gardening Society of America, Inc., Dept. B, 128 West 58th St., New York, New York 10019. Dues \$5.00. Bi-monthly magazine LIGHT GARDEN; cultural guides; seed exchange; round robins; chapters; slide library.

Mini-Ads

The rate for advertising in this column is \$1 per line (about 36 characters) with a minimum charge of \$4. Payment for the ad must accompany order.

Violets - Begonias - Episcias

Cuttings only. Send stamp for list.
Wilson's Greenhouse, Route 1
Box 165-4 Ozark, MO 65721

BEGONIAS. Featuring Wally Wagner hybrids, gesneriads, miniatures for light gardens. List 35¢ Pat Morrison/Jim Heffner, 5305 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, OR 97221.

The Gift Horse Greenhouse — begonias, violets, cuttings only. List 35¢. Kit Jeans, Rt. #1, Box 319, New Johnsonville, Tennessee 37134 (615) 535-2026.

THE THOMPSON BEGONIA GUIDE, second edition. Three volumes; 975 pages; over 750 black and white photos; and many line drawings. Volumes may be purchased separately but subscription to entire three volumes is required. To order and for further information write E. & M. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, N.Y. 11968.

The Good, The Rare and The Beautiful in begonias. Rex, rhizomatous, cane and shrubs. 25¢ for list. Visitors welcome. Lera's Greenhouse, P.O. Bx 948, Porter, TX 77365 (713) 354-3567.

Begonias — Blue Ribbon Winners. Many varieties. Retail only. Price list 35¢ or stamps. John Sousa, Begonia Paradise Nursery, 9471 Dana Road, Cutler Ridge, FL 33157.

BEGONIAS. All types. Limited mail order at present. List 35¢. MILLIE THOMPSON, 310-A Hill St., P. O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968. (516) 283-3237.

Exhibition Manual. An optional supplement of The Thompson Begonia Guide for both subscribers and non-subscribers, approximately 100 pages. Price \$4.75, optional binder \$3.50, including packaging and shipping. N.Y. residents add state tax. Now in distribution. E. & M. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968.

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* * *

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Reseda, CA 91335

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Over 15 ft. \$1.00 per ft.
plus \$4.00 post., up to 50 ft.
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Sandy & Joe Weynand's

GESNERIA

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E. Moriches, N.Y. 11940
516-878-8907

2 stamps for list

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY March 27, 1978

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. in the South Gate Auditorium by President Richardson. The Aims and Purposes were given by Nathan Randall, and Mabel Corwin led the flag salute.

The minutes were approved as printed. The secretary read the correspondence. A gift to the American Heart Association was given in memory of Carl Naumann who was President of the Society in 1963.

Ralph Corwin reported that the changes of the constitution and by-laws will be presented at the National Convention.

Gilbert Estrada reported a balance of \$1,519.29, receipts of \$2,973.47, and disbursements of \$2,836.15, leaving a balance of \$1,656.61.

The Editors stated that since there were some errors in the Index, it would not be in the April issue. The publication committee is working on the Cultivar Catalogue. Also, they are working to update some of the pamphlets about begonias. A letter is to be sent out to the Branches requesting donations to print colored pictures and articles that were from the Curtis Botanical. Each picture would cost \$100.00 in color (in sets of four) and there are eight.

Membership reported 66 new members, 124 renewals, members in good standing 3,819, and receipts of \$1,243.50.

Advertising had an income of \$94.50 for the month.

Mabel Corwin reported the Robins are flying again. The weather had detained some, but all are catching up and moving fine.

The Seed Fund had \$412.83 in sales for the month, according to Linda Miller, Administrator.

Pearl Benell read the Research Director's report. The Conservatory at the New York Botanical Garden is open again with new displays.

Awards Chairman, Thelma O'Reilly, reported preparing an article for the Begonian about Awards. A list is being compiled of eligible Begonias for the Alfred D. Robinson Award. Thelma also reported on the Special committee to review show schedule, rules, trophies, and cultural awards. The following recommendations were made by the committee, and were approved by the Board: 1. A committee to review and up-date the 1969 "Suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes". 2. A committee to formulate a pamphlet of instruction and

suggestions on Convention and Show Procedure, including rules, etc. for Branches hosting the annual ABS Convention and Show. 3. Incorporate into show rules the requirement that a report of the winners, name of plant, and name of person entering plant be given to the ABS Board of Directors after each annual show. 4. A central location is needed for the storage of vital National Show records. 5. Trophy rules be clarified and spelled out for reference. 6. An "Entries and Classification" Committee be appointed on a revolving basis, as on the Awards Committee, for knowledgeable and correct entries in shows. 7. All new introductions in the annual show must be registered. The Bower Memorial Award rules state that the plant must be named and registered with ABS Nomenclature, and must have been released for sale within a year from the previous annual Show. 8. Two additional Awards of Culture certificates may be awarded in the listed basic divisions (making a total of possible 10 awards) at the discretion of the Show or Awards Chairmen. Where a division does not have a 90 point winner, the certificate may be given in any of the other divisions or returned to the Awards Chairman. 9. An Advisory Committee, composed of knowledgeable ABS members residing outside of California be appointed to assist the Classification Committee in an advisory capacity.

Marge Lee reported on the activity of the Judges Courses. She announced Virginia Barnett was now a Sophomore Judge.

A motion was passed to renew the certificate for the Life Membership Fund, for a six year period, and include the present auxiliary account in it.

It was explained that Branches would have to obtain their own resale numbers since there is no way for the National Board to report on individual Branch purchases and sales.

Mrs. Ziesenhenné will be reimbursed for money she sent Social Security when she filed the returns.

The Board approved \$189.00 for President Richardson to go to Texas for the Southwest Begonia Growers Get Together in Wichita Falls, Texas.

The appointment of Katharine Alberti to be in charge of the lending library and old Begonians was approved. Lydia Austin is not able to handle all of the library anymore.

Frances Estrada was appointed historian, so she would appreciate receiving all the news of the Society.

After the Branch reports, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Virginia J. Barnett, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

April 24, 1978

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M. in the South Gate Auditorium. Margaret Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Nathan Randall read the Aims and Purposes. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected. The Secretary read a letter from Evelyn Cronin, making several suggestions to the Board.

The Board approved sending a courtesy membership to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens in Birmingham, Alabama. During the discussion, it was decided to check the organizations receiving the *Begonian* to see if it was still advisable to continue all of them. The Bates will send out a form letter requesting articles in exchange for the magazine.

Gilbert Estrada reported receipts of \$2,513.26, disbursements of \$1,473.22, leaving a balance of \$2,696.65 as of April 18, 1978. He noted that the bill for printing the *Begonian* was not included in his report. The Show and Convention Treasurer, Mary Ann Flunker, submitted a report of expenses to date. A motion was made to advance \$700.00 to the Show Fund Treasurer account.

Nathan Randall, Speakers Bureau, noted that Darlene Fuentes and Thelma O'Reilly have been added to his list of speakers. Three slide programs have been sent out. After discussion about the use of the slide programs, a motion was passed that a deposit of \$25.00 would be charged to be returned when the program is returned in good condition, less a \$5.00 charge for postage.

Ralph Corwin reported a meeting of the Bylaws Committee.

The Editor, Ed Bates, reported the Registration Book is being typed for the typesetter. The translation of the Japanese Book is in the process of completion for publication soon. \$200.00 has been sent in at this time for the printing of the colored pictures for the *Begonian*. (These are the Curtis Botanical pictures.) Discussion about the printing of the translation of *Die Begonien* was tabled to the next meeting to obtain more information about it.

Mabel Corwin reported 27 Robins came through and others are flying. She is starting a new one on growing begonias in arid climates.

The Advertising Chairman, Lorraine Frinchaboy, reported \$238.37 for ads in March, receipts of \$197.50, leaving \$463.61 in accounts unpaid.

Frances Estrada, Historian, requested

sending a letter with the minutes to each branch, requesting pictures, news, and things of interest for the history book.

A motion was passed to accept for the National Show, a trophy for the best Rex from Sacramento in honor of its birthday — 30th. Wanda Elin and Norma Taylor are new Sophomore Judges.

Linda Miller, Seed Fund Administrator, reported receipts of \$663.16, expenses of \$16.10, leaving a balance of \$647.06.

The secretary read the membership report. There were 107 new members, 3,746 members in good standing, and \$1,628.70 in receipts.

Pearl Benell read the Research Director's report. He is still working on the Begonia Catalogue of unregistered begonias. The Board agreed that the money should still be allowed to accumulate for future purposes.

Gilbert Estrada and others at the Eastern Show gave some of the highlights. Ed Bates promised some pictures soon.

After the branch reports, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Virginia J. Barnett, Secretary

Board meeting, South Gate Auditorium, 7:30 p.m., June 26.

Correction

The two photos on page 129 in the last issue were taken at Kew Gardens and the ones on page 128 at the home of Ayako Yamamoto in Okayama, Japan.

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