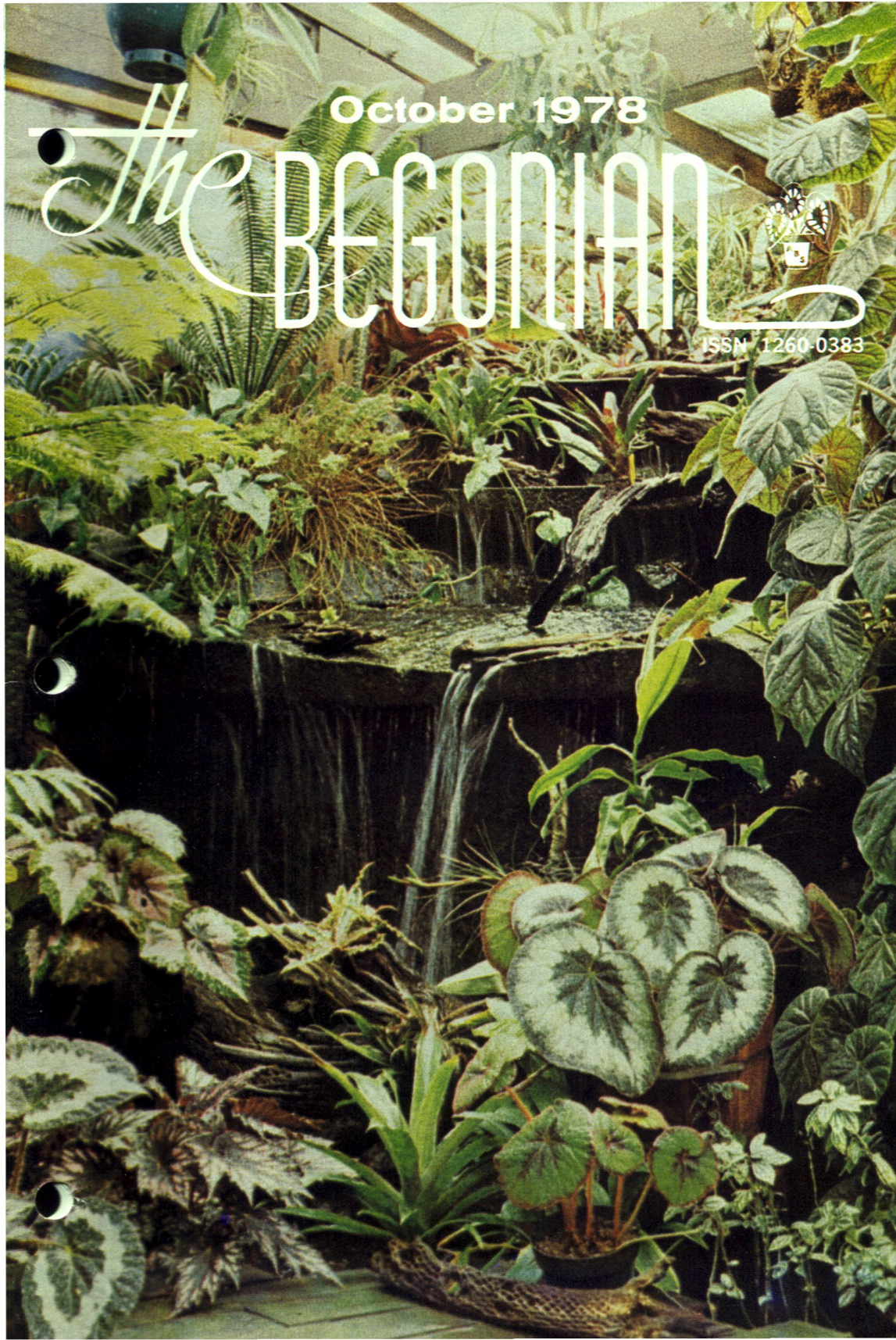


October 1978

The BEGONIAN



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

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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*.

Cover Photo

TORZESKI'S PLANTSCAPE

By Nancy Torzeski, El Cajon, Calif.

Dennis Torzeski is one of Southern California's well-known artists whose love of art is complimented by his love of nature. Because he believes firmly that the moment an artist confines himself to a single form of expression he has limited his ability to grow and improve, his work encompasses a vast range of endeavors. Torzeski's work includes, but is not limited to, sensitive and dramatic paintings, landscaping and construction of large waterfalls, plant collecting and unique terrarium designs. Dennis has served twice as president of the San Miguel Branch of the A.B.S.

I have worked closely with Torzeski, "Ski", and kept up with my photographic career and I would like to share with you some of our dreams and plans.

Ski's interest in plant collecting created a need to climatize our landscape for growing tender begonias and other exotic tropicals. With the assistance of our good friend and neighbor, Dick LaFontaine, we built our first enclosed garden, a 24' x 30' x 1-story box, the beginning of a great learning experience. It evolved from an outdoor patio.

Starting with several imported, cut blue granite slabs weighing four to five tons each, the landscaping began in the corner with the waterfall and pond pictured on the cover. Ski guided the slabs into position as Dick operated the crane. This original project included our 6' by 8' polished blue granite table, on four telephone

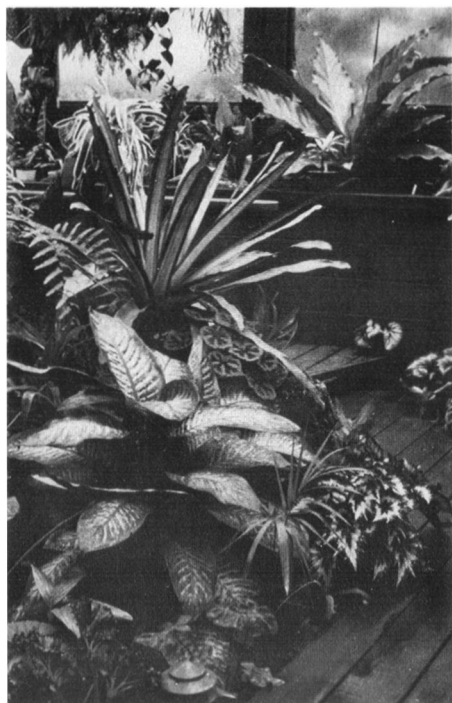
pole sections, set in cement and steel. We often dine with guests at this table.

The garden was enclosed with a structure built of 6" x 12" lumber, covered with Visqueen and fiberglass panels. Ski built a large redwood deck complimented by railroad ties for walkways. In this first attempt, temperature control was accomplished with a regular wet pad and fan (for cooling and circulation) and two gas heaters.

During this time our research into clean water led us to a de-ionized system. Progressing from this de-ionized system through an activated carbon and diatomaceous earth system, we finally arrived at an activated carbon and Green-o-matic system. This system is designed to remove harmful gases and odors and harmful chemicals including salts from the water.

Ski continued to expand his understandings and to experiment with his application. He explored the plant world and began diversifying in collecting specimens. Among the plants are begonias (especially rhizomatous) aroids, ferns (concentrating on *Platycerium*s), bromeliads and palms. As our interests and collection grew, we found ourselves starting on a carefully thought-out master plan to enlarge and improve the garden and to take account of what we had learned about plant care.

Slowly we worked at what is now a 1700 sq. ft. enclosed landscaped



Views of the Torzeski's tropical plant collection shown here and on the cover were taken by Nancy Torzeski. Note the lath area beyond the bar. One of the large terrariums, 24x24x36", is in this area.



garden, including a full wet bar made with 3" x 12" clear first generation redwood salvaged from an old watertank built in 1939. This same wood is used throughout the new addition as decking. Ski combined the redwood with tinted plate glass in a creative design for walls. A new fiberglass roof extends from the original 10 ft. to the top of the second story at 17 ft. and goes the entire length of the house (65'). Suspended 18" above the fiberglass roof is 55% Lumite shade cloth to further filter the sun.

Finding an effective system for temperature control was a challenge once we expanded. We arrived at an air conditioning-heat pump system with return air ducts in all four corners. A misting system set on timers replaces humidity in the air. For evening enjoyment hidden lighting is strategically placed to provide low-level lighting. Overhead fluorescent

tubes allow more careful viewing.

Our most recent additions to the landscape include shade and lath areas to provide more space to plant and hang specimens not in need of the high humidity. Ski designed an open redwood framework covered with Lumite shade cloth. There hardy begonias, ferns, palms, aloccias, and bromeliads benefit from filtered sunlight and welcome rain in convenient raised beds. This area is featured in the *Time-Life Encyclopedia of Gardening*, "Garden Construction," pages 82 and 83.

As you approach our home at the end of a quiet cul de sac, you will find a mountain cabin theme with pine trees accenting the front landscape, and hand designed and cut redwood siding on the house. Even as you stand on the redwood front porch you would not suspect what has evolved from Torzeski's master-plan behind this modest entry.

BEGONIA COLLECTING IN BAJA CALIFORNIA

By Scott Hoover, Williamstown, Mass.

One's initial impression of Baja California is reminiscent of a spectacle from a Fellini farrago. Enormous *Pachycereus* cactus, *Opuntias*, and the dancing stalks of boojum trees decorate the landscape with ethereal silhouettes. The expectation of finding a *Begonia* on Baja is like searching for one at the Mars Hotel, but two collections of *B. californica* Brand. were made by Brandegee in the late 1800's.

November 1976 presented itself as a time for me to collect *B. californica*. Not knowing the collecting sites upon leaving Massachusetts in my truck was no great asset either, though Dr. Annetta Carter of the Berkeley herbarium was going to forward the information to me in La Paz, a small city near the southern tip of the peninsula. This *Begonia* collecting expedition was a bit different from what I've been used to, for usually a certain percentage of the collecting sites are known beforehand.

True "truckin'" across the United States proved its usual delight, filled with unforeseen adventures and the periodic monotony of long driving. To pass the time on such driving excursions, one simply cashes in on the virtues of a good cassette or tape deck. The mind awakening lyricism of Hunter and Garcia (1970) pours forth over the system with, "See here how everything leads up to this day . . ."¹, as the highway slips into a long, tapering strip, its apex disap-

pearing to a forever billowing horizon.

Once in Baja itself, I found the need to pray that nothing would go wrong with my truck, a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton, 4-wheel drive, International Travelall, now referred to as the "Tijuana Taxi." My companions and I made it to La Paz and found Dr. Carter's notes on collecting sites for *B. californica*. One location was quite deep into the interior mountainous region near the southern tip of the peninsula. Thus we headed for this location, known as the Las Animas ranch, at the base of Cerro el Picacho. Our average rate of travel was 15 mph and adding to the excitement of traveling these dusty, seemingly unending, Baja roads were the frequent washouts left over from the hurricane devastation that hit Southern Baja in mid 1976. The search for Las Animas involved several days of driving on wild goose chases over awful roads and continuing to pray that nothing would go wrong with the truck; any such event could rationally demand abandonment and hope for the best.

By mid afternoon, November 22, we arrived at a ranch that represented the end of the road leading closest to the Northern slope of Cerro el Picacho. Whetting my wits with the little Spanish I knew, we learned that the Las Animas ranch was abandoned but still could be reached on foot: a shallow river scattered with large boulders was our trail for the

four mile hike. After a couple hours of walking we came to the Las Animas ranch. I looked around, saw nothing that looked like a *Begonia* habitat, and began to feel like futility was destiny. The first location we tried for resulted in a failure to find the plant. This try led me to a north facing bluff behind the old ranch site and sure enough there was *B. californica*. All the remains of this species were dried; the stems had fallen over, some were completely separated from the tuber. Except for the buried tubers, these partially deteriorated stems were all that remained of this species, for it had entered the stage of dormancy. Herbarium specimens were virtually useless, for the flowers were merely dried up seed pods. After such a driving escapade, I had at least found the plant, for this was the most difficult collection of a *Begonia* I've ever made.

Determining the herbaceous flora associated with *Begonia* is valuable data for ecological purposes. By comparing the vegetation surrounding different species of *Begonia*, it may be possible to establish relationships between certain species characteristics and a significant habitat variable. In order to systematize a study such as this, it would be important to collect the same species in several different geographical locations and learn how the associated flora of one species varies. Often times a species of *Begonia* has only been collected a few times and thus may have a very restricted distribution and presumably a very small population. In such a case, observers get what data they can. Table 1 is a list of the fam-

ilies, genera and certain species of the associated flora with *B. californica*. Subsequent to this Baja collection, I located *B. heracleifolia* along the road from Mazatlan to Durango. Table 2 is a list of the associated flora populating the area with *B. heracleifolia*. A comparison of the associated flora for these two species shows that four families are represented in both areas, species of the Acanthaceae, Compositae, Gramineae, and Labiatae. Within these families four genera are represented respectively: *Elytraria*, *Verbesina*, *Lasiacis*, and *Salvia*. Not enough data is available on species identification to warrant any comparison at this level, though *Lasiacis ruscifolia* is found to be associated with both species of *Begonia*. The habitat of *B. californica* was very likely undisturbed by the effects of man, while that of *B. heracleifolia* was a road cut. An accumulation of this kind of data would provide a valuable tool by which we could evaluate an ecological characteristic of *Begonia*.

Subsequent to the collection of *B. heracleifolia* was the long drive back to Massachusetts. The winter was beginning to encroach on the fall colors in the Northern states thus haste was my predominant motive. A stop at the Missouri Botanical Garden proved of great value, except upon departure, for I left St. Louis, the city of the blues, in the midst of a snow storm I'll never forget. I tried to pretend this first blast of the 1976-1977 winter did not exist since the "Tijuana Taxi" was loaded with about 30 cactus collections from Baja, and the threat of freezing further defined my motives.

Remembering "how everything leads up to this day," this writing was instigated by Mr. Johnson's "Search for *Begonia californica*," found in the March issue of the *Begonian*. The search was certainly for a rare species, and as far as herbarium material goes, the status for *B. californica* remains unchanged. I had met the challenge for discovery only to find that, like all tuberous species, the verdant plants had disappeared with the summer season.

¹This profound lyricism was spawned in the song "Black Peter," on the LP, *Working Mans Dead*, by the Grateful Dead band. (Warner Brothers, 1970)

* * *

Las Animas ranch is at about 700 to 1000 meters (between 2300 and 3300 ft.). The habitat of *B. californica* is along a rocky slope among light tree cover at the side of the drying river bed.

TABLE 1
FLORA ASSOCIATED WITH *BEGONIA CALIFORNICA*

Acanthaceae — <i>Elytraria squamosa</i> (Jaca.) Lindau.	Labiatae — <i>Phaseolus</i> sp. <i>Salvia setosa</i> Fernald <i>Salvia</i> sp.
Bignoniaceae — <i>Tecoma stans</i> (L.) Juss.	Plumbaginaceae — <i>Plumbago</i> <i>scandens</i> L.
Compositae — <i>Melampodium</i> <i>cupulatum</i> Gray <i>Verbesina</i>	Solanaceae — <i>Capsicum annuum</i> L. <i>Datura discolor</i> Bern. <i>Physalis</i> sp. <i>Saracha procumbens</i> (Cav.) Ruiz. and Pavon
Convolvulaceae — <i>Jacquemontia</i> sp. <i>Ipomoea</i> sp.	Stereuliaceae — <i>Ayenia jaliscance</i> Watson
Gramineae — <i>Lasiacis ruscifolia</i> (HBK) Hitch.	

TABLE 2
FLORA ASSOCIATED WITH *B. HERACLEIFOLIA*

Acanthaceae — <i>Elytraria</i>	Leguminosae — <i>Phaseolus</i> sp.
Compositae — <i>Bidens</i> sp. <i>Eupatorium</i> sp. <i>Tagetes</i> sp. <i>Tithonia</i> or <i>Zexmenia</i> sp. <i>Verbesina</i>	Malvaceae — <i>Sida xanti</i> Gray
Gramineae — <i>Lasiacis ruscifolia</i> (HBK) Hitch.	Rubiaceae
Labiatae — <i>Salvia</i> sp.	Scrophulariaceae — <i>Russelia retrorsa</i> Green f.
	Tiliaceae — <i>Triumfetta althaeoidea</i> Lam.
	Urticaceae — <i>Urera alceaefolia</i> Gaudich.
	Valerianaceae — <i>Valeriana</i> <i>sorbifolia</i> HBK

A COLLECTION OF BEGONIA MISCELLANEA

By Bob Hamm, Wichita Falls, Texas

If all growers wrote down all the little items that they learn over the years, and sent them in to the *Begonian*, we would have a treasure load of information about many of the subjects that bother growers, but little is written. After going over some of the items I gleaned at the Southwest Begonia Growers Get Together from the many growers there, I decided to put some of this random collection on paper for others to enjoy.

Have you ever run out of potting mix just when plants arrived? This happened to me recently and so I took the little mix I had left, mixed it with a large quantity of long fiber sphagnum moss, and potted the plants into 4" pots and prayed. The results have been fantastic! Plants which I have consistently killed for the last few years are doing great! Begonias such as *olbia*, *hemsleyana* and several others which I had trouble with in our Texas erratic weather are doing well and blooming! The plants are fed with a weak Peters Soluble fertilizer and no special care is given. I had previously tried these plants in mixes from heavy to light, fertile to starved, high humus to low humus and just about every combination conceivable, and always there would be something wrong with it for some stage of our up-and-down-weather year, but the moss mix is working great. So if you run out of soil sometime, improvise! It might be an improvement!

One pest which I had the fortunate experience of not knowing for several years was recently "given" to me by

a friend on a tray of plants — mealy bugs. As many of you probably know, these little devils are the white cotton masses which sometimes show up in hard-to-reach leaf axils, and other hard-to-spray places. Not only that, they are becoming immune to a number of pesticides. Recently a group of the local plant enthusiasts were gathered, and we hit upon an interesting fact — all of us had mealy-bug-infested plants that we had given up on and had put outside to (we thought) slowly pall away. Low and behold, the bugs vanished! Why we know not, but for Texas (and try other places, who knows?) it would seem that mealy bugs do not like weather outdoors, at least not when moved out of the greenhouse. They depart in a hurry, or maybe something eats them, but they disappear. So next time you are about to heave out an infested plant, try the backyard for a week first.

Sowbugs, sometimes called pill bugs, or roly poly bugs are having a population explosion this year around these parts. But after trying sprays, and having them thrive on them, I think I have a solution. Actually it has two parts — one is a box of snail bait put under the benches in damp corners. This done alone didn't work too well; many bugs thought Begonias tasted better! But the second half of the solution has really cleared them up: one large toad from the local park put in the green house. He's doubled in weight and I'm having trouble finding a sowbug. So next time the kids scare you with a toad, or small lizard, don't

scream and yell in terror, but in joy, and surprise them by grabbing it and heading for the plant room greenhouse. For plant rooms, the small "Chameleons" (actually southern Aloes, a small green or brown lizard sold in pet shops) work real well — if you don't mind an occasional surprise.

Need to start some of the terrarium begonias for friends, or a club sale but no room in a terrarium? Try the 6 or 8 oz. size, clear plastic tumblers with a little sphagnum in the bottom and covered with plastic wrap and a rubber band. Works great. You can put leaves down, write on the outside of the containers with a waterproof marker, put the tumblers under your lights and forget them till sale or giveaway time. They are cheap and readily available.

A cheap but effective bug spray? A lot of people are trying alcohol (the rubbing kind) spray as a bug killer, especially for mealy bugs and mites. I'm not sure about it alone but know that some alcohol mixed in the water with your insecticide sure improves the effectiveness of the water soluble insecticides.

On insecticides, when using a systemic type, putting some in the pot to be absorbed by the roots helps. Just spray some of the mixed solution onto the soil. Also systemics are more effective sprayed when the plant is *slightly* dry in the soil, rather than freshly watered. It encourages more absorption by the plant. I do mean partly dry, not bone dry or you may burn the plants.

Ever have a begonia that isn't growing quite right, but you can't figure it out? If the plant has very

small, light dots in the emerging leaves, it may have a marginal case of mites that are sapping its strength. Try spraying for mites with Kelthane, or one of the systemics. Mites are so small that, unless magnified, you may never see one, but they are very common, and a lot of growers experience a mild case without knowing it. They will sap strength and slow the plant down a lot.

If you have a plant that, despite feeding and everything you do to it, still seems off color, or yellowed, or refuses to grow, stop and think. How long has it been in its pot? Is it in one of the "soiless" mixes? If it has been in its pot a long time, or if it is growing in a soiless mix, it may be suffering a trace element deficiency. These are elements that the plant needs in very minute quantities and are usually not in most fertilizers. In this case you either need to feed with a fertilizer with trace elements (such as Peters 18-19-20 Pete-lite special made for soiless mixes) or feed with a trace element fertilizer. Check your fertilizer package to see if it contains trace elements.

On the "Are ants in the greenhouse harmful?" controversy. While taking an entomology course and studying ants, I found out that they will "herd" aphids and mealy bugs for the sweet substance these pests secrete. In the winter ants move these pests to their nests and grow them on the roots of plants as "stock" for next year. So I see no reason *not* to assume they move them from plant to plant in the greenhouse. So as for my opinion, ants are a definite NO in the greenhouse and I fight them whenever present.

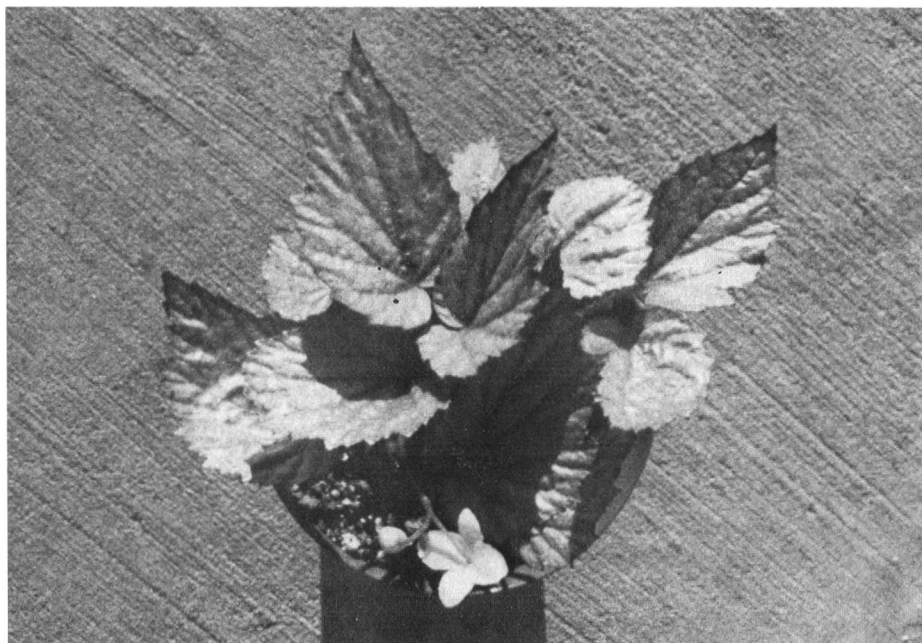
Mildew in damp weather? Remember that Lysol spray will clear it up. It works for us.

Hot weather got your plants? From experience of many Texas growers, we've come to the conclusion that the plants will take a lot of heat without problems if the weather cools off well at night. While a number of growers turn off their coolers in the evening when it feels comfortable to them, I leave mine on and let the greenhouse go down to about 65° at night. The plants are doing a lot better for it. When our temperatures reach lows of 90 degrees, I may not be able to cool it that low, but will let the cooler bring it as low as it

can.

Speaking of temperature, plants require a lower light intensity in hot than in cool temperatures. Remember that as the weather cools off in the fall, moving the plants to more light will lengthen their blooming season. This explains why a plant that may do great all summer in heavy shade, suddenly grows long and lanky in the fall when it cools off. It may need stronger light in cooler weather.

I hope you enjoyed this rambling of Begonia Miscellaneous and perhaps some of you have suggestions to contribute. You'll be helping someone grow better.



BEGONIA 'ZEITGEIST'

Top view of young plant

Hybridized, grown and photographed by Bob Cole of Reseda, Calif.

ABS Registration Number 636

Parents: B. 'This'N That' X B. 'Lee's No. 9'

Notes — Rex with upright rhizome. Leaves silver with maroon margin. Flowers pink.

Plant tends to be full. Good house plant which will tolerate heat well.

GALLOPING BEGONIAS

By Kit Jeans, New Johnsonville, Tenn.

Not long ago, I was lured to Texas by a superb con artist named Bob Hamm who promised that the Begonia Get-Together he and Mae Blanton were organizing would be worth the journey. Once I accepted, he dropped another brick on me. They needed plants, he said, both for sale table and the flower show. Appealing to my loyalties, he added, "A show is only as good as its participants, Kit, and we want to prove we can put on as good a show as anybody — on either coast."

I was tempted — but I knew my itinerary and Bob Hamm did not. The logistics involved in getting plants from Tennessee to Texas would have made a hardened hijacker blanch. I was, you see, simply not going to skylark happily off to Texas. The weekend before the Get-Together in Wichita Falls, I was going to my daughter's graduation from law school in Columbia, Missouri. Not seeing any sense in coming all the way home between trips, I decided to visit around Missouri and Arkansas before joining Maxine Wilson of Wilson's Greenhouse in Ozark for the trek to the southwest.

Ah, but that was the easy part. I intended to start my journey in my old pickup, then swap it for my daughter's VW Bug so she could move to Kansas City while I was gossiping across the countryside. For the jaunt to Texas itself, I'd transfer my gear to Maxine's little truck. As you might guess, I wasn't at all sure my plants were really up to this sort of space travel. But I

had been tempted — and better, challenged.

I'll have to admit this is not the first time I've traveled with plants. For 25 years I was an Air Force wife and I've got one begonia (*B. 'Joe Hayden'*, purchased in a supermarket while my husband was in Viet Nam in 1965) which has logged more miles than most rural mail carriers. My children were more likely to get stashed in the trunk of the car than my plants for our numerous changes of station.

Moving plants around the countryside is not particularly difficult if you use a little common sense and *plan ahead*. If you wait until zero hour to decide where you're going to stow your plants, you might as well just give them to a neighbor. Otherwise, they are doomed.

Small plants, such as the sale seedlings I took to Texas, can be lined up in flats with rolls of newspaper between the rows to keep them from overturning. Then, they can go on floorboards, back seats, behind seats and various other places. But for trips over a couple of hours in duration, never, never put them in the trunk.

If your plants must be stacked, pack them in orange crates or "chicken" boxes. The chicken boxes, which supermarkets get and will usually part with for a nominal sum, are heavy, waxed cardboard and best of all, they have hand-holds. You can make a collar of rolled-up newspaper, secure each pot with it all taped up and pack them in the boxes.

Or, you can take a smaller box, invert it and cut holes in the bottom fit each pot just below the rim. The platform is then put into the bigger box and the plants sunk snugly into their allotted slots. Lidded boxes can then be stacked.

I moved a whole plant shop to Tennessee in my pickup using orange crates this way. It was during the summer and not only did the plants get better air circulation in the crates, I could grab a hose at a filling station and spray them down with the assurance that *all* the travelers got some moisture.

Providing water can be a problem. For long journeys, you may want to put a mat of wet moss under the pots or stuff the moist fibers around the base of potted plants. I must admit that on numerous occasions I've off-loaded a batch of plants and flats, carried them into a motel, watered all, misted, and left 'em to a breath of fresh air overnight before re-packing in the morning.

Tall plants present an entirely different problem. Frankly, unless you have a van or a house on wheels, I cannot tell you how to move your rubber tree. But a tall specimen of *B. 'Sophie Cecile'* or *B. 'Gene Daniels'* is not impossible to relocate successfully. You can roll the pot in newspaper so that a long tube of paper protects the plant. It can be left open at the top or the paper stapled. A grocery sack, for a fatter plant like *B. 'Enchantment'* can be inserted over the plant, "gathered" and tied with string or wire at the rim. The pot can then be wedged behind the seat with all those loose shoes you forgot to pack.

To move hanging plants, a broom handle wired to the clothes hanger-hooks over the back seat of vehicles does very nicely. On this suspended pole, you can hook all sizes of hanging baskets. And to prevent sliding, simply mash a push-pin into the wood of the pole on either side of the basket's hook-end. The plants will swing, but they won't slide.

For my invasion of Texas, I had to pack to fit the VW, so I took just 3 flats of small plants and 2 specimens for the show. The basket containing the upright rex, *B. 'Abel Carriere'*, was easy. I set it in an open box, stuffed newspaper around it and, having cut hand-holes in the box, set the whole thing on the seat beside me. The *B. 'Silver Jewel'* moss basket was another kettle of fish altogether. As anybody who has grown it knows, 'Silver Jewel' is a finicky low-light, moisture lover of uncertain temperament. I'd moved this one all over the greenhouse before I found a spot in the darkest corner where it was happy. Because it's so contrary, I almost left it at home. But it had thrived so I wanted to share its loveliness with others.

B. 'Silver Jewel' made the journey in a styrofoam fish box filled with 3 inches of wet vermiculite. The night before I left, I set the basket in a crock of water filled with a dilute solution of "Watch-Us-Grow" and let it soak for some time. The plant was then set on a large saucer nestled in the vermiculite in its wide-bottomed box and placed on the floorboards of the truck. Needless to say, it went to Texas as cocky and self-confident as Sam Houston — and

(Continued on page 274)

AN EXTINCT BEGONIA?

This lovely drawing was labeled "Begonia Wageneriana." The plant was found by Mr. Wagener in Venezuela and exported to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Berlin. Later it was sent to Kew Gardens and subsequently was reported in Curtis' Botanic Magazine in 1857.

Imagine our dismay when, in a recent letter, Dr. Jan Doorenbos advised that it was of doubtful taxonomic status and as far as he knew was lost to cultivation long ago. He noted that Dr. L. B. Smith did not include it in his review of the Begonias of Venezuela.

There is always the possibility of a *Begonia* being located which would conform to the description of this *B. Wageneriana* but at present the print is of interest as a work of art and a historical record.

Some of the other plants in the series have involved stories and many progeny.

P. B.

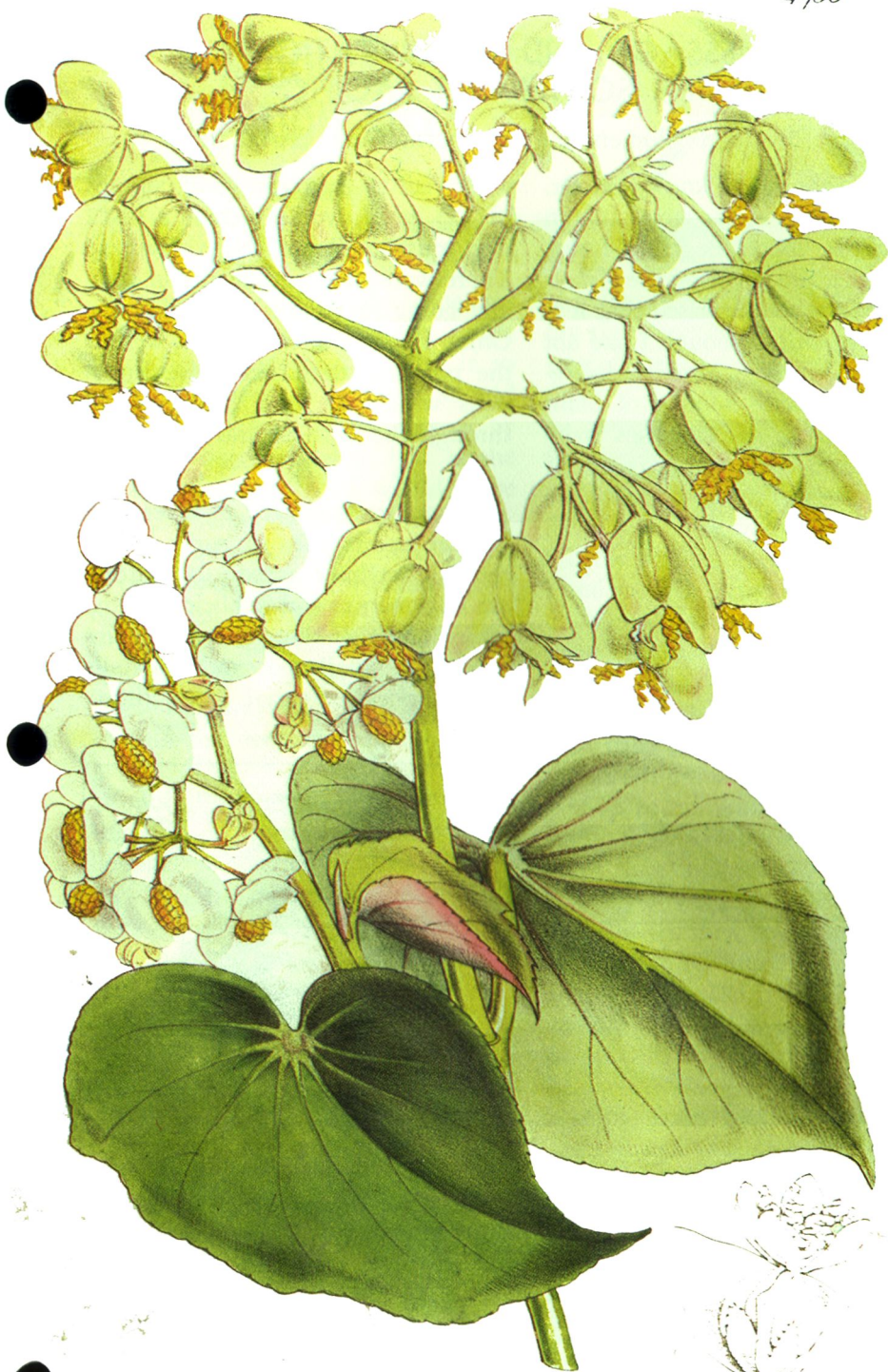
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We wish to thank all of these donors on behalf of the ABS and also Wally Wagner and Mildred Thompson who loaned the originals to be copied. Walter Barnett did some research work in the initial stages. We also appreciate the gift from Kandid Litho Company of copies of the prints done on textured antique white paper which are suitable for framing.

The sets of four prints (to be designated as "A" and "B") can be ordered through the ABS Bookstore for \$5.00 for each set of four. The postage charge is 50¢ per set. California residents, add 6% tax. The address for orders is Gilbert Estrada, 7914 Springer Street, Downey, CA 90242. These sets were first available at the Sacramento Convention.



W. Fiedt, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

A MESSAGE AND AN INVITATION TO THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

By John Womersley, Westbourne Park, S. A.

It is indeed good to know that Dr. Doorenbos has been successful in growing the Omati Begonia. I was aware that it did occur on the Kikori River and am not surprised that it is also at Aird Hills although I had not seen it there myself. Mueller did receive quite a large number of plant specimens from missionaries who worked along the south coast of Papua so it is to be expected that a plant like this may well have been described by him. Sometime when I am in the Melbourne Herbarium I will see if I can locate the type specimens of *Begonia sharpeana*. (See August issue)

Since I have settled down in Adelaide my "retirement" has been really organised leisure, doing the things I want to do. In addition to quite a lot of diverse botanical work, some local South Australian and other tropical for Papua New Guinea, I have been involved with the shipping cruises run by P. and O. out of Sydney to the Pacific Islands. On these I give illustrated talks to the passengers on the next port of call. In my lectures I include a great deal of local horticulture and other cultural material. In the same vein with Paradise Tours, an associated company of Air Niugini, the P.N.G. national airline, I will be leading a series of horticulturally oriented to Papua New Guinea . . . our Horticultural Tours are orchid oriented. We could modify an itinerary to suit a group of Begonia specialists. Would there be interest in arranging a four or five

week visit to Australia (and perhaps N. Z.) which would include a 10-12 day tour to Papua New Guinea? There would be no difficulty in actually going to Kikori and seeing the Omati Begonia in the wild as well as the parent material of those *Impatiens* which are now being spread through the horticultural trade.

* * *

If you are interested in investigating the possibilities of such a tour, the Editors have agreed to coordinate information and publicity for the present time. If there is sufficient interest we shall get more details about prices, potential dates, times, etc.

Begonia Portraits

By Alice Clark



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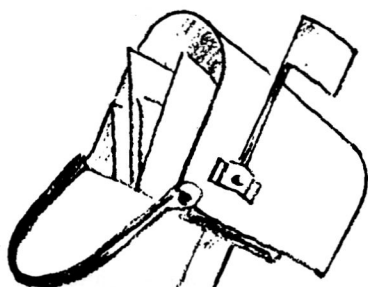
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BEGONIA QUESTION BOX



Write to: Elda Haring
Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731
You will receive a prompt personal reply.

Question: Some of my cane begonias grow very tall with a single stem. Could they be cut back, if so where? *Answer:* Tall canes should have been pruned as they grow by pinching out the newest leaf at the top of the stem. This would force multiple stems to grow at pot level. Cut your plant back to within 8 inches of the pot level. It will soon grow new stems.

Question: My cane-like *B. 'President Carnot'* has only two stems. These lean way over and hang down. Is this the way this plant should grow? The pots are top heavy. Would clay pots be best to use for this type of begonia? *Answer:* This begonia is described in the Thompson Begonia guide as cane-like, tall growing. Canes need all the light and sun they can get especially in a northern area where you live. In summer they can take 6 hours or more of sunlight. Cut your plant back sharply to cause new stems to grow and root the growing tips, pinching out the topmost leaf as they grow. Give this begonia the brightest light you have. Standard clay pots are preferable for this type of begonia.

Question: I have a Trout Leaf begonia with long spreading stems with only a few leaves at the ends of the branches. What can I do to improve the looks of this begonia?

Answer: Your Trout Leaf is probably the shrub-like *B. 'Argenteo-Guttata'*. Leaves often drop from this plant if it is overwatered or not given sufficient water. Cut the branches back to a size that suits your space. Give it more light than you have indicated. Check the root system by knocking out of the pot. If roots are non-existent or rotted, cut off half the root ball and replace it in fresh soil. It will soon grow new leaves to give you an attractive, bushy plant.

Question: My *B. olsoniae* was shipped to me with several large long-stemmed leaves that have since dropped. It has grown many two to three inch leaves, all cupped. This does not look like pictures I have seen of this begonia. Fertilizer seems to have caused it to grow many small leaves on short stems. *Answer:* *B. olsoniae* when well grown is a compact plant with short-stemmed leaves. If they are cupped it likely needs higher humidity. The small leaves will eventually grow to proper size. As you use a soilless mix you should practice constant feeding. That is, feed every time you water with a very dilute solution of plant food. Schultz Instant liquid fertilizer is helpful if you are uncertain how much to use, for it comes with an eye dropper and it is recommended that you use 6 drops to a quart of water each time you fertilize. When

practicing constant feeding be sure to wash accumulated fertilizer salts out of the mix by pouring clear water through the pot once a month, letting the pot drain before returning to the plant table. The small leaves will undoubtedly attain a proper size if given good care.

Question: I have a "beefsteak" begonia, the largest leaves of which are 6 1/2 inches across and these are growing toward the floor. The new leaves go upward and are 4 inches across. I grow it on the shady side of a west window where it never gets any sun. Can I cut off the dangling leaves?

Answer: I am sure your "beefsteak" begonia is properly called *B. 'Erythopylla'*. It is classified as medium leaved (3" to 6" at maturity). It will not harm the plant to cut off the dangling leaves. This begonia should not be shaded. Give all light possible. Do not worry about the size of the leaves. From your description you have an attractive plant.

Question: Leaves on my rex 'Helen Teupel' get limp and black on the edges and fall off. What ails it? I keep it well watered. *Answer:* While rexes do need adequate moisture, too much water excludes oxygen from the roots which eventually rot. Let the potting soil dry out a bit between waterings. At this point give it a little benign neglect by withholding water until the top is dry. I feel sure it will recover and grow new leaves.

Question: When cutting wedges from a leaf I am not sure if I am getting a piece of the main vein. How do I determine this? *Answer:* Turn the leaf over; you will see raised veins radiating out toward the edge of the leaf like spokes of a wheel.

Each of these can be considered a "main vein". Cut your wedge on either side of these veins.

Question: When do you start seeds of *semperflorens* for your outdoor garden? *Answer:* I start mine under lights in January with germination in 10 days to 2 weeks. I also start some in March in the greenhouse where it takes 3 weeks to a month for germination.

Begonian Circulation

Starting the first of October, Mrs. Kathy Brown will assume the duties of Membership Secretary for the ABS. Any correspondence concerning dues and magazine issues up to one year old should be directed to her. Her address is 10692 Bolsa Street #14, Garden Grove, CA 92643.

This fall a new company will handle the mailing of the *Begonian*. The membership list will be computerized for easier mailing. The *Begonian* is usually mailed about the third of the month. We anticipate that the transition in these departments will be smooth.

We remind you that the magazines are mailed via Third Class Bulk rates and that the post office is permitted to hold them for up to five days at any transfer point in order to handle higher priority mail. This means that many readers, particularly in areas which involve many transfers, must wait as much as three weeks for their issues.

New rates will be in effect for those who want their issues sent by First Class or Air Mail in order to adjust for the increases in postal rates that went into effect recently.

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

By Mabel Corwin, Round Robin Director

Heat control

The extreme heat in some parts of the country has been hard on begonias. Several robin members have reported moving their hanging baskets down on the floor of the greenhouse where it is cooler. Some have found that keeping a fan going to increase the circulation is helpful. This cuts down on mildew and disease.

Storing pollen

Hybridizing and seed sowing are frequently discussed in the robins. Jim Newbold, Florida, wrote: If you watch the male flower as it opens, you see the petals opening back to a straight out position. The next day the petals start to curve backwards. That is the time to take off the flower and put it in a vial and store in the refrigerator. Use an artist's brush to transfer the pollen from the flowers in the vial to the female flower. You can snip off the petals and just put in the pollen with a bit of the stem on it.

Sowing seeds

Lyle Catledge, California, reports: I've set up a spare bedroom for starting seeds and spores under "sterile" conditions (bleach, boiled water, cooked soil, etc.). I've obtained a microscope to check the early progress and check infections. I still lose a few, but there is a cause behind any failure if you systematically hunt for it. I use 3 inch styrofoam containers (like chili beans are sold in at football games, etc.) and fill with very moist soil (use sterile water). After sprinkling seed or spore

on the surface, I cover with saran wrap held on with a rubber band. A waterproof felt pen is used to label the source, variety, and the date. Then the seed pots go under the benches in the greenhouse, with 48 inch strip lights on timers (16 to 18 hours continuous).

Louise Bower, California, uses peat moss for starting seeds. It is sterilized by pouring boiling water over it and letting it cool enough to squeeze the water out. It is ready to use when it will hold its shape when you open your hand. In a margarine tub she puts a layer of sponge rock, then puts in a one inch layer of peat moss. She sprinkles the seeds on top of this. She covers the dish with plastic wrap with a sticker attached with the kind of seed and the date planted. Tubs are then put under lights in the greenhouse.

Cuttings

For cuttings, Louise uses 2 parts sifted peat moss plus 1 part vermiculite, well moistened. In the bottom of the sweater box she puts a layer of sponge rock for drainage. As she has trouble with overwatering she uses a water meter to determine when plants need water. She uses $\frac{1}{4}$ strength fertilizer every time she waters and only uses rain water.

Rex culture

Dora Lee Dorsey, Florida, reports having better year round growth on her rexes by growing in clay pots after 4 inch pot size and hanging them up in shady areas. She feels the better air circulation helps.

B. carrieae

Pat Maley, California, has found that *B. carrieae* does not like wet feet. She transplanted it into a shallow clay bowl and made mix coarse and loose. Now she can give adequate moisture and humidity, but it gets air at the roots and looks much better.

Gopher gone

Debi Miller, California, told us how they got rid of the gopher in their garden: I went to the nursery and got one of those plastic sunflowers that turn in the wind. My husband stuck a bolt into one petal so it would be off balance. We stuck it in an aluminum tube which we wired to one of the steel fence posts (which goes two feet into the soil). That thing really rattles and we haven't had a gopher since.

* * *

Don't forget to send me your new address when you move. If you have any questions regarding the robins write to me.

Mabel Corwin
1110 Loma Vista Way
Vista, CA 92083

IN MEMORIAM

Walter E. Hansen

Walter E. Hansen of Ventura died Thursday, Aug. 10, 1978. He had been a member of Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch since 1969. He served as president of the Branch in 1972, and was elected as Vice President for three years of National ABS in 1973.

He won top honors with his *B. dregei* at the National Show in 1974, and also many other first places with his begonias.

He served on several occasions as Co-Chairman of the plant sales at National Shows with Gene Daniels. He was a loyal worker in the Branch and also at national conventions and will be greatly missed.

L. B.

Grace L'Hommedieu

Grace L'Hommedieu, wife of Research Director M. Carlton L'Hommedieu, died of a heart attack on September 8 at their Long Island home. She was keenly interested in the projects he carried on for the research department.

A few Notes About the Last Issue

Space did not permit the inclusion of a few notes about the article on Charles Plumier. The Peruvian tree bark which was eagerly sought for medicinal purposes by the botanists was of the Cinchona tree and was the source of quinine for treatment of malaria.

The term *pinax* was used, and if you had as much difficulty in locating it in a dictionary as I did, perhaps

you'll be happy to know that the term refers to a general index of plants, a list or catalog. It is derived from the Latin word for board or table, according to the librarian at Scripps Oceanographic Institute Library.

The photo of Begonia 'Serlis' was taken by Mike Kartuz who also grew and hybridized the plant at his New Wilmington, Mass. greenhouses.

With pleasure and excitement, ABS Members at the Annual Meeting in Sacramento accepted the invitation of the Knickerbocker Branch to hold the 1979 National Convention in conjunction with the Eastern Regional Meeting.

The dates for the Eastern Regional Begonia Convention for New York City have been confirmed for September 13 to 15, 1979. It will be held at the Skyline Motor Inn where there is a glassed-in rooftop, half of which is an indoor-outdoor pool and the other half where our flower show will be held.

Jack Golding and Ed Grasheim will co-chair the event and you can count on it being great. We ask everyone to hold these dates and in-

vite all Begonians from all areas to attend. The hotel has contracted for double rooms for \$32 and singles for \$29 and they will hold the rate for anyone attending either before or after the convention which is a great deal when the average New York hotel room starts at \$50 and up — and parking is free to guests, as is the pool.

There will be more information about the convention as plans develop. Just reserve the dates right now.

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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.

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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.

Woodriff's Fairyland Begonia Hybrids. List 25¢. Visitors welcome. Leslie & Winkey Woodriff, Fairyland Begonia & Lily Garden, 1100 Griffith Rd., McKinleyville, CA 95521. (707) 839-3034.

CULTURAL HINTS FOR OCTOBER

By Henry Myers, Westchester Branch Newsletter

If your begonias have slowed down in growth it is because of the shorter days in which to manufacture food. Also the sun is moving south and some plants are now in a shadow. Less light means slower growth and fewer flowers.

On the other hand if a plant was in a location with too much light during the summer, weaker light, more shade and shorter days may produce more attractive foliage. We must be continually observing the light situation and make adjustments by moving the plant or changing the shading. In some areas rains are counted on to wash off some white-wash shading from glasshouses. I could remove some lath shading strips on my greenhouse (50% shade is nailed down, 25% is loose). If you use shade cloth you could take down the summer set and put up a fall set, changing from 63% shade to 50% shade.

Cooler temperatures may be preferred by some of your begonias and may result in better growth. Take inventory of their responses. If your tuberous begonias have ceased flowering it is from too little light or food. If you want to close shop on them for this year, withhold water and set them aside until the leaves and stems fall off of the tuber (often takes two months). If it rains, lay the pots on their sides before the rain soaks the tuber. Cane stemmed begonias have a lot of flowering left in them if they have enough light. Keep an eye out for mildew. Benlate or Cooke's Doo Spray will kill it. (Possibly Lysol

spray also.) Keep removing spent flowers if you want to keep up the flowering.

If you do any repotting now don't increase the pot size much. If there is room add new soil to the top instead of repotting. As a general rule, repot only when plants are in active growth and they have the chance to continue to grow for a while. You may have a sick plant that has been overpotted. In this case remove soil and roots and place the plant in a smaller pot.

October is a good month to take cuttings and start new plants. In the case of tip cuttings select those without flowers. Begonias don't put out new growth from joints that have flowers. This is a good time to start rexes from your old ones. The more light on your cuttings the faster they root.

GALLOPING BEGONIAS

(Continued from page 265)
much to my delight, received a hero's welcome.

But of course, you don't go to a miniconvention like that and come home empty-handed. Maxine and I fully indulged ourselves while there. It was then that my traveling companion threw me a curve. "Let's go home the long way, Kit — and stop at all the antique shops along the way." She didn't have to twist my arm, but with each stop across Texas, our poor plants got buried deeper and deeper inside bureau drawers and wardrobes. Getting home was a real adventure.

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Linda Miller, Director

- OT 1 — *B. epipsila*: Brazil. Low-growing, shrub-like, with roundish fleshy leaves, green above and red underneath. Flowers white. Germination time: 8-10 days. per pkt 1.00
- OT 2 — *B. hypolipara*: Honduras. Rhizomatous; leaves dull green, thick, soft, oval, entire, to 20 inches long. Fairly large white flowers in winter. Germination time: 9-15 days. per pkt 1.00
- OT 3 — Unidentified New Guinea species: Recently collected *Begonia*, Lae species, collected in a track near Gamwabila, New Guinea. Should prove interesting. Germination time: 10 days. per pkt 1.00
- OT 4 — *B. pringlei*: Costa Rica. Small rhizomatous plant. Leaves are lobed, small, angular, covered with white hairs. Flowers white. Germination time: 12 days. per pkt 1.00
- OT 5 — *B. sharpeana*: New Guinea. The "Omati" *Begonia*, described in the August issue. Rhizomatous, striking brown rays on leaves. Flower buds red, opening to pale pink. Very special! Germination time: 4-25 days. per pkt 1.00
- OT 6 — *B. vitifolia grandis*: Brazil. Large leaved, thick stemmed, leaves green, toothed, almost leathery. Flowers in abundance, white. Germination time: 11 days. per pkt 1.00

HYBRIDS

- OT 7 — *B. 'Butterfly'*: semperflorens type, mixed colors. Start now for winter and spring bloom indoors. per pkt .50
- OT 8 — *B. 'Paris Market'*: semperflorens with very large leaves. Makes a lovely pot or bedding plant. Easy to grow. per pkt .50

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- "*Begonias from Seeds — Sowing and Growing*"\$.25
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The San Gabriel Valley Branch Show Winners

The Sweepstakes Peggy McGrath Perpetual Memorial Trophy was won by Mabel Corwin. The plant designated as Best in Show was *Begonia* 'Richard Robinson' which also won a cultural certificate for Mrs. Corwin.

The San Gabriel Valley Branch Perpetual Trophy for the Best Species Begonia exhibited was awarded to Cecelia Grivich for an unidentified Guatamala species. Her specimen *Begonia acida* was the winner of the Mr. and Mrs. Irving Wilson Memorial Perpetual Trophy for the Best Begonia in Cultivation 25 Years or more. Cecelia Grivich received cultural certificates for both these plants.

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY August 28, 1978

President Richardson called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 7:55 P.M. in the South Gate Auditorium. After the pledge of allegiance led by Pearl Benell, Paul Lee read the Aims and Purposes.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as printed. The secretary read correspondence. After reading the Show Committee report, the Board passed a motion that the following persons be given tickets for the banquet: Speaker, President and wife, Incoming President and wife, and the Master of Ceremonies. Also that the committee revise the show rules to make these details clear for future conventions before next year.

Gil Estrada reported opening balance of \$749.83, receipts of \$1,463.02, disbursements of \$408.61, leaving a balance of \$1,804.41. \$826.00 of this balance is earmarked for Curtis reprints. These figures are for period ending July 31st. Bill Walton made a motion to transfer \$1,000.00 from the Special Account to the general funds. Passed

Mr. Walton stated he has been busy sending out stationery.

Phyllis Bates showed a sample of the Curtis prints. She said they would be ready for the Convention; the translation of the Japanese book would be on sale too.

Marge Lee reported \$25.31 sales, expenses of \$13.63, leaving a balance of \$11.77 for judges courses. Since there was some question about the show schedule, a motion was passed unanimously that for National Shows, the schedule must be reviewed and approved by the Judges Committee.

Mabel Corwin, Round Robin Director, reported 27 flights came in despite vacation interruptions. There will be a special registration list for Robins at the Convention.

The Library for new books will have books at the Show, as well as signs, emblems, pins. A motion was passed to accept the offer of the Los Angeles Arboretum to store the show plant racks. A motion was passed to give complementary copies of the Japanese translation to Mr. Misono, Dr. DeCola, Mr. Arakawa, and the Bateses. Due to the change in postal rates, the listing in the *Begonian* will have to be changed, so that postage is included. A thanks was extended to Phyllis Bates for typing the Bylaws.

Marge Lee announced that Mary Dunnell of Seattle is a new sophomore judge. Membership reported 168 memberships

processed, 3,372 members in good standing this month, and \$1,063.50 in receipts.

Each officer is supposed to give a written report for the Convention.

Historian, Frances Estrada, reported that the book is taking shape.

The Seed Fund had \$204.30 in receipts for the month.

Ralph Corwin stated that the Bylaws will be printed in the September *Begonian*, and thanked the committee for their help.

The following committees were approved by the Board: Committee to update classification, Jean Kerlin, Chairman; Committee to compile show information for National Shows, Thelma O'Reilly, Chairman; Committee of entries and classification, Cecelia Grivich, Chairman.

During the branch reports, it was brought to the attention of the Board that Walter Hansen of Ventura passed away this month. He was a former vice president of the society, and helped with many shows and events.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10.

Virginia J. Barnett, secretary

Festival of Fall Beauties

The Rubidoux Branch will present the 19th annual Flower Show along with the West Riverside Garden Club in Rubidoux, October 21 and 22 at the West Riverside Memorial Hall. There will be a plant sale and educational exhibits. The hours are 2 to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Mr. Robert Terrell, National Director for the Rubidoux Branch, has been active in the ABS for at least thirty years. In his annual report he mentioned that the branch has increased its membership 37% recently by publicizing that begonias can be grown in a semi-desert environment.

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BRANCH DIRECTORY

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ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members
Betty Cooper, Pres.
4444 Arista Dr., San Diego, CA 92103

BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Waltham Field Sta.
241 Beaver St., Waltham, MA
Anthony P. Croce, Pres.
24 Saxon Terrace, Newton, MA 02161

CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN BRANCH

Dr. William Ireton, Pres.
1702 Camino Primavera, Bakersfield, CA 93306

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Monday, Home of Members
Mrs. Arline Peck, Pres.
Eagle Peak Rd., Pascoag, RI 02859

DENTON BRANCH

Sharon Nied, Pres.
1418 Dogwood Trail, Lewisville, TX 75067

DESERT BEGONIA BRANCH

Barbara Rogers, Pres.
8508 Shasta Dr., Tucson, AZ 85730

EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Northbrea Community Church, Berkeley, Ca.
Lloyd Olson, Pres.
1244 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611

EASTERN NEW YORK BRANCH

Betty Pullar, Pres.
411 New Karner Rd., Albany, NY 11205

EASTSIDE BEGONIA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Dale Greer, Pres.
1704 212th Ave. S.E., Issaquah, WA 98027

EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Phipps Conservatory
Suzanne Colaizzi, Pres.
5329 Stanton Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206

ELSA FORT BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Marion Buck, Pres.
420 Park Blvd., Moorestown, NJ 08057

GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
New Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford, Garden Grove, CA 92643
Walter Jungkeit, Pres.
822 N. Lenz Dr., Anaheim, CA 92805

GERALDINE DALY BEGONIA BRANCH

GLENDAL BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand
Dolores Fernandez, Pres.
4369 Tujunga Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91604

GREATER CHICAGO AREA BRANCH

3rd Sunday each mo. except July, Aug., Dec., 2 p.m.
Oak Park Conservatory
561 Garfield, Oak Park, IL
Howard G. Berg, Pres.
17 Oak Ridge Lane, Barrington, IL 60010

GREATER CINCINNATI BRANCH

Erich Steiniger, Pres.
208 Beechpoint Dr., Oxford, OH 45056

GREATER ROCHESTER BRANCH

Third Sunday, Members' homes
Betty Fennell, Pres.
1054 Shoemaker Rd., Webster, NY 14580

HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m.
Parrish Memorial Hall, Southampton, NY
Audrey Hanzman, Pres.
18 Knoll Road, Southampton, NY 11968

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

4th Monday, 1:00 p.m., Garden Center
1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Pres.
5926 Jackwood St., Houston, TX 77074

JACKSONVILLE BRANCH

2nd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Members' homes
James D. Koon, Pres.
5443 Allamanda Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32210

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Horticultural Society of New York
128 West 58th St., New York
Marjorie L. Mack, Pres.
75 Henry St., Brooklyn, NY 11201

LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Community Room
Great Western S & L
6300 E. Spring St., Long Beach
Mrs. C. R. Davis, Pres.
5826 Barbanel St., Long Beach, CA 90815

LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Planting Fields Arboretum
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
Annette Boree, Pres.
8 Brown Rd., Great Neck, NY 11024

MESQUITE BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Members homes
Dorothy Taylor, Pres.
2518 Spring Hill, Dallas, TX 75228

MIAMI BRANCH

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

MINNESOTA BRANCH

Quentin Johnson, Pres.
3509 Ivy Pl., Wayzata, MN 55391

MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts., New Monterey, Calif.
Don Englund, Pres.
1111 Harrison, Monterey, CA 93940

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Mercury Savings and Loan Assn.
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach
D. T. Sullinger, Pres.
7238 Irvinggrove Dr., Downey, CA 90241

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Fullerton S & L, 2310 E. Lincoln Ave., Anaheim
Cruz Sandoval, Pres.
2221 Evelyn Dr., Anaheim, CA 92805

PALMETTO BRANCH

Arlene Waynick, Pres.
100 Dexter Dr., Taylors, SC 29687

PALOMAR BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Vista Recreation Center
Eleanor Calkins, Pres.
910 Fern St., Escondido, CA 92027

PORTLAND BRANCH

Alma Kintrea, Pres.
3728 S. E. 76th Ave., Portland, OR 97206

POTOMAC BRANCH

4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Falls Church
Recreation Cntr., Great Falls & Little Falls Sts.
Falls Church, VA
Maxine Zinman, Pres.
Rte 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m.
 R. H. Dana School Cafeteria
 135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.
 Diane Fries, Pres.
 3531 Crickwood, Torrance, CA 90505

RUBIDOUX BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., West Riverside Mem. Hall
 4393 Riverview Dr., Rubidoux, CA
 Glenda Elin, Pres.
 5390 Camino Real, Riverside, CA 92509

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
 3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
 Betty Tillotson, Pres.
 3912 Wildrose Way, Sacramento, CA 95826

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS

4th Monday 1:30 p.m., Homes of Members
 Mrs. Sam Gilmore, Pres.
 536 Crestwood Rd., Salina, KS 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
 Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
 Carol Clements, Pres.
 212 Godhall Rd., Kentfield, CA 94904

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
 Elizabeth Stuart, Pres.
 1002 Oakleaf Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Casa del Prado Rm. 104, Balboa Park, San Diego
 Pat Maley, Pres.
 1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
 Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center
 1232 De la Vina St.
 Rudolf Ziesenhenn, Pres.
 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
 Norah Rogers, Pres.
 C. L. Sayers, Secy.
 363 Ridge Ave., San Jose 95127

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave., N.E.
 Barbara Crick, Pres.
 2845-140th NE, Bellevue, WA 98005

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Mosher Field House
 430 South 156th, Burien, WA
 Louis A. Pompeo, Pres.
 423 S. W. 178th Pl., Seattle, WA 98166

TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH

3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
 University of So. Florida, Student Chapel Bldg.
 Dora Lee Dorsey, Pres.
 8110 N. Edison Ave., Tampa, FL 33604

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Bank of Fort Worth

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St.
 Ventura, CA
 Velma Montgomery, Pres.
 433 Arnett Ave., Ventura, CA 93003

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Katherine Belz, Pres.
 1500 East Oak Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. every month
 Northway Mall Community Room
 North Hills, Pittsburgh, PA
 Genevieve Allison, Pres.
 221 Schaffner Rd., Butler, PA 16001

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Palm Park Community Center
 5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier
 Gertrude Blackstock, Pres.
 15311 Elmbrook Drive, La Mirada, CA 90628

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members
 Mrs. Edward Sohler
 51 Howellville Rd., Berwyn, PA 19312

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BRANCH LISTING

The Branch Directory has been revised to include the latest information that has been received from the branches. In most cases, the name and address of the president is given. Any changes in the listing should be reported to the ABB secretary immediately. The Branch Directory will appear in January. Deadline is December 1.

The Board of Directors will meet October 23 at South Gate Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Election Results

The Ballot Counting Committee met September 9 and announced the following candidates were elected to serve 1978-9:

President, Nathan Randall
 President-Elect, Gilbert Estrada
 1st Vice Pres., Ralph Corwin
 2nd Vice Pres., Douglas Frost
 Secretary, Virginia Barnett
 Treasurer, Eleanor Calkins
 Virginia Barnett, Chm.

Judging Course

A series of workshops designed to assist members in the Southern California area to obtain their sophomore judging cards will be sponsored by the San Gabriel Valley Branch. Walter Barnett, the leader of the workshop, requests that interested persons call him since arrangements will be made to suit the convenience of the group. His phone number is (213) 336-8635. Persons planning to participate should obtain the judging materials from the Judging Course Chairman, Margaret Lee, as soon as possible in order to start with the first session to be held in October.

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