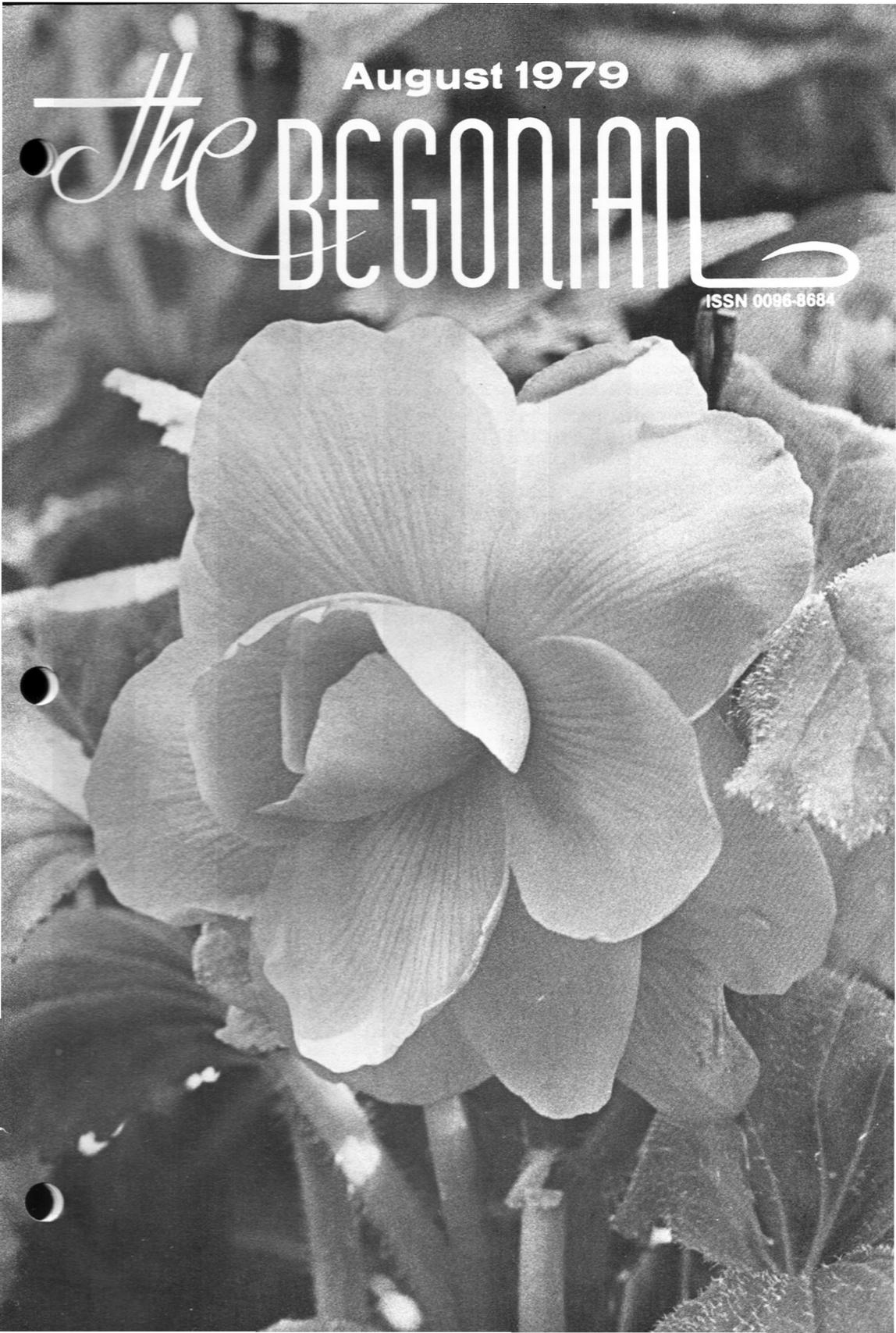


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The BEGONIAN

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The BEGONIAN

Publication of the American Begonia Society

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AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

Aims and purposes

TO stimulate and promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants.

TO encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants.

TO standardize the nomenclature of begonias.

TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and companion plants.

TO issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the society.

TO bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

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THE COVER: A roseform upright tuberous begonia flower. See tuberous begonia stories listed below.

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NOTES/From the editors

The response of branches and individuals to President Nate Randall's plea for donations to help ABS and *The Begonian* has been overwhelming. One individual anonymously donated \$1,000 and others are sending donations now because their membership renewal is months away.

President Randall and Treasurer Eleanor Calkins find this outpouring "incredible." We are overwhelmed, too, since so much of this support is directed specifically at *The Begonian* and we're now responsible for keeping it a worthwhile and enjoyable publication. Your response is, we believe, a tribute to Ed and Phyllis Bates' hard work the last five years building this journal.

To our anonymous benefactor: your generosity makes possible a return to color covers in September. We're deeply appreciative of your support.



Elda Haring wants us to ask you to send her questions to answer in the Question Box column. Since it takes a few months before the answer appears in *The Begonian*, she always sends a personal reply.



You've probably found the ballot

that's enclosed. Member interest in past elections has not been too great. You'd be helping the cause of society democracy if you took a few minutes to read the report of the nominating committee on page 196, mark the ballot, and send it along.



We've had to move editorial and advertising deadlines back two weeks for financial and production reasons. Please get editorial or advertising copy in by Sept. 15 for the November issue. Ads should go to the new ad manager, Pam Mundell (see page 199).



Organizers of the ABS Big Apple convention have set up a superb schedule of events. One speaker we're acquainted with is Charles Marden Fitch. He spoke at a garden writers symposium we organized several years ago at Stanford University. Few western writers knew anything about him, and some didn't bother to get out of bed early enough Sunday morning to hear his presentation. Boy, were they sorry when they heard how interesting and dynamic he was.

Now, about this dance Saturday night. Chuck is the quintessential wallflower so I'll be available!

—K.B.

Tuberous begonias: ins, outs of top growers

Alice McGrath Gold and Isadore C. Gold

The begonia family is large, diversified, and varied—there are more than 1,000 known species and they come from tropical parts of the world.

We were introduced to this family in 1959 when taking a night horticulture course at San Francisco City College. We met two members of ABS' San Francisco Branch who were trying like us to improve the output of their garden. Since that time, it has been a challenge to both of us to grow perfect begonias.

The branch of the begonia family of which we are particularly fond is the tuberous group—the classification called Tuberhybrida. They are magnificent plants with large, colorful, showy blooms that come into full color for the summer and make our garden—any garden—a delightful paradise. It is when our tuberous begonias are in full bloom that we most enjoy visitors to our garden.

San Francisco is an ideal place in which to grow tuberous begonias because of the cool, foggy conditions. Yet, enthusiasts living in even hot, dry climates have managed to produce creditable tuberous plants by simulating the humidity and broken shade these plants love.

Here is a rundown on the kinds of tuberous begonias, how we grow them and where we get ours.



Begonias come in nearly all colors—light pink, heavy red shades; cool yellows, lovely apricot, deep orange, and pure white. The exception is blue—and the hybridizers are working on this.

UPRIGHT TUBEROUS BEGONIAS grow one or two stout stems that hold prominent, spectacular blooms often eight inches and sometimes more across. They are categorized by flower forms, which range from simple single types (such as *cris-tata*) to the very large doubles (such as rose form or ruffled). A blossom edged in a second color is referred to as a *picotee*.

MULTIFLORA BEGONIAS are round, compact plants with many

Alice and Isadore Gold of 120 Corona St., San Francisco, CA 94127, are two of the most energetic, dedicated, and gracious gardeners you'll ever meet. They've spent countless hours over the years sharing their tuberous expertise with others, and furthering the cause of the San Francisco Branch.



PHOTO/BROWN BULB RANCH

A *picotee* tuberous begonia flower is marked with a petal edge of a contrasting color.



PHOTO/BROWN BULB RANCH

A well-grown pendula begonia may hide the pot behind its numerous flowers.

small blooms in red, yellow, orange, and apricot shades. These plants take the same conditions and feeding as uprights.

PENDULA BEGONIAS. come in the same lovely colors. They, too, have a cool, moist, airy, shady exposure. They are heavy feeders. After they are established plants, putting on a lot of growth, we feed every week with the same fertilizers. We pinch back the plants for more stems, letting them set more blooms. At the height of the season you can hardly see their pots so dense are the blooms and foliage. These begonias are grown in hanging basket pots outdoors. They are under an overhang where air, sun, and the lovely fog give them grand growing conditions. They were brought here from the Andean high-

lands of South America where low temperatures prevail, so they like our low night temperatures.



SOIL MIX—We compost last year's soil mix in the sun and rain and cold weather during winter. We also put new oak leaf mold out in the weather to help break it down.

STARTING TUBERS—We place our tubers in flats of the moistened, broken-down oak leaf mold when the pink growth buds appear. Their labels are also put in beside the tubers. We keep a record of the tubers on the markers—when bought, from whom, and date bought. We cover the tops of the tubers with about one inch of leaf mold as roots form from the tops as well as the bottoms and sides of the tubers. We keep them moist, not

wet, at all times until they are three to five inches high, when we pot them up.

POTTING—We use a mix of one-half last year's potting soil plus one-half new, broken-down oak leaf mold and about one tablespoon crushed eggshells and one tablespoon bone meal and a sprinkling of rose dust per pot. The upright plant is placed to the back of the pot with the points of the leaves facing the front of the pot. We put a stake in the back of the plant at this time. There is a front and a back to each plant! The front of the plant is the way the leaves point—all blooms will face the same direction the leaves point.

FERTILIZING—We feed our potted upright tuberous plants every other week with fish emulsion, one tablespoon to a gallon of water. After they are established plants about six to eight inches high and starting to form buds, we feed with a high-phosphorous fertilizer plus fish emulsion, one tablespoon of each to a gallon of water. These plants must be staked and tied as the blooms become very heavy and care must be taken so the stem does not break away from the tuber.

PREVENTATIVE CARE—We use powdered garden sulphur on the soil surface to help prevent mildew and spray the foliage with Doo Spray or Mildont as a secondary measure. We watch carefully for mildew, the primary bane of tuberous begonia growers.

CUTTINGS are taken of all our plants—just in case our favorite tuber doesn't wake up next year. We leave two stems to a tuber per pot. We remove all other growth and make cuttings in spring. We use three-inch pots filled with oak leaf mold, make a hole

in the center which we fill with sand. We insert the cutting and firm it in, one stem to a pot. No fertilizer is used. We place them under the bench in the cool shade and keep them moist. We also put a label in each pot showing the date of the cutting and the name of the plant. When the cutting shows growth, we move it up to the bench and start a regular feeding program. When making cuttings, care must be taken not to overwater.

WINTER REST—Tuberous begonias die back during winter, losing their foliage as they become dormant. The tubers must be cleaned and cured in the sun before storing them in a dry, dark, cool place until about February of the next year. It is at this time that the tuber rests and renews itself, getting ready for another show of color.

MOVING AIR—All begonias must have good air circulation, but not wind! We keep an automatic electric fan going in our glasshouse where our upright tubers are raised, to move the air. It is on a timer from about 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Movement of air is very important in keeping mildew spores from settling on the plants.



We don't bother buying "sale" or "bargain" tubers. We have found through experience that the very best tubers we can buy give us the blue ribbon plants we desire. A poor tuber takes as much care, attention, and room as a good one—and they do not produce those lovely blooms. We buy our begonias from various sources.

Antonelli Brothers, 2545 Capitola Rd., Santa Cruz, Calif, 95062, is an old firm presided over by Pat Antonelli and specializing in begonias, plus many other garden and house plants.

The brothers received their training while working and growing at other begonia nurseries. In the 1930s they established their own business and have attained fame for not only their beautiful begonias but the quality of plants. They have worked for improvement in form, color and substance of begonias, introducing named varieties and participating in culture and breeding. They grow from seed and supply many nurseries and growers with seedling plants.

Blackmore & Langdon, Ltd., Bath, Pensford, Bristol, England—Charles

Langdon received his early training as a gardener on a large estate and in this way had his first contact with begonias. He was so fascinated with this new plant that he grew thousands of seedling plants every year! James Blackmore was studying to be an engineer when he inherited an inn. He loved flowers and built a greenhouse on the grounds and started raising begonias along with other flowers. This hobby took up more and more of his time. He became so fascinated with the “new” species that he issued a price list and sold his plants to others



Frilly edges mark this as a ruffled form upright tuberous begonia.

Planted in a partially shaded bed, upright tuberous begonias can provide a stunning display.



PHOTO/BROWN BULB RANCH

who also became interested in this new species.

Langdon and Blackmore became friends and finally decided to go into partnership in a nursery. In 1901 they established Blackmore and Langdon, Ltd., at Twerton, Bath, England. They purchased and exchanged seeds and plants with other growers and started trying to develop a double flowered upright begonia. They were elated when they attained a four-inch double flower, even though the form was not good. Then came a seven-inch double flower with better form—and the ultimate beauty we know today with perfect form, color and stamina. Brian Langdon, who now heads the firm, represents the founding family's third generation. The name "Blackmore & Langdon" is a very important and honored one in Europe.

Brown Bulb Ranch, Santa Cruz, Calif.—Worth Brown, a native of Healdsburg, Calif., from childhood was interested in bulbs. He travelled with his father to Europe's bulb fields and all over the United States, studying types of bulbs and their culture. His business in Santa Cruz is one of the largest wholesale growers of tuberous begonias. Brown does much hybridiz-

ing and is responsible for many tubers sold in retail outlets. In addition, Worth Brown's hobby is gardening and he is working constantly on the improvement of colors, forms and stamina of tuberous begonias.

Carmel Valley Begonia Gardens on Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley, Calif.—Owner-hybridizer N. Hanssens specializes in begonias and also handles other plants. His stock is excellent and he hybridizes plants with blooms of excellent form and colors. The substance of his plants is improving all the time. He furnishes many begonias grown in the Carmel-Monterey area.

Vetterle & Reinelt, Watsonville, Calif., was founded by Frank Reinelt, a refugee from Hungary, in the 1920s in Capitola, Calif. As a very young man, he met J. L. and Everett Vetterle, who had an established nursery in Santa Cruz. Frank was a trained horticulturist and the Vetterles hired him as their hybridizer. Later they formed a partnership. Frank spent many years trying to improve the upright and pendula forms. He made great strides. It was a thrill to visit this nursery before Reinelt retired a few years ago to a warmer climate. It was sold to a wholesale concern.

Yes, tuberous begonias can grow in the East

Louis T. Padavan

Tuberous begonias are easy to grow in New York state, where I do it, providing one follows exactly the requirements. If tubers are neither frozen nor dried out, you should have little trouble.

If the tubers did freeze, they will be soft and mushy when they thaw. Dried-out tubers are easy to spot because they are extremely hard, and, if nicked, show yellowish, coarse plup under the skin. Few tubers have ever been found with dead eyes.

If the tubers don't grow, they probably have been given too much water. If only one grows, the others have had too much water or they are just "late starters." Not all tubers come up at once, a point neglected by inexperienced or impatient gardeners.

The size of the tuber is not important, but it should be thick. Almost all come from Belgium and California, the latter considered by most people to be the superior tubers.

The following points should make culture a little easier:

Start tubers as soon as you receive them. Those saved from last year should be started in late February. Tubers started after April 25 will produce plants too late to be of consequence.

Soiless mixes seem to be the best medium for starting tubers. A potting mix made of equal parts peat moss and vermiculite seems to work best. Ordinary peat from Canada must be

Louis T. Padavan, president of the ABS Hampton Branch, grows tuberous begonias on Shore Road, Remsenburg, NY 11960, despite the notion they cannot be grown in the East. This article is adapted from a talk he gave to his branch as reported in the branch newsletter, The Twiglette.

Tuberous begonias aren't solely a California phenomenon. They can be grown in less temperate climates if their culture is adapted for different conditions.—Editors

screened and only the heaviest part used. The best peat is from Germany, but it is expensive and hard to find.

To every five pounds of the mix, add a pinch of powdered trace elements, a level teaspoon of 5-10-5 fertilizer and a level tablespoon of lime. (*Lime is not recommended in the west.—Editors*)

Tubers should be spaced evenly in a flat about four inches apart. Cover the tubers with one-half inch of starting mix. This is a necessary step because tubers root from the top as well as the bottom and sides.

The concave top of the tuber where buds develop should be placed upward. Water carefully — maintain moisture, but not soginess. Place the flat in strong light, but not direct sun. Bottom heat of 65-70 degrees F. will hasten growth.

When the first two leaves are developed equally, transplant to a four-inch pot or an outdoor bed if the danger of frost has passed. In transplanting, lift tubers carefully, with all roots and medium attached.

Beautiful, compact plants will result if you give them lots of light but no direct sun, dampness without wetness, and heat. When roots have filled the four-inch pot, move the plant up to a 7- to 10-inch container.

A bed should contain one-half leaf mold, one-fourth sand, and one-fourth native soil.

Face plants with the leaf point to the front. That's the direction the

flowers will face. Never overwater.

When an upright plant is four to six inches tall, insert a stout 18- to 20-inch stake into the potting soil opposite the leaf points and tie loosely with soft plastic tape.

When growth is active, fertilize monthly with a water-soluble 20-20-20 fertilizer, a half-tablespoon to a gallon of water. You are fertilizing too much if leaves roll under and too little if leaves are yellow-green.

Tuberous begonias are subject to powdery mildew, which can be controlled with a fungicide containing benomyl.

Let plants grow through November or until frost. Then let them go dormant. Dig bedded plants with earth ball intact and dry them in a shed.

When foliage drops away from tuber of its own accord, wash tuber and cure in the sun for four days until hard and dry. Store tubers in dry sand

in open flats in a cool, dry place. Re-plant in February.

Hanging or "pendula" begonias require the same culture except that in addition they should have shallower containers or moss-lined wire baskets. *{Wire baskets are not used by many gardeners in the west because the lower humidity there makes them dry out too quickly.—Editors}*

Tubers that do not produce more than two shoots should have tips pinched out when the first buds appear. This will make them bushy.

Water carefully—they should become neither soggy nor dry. Baskets should be hung in locations free of wind. Like other begonias, they need light but not direct sun.

It is generally best to grow one plant per basket. If using three tubers, make sure the pot is big enough, otherwise the plants will become root-bound.

Propagating tuberous begonias by cutting

Charles Tusler

If you can grow a tuberous begonia, you can propagate it.

Break off a new shoot right where it joins the tuber. Some people dust the cut section of tuber with sulphur, but I don't. The cutting may have a few roots on it, which will help it get started on its own.

Dip the cut end into a rooting compound. Insert the cutting—which should have one or two leaves on it—into sand, vermiculite, or loose potting soil to root further.

This advice on propagation is from The Begonia Chatter newsletter, based on a talk by Charles Tusler at the Seattle Branch. Charlie grows more than 100 tuberous begonias in a lathhouse at 1777 14th NW, Seattle, WA 98177.

Pot it into a small pot, about a four-inch container, when it has a healthy root ball. Move it into a larger pot only if it outgrows its current one.

You must not let the new plant go dormant the first winter because it will have not formed a tuber to store "food" until spring. Instead, bring it indoors in fall and keep it either on a window sill or under the bench in the greenhouse.

Propagating in this manner has several advantages—you can get more plants of your favorites, start a new plant if a tuber is getting too old to trust, and simply increase your collection.

I do it this way and succeed in starting about 90% of those I try.

Easy to grow: everblooming B. 'Ginny'

Elda Haring

B. 'Ginny' is a handsome begonia, very easy to grow, yet does not seem to be well known. This cultivar was originated by Watchorn by crossing *B. echinosepela* and *B. 'Margaritae'*.

Classified as shrub-like, hairy, with narrow leaves, it is almost everblooming. The pink flowers with dark red hairs on the outer petals are a beautiful contrast to the velvety dark red leaves which grow to about 4 inches long and 1½ inches wide.

Naturally bushy and tall-growing, it will grow to 18 inches in a seven-inch pot.

As my space is limited, I grow B. 'Ginny' in a five-inch pot. Every other year, the plant is root pruned by removing it from the pot, cutting off the bottom one-third of the root ball, and replacing it in the same size pot with fresh potting mix on the bottom and topped with the fresh mix.

The plant is kept to about 10 inches in height by removing the newest unfurled leaf. As the blossom clusters appear on the ends of the stems this must be done carefully so as not to disturb these buds.

Illustrations of this kind of pruning can be seen in the January 1972 *Begonian*, Volume III of the *Thompson Begonia Guide*, or *Begonias for Beginners*.

My plant of B. 'Ginny' flowers from March to September, at which time I take stem cuttings about four to five inches long.

Three to four of these cuttings are placed in a three-inch pot of propa-



PHOTO/ED AND MILLIE THOMPSON from THE THOMPSON BEGONIA GUIDE, VOL. III

B. 'Ginny'

gating mix rather close together and, when firmly rooted, fed each time they are watered with six drops of Schultz Instant fertilizer to a quart of water.

When the pots are full of roots, the plants are repotted to four- or five-inch pots of my favorite potting mix.

These little plants are excellent for windowsill growing or under fluorescent lights during the winter. In the greenhouse, which is kept at 56 degrees F. minimum, they do not put on new growth until the warmer weather of April when the lovely flowers soon appear.

B. 'Ginny' is not at all fussy about potting mixes for in experimenting with this begonia I find it does as well in a heavy mix containing some topsoil as it does in one of those loose soilless mixes.

If your collection includes mostly canes or rhizomatous kinds you might want to obtain some of the many lovely shrub-like begonias not only for contrast but to add to your knowledge of our favorite plants.

Elda Haring is the author of *Begonias for Beginners*, available from the ABS Bookstore.

A historic look at semi-tuberous begonias

Alice M. Clark

Closely related to tuberous begonias are these semi-tuberous species and cultivars.

B. dregei, from Natal, South Africa, has a thick brown root, a knobby, swollen base stalk and thickened lower joints aboveground. It grows a bushy two feet high. Dark maple-like bronze-green leaves are its main feature. Stems are pink-brown with nearly purple veins and a red axil. Male flowers have two white petals, female flowers five.

B. sutherlandii, also from Natal, has a very large tuber. In the fall, small bulbils appear in the leaf axils. The few large leaves in the sketch are bright yellow-green, unevenly divided by a red rib. Round, notched lobes feather down to a long point, all copper-salmon. When the latter fall, a decorative pod, with wings of russet-red and green, extends over every cluster.

In 1865, *B. 'Weltonensis'* was hybridized from *B. sutherlandii* and *B. dregei*. It has the height, flower form and bright green color of *B. sutherlandii*, but the leaves are wider and not squared off. Except for the tip, it is less notched than *B. dregei*. Leaf veins are inconspicuous, faintly red in front and back. Many bright pink bloom clusters held upright are enhanced by two rose-colored seed pods.

Leslie Woodriff crossed *B. 'Lucerna'* with *B. sutherlandii* in about 1935. Now called *B. 'Lulandii'*, the hybrid is

Alice M. Clark of 3634 Jennings St., San Diego, CA 92106, painted this illustration for *The Begonian* in 1945. It is reproduced in color in her book, *Begonia Portraits*, from which the descriptions are adapted. Copyright © 1977 by Alice M. Clark.

one-sided like the species. It is similar in height, bushiness and leaf color but is a little shorter and wider. Flowers are a larger, warmer pink than *B. 'Weltonensis'*, with less red stems. It is partly dormant in winter.

A South African species found in 1871 was named *B. richardsiana*, but now is identified as *B. suffruticosa*. It is semi-tuberous, knobby at the stem bases with light brown, succulent branches and petioles. It grows more than two feet tall, a shower of lacy, rich green leaves dripping with clusters of white flowers, somewhat smaller than *B. dregei*, but the same in form and number. Leaves are lighter on the back, except for red dents at the deeply incised notches of the lobes.

Among the material passed on to the current editors is a valuable set of zinc printer's engravings of Alice Clark's famous begonia drawings. In the 1940s, Alice wrote articles and drew the pictures for *The Begonian*.

In those days of letterpress printing, every photograph or drawing used in the magazine had to be etched onto a zinc plate. The engraving was inked along with the metal type and the images printed directly onto the page.

Progress, alas, has reached even *The Begonian*. It is now printed by photo-offset lithography, which accounts for the usual full-color covers. But one fine old tradition remains—*The Begonian* is still typeset with slugs of "hot" metal instead of the modern phototypesetting methods that produce print on photographic paper to be pasted up into page form.

The illustrations in Alice's recent book were reproduced directly from her original paintings, and it was printed on a modern offset press.

This illustration, and, in fact, the whole collection of 1940s engravings, is of historic importance in terms of both printing technology and begonia lore.

Almost all of the original engravings were first used in *The Begonian* before the birth of one of your current editors. We hope you don't think it's too soon to reprint one occasionally.—Editors



B. Dregei
Otto et Dietrich



B. Sutherlandii,
Hook, fil.



B. Lucerna x B. Sutherlandii,
Woodriff



B. x Weltoniense
Hort, Clarke



B. Richardsiana,
Moore

SO. AFRICAN

SPECIES AND HYBRIDS

Alice Clark '95

The nomenclature on these five semi-tuberous begonias has changed since the above engraving was made from Alice Clark's paintings in 1945. Current usage requires *B. Dregei* and *B. Sutherlandii* to be *B. dregei* and *B. sutherlandii*. *B. Lucerna x B. Sutherlandii* has been named *B. 'Lulandii'*. *B. x Weltoniense* is now *B. 'Weltonensis'*. *B. Richardsiana* has been renamed *B. suffruticosa*.

Mabel Corwin

Many begonia hobbyists like to keep records with information about their plants. Dorothy Collman, Mississippi, reports:

I've started keeping a file box with a card for each begonia I have. I have put the correct name, its parents, the hybridizer, and date if known. Also, the horticultural class it falls under, when it blooms and the color, plus anything else I might learn about it in reading or growing. It is easy to make notes on the back of the card.

Records on the calendar

Dottie Lillstrand, Minnesota, keeps records this way:

I have a calendar (one with a space for each day) where I enter the high and low temperature, sunny or cloudy, precipitation, and what I've done with my plants. I started the temperature and precipitation routine as I couldn't remember about frost dates. Also, I note when I see a bird that has just arrived for the summer.

Growing, shipping tips

Paul Lowe, Florida, shared these tips on growing and shipping:

1. Don't spend a lot of money on potting mixes. It is not necessary to use a mix containing all the ingredients the distributors would have you believe are necessary. Begonias are very undemanding. Give them a good, loose mix and use a liquid fertilizer half-strength every two weeks and they will thrive.

I use this mix for both my pots and

Mabel Corwin, round robin director, will send a newly revised flight list and other information about joining a round robin—a packet of letters circulated among begonia lovers—if you write to her at 1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista, CA 92083.

hanging baskets: one part German peat moss (not Michigan or Canadian peat), one part perlite, and a light sprinkling of dolomite (ground limestone). Mix the ingredients thoroughly and wet down well the night before using. German peat is hard to moisten, so it is better to let it stand overnight before using.

2. Don't be in a hurry to throw away a flat of seeds that have not germinated. I have had the experience of reseeding a flat, only to have the first-sown seeds germinate later in the same flat. This causes confusion, especially if you have sown the seeds of a new hybrid.

3. When shipping cuttings, do not close the plastic bag tightly. If no air gets in, the cuttings will rot. I wrap a bit of wet absorbent cotton around the stems of cuttings, wrap them in a piece of saran or a small plastic bag (around the stems only) and place in a larger plastic bag which is left open at the top. This is then securely packed in the shipping box with dry newspaper.

Started cuttings

Carolyn Collman, California, prefers to start cuttings in individual pots in a covered container, gradually hardening them off as the plants grow. She uses potting mix in the bottom of the pot and propagating medium on top.

In her potting mix she uses equal parts Jungle Growth Potting Mix, oak leaf mold, perlite, and redwood sawdust. All plants are fed Osmocote 14-14-14 according to package directions.

Chopped sphagnum

Duane Campbell, New York, gets

Please turn to page 197

Elda Haring

Question: I have had trouble with small plants received in the mail. I keep them for several months before repotting them and they die one by one. Could you advise?

Answer: When received, mail-order plants in small pots should have any plastic or other material surrounding the pots removed immediately and any long-grained sphagnum that may have been placed over the existing potting mix.

Give them three to five days to become accustomed to their new location, then carefully remove from the pots. If you find the pots are filled with roots, transplant immediately to the next larger size using your own potting mix.

If the pot is not full of roots replace it until it is ready for the next size. Do read the instructions enclosed with the shipment.

Some commercial growers use a soilless mix and, if the plant must remain in this mix for a time, it needs constant feeding; it must be fertilized with a very dilute solution each time you water.

Question: In my robins I often hear that Doo-Spray is an excellent mildew preventative. Where I live no one has ever heard of this product. Do you know where I might purchase this material?

Answer: Doo-Spray may be ordered from Antonelli Bros., 2545 Capitola Rd., Santa Cruz, CA 95062. A four-ounce bottle is \$3.25 post-paid.

Send questions about begonia growing to Elda Haring, P.O. Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731. She'll mail you her reply promptly.

Antonelli Bros. have a lovely catalog for 25 cents. You might want to order it for it contains detailed information on growing tuberous-rooted begonias.

Question: What seed can I order from the Seed Fund that would be suitable for terrarium growing?

Answer: Most begonias will grow in terrariums but I would choose those that are listed as low-growing if I were to grow them this way.

Those that *must* be grown in closed containers, such as *B. decora*, *B. versicolor*, *B. rajah*, *B. prismatocarpa*, etc., are usually so marked by the Seed Fund chairman when the seed is offered for sale.

Question: A member of my robin said she didn't grow *semperflorens* because they are "trashy." What does that mean?

Answer: Obviously that member does not care for *semperflorens* begonias.

Their blossoms do tend to brown when old, but it is always advisable to remove spent flowers promptly before they turn brown, not only to encourage new bloom but to keep your plants neat and attractive.

Question: I have several semps that are all in bloom. One of the plants has both male and female flowers although the number of males outnumber the females. Two have only male flowers. Why is this?

Answer: It seems typical of many begonias to bear male flowers long before the female blossoms and they often drop off before the female flowers show.

Some begonias produce very few fe-
Please turn to page 202

ABS nominates officer candidates for 1979

Edgar A. Bates, chairman, ABS nominating committee

This is the slate of candidates for elected office in 1979. The nominating committee agreed that if the president and president elect should run for re-election, they would be unopposed.

The committee was unable to locate a qualified second candidate for treasurer.

PRESIDENT

Nathan Randall, incumbent, has also served as first vice president. He was the head of the speakers bureau and he has served on the committee to revise the constitution and bylaws of the ABS. He is a member of the Palomar Branch and was a vice president of the Glendale Branch. He recently retired as an engineering designer for the city of Los Angeles and now lives in Escondido, Calif., and works part-time at a nearby nursery. He attended UCLA, Redlands College, and University of Southern California. He has worked in civil engineering and accounting.

PRESIDENT ELECT

Gilbert Estrada, incumbent, has served also as treasurer and business manager of ABS. He has served on these committees: finance, publications, constitution and bylaws revision, and editorial board. He has been chairman of the audit committee. He was 1977 national convention and flower show treasurer. He is past president of the Redondo Area Branch and has served as branch treasurer. He also has served as secretary of the

Garden Grove Branch. Gil was founding president of the Garden Grove Chapter of the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Frank Kerin of Pittsburgh, Penn., is founding president of the Edna Stewart Pittsburgh Branch of ABS and is currently national director. He has served as convention chairman, show chairman, and classification chairman for several recent eastern regional conventions. He is classification chairman for the 1979 ABS annual show in New York. Frank was a contributor to *The Thompson Begonia Guide*. He is co-owner of the Hobby Greenhouse of Pittsburgh, which specializes in unusual and exotic plants. In addition, he is a musician, president of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Musical Artists and is on the guild's board of directors.

Howard Berg of Chicago is a member and past president of the Greater Chicago Branch of ABS. He has belonged to ABS for more than 12 years and belongs also to the Knickerbocker Branch. He is a director of commodity administration for Loeb, Rhoades, Hornblower & Co., stockbrokers.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Joan Coulat of Sacramento, Calif., is an active member and national director of the Sacramento Branch of ABS. She has served as plant table chairman for her branch. In 1978, she was show chairman for the ABS national convention and show in Sacramento. She currently is show adviser for the 1979 convention and show in

Your election ballot is the card that fell out of the magazine when you unstapled it. Please mark it, add a stamp and drop it in the return mail.

New York. She works as hostess in her family-owned restaurant.

Douglas Frost, incumbent, is also chairman of the speakers bureau. He has served as president of the Garden Grove Branch and vice president of Garden Grove and Orange County branches of ABS. Doug was show chairman of the ABS convention and show at Garden Grove in 1977. He also served as vice president and president of the Garden Grove Branch of the American Fuchsia Society and vice president of the Garden Grove Gesneriad Society. Doug and his wife, Goldie, are retired and devote their time to raising begonias. They also hybridize and have several registered cultivars.

TREASURER

Eleanor Calkins, incumbent, is a past president and former treasurer of the Palomar Branch of ABS. Eleanor is a member of the North San Diego County Chapter of the American Association of Women Accountants and has served the association as member-

ship chairperson for four years and director for a year. She has worked for 10 years as a bookkeeper-accountant.

SECRETARY

Adrienne Clark of Vista, Calif., is recording secretary of the Palomar Branch of ABS and last year was publicity chairperson. She also is interested in orchid and rose culture. She has studied floral design including Ikebana at Mira Costa College. Adrienne also has served as vice president and corresponding secretary of the San Dieguito Garden Club of Encinitas, Calif.

Norma Taylor of Santa Ana, Calif., is parliamentarian for the ABS board of directors. She was president of the Orange County Branch of the ABS in 1975 and 1976 and was branch secretary in 1974. She was in charge of tour arrangements at the 1977 national convention. She was president of a musical arts association in Orange County for a year. Norma has been employed as an office manager for 10 years and a secretary for seven.

More Round robins

Continued from page 194
excellent results by chopping up long-grained sphagnum moss and adding to potting mixes. He says it does wonders for aeration. He also uses it half-and-half with a propagating mix for moisture retention.

He finds Jiffy 7's and Jiffy 9's excellent for seed propagation. Jiffy 9 is smaller and has no mesh around it. It is perfect for tiny seedlings.

ASTRAL DOME TERRARIUMS

Mail order catalog

CAL-MIL PLASTICS

6100 Paseo Del Norte,
Carlsbad, California 92008

"Schultz-Instant" CONCENTRATED SOLUBLE Fertilizer

20-30-20
with Model 5 "MIXERATOR YARD GUN"



¼ teaspoon
per gallon
water grows
vegetables,
flowers, roses,
trees, shrubs,
lawns, every-
thing for yard
& garden.

The patented non-clogging "Mixerator" Yard Gun makes application easy on large areas.

Available at your store or send \$7.95 with this ad for 5 lbs Schultz Fertilizer plus a \$2.95 "Mixerator" Free. (Estate Size 25 lbs with 2 "Mixerators" \$30.00). Free delivery. Offer expires December 31, 1979. Immediate shipment.

Schultz Company

Dept. ABS 11730 Northline, St. Louis, MO 63043

Board votes for dues hike

ABS directors voted 16-6 with 7 not voting in June to increase annual dues to \$10 from the current \$6. Branch national directors were to vote by mail ballot on the measure.

Passage of the increase is not assured until all mail ballots are counted.

An increase was needed to ease a society cash flow problem and related financial difficulties. The motion to hike dues was made by Margaret Lee.

Cultivar registration fee

ABS directors voted in June to require a \$2 fee for each registration of a new begonia cultivar. The fee requirement will be effective Sept. 1, so \$2 should accompany each completed registration form submitted after that date.

The Commission for Nomenclature and Registration of the International Society for Horticultural Science—the body that appoints International Registration Authorities—recommends a nominal fee for cultivar registrations. The proposal that ABS, the international registrar for begonias, follow the international guidelines was announced by the ABS Committee to Revise Show Rules and Guidelines and the nomenclature co-directors before submission to the board.

In addition to following the guidelines, the fee will help defray the increasing cost of processing records.

Information requests about registration and completed application forms should be mailed to Thelma O'Reilly, Nomenclature Co-director, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041.

Doorenbos joins committee

Prof. Dr. Ir. Jan Doorenbos of the Department of Horticulture, Agricultural University, Wageningen, The Netherlands, has agreed to serve as European representative on the ABS Nomenclature Committee.

Dr. Doorenbos, who is well known to ABS members, has generously shared rare seed and new information with the society for years. His knowledge, experience, and enthusiastic interest in growing

and studying *Begonia* species and cultivars will be an important contribution to the committee, according to co-director Carrie Karegeannes.

Convention plants needed

Don Lathrom, plant sales chairman for the ABS Convention and Show "in the Big Apple" Sept. 14-16, says he is pleased with branch donations of money and plants so far, but encourages additional donations.

By late June, he reported these commitments to donate plants:

Buxton Branch, 280; Joan Coulat, 50; Edna Stewart Branch, at least 50; Knickerbocker Branch, 500; Potomac Branch, 250; Texhoma Branch, 100. Cash donations came from Miami Branch, \$50; Monterey Bay Area Branch, \$10; Sacramento Branch, \$25; San Miguel Branch, \$25, and Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch \$25.

Lathrom urged more pledges of plants and money soon, to help organizers make final convention and show preparations. His address is 214 W. 30th St., Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10001.

For members-at-large

Duane Campbell of Owego, N.Y., has been named by ABS directors to be liaison with members-at-large.

He said he is interested in hearing from any member who does not belong to a branch to find if their begonia needs are being met by the society or if they have ideas about other members-at-large.

Campbell's address is 35 Valley Park, Owego, NY 13827.

Slide library plans

Dennis Maley, newly appointed ABS slide librarian, is making plans to assemble new slide programs for use by branches. He asked that branches and individual members donate slides to the library.

"I would like to see programs on species in their native settings, shows, gardens around the world, and how ABS members grow their begonias," Maley noted. He asked that information accom-

pany donated slides for use in programs that go along with the slide sets.

The library currently consists of 12 programs totaling about 900 slides. This includes an "excellent" 2½-hour slide and tape program by Ed and Millie Thompson, he said.

Details on how to donate slides and information on slide programs available are available from Maley at 1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021.

Garden Grove show and sale

The Garden Grove Branch will hold its annual Begonia Show and Plant Sale Aug. 25-26 at the Huntington Center, corner of Beach Blvd. and Edinger, Huntington Beach, Calif. It will be open to the public both days from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center is just off the San Diego Freeway in Huntington Beach.

San Francisco County Fair

The San Francisco Branch of ABS will be represented as usual with a varied exhibition at the San Francisco County Fair Flower Show Aug. 24-26 at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

The flower show, San Francisco's answer to a county fair because you won't find cows or cornfields in San Francisco, is the city's biggest garden event of the year.

Convention program correction

A typographical error in the program listing for the ABS New York convention and show made it appear that late show entries will be accepted all day Friday, Sept. 14.

Late entries must be submitted between 7 and 8 a.m., since show judging begins at 9 a.m.

Thompson book cancelled

Plants Alive Books has cancelled its contract with ABS members Ed and Millie Thompson to publish a definitive guide to begonias written by them.

Plants Alive publisher Ted Marston said the contract has been terminated be-

cause after a staff cutback this spring he ended up with too few people to complete production on the book.

Marston said money received in prepaid advance orders is being refunded.

New ad manager

Pam Mundell of Sacramento, Calif., has been appointed advertising manager of *The Begonian*, following the resignation of Pat Maley. Pat will continue to contribute articles and photographs of begonias.

The advertising and editorial deadlines have been moved back two weeks so they are now the 15th of the month, six weeks before issue (August 15 for the October issue).

Pam and husband Monroe have been active in the Sacramento Branch and helped organize last year's national convention in that city. Advertising copy should be sent to Pam at 2324 Connie Dr., Sacramento, CA 95815. Her home phone number is (916) 925-3647.

Western regional show

"Begonia Galleria," the ABS western regional show, will be held Oct. 5-7 in Glendale, Calif.

Plants must be entered between 3 and 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, at the Glendale Galleria, Central and Colorado streets.

Saturday night banquet tickets, at \$10 each, and motel reservations are available until Sept. 25 from show coordinator Darlene Fuentes, 2313 Hollister Terrace, Glendale, CA 91206.

Entry tags for show plants should be filled out in advance. Tags and entry sheets are available from Darlene.

All sale plants must be priced before they are brought to the Galleria. Contact Doug Frost for price tags at 10622 Teal Drive, Garden Grove, CA 92640.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH invites you to see "La Begonia Barbarena" monthly branch newsletter, growing tips, news, artwork. Branch dues \$2.00 payable Mbrship. Dir. Keith Mautino, 420 Calle Palo Colorado, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

SEED FUND / *Special tuberous and semi-tuberous offering*

Linda Miller, director, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

This month the Seed Fund is offering tuberous and semi-tuberous begonias. Seed sown December-February should give summer bloom, except for those listed as winter bloomers. Varieties noted will go completely dormant after blooming. Tuberous types are listed early this year so everyone has time to get seed for the coming growing season. This month's selections will be available through December 1979 but, if you order late, list substitutes since some supplies may be short.

SPECIES

- AG 1—*B. boliviensis*: South America. Grows 2-3 ft. high, has shrubby habit with long pointed leaves, sharply serrate, 3-4 ins. long. Flowers in drooping panicles are scarlet or orange red. Goes dormant.
Germination time: 6 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 2—*B. caffra*: Africa. Somewhat like *B. dregei*, with maple-type leaves. Small, white flowers. Forms a tuber, the top of which grows aboveground. Semi-tuberous. Does not go completely dormant.
Germination time: 18 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 3—*B. cinnabarina*: Bolivia. Large, bright orange-red flowers. Upright habit. Very lovely. Somewhat fragrant. Goes dormant.
Germination time: 6 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 4—*B. dregei*: Africa. Semi-tuberous. Round leaves are spotted but as it grows older spots disappear. Lovely basket plant. Does not go completely dormant. An abundance of white flowers.
Germination time: 5 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 5—*B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana*: China. Stems erect, to 1 ft. tall. Leaves medium size, green. Flowers bright pink. Hardy type which may be grown outdoors as far north as southern New York in a protected area.
Germination time: 8 days per pkt .50
- AG 6—*B. micranthera* var. *venturii*: Argentina. Tall-growing species. Colorful apricot blooms. Goes dormant.
Germination time: 11 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 7—*B. picta*: India. Low growing. Variegated leaves. Flowers rather large and special, pale rose in color. Goes dormant.
Germination time: 12 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 8—*B. suffruticosa*: Africa. Semi-tuberous, with tubers resembling small potatoes. Does not go completely dormant. Low growing; tiny, thin-textured leaves, deeply cleft. Flowers white.
Germination time: 12 days per pkt 1.00
- AG 9—*B. wollnyi*: Bolivia. Semi-tuberous with some tubers up to 5 ins. across. Winter blooming with pinkish white flowers in medium clusters. Sparsely branched stems. Leaves with purple veins and silver splotches, toothed margins. Does not go completely dormant.
Germination time: 15-18 days per pkt 1.00

HYBRIDS

- AG 10—Mixed tuberous and semi-tuberous species and hybrids. Some really special varieties, but too few to offer separately. per pkt 1.00
- AG 11—Tuberhybrida basket types: Tuberous hybrids of a variety of colors with lovely pendulous flowers. Forms tuber and goes dormant. per pkt 1.00
- AG 12—Tuberhybrida: Mixed colors and forms of upright types. Very good mixture of bedding or pot plant. per pkt 1.00

AG 13 — Tuberhybrida cristata type: Upright tuberous hybrids with crested flowers, mixed colors per pkt 1.00

(B. barkeri as listed in the April issue should be described: Vera Cruz, Mexico. Rhizomatous with large, green leaves, entire/subentire, underside silvery green. Petioles covered with white scruff which turns papery and brown. Tall racemes of white flowers in spring. If you purchased seed of AP 1, you received this plant, not as described in the April issue. The gesneriad and cactus selections in the May issue were not priced. These may be purchased at .75 per packet.)

Reminder to customers

Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. It helps keep ABS costs down and speeds up order filling. Overseas customers may add .31 to their money orders to cover airmail postage.

Send orders to Linda Miller, 4613 Cochran St., Simi Valley, CA 93063.
Include self-addressed, stamped envelope. California residents add 6% sales tax.
Checks and money orders should be made payable to: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.
Foreign orders: U.S. funds only.

How to find the convention in the Big Apple

Here's how to get to the Skyline Motor Inn, 10th Avenue at 49th and 50th Streets, New York, site of the ABS Big Apple Convention Sept. 14-16. The Skyline's phone is (212) 586-3400 or (800) 528-1234. Rates on reservations made by Aug. 27 are \$32 for a double, \$29 single, and \$45 suite.

BY AIR: Fly to either Kennedy or La Guardia airport. Carey Transportation Co. buses run every 20 minutes to East Side Airline Terminal, 1st Avenue at 38th Street. \$4 per person from Kennedy, \$3 from La Guardia. Take taxi or city bus (50¢ exact fare and ask for free transfer) north on 1st Avenue to 49th Street (ask driver where bus stops). The 49th Street crosstown bus stops across the street from the Skyline. If you fly to Newark, N.J., Airport, Transport of New Jersey buses run every half-hour to Port Authority Terminal, 40th Street at 8th Avenue.

\$2.15 per person. Take taxi to Skyline from terminal.

BY BUS: To Port Authority Terminal, 40th Street at 8th Avenue. Take taxi to Skyline.

BY TRAIN: To Penn Station, 31st and 32nd Streets at 7th and 8th Avenues. Taxi to Skyline. If your destination is Grand Central Station, 42nd Street at Lexington Avenue, take taxi to Skyline or westbound crosstown bus to 10th Avenue (50¢ exact fare and ask for transfer for 25¢). Transfer to northbound bus on 10th Avenue to Skyline.

BY CAR: From west, northwest or southwest of New York City, take Holland Tunnel. Follow "West Side Highway and West" signs and keep left. Turn left at "41 Street West" and "West Side Highway" sign, then bear right. Turn right at 10th Avenue and keep left. Skyline car entrance is just past 49th Street.

From East River (FDR) Drive—From north, exit at 49th Street. Cross town to 10th Avenue. From south, exit at 42nd Street. Cross town to 10th Avenue. Turn right on 10th Avenue, then keep left to entrance just past 49th Street.

From Queens and Long Island—Take Queens Midtown Tunnel. Keep right and exit westbound on 37th Street. Continue cross town to 10th Avenue. Turn right on 10th Avenue to Skyline just past 49th Street on left.

(Registered guests park free at the Skyline. People bringing plants may unload in basement and use elevator. Deliver sale plants to 1st floor. Register show plants on 9th floor. Non-registered guests may park at Bosko parking lot across 49th Street for \$3 a day.

(10th Avenue is one-way northbound. 49th Street is one-way westbound. Odd-even day gas allocation is in effect in New York City.)

"Schultz-Instant" LIQUID PLANT FOOD 10-15-10
Concentrated, High Analysis — All Purpose — 10-15-10 "Starts and Feeds" All Plants Indoors and Outdoors.
Available at your store or send \$1.25 for 5'oz. \$2.50 for 12oz (includes mailing).

"Schultz-Instant" SOLUBLE FERTILIZER 20-30-20
Concentrated, High Analysis — All Purpose — 20-30-20 crystals. Grows Vegetables, Flowers, Roses, Trees, Shrubs, Lawns, Etc., in Yards, Gardens, Greenhouses.
Available at your store or send \$7.95 for 5 lb (includes mailing).

SCHULTZ CO. — St. Louis, MO 63043
SEND FOR OUR FUND RAISING OFFER

Continued from page 195

male flowers. So far as I know there is no adequate explanation for this habit of growth.

Question: Have you ever experimented with gibberelic acid on begonias? If not, do you have any opinion on the subject?

Answer: I have never experimented with this material and I would not recommend that inexperienced growers try it.

Some of the commercial growers use it on certain crops but I understand it can cause distortions on some plants. If you want to try it, use according to directions and only on plants that are expendable.

Question: I saw a statement that it is possible to examine seeds under a magnifying lens to ascertain viability. How would one determine viability

by looking through a magnifying glass?

Answer: I think you must have misunderstood this statement. To my knowledge there is no way to determine viability of seed by looking at it through a lens.

Writing on the subject of hybridizing in *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, famous hybridizer Belva Kusler suggests that after opening the seed pod over a piece of paper the chaff be removed. Usually if seeds are viable they will roll, although some seeds, though viable, will stick to the paper.

In this case she suggests using a toothpick dipped in water to pick up the chaff, and she uses the magnifying glass at this point to be sure that all debris and chaff has been removed.

It is best not to include chaff when planting seed as it is inclined to cause mold.

BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

The Gift Horse Greenhouse — begonias, violets, episcias, cuttings only. List 75¢. Kit Jeans, Rt. #1, New Johnsonville, TN 37134 (615) 535-2026.

Begonias. Blue Ribbon Winners. Odd. Rare. Unusual. Price list 50¢ or stamps. Begonia Paradise Gardens, 9471 Dana Rd., Cutler Ridge, FL 33157. (305) 251-5836.

Violets - Begonias - Episcias
Cuttings only. Send 35¢ for list.
Wilson's Greenhouse, Route 1
Box 165-4 Ozark, MO 65721

Miller's Greenhouse. Begonias, gesneriads, and exotics. Specializing in species and terrarium plants. Sorry, no shipping at this time. By appointment: (805) 522-0067. 4613 Cochran St., Simi Valley, CA 93063.

Exhibition Manual. Optional supplement of *The Thompson Begonia Guide* for subscribers and non-subscribers, 100 pages. Price \$4.95, optional binder \$3.50, including packaging and shipping. N.Y. residents add state tax. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11958.

The Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens, 18007 Topham, Reseda, CA 91335. (213) 831-4831—Welcome Wed thru Sun. 10 am-6 pm. Progressive catalog, \$2.00. refunded with first order. Poster of 18 species staghorns, \$4.00.

Mini-ads are \$1 per line per insertion with a minimum of \$4. A line is about 36 characters. Payment must accompany order. Send to Pam Mundell, advertising manager, 2324 Connie Dr., Sacramento, CA 95815.

Texas Begonia Lovers, We have many standard and unusual varieties and we love to visit with begonia people. GRANT'S PLANTS & THINGS, 252 E. Tarleton, Stephenville, Texas 76401, (817) 965-5979.

Woodriff's Fairyland Begonia Hybrids. List 25¢. Visitors welcome. Leslie & Winkey Woodriff, Fairyland Begonia and Lily Garden, 1100 Griffith Rd., McKinleyville, CA 95521. (707) 839-3034. SPECIAL—Collection of Curly Cloud—everblooming, Pink African Violet Begonia—everblooming, Burgundy Velvet bright colored rhizomatous begonia \$15 prepaid. Plus Calif. sales tax.

Fall Clearance. 1 each 20 different rooted begonias only \$14.95. List 35¢. Includes rare and unusual varieties. Atkinson's Greenhouse, Rt. 2, Morrilton, AR 72110.

Begonias. Featuring Wally Wagner hybrids, gesneriads, miniatures for light gardens. List 50¢. Pat Morrison/Jim Heffner. 5305 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, OR 97221.

THE MINUTES/ *ABS board of directors June 18, 1979*

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. by President Nathan Randall in the Fullerton Savings and Loan Building in Anaheim. Muriel Perz led the pledge of allegiance, and Gilbert Estrada read the Aims and Purposes. The President stated that branches are responding to the letter for donations. The minutes for May were approved as mailed. It was noted that the next Board meeting in July was to be the 29th as guest of the Orange County Branch.

Gil Estrada, book sales, reported a May 1 balance of \$1,493.08, sales of \$252.27, disbursements of \$604, leaving a balance May 31 of \$1,141.35. \$400 was given to the general fund of ABS.

Ralph Corwin reported that duty description letters were coming in, and that officers' duties will be compiled from them. Also, a copy of the recommendations from the Revision of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee was presented. Action will be taken later on these after the Board has reviewed them.

Doug Frost reported that Speakers List forms are available for anyone interested in speaking at meetings. He also stated that information will be given for the 1980 show at the July meeting, so that the Board can approve the plans.

The treasurer reported a balance of (\$928.79) May 1, income of \$4,334.86, disbursements of \$3,210.84, leaving a balance of \$195.23 on May 31.

The Nominating Committee for 1979 presented the following candidates for office in 1979-80: President—Nathan Randall, incumbent; President-Elect—Gilbert Estrada, incumbent; 1st Vice President—Frank Korin and Howard Berg; 2nd Vice President—Joan Coulat and Douglas Frost; Treasurer—Eleanor Calkins, incumbent; Secretary—Adrienne Clark and Norma Taylor, Edgar Bates was chairman of this committee.

Kathy Brown, membership secretary, processed 228 memberships, 3,380 members in good standing this month, \$1,898.75 in deposits, and expenses of \$46.88.

The President read Linda Miller's report. The Seed Fund had \$502.86 in receipts for the period 5/11 to 6/10.

President Randall read the advertising report. Income was \$137, \$824.98 in pre-paid accounts, showing a credit balance of \$627.73. Since Pat Maley resigned, the Board approved the appointment of Pam Mundell of Sacramento, Calif., as new advertising manager.

Mabel Corwin reported 26 flights received, two canceled. There are 93 flights active, and many requests to join the robins.

Nomenclature Co-director Thelma O'Reilly read the report from Carrie Karegeannes. Dr. Doorenbos of the Netherlands has agreed to serve as a member of the committee. The new Certificates of Cultivar

Registration are now available. Thelma O'Reilly and Phyllis Bates checked inventories of material for the cultivar catalog. Requests for identification of some begonias were received. Jack Golding has given some lectures in Israel, and reported on some research there. Thelma spoke at a workshop at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Thelma reported the nominations for top ABS awards are arriving slowly. A report from Santa Barbara on cultural certificates was received.

A pamphlet on the ABS show rules and guidelines is being prepared, and will soon be completed.

The new editors were introduced at the Bates home in May. Some materials were given to the new editors. Karen Bartholomew has the July issue ready, and it will be in black and white only.

Darlene Fuentes reported on the progress of the Regional Show. Registration will start at 9 p.m. sharp on Thursday night. Maps of the Galleria will be available for parking and space instructions. Lots of plants will be needed to fill the space.

Judging Course Director Margaret Lee reported receipts of \$11.39. A junior judge's card was issued to Pat Morrison, of Portland, Oregon, and a sophomore card was issued to Darlene Fuentes of Glendale.

Discussion of not printing the show schedule in the *Begonia* every year and using the pages for articles will be taken up later.

Research Director Mildred Thompson has launched "Grow and Study" projects for different species. Over forty people are involved, and more will be added as species become available for distribution. Dr. Bernice G. Schubert and Dr. Fred Barkley have consented to be consultants for the department. As the project progresses, more information will be sent to the Board.

Under new business, a motion was passed to have a fee of \$2 for each plant registration. This is recommended by the Registration Department.

Glendale is putting in a display in the Fern Society Show. Help is needed.

Four life memberships were approved by the Board. They are Pat Maley, D. G. Sullinger, Carl Lalple Jr., and Mr. Terrell.

A motion by Margaret Lee, seconded by Mr. Sullinger, to increase the dues to \$10 was passed. There were 30 members present. Sixteen voted for the increase, six voted no, and the other seven didn't cast votes. Wanda Elin will send out a ballot to absent members.

A motion was passed for Ed Bates to proceed with the Catalog of Registered Begonia Cultivars according to the plan presented (#1 through #500).

After branch reports, the meeting adjourned at 10:25.

—Virginia J. Barnett, secretary

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