

February 1980

*The* BEGONIAN

# The BEGONIAN

ISSN 0096-8684

Publication of the American Begonia Society

Copyright © 1980 by the American Begonia Society

THE BEGONIAN is published monthly by the American Begonia Society. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the society, its officers, or the editors. Third-class postage paid at South San Francisco, Calif.

Deadline for notices, advertising copy and manuscripts is six weeks before the first of the month of issue.

**EDITORS**—Karen Bartholomew and Chuck Anderson, 826 Santa Rita Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022. 415 948-5345 (evenings).

**ADVERTISING MANAGER**—Pam Mundell, 2324 Connie Dr., Sacramento, CA 95815. 916 925-3647.

Advertising rates: \$10 per column-inch; \$25 quarter-page; \$40, half-page; \$80, full-page. Discount of 5% for four or more consecutive insertions.

Subscription: \$10 per year. Foreign (includes Mexico and Canada) \$10.50. First class mail (includes Mexico and Canada) \$13.50. Overseas air mail \$25. Remit in U.S. Currency. Back issues 75¢ each.

Subscription, dues, circulation inquiries, address changes: Kathy Brown, ABS membership secretary, 10692 Bolsa St., No. 14, Garden Grove, CA 92643. 714 531-8084.

## 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.

### Services

See inside back cover

### Elected officers

President.....Nathan Randall  
10079 West Lilac Road, Escondido, CA 92026  
Phone (714) 749-9096

Past President.....Charles A. Richardson  
696 Barsby St., Vista, CA 92083

President-Elect.....Gilbert A. Estrada  
7914 Springer St., Downey, CA 90242

First Vice President.....Frank Kerin  
922 Savannah Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Second Vice President.....Joan Coulat  
4111 DePaul Ct., Sacramento, CA 95821

Treasurer.....Eleanor Calkins  
910 Fern St., Escondido, CA 92027

Secretary.....Norma Taylor  
2040 E. Lambert Rd., La Habra, CA 90631

### Appointed officers

Back Issue Sales.....Katharine Alberti  
3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, CA 90068

Bookstore Librarian.....Gil Estrada  
7914 Springer St., Downey, CA 90242

Branch Relations Director.....Evelyn Cronin  
84 Abbey Lane, Cotuit, MA 02635

Business Manager.....Bill Walton  
P.O. Box 4048, Torrance, CA 90510

Chairman, Awards Committee.....Kit Jeans  
Rt. 1, Box 319, New Johnsonville, TN 37134

Chairman, Ballot Counting Committee.....Wanda Elin  
1907 Aspin Circle, Fullerton, CA 92631

School for Judges

Co-chairman.....Margaret Lee  
1825 31st Street, San Diego, CA 92102

Co-chairman.....Pat Maley  
1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director.....Linda Miller  
4613 Cochran St., Simi Valley, CA 93063

Corresponding Secretary.....Lorraine Frinchaboy  
3981 Garfield, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Historian.....Frances Estrada  
7914 Springer St., Downey, CA 90242

Lending Library.....Dolores Fernandez  
4369 Tujunga Ave., No. Hollywood, CA 91604

Members-at-Large Director.....Duane Campbell  
35 Valley Park, Owego, NY 13827

Nomenclature Department

Co-director.....Carrie Karegeannes  
3916 Lake Blvd., Annandale, VA 22003

Co-director.....Thelma O'Reilly  
10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041

Parliamentarian.....Clair M. Christensen  
11276 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230

Public Relations Director.....Diane Fries  
3531 Creekwood St., Torrance, CA 90505

Research Department

Co-director.....Mildred Thompson  
310 A Hill St., Southampton, NY 11968

Co-director.....Corliss Engle  
26 Edgehill Rd., Brookline, MA 02146

Round Robin Director.....Mabel Corwin  
1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista, CA 92083

Show and Convention Adviser.....Jack Golding  
47 Clinton Ave., Kearny, NJ 07032

Show and Convention Co-adviser.....Ed Grasheim  
132 E. 35th St., New York, NY 10016

Show Classification and Entry Chmn.....Cecelia Grivich  
2818 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006

Slide Librarian.....Dennis Maley  
1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021



**THE COVER:** Reyer Jansen photographed *B. quadrialata* Warb. at Wageningen, The Netherlands, where author J. Doorenbos was studying it and other yellow-flowering West African species. See story on page 34.

<b>Easy to grow</b>	<i>B. schmidtiana</i> is Elda Haring's choice.....	32
<b>Yellow flowers</b>	The second part of J. Doorenbos' survey.....	34
<b>Pruning how-to</b>	We show what to do with canes.....	38
<b>Begonia profile</b>	Thelma O'Reilly picks <i>B. 'Corazon Rojo'</i> .....	40
<b>Index</b>	Your guide to the 1979 volume can be removed for use.....	1-1
<b>Those Aussies</b>	A trio of super-serious begoniacs by Kit Jeans.....	41
Question box.....	Growing from seed.....	44 48
Round robins.....	ABS news.....	45 49
New cultivars.....	Associated groups.....	46 50

## NOTES/From the editors

If you thought the January issue ran a little late, you were right. Our printer was moving his plant to a new building 20 miles away, so *The Begonian* was delayed a bit.

It won't happen again—until next time.



The annual index to the past volume of *The Begonian* appears this month in the center of the issue.

Our profound admiration and thanks go out to Duane Campbell of Owego, N.Y., voluntary and sole compiler. He wanted to do it—and we let him.

Only he knows why he got the idea in the first place. It's beyond us.



We've discovered a blooper in the October issue you'll want to correct if you maintain a permanent file of Begonians. On page 234 at the bottom of the first column, change "Africa" to "America." We've got to watch out for those gremlins out there!



We've begun a photographic archive of begonias which, we feel, is only about 40 years late getting started.

Primarily for the benefit of future editors, this is a collection of black-and-white prints of representative plants in all classifications. We'd like to have at least one photo of each species and variety in cultivation.

Obviously, we'll never get it to be that complete, but perhaps you can help us on the way. If you have taken a clear, crisp, detailed shot of a well-grown begonia, have a 5-by-7-inch print made at a good camera shop and send it along. (Color doesn't work for archival purposes because the dyes fade over time.)

If we use it eventually to illustrate a *Begonian* article, you'll get a photo credit.



In the odd taste department, we've received word that Pat Maley, president of the San Miguel Branch and new co-chairman of the national judging school, got just what she wanted for Christmas from husband Dennis.

A snake.

More precisely, it was a four-foot Colombian boa constrictor. In response to your next question, the answer is "Mist." And it lives in a

**Please turn to page 48**

# Easy to grow: *B. schmidtiana*—great indoors

Elda Haring

*B. schmidtiana* Regal is a Brazilian species that was found in 1887. In horticultural classification it is included with those that have semperflorens characteristics.

The true species—which is often rather difficult to obtain—has rather small leaves, rarely exceeding 1 inch, with white flowers, the outside of the petals sometimes showing a tinge of pink. Seedlings usually have leaves 1½ to 2 inches long and the flowers are nearly always pale pink.

Either way, it is a dainty, very pretty begonia. I obtained my plant of the true species from Merry Gardens some years ago.

Although I try to keep the faded flowers picked off, seedlings often appear in the gravel of the greenhouse benches and in pots of other plants. While other members tell me this begonia will grow to 8 to 12 inches high, mine grows only 6 inches high.

For indoor growing I find this begonia much more appealing than any other of those with semperflorens characteristics. It is excellent for the windowsill, doing very well in an east or west window, and is an excellent subject for growing under lights.

It grows in a most compact fashion and can be used either for pot or basket culture. The small leaves are slightly ruffled and velvety, olive green on top and red beneath with stems having a reddish tinge.

Although considered pretty much everblooming, it tends to rest after a

period of heavy bloom, which occurs during the summer months where I live. Flowering does not begin again until January.

Any elongated flowering stems should be cut off to allow new growth to start from the crown. Usually in the north where the winter sun is weak *B. schmidtiana* needs at least six hours of sun a day, but in the mid- to lower south where winter sun is bright and strong it is best to give it only a little morning sun. Too much strong sun shining through the glass will result in curled and scorched leaves and blasted flower buds.

In my greenhouse *B. schmidtiana* is grown on the east bench where it gets morning sun during the winter but is shaded by a corkscrew willow in the summer.

*B. schmidtiana* will do well in a range of very cool to very warm temperatures and in relative humidity from 30 to 50%, but it must have good, bright light in order to reward you with many flowers.

It is most susceptible to overwatering, being best kept on the dry side. Water it thoroughly and do not water again until the top inch or so of the soil feels dry.

Overwatering, especially in cold or humid weather, will cause rotting. I prefer to put my plant in a bowl of water halfway to the pot rim and allow the water to be drawn up to the top. Then I permit it to drain until there is no longer any dripping before I put it back into its permanent place.

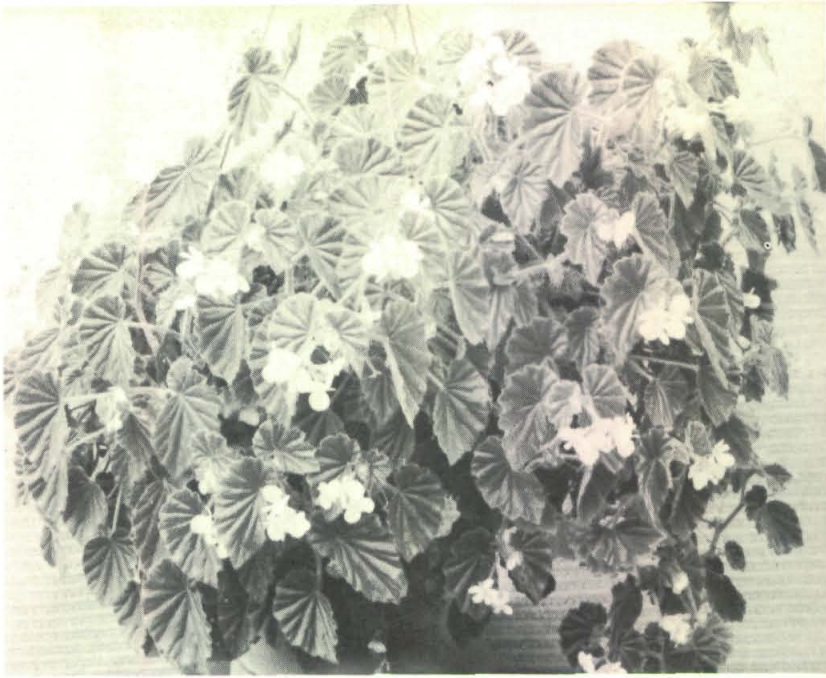
This charming species will thrive in any potting mix in which you grow begonias, African violets, or even ivy. I have grown it to perfection in pack-

---

Elda Haring, The Begonian's Question Box columnist and author of Begonias for Beginners, lives at P.O. Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731.



***Begonia  
schmidtiana*  
in a hanging  
basket**



Photo/Walter Haring

aged potting mixes, in soilless mixes such as Jiffy Mix, and even in plain builder's sand, giving it an occasional feeding with half-strength water-soluble fertilizer.

If in a soilless mix, it responds to a top dressing of slow-release Osmocote 14-14-14 fertilizer. Be sure to use it according to the directions on the package.

Stem cuttings are not difficult but they will rot if the medium is kept too wet. Use a mix of half peat and half sand, half vermiculite and half perlite, or perlite alone. Keep the mix just barely moist.

Usually cuttings root best at the beginning of the growing season when new growth is starting. However, under fluorescent lights—assuming the minimum temperature in your plant room is never below 65 degrees—stem cuttings will root at any time of year. It is best to put each cutting separately in a 1½-inch pot set on a community tray not covered with plastic—if the humidity is too high it would encour-

age rot.

For propagating *B. schmidtiana* I find it easier to simply divide the plant in spring, and this seems the easiest method for the beginner. Knock the plant from its pot, disturbing the roots as little as possible. Turning the pot on its side, you can readily discern the sections which are easily pulled apart with roots attached.

Each division may then be planted to its individual 3-inch pot or 3 to 5 can be placed together in a 4- or 5-inch pot. They will recover quickly and be a mass of bloom in just a few weeks. Feed during the growing season just as you do your other begonias and you will be rewarded with new shoots, leaves, and many flowers.

As with any member of the semperflorens group, after a time some of the shoots will grow long and fall over. Cut these back to within 2 inches of the crown where you will note new growth beginning. Trimming back the old stems gives the crown more light and stimulates new growth.

# More of the fascinating yellow flowerers

J. Doorenbos

## (Second of two articles)

As contrasted with the African yellow-flowering species described in January, the next two occur over a wide area. Both are variable.

*Begonia quadrialata* Warburg has a short creeping rhizome, pilose petioles and peltate, broadly ovate leaves which are strongly fimbriate, but otherwise glabrous except on the veins at the back. The inflorescences bear one to three female and two to five male flowers. The fruits are elliptic to obovate with four nearly equal rounded or truncate wings.

Leaves and flowers show much variation in size and coloring between plants of different provenances. The plant on the cover is a rather spectacular form with bronze leaves and large, deep yellow flowers, strongly marked

with red. It was collected by Dr. Breterler in Ivory Coast.

The black-and-white picture shows a form from Cameroon with light green foliage and small, yellow flowers with hardly any red in them. It is very similar to the plant on the cover of *The Begonian* of February 1975. In our plants, the largest leaves are 10 cm. (3.9 in.) long and 8 cm. (3.1 in.) broad, but, according to Wilczek, the leaves may reach 18 cm. (7 in.).

In our experience, *B. quadrialata* is a rather difficult species to grow. Given terrarium care, it may give showy plants, but it is very susceptible to damping off: dark, moist spots on leaves and petioles which expand rapidly and become covered by a gray mold (probably *Botrytis*).

*Begonia cilio-bracteata* Warburg is another widespread and variable species. The tips of its branched rhizome stand upright for 2-8 cm. (0.7-3.1 in.). On this erect stem, the leaves are crowded in two rows. The petioles are woolly or felty hairy, the leaf blades

---

Jan Doorenbos, professor of horticulture at Agricultural University, P.O. Box 30, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands, is a widely recognized authority on Begonia.

Photos/Reyer Jansen



*Begonia quadrialata* Warb., a different form than on the cover





***Begonia cilio-bracteata* Warb.**

obovate, only exceptionally peltate, asymmetrically elliptic or obovate with two very unequal basal lobes. The leaves are glabrous, the upper side dark green, the underside very much lighter and marked with dark purple, tomentose veins. In some plants the leaves are purplish brown on both sides.

This species flowers profusely with small (1-2 cm. or 0.4-0.8 in.) flowers, covered by the leaves. The tepals are yellow (sometimes very pale), the upper tepal marked with red veins. Ovary and fruit are purplish brown, rather small, obovate with three sharply triangular, ascending wings or horns. This species is much easier to grow than the preceding, but it does not grow very well outside a terrarium.

*Begonia clypeifolia* Hook.f. differs from all species discussed here in that it is completely glabrous. The petioles stand stiffly upright and are as long as or longer than the leaves, which are peltate, narrowly ovate to lanceolate (2-2½ times longer than broad), irregularly dentate and uniformly green

on both sides. The plant flowers continuously and profusely with large flowers up to 2½ cm. (1 in.) across, which are yellow without a trace of red. The ovary is green, large, round with three thick truncate wings.

At first sight, this plant, with its thick, almost leathery leaves, looks very hardy. The leaves are surprisingly susceptible to attacks by fungi like mildew, however, and it gives us a lot of difficulties when grown in the open greenhouse. The splendid lemon flowers, borne close to the ground, are well worth the trouble, though.

*Begonia lacunosa* Warburg is a very distinct species. The stem is a creeping rhizome. The petioles are pilose, the leaves peltate, asymmetrically ovate (about twice as long as broad), often with a large central purple blotch. A most remarkable feature is the appearance of conical protuberances, up to 1 cm. (0.4 in.) high and tipped by a long bristle, on the upper side of the leaf; on the underside one finds the corresponding pits (hence the epithet "lacunosa").



***Begonia clypeifolia* Hook.f.**

Warburg states in his original description that the flowers are white with a crimson blotch, but, according to Wilczek, this species has yellow flowers. Dr. De Wilde, who brought the present material from Gabon, tells me that this is also yellow-flowered (the plants have not flowered with us yet). Like most species of its section, it can be propagated easily from leaf cuttings.

Writing about yellow-flowering African species, one cannot ignore *Begonia prismatocarpa* Hook.f., although it is already widely known. It has slender, pilose stems, creeping or ascend-

ent, strongly branched and forming a dense mat. The petioles are pilose, the leaves asymmetrically ovate, acute with a long tip, with 1-2 lobes at the broad and 0-1 at the narrow side, dentate, the teeth tipped by a hair, upper-side glabrous, underside sparsely hairy. The pilose peduncles bear 2 male and 1 female flower with orange yellow tepals, the upper one marked with red. The fruit is spindle-shaped with 4 narrow wings.

As far as I know, this pretty species was imported by L. Maurice Mason of King's Lynn, England. He mentions it in an article on "Begonias at



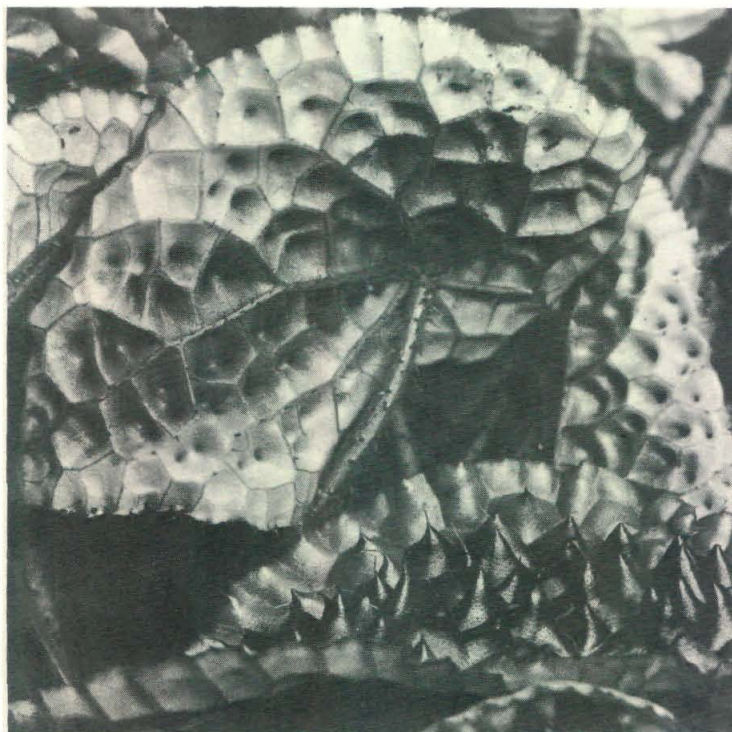
Fincham" in *The Begonian* of January 1957 among his recent acquisitions and describes it as "a jewel with orange flowers from Africa." It reached the U.S. in June 1969 when Jane Neal sent a cutting to Thelma O'Reilly, who generously shared it with others.

There is a picture of an immature fruit on the cover of *The Begonian* of October 1971, and color pictures of the flowering plant on the covers of the October 1971 and September 1976 issues. A variegated form (which I suspect to be caused by virus) adorns the June 1978 cover. *B. prismatocarpa* has been hybridized with *B. ficicola* and *B. staudtii* var. *dispersipilosa*, and color pictures of these hybrids can be found in *The Begonian* of October 1977 (cover) and January 1978.

There are many more yellow-flowering rhizomatous begonias in West

Africa apart from the 10 species dealt with in this series. In his monograph of the Begoniaceae of Congo, Wilczek describes eight others, and several more are to be found in the publications of J. D. Hooker, O. Warburg, E. Irmischer, E. Gilg, N. Hallé and other authors.

Several of these are related to the species in cultivation and may even turn out to be synonymous. But some are quite distinct, for instance *Begonia vitariifolia* Hallé, a creeping species from Gabon with linear leaves, 10-18 cm. (4-7 in.) long and only ½-1½ cm. (0.2-0.6 in.) broad. The Wageningen collection comprises several unidentified yellow-flowering species, and one which has been identified (*Begonia peperomioides* Hook.f., another very distinct species) which may have yellow flowers but has not flowered yet.



***Begonia lacunosa* Warb.**  
Leaf at bottom shows brown conical protuberances on upper side; leaf at top shows corresponding pits at back

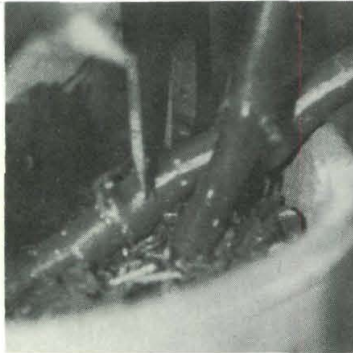
# Here's how to prune cane types

## 1.

Scraggly and unbalanced, this cane-type *Begonia angularis* needs annual heavy pruning. Time to do this is in early spring when frost danger has passed. Start by removing dead or injured canes and old, woody growth. Then shorten healthy, green canes.

## 2.

When you come upon two branches that cross, remove the least important as shown here. New sprout will appear from shortened cane.



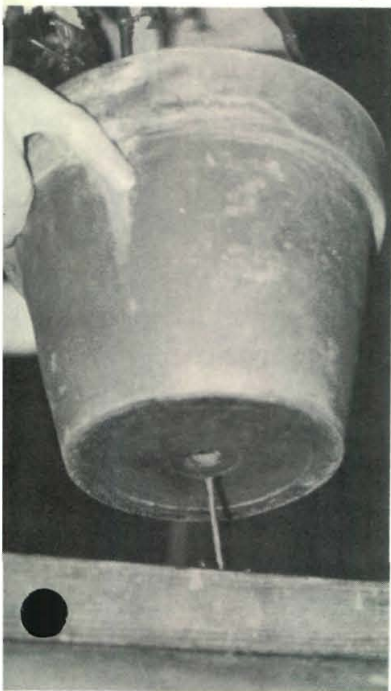
## 3.

After removing extraneous canes and browned or faded leaves, framework that's left will support new year's growth. Cut illustrated here will force growth to left.



**4.**

Next comes repotting:  
Use "persuader"—stout  
nail in heavy board  
base—to ease root ball  
from pot.



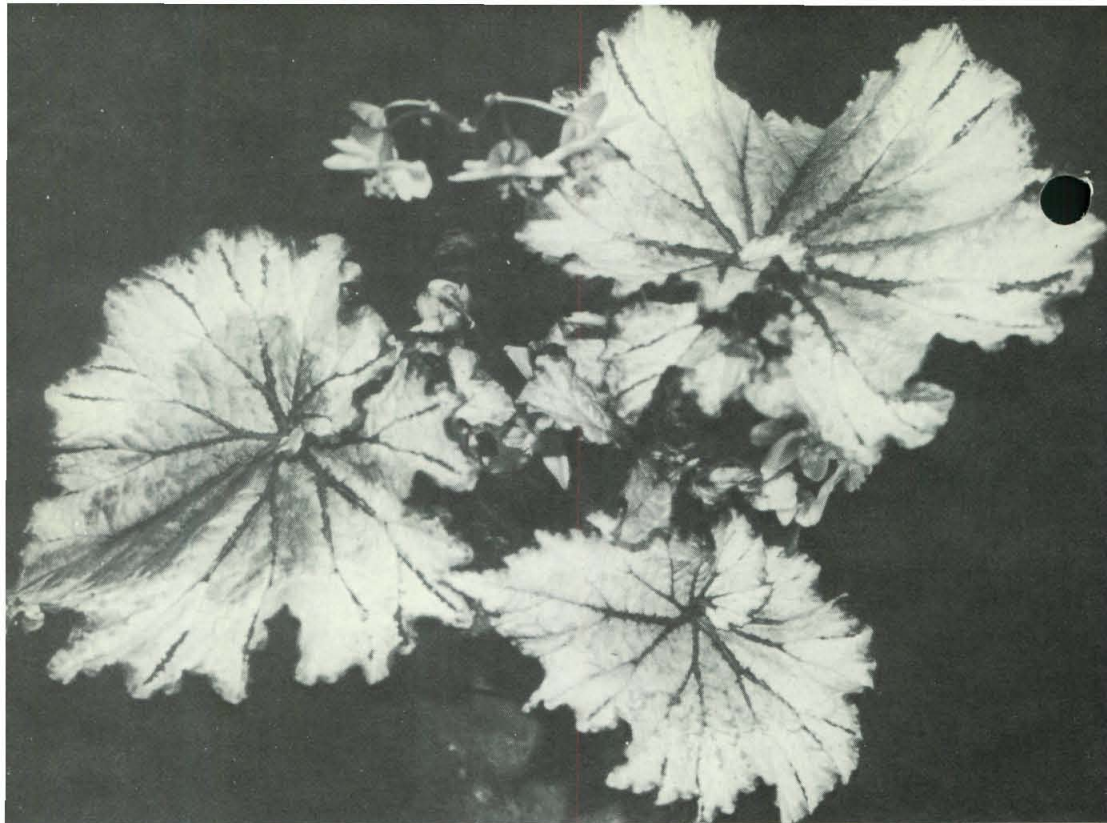
**5.**

Use your fingers to break up root ball and  
remove outer half. Prune heavy roots, but  
try to save small, fibrous ones.



**6.**

Finally, repot with fresh mix into  
new pot or same container  
cleaned out. Water thoroughly to  
settle soil mix. Replace name  
label. Store in shade or filtered  
shade for a week or two. When  
new growth starts, put plant in  
brighter light and begin fertilizing.



**Begonia 'Corazon Rojo'**

Photo/Thelma O'Reilly

## Begonia profile: B. 'Corazon Rojo'

*Thelma O'Reilly*

Traditionally, Feb. 14 is set aside to pay tribute to those who hold a special place in our hearts. For this reason I have chosen the beautiful *Begonia* 'Corazon Rojo' (Spanish for 'Red Heart') to profile.

*Begonia* 'Corazon Rojo' has a large, satiny, red-rose heart which is completely surrounded by silver and trimmed with rose-pink ruffling—a perfect Valentine!

The rippled leaves, measuring 11 by 8 inches, are cordate with a long, pointed tip and huge, ruffled sinus

curl. The color combination of softly shaded rose-reds and glistening silver, in addition to the heart shape and ruffled edging, has created a begonia that appears delicate and feminine.

Contrary to this appearance, it is a hardy *B. rex* cultivar.

The flower buds are deep rose, developing into nodding, medium-sized flowers with lavender-pink tepals, cream and rose stigmas, bright yellow stamens, tawny pink ovaries and reddish pink wings. Blooms appear in summer, fall, and winter.

With protection from the wind, this begonia will tolerate extreme conditions of heat and cold. It grows equally well in clay, plastic, and redwood containers.

*This occasional series of begonia profiles is written by Thelma O'Reilly, ABS nomenclature co-director, who lives at 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041.*

**Please turn to page 48**



# Aussies who take begonias seriously

*Kit Jeans*

Bernard Yorke is the only man I know who can fuss cheerfully over 10,000 hybrid begonia seedlings and still call it a hobby. He does admit—if pressed—that his hobby seems to have gotten out of hand, but it's still his hobby.

Bernard lives in Brisbane, Australia, and works as a solicitor for the government. After three years of correspondence, that's still all I know about his work. On the subject of begonias, however, he's a lot more voluble.

*Begonia collector, dealer, and writer Kit Jeans of Route 1, Box 319, New Johnsonville, TN 37134 recently was named ABS awards chairman.*



**Hazel Burley (left), Mickey Meyer, and Bernard Yorke**

"The Brisbane climate," he writes, "is ideal for growing begonias. I guess we're spoilt somewhat. *B. prismatocarpa* grows virtually 'cold' throughout the year. *B. listida* and its hybrids hang in baskets at the back of my home."

It's an easy, lovely place to visualize. "This shade area holds 100 baskets—nearly all begonias. Of course, I put two or three plants in each. I find they are 'companion' plants and thrive with company, no matter what."

Growing begonias, however, is merely scratching the surface for Bernard. Hybridizing is his real true love, a love which his wife, Sue, tolerates with easy, humorous grace. (It's just as well. I'd hate for Bernard to ever have to make a choice.)

I have several of his hybrids: *B. 'Makessa'*, *B. 'Flamboyant'*, *B. 'Imatonic'*, *B. 'Mulgowie Pride'*, *B. 'Redaway'*, and *B. 'Zuman'*. All are vigorous, prolific growers. I also have hundreds of seedlings from mixes he has sent me. (One, *B. 'Australian Star'*, I hope to list in my catalog this year.) To hear him tell it, there's nothing to it.

"I have hybridized extensively with *B. 'Sir Percy'*, the aim being to get many pinks, silvers and bicolors. Mickey (Meyer) and I both aim at this and we feel we have been successful—take, for instance, my hybrid, *B. 'Plum Royale'*. It's a large silver leaf speckled with pink.

"My newest to date is *B. 'Mauve Marine'*, a lovely mauve, shiny leaf heavily bordered with dark olive—a hybrid of *B. 'Aquamarine'*. Another new cross is the 'creeping' Brazil species x *B. acetosa*. It's a most unusual little plant resembling both its par-



Photos/Bernard Yorke

**B. 'Queen Olympus', a hybrid created by Bernard Yorke with silvery leaves margined in green**

ents—doesn't know whether it wants to creep or stand up! (When hybridizing, I like to have one parent a species—or near to it—i.e., a first cross. This keeps the seedlings strong and, as a rule, I find all of them fertile.)

"For my 'compost', I use a mixture of sand, peanut shells, and spent mushroom compost. For growing seed, I use plastic drinking cups. But instead of putting a hole in the bottom, I put a hole about two-thirds the way up the side. That way the pot is always moist and the seedlings can be watered quickly by gently squeezing the cup.

"I sow the seed in sterilized peat moss and always water straight away just to make sure the seed is settled

into the peat. When I water, I use a small container that releases moisture down the edge of the cup and that gradually fills up to the outlet. I am not an expert," he adds, "but I am getting good results.

"I find seed usually germinate best when fresh, but some will take months. I set all my 2-inch pots in galvanized metal trays, usually holding 100 in each and when the seedlings are 'away', I water with a mister. I plant seedlings out when the second leaf is developed and put the main stem deep into the pot . . . Mickey does the same . . ."

Bernard is quick to assert that the secret of his success comes in the main from listening to the advice of his mentors, Hazel Burley and Mickey Meyer. Hazel also lives in Brisbane and often meets with Bernard to exchange cuttings and pollen.

Mickey, on the other hand, has had to provide her expertise from a distance. She lives in Tethra, New South Wales. This past summer, however, she made the trip to Brisbane and the three of them were able to compare notes together for the first time.

(The trip Mickey made, to give you an idea of the vast distances of Australia, would be like my taking bus and train from Tennessee to spend an afternoon in Portland, Oregon, conferring with growers Pat Morrison and Jim Heffner. I would surely enjoy it. But you can see why such a jaunt wouldn't take place every weekend.)

Mickey first began growing begonias because she bought some from a "local boy" selling them to help pay his way through nurseryman's training. Some of the plants died before she joined ABS and gained enough growing experience to keep them going.



"There are several very important factors which I have learned make it possible to grow begonias fairly easily," she says. Here they are:

1. Use only fresh seed to assure maximum germination.

2. Germinate the seed in the same mixture in which the plants will eventually grow, a loose, open mix sterilized before sowing.

3. Provide good root growth by pricking the tiny seedlings out and burying the roots and most of the stem in a new container about a half inch from neighboring seedlings.

4. Any begonia will acclimate to your conditions if it doesn't suffer winds, a too-fine planting mix, or excessive watering.

5. Feeding is very important. It's better to apply a weak fertilizer solution

weekly than a stronger solution less often.

At the moment, both Bernard and Mickey are watching closely over seedlings for which Hazel provided the seed from her cross of *B. paulensis* x *B. goegoensis*. Hazel has also used *B. 'Universe'* a great deal as a pollen parent. *B. 'Ripples'* and *B. 'Dapples'* are two such crosses.

The three of them have made lasting contributions to the hybridizing of begonias and to ABS. I just wish they weren't so far away. But just you wait, 'enry 'iggins . . . One of these days . . . when I'm rich and famous . . . I'm going to make a trip Down Under to meet these warm and interesting people and see their begonias in their own setting.

Anybody want to go along?



*B. 'Damarga'*, whose light green leaves are marked with reddish brown veins

*B. procumbens* is a parent of this Yorke hybrid, *B. 'Mustique Magic'*



---

## QUESTION BOX/ *What's the difference between peat and peat?*

---

Elda Haring

**Question:** In one of my Round Robins a member said sphagnum peat and ordinary peat moss are the same—only one is chopped up. I thought you had to be careful about peat moss in potting soil. Just what is the story on peat moss?

**Answer:** Sphagnum peat moss is light brown when dry, reddish brown when wet. It is a light fluffy material. Most of it is imported from Canada, although some comes from Germany. It is a highly recommended additive for potting mixes and many of us use it.

This is not to be confused with Michigan peat, which appears to be a black humus material. Sphagnum moss is a less decomposed form of sphagnum peat. The long-fibered kind is often used in terrariums or for rooting cuttings. Some members prefer to chop this into small pieces for growing different begonias.

The *milled* sphagnum moss has been ground and has long been used for seed starting as it does not harbor the fungus that causes damping off. I use it in my propagating mixes at a ratio of one part each of milled sphagnum and perlite to two of vermiculite.

**Question:** I have three or four trays of potting soil in small seed flats. They contained seedlings that died from improper watering. They have been sitting on the bench in the greenhouse for months. Do I dare use them for new seeds or seedlings?

**Answer:** For new seeds or seedlings, I would use fresh mix. However, the

old mix can be used for rooting cuttings.

**Question:** Is there a begonia that could be a bonsai subject?

**Answer:** Many members use *B. dregei* and its hybrids *B. 'Lulandii'*, *B. 'Weltonensis'*, and *B. 'Maxwelton'* for bonsai. It might be fun to try others that have a tendency to grow upright—if they are expendable.

**Question:** What should I do about mail-order plants from a reliable source that were prepared poorly for shipment and received dead or dying?

**Answer:** Write immediately informing the source, asking for replacement of the plants or a refund.

Check the list or catalog carefully to be sure there is no statement that the source will not be responsible if the shipment is not received in good condition. If there is, choose another source.

**Question:** What should I do about leggy cuttings?

**Answer:** If possible, always take cuttings with a stem as short as possible. If they have become leggy, cut them off and re-start them. However, do not discard the rooted sections—new growth may start at the soil level.

Make sure cuttings are in good strong light after a little tug indicates roots have developed.

**Question:** How and when should I pinch baby begonias when growing them from seed?

**Answer:** After the first transplant—and the little plantlets are about 2½ to 3 inches high—pinch out the top of the stemmed kinds like canes, *semperflorens*, and shrub-like kinds. Rhizomatous kinds should not be pinched at this stage.

---

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



# ROUND ROBINS/ *How to tell shrub-types from cane-types*

Mabel Corwin

Several robin members have asked the question: "What is the difference between a cane- and a shrub-like begonia?"

Charlotte Kuhnle, Oregon, answered:

Cane begonias have erect, bamboo-like stems with evenly spaced nodes that are usually swollen. The internodes are usually relatively long. The leaves usually have silver and white dots and splashes, though not always. The leaves are either smooth (glabrous) or semi-hairy. The canes are floriferous with pendulous flower clusters.

Shrub-like begonias are bushy, producing shoots from the base. They branch readily, and the bases of the stems are woody.

"Angel wings" are canes. Some shrub-like begonias are *B. 'Preussen'*, *B. 'Richmondensis'*, *B. 'Eunice Gray'*, and *B. foliosa*.

## Call it the Begoniadome

Ethel Arnold, California, buys a German chocolate cake at her supermarket that has a plastic dome over it. She uses one dome inverted over another for starting seeds and has excellent results.

## Success with *B. bogneri*

Duane Campbell, New York, grows *B. bogneri* in a completely closed container in long-grained sphagnum moss and perlite. He keeps it very dry. Un-

der lights it blooms profusely. He keeps it in a very dim section of the light garden, waters and fertilizes sparingly.

He thinks some people fail with this one because they treat it too well—or if it isn't growing under lights possibly it is responding to night lengths and going dormant.

## Portable begonia garden

Jan Clark, North Dakota, put her plants outside for the summer. She laid down plastic and spread bark over it. She then made benches using cement blocks and 2 x 4's. There was a nearby garage which provided shelter from the wind. In the fall she moved the plants into the basement, using the same arrangement.

Jan makes her own leaf mold using leaves she gathers from nearby woods. She bakes them in the oven, then crumbles to the texture that she needs. She feels these ground oak leaves make a much-needed contribution to the pH and mineral nutrition, but finds they don't help the soil texture at all. They cake and need lots of perlite to keep the mix open.

## Carefree seed growing

Doreen Vander Tuin, California, uses closed plastic containers with holes punched in the bottom for sowing seeds. Her mix is plain vermiculite moistened with one-fourth teaspoon of Miracle Gro to two gallons of water.

Under the containers she uses polyester batting as a means of capillary matting. With this method, it is easy to keep seeds and seedlings supplied with the proper amount of moisture. It requires little supervision.

---

*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.*

# NEW CULTIVARS/official international registrations

Carrie Karegeannes and Thelma O'Reilly, nomenclature co-directors

In the citations of cultivar parents, the female (seed) parent is listed first.

## **Begonia 'Kit's Unicorn'**

No. 740—*Begonia* 'Venetian Red' x *listida* 'Kit's Unicorn'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous. Ovate, double-spiraled leaves are purple, bright green, and silver green,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x 7", with ciliate margin, bullate surface, and 5 to 6 veins; petioles thick, strong, and hairy; stipules chartaceous. Flowers are pink shading to deeper pink, of typical *B. rex* form, 1", with 4 male and 5 female tepals, and are borne on 5"-7" peduncles, blooming in winter. Black-purple veins behind a silver-green puckered surface and a double spiral, giving a ruffled effect, make a striking cultivar. This is a strong plant, lavish with leaves and easy to grow. Originated in 1977 by Kit Jeans, Route 1, Box 319, New Johnsonville, TN 37132; first bloomed in 1979. Tested by Thelma O'Reilly. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.

Illustrations/Kit Jeans

## **B. 'Kit's Unicorn'**



Applications to register *Begonia* cultivars may be obtained from Thelma O'Reilly, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041. A \$2 check or money order payable to the American Begonia Society must accompany each completed application. Photos, drawings, and/or dried specimens to accompany applications are encouraged. ABS is the International Registration Authority for *Begonia* cultivar names.

## **Begonia 'Fox Fire'**

No. 741—*Begonia* 'This 'N That' x 'Big Boy' 'Fox Fire'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous. Nonspiraled 9" x 8" leaves have a dark-green center bordered by a silver area flushed lavender pink and speckled edges of silver, red, and pink; a crenate margin; and a lightly pebbled surface, with 7 veins. Petioles  $5\frac{1}{2}$ "; stipules  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Flowers are light pink. The describer of this begonia says it is distinguished by stunning leaf coloring. Originated in 1975 by Bob Cole, 18007 Topham St., Reseda, CA 91335; first bloomed and distributed in 1979. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.

## **Begonia 'Confection'**

No. 742—*Begonia* unknown x unknown 'Confection'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous. Nonspiraled 7" x 9" leaves have a black center shading into a green-on-black zone, red-bronze veins, speckled areas of silver that are sometimes flushed with lavender, an overlap at the basal sinus, a pebbled surface, and 8 veins; petioles 7", hairy; stipules 1". The silver-flecked green on black gives a different look from other dark-leaved *B. rex* cultivars. Originated in 1975 by Bob Cole (address above); first distributed in 1979. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.

## **Begonia 'Lavern Hannel'**

No. 743—*Begonia* 'Big Boy' x 'Big Rex' 'Lavern Hannel'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous. Spiraled 9" x 10" leaves are dark silver-green on green with pink silver-speckled overlay and brown border and have a lobed margin, a pebbled surface, and 11 veins; petioles 10"-13"; stipules 1". The color combination produces an unusual effect. Originated in 1975 by Bob Cole (address above); no blooms to date; first distributed in 1979. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.

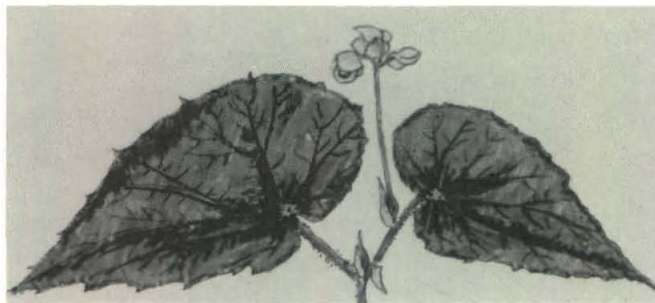
## **Begonia 'Mugwump'**

No. 744—*Begonia* 'Big Red' x 'Green Frills' 'Mugwump'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous with



erect stem. Silver-green-splashed, purple-red leaves are green along the veins, spiraled, 8" x 9", with lobed margin and pebbled surface; 10-veined; petioles 10"-14"; stipules ½". The color combination with surface and spiral distinguish this cultivar. Originated in 1975 by Bob Cole (address above); no blooms to date. First distributed in 1979. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.



**Begonia 'Greensleeves'**

**Begonia (Excalibur grex) 'Greensleeves'**

No. 745—*Begonia* 'Black Queen' x *hatacoa* 'Silver' (Excalibur g.) 'Greensleeves'

Rhizomatous with erect stem. Glabrous, satiny leaves are yellow green, ovate, 3½" x 5", with ciliate, subentire margin and 6 veins; petioles long, strong, hairy; stipules chartaceous. Creamy-white flowers of typical *B. rex* form are 1" across with pink ovaries touched with green, have 4 male and 5 female tepals, and are arranged in a cluster on 5"-7" peduncle; nearly everblooming. This plant inherited the *B. rex* cultivar flower form and an upright branching habit of its seed parent, but otherwise the foliage, creeping rhizome, and abundance of leaves appear typical of other rhizomatous classes. Rich, satiny, yellow-green leaves marked by burgundy-red veins give a new look. Originated in 1978 by Kit Jeans (address above); first bloomed in 1979. Tested by Thelma O'Reilly. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.

**SANTA BARBARA BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**

invites you to its meeting each month except July at 7:30 p.m., on the fourth Saturday, 1232 De La Vina St. DO COME!

**Begonia 'Cole's Aluminum'**

Bob Cole has requested that his *B. 'Aluminum'* (Reg. No. 649, announced in the September 1978 *Begonian*) be changed to *B. 'Cole's Aluminum'* because another begonia already had used the name 'Aluminum'.

**Parent Identified**

Originator Bob Cole has recorded that

*B. wollnyi* has been identified as the pollen parent of three cultivars previously registered with male parent unknown. *B. macedougallii* var. *purpurea* hort. x *B. wollnyi* is the parentage of:

*B. 'Bill Cook'*, ABS Reg. No. 496, announced in March 1976 *Begonian*.

*B. 'William Cook'*, No. 566, and *B. 'William'*, No. 567, both announced in May 1977 *Begonian*.

.....OFFER EXTENDED.....

**"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, everything 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. Extended, limited offer. Immediate shipment.

**Schultz Company**  
Dept. ABS 11730 Northline, St. Louis, MO 63043

---

# GROWING FROM SEED/ *A monthly column*

---

Joy Porter

*This is your column, seed growers. We'll write about your successes and your failures. By sharing our experiences, we will all learn.*

Besides being great fun, growing from seed has many advantages: vigorous seedlings, rare species not otherwise available, plants acclimated to your conditions from the start, and surprise seedlings from insect-pollinated seeds.

For me, Seed Fund *B. acuminata* seeds produced olive-green, narrow-leaved plants with leaf undersides red and veins white and prominent. Patrick Worley grows it as an unidentified

*Joy Porter, who loves to grow begonias from seed, is The Begonian's newest columnist. Please write to her at 9 Bayberry Lane, Framingham, MA 01701.*

**The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund took a vacation. It will resume in March.**

---

## More B. 'Corazon Rojo'

Continued from page 40

Like most *B. rex* hybrids, it thrives in a fast-draining potting mix containing leaf mold if available. Good leaf mold is unavailable in my area, so I use a mix containing equal parts of rich, woodsy potting mix, coarse perlite, finely ground orchid bark, and medium-sized orchid bark. On established plants I add slow-release fer-

---

## More Notes from the editors

Continued from page 31

plexiglass cage.

Come to think of it, though, that's not much wierder than our late, unlamented Mexican orange-kneed tarantula, "Roulette."

—C.A. & K.B.

Brazil species sold by the Seed Fund in the mid-1960s.

This could be the Brazil species No. 4 which Belva Kusler used as the pollen parent of *B. 'Alva Graham'*.

Did you discover, as Orpha Fox of Dracut, Mass., did, that seedlings of *B. ludwigii* went dormant in their first winter? The small tubers put out new growth in the following spring and did not go dormant in the fall.

Send us descriptions of the plants you obtained from seed of *B. paranensis* and *B. odeteiantha*. What were your experiences with *B. ebolowensis* seed?

Linda Miller, the prompt and efficient Seed Fund director, must send out seed labeled as it comes to her. I look at mysterious seedlings as a bonus whose identity our collective efforts may help unravel.

tilizer to the top of the soil every three months.

*B. 'Corazon Rojo'*, of unknown *B. rex* cultivar parentage, was hybridized in 1976 by Barbara Rowe Philip of Santa Barbara, Calif. This is another outstanding begonia to add to the rapidly growing list of Barbara's *B. rex* cultivars.

It bears registration No. 692. First distributed in 1978, it is available with a bit of searching, and well worth the effort.

---

## ABS board to hold February meeting

ABS directors will hold their monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 18.

The meeting will be at Fullerton Savings & Loan Association in Anaheim, Calif.



ABS financial records for fiscal 1978-79 have passed audit.

President-elect Gil Estrada, chairman of the audit committee, reported to directors that his committee met Nov. 10 to review the books and that they were found "in balance."

## Elizabeth Banks wins trophy

Elizabeth Banks, longtime member and officer of the San Francisco Branch, is the first winner of the branch's new annual service trophy.

The trophy, provided by past branch president Ernest Weitz, has been named

by Dr. Weitz in honor of Elizabeth. She was announced as its first recipient at the branch's Christmas potluck dinner.

## Insignia pins rise in cost

ABS directors have raised to \$6 the cost of ABS insignia pins. Action was taken Nov. 10 after the manufacturers hiked the wholesale cost by 60 cents.

Pins may be ordered from the bookstore librarian.

## In Memoriam: Lucius Gordon

Lucius Gordon, charter member of the Jacksonville Branch, has died. The branch made a memorial donation of \$10 to the ABS research fund.

Mr. Gordon grew many kinds of begonias but was best known for his ability to cultivate *B. masoniana*. He encouraged other growers and enjoyed sharing plants and knowledge.



## BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

### Violets - Begonias - Episcias

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

**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 11968.

**Something for everyone**—begonias, cactus, succulents, tropicals. Wholesale and Retail. No list—No mail order. Harvey's, 611 So. 8th St. Adel, Iowa 50003.

**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 Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens,** 18007 Topham, Reseda, CA 91335, (213) 881-4831—Welcome Wed thru Sun, 10 am-6 pm. Progressive catalog, \$2.00, re-

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.

funded with first order. Poster of 18 species staghorns, \$4.00.

**Rare and unusual begonias,** featuring Lowe hybrids. By appointment only. No list. No shipping at this time. Paul Lowe, 1544 West Rd., Lake Park, FL 33403. Telephone (305) 848-0909.

**Begonias. Blue ribbon winners.** Odd. Rare. Unusual. Price list available. Tropical Greenery, formerly Begonia Paradise Gardens, 22140 S.W. 152 Ave., Goulds, FL 33170. (305) 248-5529.

**Winter-blooming begonias:** Inca Princess, Splotches, solananthera, pink African violet begonia, Donald Duck, and gift plant. Six plants prepaid, \$12.00. Price list 35¢. Leslie Woodriff, Fairyland Begonia Garden, 1100 Griffith Rd., McKinleyville, CA 95521.

# ASSOCIATED GROUPS/ *Visitors always welcome*

## ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.  
Homes of members  
Mrs. Peter P. Lee, Pres.  
1852 31st St., San Diego, CA  
92102

Margaret Lee, Natl. Dir.

## BUXTON BRANCH

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

May Buck, Natl. Dir.

## CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN BRANCH

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

## CHEEKWOOD BRANCH

Homes of members  
Pam Braun, Pres.  
Rt. 6, Pinewood Rd.,  
Franklin, TN 37064

## CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Monday, Homes of members  
Arlene Peck, Pres.  
Eagle Peak Rd., Pascoag, RI  
02859

Priscilla Beck, Natl. Dir.

## DENTON BRANCH

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

Mae Blanton, Natl. Dir.

## DESERT BEGONIA BRANCH

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

Barbara Rogers, Natl. Dir.

## EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
Northbrea Community Church,  
Berkeley, Calif.  
Susan Patrick, Pres.  
27406 Grand View Ave.,  
Hayward, CA 94542

Glen Maynard, Natl. Dir.

## EASTERN NEW YORK BRANCH

Betty Pullar, Pres.  
411 New Karner Rd., Albany, NY  
12205

Betty Pullar, Natl. Dir.

## EASTSIDE BEGONIA BRANCH

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

Shelton Fisher, Natl. Dir.

## EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

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

Frank Kerin, Natl. Dir.

## ELSA FORT BRANCH

Helen Green, Pres.  
2100 Hunter St., Cinnaminson,  
NJ 08077

Gladys Cooper, Natl. Dir.

## FRED A. BARKLEY BRANCH

1st Sunday, Homes of members  
Dr. Fred A. Barkley, Pres.  
104 E. Highland,  
Tecumseh, OK 73475

Dr. Jeffrey Black, Natl. Dir.

## GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., New  
Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford, Garden Grove,  
CA 92643

*This directory appears quarterly. If your branch listing is incomplete or inaccurate, please notify the secretary immediately and send a copy of your letter to the editors.*

Gil Estrada, Pres.  
7914 Springer, Downey, CA  
90242

George Allison, Natl. Dir.

## GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Glendale Federal S & L,  
401 N. Brand, Glendale, Calif.  
Darlene Fuentes, Pres.  
2313 Hollister Ter., Glendale,  
CA 91206

Gladys Hatteberg, Natl. Dir.

## GREATER CHICAGO AREA BRANCH

4th Sunday, except Dec., 2 p.m.  
Oak Park Conservatory  
561 Garfield, Oak Park, Ill.  
Dan Haseltine, Pres.  
6950 W. Nelson St., Chicago,  
IL 60634

Paul Thomas, Natl. Dir.

## GREATER CINCINNATI BRANCH

Verda Stull, Pres.  
5 Burnham St., Cincinnati, OH  
45218

Erich Steinger, Natl. Dir.

## GREATER ROCHESTER BRANCH

3rd Sunday, Homes of members  
Betty Fennell, Pres.  
1054 Shoemaker Rd., Webster,  
NY 14580

Eileen Franklin, Natl. Dir.

## HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m., Parrish  
Memorial Hall, Southampton,  
NY  
Lou Padavan, Pres.

Box 127, Remsenberg, NY  
11960

Mary Burnaford, Natl. Dir.

## HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

4th Monday, 1:00 p.m., Garden  
Center, 1500 Herman Dr.,  
Houston, Tex.

Mrs. B. A. Russell, Pres.

5926 Jackwood St., Houston  
TX 77074

Gwen Brunka, Natl. Dir.

## JACKSONVILLE BRANCH

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.  
Agricultural Ctr.,  
1010 North McDuff Ave.  
Ann M. Helton, Pres.  
334 Brunswick Rd.,  
Jacksonville, FL 32216

Mary Harrell, Natl. Dir.

## KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Horticultural Society of New  
York  
128 West 58th St., New York,  
N.Y.

Marjorie L. Mack, Pres.

75 Henry St., Brooklyn, NY  
11201

Ed Grasheim, Natl. Dir.

## LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Great  
Western S & L  
6330 E. Spring St., Long Beach  
Loretta Salzer, Pres.  
4702 Ocana Ave., Lakewood,  
CA 90713

Muriel Perz, Natl. Dir.

## LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Planting Fields Arboretum

Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.  
Lois Schneyer, Pres.

111 Webster Ave., Malverne,  
NY 11565

Marie Donnelly, Natl. Dir.

## MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden  
Center

55 South West 17th Road,  
Miami, Florida

Charles J. Jaros, Pres.

2621 N.W. 23rd Court, Miami,  
FL 33142

Charles J. Jaros, Natl. Dir.

## MINNESOTA BRANCH

Homes of members  
Dorothea Lillestrand, Pres.  
210 W. 108th, Bloomington,  
MN 55431

Pat Burdick, Natl. Dir.

## MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
New Monterey Neighborhood  
Center

Lighthouse and Dickman Sts.,  
New Monterey, Calif.

Florence Peckman, Pres.

1249 Buena Vista Ave.,  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Leslie Hatfield, Natl. Dir.

## NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Mercury S&L  
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long  
Beach

Edith Van Landingham, Pres.  
6925 Lime Ave., Long Beach,  
CA 90807

D. G. Sullinger, Natl. Dir.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Fullerton S & L, 2310 E. Lincoln  
Ave., Anaheim  
Cruz Sandoval, Pres.

2221 Evelyn Dr., Anaheim, CA  
92805

Margaret Taylor, Natl. Dir.

## PALM BEACHES BRANCH

2nd Monday, Home S & L  
Opp. Palm Coast Plaza, W. Palm  
Beach, Fla.

Mrs. Frances Hunter, Pres.  
201 Potter Rd., W. Palm Beach,  
FL 33405

Paul Lowe, Natl. Dir.

## PALMETTO BRANCH

Lucille Peden, Pres.  
4 Wildwood Dr., Greenville,  
SC 29607

John McWhorter, Natl. Dir.

## PALOMAR BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Vista Recreation Center  
Phyllis Bates, Pres.

554 Arden Drive, Encinitas, CA  
92024

Ralph Corwin, Natl. Dir.

## POTOMAC BRANCH

4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m.,  
National Arboretum  
Bladensburg & R. Sts., N.E.,  
Washington, D.C.

Maxine Zimman, Pres.

Rte 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620  
Carrie Karegeannes, Natl. Dir.

## REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m., R. H.  
Dana School Cafetorium  
135th St. and Aviation Blvd.  
Hawthorne, Calif.

Evelyn Isaac, Pres.  
2022 Bataan Rd., Redondo  
Beach, CA 90278

Diane Fries, Natl. Dir.

## RUBIDOUX BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.



Glendale S & L, Riverside, Calif.  
 Claire Husted, Pres.  
 13597 Indiana, Corona, CA 91720  
 Dorothy Ansevier, Natl. Dir.  
**SACRAMENTO BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m., Garden Center  
 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.  
 Shirley Wilson, Pres.  
 2160 Stacia Way, Sacramento, CA 95822  
 Joan Coulat, Natl. Dir.

**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  
 Dolores Dupre, Pres.  
 417 Hazelwood Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127  
 Susan Muller, Natl. Dir.

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**  
 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Los Angeles State and County Arboretum  
 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.  
 Walter Barnett, Pres.  
 1213 S. Mullender Ave., West Covina, CA 91790  
 Walter Barnett, Natl. Dir.

**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

Paul Lee, Natl. Dir.  
**SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**  
 4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center  
 1232 De la Vina St.  
 Phyllis Mautino, Pres.  
 420 Calle Palo Colorado, Santa Barbara, CA 93105  
 Keith Mautino, Natl. Dir.

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH**  
 3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
 Allstate Savings, Payne & Saratoga Aves., San Jose  
 Mary Margaret Rafferty, Pres.  
 18531 Ravenwood Dr.  
 Saratoga, CA 95070  
 Joseph McMahon, Natl. Dir.

**SEATTLE BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave., N.E.  
 Alice Ordway, Pres.  
 3310 N.W. 80th St., Seattle, WA 98117  
 Anton Soder, Natl. Dir.

**SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH**  
 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Mosher Field House  
 430 S. 156th St., Seattle  
 Joanne Slosser, Pres.  
 16419 3rd Ave., S.W., Seattle, WA 98166  
 Herbert Briggs, Natl. Dir.

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ASSOCIATION**  
 Robert Hamm, Dir.  
 3817 Jo Ann 15-D, Wichita Falls, TX 76306

**TACONIC BRANCH**  
 Mrs. John V. Steiner, Pres.  
 Bullet Hole Road, Mahopac, NY 10541  
 Mrs. John V. Steiner, Natl. Dir.

**TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH**  
 3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.  
 University of So. Florida,

Student Chapel Bldg.  
 Stefan K. Brown, Pres.  
 4011 N. Howard, Apt. 101, Tampa, FL 33623  
 Dora Lee Dorsey, Natl. Dir.  
**THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH**

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

**WESTCHESTER BRANCH**  
 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Westchester Women's Club  
 8020 Alverstone St., Los Angeles  
 Arnold Krupnick, Pres.  
 11506 McDonald, Culver City, CA 90230  
 Clair Christensen, Natl. Dir.

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**  
 2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.  
 Northway Mall Community Room  
 North Hills, Pittsburgh, Penn.  
 Genevieve Allison, Pres.  
 221 Schaffner Rd., Butler, PA 16001  
 Agnes Hodgson, Natl. Dir.

**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  
 Dorothy Kosowsky, Natl. Dir.

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH**  
 4th Tuesday, noon, Homes of members  
 Mrs. Herbert S. Webster, Pres.  
 "Millbridge" 13 Summit Dr., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010  
 Mrs. Lancelot Sims, Natl. Dir.

## ABS SERVICES

These services are available to all ABS members. For names and addresses of department heads and other officers, see inside front cover.

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS**—Services for members who don't belong to branches are handled by the members-at-large director. Contact him for details. If you are interested in finding a branch or starting one in your area, contact the branch relations director for help.

**THE BEGONIAN**—The monthly journal of the society publishes how-to articles, scientific information, and ABS news. Articles on a member's personal experiences with begonias are welcomed, as are black-and-white photos of begonias and color slides suitable for use on the cover. Contact the editors. Copies of the Begonian more than a year old are available from the back issue sales chairman at 75 cents each. A full year is \$6.50 for any year in the 1940s, \$5 for any year from 1950 onward. Back issues less than a year old are ordered from the membership secretary.

**BOOKSTORE**—Books on begonias and related subjects can be purchased mail-order from the bookstore librarian. Contact him for a list of books available. The bookstore also sells reproductions of antique begonia prints.

**JUDGING COURSE**—The judging school director offers a course by mail with which you can learn to become an accredited begonia show judge. Also available are a booklet on point scoring, information

on fuchsia and fern judging, and other requirements to become a judge.

**LIBRARY**—Books about begonias and gardening may be borrowed by mail from the lending library. Contact the librarian for a list of books and the procedure.

**NOMENCLATURE**—The nomenclature department monitors newly published findings on begonia names as well as handling official international registration of new begonia cultivars. Registrations are published in The Begonian.

**RESEARCH**—The research department conducts a Grow and Study project in which members experiment with various begonias and compile their findings. The department also has other activities, including the review of requests for ABS backing of outside projects. For details, contact a co-director.

**ROUND ROBINS**—Members exchange information about begonias and their culture through a packet of letters which circulates among a small group of growers. There are dozens of these packets—called flights—on many specialized subjects. To join one or more, contact the round robin director.

**SEED FUND**—The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund offers seeds of begonia species and cultivars by mail. New offerings are listed in The Begonian.

**SLIDE LIBRARY**—A series of slide shows on begonias and begonia growing can be borrowed by mail for showing at meetings and seminars. New shows are under preparation. Contact the slide librarian for fee information.



## Begonias/Episcias/ African violets

Cuttings only—Catalog \$1

*Kit Jeans The Gift Horse Greenhouse*  
Rt. 1, New Johnsonville, TN 37134



## RARE AND EXOTIC SEEDS

Hundreds of houseplant, greenhouse and garden varieties, unusual flowering vines and trees of every color and description. Seeds selected for Bonsai. Weird novelty plants. Catalog \$ .50.

**STEVE PIRUS**

COLLECTOR OF RARE AND EXOTIC SEEDS  
P.O. Box 693 • Westminster, CA 92683

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

## BEGONIAS

**MILLIE THOMPSON**

310-A Hill Street, P.O. Drawer PP  
Southampton, Long Island, NY 11968  
(516) 283-3237

New descriptive catalog available—\$1.00

## JOIN THE FERN EXPERTS

Have fun in the

**Los Angeles Int'l Fern Society**

Membership only \$10.00 per year

Monthly LAIFS Journal, Fern lessons, Robins, Spore Store, Books, Educational programs.

14895C Gardenhill Dr., La Mirada, CA 90638

## ANTONELLI BROTHERS

2545 Capitola Road  
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060

36-page color catalog 25 cents

American Begonia Society  
826 Santa Rita Ave.  
Los Altos, CA 94022

Address correction requested

## BEGONIAS & AFRICAN VIOLETS

25¢ to cover mailing costs  
for plant list

**ROUTH'S GREENHOUSE**

Louisburg, Missouri 65685

## Join the NATIONAL FUCHSIA SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP \$6.00 per year  
includes monthly FUCHSIA FAN

"The New A to Z on Fuchsias", a hardcover book,  
\$11.95 plus 75c shipping (residents add 72c tax)  
Mail to: National Fuchsia Society, Dept. B  
2201 Isabella Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

BEGONIAS, GERANIUMS, EXOTICS  
FERNS, OXALIS, CACTI, HERBS

1979-80 Catalog with Color—\$2.00

**LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES**

(Est. 1892)

55 North Street, Danielson, Connecticut 06239

## BEGONIAS

REX BEGONIA SEED

**RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE**

\$1.00 per pkt plus 15¢ postage

Calif. residents add 6% Sales Tax

1130 NORTH MILPAS STREET  
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93103

## SPOONIT<sup>®</sup>

"GETS THINGS GROWING!"

Gives  
exceptionally  
fast results when  
used on flowers,  
ferns, shrubs,  
trees and lawns.  
May be used for  
foliar feeding.



at PLANTSMITH  
1924 Plymouth St.  
Mountain View CA 94043

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Permit No. 655  
South San Francisco, CA