



*The*  
**Begonian**

January/February 1997

# The Begonian



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Publication of the American Begonia Society

## 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 that will be mailed to all members of the society.*

*To bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.*

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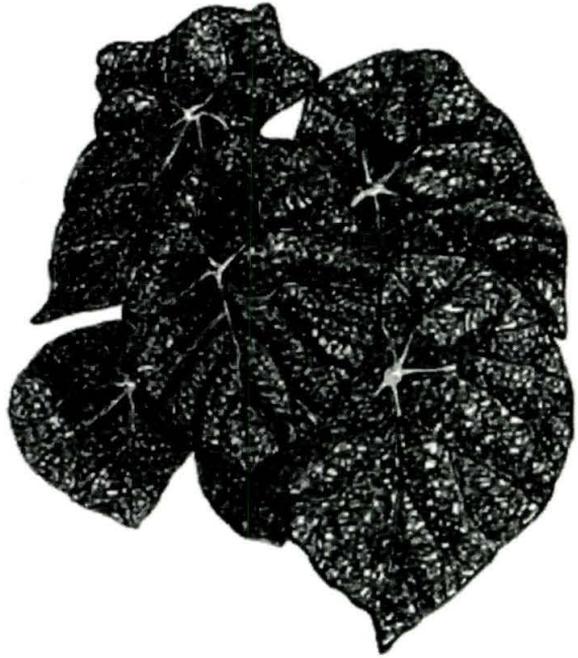
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**ABS Web Site address** - <http://www.loop.com/~begonia/index.html>

**Cover:**Watercolor painting of *B. boliviensis* by **Laverne Hanell**, a Southern California member. This painting won a trophy at The Westchester Branch Show in July, 1996.

**Back:** photo of Mabel Corwin hybrid rex, *B. 'Martin Johnson'*, taken by **Mabel Corwin**

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*B. gehrtii*

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**B**egonias are like friends...  
*the ones you value the most, are  
the ones you work the hardest to  
keep...*

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## Quick

Check your mailing label. If it reads 3/97 or 4/97, your membership is about to expire. Please renew! We don't want to lose you.

# E-Mail Addresses



This is an updated list of ABS members who have E-mail addresses. If I have left anyone out or if you would like to add your name to the list. E-mail me at [brad38@ix.netcom.com](mailto:brad38@ix.netcom.com)

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## Evelyn Weidner's recipe for **Begonia Sorbet:**

- 1 can, concentrated lemonade or limeade
- 3 to 4 apricots
- 2 large tuberous begonia flowers

Mix juice according to directions, but skimp on the water. Freeze. Wash petals and chop until confetti-like. Blend juice and apricots in food processor until slushy. Add flowers, freeze and serve.

*(Evelyn Weidner is a commercial grower of tuberous begonias at Weidner's Begonia Farm in Leucadia, CA. She is a frequent speaker at So. California Branches. No, she doesn't mailorder, to answer that question. Although she is not a member of ABS, I thought you might appreciate trying her recipe)*

# Passings



## Francis Michelson

**Noted** Begonia hybridizer **Francis Michelson** passed away on October 21, 1996 after a lengthy illness. **Francis** was awarded the **Alfred D. Robinson Medal** for B. 'Withlacochee'. Other outstanding Michelson hybrids include B. 'Panasoffkee', B. 'Venepi', and B. 'Homosassa', plus many others. **Francis** and his wife **Helen** were charter members of the **Miami Branch** and have been members since that charter in 1946. Both were awarded life membership in the **Miami Branch**. **Francis** was always willing to share his knowledge and plants with others and was a staunch supporter of the ABS Seed Fund. He will be sorely missed. Condolences can be sent to **Helen Michelson, 2918 Cimarron, Sarasota, FL**

## Isadore Gold

**In** September 1996, The San Francisco Branch of ABS and the World of Begonias lost a special man, **Isadore Gold**. **Izz** was a past President of the S. F. Branch and an interested, working member of the Society for over 40 years. He and his wife Alice were a mainstay in all the San Francisco shows and Conventions. **Isadore Gold** will be sorely missed...

*Susan Miller*

# Submissions



I would still appreciate articles on the following topics in addition to any other topics:

**Hybridizing**  
**Begonia Culture**  
**Propagation**  
**Specific Begonia Culture** (*how to grow a particular variety*)  
**Growing Under Lights**  
**Home Research**  
**Any Pictures of Begonias**  
**Favorite Plants** (*include good pictures*)  
**Growing Areas and Greenhouses** (*include picture of grower and several of growing areas*)  
**Growing Indoors**  
**Setting and Starting Seed**

*Please realize that articles or pictures are not printed in the order that they are received but as needed. Almost all will be used eventually, if not, I will let you know right away and the reason. I do appreciate your hard work. **the editor***

## Quick Tip



**Quick Tips** are short, one line or one paragraph culture tips. I know you have them; I've seen them in your branch newsletters, so send them in. You will receive credit for each submission that is printed.

*Send Quick Tips to:*

**Maria Holmes**  
**760 W. Lomita Bl. #144**  
**Harbor City, CA 90710**

**MariaHolmes@worldnet.att.net**

# Caring for the Newly Departed or How can I save this plant?

---

by Brad Thompson

I know none of you ever have any plants that don't do very well but maybe you can pass these tips on to people you know, who have problem plants. Many times saving a plant will seem hopeless but that isn't always the case and you may be able to rescue some of them by following the methods below.

**1. My plant died back to the soil. Should I throw it out?** The answer to this question is maybe. To find out for sure examine it more closely because it also depends on the type. I'm sure no one reading this article has ever thrown out a tuberous begonia after it went dormant thinking it was dead. No, of course not. You should check to make sure. If it was a rhizomatous type or rex, then it is dead; but, some of the other types can send up new shoots from under the soil. This happens with canes and shrubs quite often in areas where they are grown outside and get hit by a light frost that kills the top. Remove all the soil to see just what is happening down below the soil. If the roots are still alive and you can even see some small growth buds in there, then there is still hope. Repot it into the smallest pot the rootball will fit and give it a chance to come back. Make sure to keep it warm enough and be careful not to water it too much. If they are large plants outside that have died back because they were hit by frost, you can try just keeping them

drier until they get some growth back. I'm referring to areas where they can usually grow outside all year, not in Iowa where they get frosted permanently.

**2. I'm sure that I over-watered this plant because it's dropping leaves and looks sickly. How can I save it?** When a plant is overwatered or is in too large of a pot, many of the roots are killed by the sour soil and lack of air. To save an overwatered plant, you need to get rid of that old soil and pot the plant into a new pot that fits the remaining roots with a little space for new mix around the rootball. Most times there will be very few roots. If the top of the plant was large you should trim it back some also because the roots won't be able to take up enough water to support all that growth. Your trimmings give you the added option of cuttings to root for a backup plant in case you aren't able to save the original. Most of the time you will be able to save the plant easily unless you let it go too far. Even if all the roots are dead, you should be able to save what's left of the plant by treating it as a cutting and rerooting it inside a covered container for extra humidity. The first year I really grew begonias, I had a large B. 'Cachuma' that was about 2 feet across that I overwatered a couple of times. I managed to collapse and rot the plant, seemingly overnight, but was able to save a couple of leaf wedges from one leaf and restart the plant. I'm using this as an example of how you can sometimes save a plant when it seems hopeless.

**3. I have this small plant that just hasn't thrived and I'm worried about losing it before I even get it going. What should I do?** The easiest way to get a sluggish plant going is to put it into an

enclosed container, preferably under fluorescent light. I don't know of any begonia that won't thrive under those conditions if it was meant to thrive at all. You should repot it into a sterile mix before placing it into the terrarium or other enclosed container so you won't have to worry about fungus diseases.

**4. My begonia lost all of its leaves. Is it going to die?** Well, it isn't happy but as long as the stems or rhizomes are still turgid (firm) you can bring it back. Check to make sure that overwatering wasn't the problem and follow the instructions above for potting the plant into a smaller pot. The problem can also be caused by the conditions being too cold or fungus problems; or fungus problems caused by it being too cold. You get the idea. Keeping it warmer and taking care of the fungus/mildew problem should let it come back easily. You can also use the method above.

I hope these tips will help you save some of your ailing beauties but if you have a problem that's not covered here, remember that you can always send me or the **Horticultural Correspondent, Shelley Andros**, any questions you have about growing. If you would rather e-mail the questions for a quicker response, my e-mail is: **brad38@ix.netcom.com** and Shelley's is **ANDROSLAND@aol.com**

## Quick Tip



Keeping ants under control will also help keep other common insects under control such as mealy bugs, aphids and scale. If you have ants in your plants you have these other pests also you can be sure.

## Welcome New Branches

**We're** on a roll! Join me in welcoming three new Branches to ABS. In the past nine months, Charters have been issued to the following groups of excited begonia admirers and growers:

**The San Jacinto Branch,**  
Houston TX

**The Wheatheart Branch,**  
Tonkawa, OK

**ABS Rocky Mountain Branch,**  
Denver CO

**We** are now a Society thirty-seven Branches strong. It is quite easy to form a Branch. Only seven ABS members are necessary, a Constitution and Bylaws, and a few officers. Quicker than you think possible, you can see your Branch listed in our directory. I have all kinds of information just waiting for you. Together we make the organizing process easier than you ever thought it could be.

**So** - if you have a plant friend, and that plant friend knows a plant friend, and by chance some of your plant are begonias, drop me a note and let's start a Branch in your neighborhood.

*This message brought to you by:*

**Mary Bucholtz**  
**Branch Relations Director**  
**1560 Lancaster Terrace #**  
**1008**  
**Jacksonville, FL 32204**

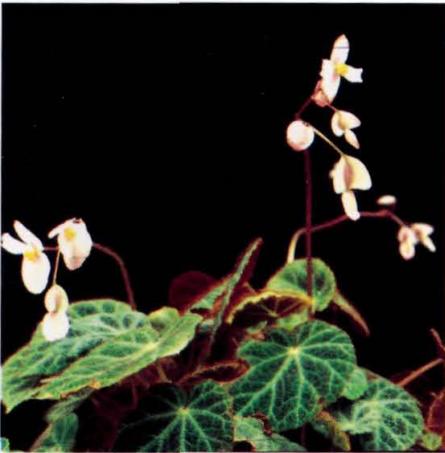
# Unidentified Begonia Species List

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Thelma O'Reilly, Project Director

**B. U249** El Valle, Panama. Seed collected by Robert Brin, 1988 by a stone wall exposed to full sun. Elevation 2600 ft. (*SF 1989:114.*) Shrub-like. Leaf blades pale green, asymmetrical, pubescent. Flowers pink Identified as **Begonia filipes** by Thelma O'Reilly.

**B. U250** El Valle, Panama. Seed collected by R. Brin, 1988 in a private garden within an area exposed to the sun. Elevation 2600 ft. (*SF 1989:114; 1992:36.*) Shrub-like. Stems 4 ft. Leaf blades pale green, succulent, 4 x 5 in. Flowers white, blooming year round.



**B. U251**

**B. U251** Nueva Vizcaya, Luzon, Philippines. Plant material collected by J. Atwood at Dalton Pass, 1987. Distributed by Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. Habitat: Dry cliff face.

Surrounding vegetation included xerophytic fern, *Pityrogramma*. Elevation 1200m. Rhizomatous. Rhizome repent, slender, internodes short. Leaf blades oblique, bullate, 3-4 x 2-2 1/2 in., shallowly cordate, apically acuminate, marginally entire to barely dentate, ciliolate, dark green with grass green bordered nerves and bristly, reddish pubescence above, dark red with raised green nerves and red pubescence beneath. Petioles 6-12 in., green with woody, reddish pubescence scattered over entire length. Stipules 1/4-1/2 in., tan, persistent, above glabrous, sparsely scattered pubescence beneath, keeled. Flowers white. Staminate tepals 4. **NOTE:** this beautiful leaved species is difficult to cultivate. It requires a greenhouse or terrarium conditions. Mabel Corwin and I have been unable to bring it into flower. It has periods of dormancy, often succumbing during this state.

**B. U252** Dominica, West Indies. Seed collected by Lynda Goldsmith during a visit to this small, mountainous island. Shrub-like. Stem erect, 2-3 ft. high, branched, green flushed tan, pubescent, turning woody with age. Leaf blades ovate, cordate, medium green, glabrous, nitidous throughout above, pale green, glabrous with pubescence on raised nerves beneath, apically acuminate, marginally dentate, serrulate. Petioles green suffused red to red, 3-4 in, pubescent. Stipules green, 3/4 in., glabrous, setiferous, keeled. Inflorescences rise above the plant. If greenhouse grown inflorescences are green with white flowers, if cultivated outdoors they are red with white and red flowers. Peduncles 5-9 in., glabrous. Pedicels 1/2 in., glabrous. Staminate flowers: small, star-like shaped, glabrous, 4 tepals, 2 red and 2 white or completely red or white on same inflorescence. Distillate flowers: small, star-like



**U252**

shaped, glabrous, 5 tepals, usually white with red stripes on lower surfaces or completely red.

All flowers are strongly scented.

**NOTE:** Lynda Goldsmith and I discussed the possibility that B. U252 = *B. oblique*. Complete information about *B. oblique* is available in Jack Golding's publication *Begonia nomenclature notes*. The Lectotypification of *Begonia obliqua* Linnaeus, published in *Phytologia*, Vol. 45, March 1980, No 3.

**B. U253** Chiapas, Mexico. Seed collected by Margie Harris at Ruinas Bonampak. Habitat: Population growing at the base of right-most temple on top of the pyramid. (SF 1989:235-236.) Identified as *B. sericoneura* by T. O'Reilly. **NOTE:** For additional information read *Begonian* 1989, pg.224.

**B. U254** Brazil. This temporary Unidentified Species Number was assigned to a plant collected by Mulford B. Foster in 1946 and identified as *B. acetosa* Velloze by Dr. Lyman B. Smith. A question to J. Golding from T. O'Reilly about the possibility that *B. acetosa* Vellozo and *B. itaguassuensis* Brade might be the same species

started an extensive investigation by J. Golding in 1989. For comprehensive reports on his research and final determination that B. U254 is *B. acetosa* Vellozo, read J. Golding's interesting articles in *The Begonian* 56:228-232,1989; 63:49-51,1996.

**B. U255** Chimborazo, Ecuador .

Tubers collected by Scott Hoover 15.8 km from Bucay, 1988. Habitat: Fairly recent landslide area above road with large boulders and earth mixed together, very exposed. Elevation-4000 ft. Tuberous. Growth cane-like, flowers orange.(SF 1989:235-236.)

**B. U256** Tepoztlan, Mexico. Seed collected in wild area. Stems single. Leaf blades green with some red when exposed to sun. Flowers profuse.

*(Thelma O'Reilly grows and writes about begonias in La Mesa, CA. Thelma has held many offices in ABS and is currently in charge of the U Numbers Project, to identify and research the U numbered begonias. Thelma is also one of a handful of members that has received all three major ABS awards)*



## Quick Tip

**Self-watering pots** will work well for most begonias indoors if you use a soilless mix. A soil based mix will stay too wet and will cause rot. A self-watering pot is a pot that contains a reservoir for water. You can also use a light constant feed fertilizer with this type of pot. Make sure to water from above occasionally with plain water to flush out excess fertilizer salts.

# Advice on Taking Advice

---

As you continue down the road of growing experience you will encounter many different methods of growing plants and many new techniques (*that are always sure winners*). Well, this is a little warning from Brad, "All that seems ain't necessarily so". Many well-intended growers will pass on their growing secrets to you, some good, some not, and some good but not for you. You have to take each piece of advice with a grain of soil (*little bit of skepticism*) regardless of who the grower is. Just because So-and-So (*even if the so-and-so is me*) tells you something is a fact, or the best way to do something, doesn't mean that it will work that way for you. I've seen members listen to a speaker talk about a certain fertilizer or a new type of pot, etc., and then go right home and immediately apply what they have learned to all of their plants, usually with disastrous results. I knew one member that heard a speaker talk about using a strong type of fertilizer and then killed every one of her plants when she used it at her house.

Now, the proper way to take the advice you hear at meetings or from other growers is to experiment first before you go whole hog with your entire collection. Make sure that you also give the new method some time before you decide that it works for you. The problem is that there are many variables that come into play when we're talking about your plant culture. Variables, such as temperature, how you water, the amount of light, the type of mix you use, even how hard you pack the mix when you pot, can make differences in how your plants will react to a particular method of growing.

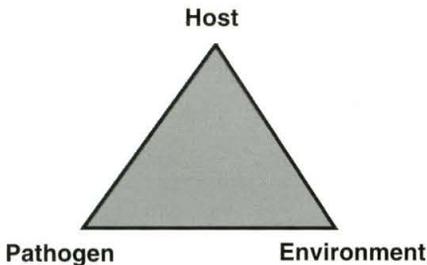
As far as the advice I give, I try to take into account the variables that could occur and try to use extreme caution when I recommend a method that could be misused. If I'm wrong about something I usually try to let you know right away (*or I will do that if I'm ever wrong about something*) no matter how painful it may be to admit. When you get advice that sounds like it should work and you've seen the results to verify it and want to try it, try it on two or three plants and then wait to see if you get the same results. A new fertilizer may take weeks before you see real results yourself but with some things you shouldn't have to wait too long. Just show a little restraint. There are some people in every club that are always free with their advice (*No, I'm not talking about me this time*) but no one has ever seen them even have a plant to enter in shows or even a show and tell. I've seen members that come across as experts that haven't even grown a single begonia to maturity. (*Maybe they've just been too busy trying to get everyone else to adopt their ideas.*) **Get your advice from members who have proven themselves to be good growers.**

Hopefully I haven't scared you away from taking good advice or trying new methods because that's how you learn to grow. I just don't want you to go overboard trying new methods until you've given them a trial first. (*An additional note from Mary Sakamoto: If you have a method that works great for you, don't mess with it.*)

***Begonias have an effect  
that mere words cannot explain  
they work a subtle magic  
directly on your brain***

# The Disease Triangle

by Horticultural Correspondent  
Shelley Andros



Disease will show up from time to time while caring for your begonias. It is important to understand the factors that cause diseases. In looking at the disease triangle, three factors have to be present for a pathogen to grow and reproduce.

- 1. The Host** - the plant that the pathogen can live on.
- 2. The Environment** - conditions must be ideal for the pathogen to survive.
- 3. The Pathogen** - the actual cause of the infection on the plant.

If one of these factors is removed from the triangle, the pathogen cannot survive. Since we don't want to stop growing **The Host** (*i.e. Begonias*) we need to look at the other two factors. **The Environment** - this is the one factor as growers we have the most control over. If we keep the environment unfavorable for the pathogen, it will not be able to survive. Cultural control is the

simplest, yet often overlooked, way to control a pathogen and its spread. This can be done by **Sanitation**, keeping the growing area clean of debris and weeds. Washing work areas, benches, walls of greenhouses and pots to be reused. **Vigorous Plants**, weak plants are susceptible to disease. Keep your begonias properly fed, watered and with ample space around the plant for circulation. **Creating Conditions Unfavorable to the Pathogens**, it is important to properly identify your disease problem. For example, if Botrytis is the pathogen affecting your plant? proper spacing and ventilation in a greenhouse can inhibit infections. **The Pathogen** - it is essential that we identify the pathogen that is actually causing the problem in our plants. Physiological problems often resemble pathogens. This could be from excess salts in the soil (*too much fertilizers without leeching*), or poor air space in the soil media, (*roots require oxygen to remain healthy*). If you are not sure whether you are dealing with a pathogen or a physiological problem, take all or part of the plant to your local nursery or extension office. Make sure to take a sample that has healthy tissue as well as infected tissue. Your last resort should be chemical fungicides. Fungicides only suppress a pathogen they never completely remove the pathogen from the environment. If you do choose to use a fungicide, always read the label and follow the safety procedures.

## Quick Tip



**Fungicides** can cause permanent eye damage if used improperly and you get them in your eyes. Always wear eye protection when spraying. As stated above, always follow safety instructions.

# Hints on Hybridizing

In response to my pleas for information about member's hybridizing efforts, I received a letter from **Miem Elzenga** in **Holland**. **Miem** outlined some of his results using *B. dichroa* and *B. maculata* var. *wightii*. Members of **Begonia Werkgroep Nederland** ordered seeds from the ABS seed fund and had several plants of *B. dichroa* come up in some mixed seed.



*B. dichroa* x *B. maculata* var. *wightii*



*B. dichroa*

In 1994, **Miem** used these plants of *B. dichroa* to cross with his plant of *B. maculata* var. *wightii*. Knowing that the results can be somewhat different when you make the same cross but use both parents as the male and the female, he decided to do the cross both ways. Both crosses took and produced a good amount of fertile seed which he planted in early 1995 and also had good germination. By August of that same year he already had blooms on many of them. He noticed some differences in the two crosses by then; the *B. maculata* var. *wightii* x *B. dichroa* cross was taller growing and

the leaves bore more of a resemblance to *B. maculata* except they were larger and the flowers were dark pink. The *B. dichroa* x *B. maculata* var. *wightii* cross was more compact like *B. dichroa* and had *B. dichroa*'s leaf shape, only larger, with the spots of *B. maculata*. The flowers were also shaped similar to *B. dichroa* only larger and were dark pink like the other cross. I thought it was interesting that both crosses seemed to take on the shape of the seed parent. This also illustrates some of the subtle differences that can appear depending on which parent is used for the seed parent and that sometimes it pays to do the crosses both ways. **Miem** hasn't named any of his hybrids yet but you can see by the pictures that they look impressive. The photos were taken by **Fraus Elzenga**.

*(Editor's note: I spent a couple of hours trying to figure out if Werkgroep Nederland was The Netherlands or Holland. I found out that Holland is a region of The Netherlands. I also found out that Miem had written Holland on the backs of all the photos)*

# Around ABS



Some members take suggestions from the Begonian to extremes, I think. Take **Ramona Parker** from CA, for instance. She must have gone just a little overboard with **Tamsin's** article about **spider use**. She assures me that she only cultivates the harmless ones as **Tamsin** suggested but somehow got a serious spider bite that caused her face to swell. I believe she had to spend a couple of days in the hospital. I think she's learned her lesson (*and recovered thankfully*) and has promised me that from now on she won't let any black widow or brown recluse spiders live in the house.

Long time grower, **Joan Coulat** had a shoulder joint replacement. Anyone that knows **Joan**, knows she is not content to just sit around doing nothing.



***B. maculata* var. *wightii* x *B. dichroa***  
(see article on facing page)

She related to me that you wouldn't believe how long it takes to repot a plant one handed. She should be going full blast with both arms soon and you can be sure she'll make up for lost time.

I enjoy reading the newsletters from the various clubs around the country and many are fact filled. **Daniel Haseltine** is editor of **The Chicago Begonian** for the Greater Chicago Branch. He has started devoting issues to different species of begonia. The September issue was devoted solely to **B. cathayana**. If you didn't know anything about that begonia before, you did by the time you finished reading that issue. In **Rambling Roots**, the Western Reserve Branch newsletter, editor **Elaine Ayers** has been doing an outstanding job. Not only is the newsletter professional looking, it is also well written and filled with begonia information. And they are a new branch! **One note on branch newsletters:** You really should list your officers and the editor. I don't know about other members that receive newsletters but I take the newsletter out of the envelope and throw the envelope away. I've found out later, that the return address on the envelope was probably the only clue to who compiled the newsletter. Also, if I ever need to refer to a newsletter to find out a particular officer in order to update lists, etc., I'm not able to. Many times I borrow (*steal*) articles from the different newsletters and not only is the editor not listed, the author of the particular article isn't listed either. I'd like to give credit to the proper parties.

Many members have adopted begonia species through the **Adopt-A-Species Project**. It is worth adopting a species to receive the excellent **Save Our Species** newsletter edited by **Tamsin and Bruce Boardman**. If you would like to adopt, especially if your other children are all grown, write to **Tamsin**. (*address listed on page 39*)

# Winter Doldrums:

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by Brad Thompson

Well, to quote a couple of members, **Teri Dykzeul** who said, "I'm doing good if I just remember to water the darn things," and **Mary Sakamoto** who said, "I just don't care as much about them during the winter when they don't look good," (*actually, I toned down what Mary said*) it is clear that for most members it is hard to keep that begonia interest going during the winter when our begonias and our members are tired out from another successful growing season. As with all hobbies and interests, there are times when we really don't care as much, or are not as excited, but as with all things that are worth caring about sometimes we just have to force ourselves to get past those times. There are plenty of things you can do that will help you stay interested and also help you next spring when everything will be exciting and hopping again.

**1. Reading:** Being from the midwest I can tell you that winter is the hardest time for a gardener. I would have all of these beautiful plants, flower beds and gardens and then fall would come and freeze everything and then winter would cover it all up. The way I kept my interest going even during those times was to plan for the next year. I probably read every gardening book in the local library several times and ordered every gardening catalog I could find. What this accomplished, besides giving me something to do, was to give me ideas for things I could do the next spring and I would spend hours writing down plans and ordering seeds.

Also, I learned a lot about how to grow the plants, the names of plants, and a myriad of other gardening stuff. How many of you have even read the "**Begonias, The Complete Reference Guide**" all the way through? Have you studied all the pictures so you can learn what some of the begonias look like? Have you read any of the plant descriptions and parentage of the begonias in the back of the book to learn how some of your favorite varieties were created?

**2. Join a Round Robin:** The **ABS** has a program called Round Robins and these are on every subject concerning begonias and other shade loving plants. These are letter writing clubs for begonia lovers. Each Round Robin consists of up to eight people and usually concerns a certain subject such as growing canes. Robins have people from all over the country and sometimes the world. I have been in some that had members in New Zealand and, also, England and Belgium. You exchange information about how you grow begonias in your area, discuss problems and how to grow specific varieties, and also you make friends from all over. I have received many letters directly from friends in Robins and also have met many of them at conventions. It never hurts to make new friends or to learn new information. The Round Robin consists of letters from each of the members and each time it comes around (*usually every 3 or 4 months*) you read everyone's letters, take out your last letter, write a new letter and then send it on to the next member on the list. Even if you don't consider yourself much of a letter writer you might surprise yourself. If the Robin comes at a really busy time for you, you always have the option of just putting in a note saying you don't have time to write this time around and send it on. So, really it isn't that much of a burden

even when you are busy. Contact the **Round Robin Director, Virginia Hamann, Rt. 1, Box 10, Chester, IA 52134** about what Robins are available or send her a list of subjects you are interested in and she will just add you to a Robin as they become available. Be patient, sometimes for particular subjects you have to wait for one of the Robins to have a member drop out. Try one, you won't regret it.

### 3. Grow Some in the House:

Nothing will help keep you interested in your begonias more than having some *nice plants growing under lights (or in a window if you've ignored my advice all these years and don't have a light setup)*. Starting some seed may seem like a lot of trouble if you haven't done it, or been successful before, but is worth the trouble. When I lived in Iowa, I grew all kinds of seed under lights and many varieties I would never have even grown if I hadn't been able to get seed. Plants aren't as readily available there, as you might guess, so any new varieties you can secure are as precious as gold. It was by growing these seeds that I learned how different varieties grew and developed (*yes, I did grow begonia seed then, too*) and it was very exciting to see something sprout and grow in the dead of winter. I also grew lots of cuttings because in the midwest that is the only way that you can keep your favorite varieties from year to year. You also shared everything you had with neighbors and friends so if yours didn't make it you could get them back (*yes, that works here too which is why I still always share what I have with friends*).

I know that I have only given you three ideas for things to do to keep your *interest and spirits up but that should be enough to get you started on ideas of your own.*

## Indonesia

On the following pages is a summary of **Scott Hoover's** trip to Indonesia that he made in 1995. This expedition was conducted as a memorial to **Martin Johnson** who passed away in 1994 and who donated the majority of the funds for this trip. **Scott** included a longer tribute and thank you to Martin which couldn't be included because of space constraints. Martin Johnson was a wonderful friend to everyone who knew him in **ABS** and was a moving force in the collection and conservation of begonias. He is greatly missed.

**Scott** also would like to thank all the members of **ABS** that donated funds to the Conservation Fund and to his trip. He especially thanks **Ann and Gene Salisbury** for their patience and organizational efforts and assistance, **Bruce Boardman** for his donation and his faith in Scott making the trip, and **Leora Fuentes, Tom Keepin** and the rest of the **SWR** for their strong support of his expeditions over the years. He also would like to thank the other members who made contributions to the "**Emergency Fund**" that made it possible for him to make this trip on time. They include: **Howard and Barbara Berg, Norman Dufrene, George Fix, John Howell, Thelma and Tim O'Reilly, Mary Sakamoto, Suzanne Underwood, and Rudy Ziesenhenn**e. To all these friends he extends his sincerest thanks.

**Scott** also included a table with summaries of his collections that there wasn't space for. For those interested, the table will be included with Scott's article on the **ABS Webpages** Conservation area for reviewing.

# 1995 Martin Johnson Memorial Begonia Expedition to Indonesia

By W. Scott Hoover, Executive Director,  
New England Tropical Conservatory,  
Williamstown, MA

Planning for this collecting expedition was brief; I started in **August of 1994** and was on a plane to **Jakarta** at the end of **Feb. 1995**. It normally takes over a year to plan and obtain financing and permitting. These were special circumstances, so off I went.

Principal work efforts were targeted for **Sumatra**. Upon arriving in **Jakarta**, I immediately contacted an Indonesian Herbarium and explained my unusual circumstances. As with prior expeditions, pressed specimens would be let in the country of origin. The next step was to arrange for a car and guide/translator. Unfortunately, a major Muslim holiday was being practiced and most of the country was on vacation. A standard **Scott Hoover** solution prevailed: Go collect anyway, guide or no guide. So off I went by myself; rented a car from Avis (TM), drove to the western tip of **Java** and crossed the **Sunda Strait** on a ferry boat. I had 3 days to collect before I could get a driver for the 4 weeks and begin the major Begonia work.

This three-day effort was quite an experience. As one could predict, the language problem was considerable but not insurmountable. I managed to make two collections of *B. isoptera* at low elevations. One collection was made on the slopes of **Mt. Ratai**, a 1681 meter volcano overlooking the **Sunda Strait** and remains of **Krakatau**. This species was the most common, low elevation Begonia in Indonesia; though,



compared to other **Sumatra Begonia**, was not noteworthy. Much was learned from this mini-trip. Deforestation was so prevalent that little forest remained at lower elevations. It became clear that collecting Begonias was going to be difficult. I returned to **Jakarta**, dropped off the two collections, and made preparations for the main trip.

Within three days, my guide/translator, **Anwar**, and I, were back crossing the **Sunda Strait** in a Toyota Kajang Jeep, heading for our first night in **Kotabumi, Lampung Province**. The next day, **March 8**, resulted in collecting one Begonia in a steep, heavily shaded gorge at 2200 ft. and searching another 9 to 10 areas with no luck. Much time and effort was expended to find Begonia at elevations less than 4000 feet with few results. I was getting concerned and had to change the game plan. The end of the collecting day arrived and we drove to **Lake Ranau**, on the border of **South Sumatra Province**. This was a most beautiful spot, flanked by a volcano covered in natural forest, as I came to learn most volcanoes are. The following day we drove to **Lahat**, about 200 kms distant, which took about 10 hours of driving time.

The driving conditions in Indonesia

deserve mention: they are the most difficult I've ever witnessed. The roads are narrow, filled with cars, trucks, bicycles, scooters, chickens, cows, goats, pigs and people. As a consequence, it takes considerable time to drive anywhere.

**Lahat** was the jumping off spot for a new game plan. How can I increase begonia collecting productivity? To the SW of **Lahat** was a 3159 meter volcano, **Mt. Dempo**, on the border of **Benkulu Province**. The plan was to gain elevation and hope to find more Begonias. On **March 10**, we headed for **Dempo**, which I was expecting to comb in order to reach Begonia hunting grounds. Once at the base **Dempo**, we found ourselves in a tea plantation.

**Anwar** asked some tea pickers which road lead to the upper fields, so up we drove. Winding up the side of **Dempo** allowed fantastic landscapes to be viewed; absolutely some of the most beautiful scenery I've ever witnessed was from the upper slopes of Indonesian volcanoes. Reaching 4400 ft. brought a surprise: **B. hirtella** growing along the roadside embankments, under the tea plants, and epiphytically on the tea shrubs themselves. After collecting an abundance of material, we continued our ascent to 6000 ft. and collected another 3 species, none of which I had ever seen. One species was a shrub to a meter high growing along a shaded stream embankment; its large, glabrous leaves and thick stem were handsome, a few white hairs on the stem, petiole and some flower parts. The flower cluster was over 6 inches across and filled with several large, white flowers, up to an inch and a half across. Little did I know, but this species was destined to stage many a show on the upcoming mountains I'd be combing.

After this successful collecting day, we headed back to Lahat for the

night, and the following day drove to **Curup, Benkulu Province**, with sights on **Mt. Kaba**, a 1983 meter volcano. No road to **Kaba**, so hiking was the only means of transportation. On **Mar. 12**, efforts were rewarded with **B. isoptera** and two other species, all collected around 4500 feet. **Dempo** beauty staged a second show. The game plan was working and the Begonia trail was now becoming familiar. The next day was driving day for 12 hours along the coast of the **Indian Ocean**, and back up the mountain slope to **Sungai-penuh, Jambi Province**. The highest mountain in **Sumatra** lay ahead: **Mt. Kerinci**, at 3800 meters. This would be a long hike.

**Kerinci** yielded 4 species on **Mar. 14**, the highest collected at 6900 feet. This high elevation species was a shrub to nearly 2 meters with leaves nearly a foot long and whitish/pink flowers two inches across; the fruit was large also, and nodding like most species from **Sumatra**. **Dempo** species was spied again, but not abundantly, as on **Kaba**. This species was beginning to be like an old friend. On these hiking sojourns up the volcanoes, one had the tendency to keep looking for more species as the afternoon wore on. Usually, once I reached 6500 ft. the Begonias started to thin out, with one species being sporadically observed, until it got to late to keep ascending. It was important to collect as much as possible, but not run the risk of getting stuck on the mountain with approaching darkness. Epidermal peels and sections had to be processed, pressed specimens prepared, additional notebook work was necessary and often a 1 to 2 hour drive to the hotel remained. If the details were not worked out, problems could occur or work would remain for the following day.

On **Mar. 15**, we left for **West Sumatra Province**, via the back road

behind **Kerinci**, where three more collections were made, one of which was an old friend from **West Malaysia**, **B. tricornis**. I have seen a few Sumatran specimens of this species in the **Harvard University Herbaria**, though they were unidentified. I believe I'm correct in my determination, but this will remain up to a taxonomist. One individual of Dempo popped up along a shady river bank, along with a rhizomatous species looking like **B. urophylla** from Mexico or Central America. Petioles and peduncles of this rhizomatous species were covered with thick, bract-like tricornes and the several, large pink flowers made for a familiar display.

A small hotel in **Bukittinggi** was home off-and-on for the rest of the trip since we'd arrive, work, leave, and then come back. On **Mar. 16**, we reached **Bukittinggi**, with plans the following day for **Mt. Singgaland**, at 2877 meters. **Mar. 17** became the "**Day of the Tiger**". Having solo combed **Singgaland** with 3 species under my belt, I noticed large, fresh footprints in the mud. This happened at 2:00 in the afternoon, so I was near my highest elevation before heading back. It did not take long to recognize these prints as tiger prints. Needless to say, I felt a bit uncomfortable, but combed another 500 vertical feet to 6300 ft. and headed back with many prayers. One of the species collected was **B. guyana** at 6000 ft.; many plants of this species swarmed the mountain side. It is a beautiful herb with a star-shaped leaf, the entire plant covered in bright red hairs. One Dempo snuck in for an appearance.

The next day we made the long drive to **Pangsidempuan, North Sumatra Province** with **Mt. Lubukraya** at 1886 meters watching over the city. Again, 3 species were collected, with Dempos presence forever watching like a

**Begonia guardian**. A single individual of a cane-like species was collected and had leaves with very deep, cleft lobes, dark red on the underside and pink flowers. By **Mar. 21**, we were near **Lake Toba** and had sights on **Mt. Sibuatun**, due west of the lake. After leaving our hotel in **Sidiklang**, 2 species were captured in forest areas near the road at 5000 ft., one of which was a close relative of **B. beccariana**, but was vine-like, the other a non-descript **Begonia**. Once we came in view of the mountain, excitement prevailed only to be quelled since there was no road to **Sibuatun** and such a trip would have cost a couple extra days of hiking. Looping around **Lake Toba**, we drove to **Tarutung** for the night and returned to **Bukittinggi** the following day. It was getting time to return to **Jakarta** and meet my daughter and friends. I felt more comfortable being close to **Padang**, where I'd fly out of in less than a week.

On **Mar. 24**, we stepped out of our resident hotel in **Bukittinggi** to view **Mt. Merapi**, at 2891 meters, on the other side of town from **Mt. Singgaland**. We heard stories of 2 English hikers who disappeared in 1993 and local guides would not assist me alone, so 2 were hired for this climb. (*Local guides were hired for all collecting work on mountains, except on a couple occasions.*) Four species of **Begonia** made an appearance here. One species, collected at 6000 ft., had distinct horns on the fruit, much like our elusive friends, the South American **Casparyas**. Many of the species collected in **Sumatra** had semi-horned fruits, berry-like with small, thickened horns, rather than the typical wings so common on **Begonia**. Other species did have winged fruits. Dempo species couldn't resist another appearance. An interesting rhizomatous vine grew abundantly along stream embankments and the forest slope at middle elevations. This species

also had a Neo-tropical Gireoudia appearance.

By Mar. 26, I had targeted the last mountain to comb, **Mt. Talang** at 2599 meters. The trail head began at a TV transmitter Station on the side of the mountain. A couple of guides came on this climb also and **B. beccariana** appeared for the second time. One other species was collected at 6000 ft., and was the same species as observed at the upper-most elevation on **Mt. Kerenchi**.

It was not until **April 4** that **B. robusta** was collected, at **Cibodas Botanical Garden in Mt. Gedes National Park, West Java Province**. Much had happened between leaving **Sumatra** and making this collection. I picked up my older daughter, **Cytandra**, at the airport in **Jakarta** together with **Jim Hunter**, VP of the **New England Tropical Conservatory**, and his daughter **Sara**. **Dr. Harry Wiriadinata**, of the **Bogor Herbarium** elected to be our guide. **Harry** proved to be a God-send, because managing a group like ours was a feat of tolerance and patience. He also was a supreme educator for the children and us adults. I contracted some nasty "**Bogor Fever**", as a doctor called it. I was ill for the first week in **Java**, though did manage to stay enough in tune to make pressed specimens and write up my notebook. Most of the collecting was done by **Jim, Harry** and the **two girls**.

Two days later, **Jim** located a small tuberous species, with everyone else except myself, on a steep hike up a muddy trail at 3100 ft. on the south slope of **Mt. Merapi** (another volcano 2981 m. with the same name as the one in Sumatra) in **Yojarkata** province. From observing Harvard's specimens, this species has similarity to *B. phoeniogramma*, which has not been identified from **Indonesia**. It is a W.

**Malaysian** species. On **April 7**, the same species was collected again on **Mt. Lawu**, a 2281 meter peak, in **Central Java Province** at 2800 ft.. By this time I was mobilized and able to contribute something besides lying to the back of the Mishubishi Starwagon van spouting slurred directions from some half-delirious state. Later that same day we crossed the crest of the divide on **Mt. Lawu** at 5800 ft. which is the border with **East Java Province**, when what should appear on a short hike into some cloud forest but a large shrub Begonia similar to Dempo species, but completely glabrous, and a seemingly thicker leaf. The following day we hiked to a waterfall on the slopes of **Mt. Kawi** at 1731 meters in **E. Java** and this same species appeared again at 3000 ft., giving us a total of 5 Begonia collections from **Java**.

A few days remained and we crossed the **Bali Strait**, hoping to find one more elusive Begonia before flying home. Several searches turned up empty, but **Bali** was a good place to end up the trip. Over 4500 miles were driven across the 3 islands and 36 Begonia collections made, representing 27 species. Of the 27 species collected, about one-third I recognized from herbarium collections. With the exception of a few named species in the herbarium, all **Sumatran** specimens were Unidentified, suggesting that most of the species I collected are new to science.

*(Editor's note: I must apologise for the absence of photos with this article. Scott has a large collection of photos that he offered to send for this article, if needed, but he felt the article would be too long to include them. I missed that item in his letter when I received the article and didn't notice his offer to send them until it was too late to make the request. I'm trying to obtain the photos to include on our web pages)*



# Clayton M Kelly

## Seed Fund Notes

Beth Castellon, Seed Fund Director

This is the time of year that we offer semperflorens and tuberous seed. I went a little wild. However, I did add a few trailers just to break up the monotony. Thanks to our seed donators; Howard and Barbara Berg, Freda Holley and Kevin Jefferson.

**U237:** (Equador) Tuberous. Our original seed was collected by Scott Hoover in 1988. Low growing. Tuber can get quite large. Upon breaking dormancy in summer, the fragrant flowers usually appear first, followed by the leaves. (see page 207, Begonian 1995)

**B. pearcei:** (Bolivia) Low growing tuberous species with yellow flowers.

**B. thelmae:** (limited amounts) Trailing scandent species with white flowers.

**B. solanathera:** Trailing scandent species. Fragrant white flowers with red centers.

### *Semperflorens Hybrids*

**B. 'Charm':** (small amount) Open pollinated. Variegated foliage with single light pink flowers.

**Mixed Frilled type semps.**

**Mixed double and semi-double flowered semps.**

**B. 'Pink Picotee':** Open pollinated double flowered semp.

**Mixed calla lily type semps.**

**Red calla lily semp.**

**Red flowered semp x red flowered tuberous**

### *Tuberhybrida:*

**Non-stop tuberous mixed seed.**

There are still a limited few copies left of "**Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide**", by Millie and Edward Thompson. If you don't have this book in your collection and have put off purchasing one, now is the time to do so before they are gone. This book has been out of print for some time so if you don't get your copy now, you may not be able to find one later. This book is the most complete reference tool on the subject of *Begonias* and certainly a must for all serious growers.

*Copies may be purchased from:*

Ann Salisbury  
P.O. Box 452  
Tonkawa, OK 74653

**Begonias: The Complete Reference Guide** \$17.00 plus \$5.00 for postage and handling

**Begonias: 1984 Update** \$6.00 plus \$.200 for postage and handling

# CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND LISTING

The Seed Fund is a service to members only. It is a privilege of your membership.

The Seed Fund would appreciate receiving donations of any fresh seed, as our supply is very limited at this time. Thank you!

All packets of species seed are \$1 each, and all packets of hybrid seed are 50c each.

All orders must be accompanied by check or money order payable **ONLY in US funds** to **The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund**

## Costs of mailing:

**US only:** 1-12 packets, \$1; 13-24, \$1.35; 25-36, \$1.71; 37-48 (2 cans), \$2.30; 49-60, \$2.66.

**Canada only:** 1-12 packets, \$1.10; 13-24, \$1.46; 25-36, \$1.82; 27-48 (2 cans) \$2.35; 49-60, \$2.71.

**Mexico only:** 1-12 packets, \$1.15; 13-24, \$1.51; 25-36, \$1.87; 37-48 (2 cans), \$2.50 49-60, \$2.81.

**All other international mail:** 1-12 packets, \$1.85; 13-24, \$2.68; 25-36, \$3.68; 37-48, \$4.68; 49-60, \$5.68.

Please send your order with payment to:

**Beth Castellon  
Propagation Range  
New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, NY 10458  
USA**

**Species Seed**  
\$1 per packet

U237

B. *pearcei*  
B. *thelmae*  
B. *solananthera*

**Hybrid Seed**  
50c per packet

B. 'Charm'  
Mixed frilled type semps.  
Mixed double & semi-double semps.  
B. 'Pink Picotee'  
Mixed calla lily type semps  
Red calla lily semp

Red flowered semp x red tuberous  
Non-stop tuberous mixed seed.



# Pruning for a Purpose

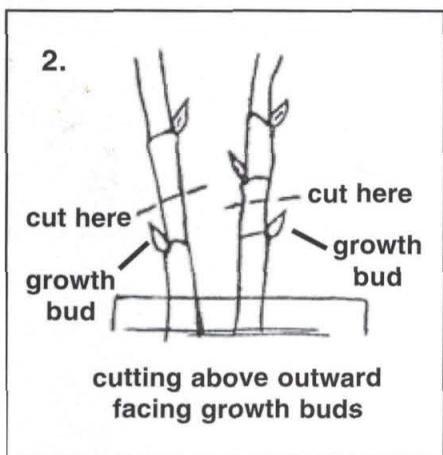
By Brad Thompson

There are many different reasons for pruning: to keep plants compact, to train plants to a certain shape, to

remove old wood and clean up plants, to spur new growth, to get cuttings for starting new plants, or it could be all the above reasons. How you prune has a lot to do with what purpose you have for the plant. You may want to create a tall background plant, a standard or maybe you even want to enter your plant in a show and need it to conform to certain standards. Whatever your reasons, you need to prune in order for plant to conform to the way you want it to grow.



**In Drawing 1,** you can see the type of old growth you need to remove from your plants first of all. Any canes that are very old and woody, and any canes that have multiple scars from previous prunings should be removed all the way to the soil line if necessary. If there is an outward facing bud below the old scars, you can cut just above it; but, if not, just cut it all the way off and the plant will send up a new cane later from below the soil.



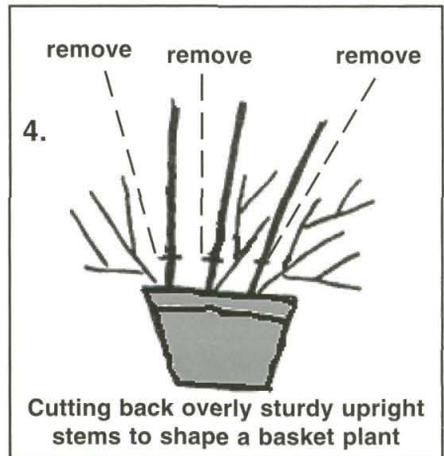
**In Drawing 2,** you can see how to prune a cane above an outward-facing growth bud. The reason for this is, if you cut above buds that don't face outward, you will have branches growing toward the center of the plant, a lot of crossover branches and your plants will not grow symmetrically. Even if you can't see the growth bud, cut above any outward facing leaf that hasn't had a bloom; there is a bud there that will grow out. It's very important not to cut above a node that had a bloom because, as a general rule, there will not be a bloom and a growth bud in

the same leaf node. You can tell where there has been a bloom because there will be a scar above where the leaf is or was. After you have removed old growth and learned the proper places to cut to get the new growth to grow outward, you need to decide what you want to do before going further.

**In Drawing 3,** you can see what to remove if you want your plant to grow as an upright plant. Remove any real spindly growth growing out to the sides, all the way to the soil line, leaving only the sturdiest upright canes. You need to prune the sturdy canes, too, but not as drastically. If you have a lot of canes, prune them to various levels with taller canes in the middle and shorter canes around the outside or, if you want to prune it hard, cut all to the same level closer to the pot. If you only have a couple of stems prune them fairly hard to try and spur more bottom growth.



**In Drawing 4,** you can see how to prune for a basket. You prune the opposite of the way you prune the large, upright-growing canes and shrubs. Remove any large stiff canes all the way to the soil line or, at least, to the lowest outward facing bud. This will give you more relaxed side growth that is easier to train in a basket. After pruning back the stiff growth, prune back the remaining side growth less hard, or, if you already have good shape, just pinch out all the tips to make it branch more. When pruning a basket, you basically just want to shape the plant unless it's become untidy with a lot of old growth when a more drastic pruning may be in order.



The descriptions for an upright or basket are for getting a plant ready for a show and for getting a lot of good growth, but you may need to prune your plants for a specific purpose and don't plan on taking them to a show. A lot of us have plants growing in areas where they can't be turned or that are planted in the ground against a wall. You will have to prune these plants differently. Just prune these plants back to buds facing the direction you want them to go. If it's against a wall, prune so all the buds face away from the wall, etc. Not all plants are grown

to go to a show but pruning will make them fuller and show off the area you're growing them in better. Don't be reluctant to prune, as long as you don't overwater them before they get new growth going, you won't have any problems. You can also prune in stages, pruning lightly first and then pruning harder once they have branched out and have good growth going.

Many people are reluctant to prune, either out of fear or lack of knowledge, but once you have taken the plunge, you will realize how much better your plants will look. Try it, you'll like it.

# Editor's Notes

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Well, it's a new year and hopefully it will be even better than last year. I look forward to getting some interesting articles and pictures to keep all the membership enlightened.

This issue was supposed to be real easy because I had plenty of articles and pictures way in advance, but then my computer was uncooperative and decided to go on strike. It had to be erased and repaired which set me back a couple of weeks, plus causing me to lose materials stored in the computer. Oh well, there's no clutter in there to mess with now. Before, I wondered what I would do if I had a computer. Now, I've found that I don't know what to do with myself when it's gone.

I've continued to add to the **ABS** webpages and have gotten about a hundred begonia growing questions from all over the world. I'm sure that's only a small percentage of the people actually looking at the pages so that's encouraging. The page address is <http://www.loop.com/~begonia/index.html> in case you've lost or forgotten it.

I still haven't received works of art to use for Begonian Covers. I would like to continue using only artwork on the cover. If you are hesitating because you don't want to send an original painting, etc., then take your art to a color copier business and have it copied. If it is large, reduce it to an 8 1/2" by 11" so I'll be able to scan it or copy it in that size sections and I'll scan them and put the pieces back together. This way I can use your art and you won't have to risk sending the original in the mail. Please don't fold. I need black and white drawings also. Thanks in advance for your help... brad

# 1997 Awards Nominations

The 1997 Convention is coming up in May, and with it your opportunity to nominate candidates for ABS' top awards. Every one of us knows at least one person who has worked long and hard for the benefit of the American Begonia Society, going beyond the normal call of elected or appointed duties or a begonia hybrid that is outstanding in every way. Help the Nominating Committee reward dedicated members and super hybrids by submitting their names, along with the reasons the person or plant is entitled to be honored.

The deadline for nomination is February 1, 1997. Please send nominations to:

**Mary Sakamoto**  
**6847 E. Sycamore Glen Dr.**  
**Orange, CA 92669**

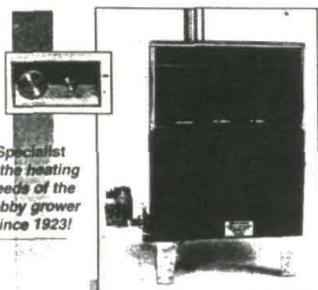
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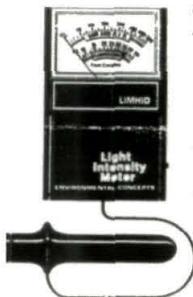
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# Growing Organic or: *Water, Water Everywhere, nor Yet a Drop to Drink*

---

by Tamsin Boardman

Watering is the easiest part of growing begonias, right? Wrong! Just aiming a hose in the direction of your potted begonias doesn't do the trick. Like the mariner in the Rime, some begonias perish of thirst - while others drown. No advice on growing begonias is trickier than trying to define proper watering.

The problem is the great diversity of the Begoniaceae family. Some begonias love water. Field collectors have spotted *B. fischeri* (a diverse and widespread shrub type growing from Mexico through Argentina) sitting in water- it has been described as "semi-aquatic." I remember years ago someone recommending it for floating in fish tanks (a trick it refused to perform for me). Semi-tuberous *B. dregei*, in contrast, is often found placed among the desert plants in display greenhouses. In Oklahoma City's Crystal Bridge greenhouse, it is in the section that is not watered for six months out of the year.

We can, of course, make some suggestions by generalizing, and the begonias themselves can give us a hint of their preferences. Check their stems. Rhizomatous and rex begonias, which store water and food in their rhizomes; thick-stemmed begonias, whose stems serve as storage areas; and tuberous and semi-tuberous begonias whose

tubers serve the same purpose - these, in general, don't need as much water as their cousins the shrubs and trailing/scandents. *Sempervlorens*, with fleshy stems, are somewhere in between. Another clue is the leaves. Some begonias have thick fleshy leaves that can also store quite a bit of water and food. These may also have hairs, perhaps even thick fatted coatings of hairs, that help cool the leaves down and slow evaporation. Waxy leaves may perform the same function. Leaf shape is revealing, too. Some begonias have drip points - elongated points at the end of their leaves. These tell us that in their natural habitat - or their parents' natural habitat - they grew in areas with lots of rainfall; the long points served to drain water droplets. Perfectly rounded leaves are a clue that a begonia doesn't have a wet habitat in its background. Incidentally, canes with their "angel wings" come primarily from Brazil -but not from hot areas. See the article by Darren Duling in the July-August 1996 issue for a description of more typical habitat for Brazilian begonias.

The trouble with begonias is that there are always exceptions! In Costa Rica's Monteverde rainforest I saw perfectly healthy and lovely rhizomatous begonias (probably a form of *B. heracleifolia*) growing in several inches of murky water. Underneath I could feel a spongy mass of material similar to soggy peat. why didn't the rhizomes rot? Quien sabe?

Therefore, what I am about to suggest is to be taken as a start, and certainly not as gospel.

First, make sure your soil drains well. All plants need a balance of air and soil, and, if soil is too tight, roots will not be able to absorb water. Most potting soils take this into account, but begonias are -generally- more persnickety than other tropicals.

Next, water through until excess drains out the bottom of the pot. If the water runs through immediately, gently remove the plant from the pot and check the root ball. Is it so thick that water cannot penetrate it? Is it so dry that it has separated from the pot and water is running around it - but not wetting it? In either case, soak the root ball in a pan of water for 20-30 minutes, then repot - in a bigger pot if necessary. Another possibility is that your pot is cracked, replace it to avoid having your begonia perish in the midst of plenty. Perhaps the water doesn't run through at all, or runs over the top. You'll probably find the drainage hole is clogged.

Water composition varies as much as begonias. If your water is heavily chlorinated let it sit in an open container; for 24 hours before using it on your begonias. Chlorine isn't the only additive that can cause problems. Since acid corrodes plumbing, many city water systems add elements to decrease acidity. In some places city water is alkaline enough to affect the PH in your potted plants. If you find your plants decline despite your best efforts, try adding 1 teaspoon of apple cider vinegar per gallon with each watering. This can - in some areas - be increased to 1 tablespoon per gallon of water. If alkalinity is the problem, vinegar will make a surprisingly quick difference in your begonias.

Growers, as well as cities, add ingredients to water, and fertilizers too can cause problems. Because begonias are heavy feeders, many growers turn to some form of constant feeding - dilute solutions used with every watering. Make that almost every watering - because at least once a month you should leach the soil. Some do this by dunking the pot in clear water, then draining. Equally successful (and easier) is double (or triple) watering: fill the pot with water, using

distilled or rain water if your local water is unsatisfactory, and water through; then repeat, at least once. The idea is to flush out salts buildup from water and from fertilizers.

Now for an exception to even these very general suggestions: Rhizomatous and rex begonias may have so many leaves that you can't find a spot to water without soaking leaves; or maybe you've got a begonia with "mildew" as its middle name or maybe the weather is gray and humid, making mildew a real possibility. Water from the bottom instead, sitting the pot in a pan of water for no more than 20 minutes (well, maybe 30 if it's really dry). Thick semps can be bottom watered, too. Just remember to leach occasionally, because bottom-watered soil is fully saturated not only with water but also with additives.

Undaunted by all of this pursuit of clues and orders to water through and leach occasionally, you're still stuck with the question of when to water. There's no better way to make that decision than to approach the plant in a friendly manner, and stick your finger into the pot to feel the soil. An educated finger can tell you in an instant not only whether the soil is wet, dry, or just right, but also if it's loose or compacted - or even boggy and smelly. (Phew!)

By the time you've probed and watered well for a month or so, you'll have healthier, more beautiful plants - and you'll have joined the experts who know that it isn't a "green thumb" but dirty fingernails that define a great grower. May you win a Cultural Award in the next show!

*Any other organo-nuts out there? Let's get acquainted. Write **Organics, Box 69, Bluff Dale, TX 76433** and share your experiences.*

# Growing Under Lights

by Brad Thompson

Whether you are trying to grow begonias indoors for added growing space, starting seed, to add greenery to your indoor decor, or out of necessity because of your climate, using florescent light set-ups can be a nearly foolproof growing method. Once you have learned a few tricks and methods, you'll find that begonias grow nearly as easily under lights as if you had a greenhouse.

## Types of Light Set-ups:

Although you can go out and buy some pretty impressive commercial light stands, you can also grow quite easily under inexpensive light stands you construct yourself. If you are concerned about how the stand will look because it will be in a prominent place in your home and if you have the funds, you may want to invest in a custom light stand. These come in various models and sizes, and range in price from under \$100.00 for a single shelf to several hundred dollars for a four tier shelf. They come in chrome or sometimes wood and are complete with

lights and trays for catching the water from pots. The custom shelves are great and you will have excellent results from them. If you are of more modest means, or are putting your light shelves in an out of the way area, you should consider making your own. An inexpensive shop light from your local hardware store works fine and can be found for under \$15.00. Your set-up can be as simple as suspending the shop light from chains over a bench to building a set of wide shelves several tiers high. One light will cover a growing

space up to 2 feet by 4 feet. I have built many different light shelves but a very successful set-up that functioned well and also even looked good was made from 2 x 4's and plywood. The bottom, top, sides and back were covered with the plywood over the 2 x 4 frame. I also bolted swiveling cart-type wheels under it so that it could be moved easily. Shop lights were suspended on short chains



above each shelf so they were adjustable. Each Shelf was 2 feet apart but that can be less.

**Types of Bulbs:** Florescent bulbs can range in price from \$.79 to \$30.00 or more. Although I'm sure those expensive bulbs must have special merits such as a wider spectrum of light and more intensity, I've never really found them to be necessary. Also,

considering that you may need to replace them every 6 or 12 months, if you have very many you may go broke buying new ones. I have 34 light shelves with 2 bulbs for each; if I only had to replace them once a year with \$10.00 bulbs that would be almost \$700.00. \$700.00 is a little bit more than I want to spend on my bulbs. I have had bulbs last 8 years but usually one year is about their limit and, even if they haven't burned out by then, they still have lost some of their intensity and should be replaced. I buy the cheapest cool white bulbs that I can find and they have worked fine. There are differing opinions about mixing one cool white and one warm white per fixture but I haven't tried that or found it a necessity for good growing.

**Running the lights:** I usually run my lights for about 14 hours every day but have also run them for years for 24 hours a day and the plants grew well. I cut back on the hours to save electricity and money. I run my lights at night for two reasons. In the summer I run them at night because that is the coolest time of the day and in the winter I run my lights at night to help them stay warmer. For the best timing, you can invest in an inexpensive timer that will turn your lights on and off automatically. I hang my lights so that they are about 6 inches above the plants but have had plants that were actually touching the lights without hurting them. The lower the lights, the less area they cover effectively.

**Soil Mix:** I've found that for growing under lights you may need a slightly different mix than you would use outdoors. I usually use a soilless mix to avoid soil-borne diseases and to have a lighter mix. I've found that a mixture of peat moss and perlite makes a good mix except that you have to be careful not to let the mix go too dry or it's almost impossible to rewet. A couple of

commercial mixes that work well are Pro Mix and Sunshine Mix #3. These are also peat based mixes. Sunshine mix does have a slight advantage in that it has polymers in the mix that make it easier to wet and rewet. I do add perlite to the commercial mixes to lighten them more.

**Misc:** One item that will help you immensely when you grow under lights is using flat trays to catch the water when you water the pots. The trays I use are about an 1 1/2 inches deep and I fill them to the top with larger perlite. The advantages of using these trays are that you don't have to have saucers for each plant and if you keep the perlite moist, you'll always have good humidity around your plants. Clear containers with clear lids or trays with clear lids are also a big help (*and nearly a necessity for growing seed*) when you are using your lights for starting cuttings or small plants. In containers like these the plants are almost carefree for long periods of time.

One problem you'll find growing under lights is that pests can spread rapidly in the warm, humid, close environment that you create, so you should be diligent in watching for them. If you remember to take the plants out individually and inspect them regularly, you should be able to catch problems before they get out of hand.

I hope that I've encouraged all of our members to start growing under lights. Don't be afraid to write with any questions you have.

*(The photo of the light stand on the facing page is of Joan Coulat's light stand where she grows her terrarium plants in Sacramento, CA)*

# Round Robin Notes

---

by Virginia Hamann,  
Round Robin Director

## # 25 MIDWEST GROWERS II:

How to propagate rhizomatous leaves in Prop. Boxes was discussed. **Fran Hurley (ILL)** has a problem losing transplanted plants. She lets them get used to being outside the box, and still they die back. One solution suggested was to place the pots with transplants into another covered box until they get started. **Mary McClelland (NE)** had suggested that bottom watering seedlings with a 10-10-10 fertilizer would give them a boost. Top dressing large plants with fresh soil and additives is **Esther Griffith's (KS)** way of revitalizing large plants that have slowed in growth. Tuberous Begonia seedlings are doing very well for **Dolores Hogan (ILL)** transplanting when very small works out better for the plants.

## # 32 KUSLER & OTHER CANES:

**Lorraine Anderson (CO)** is growing B. 'Gwen Lowell', B. 'Anna Christine', B. 'Esther Albertine' and B. 'Sophie Cecile' with great success. **Greg Sytch (FL)** had several freezes injure plants. Cuttings rotted in an unheated greenhouse. His rhizomatous bloom early, Feb. to mid April. He asked members in other parts of country when their rhizomatous bloom. **Greg** also tells **Elaine Ayers (OH)** that canes will bloom on top growth despite never sending basal growth, and that tall bamboo like stems will form in time. Do not cut too early so that you will get a better cutting.

## # 8 TUBEROUS BEGONIAS:

**Ken Mackey (New Zealand)** received **Blackmore and Langdon's** latest releases and is now acclimating them to his grow/bloom season. He does not let them bloom the first season by pinching out the growth tips. **Howard Siebold (WA)** was readying his plants for dormancy, stating "the old time growers suggest placing plants (pots) on their side to drain water from natural cup in tuber top, preventing rot." Out of 400 seedlings in flower bed Howard estimated 40 showed fragrance and 10 of those had blossoms worth admiring.

## #9 GROWING UNDER LIGHTS:

**Lois Schneyer (MI)** sent an article she had written about her microclimate she created over a Jacuzzi tub covered with wooden slats. Lights and plants are placed around the tub, natural light from 6 foot windows is also used. Growing on a glassed terrace has been a challenge for **Mary Bucholtz (FL)**. She is keeping things wetter than normal as it is very dry using lights; she keeps trays filled with water.

## #2 TUBEROUS BEGONIAS:

**Monte Richards (SD)** had hot 90° days and 60's at night. He noticed a lot of bloom and bud drop when it is so hot. It helps to mist leaves and keep watered since he has no way of keeping his shade house cool. He used Mag Amp for the first time in a small amount in soil as he transplanted. The leaf size has increased and more blossoms. Monte also uses liquid fertilizer and Alaskan fish emulsion. **Stacy Bishop (ID)** had no time to write, so sent pictures of her growing area, which said it all, beautiful blooming begonias..

## # 16 EASTERN GENERAL:

**Mildred Swyka (DE)** takes several canes of the same size and plants together in an 18" bowl. She places 2" of pebbles on the bottom, charcoal, and potting soil. Her growing area is an

enclosed porch 8'x24'.

**Mike Gratton** (VA) has rhizomatous begonias B. 'Merry Go Round', B. 'Patricia Ogden' and B. 'Elaine's Baby' in bloom for the first time. He has constructed a plant room by replacing an old porch with a glassed-in growing space.

#### #4 Window Gardening:

When potting up Begonias outdoors **Lois Rowland** (AR) discovered a Copperhead Snake in her garden. Her old dog Foxie was bitten on the nose. The snake was quickly dispatched by her son brandishing a shovel. Foxie and Lois have recovered! Growers in cold climates are readying plants to bring indoors.

#### #43 Terrariums & Rhizomatous Begonias:

**Coleen Anderson** (WI) is growing B. *rajah* and B. *gerhtii* in a 5 gallon aquarium; they are healthy but slow growing. **Jack Bohy** (ILL) told Coleen that B. *rajah* takes a while to get started, but when it does, Watch Out! **Ruby Tetrault** (ILL) uses plastic baggies filled with propagation mix to start cuttings hung on the light stand posts. It saves room in the terrariums.

#### #53 Rhizomatous:

**Bob Brill** (MI) has B. 'Arthur Mallet' in a terrarium and it's beginning to fill the space. Overwatering seems to be a problem with members; faster draining potting soil seems to be the answer.

#### #11 Canes:

**Charles McGough's** (TX) B. 'Desert Fox', a B. 'Whiskey' x B. 'Florence Rita' cross, won **Best New Hybrid** of the SWR Show and **Peoples Choice Award** in Dallas. Charles is also miniaturizing canes to use in Bonsai. He uses lights to direct the way the plant grows; for a windswept look he places the plant on its side in planter.

#### # 30 Rex:

These begonias seem to give growers problems. Warmth and humidity seem to be needed, the Fern Grotto in **Cynthia Bishop's** greenhouse seems to suit them fine. Others have put misting systems into their growing areas and they report that makes the plants happy too.

**To join a Round Robin, contact:**  
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### Quick Tip



Keeping open fertilizer in a sealed container will make it last longer. If you have ever had the experience of finding that your dry fertilizer has turned to liquid, you will appreciate this tip. You can even buy larger bags and divide them into smaller zipper bags to save money without the worry that it will liquify before you use it all.

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# New Cultivars

Official Registrations 960-962

**Carrie Karegeannes**  
**Nomenclature Director**



**Begonia 'Mickey Meyer'**  
**No. 960**

*Begonia* (chance seedling) 'Mickey Meyer'. Medium-leaved, web-patterned star-leaved rhizomatous cultivar with Creeping rhizome and pink flowers.

Leaf blade, 6" wide x 4" long, is deeply cleft into lobes that taper to long narrow, very sharp points (acuminate), some again shorter lobed, for a total of 6 lobes. Apple-green upper surface is marked by an overall dark-green to black network pattern with 7 pale-green main veins radiating in a star from the pale center "eye." Doubly serrate (toothed) margin is thickly ciliate (eyelashes). A red and green underside echoes the weblike network above. Petiole is about 6" long, green, and hairy. Pink flowers, 4 tepaled males and 5 tepaled females-are held above the foliage January to March.

A photo and description of this hybrid, then not yet named, appeared on page 133 of the July-August 1993 *Begonian*. Developed in 1990 by **Mildred P. Swyka** (1147 Bethel Church Road, Middletown, DE 19709) from chance seed sent to the ABS Seed Fund by Mickey Meyer of Australia and named for her; first bloomed in 1993; first distributed in 1991. Recommended by **Sunshine State Tropicals, Port Richey, FL**, and **Vickie's Exotic Plants, Eagle Point, OR**.

**Registered Sept. 10, 1996.**



**Begonia 'My Brittney'**  
**No. 961**

*Begonia* (chance seedling) 'My Brittney'. Cane-like cultivar with large, dark olive-green leaves, neither silver splashed nor spotted, and large clusters of pale-pink flowers all year.

The leathery leaf blade, 4" wide x 9" long, is ovate and almost entire, with cordate base, short acuminate tip, and lightly scalloped margin. The smooth, bare upper surface is crossed by 6 pinnate, indented main veins of the same green. The under surface is red. Petioles are 2 3/4" long, red, with no hairs. Stipules are 1" x 3/4", also red with no hairs.

Numerous pale-pink flowers on 3/4 " stalks ( peduncles ) all year include pink-winged white ovaries. Ovate tepals number 4 on the 1 1/4" male flowers and 5 on the 1 1/2" females.

**'My Brittney'** is defined by its heavy-textured leaves without dots, dashes, or splashes (though young leaves on new canes may have a few splashes that disappear as they mature.) Blooms on short stalks are held close to the foliage.

Developed in 1993 by **Mildred P. Swyka** (address above) as a chance seedling from mixed canes; first bloomed in 1995; first distributed in 1995. Inspected by **Agnes Hodgson** of Portersville, PA.

**Registered Sept. 10, 1996.**



**Begonia 'Agnes Hodgson'  
No. 962**

*Begonia* (chance seedling) 'Agnes Hodgson'. Compact rhizomatous cultivar with creeping rhizome and bright olive-green star-shaped leaves with sharply contrasting wide black borders. Red-speckled medium-pink

flowers appear in early spring.

The 3" x 4" leaf blades ovate overall with 6 lobes, the lobes broad and acute-tipped. The surface is smooth, showing 7 pale main veins radiating palmately from the pale center "eye" at petiole join. Petiole is 4" long, pale green, and hairy. Stipules are 1/2" x 1/2" and light green.

The many 1" medium-pink flowers with small pink specks include 2-tepaled males and 5-tepaled females on 8" stalks over four months of spring.

Developed in 1992 by **Mildred P. Swyka** (address above); first bloomed in 1996; first distributed in 1995. Tested by **Virginia Wozniak** of Pittsburgh, PA.

**Registered Sept. 10, 1996.**

*Applications to register Begonia cultivars may be obtained from Carrie Karegeannes, 3916 Lake Blvd., Annandale VA 22003-2319. Each form must be typed or printed in ink and accompanied by a \$2 check payable to the American Begonia Society. Clear photos for publication in the Begonian, drawings, and dried specimens are requested. ABS is the International Registration Authority for Begonia cultivar names. In the listing of cultivar parents above, the female (seed) parent is listed first.*

## Quick Tip



Grouping mildew prone plants together will make it easier to keep the mildew under control because you can spray the entire group instead of watching individual plants and spot spraying.

## Quick Tip



Avoid setting potted plants directly on soil. Earthworms and other unwanted insects and pests can get into your pots too easily.

Earthworms are beneficial in your garden but they aren't in your potted plants. Earthworms eat decaying matter, so when your mix runs out of decaying matter they have to eat something else, like roots. Also, in your garden soil they help aerate the soil but they have the opposite effect for a potted plant. They break down the mix too quickly and cause it to compact.

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# In Just 24 Hours a Day...

Article by Tamsin Boardman,  
photos provided by Bruce  
Boardman and Marie McCooley

You think you're busy? Consider  
**Marie McCooley**.



In 1989 Marie left Arcadia, California - and active membership in **San Gabriel Valley Branch** and **ABS** - for Washington State's Olympic Peninsula in the town of **Sequim** (pronounced "squim"). In California she was a championship grower, as attested by a full wall of **Pat Maley** watercolors won as trophies at the **Long Beach Convention in 1987**.. Now she's the only **ABS** member around, and restricted to picking up blue ribbons in

the traveling Division W at national conventions.

With no branch to egg her on, no shows in which to dazzle, does **Marie** still grow begonias? Silly question! Begonias still play a major part in her life, and she purchased her handsome home not for its space and charm but because it had both a greenhouse and a lath house. Incidentally, when she left California she moved not only her plants but also her greenhouse benches. Now the grounds boast three greenhouses (sizes, in order of age: 12'x15', 16'x32', 24' x 48') and two lath houses (9' x 10', 12' x 30' - the second one has a mist system), plus two smaller shade houses and a gazebo.

The begonias are not alone. **Marie** also grows and sells orchids (approximately 2,500 of them), bromeliads, staghorn ferns, succulents, and other tropicals. There are also ponds, with water plants.

You would think all those plants would keep her busy. But there's more: she's put in a large vegetable garden with raised beds, and fruit trees, and enormous flower beds that under her care spill over into the lawn and even the driveway. She raises championship **Dobermans** - her live-in companion is **Champion Wildacres Stardust**, who has both American and Canadian champion ratings and is more endearingly called **Dusty**. There are koi in the ponds, and cats in the guest house. **Marie** is also interested in hummingbirds and owls, and collects china - including plates decorated with begonias, hummingbirds, and owls. Plus she has a lovingly assembled art collection with all her interests represented (begonias, hummingbirds, owls, and native American motifs predominating). Oh, yes, and she's still remodeling the house, and she loves to

cook, especially for large groups. She also works in a gift shop that she and two friends opened recently (*perhaps because she didn't have enough to do?*). Is your head spinning yet? The Olympic Peninsula is best known for **Olympic National Park**, a vast network of rainforests and snow-clad mountains. **Sequim** is located on the northeastern side of the Peninsula, however, with the mountains forming a scenic backdrop that keeps the Pacific rains from blowing in, there is less rain, about 16" per year, and more sunshine than on the western side. To make up for the low rainfall; melted snows from the mountains provide lots of water for irrigation. Winter temperatures don't drop to freezing, and summer temperatures remain below 80 F. When we were visiting Marie at the end of June, the temperature ranged from the upper 60's into the mid 70's - lovely weather for working in the garden, for walking trails for picnics, or just for sitting and enjoying. The most commonly seen begonias are tuberhybrida, which everyone was apologizing for. **Sequim**, like most of our country, was about 2 months behind in its weather patterns this year. The tuberous begonias still looked awfully good to us!

**As varied as the family Begoniaceae is, no place is perfect for growing all of the types. Any begonia**



**Marie (left) and Tamsin (right) spend time looking over the orchid collection)**

grower reading the paragraph above will by now have cottoned on to the fact that Sequim is not ideal for heat-loving canes. Marie misses the vigorous growth and multitude of blooms she used to be able to count on in summer from her canes. Nor do canes perform well in winter, despite a warm greenhouse, because of the long northern nights. Please don't think this means her canes are awful; it's just that they don't quite measure up to her standards. She keeps some anyway - what begonia nut could resist? - and moves them into the greenhouses for winter, into the lath houses for summer. Most of us would be proud to claim her results.

**With all of these things going on, Marie finds time to welcome guests with a leisurely tour, a delightful chat, tea and cookies, and she sends them on their way with gift plants. She's great about answering questions, but one remains: how does she manage to do it all? Maybe she teach time management!**

**Photo at left: Marie's shade house.**



# ABS Annual Board Meeting - Sept. 21, 1996

*(Minutes condensed for space)*

**Meeting** called to order by **President Ann Salisbury** at 1:10 P. M., a quorum of 27 members present. **Minutes** from 4/17/96 Board Meeting were read, minutes were approved after correction to show ratification of **Brad Thompson** as **Begonian Editor**.

**Treasurer's** report was given by **Carol Notaras** and was approved as given.

**Awards and Nominations:** **Mary Sakamoto** stated that reasons for nominations of ABS members for special award were necessary and that submission of names only, without reasons, would not be considered.

**Branch Relations:** **Mary Bucholtz** reported a change of bylaws request by **Buxton Branch**, motioned and approved. Three new branches were approved, **Tallahassee, FL - Denver, CO & San Jacinto, TX**. A booklet by **Tamsin Boardman** will be ready for distribution soon.

**Millie Thompson's** donation of journals and papers to ABS was discussed, a report will be made next year.

**MAL:** **Thelma O'Reilly** reported a membership of 60.

**Nomenclature:** **Thelma** also reported that during the period of Sept. 1995 through Sept. 1996 registration numbers 952 through 962 had been assigned. She reported submitting 3 articles to *The Begonian* during this period. "*Guide to Vascular Plants of the South Coast of Guinea*" is still incomplete.

**Round Robins:** There are 57 Robins currently.

**Seed Fund:** \$2,270 has been sent to the Treasurer this year by **Beth Castellon**.

**Christmas Greetings:** **Joan Coulat** turned in \$1,000 to the Treasurer.

**The Begonian:** It was reported that **Brad Thompson's** first two issues of *The Begonian* had saved a considerable amount over previous issues because of new publishing methods. A proposal was made by Brad, that ABS purchase a flatbed scanner for him to use for the color scanning to save the \$700 to \$1000 per issue that is being spent for

scanning now. This would also allow for more color photos with no additional cost per issue. A motion was made by **Wanda Macnair** that the scanner be purchased and it was passed unanimously.

It was reported that **The Preservation Branch** had been dissolved and the Charter returned.

**Slide Rentals:** **Charles Jaros** reported new slide show additions: **1996 Convention, Martin Johnson Memorial Expedition, Scott Hoover Expedition**, and the **1994 Convention**. The issue of slide copying requests was raised. It was decided that it was too easy for the slides to be damaged and the requests were denied. It was decided also that any payment for slides or slide copying would require board approval in advance.

**Expedition Donations:** After much discussion this item was tabled for future consideration.

*Meeting was adjourned.*

**President Ann Salisbury** called the P.M. meeting to order, reading of previous minutes was dispensed with. **Annual Financial Report** was given by **Treasurer Carol Notaras**. Branch Reports were given from the **Buxton, Palomar, San Miguel, Palos Verdes, South Bay, Alfred D. Robinson, San Francisco, and Doug Frost Branches**.

A slide show was presented by **Tim and Thelma O'Reilly** of past Convention goers.

**Past President Gene Salisbury** gave the installation of **Officers** for ABS, all of who were returning for second terms. (*not listed because of space limitations*)

**Shelley Andros** was approved as **Horticultural Correspondent**. **Ramona Parker** was appointed to **Awards Committee**. A **Judging Committee** was formed to revamp the rules regarding eligibility for certificates of Judging. **Chairman - Maxine Zinman, members - Thelma O'Reilly, Gene Salisbury, Margaret Lee, Juana Curtis, Mary Bucholtz, and Joan Coulat**. A **Begonian Advertising Committee** was also formed to revamp the pricing scale for Advertising, **Chairman - Virginia Jens, members - Brad Thompson and Mary Sakamoto**. The Advertising Committee will report at the next Board Meeting in January in Irvine, CA.

*Meeting was adjourned.*

## Elected Officers

**President**.....Ann Salisbury  
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(405) 628-5230

fax (405) 628-2236 M-F 8-5

**Past President**.....Gene Salisbury  
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**1st Vice-President**...Bruce C. Boardman  
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**2nd Vice-President**.....Shelley Andros  
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90631

**3rd Vice-President**.....Michael Kartuz  
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**Secretary**.....Margaret P. Fisher  
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**Treasurer**.....Carol Notaras  
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## Appointed Chairmen and Directors

**Audit**.....Paul Tsamtsis  
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**Awards**.....Mary Sakamoto  
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**Ballot Counting**.....Ingeborg Foo  
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**Book Store**.....Betty Benningfield  
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**Business Manager**.....John Ingles, Jr.  
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**Convention Advisor**.....Bob Cochran  
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