

The BEGONIAN

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

	Page
TO THE MEMBERS AT LARGE - - - - -	19
By Anna E. Marek	
IT DEPENDS ON US - - - - -	19
By The Editor	
TREASURER'S MESSAGE - - - - -	19
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT REORGANIZED - - - - -	20
By Rudolf Ziesenhenné	
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH - - - - -	21
Officers and Committees	
TREASURER'S REPORT - - - - -	21
HISTORY OF BEGONIAS - - - - -	22
By Helen K. Krauss	
VARIOUS BEGONIAS - - - - -	23
By Rudolf Ziesenhenné	
A NEW ENGLAND BEGONIA GARDEN - - - - -	25
By Bessie R. Buxton	
COLEUS FOR COLOR - - - - -	26
By Leila Campbell Mathewson	
GLENDALE OFFICERS - - - - -	27
PLANTLY SPEAKING—ON THE SHADY SIDE - - - - -	27
By John S. Vosburg	
FOR THE SAKE OF CORRECT RECORDS - - - - -	28
By Clayton M. Kelly	
PROGRESS IN "FAIRYLAND" - - - - -	28
By Leslie Woodriff	
SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH - - - - -	29
BEGONIA CALENDAR - - - - -	30

The BEGONIAN

Monthly Publication of the AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

General Offices: 1050 E. 19th Street, Long Beach, California

Affiliated with the American Horticultural Society

- Annual Membership Fee: One Dollar per Calendar Year—seventy-five cents of which is for a year's subscription to THE BEGONIAN. Subscription to non-members, One Dollar a Year.
- Entered as second-class matter March 19th, 1941, at the Post Office of Long Beach, California, under the act of March 3rd, 1879.
- Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman, January, 1932 in Long Beach, California.
- Advertising Rates: \$1.50 per inch, one column wide. Three months discount of 10%, Six months less 15% and One Year less 20%. Seasonal changes allowed in contracts over three months. Closing date for articles 10th of each month, and 12th for Advertisement copy.

STAFF

- MARIA WILKES - - - *Editor and Business Manager*
158 So. Oxford Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.
- MARGARET C. GRUENBAUM - - - *Eastern Editor*
316 West Chew Street, Phila., Pa.
- BESSIE R. BUXTON - - - *New England Reporter*
114 Central St., Peabody, Mass.
- MRS. H. W. BRIDGES - - - *Representative*
1824 B. Street, Hayward, Calif.
- MR. A. A. REMMERS - - - *Staff Photographer*
5734 Lucia Walk, Long Beach, Calif.

LIFE MEMBERS

- MR. HERBERT P. DYCKMAN
Long Beach, Calif.
- MR. ALFRED D. ROBINSON
Rosecroft Begonia Gardens
Point Loma, San Diego, Calif.
- MRS. FRANCIS MYRTLE SHEPHERD
Ventura, Calif.

HONORARY MEMBERS

- HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WINDSOR
Los Cayos, Nassau, Bahamas
- HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF WINDSOR
Los Cayos, Nassau, Bahamas

OFFICERS

- FERDINAND P. NEELS - - - - - *President*
426 E. Maple Ave., El Segundo, California
- J. L. BAILY - - - - - *President Elect*
515 Hallwood Dr., El Monte, Calif.
- J. N. NUTTER - - - - - *Secretary-Treasurer*
Membership Fees
1050 E. 19th Street, Long Beach, Calif.
- MRS. A. N. HARTWELL - - *Corresponding Secretary*
1719 Alamitos Ave., Monrovia
- R. C. ZIESENHENNE - - - *Research Director and
Nomenclature Chairman*
1130 No. Milpas Street, Santa Barbara, Calif.

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

- MRS. HENRY H. BUXTON - - - - Peabody, Mass.
- MRS. LEE KRAUSS - - - - - Wynnewood, Pa.
- MRS. H. W. BRIDGES - - - - - Hayward, Calif.
- DR. C. H. LAUDER - - - - - Arcadia, Calif.
- MR. J. A. HAYDEN - - - - North Hollywood, Calif.
- *Research Chairman*
- MRS. JOHN W. CROWDER - - - - - *Librarian*
1857 W. 166 St., Moneta, California
- *Seed Fund Administrator*
- MRS. ANNA E. MAREK - - *Director Public Relations
and Flower Show Chairman*
604 No. Orange St., Glendale, Calif.
- MRS. SADIE MCPHERSON - *Chairman Speaker's Bureau*
824 10th Street, Burbank, California
- HERBERT P. DYCKMAN - - - - - *Past President*
- MISS EDNA ZIESENHENNE - - - *Director one year*
- DR. C. N. MOORE - - - - - *Director two years*
- CLARENCE A. HALL - - - - - *Director three years*

HONORARY DIRECTORS

- ALFRED D. ROBINSON FRANK REINELT
Point Loma, Calif. Capitola, Calif.
- MRS. HENRY H. BUXTON GEORGE OTTEN
Peabody, Mass. Seaside, Oregon
- T. H. GOODSPEED T. H. EVERETT
University of Calif. N. Y. Botanical Gardens
Berkley, Calif.
- MRS. EVA KENWORTHY GRAY
La Jolla, California

TO THE MEMBERS AT LARGE

by ANNA E. MAREK
Glendale

I have hoped that this year of 1942 would be a wonderful year for our Begonia Society; that we might double our membership and our Branches. Our hopes and ambitions may not be fulfilled in the stress of our National emergency, but let us work together to hold what we have. Let us try to get more people interested in Begonias and shade-plants or in any other gardening, for that matter, so that we may have the mental relaxation we all need so much. I know that with the co-operation of every member of this society working towards promoting a new member, we shall make a good showing at the end of the year.

It is my ambition to visit every Branch during the year. At present we know that Mr. J. A. Hayden, one of our Vice Presidents, is planning to do just that. We wish him happy times on his tour.

The National is endeavouring to form a Speaker's Bureau with Mrs. Sadie McPherson appointed to the Chairmanship. She is to be addressed at 824 10th Street,

Burbank, Calif. We know that she will expect everyone to send to her: the name and address of any good Speaker on Begonia and shade plants, with detail as to charges, type of lecture and means of illustration. Her records will be at the disposal of all Branches.

It is getting time to be thinking of Flower Shows. Don't forget, the National is prepared to give First and Second Certificates for the best entries in Begonia shows, also a special Certificate for Sweepstakes.

Since I am in charge of Flower Shows, I shall appreciate help in creating a Committee formed with at least one member from each Branch so that we may formulate plans for helping any of our groups desirous of staging any kind of Shade-Garden Show.

Will the President of each Branch please appoint such a representative and advise me as quickly as possible.

Our aim is to give greater service to all, but we shall need and thank you for your very necessary cooperation.

American Begonia Society Suffers Heavy Loss

• Every year at this time, we are compelled to drop all unpaid members from our mailing list. This entails a cost of about three and a half cents each. When the member renews at a later date his name is again placed on the list at an additional cost of three and a half cents. Also, the back numbers if they are available, are forwarded at greatly increased postage rates.

You can save us this expense and a lot of work by sending your dollar so as to reach us by February 10. If you are already paid up and fail to receive your March Begonian at the proper time, please let me know at once, as names are sometimes withdrawn by mistake.

All new memberships and renewals, unless sent directly to your local Branch Secretary, should go to the National Treasurer, and not to some other officer.

All changes of address and complaints should also go directly to him. If you should feel like kicking a little, go to it. I know how to take it.

Your Treasurer,
J. N. Nutter

It Depends on Us...

• We believe it has been proved beyond any shadow of a doubt, that no one ever had a nervous breakdown, who had a thoroughly engrossing hobby, who had enough to do with his mind busy on doing things for the sake of helping others along in some way or other. What better field is there then, for keeping ourselves fine, fit for anything, able to help others and be happy about it than in a garden? Let us follow the suggestions of our Government and plant, plant double purpose shrubs, trees, flowers, and, if we have room—perennial vegetables. We are engrossed in planning a consistently fine Begonian. We hope you like it.—The Editor

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT REORGANIZED

by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE
Research Director

THE Directors of the Society have reorganized the Research Department with the idea of having it operate harmoniously and yet to be of more service to the members. For this reason, one person has been put in charge of all work pertaining to research, this officer to be known as the Research Director. His duties are as follows:

"The Research Director shall have charge of the Research Department and shall coordinate and oversee the Research Office, Nomenclature Office, the Library, and the Seed Fund and shall be responsible for the Department directly to the Society's Officers." For the current year Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenne, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif., has been appointed to this office.

To facilitate the work in this office and to spread the work among several persons so it will not be too big a task, the department has been divided into 4 offices.

"1. The Research Chairman shall have charge of collecting information relative to the culture, propagation and housing of Begonias and shall be responsible to the Research Director." This office has not been filled at this time.

"2. The Nomenclature Chairman shall have charge of determining and establishing correct names for all species and varieties of Begonias; of approving and registering all newly developed horticultural varieties of Begonias; shall have charge of assembling and maintaining an herbarium. Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenne is Nomenclature Chairman. All inquiries relative to Begonia nomenclature should be sent directly to him. Leaves, both young and mature, together with flowers, should be wrapped in waxed paper and sent by mail for identification. It is well to number your plant and to put the corresponding number with the leaves and flowers sent for identification, for often the leaves will not be recognizable when they again reach you.

"3. The Librarian shall have charge of the literature of the Society and shall have the power to purchase new books which are of sufficient value to its members; shall exchange copies of the Begonian for other publications, such as periodical magazines or other club pub-

lications; shall inform the members of the Society through the Begonian as to the literature available to its members and shall have the authority to use methods at her disposal to get the various books into the hands of the members; shall set up a card indexing system, and to set up rules and regulations, with the approval of the Research Director, governing the use of the various items in his or her charge." Mrs. John W. Crowder, 1857 West 166th Street, Moneta, California is the Librarian. As soon as the material is in order, a notice of the books available for use as well as the rules governing the use of these books will appear in the Begonian.

"4. The Seed Fund Administrator shall have charge of soliciting funds in the form of a pool, and shall endeavor to spend such funds in an honest effort to obtain seeds or plants of Begonias not commonly in cultivation in this country, and send them out to the various members who have contributed to the fund on an equal basis and that some of each seed or plant shall be turned over to the Nomenclature Chairman to be grown and identified if possible. The Seed Fund Administrator shall submit on request, a financial statement to the Research Director and shall submit an annual report and financial statement at the close of each year." The following amendment was made to this rule: "All money now in the seed fund except that specifically contributed for 1942, is placed in a permanent Reserve Fund belonging to the Seed Fund; and all monies coming in afterward be spent, so far as needed, for seed to be distributed among the contributors, and any surplus remaining to be turned over to the general fund of the Research Department." The idea behind this rule is to have a permanent fund of around \$40 to carry over at the end of each year so that the new Seed Fund administrator will have money to work with until the new contributors send in their money. The reason for not allowing money to accumulate in this Fund is that the Directors feel that each person gets well over the one dollar's worth of seed for his money and too large a reserve of inactive money should not be kept but should be used to further the research activities. The Seed Fund Ad-

San Gabriel Valley Branch

Officers for the Year 1942

President.....	Mr. A. E. Nelson
Vice President.....	Mr. W. H. Corbett
Secretary.....	Mrs. N. H. Powell
Treasurer.....	Mrs. Josephine Hotz
Director.....	Mr. S. M. Heffner
Representative Director	
.....	Dr. C. H. Lauder

Chairmen of Committees for 1942

Program.....	Mr. W. H. Corbett
Assistant.....	Mr. J. L. Bailey
Publicity.....	Mrs. I. O. Ward
Ticket Sales.....	Mr. Ben F. Thorp
Assistant.....	Mr. D. B. White
Assistant.....	Mr. J. W. Moon
Plant Sale.....	Mr. C. A. Roberts
Reception.....	Mrs. Earl Dodson
She will appoint her own assistants.	
Exhibitions.....	Mr. Frank N. Fox
Assistant.....	Mrs. Fred P. George
Refreshments.....	Mrs. J. B. Land
Membership.....	Mr. L. D. Perry
Courtesy.....	Mrs. R. B. Harrington
Sgt. of Arms.....	Mr. A. B. Musick
Historian.....	Mrs. A. N. Hartwell
Nomenclature.....	Mrs. B. L. Miller
Question Box.....	Mr. E. A. Brown

ministrator will be appointed immediately.

Since there is no direct way of obtaining money for the Research Department, the Directors have voted that five cents of each dollar membership fee shall be reserved for that department.

Should you have a problem relative to the activities, please write directly to the Office concerned in order to get a prompt reply as well as to prevent too much of a burden on the Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary with clerical work. Should you be in doubt as to what Office in the Research Department your letter should go to, send it to the Research Director.

This Department aims to be of more service to you this year and welcomes your suggestions as well as constructive criticism.

American Begonia Society

Treasurer's Report for 1941

Receipts

Old Balance	\$ 564.27
Dues for 1941	1,221.87
Dues for 1942	830.40
Dues for 1943-6	5.50
Advertising	338.74
Research Department	65.10
Seed Fund	27.00
Charter Income	18.00
Miscellaneous Income	29.94

Total Income-3,100.82

Payments

Begonian	\$1,633.08
Research Dept.	42.23
Seed Fund	11.84
General Expense	414.16
Nomenclature	32.00
Charter Expense	26.46
Miscellaneous	139.41

Total Payments\$2,299.18

Balance Jan. 1..... 801.64

Grand Total\$3,100.82

Distribution of Funds

Research Department.....	\$ 79.11
Nomenclature	39.28
Seed Fund	50.16
Dues for 1942	830.40
Dues for 1943-6	5.50

Total Funds\$1,004.45

Less Cash Bal. 801.64

General Fund Deficit\$ 202.81



Germano
WIST-EMS

Help you support plants quickly, neatly, permanently. 4", 8" sizes 25c. 16" size 50c. Buy at your Garden Supply Dealer or write **German's, 747 Terminal St., Los Angeles, Calif.**

FRESH
STREPTOCARPUS SEED
Mixed — 50c

Choice Types, Colors and Markings
ANNIE C. ROBINSON

Rosecroft Begonia Gardens
530 Silvergate Ave.
Point Loma, Calif.

HISTORY OF BEGONIAS

by HELEN K. KRAUSS
Wynnwood, Pa.

BEGONIAS were first discovered in 1690 by Charles Plumier, Franciscan monk and botanist, who accompanied his patron Michel Begon, Marine Administrator of France and Governor of St. Domingo on a scientific expedition to the West Indies. Six Begonias were discovered and determined a new genus. However, they were so inadequately described that subsequent botanists could not identify them with any degree of certainty. None of these Begonias reached Europe.

Pitton Tournefort established the genus by publishing the facts of Plumier's discovery in "Institutiones Rei Herbariae" in 1700, three years before Plumier published his botanical findings in *Plantarum Americanarum*. From Tournefort, Linnaeus introduced this material in the first edition of his *Genera Plantarum*, among the fragmenta and later incorporated the genus Begoniaceae in the second edition of his *Species Plantarum*.

Linnaeus' first edition of *Species Plantarum* 1753 has a special significance—the International Rules on Nomenclature were promulgated at a meeting of botanists in the U. S. in 1892 and it was decided that botanical nomenclature of both genera and species had its beginning with the publication of that work. Since the genus Begoniaceae of Tournefort was accepted and included by Linnaeus in the second edition it is correct to use either the term Begoniaceae (Tourn) or Begoniaceae (Linn.)

The second important discovery of Begonias was made by Lopez Ruil, Jose Pavon and Joseph Dombey. Ruiz and Pavon, botanists at the Royal Gardens in Madrid, were commissioned by the King of Spain to explore Peru and Chile (1777-1788). Dombey, a French botanist, was commissioned by the Minister of France to explore Peru and permission was granted by the King of Spain to join the Spanish expedition. At least twenty Begonias were discovered by

them. Although no living plants were brought to Europe, Dombey bequeathed to us a valuable legacy by bringing a collection of dried specimens to France which are preserved at the Jardin des Plantes in Paris. Of these early discoveries, some of which have been re-discovered several times, we now have *coccinea*, *Decandra*, *glabra*, *incarnata*, *octopetala* and *cucullata* in cultivation.

The year 1789 was an eventful one in inner Begonia circles. It was the first year of the French Revolution and it has been reported that during the Siege of Paris, Begonia leaves were used as spinach. This appears doubtful, however, as most Begonias in Europe at that time consisted largely of herbarium specimens. Botanical science was in the throes of adjustment and Begonias were for a time tossed about into various classifications. William Bligh, in the service of the East India Company and Commander of H. M. S. *Bounty*, with a cargo of bread-fruit trees from the East Indies and consigned to Jamaica, was mutinied against so that the cargo never reached its destination. Since Bligh later discovered *B. macrophylla* in Jamaica (1803), we can only speculate as to what Begonia treasures from the East Indies may have been lost with his ship. Joseph Banks, an eminent natural historian, pioneer of science and explorer was in Jamaica in 1789 and returned to England with *B. acuminata*. He promoted the idea of introducing plants to different parts of the world which would be of the greatest benefit to mankind. The idea gradually gained momentum. Royal patrons of Europe commissioned botanists to explore all over the world for exotic plants. Jonas Dryander, librarian to Joseph Banks and a member of the Linnean Society, read the first important paper on Begonias before his conferees.

**Kill SNAILS
and SLUGS**
WITH THIS AMAZING BAIT



"BUG-GETA" Bait

ROSE CROFT BEGONIA GARDENS

530 Silvergate Ave., Point Loma, Cal.

Established in this one location
since 1902

A most complete assortment
of lathhouse subjects

**BEGONIAS and FUCHSIAS
OUR SPECIALTIES**

—Proprietors—

ANNIE C. and ALFRED D. ROBINSON

VARIOUS BEGONIAS

Discussed by RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE
at Arcadia Meeting, in California

IN his talk to the Arcadia Begonians in November, Mr. Ziesenhenné recommended the practice of plant exchange, the passing of slips, leaves, or seeds among plant lovers as one of the best means for preserving the plants we now have in cultivation and for creating true begonia lovers. He mentioned that one of his pet desires has always been to see a really flourishing begonia publication, which, of course, would be devoted chiefly to Begonias with some emphasis on other shade plants. He emphasized that none of the shade-loving plants can compare with the Begonia in beauty or variety as is evidenced in a book, "Beautiful Leaved Plants" by Lowe which he has in his library; the illustrations in this book, he said, favor the begonia.

The Rex Begonias, as we know them today, are not the true species but hybrids of about twelve Indian species of begonias. Speaking of care of Rex Begonias, Ziesenhenné said that in a lath-house full of large-leaved, well-grown Rexes, there are too few really perfect plants. Rexes in pots must be turned regularly to achieve a fine distribution of leaves and even development. The newer trend is toward breeding Rexes with smaller leaves which will be much easier to grow to perfection. Rex Begonias are said to be better if not transplanted in the Autumn, but it has been proven that this can be done at any time.

Ziesenhenné brought thirty-nine plants of begonias with him from Santa Barbara which he described briefly as he showed them to the audience.

Begonia nelumbifolia has a rhizome that grows off to one side; therefore, in repotting it, find in which direction the rhizome is growing and place the plant at one side of the pot to give it a chance to grow across the pot without soon hitting the other side.

B. Marjorie Daw in pots should be trained on a little trellis; if planted under a pergola, let it climb, with support, to the top where it will cascade downwards with a lovely effect.

B. incarnata is an everblooming plant.

The winter flowering tuberous begonias should be started in October; then, if kept in the lathhouse, they will bloom through until April.

B. undulata, a white-flowered species from Brazil, has a very graceful habit in both leaves and stems as it climbs. The old stems should be pruned off if they get unsightly.

B. Cathayana and **B. Calla Lily** have one thing in common in that they grow better if they are not kept too wet.

B. Verschaffeltiana is beautiful grouped, presenting a sea of pink flowers during March and April. To make a shapely plant, it should be fed during August and September. In a border or at the side of the house, with bedding begonias in front to hide the seasonal legginess of the taller begonia, *Verschaffeltiana* makes a fine show. It grows easily from cuttings placed in the ground. It produces a tall specimen in a pot but must be staked. If you have a plant in a large pot, instead of repotting, you can remove some of the soil around the edge of the pot and replace it with some well-decayed manure or rich soil.

B. argentea-guttata, commonly called "The Trout Begonia" can stand a certain amount of sun and is practically everblooming.

B. Pearl is a rhizomatous plant which has small flowers and is one of the best blooming of the foliage types.

B. Mrs. Fred Scripps, probably a cross between *Luxurians* and *Scharffiana* grows to a height of six feet, bearing its flowers on long stalks like *Scharffiana*. The leaves of this plant vary greatly, some of them being simple and some compound (cut all the way down to the sinus).

B. Annabelle is a tall cane-like plant, growing to eight feet. It is one of the parents of *Robinson's Dianne*.

B. superba apparently will not bloom unless the sun can get to it for part of the day. As a general rule, however, the sun should be kept from begonias during the heat of the day.

B. incana or **peltata** and **B. venosa** need sun to create the fuzz on the leaves.

B. Barkeri prefers semi-shade and still the brown fuzz will be formed on the plant and the fine blooms will be produced in wintertime.

B. Mrs. Townsend (heracleicotyle) is an excellent basket type with larger

leaves and, darker tones if placed in a shaded location.

B. Mrs. W. S. Kimball (dipetala) is a winter bloomer, with pink flowers.

B. malibarica is very similar to Mrs. Kimball but produces white flowers.

B. Scharffiana, Mr. Ziesenhenné said, is popular probably because of its hardness; he has never seen it frozen.

B. Spiral Feastii is a variety of *Feastii* with thick, substantial foliage, with one of the lobes spiralled.

B. Feastii is one of the most rugged begonias for the house, seeming to succeed everywhere.

B. Panama sp. was found in Panama, growing along the streams; however, it should not be over-watered.

B. multiflora rosea or *floribunda rosea* has been seen growing to the second story of a house. Plant in masses against the house near a window for the loveliest effect. This one does beautifully out of doors in California.

B. Fuchsioides does not bloom as much as *multiflora rosea* and it requires staking.

B. 1773 x Andina is one of Connie Bower's hybrids.

B. illustrata must be a species of the same group as *Pearlii* and *speculata* as it is an evergreen rhizomatous type.

B. Vesperia (Improved Marguerite) grows well to about two feet and is an ever-blooming plant with slightly drooping flower clusters.

B. palmifolia has very small flowers but it blooms in winter and grows six to eight feet tall.

B. Lindleyana is a better bloomer than *palmifolia*. The leaves are larger and bear some fuzz.

B. Ingramii has long-stemmed clusters of flowers which offset the habit which calls for staking. The stakes can be hidden behind the stems of the plant for better appearance.

B. Weltoniensis is a very fine house-plant, blooming continuously throughout the year, being especially fine in the winter. It has a bulb like *Dregei*, which stores moisture to carry it through dry conditions. This plant can be made to trail if it should be so desired. When it becomes too large, it may be cut back at any time.

B. Geneva Beauty is a double flowering *semperflorens* variety.

B. Geneva is a "rubra" type.

B. heracleifolia is an interesting plant of the rhizomatous group and has deeply lobed leaves.

B. ricinifolia is handsome as a specimen plant or for landscape work where it may be massed. It usually blooms three or four times during the year in Southern California.

B. incana is a Mexican plant that can withstand dry conditions, doing nicely in the open ground with light shade.

In conclusion, Mr. Ziesenhenné gave the "Begonians" some very important pointers on the use of the following:

Fish-meal is a good, quickly available fertilizer, but occasionally does damage to ferns. It decays very rapidly and it is better to cover it with a layer of leaves and soil.

Scotch Soot is not readily available now. In Scotland, where much heather and brush wood is burned, soot, bearing much carbon and a form of nitrogen, is collected for the wiser gardeners who know that it has properties which makes leaves deeper green and colors of stronger tone. It is also very effective in keeping the soil clean of pests. If you still have some, use a four or five-inch potful to about three and a half cubic feet of soil.

Huminol is too rich in fertilizer to be used in seed flats.

Potted plants which have been in a soil mixture of, say, $\frac{1}{3}$ loam, $\frac{1}{3}$ cow manure and $\frac{1}{3}$ leafmold, may have a touch of cotton-seed meal added to the soil after the food in the cow-manure has been used up. Begonias should be repotted as soon as a few good roots begin to show on the sides of the soil ball. The plant should be watered immediately after repotting.

• Much may be learned by reading the advertisements in this bulletin.

Rudolf Ziesenhenné

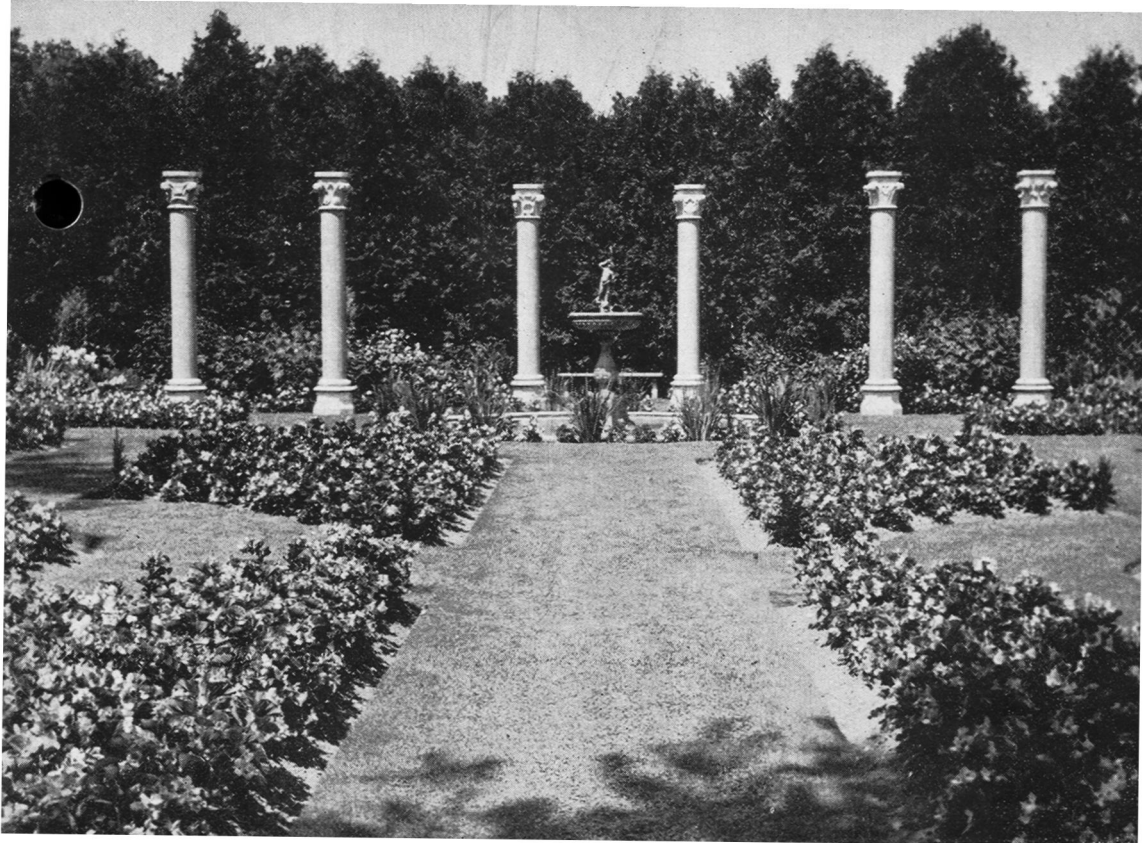
Over 400 Species and Varieties of

BEGONIAS

Choice Rex Hybrid Seed
\$1.00 Per Packet

Begonia Cathayana \$1.00
Plus postage

1130 N. Milpas Street
Santa Barbara, Calif.



A New England Begonia Garden

by BESSIE BUXTON
Peabody, Mass.

• This photograph gives an idea of the possibilities of *semperflorens* begonias for a formal garden. It is one of many exquisite gardens on the estate of Mrs. Charles Dickey Armstrong, "Indian Knoll", Osterville, Mass., and it received the large gold medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society this fall, for perfection of color and design. Each bed is filled with bedding begonias of a different color, set like jewels in the brilliant green lawns. This garden reminds me of one which I visited in Barbizon, France, the garden of Mrs. A. N. Connert Jr., an American woman. Much of her garden was planned and planted in the American manner, to the disgust of her French gardener, so to salve his wounded feelings, she allowed him to plant a part of the garden in the French fashion. Oval beds, cut in the emerald lawn, were filled with rose-red or pink *semperflorens* begonias, bordered with deep maroon coleus. The result was bril-

Photograph by P. I. MERRY
by Courtesy of The Massachusetts Horticultural
Society, Boston, Mass.

liant in the extreme, to the gardener's great satisfaction, but one almost needed smoked glasses, after the first glimpse.

◆

• The December Begonian gives me more credit than belongs to me. I did not organize the Round Robin Begonia Club. When I became a member, in 1925, it had been in existence for several years. Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Gray who was a member of the club when I joined it, told me the club was started by Mrs. John Semple, in 1921. At least two of the original members are still with us, giving us the benefit of their years of begonia growing. There are now three divisions of the club, possibly more, each with about twelve members. As each member is allowed to keep the letters three days, the packet comes about once in three months.

• Much may be gained by patronizing our advertisers. Mention The Begonian.

COLEUS FOR COLOR

by LEILA CAMPBELL MATHEWSON
Pasadena, Calif.

WALKING along a shady garden path, where the bright flowering begonias are set off by a froth of richly toned Coleus, it is difficult for one to trace the relationship between this lush foliage plant and the anemic potted Coleus of one's New England youth. The old Schoolroom Window Sill variety is many hybridists removed. The Coleus is a genus of the Labiatae, or Mint family. Though some ninety or more showy species are found in tropical and subtropical countries, the variety *verschaffelti* of Coleus *blumei*, from Java, is best suited to the colder climate of the United States. It must always be protected from frost. In the relatively frost free areas in California it adds interesting color and texture to the shade garden.

Propagation of the Coleus by seed or cuttings is not difficult. Many gardeners like to use both methods; they get interesting variations from the seedlings, build up a stock of their favorites from cuttings. Seed may be sown from February to May under glass. The smallest seedlings are chosen for potting, as likely to be the best eventually in color and marking. The strong ones run to green. Specimen plants are grown along in the house in a potting mixture. The small blue or lilac flowers, growing in terminal, spike-like racemes, merely detract from the velvety beauty of the foliage and should be pinched off.

Cuttings are usually rooted in September and kept, dryish, under glass to make established stock plants for the Spring bedding, after danger of frost is over. Green cuttings are made from young, vigorous, short-jointed growth. The ends of unbloomed shoots are best, especially those which spring up after the plant has been cut back. Cuttings may be from 1½ to 3 inches long, with 2 or 3 joints. Leaves are removed from the two lowest joints, to be under ground, and shortened on the top one. Of course a greenhouse, with bottom heat and humid atmosphere is ideal for rooting cuttings, but the average amateur must be content to cover his cutting bed with a glass-topped frame. Very good results are obtained also by covering small groups of cuttings with glass

jars. The mature Coleus plants are quite free of disease. Soil fungi and mold should be guarded against. The only insect pest seems to be the Mealy Bug, which can be discouraged with a nicotine sulphate spray.

There are numberless popular color variations of the Coleus *verschaffelti*. Golden Bedder is perhaps the best Yellow. Her Majesty, bronze red with orange margins is a specimen pot plant. Brilliancy glows with even more gorgeous, rich reds. Salvador edges its rose and maroon neatly with green. Sun Ray combines reddish purple, yellow, and bronze. To start a Coleus Collection is to embark on a fascinating adventure in crisp edgings and rich color shadings.

• Novel hanging baskets and the making thereof will be demonstrated by Mrs. Ruby Liedler at Inglewood Branch. This special program will be very complete as Mrs. Liedler is well known for her fine work. We shall endeavour to give our readers a nice report of the lecture. Be sure to bring that prospective member. Let our motto for 1942 be "Better Gardens—Better Morale."

—Clarissa Harris



You are helping to achieve quick victory when you plant a **Defense Vegetable Garden**. In addition to its patriotic value and economy a home vegetable garden will provide a real satisfaction plus an abundance of fresh, flavorful vegetables. Ask your dealer for the FREE fully illustrated step by step folder containing plot plan, planting information and cultural directions etc. for a vegetable garden.

Buy the seeds for your **Defense Vegetable Garden** at your Local **AGGELER & MUSSER Dealer**. Remember **A & M SEEDS** are the same high quality wherever sold.

AGGELER & MUSSER SEED CO.
652 MATEO STREET • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PLANTLY SPEAKING — ON THE SHADY SIDE

by JOHN S. VOSBURG

HERE in California, *Rehmannia angulata* has proven one of the desirables in shaded or semi-shaded situations. Its large, coarsely dentate leaves are very decorative even when not in flower. Here it flowers about eight months of the year. The blooms are Fox-glove-like, though more scattered on the stem. The flowering height approaches three feet with a generous scattering of flowers over most of the area. The tubular flowers are rose-lavender in color with orange dots on the lower lip. Introduced several years ago was a white flowered form with a yellow throat, that lovely plant seemingly disappeared from cultivation and from the trade. Two years ago, one of the growers again obtained it, and now, once more, it appears with us, and is available, though not generally, as yet. I am partial to the white flowered form, though both can have garden room with me, in any shade planting. They multiply very readily from division and can be grown easily from seed. This perennial has a rosette of interesting basal leaves from which the yard-tall spikes rise very gracefully and floriferously, and needs just about the same culture as the ordinary Begonia. It will stand some sun, but the size of leaf will be diminished accordingly. Its hardiness I cannot vouch for outside of Southern California. It hails from China and must be hardy from one angle since I have never had any pests bother it.



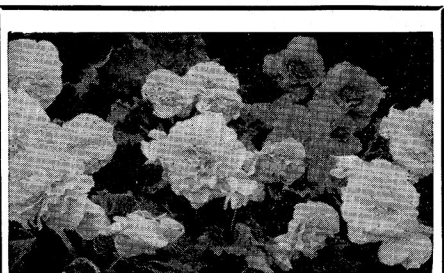
Rehmannia angulata alba

- When answering ads, don't forget to mention **The BEGONIAN**.

• The second Annual Southern California Mid-Winter Flower Show will be held in the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, February 25th to March 1st, 1942. There are no charges for entry. Exhibits are invited either in the Garden sections or in the Flower Arrangement Classes. Please contact Miss Opal Scarborough, Sec-Director, Room 663, 1151 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, or your Editor.

OFFICERS GLENDALE BRANCH

President.....Mrs. Jessie Poole
 Vice President.....Wm. Ross
 Secretary.....Mrs. Grace Dewar
 Treasurer.....David Winans
 Director.....Harold Hart
 National Rep.....Mrs. Sadie McPherson



PACIFIC STRAIN
 of
**TUBEROUS
 BEGONIAS**

NEW DEVELOPMENTS
 and
 LARGEST SELECTION of
 ALL TYPES and COLORS

— Ask for Catalog —

Vetterle and Reinelt
 Capitola, California

PROGRESS IN "FAIRYLAND"

by LESLIE WOODRUFF
Harbor, Ore.

WE all have dreams of better Begonias. Perhaps our goal is quite different from that of other workers with the magic flower—The Begonia.

We dream while we work on the building of a Begonia that will grow and bloom the year around in the house. It will grow from a rhizome and will carry five-inch double flowers in various types of the Tuberous range, with a fragrance equal to a rose, the flowers lasting from six weeks to two months on the plant. We actually have a plant bearing four-inch double flowers in clusters of three, it flowers in the greenhouse the year around. Another with a six-inch double flower with a day and night fragrance as strong as some of the best roses and many types with double flowers that last open on the plant as long as six weeks.

True, it has taken thousands of crosses, perhaps to get one plant in ten-thousand from crosses such as: Tuberous x Sunderbruckii, Tuberous x ricinifolia,

Tuberous x Imperialis, Tuberous x odorata alba, Tuberous x Baumanii, Tuberous x Wild Rose, Tuberous x semperflorens, Tuberous x Socotrana, and Tuberous x Rex. Some of these crosses will set a very few fertile seeds, but from these we, definitely, have hopes of building up just what we want. We expect that eventually, Begonias, like automobiles, will be outmodeled in two or three years to be replaced constantly with newer and better ones.

In September 1939 on page five of The Begonian, was pictured, as far as we know, the first double Tuberous x Rex hybrid Begonia ever grown. That original plant is still growing and blooming. Some of its blooms are four inches across, three of these to a cluster with two seed flowers. It grows fairly well from leaf cuttings at certain seasons, and has proved, with us, a far easier plant than Cathayana.

Would you like to have details of this work as it progresses?

For the Sake of Correct Records

by CLAYTON M. KELLY

• During the past year a statement appeared in an article in the Begonian which has been repeated more recently to the effect that the name American Begonia Society had been chosen for our organization because of and after my efforts to obtain seeds of the species of begonias that we did not have in cultivation. That statement is not correct and I would like to submit the facts from the record.

The charter members of the society after considerable discussion, in which the name American was not considered, selected the name California Begonia Society, and so it was known for over two years. On Sunday, July 3, 1934, more than one hundred members of the society were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Robinson at Rosecroft, Point Loma, and at that meeting, at the suggestion of Mr. Robinson it was voted to change the name to the American Begonia Society.

My original efforts to secure foreign seed, which led to the establishment of the "Seed Fund", followed a year later after much correspondence with parties in various parts of this and other countries, and the results were first reported in the bulletin of August, 1935.

• The following is a list of the officers of the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch: President, Mr. David B. Hill; Vice-Pres., Judge B. L. Gregg; Secy.-Treas., Mrs. Olive Hamilton, 515 So. Evergreen Dr., Ventura, Calif. Directors: Mrs. Frank Orr, Mr. Wm. M. Colvard, Mrs. L. C. Rudolph; National Representative, Mr. H. L. Weitz.

SEED	
HYBRID REX BEGONIA SEED MIXED TUBEROUS BEGONIA SEED STREPTOCARPUS SEED GLOXINIA SEED 50c each per packet	
LESLIE WOODRUFF	
Harbor	Oregon

• We hear from Harry F. O'Donnell, Secretary of the San Francisco Branch they can now boast of a member who is the Garden Editor of the San Francisco Examiner, Mr. Oliver Kerlein. We are sure that will mean that the readers of his paper will gradually get the Begonia urge, or we shall be much surprised. This Branch is nothing daunted by large part of the membership being registered for Defense work, they will carry on just as usual, even to staging a Flower Show. Mr. Kerlein was appointed Chairman of a Committee to handle this feature. We shall expect further news about their plans.

• Districts 12, 11 and 2 of the California Garden Clubs, Inc., are planning a very fine day of reports from President of all the Clubs in these Districts, plus a fine luncheon and splendid afternoon program by the firm of Coolidge, E. Pasadena, to be held at the Hollywood Women's Club on Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood on February 26th. Mrs. Harry Boothe, Miss Ethel Bruton and Mrs. Wm. Shearer, District Directors of the respective Districts will welcome any garden enthusiast. Luncheon reservations necessary. Contact your Editor. Editor.

Have you started a new branch in your community?

Special Offering at 50c each
GOGOENSIS
IMPERIALIS SMARAGDINA

These are sturdy seedling plants ready for shift to larger pots

Rosecroft Begonia Gardens
 530 Silvergate Ave. Point Loma, Cal.

BEGONIA TUBERS

Fragrant WILD ROSE tuber FREE with \$2.00 order. Camellia type tuberos mixed or separate colors: 1/2" diameter tubers 50c a dozen, 3/4" 75c, 1" \$1.00, 1 1/4" \$1.25, 1 1/2" \$1.50, 2" \$2.00 prepaid.

LESLIE WOODRUFF

Harbor

Oregon

BULBS and ROOTS

For Shade and Semi-Shade

	Each
Bleeding Heart Roots	\$.35
Astilbe, Assorted Colors35
Fancy Leaf Caladium, 13 Colors.....	.35
Tub. Begonias, All Types and Colors..	.15
Lilies—Regale, Elegans, Etc.....	.15
Lilies—Formosanum, Dble. Tiger.....	.25

If by mail add 10%, plus Calif. Tax

Send for Spring Catalog—Now Ready

BOB ANDERSON

1415 Echo Park Ave.

Los Angeles

California

BEGONIAS

Surplus Plants from a Large, Hobby Collection

—Send in Your Want List—

Fine Plants and Expert Packing

—Correspondence Invited—

MRS. B. L. SHIPPY

536 Willow St.

Lockport, N. Y.

Wholesale and Retail

Camellias and Azaleas

Over 300 Varieties—Many now in bloom—Illustrated Catalogue

R. C. LONG

SY-6-7305

2663 E. Foothill Blvd.

Pasadena, Calif.

FREE---Plant Dictionary

With 2 Year Subscription to

"THE GREEN THUMB"

50 Cents per Year—2 Years \$1.00

Send name, and remittance to

The Green Thumb

413 Duarte Road

Monrovia, Calif.

KILL ANTS

this New Easy Way!

Use **ANT-B-GON**. The patented "wick" does the trick. No muss. No fuss. Does not spill or sour. QUICK, CLEAN AND EASY!



ANT-B-GON

MEETING DATES

1942 FEBRUARY 1942						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

AND SPEAKERS

It would be much appreciated if the Secretaries of the Branches would send meeting data to reach the Editor not later than the tenth of the month.

The American Begonia Society Board will meet the first Monday of every month, Council Chamber, City Hall, Inglewood, California at 7:30 P.M.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Tuesday, February 3rd
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Bl.
Mrs. Helen Ehret, Secy.,
7507 Lexington Ave., Hollywood, Calif.
SPEAKER: Mrs. Alexander Sim
SUBJECT: Hanging Baskets

PALOMAR BRANCH

Tuesday, February 3rd, 7:30 P.M.
Jefferson Street School, Vista, Calif.
Margaret Rutherford, Secy.-Treas.,
Route 2, Box 340, Escondido, Calif.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BR.

Tuesday, February 3rd
American Legion Hall.
North California St., Ventura, Calif.

HERBERT DYCKMAN BRANCH

Tuesday, February 3rd
Home of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Randall
3638 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach
Mrs. Charlotte Sisson, Secy.-Treas.
Long Beach, Calif.

BELLFLOWER BRANCH

Tuesday, February 3rd
Mrs. L. D. Thalheimer, Secy.-Treas.,
222 S. Woodruff St., Bellflower, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

Tuesday, February 3rd
Girl Scouts Headquarters
1838 San Andres St., Santa Barbara.
Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, Secy.,
246 W. Alamar Ave., Santa Barbara,
Calif.

DOMINGUEZ BRANCH

Wednesday, February 4th
Dominguez Community Church,
21503 Prospect at Adams
Mrs. R. L. Warren, Secy.
21718 So. Alameda, Long Beach

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

Wednesday, February 4th, 8 P.M.
1060 Francisco St.,
Harry F. O'Donnell, Secy.-Treas.,
1575 31st Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

Thursday, February 5th
College Hall, Santa Ana J. C.
917 N. Maine St., Santa Ana, Calif.
Mr. Clarence Dudderar, Treas.

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

Friday, February 6th, 8 P.M.
Woman's Club, Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. R. R. White, Secretary
937 Harding Ave., Venice, Calif.
SPEAKER: Mrs. Ruby Liedler
SUBJECT: Hanging Baskets

EAST BAY BRANCH

Monday, February 9th
Berkeley Council Chambers.
Dick G. Goodnow, Secy.-Treas.
2116 Derby Street, Berkeley, Calif.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

Monday, February 9th
Democratic Hall, 5662 Atlantic Blvd.
Mrs. H. A. Cuyler, Secy.-Treas.
5676 Olive Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Monday, February 9th, 7:30 P.M.
4037 39th Street
Mrs. Clarence Moore, Secy.-Treas.
4191 40th St., San Diego, Calif.
SPEAKER: Fred Sebransky

PASADENA BRANCH

Tuesday, February 10th
La Casita Del Arroyo,
177 So. Arroyo Blvd.
J. Ellsworth Youtz Jr., Secy.,
334 W. Green, Pasadena, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Tuesday, February 12th, 10:00 A.M.
Home of Mrs. W. K. Myers
206 Winding Way, Merion, Pa.
Mrs. Albert H. Gere, Sec.-Treas.
362 Brokway, Merion, Pa.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

Thursday, February 12th, 7:30 P.M.
Odd Fellows Temple
728 Elm, Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Ethel G. Arbuckle, Secy.-Treas.,
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park,
Calif.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

Friday, February 13th
Harry M. Wallace, Sec'y-Treas.
3455 Spruce St., Riverside, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

Sunday, February 15th at 2 P.M.
American Legion Hall
716 North First Ave., Arcadia
Mrs. N. H. Powell, Secretary
419 South Ynez Ave.
Monterey Park, Calif.

GLENDALE BRANCH

Monday, February 16th
329 No. Brand Blvd.
News Press Bldg., Glendale, Calif.
Mrs. M. B. Dewar, Secretary,
709 Milford Ave., Phone CItrus 17517.

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

Monday, February 16th
Mrs. Henry O. Colt, Secy.-Treas.,
7221 Olivetas, La Jolla, Calif.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BR.

Tuesday, February 24th
Home of Mrs. Wm. L. Paxson, Secty.
Willow Grove, Pa.
SUBJECT: Coralline de Lucerne
SPEAKER: Mrs. Howard Comly

SANTA MARIA BRANCH

Indefinite Recess
Mrs. Peter Mehlschau, Secy-Treas.
Nipomo, California

SYRACUSE BRANCH

Richard C. Atwood, Secy.-Treas.,
1405 East Fayette St.,
Syracuse, N. Y.

NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. B. W. Skinner, Secretary.
54 Essex St., Lynnfield, Mass.

PHILADELPHIA & VICINITY BR.

Mrs. Sophia E. Whitaker, Secy.-Treas.
5343 Greene St., Germantown, Phila.,
Pa.

FEBRUARY SPECIALS

For the Shade Garden

Seed of MIGNONETTE
Seed of CALCEOLARIA hybrida superba mixed
Seed and plants of BALSAMS and ANCHUSA
italica Dropmore var.
Seed and plants of single and double CANTER-
BURY BELLS
Plants of PRIMROSES, CINERARIAS and BEDDING
BEGONIAS of ALL COLORS
For extra insurance to all plants: "GOLD
LEAF" TOBACCO LEAF DUST

FREE DELIVERY on orders \$1.25 and over

BISHOP & MATHEWS

WA 1251

6651 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

The Best in the West

Giant Single
Single Frilled
Single Crested
Double Camellia
Fimbriata or Carnation
Rose-bud
Double Hanging Basket

WIDE RANGE OF COLORS

1 to 1 1/2 inch.....\$1.00 a Doz.
2 inch.....25c each, \$2.25 a Doz.

GLOXINIAS MIXED

Small.....50c a Doz. Large.....\$1 Doz.

SHADELAND GARDENS

2055 Inglewood Ave., Corner Manchester
Inglewood California

1942 REFERENCE SEED BOOK

72 pages of accurate, useful information

FREE

CAMPBELL SEED STORE

Established 1907

137 W. Colorado, Pasadena, Calif.

NEW SPRAY for MILDEWS

A new Liquid Fungicide to use against Mil-
dews, Black Spot and other plant diseases.
Combines with EXTRAX Garden Spray
for combination control of many insects and
diseases. ... Sold by dealers everywhere.



GREENOL
Liquid Fungicide

Begonias: nigricans & peltata
Saintpaulias

Gloxinia Seed 25c

Choice pansy plants for winter planting
— Visitors welcome —

QUALITY PLANT GARDENS
G. A. BARROWS

1111 Louise St. Santa Ana, Cal.

OAK LEAF MOLD

Best Quality - Clean - Well-Rotted
35c per Sack

50 Sacks or more at 30c per Sack
Plus: Sack Exchange or Deposit

A. L. Dickenson

Phone NEwmark 17645

627 West Palmer Compton, Calif.

POSTMASTER:
Please Notify J. N. Nutter, Sec'y
1050 East 19th Street
Long Beach, California
On All Address Changes

THE SECOND ANNUAL MIDWINTER FLOWER SHOW

BILTMORE HOTEL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

February 25—March 1, 1942

PREVIEW

Wednesday, February 25th
2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Admission: Preview \$1.00

February 26th to March 1st, incl.
10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

General Admission 50c

EXHIBITS
and
FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS
INVITED

GREEN TREE FLOWER GARDENS

TRISTRAM COFFIN WHITAKER, Prop.
5343 Greene St., Germantown, Phila. Pa.
"The Eastern Home of Rare Begonias"

Tuberous Begonias

Booklet describing more than 225
Varieties of rare begonias — 50 cents

Begonias — Ferns — Fuchsias
Choice Tuberous Begonias
English Primroses — Cinerarias

—Closed Mondays—

ALEXANDER B. SIM

305 N. Sepulveda Blvd.
Manhattan Beach Calif.

KILL GARDEN PESTS

with "EXTRAX"—the new complete Pyrethrum-Rotene Insecticide to use against Aphids and various Sucking & Chewing Insects. Used also against Sod Worm (Lawn Moth). Sold by dealers everywhere.



EXTRAX
Garden Spray

MONTALVO GARDENS

- BEGONIAS
- RARE PLANTS
- FERNS

4455 Montalvo Ave. San Diego, Calif.

BARFOOT PRESENTS

THE—

- *New!*
- *Modern!*
- *Complete!*



An Easy-to-use unit that makes

25 GALLONS!
of ALL-PURPOSE

Garden Spray with—

- BARFOOT ROTENONE
- BARFOOT SPREADER
- BARFOOT FUNGICIDE

Plus the convenient garden-spray
chart and record calendar!

*A product of J. A. Barfoot & Co.,
2469 Porter St., Los Angeles, Calif.*

ON SALE AT ALL
GARDEN-SUPPLY STORES!