

# The BEGONIAN

*Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens*

## BEGONIA SCABRIDA

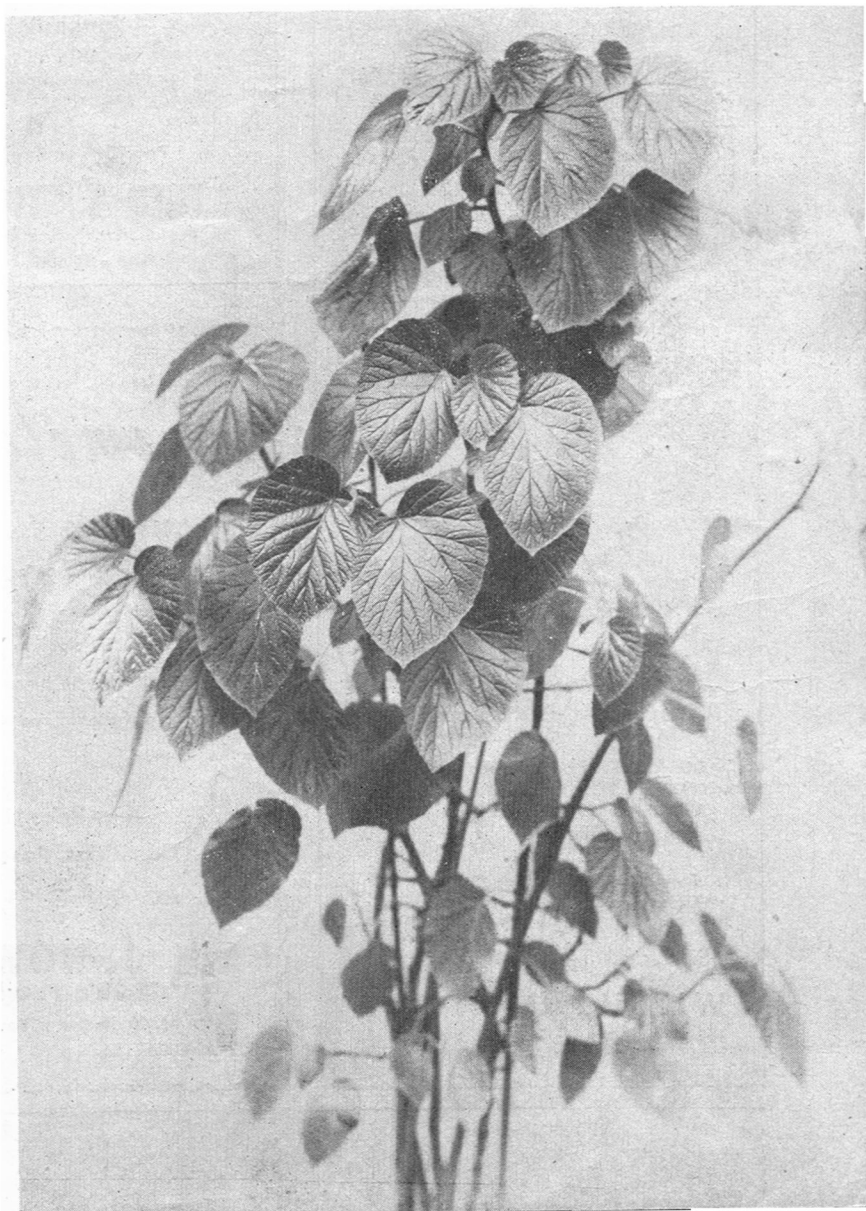
Photo  
Courtesy of  
Helen K. Krauss

March  
1949



FIFTEEN  
CENTS

VOL. XVI  
No. 3



## KEEP INFORMED

... on the New Flowers, the New  
Vegetables, the New Bulbs.

### A POSTCARD

Will Put You On Our Mailing List

## BETTER GARDENS

2446 Huntington Drive San Marino, California

## Begonia Glaucophylla Scandens

This rare and beautiful hanging Begonia deserves a prominent place in your collection. Trailing stems to 6-8 feet in length, lush green foliage, covered with free-flowering masses of delicate coral blooms.

**Fine plants at \$1.75, postpaid**

### KALLMAN'S GARDEN NURSERY

"EVERYTHING FOR THE GARDEN"

228 N. Milpas St.

Santa Barbara, Calif.

## CALLA LILIES

C. Aethiopica—Large White	
C. Black—Maroon	No. 1 Collection
C. Pearl of Stutsgard— 6 ft. white	8 bulbs (2 each)
C. Albo-Maculata—White Purple Center	\$1.00

C. Devoiensis—Fragrant white midjet	No. 2 Collection
C. Arum Italica—Straw yellow	8 bulbs (2 each)
C. Elliottiana—Orange yellow	
C. Minor Fragrant Dwarf	\$1.00

C. Jessie Mae—New White	No. 3 Collection
C. Godefroyana—Dainty White	
C. Gem—Burbanks white Dwarf	8 bulbs (2 each)
C. Rehmannii—Pink	\$1.00

### A. A. LONGMIRE

Rt. 1, Box 36

Carpenteria, Calif.

## ORCHIDS

Cattleya Hybrids Cymbidiums

### Anthuriums

We have an outstanding collection of high quality from small seedlings to flowering plants in the above classifications.

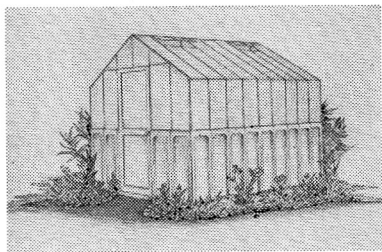
Price Lists on Application

## FRED A. STEWART

114 S. Burton Ave. San Gabriel, California

Phone ATLantic 4-8522

## HOBBYIST GREENHOUSES



### EVERLASTING — NON CORROSIVE ALUMINUM CONSTRUCTION



DURABILITY PROVEN BY YEARS OF  
EXPOSURE TO CORROSIVE INDUSTRIAL  
ATMOSPHERES WITHOUT CLEANING  
OR PAINTING



Foundation of Pumice Concrete to  
Equal the Endurance of Aluminum  
Structure

A Size and Type for Every Need

### WILBUR G. WOOD

1621 Irving Ave. — Glendale 1, California  
Phone Citrus 1-7976

## Camellias

### Paul J. Howard's . . .

Collection of Fine Camellias is one of the most extensive in the West. Vigorous, beautifully grown plants, full of buds and many in bloom, include new and rare varieties, as well as popular ones.

### Free Price List

on Camellias, Roses, Bulbs  
and Seeds.

## PAUL J. HOWARD'S

California Flowerland

11700 National Boulevard

LOS ANGELES 34

CALIFORNIA



*Affiliated with the American Horticultural Society*  
General Offices: 1618 Fickewirth Ave., El Monte, California

★ Annual Subscription — One Dollar Fifty Cents.  
★ Entered as second-class matter, September 21st,  
1946, at the Post Office of El Monte, California,  
under the act of March 3rd, 1879.

**STAFF**

Editor.....Mrs. Dorothy S. Behrends  
1633 Golden Gate Ave., Los Angeles 26, Calif.  
Normandy 2-3795  
Bessie R. Buxton.....Co-Editor  
114 Central Street, Peabody, Mass.  
Assistant Editors — Dr. W. C. Drummond, Leroy  
Chitwood, Peggy Sullivan, and Mrs. Gladys C.  
Nolan.  
Business Manager.....Frank S. Moore  
425 No. Ave. 56, L. A. 42, Calif. ALbany 2206  
Thomas J. Parker.....Questions-Answers Chairman  
8531 W 3rd St., Los Angeles 36, Calif.  
Phil Meyer.....Eastern Questions-Answers Chairman  
2153 Lakeland, Lakewood, Ohio

**LIFE MEMBERS**

Mrs. Myrtle Shepherd Francis, Herbert P. Dyck-  
man, Fred Riedman, J. Paul Walker, Dr. M. B.  
Dunkle, T. H. Smith, J. S. Williams, Dr. W. M.  
Caseley, Frank Harrison, Frank Reinelt, Ferdinand  
P. Neels, Clarence A. Hall, Arthur E. Nelson, Har-  
old W. Hart, George Lawrence, Mrs. Gonda Hart-  
well, Mrs. Alice M. Clark, Mrs. Mary Hazel Drum-  
mond, Worth Brown.

**HONORARY DIRECTORS**

Mrs. Annie C. Robinson Frank Reinelt  
Mrs. Henry H. Buxton Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Gray  
T. H. Goodspeed T. H. Everett  
George Otten E. D. Merrill

**HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS**

Mrs. Henry H. Buxton Peabody, Mass.  
Mrs. Lee Krauss Wynnewood, Penn.  
Mrs. John G. Clark San Diego, Calif.  
Mrs. Emma M. Carleton Berkeley, Calif.  
Fred Willard Pasadena, Calif.

**OFFICERS**

Col. Carroll M. Gale.....President  
40 No. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena 2, Calif.  
W. E. Walton.....President-Elect  
1415 Acacia Ave., Torrance, Calif.

Mrs. Mary Hazel Drummond.....Past President  
Fred J. Bozon.....Treasurer  
3139 Illinois Street, Southgate, Calif.  
Mrs. A. N. Hartwell.....Secretary  
1719 Alamos Ave., Monrovia, Calif.  
Roy K. Dere.....Membership Secretary  
1618 Fickewirth Ave., El Monte, Calif.  
Hugh W. Hixon.....Director, Expires 1949  
J. W. Bailey.....Director Expires 1950  
Mrs. Thelma Sommerfield.....Director Expires 1951  
Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger.....Director Pub. Relations  
Cantara Ave., Holy Land, Santa Barbara, Calif.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

S. A. McClanahan.....Northwestern  
3334 9th Ave., West, Seattle 99, Wash.  
Irvin Kramer.....Northern California  
231 Acton St., Daly City 25, Calif.  
Mrs. Jewel Dill.....Midwest  
3715 Harrison St., Kansas City, Missouri  
Mrs. Frances Downing.....Round Robins Chairman  
Rte. 1, Box 11, Calera, Alabama  
Mrs. Helen K. Krauss.....Nomenclature Director  
Wynnewood Plaza, Wynnewood, Pa.  
Mrs. Lillian Ashe.....Ch. Tuberous Begonia Sec.  
1855 33rd Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.  
Miss Charlotte M. Hoak.....Ch. Fibrous Begonia Sec.  
1125 Stratford Ave., So. Pasadena, California  
H. L. Swager.....Ch. Rex Sec.  
3872 35th Ave., Oakland 2, Calif.  
The Clayton M. Kelly Research Dept.  
Mrs. E. Carrell.....Research & Seed Fund Director  
214 North Yale Street, Fullerton, Calif.  
Mrs. Mary Choate.....Hybridizing Chairman  
3970 Grandview Blvd., Culver City, Calif.  
Mrs. Gladys C. Nolan.....Librarian  
2840 Herkimer St., Los Angeles 26, Calif.  
Mrs. John W. Crowder.....Assoc. Librarian  
Mrs. Jay C. Jenks.....Publicity Chairman  
1414 Quintero Street, Los Angeles 26, Calif.  
Mrs. Grace L. Bayer.....Chm. Speakers' Bureau  
Kodachrome Slide Library  
907 North Pass Ave., Burbank, Calif.  
Calvin Trowbridge.....Flower Show Chairman  
8001 Zamora Ave., Los Angeles 10, Calif.  
Mrs. Hugh Hixon.....Historian  
Box 572, San Fernando, Calif.

The Branch Representative Director's Roster will be printed again in May.

The next Board Meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held in the Los Angeles City Hall,  
Room 55, 7:30 p.m., Monday March 28, 1949. Park Lower Garage south entrance on Main Street.

**INDEX**

ADVENTURES IN HYBRIDIZING.....59  
A SUNDAY GARDENERS' PLANT.....52  
BEGONIAS IN ENGLAND.....54  
BEGONIA SCABRIDA.....62  
BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES 65, 66  
BRANCH NEWS.....62, 63, 64, 65  
CHRISTMAS FLOWERING BEGONIAS.....56  
COMMITTEE FORMED TO STUDY JUDGING 59  
CONDENSED MINUTES.....65  
DO YOU GROW FUCHSIAS?.....57  
FANCY LEAVED CALADIUMS.....58  
HOW I GROW TUBEROUS BEGONIAS  
SUCCESSFULLY.....53

INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW.....56  
MARCH SEED FUND NEWS.....63  
"MUST HAVES" OF MRS. A. J. THOMPSON.....51  
NOTES, AFTER THE FROST.....60  
PERSONALITIES OF THE BEGONIA WORLD 60  
PRIZE WINNING BEGONIAS ADD INTEREST 49  
REX BEGONIAS IN CHILLIWACK, B. C.....52  
ROUND ROBIN NEWS FOR MARCH.....62  
SHELTERED GARDEN BOOK REVIEWS.....62  
THE BARTON CALLA LILY BEGONIA.....50  
TUBEROUS IN FULL SUN.....55

*Palos Verdes*

**BEGONIA FARM**

4024 Pacific Coast Hi-Way, Waleria, Calif.

All types of  
**BEGONIAS and SHADE PLANTS**  
Begonia tubers now available  
Specialty: **HYBRID NERINES**

**NEW** — Garden Supply — **OPEN**

1½ Miles East of Redondo Beach, Hi-way 101

**GEORGIA PEAT**

... Costs you less. Actual surveys prove that you get more humus, acid food, nitrogen and moisture retention for less cost in **GEORGIA PEAT**. You also get better plant growth. Try it!

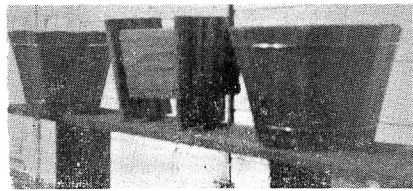
NATURAL

ORGANICS



in  
LIQUID FORM

**REDWOOD BASKETS**



All prices are postpaid to your door. Hand split Redwood Baskets from first growth trees. A beautiful Basket that will last indefinitely. The finest container we know of for the growing of Tuberos Begonias and Fuchsias.

Copper wire bound with galvanized hanging wire.

	West of Rockies	East of Rockies
5" bottom 6½" high.....	\$1.75	\$2.00
6" bottom 8" high .....	1.85	2.15
8" bottom 9" high.....	2.00	2.50

Wall type not pictured. A half round basket with flat back to hang on wall or post. Hand split Redwood copper bound.

8" by 9" .....	2.00	2.25
6" by 8" .....	1.85	2.15

Ferns (center picture) An ideal container for growing Ferns, Ivys, etc. Its rustic appearance is very attractive. Hand split Redwood. Assorted sizes.

5" by 6" — 6" by 7" .....	1.00	1.25
Square Hanging Baskets (not pictured).		
An attractive economical Redwood Hanging Basket .....	1.00	1.25

California sales tax is included in all prices.

You pay no more than prices shown.

**ANTONELLI BROTHERS**

Tuberos Begonias      Yellow Calla Lillies

Route 2 Box 1296

**SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA**

CALIFORNIA'S  
choices  
**Gladiolus**

GUARANTEED TO  
BLOOM THIS YEAR

**BARGAIN OFFER!**

Grow the most exquisite Gladiolus you've ever seen! Tall, graceful spikes topped by perfect 6 and 7 inch blooms of gorgeous red, yellow, pink, blue and white flowers. The bulbs are same size *Commercial Growers* plant for *Prize Blooms*. Truly a "must" for your flower garden this year.

This special offer good for **LIMITED TIME** only so order NOW! 25 BULBS—5 each of above colors ONLY \$1 POSTPAID.

**GERMAIN'S**  
Horticulturists Since 1871

25 BULBS  
ONLY

\$1 POST  
PAID

DEPT. BE.      VAN NUYS NURSERY  
6133 Ethel Ave. Van Nuys, California



## PRIZE WINNING BEGONIAS ADD INTEREST TO A SHADE GARDEN

by Mary Adele Jenks, Los Angeles, California

Attracted by the large variety of leaf forms and the sheer beauty of the numerous dainty flower clusters of fibrous begonias, Mrs. Thomas H. Mullen, a Glendale Branch Begoniaite, decided to convert her cactus beds into a shade garden for begonias, which need at least partial shade. The transformation was gradual and, as her choice collection of shade loving plants increased, her enthusiasm for growing fine specimen plants from cuttings became an interesting hobby. Now, with attractively designed lath shelters and a glass house opening onto a central lawncovered area, it all forms a charming outdoor living room adjoining the home and was recently awarded a prize by the Mountain View Branch of the California Fuchsia Society.

Among the specimen plants which are favorites in her shade garden are those with immense leaves, as seen in *Begonia ricinifolia*, to the very small leaved *B. catalina*, with numerous variations in between as to size, contour, coloring and texture of leaves. *B. catalina*, a seedling of *B. digswelliana*, is suitable for any location as it will stand much sun and is ideal for baskets and pots, indoors or out. In flower beds or in borders it is most attractive. The small, waxy, dark green leaves with serrate edges resemble holly in appearance and its small pink and white flowers bloom almost continuously. *B. ricinifolia*, while cultivated under the same cultural conditions as the fibrous group, grows from a rhizome and gets its name from the castor-bean plant, *Ricinus*, which the foliage resembles. The bronzy green leaves, sometime are twenty or more inches across and it has inflorescences of tiny pink blooms on stems three or four feet tall.

Other favorites include: *Begonia fruticosa*, a seedling named *B. frutescaria*, *B. Templini*, *B. pink shasta*, *B. preussen*, *B. weltoniensis*, and a *B. dichroa* seedling. The latter coming from a cane type known for its orange coloring, very rare in fibrous flowers. *B. Templini* is a mutant of *B. phyllomaniaca* which it resembles except that its leaves are blotched with yellow, cream and rose. Both plants produce numerous adventitious leaflets on stems and leaves. (*Phyllomaniaca* means leaf crazy) The flowers of *B. Templini* are very small and pink on branched auxiliary sprays. *B. preussen* is a popular variety with bronzy olive-green foliage and pendulous clusters of bright pink flowers which appear nine of ten months of the year. *B. pink shasta* is a tall growing type, having bright green ovate leaves and soft pink blooms in pendulous clusters. *B. weltoniensis* (called the "maple leaf" begonia) has been very popular ever since it was developed in Welton, England in 1868. It has small rose-pink flowers and purple

veined light green leaves. Its requirements are the same as for fibrous begonias but it grows from a tuber and has a habit of being dormant in the winter. This characteristic causes some people to believe they have lost the plant, not realizing it could be stored away until spring when it comes to life in all its glory for another season. *B. frutescaria* is said to be a seedling grown by the late A. D. Robinson of San Diego, known as the "Dean of Begonia Growers". It has leathery dark-green leaves, somewhat cupped and flushed red underneath. It is an upright grower with small white flowers.

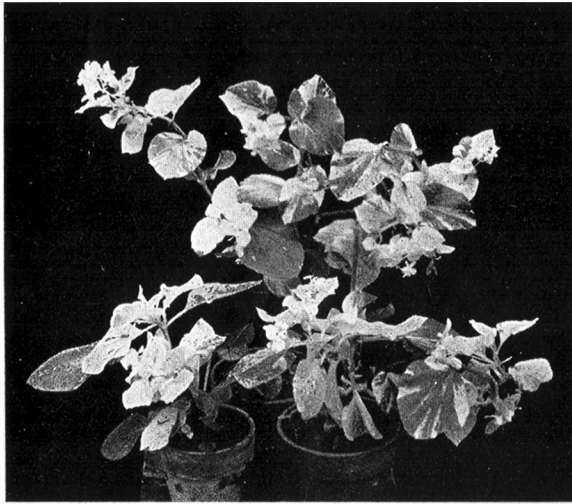


Clockwise from center *B. weltoniensis*, *dichroa* seedling, Fisher's *ricinifolia*, *Templini*, *twin leaves*, *preussen*, *pink shasta*.

Many of Mrs. Mullen's begonias won ribbons and cash awards in the National Begonia Show at Glendale in 1948. Among these were *B. Paul Bryant* (another with adventitious leaflets) *B. Laurence H. Fewkes*, *B. "twin leaves"* (identified by Mr. Ziesenhenné as one of the *fruticosa* seedlings. *B. Mme. de Lesseps* (a French hybrid — *B. argentea-guttata* x *B. olbia* *B. white carmen*, *R. Richard Robinson*, *B. Vedderi*, *B. r. c Bronze King* and *B. Fireflash*. Others were a *dichroa* seedling, *B. white rubra*, *B. tomentosa*, *B. Feastii*, *B. Thurstoni*, *B. Dorothy Grant* and *B. venosa*.

Modestly insisting that she is not an expert but just an amateur hobbyist who learns so much from Begonia meetings that she never wants to miss one if she can help it. She attributes much of her success in growing begonias to the potting soil mixture she uses and is glad to tell others that it is the formula recommended by Lambert Day in the February, 1948 issue of the *Begonian*, page 30. She says that the whole article is one of the most helpful she has ever read on begonias.

Turn to page 65



*Photo courtesy Mrs. A. D. Robinson*

## THE BARTON CALLA LILY BEGONIA

*by Mrs. George W. W. Barton, Flint Michigan*

Perseverance mingled with devotion describes my persistent attempts to propagate the calla-lily begonias descending from the original progenitor brought to this country from Scotland by my husband's paternal grand-parents in 1851.

This over-powering mania clutched me 26 years ago on our first visit to the old Barton homestead in Ontario, twenty miles south of Owen Sound on Georgian Bay. One step into that old home thrust me into a state of ecstasy never before known. The dining room and kitchen window-sills were lined with compact masses of pink-blossomed begonias, leaves white mottled and streaked. The pink stems holding perfect white wax lily-formed terminals, some trailing far below the sill frame. On the parlor organ covering one end from the top-most shelf to the floor was a gigantic rex begonia, each silvery metallic leaf margined in pale green and the sheen glistened in the sunlight, near the south windows.

"Begonias!" I exclaimed. Much to my utter amazement, that one word gave name to these plants owned for generations, but merely called "Mother's kitchen plants". Years later when I purchased Mrs. Buxton's first book, she narrated this same experience when she interviewed a Vermont or Maine Housewife.

During that first visit and with many additions on later trips, I learned the history of these calla-lily begonias in the Barton household.

The paternal grandparents left Edinburgh, Scotland in 1850 and after a short interval in

England, embarked on a new sailing vessel, June of 1851, bound for New York where the grandfather had a commission to work on a monument in Battery Park.

Each family on board ship had to provide all bedding, utensils, food and drinking water for the long, tedious seven weeks journey. Nothing deterred that stalwart grandmother from carrying along her beloved house plants. Her mother had always had them before her where ever they had settled, Highlands or Lowlands of Scotland. A new home in a strange country would never be home without plants. Visualize, if possible, that frail sailing vessel tossed about on stormy seas and the grandmother using precious drinking water from her keg to keep alive her mother's plants! We have the diary of the grandfather in which he recorded events of that trip daily. In beautiful phrasing, he depicted life on board, culminating it with heart warming philosophies of his dreams for a future in America.

After three years in New York City, where my husband's father was born, a new commission for Brock's Monument at Lewistown, Ontario took the family with its plants to Canada. While there, hearing of the newly opened land grants around Georgian Bay, the family decided to remain in Canada and sent home to Scotland for relatives and friends to come and take up lands near them. The maternal grandparents came from the Highlands. They too, brought over begonias.

If the grandmother was as generous giving

*See next page*

away cuttings in New York City as she always was in Canada, there should have been any numbers of calla-lily begonias in New York from 1851 on.

The culture given these plants in Ontario was simple. Each May basal cuttings were pressed into fresh oak leaf mold dug in the woods. Loose gravel was first placed in the can for drainage. The old plants were discarded and seemingly every cutting rooted without failure and grew rampant, blossoming endlessly! Cold cistern rain water was freely applied, but never any form of fertilizer. Always plenty of sunshine as these particular windows faced west.

Many times I took gifts of clay pots in pretty jardinières to this Auntie who remained on the old homestead, but later I discovered them unused in her cellar. Upon inquiry, she explained that no plant would grow in anything except tin cans, tomatoe cans preferred.

Long hours have I cogitated comparing soil, climatic and light conditions as well as altitudes. The homestead area is 1750 feet above sea level, whereas Flint is 780 feet altitude. Longitudinally they are two hundred miles north of us, but tempered as we are by the Great Lakes. I am still in a quandary.

Just one item, certain in its truth, am I sure is correct. Thinking back to my college studies in botany, Hugo de Vries made the statements that mutants were completely new species entirely different from the parents due to actual alterations of genes in the chromosomes. Therefore, he stated his theory, that mutants will breed true. Calla-lily begonias being mutants, I can say from these dates on the Barton begonia that it certainly does breed true, but how to successfully raise them, I still am trying to find a method, which is infallible.

TO ALL MEMBERS wondering why Mrs. Alice Clark's beautiful pictures and wonderful articles are missing from the pages of the *BEGONIAN*. Mrs. Clark has had an unfortunate accident and is recuperating nicely but has not been able to resume her work as yet. All Begoniates wish her well and as she is an active member of the Alfred D. Robinson Branch, any well wishes directed to this branch will be forwarded to her.

IF YOU DO NOT BELONG to a branch because there are too many miles between you and a Branch, form one in your own Community. All it takes is seven members, or prospective members interested in the same things you are interested in, *begonias and shade loving plants*. Then write to our Public Relations Director, Mrs. L. Schwertfeger, Cantera Avenue, Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara, California. She will tell you how to organize a branch and what Branch activity means. You and your garden minded friends and *their* friends will enjoy these contacts.

## "MUST HAVES" FOR MRS. AMELIA J. THOMPSON

As I enter my green house I see a picture of friends near and far, who love begonias as I do. Memories of trips for pleasure, business or conventions, from which I have returned with slips or plants.

My green house is my little world, like the league of nations trying to be united in peace, my begonias try to out do each other. Some want humidity, some want a dry spot, others want sun while others want shade. It is easy to please them all.

The slips that Mary gave me bloom earlier than those of Violet's. Louise and Ann are hidden by Susie, Emma is too close to the door and Lillian wants more room. Memories of my friends smiling faces. Still, if I had to choose a dozen plants I would not want to do without . . . .

1. *Abel Carriere*, with glorious foliage, so handy for flower arrangements, the silver mauve-purple, green leaves blend with almost any flowers.
2. *Jessie*, the frost got the tall one in the lath house, but duplicates are faithfully blooming in the greenhouse.
3. *Nellie Geddis*, (white) like snow flakes falling in the rear of the display, lasting ever so long.
4. *S.29*, "my rave picture of '48", the large leaves are like imported French silk moire. This one is A1 above all for me (Rudy's special).
5. *Lawrence Fewkes*, no word to express the peach like bloom, with a delicate fragrance.
6. *braemar*, the cause of my collection (just as wild) always in bloom.
7. *strigillosa*, a mass of lovely white flowers
8. *angularis*, another silk moire leaf.
9. *Mme. Fanny Giron*, bringing color to the collection, with it's crimson flowers.
10. *nigger tree*, burgundy being my favorite color, even in the greenhouse, the black leaves toward the sunlight, show the wine color that gives a special beauty to this tall plant.
11. *imperialis*, like velvet brocade, makes me think of a beautiful evening gown.
12. *ruby jewel*, whose calla lily leaves and red pompom flowers are the house plants that brighten the home.

In the center of all this display stands a fourteen inch statue of St. Frances, bidding the little birds 'welcome' just as I welcome my friends and fellow begoniates.

San Francisco Area

Read the ads carefully and buy your needs from our advertisers.

## REX BEGONIAS IN CHILLIWACK, B. C.

by James E. Kipp

I have found the Rex Begonia to be strictly an indoor plant in this part of the country, due to the winds, storms and cold nights.

They require a humid atmosphere (not dry and dusty) and it is best to keep them in a spot where they do not get late morning and midday sun. Lace or net curtains in the windows will break the sun rays and protect most house plants.

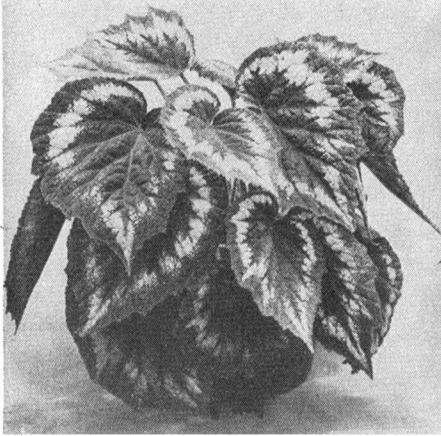


Photo courtesy of the P. J. Millers

### **Begonia r. c. Midnight**

I find it is well to have a large, shallow tin pan where the water may be about one and one half inches deep, and have a substance (pebbles or broken bits of crocks) for the pots to rest on so that the bottom of the pots are *not touching* the water. The water in the pan is to create moisture in the air (humidity), but the soil in the pots must be able to drain thoroughly and not be kept *wet*.

Rex begonias remain dormant here during the late fall and winter, therefore *careful* watering is much *more* important and beneficial than feeding or repotting.

If your rex suddenly has leaves in a drooping wilted condition and the soil is moist at the time, an immediate operation is probably necessary, removing all signs of decay around the roots, repotting in a *smaller* pot. If it is necessary to divide the plant to remove all the decay, do this and repot in small "thumb" or two inch pots.

In allowing the potted plants to become 'dried out' before watering, one will find green moss does not grow on the outside of the pots or surface of the soil. When the pot is in a condition where finger tapping produces a 'hollow' or 'ring', then give the plant a good soaking. This practice allows the air to penetrate down to the roots before the next

application of water. If the soil is constantly kept moist (puddling) there is no room for the air, causing the soil to become 'sour' and develop moss. This is an unhealthy state for the potted plants.

When foliage plants are desired, (as in the case of rex begonias) I report the plants when they are pot bound. This keeps them growing well, rather than producing flowers and is better in this location, due to lack of flower-producing sunshine.

If a plant starts to turn yellow around the edges of the leaves and appears at a standstill, it is time the root system were examined. If it is root-bound, repot in a larger pot with the same soil mixture. If it is not root-bound, repot in a smaller pot using a more porous soil mixture.

I use one-half leaf mold, one-fourth sand and one-fourth good, rich garden loam, not dry or heavy soil. One could substitute peat moss instead of leaf mold, if necessary. I also add a handful of airslacked lime to a gallon of soil, as the soil here lacks lime, and add the same amount of charcoal to help keep the soil sweet.

I have had success growing the following varieties under ordinary house conditions; Begonia r.c. Helen Lewis, peacock, lavender glow, calico, fireflush, Brownii, pink flush, Pinkie, purple glory, silver sweet, improved Countess Erdody, glory of St. Albans, curly Carnot and midnight.

### **A SUNDAY GARDENERS' PLANT**

by Peggy Sullivan, Los Angeles, California

From a begonia lover's standpoint there is nothing quite like a rare and hard to grow begonia . . . the more capricious and delicate it is, the better he loves it. And rightly so, for a deep thrill rewards this pampering parent.

But in such a diversified family there must be species which will thrive vigorously on a diet of haphazard waterings, children's feet, and rare applications of fertilizer. A slight exaggeration but nevertheless a condition frequently found in many of your neighbor's gardens. Yes, one species which definitely qualifies is *Begonia semperflorens* ..... commonly called a "Bedding Begonia".

Of a fibrous rooted type and readily sprouting from the base this easily grown begonia is the joy of the casual gardener. The cheerful clear colors vary from the fiery dark scarlet of "Luminosa" through the bright rose of "Carmen" and the clear pink of "Prima Donna", to the glistening white of "Snow". This is only a suggestion of the many new and old varieties available.

See next page

The importance of foliage tint is invariably overlooked, yet it is of considerable landscape value in mass plantings or edgings. The intensity of foliage color other than green is influenced by sun exposure. That is, some varieties such as "Luminosa", "Carmen" and "Indian Maid" are rich green when grown in considerable shade but quickly turn in a few days to a reddish brown or scarlet upon exposure to the sun's rays.

All varieties are extremely floriferous . . . a particular favorite of mine being the lovely pink, compact "Tausendschoen", but there is a variation in height of the plant growth. Minimum growth for the dwarf compact varieties is about ten inches, whereas the more husky varieties frequently reach two feet or more.

From the cultural standpoint, *B. semperflorens* is probably one of the most versatile of begonias. Garden loam of average fertility is satisfactory for normal growth, but the incorporating of animal manures or leaf mold to the soil will produce a more lush, rich green foliage as well as larger clusters of flowers.

For those gardening within the reaches of the cool ocean breezes, the sun is no problem . . . full sun combined with moist soil is sufficient, or a maximum of shade throughout the day is equally satisfactory. Inland, the hot mid-day sun is not for *Begonia semperflorens* unless filtered through three branches or lath strips, and full shade if not dark is sufficiently warm during the day to produce large, crisp flowers.

Remember that this begonia is a fine cut flower . . . just snip off the stems several inches from the ground and from this base there will quickly sprout numerous, vigorous shoots. This practice develops a sturdy, branched plant and also brings the garden indoors where non-gardeners may be exposed to the contagious 'Begonia Fever' for which fortunately there is no cure.

## HOW I GROW TUBEROUS BEGONIAS SUCCESSFULLY

by R. G. Hudson, Huntington Beach, California

Having exhibited in the Los Angeles County Fair and having had to listen to remarks made while viewing my display, I was amazed to find so few people knew what Tuberous Begonia were.

One need not *have* to live on the coast to grow tuberous. There are some very excellent tuberous begonias being grown in San Bernardino, Riverside, Colton and other inland places that are in really hot spots! If the ground in your lathhouse, walks and walls are kept damp to keep the humidity high, you will have good success with tuberous begonias. Do not think for one minute that the beach is not the best place for growing them. It is, but it is

for many other flowers also, as for instance fuchsias.

Let us list a few of the essential requisites for good begonias. First and most important is good stock. There are all kinds of tuberous begonias on the market and the very best is just as easy to raise as the poorest. There is a tremendous amount of difference in the shape and color of the flower and a remarkable difference in the growth of the plant. Good stock is grown to hold a big flower up by its own stem without staking and are bred for that. The same thing applies to the plant. They are more sturdy and give forth an abundance of blooms and their blooming season is longer. There is not a plant grown that gives more bloom than the tuberous begonia.

You should never plant any kind of a tuberous begonia in a pot measuring less than six inches. They are not deep rooted but like plenty of room to spread their shallow roots. They will do very well outside under trees whose branches are high enough to allow plenty of light and air to circulate around them.

Most people plant them in too deep a shade. Tubers require plenty of light and air circulation and will stand a lot of sun, but not too hot a sun. When they are planted in too deep a shade the buds drop off and do not mature. There are several reasons for bud dropping, too much shade, too much water and lack of high humidity. During the blooming season they should be kept damp at all times. There is a great deal of difference between damp and soggy wet. If you have one that constantly drops buds, throw it away, you are wasting your time and energy.

The soil mixture we are using this year is, eight parts leaf mold, two parts coarse sand, four parts cottonseed steer manure, two parts redwood leafmold, two parts nitro humus and one-half part bone meal. Mix this thoroughly three times and compost for at least ninety days before planting your tubers. Kellogg's nitro humus is a human sludge ground up, so if some of you growers outside of California are unable to get this product, perhaps you can obtain it from your sewerage disposal plants. It is very beneficial to any plant life, particularly shade plants and it will not burn them. There is a possibility that some of you will be unable to obtain Cal-Grow redwood leaf mold, but this is used because of the acidity and is a fine new product on the market.

### Begonia MacDougalli

(Pictured on page 231 October Begonian)

\$1.50 each F.O.B., Santa Barbara

**RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE**

1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif.



## BEGONIAS IN ENGLAND

by Frederick J. Bedson, F. R. H. S., President *National Begonia Society of England and Wales*

Our Society, although only formed since the close of the War, is fortunate in having quickly won the support of the majority of the outstanding begonia enthusiasts in the Country. Our predominating interest is in the growing of tuberous "doubles" and to a lesser extent in the winter flowering Socotrana-Andean and Socotrana-Dregei hybrids. England can fairly claim to have played a major part in the development of these classes since the days of Veitch's, and particularly in regard to "doubles". Specialist nurserymen and keen gardeners have devoted years of patient pedigree breeding to this group, which is the only one in which we can really challenge our American friends.

It is however disappointing to many of us that the aftermath of the Second World War has left us with little besides these groups on which to exercise our enthusiasm. The bombing raids were not entirely responsible for the loss of our stock, although few of us escaped glasshouse damage. But the necessary 90 per cent food production priority for nurseries and the withdrawal of fuel for private glasshouses, coupled with war effort duties, saw the passing of many an interesting variety, as I know to my own regret. Even the search of post-war American catalogues, and amongst private English gardens, has failed to trace all of those which I considered worthy of retention despite many less attractive which have survived.

To-day, nurseries in general are still restricted to the ratio of 25 per cent flowers, 75 per cent food production if using heated glasshouses, whilst private gardens are still without a fuel allocation except under special license, so it will easily be realized that until these conditions improve few of us can grow a representative collection of the wider begonia family, nor can the nursery trade profitably attempt to widen their modest collections of greenhouse plants.

We are however able, with the help of electric heaters or soil warming wiring and/or blue flame oil heaters, plus perhaps the sacrifice of some of our modest household fuel ration, to grow tuberous begonias for summer flowering in the cool or cold greenhouse, and sometimes there or in the house, a few of the many fine but cooler growing, species and hybrids.

Our real "doubles" enthusiasts will only grow the best named varieties, propagated from cuttings of the original plants, although tubers are available at far less cost from unnamed seedlings of fine parentage. This does however make it a somewhat costly hobby, for whereas unnamed tubers can be bought from 1/- to 6/- each, a new variety due to the limited pro-

pagation from cuttings frequently cost as much as two guineas its first season, and even older first class varieties range from 15/- to 35/-.

Hybrid seed as we know, varies in form, habit and colour, and even the best hand fertilised seed from the finest varieties cannot therefore be expected to quite equal cuttings from outstanding plants.

Post war Blackmore & Langdon introductions are Ballet Girl, white with waved petals edged clear pink; Harmony, a blush picotee; Pamela Simpson, a fine yellow; Red Emperor, vivid scarlet; Salmonea, a self colour between salmon and orange; Dream, pale pink, slightly serrated petals; Moonlight, creamy yellow; and Rhapsody, salmon pink. Shortly to be introduced are Diana Wynyard, a fine white, and Hercules, a deep pink which has surprised us by its size of both flower and plant.

H. Woolman, Ltd. of Birmingham are our mid-England specialists, and amongst their pedigree strain, worthy of special note, are Rose Edney, a large crimson scarlet; John Woolman, orange salmon, slightly frilled; and Alf Edney, perhaps our largest pink.

We also grow named basket or pendula begonias, and Woolmans Broadacre, a deep rose, gained an Award of Merit at the Royal Horticultural Society a few months ago. Dawn is the latest Blackmore & Langdon introduction.

Multiflora begonias are a continental speciality and perhaps the best of these, and which Thomas Butchers of Shirley, Croydon offer, are Burgomaster (or Mayer) Max, fiery scarlet; Guillaume Eysler, large scarlet; Frene Eysler, salmon-orange; and Count Zeppelin, orange scarlet. More widely offered old favourites are Flamboyant, Mme. Helene Harms and Mme. Richard Galle.

The winter flowering Cheimantha and Hiemalis hybrids are offered by but few nurseries to-day, but John Peed & Son of West Norwood, who have specialised in these for years, are again offering seven Hiemalis and three Cheimantha varieties. The Hiemalis, another British landmark, are mostly the fine Clibran crosses, which we are sorry to learn Clibrans have now given up growing. The Dutch nurseries also are offering a good range of both groups, including a number of the famous Baardse strain, and we understand one or two of our nurseries, including Butchers of Croydon, hope to offer a range of these in the coming season.

In Semperflorens begonias, the green leaved forms with single flowers ranging from pale to deep pink are readily obtainable, and an occasional source of the bronze foliaged varieties with both single pink and scarlet flowers may

*See next page*



be found. We have also located the *Semperflorens flore pleno*, Gustav Lund, and *Corbeille de feu*, but still await the introduction here of your hybrids of *Calla lily*, double or large form. The ambition of a friend of mine is to introduce a yellow flowered *Semperflorens*, which would also open up the possibilities of orange shades, and I cannot trace that this has yet been accomplished, except that Professor Holley's *Curly Locks*, which I have not yet seen, would appear to be the nearest success in this direction.

Turning to *Rex begonias*, it is sad to reflect how so many of the named European varieties have disappeared. By diligent search, one or two firms including Dutch, may be found offering a few, but mostly unnamed hybrids which if they cannot be viewed make it difficult for the collector. Sanders of St. Albans, the famous Orchid growers still have their glory of St. Albans, but like the few other houses offering named varieties, are now uncertain of their naming, due to the death or retirement of the older staff who knew them. Myself and friends, partly due to the war years without sight of them, can only with certainty recall a limited number by name, and I must admit to quite a few doubtful names in my own collection, due to the brevity of descriptive literature on European *rex* hybrids. Some of these old named varieties however would appear to compare favourably with modern hybrids, and may yet prove of interest either for re-introduction or for the introducing of fresh blood into current strains.

Lastly, due to scarcity here the many other species and hybrids must have grouped mention now, for despite your many hundreds of kinds, I cannot trace any nursery offering as many as a dozen. These are mostly the ever popular *Lucerna*, *Scharffi* (*Syn. haageana*), *Metallica*, *Weltoniensis*, and such.

Happily, there are still a few modest nucleus collections in private hands, and our Botanic Gardens have maintained many plants, so by dint of mutual exchanges, one or two of us are

working up useful collections. Of course, my friend Mr. L. Maurice Mason, of King's Lynn, and myself, are the chief "sleuths". I am just topping the two hundred mark with different named species and crosses, quite a few of which are not mentioned in either the Krauss or Buxton books, and of which hardly one quarter are available from trade houses. No doubt this number will increase during the year with the help of fellow begonia fans, and by superhuman efforts to adequately house the "pups" that will grow up.

Finally, in sending greetings to fellow enthusiasts of the American Begonia Society, may I especially express thanks to those Officers who have so kindly corresponded with me, for their encouragement and help to one from a dollar restricted country. Already we have proved that plants sent by air mail from California arrive within four days in excellent condition, an interesting contrast with the lengthy and hazardous journeys of the first begonia introductions to Europe.

## TUBEROUS IN FULL SUN

A. S. Gulas, Vice President of the Western Reserve Branch in Ohio, reports success with growing tuberous begonias in full sun. This is how he does it; the tubers are started in pots in the basement during the month of April and when they have a good root system (about the early part of May) the potted plants are placed on a push cart and placed in a shelter, as a garage or shed. Each morning that the weather is favorable the push cart is pushed out in the sun and allowed to remain outdoors until sundown, when it is again placed in the shelter where the temperature is several degrees warmer than outdoors. This is done until the first few days of June when the plants are placed in the flower bed, which is banked and in full sun facing east. These plants grow very sturdy and bloom very well.

*Phil Meyer*

**RARE AND MUCH SOUGHT**  
**REX BEGONIAS**

Fine collection in exquisite colors. Labeled and named varieties 2 1/4" pot 35 cents, 3" pot 50 cents, plus 20 percent for postage and packing.

List varieties you have and they will not be duplicated.

We SHIP ANYWHERE—Price List on Request  
VISITORS WELCOME—CLOSED WEDNESDAYS

**LEATHERMAN'S GARDENS**  
1 blk. W. of Rosemead Blvd, 1 1/2 blks. S. of Garvey Road  
925 Lee Ave El Monte, California

**CALIFORNIA Liquid Fertilizer**  
A PLANT FOOD OF QUALITY  
8-8-4 Promotes General Growth  
2-10-10 (Acid Food) Develops Fruits and Flowers  
Acidate, Corrects Alkalinity  
Plant foods so potent that one teaspoonful in a quart of water feeds your plant for a month  
For sale at all nurseries and garden supply dealers  
★  
Manufactured by the  
**California Liquid Fertilizer Co.**  
34 Pico Street, Pasadena 2, Calif.

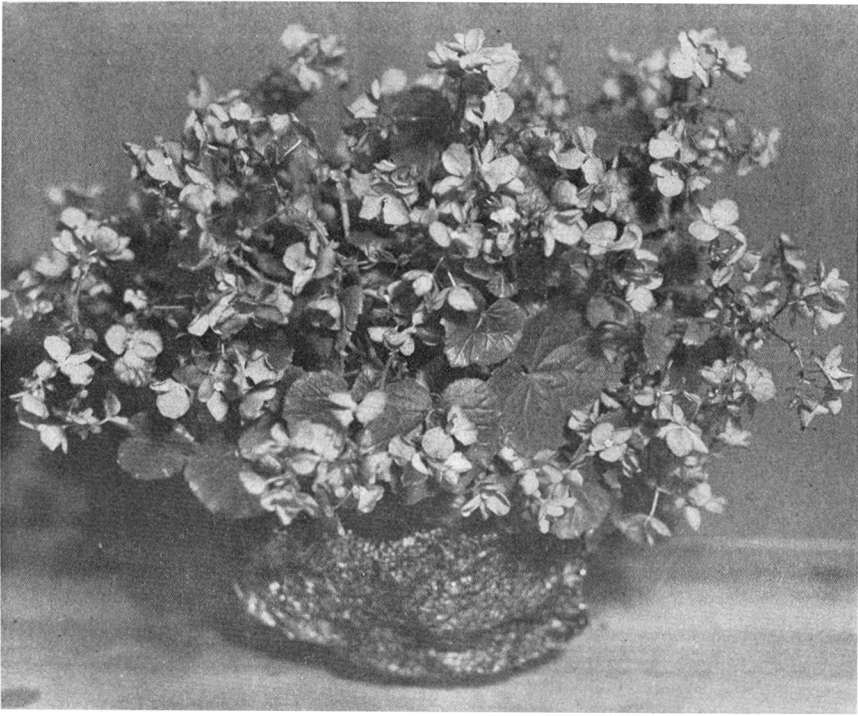


Photo by Bill Bayer

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERING BEGONIAS

by Mrs. Maud Nichols, Burbank California

The Begonia Cheimantha was grouped and named by T. H. Everett of the New York Botanical Garden in 1940 for the Christmas blooming varieties.

Several have been produced by crossing *B. dregei* and *B. socotrana*, the most popular among the florist trade is the *B. c. Marjorie Gibbs*, larger flower, darker pink and with different texture than *B. c. Lady Mac*, developed by W. W. Edgar in Massachusetts in 1925 with clear pink and smaller flowers.

Although *B. socotrana* is semi-bulbus and *B. dregei* has an irregular tuber, the hybrid form shows neither, but the base throws many shoots which can be separated and propagated or better yet, the best and more vigorous plants are from leaf cuttings. Take well ripened leaves, insert in sand or sand and vermiculite and keep at 70 degrees temperature. The main portion of leaf should not lay on the sand. These precautions prevent damping off. One may also

dust powdered charcoal over the bed after cuttings have been watered. When they develop shoots from the calloused end of stem, pot in two inch pots in loose potting soil, repeat until they are of blooming size.

Pinching out the ends of branches keeps the plant growing in a full, well branched shape and will encourage more shoots from the roots.

---

## INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW

By Cal Trowbridge, Flower Show Chairman

The American Begonia Society will show some of their prize winning begonias in the forthcoming International Flower Show to be held at Hollywood Park, March 26 thru April 3.

It will naturally be up to the local branches of the A. B. S. to cooperate one hundred per cent toward making the Begonia Booth one of the outstanding in the show. This must be a collective effort. No one branch, especially after our recent losses, can hope to put on an arresting and attractive exhibit alone. Therefore it has to be a unified exhibition bringing together all our resources from all nearby members and even specimens from those farther afield who are able to bring plants.

OL. 0154

HOURS 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

### IVANHOE NURSERY & FLORIST

2835 GLENDALE BLVD.

LOS ANGELES 26, CALIF.

FLOWERS BY ANN

F. MANGOLD

HORTICULTURAL ADVISOR

Large, medium and small are desired and necessary to make up a twelve by twenty garden strip. All shade plants in bloom or with interesting leaf effects will add to the over all picture.

It is especially desired to call for spontaneous help in producing plants as well as helping to carry out the exhibit. No one should object to the Inglewood Branch being chosen "labor force" for this first International Flower Show to be held in Inglewood, because we are naturally eager to show our wares for the benefit of the A. B. S. We are on the spot but *we need your help, very definitely.*

Be sure to bring in plants that are to be entered, in the private exhibit and specimen exhibit, separately from those of the unified A.B.S. effort.

The Schedule for Garden Clubs and Amateur Exhibits calls for;

- 116. Begonia Collections, not less than six specimens.
- 117. Cinerarias any or all types, six pots.
- 120. Fern collection, not less than six plants.
- 138. Begonia, Rex.
- 139. Begonia in flower.

The above is a partial list of the potted plant group that may be entered.

Please contact Cal Trowbridge at L0gan 5-3737 if you can help in this effort. Let us all help make this show, one that will long be remembered in Southern California.

## DO YOU GROW FUCHSIAS?

*by Jimmie Lichtenthaler, Long Beach, Calif.*

Are you a fuchsia enthusiast? Do you have dozens of different varieties in your lath house or planted around your garden? If you have, I wonder why you chose the varieties you did out of the hundreds listed in the nurseries. Did you pick *Display* because of the mass of delicate rose pink blooms, the compactness of the bush, or did you pick *Otto* for the bright scarlet sepals and the dark royal purple corolla; or did you select *Chief* for the size of the bloom? Maybe you grow fuchsias mostly in baskets in your patio. Did you choose *Red Spider* because of the way the single long red tubular blooms seem to cascade over the edge of the basket? There is some reason why you chose the fuchsias you grow and so proudly show your neighbors and club members. Let's look further into fuchsias, especially at some of the newer ones, and see why they were introduced and how we can give them space in our garden.

If you are a fuchsia who only looks at the many different colors, shades and sizes of blooms, you can plant all available space with older varieties because there are well over

five hundred. But if you want only the best and the finest you must choose carefully. In selecting your next fuchsia check the characteristics of the parent plant. Is it a good vigorous grower or is it one of the touchy, temperamental, "quick to die" varieties? Does it have good foliage or is it a leaf that is just like so many of the old ones; just a plain typical small fuchsia leaf? Maybe it doesn't have many leaves except at the tips of the branches, thereby exposing a bunch of woody stems and laterals. Does it produce just two or three blooms at the terminal tips, or does it produce an abundance? Since we are down to the bloom, let's see if it really is something different. Could this be mistaken for any other fuchsia? Would it take an expert examining the bloom and some of the foliage to name it? If so, it isn't outstanding. *Mission Bell, Anna, Thetis, Red Spider, Mantilla and Seventeen* are some examples of good introductions. Coming up for release soon is a striking example of a really good new introduction, good growth, easily grown and a bloom that can never (to date) be confused with any other variety. The name is *Pink Quartet*, an introduction by Roy Walker and Buddie Jones of the Fuchsia-La Nursery at Long Beach, California. The color, as the name implies, is a delicate pink. It is a semi-double bloom with the four inside petals of the corolla rolling individually into a perfect tube, thus making four tubes in the center of each bloom. These are surrounded by an outer row of petals of the same soft delicate pink. Out of each of the four tubes is a single stamen extending half again the length of the entire bloom. There are four or five other stamens surrounding these four tubes. They stand out very stiffly and are touched with a bright geranium red on the tips.

*Pink Quartet* is a good upright grower with large beautiful foliage and an attractive appearance. It is worth room in the garden for the foliage alone; however, it is such a free, easy bloomer that it makes it all the more of a *must* on your next shopping trip for fuchsias in the spring.

### *Fuchsias For Fortynine*

OUR OUTSTANDING INTRODUCTIONS

"PINK QUARTET" an upright  
The Fuchsia with Personality

"PRIDE OF DOWNEY"

A Vigorous Grower and Bloomer

"CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL"

Huge Multicolor Flowers

**FUCHSIA-LA NURSERY**

3569 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

## FANCY LEAVED CALADIUMS

by Harold W. Hart, Glendale, California

Fancy leaved caladiums are fast growing, highly ornamental plants with bright colored foliage. They are tropical plants and in handling them this fact should always be borne in mind.

They make excellent potted plants and the leaves may be cut and used in floral arrangements and in bouquets by themselves or mixed.

If one has the proper facilities, they are easily grown. Upon receiving the bulbs, if they are not to be planted right away, they should be unpacked, spread out in a box or on a wire mesh and placed in a warm, dry place. They will keep their best at an even temperature, seventy degrees being preferable.

In localities where the humidity is high care should be taken to keep the bulbs as uniformly dry as possible. They are inclined to absorb moisture from the air during rainy weather and this will later cause shrinkage when dry weather sets in and quite often will ruin the bulbs completely.

Here in California where we have cold nights I do not recommend the planting of caladiums in the out-of-doors. They are definitely greenhouse plants. For good growth they require a temperature of seventy degrees and for fast growth they can stand a temperature of eighty to eighty-five degrees both night and day. The night temperature in most California localities is altogether too cold for proper growth.

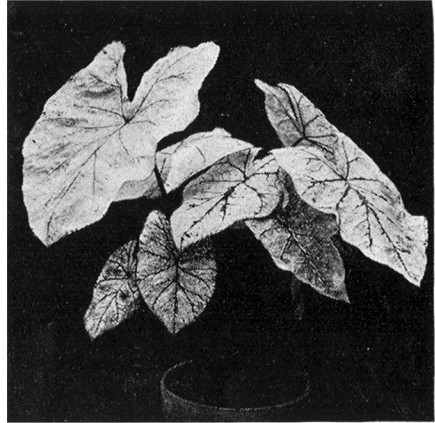
Caladiums being tropical plants also require humidity. If the air becomes too dry the leaves have a tendency to droop. If given the proper conditions of heat and humidity there is nothing in potted plants that will grow as fast and make as quick a showing. I have planted bulbs and in two months time have had nice, balanced plants two feet tall with leaves six to eight inches across and twelve to sixteen inches in length.

The bulbs may be started in the pots they are to be grown in or they may be planted in flats and then transplanted when the foliage starts to develop and the leaves are from six to ten inches high.

The bulbs may be started in various media but I have had best results with one-third coarse sand, one-third oak leaf mold and one-third coarse poultry charcoal. I cover the bulbs about one-fourth of an inch and place them in the glass house which is kept at seventy to seventy-five degrees night temperature. If I want to force them I sometimes raise the heat to eighty or eighty-five degrees, keeping the plants fairly damp but not watering too heavily.

When they are ready to transplant I place them into a mixture of one-third loam, one-

third oak leaf mold and one-third rotted cow manure. The size of the pot should be large enough to leave one to two inches between the edge of the bulb and the side of the pot. In transplanting from the flat to the pot, care should be taken not to injure the roots. If the plant is lifted and shaken slightly the soil will fall off the roots. The roots are very coarse and will be anywhere from one to five inches long.



*Fancy Leaved Caladium*

Place the plant in the pot and gradually fill in with the loose material. Tapping the pot on the bench will cause the soil to touch all surfaces of the roots. The soil should be pressed firmly and the top of the bulb should be about one inch below the surface. Good drainage is essential, crockery or pea gravel will suffice.

I have had the best results by starting them in this manner. If one wishes to eliminate the labor of transferring from the flats to the pots, the bulbs may be placed directly in the pots. Care should be taken not to overwater until the plants are firmly established.

The natural and best time to start fancy leaved caladiums is in the early spring or as soon as caladium bulbs are obtainable. They are usually harvested in the fall and are available for planting in January or February. If planted at this time good plants will be ready for Easter.

Caladiums naturally go dormant in the fall. I grow the caladiums the year around and will let the plants go dormant at different times of the year, letting them rest for about four months and then starting them again. Just as soon as a plant shows a fading of color and looks as though it has passed its peak I let it go dormant, letting the soil and bulb throughly

*See next page*

dry before taking the bulb out of the pot. Bulbs are seldom lost from rot if the pot is thoroughly dried. If the bulb remains in damp soil it will soon rot.

To keep track of the different varieties I generally place the bulbs in an open sack marking the name of the variety on the sack.

During growth they need plenty of water and, if large specimens are desired, ample feeding. I water my caladiums every morning. They can be fed with commercial liquid fertilizer or liquid cow manure every two weeks during the time they are making fast growth. When growing good specimens I make a practice of fertilizing on the first and fifteenth of the month and in this way I can remember when to feed without having to keep track of the time.

Caladiums are very free from pests. I have very little difficulty with anything eating the foliage. In fact I do not recall of ever having any insect eat the foliage. I have had a small amount of mealy bug which can be controlled by washing off with high pressure water. Occasionally aphids will attack fancy leaved caladiums but they are very easily controlled with any of the ordinary insecticides or by washing off with water.

### COMMITTEE FORMED TO STUDY JUDGING

Having done some work in setting up Flower Shows, I have become conscious of the lack in our judging schedule from several angles. The American Begonia Society should be in a position to offer advice and guiding lines to almost any committee trying to put on a show of any kind with shade plants, Begonias in particular. There seems to be a wealth of material that one can actually refer to and what is available could be revised with advantage.

With this object in view, it has been suggested from various sources that we establish a Flower Show Sub-Committee which will work out these needs and be able, willing and efficient in establishing a shade flower show regime that can operate to the satisfaction of both exhibitors and judges everywhere.

Take the guesswork out of gardening. It doesn't take 3 separate products to get acid food, humus, nitrogen and moisture retention.

## GEORGIA PEAT

... has them all ... naturally blended for thousands of years. You can make a more productive soil mixture, easily and at much less cost.

The committee chosen up to this time, includes Maria Wilkes, Mrs. Jessie Poole Gale, Mrs. Edna Korts, Miss Charlotte Hoak and Calvin Trowbridge.

Cal Trowbridge, *Flower Show Chairman*

### ADVENTURES IN HYBRIDIZING

by *Mary B. Ckate, Hybridizing Chairman*

There are many possibilities in the field of hybridizing. It is a fascinating study that catches and holds the interest of both amateur and advanced grower. Our Past Master at the art is mother nature, who shows no discrimination, but often produces amazing results.

It is a field that has invited and intrigued many lovers of nature for centuries. Practiced hundreds of years ago in China, Japan, Italy, Greece and Central Europe, the art of hybridizing has followed civilization through the ages, and paces the march of progress in plant life.

Hybridizing was more or less an uncharted sea until the introduction of the Mendelian Law, named for Gregor Johann Mendel, an Austrian Monk and Scientist. He was the first to employ a definite system and to keep an accurate record of his work with plants. His first experiments were with peas and the lowly hawkweed.

If it were possible to turn back the pages of time and see our begonias as they were in the early stages of their discovery compared to the lovely plants of today that thrill and delight us with their beauty, we would no doubt pay homage to the first hybridist who introduced an improved begonia.

Hybridizing offers its own reward. There is a great personal satisfaction to be gained through the creation and perfection of a new plant, especially an outstanding variety such as the beautiful little B. r. c. miniatures introduced by the late Mr. Roy Berry.

Many of our most beautiful begonias in this same class owe their origin to Mrs. Helen Lewis of Lewis Begonia Gardens and Mr. Leslie Woodruff, formerly a member of the Inglewood Branch, now a resident of Oregon. There is much credit due many others in the hybridizing of begonias, in fact in some cases, years have been spent and will continue to be spent, in the perfecting of one plant. This is most especially true of the tuberous variety.

The Hybridizing Department is a branch of the Research Department in connection with the Seed Fund of which Mrs. Florence Carrell is Director. It is for the benefit of all readers of the *BEGONIAN* and members of the American Begonia Society.

It will bring you fascinating articles each month on hybridizing, hints and suggestions in the selecting and pollinizing and care of

*See next page*



parent plants. There will also be found reports on old and new hybrids of the begonia family.

Members that have plants from crosses that have been hand pollinated or chance seedlings, are urged to report them to this department where they will be recorded and given recognition. In reporting, please state as much as is known of both parents and also the year when the cross was made. A new plant should be grown for several seasons to be sure of its merit.

Any questions will be answered through this department in the *BEGONIAN* or personally if a stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed with your question.

This is *your* Hybridizing Department and we want you to take advantage of its services. Suggestions will also be appreciated.

## NOTES, AFTER THE FROST

*Contributed by Epiphyllum Society of America*

Since California has gone through such a disastrous period of cold weather and the ordinary householder had little chance to prepare a protection for his plants, we are offering these timely hints.

Our primary interest is for our epiphyllums in places where the temperature reached 28 degrees or lower, varying amounts of damage will be noted. For one thing, species such as the night-blooming oxypetalum and hybrids closely related to species, will show the greatest amount of damage. The very tender new growth on plants in most cases will be ruined. Established matured plants should show the least damage. Plants transplanted within two months of the freeze (because of the fact that they are not completely adapted to their new soil) may have suffered root damage. Plants in positions exposed to the sky (no over-head protection of any kind) have shown heavier damage than those on porches or under lath or trees. The formation of ice in proximity to your plants does not necessarily mean that the plants have been damaged, since ice begins to form at 32 degrees while most hybrid epiphyllums seem to tolerate 28 degrees.

A plant is a live thing and as with a human, it should not be moved and buffeted about when it is ill (damaged by frost). In the first place *do not* cut off anything . . . mushy branches, white branches, black branches, spotted branches . . . wait for a couple of months, then when you look at your plants you should be able to decide how much has retained life ready to put forth side branches, branches from under the ground or maybe flower buds. If the plant is *completely dead* it can be thrown out then.

Do not be embarrassed, other folks have poor

looking plants too. The process of freeze and thaw may cause roots under the ground to crack. If unmolested and not water logged, they stand a better chance of healing, ready to take up their duties again. These plants have a very tenacious hold on life. No water, outside of the lightest soil sprinkle, should be needed for at least two weeks unless supplied by moderate rain which seems to always bring with it a life-giving and healing power. Regular watering should be resumed later. Fertilizing is something to be done only when the plant recuperates.

It has been noted that while ice can form under infra-red elements, still the vibration of the infra-red light rays, where properly criss-crossed, kept the plants from extensive damage. However, the lights must be on sometime before the thermometer goes to 32 degrees. To protect a small amount of plants a portable electric heater, with or without a fan, will help. Remember that cold settles and heat rises and plants on shelves or in hanging baskets may fare better than plants on the ground.

**CAUTION:** When a plant has been frozen, moving it to a hot or sunny position can do no good whatsoever. Instead, shield it from the sun.

## PERSONALITIES OF THE BEGONIA WORLD

For seventy-two years of his eighty seven years, Mr. George Otten has lived very close to nature in a garden. His earliest training began in Europe, at the age of fifteen, at Lehe near Bremerhaven as an apprentice in horticulture, thus early learning the secret of every phase of plant and flower culture. His almost uncanny ability to give the botanical name of any flower or shrub has always been a mystery to almost everyone.

After serving for three years as an apprentice and being graduated, he decided to travel on foot across Europe, from the North Sea to the Adriatic, working and learning as he went along. Later on Mr. Otten was attached to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Germany, called the "Koniglichen Hofgarten", under the reign of King Ludwig. Mr. Otten recalls the many interesting arrangements of flowers that were made for the castle halls and for different festivities. While employed in these gardens he enjoyed a beautiful friendship with Richard Wagner, the composer, who visited King Ludwig frequently and would pass the time of day with him on his way to and from the castle.

During this time, having to report for military duty each year for a number of weeks, and being outnumbered, (enough soldiers already in the army in those days) he decided it was time

*See next page*



to come to America and become an American citizen. He was dismissed from the German nationality and came to this country in 1884. He landed in San Francisco where he immediately secured a position with the Pacific Nurseries at Lombard and Baker Streets adjacent to the Presidio. Mr. Otten often enjoyed listening to the Band playing familiar tunes as he worked on the other side of the open fence. It was here that his employers learned of his European background of training in horticulture. Having studied in Italy he soon revolutionized their method of making olive tree cuttings, and most of the sixty thousand olive trees in California in the early days, were from his cuttings.

George Otten moved to Portland to live in 1885. After building a greenhouse and small home on the hillside, about 23rd and Burnside Streets, he sent for his childhood sweetheart and on August 9, 1886, he ran down the path to meet her on her way from the steamer from San Francisco. The next day they were married. They moved to 19th and Burnside Streets in 1887, where Mr. Otten built his greenhouses and home and lived for many years. During that time many beautiful grounds, including the present Town Club, were laid out by him. Mr. Wemme, the first owner of an automobile in Portland, always had George Otten decorate his machine for festive occasions. At one time after being decorated with flowers and presumably drawn by a bevy of white doves, and ready for the parade, the machine refused to move so the judges came to the building where it was and awarded it the first prize of fifty dollars.

Mr. Otten was the originator of the Portland Rose Show. In the Sunday Oregon Journal of May 18, 1947, there appears a picture of his work at the armory in 1913, at the First Florist Flower Show. He was one of the original Portland florists and today is the only one of them living.

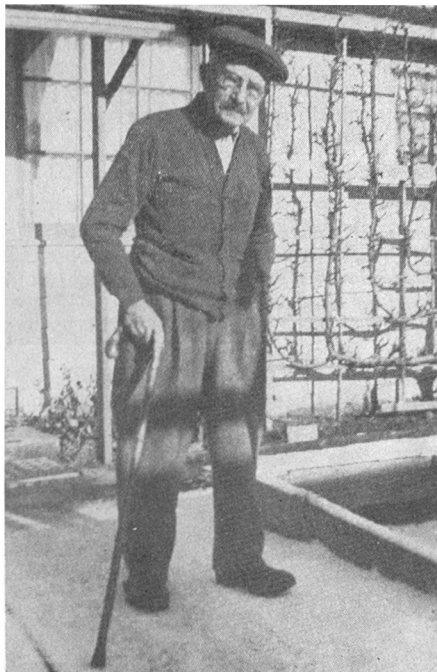
Many years ago he became interested in the culture of tuberous-rooted begonias. In fact he was the first one to introduce these plants west of the Rocky Mountains. In the early days he presented the Oaks Amusement Park, on the Willamette River, with a thousand of these begonias, but people were not yet begonia conscious.

In Better Homes and Gardens Magazine of September 1929, there is an article by Romaine

Ware about George Otten and his work. It tells how he interested the beach communities in raising flowers and beautifying their gardens, when they said no flowers would grow there; giving away thousands of annuals each year to all those who loved flowers.

In 1935 the first edition of Mr. Otten's book entitled "Tuberous-rooted Begonias and Their Culture" was off the press, thus bringing to the attention of many thousands, the beauty of these flowers and their culture. This was the first book written on "Tuberous Begonias". The American Begonia Society elected Mr. Otten to be an Honorary Director in 1939.

In the Sunday Oregon Journal of August 31, 1947, another tribute to the dean of specialists in tuberous begonias was paid.



GEORGE OTTEN

In June, 1948, the State of Oregon Horticultural Award was presented to Mr. Otten on behalf of the Federated Garden Clubs. His life history and his accomplishments are now a matter of record in the State Library at Salem, Oregon.

Perhaps the thought that Mr. Otten tried to convey to flower lovers everywhere appears in the front of his book in a four line quotation, A kiss of the sun for a pardon  
A song of a bird for mirth,  
One is nearer God's heart in a garden  
Than anywhere else on earth".

*Editor's note; Our thanks to Mr. Otten's daughter, Mrs. M. Otten Kaser of Seaside, Oregon for the above story.*

<b>FANCY LEAF</b>	<b>25 1" bulbs \$2</b>
<b>CALADIUMS</b>	18 choice 2" bulbs \$3. Postpaid
Glorious array of colors in choice varieties. Excellent for shady spots, house plants, borders. Cut leaves make lasting bouquets. Complete growing instructions included.	
<b>ARNER'S PALM GARDENS</b> Dept. B, 119 S. Ridgewood Dr., Sebring, Fla.	

## SHELTERED GARDEN BOOK REVIEWS

*A to Z On Fuchsias. 1947 Revised Edition. Published by the California Fuchsia Society. 64 pp. \$1.25.*

This book or rather booklet, since it consists of only 64 pages with paper covers, is well named as it covers the subject completely. It could well be called the "Fuchsia Grower's Manual" since practicability is its keynote and its simple, clear-cut directions are easily followed. An excellent chapter on Hybridizing by that great fuchsia authority, the late Mr. G. Niederholzer, is followed by others covering general culture including suggestions for choosing plants, their location, soil mixtures, watering, control of insect pests, etc. Detailed instructions on propagation should enable anyone to increase his stock to any desired degree. The major portion of the book is devoted to the listing and description of four hundred and fifty varieties of fuchsias. Many photographs and three color plates add to the practical value of the book.

*Frank H. Overton*

*Begonia scabrida* (cover picture) is a species and was found in Venezuela about 1837. The leaves are a bright green and admired more than the small white flowers. It is of easy culture and grows tall and bushy.

### CAMELLIAS

SEND FOR FREE CULTURAL LEAFLET

PAUL L. SCOTT

1331 So. Mayflower Ave. Arcadia, Calif.

### HUNTINGTON BEACH BEGONIA GARDENS

220 13th Street

Seedlings for Sale—Blossoms and Bulbs  
Specially Prepared Soil—For All Types of  
Shade Plants

HAZEL and SCOTTY HUDSON, Proprietors

**YOU SHOULD HAVE ORCHIDS  
IN YOUR GLASSHOUSE**

*Orchid Manor*

CARO and GRACE KREBS

1010 Floral Drive, Whittier, Calif.



*Inspection By Appointment Only*

Phone WHittier 4-4136

## ROUND ROBIN NEWS FOR MARCH

The Begonia Robin for Apartment Dwellers is flying with a begonia fan from New York State as Director.

The Caladium R. for Southwest members is again in flight with room for more members.

Due to illness, the beloved Director of the Rhizomatous and Small Leaved Robins, has had to give up her work. New Directors have been found and these will now carry on again.

A Semperflorens Begonia Robin is suggested, to handle the calla-lily begonia subject as well as others.

The Swap Robin has a Director and there is room for additional members. Only those members having a surplus of plants, cuttings or seed are eligible for membership. Each member is to list their surplus for trading and include discussions concerning methods of packing plants and cuttings, for shipping; care of plant material upon arrival; new sources of plant material, commercial or otherwise; methods of rooting begonia cuttings and methods of propagating from seed.

The Herb Robin has room for more members.

A request for a Research Robin has been received. If enough members are interested, one will be formed. One need not be actively participating in Horticultural research but must be willing to contribute articles and clippings having to do with the latest developments on the subject.

There is also room for more members in the Orchid Robin and the Billbergia Robin.

Keep your Robins flying. Consider the progress (or lack) of your Robin Club when you are tempted to 'put off till another day' the mailing of the R. R. letters to the next member.

*Mrs. Frances Downing  
Round Robins Chairman*

**INGLEWOOD BRANCH:** To hold First Annual Branch President's Night. All Branch Presidents are cordially invited to attend the First Annual President's Night dinner to be held at the Inglewood Branch, 325 North Hillcrest, March 10, at 6:30 p.m.

According to Cal Trowbridge, Inglewood President, this promises to be an annual affair. There will be door prizes and our usual array of good plants for the plant sale.

The speaker of the evening will be Mr. Jonson of the DestruXol Corp.

So come on over to Inglewood, all you presidents and bring your gang with you, lets have a good old fashioned get together.

The date again is March 10.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH: Report the following officers elected; President, Mrs. L. L. Carringer, 2115 30th St., S.D.2, Vice Pres., Mrs. Don Hunter, 510 Silvergate Ave., S. D. 6, Secy., Mrs. R. K. Whitney, 4661 Brighton Ave., S. D. 7, Treas., Mrs. A. F. Gardner, 3212 James St., S. D. 6, California. Meeting place changed to 3030 Homer Street, San Diego 6, Calif.

Mrs. R. K. Whitney, Secretary

BELFLOWER BRANCH: Despite the cold weather, members of our Branch are taking hold again to plan a new and 'better than ever' year ahead. Under the newly elected President, Mr. Lewis Reese, each meeting has been planned for the welfare of the Society, to further the interest in memberships, that others may come to enjoy all the opportunities of shade plant gardening. Programs are planned in advance, using the Colored Slide Library as well as speakers on rex, fibrous and tuberous begonias. Saintpaulias will have a place on the agenda along with ferns and all shade plants. "It is our Society and we expect to be active in its growth".

Mrs. Margaret Hanson, Publicity Chm.

MARGARET GRUENBAUM BRANCH: Held a joint meeting in Wynnewood at the home of Mrs. Lillian Watts, Secretary of the Philobegonia Branch. The guests of honor were Ernest Logee and his charming sister Joy, of the North Street Greenhouses, Danielson, Conn. They gave the group a fine talk and splendid illustrations by using slides, of the new hybrid *Double Semperflorens*, with which they have been working for perfection and which are now ready for all begonia lovers to possess and enjoy. They are truly beautiful and will no doubt form a part of all begonia collections. The meeting was called for about noon and each one took sandwiches. Our hostess provided the beverage and dessert and we gathered around the open fire in the recreation room of her interesting home, after having visited her greenhouse with its fine collection of plants. Food shared and the love of begonias, form a double bond to bring kindred folk closer in their joy of growing.

Elsa Fort

President Philobegonia Club Branch

SAN FRANCISCO FRANCH: Had a very large attendance at the February meeting to hear Mr. William Johnson, Entomologist and Chemist, representative of the Destruxol Company, talk on SOIL and INSECTICIDE. Mr. Johnson is very well known and his talk and discussion was of great benefit to all the members.

Frances Morrison, Secretary

## MARCH SEED FUND NEWS

Thank you so much for your many nice letters. How I wish I had the time to answer them all, but my days and nights are far too short. We have 225 members now in our Seed Fund. We who find joy in watching a tiny seed develop into a new plant for house and garden are all busy folks and happy too. I am very happy to think of the many, many fine friends I have made these past few years in the American Begonia Society and have a most fond friendly feeling towards all of you. The Seed Fund Begonia collection was mailed out in January and I hope it has been safely received by all of you. If for any reason you are not completely happy with the seed, please write to me for I want very much to please you. I do not have time to test the seed before packaging it, maybe another year I can do this, but as far as I know all seed sent out is fresh and fertile. Such fine seed as Begonias need very special care, they must never once dry out after planting. Give them careful attention and grow some nice new plants. Give your extras to friends and spread the joy of growing plants to as many folks as you can.

There are a few seed lists left so send a stamped envelope for a copy if you do not have one. To those who have put off joining the Seed Fund and feel sort of left out . . . well, we will try to take care of you as long as the seed holds out. For a two dollar contribution to our Seed Fund we will send you 20 packets of Begonia seeds (see January *Begonian*). There was not enough *B. Cathayana* and other China seed for all those who wanted it, sorry the price had to be \$1 per packet. We can get more at that price and will order it if you really want it. We are hoping to find other sources for *B. Cathayana* at lower prices.

New seeds just received are: *Begonia Froebelii* 50 cents per packet. From Columbia; Bromeliad species, Begonia species E17 (grows to five feet, great quantities of pure white flowers), Begonia sp. E18 (grows about three feet with decorative dark leaves, rose flowers), Epidendrum (orchid) red and yellow flowers; from England these *Leotopodium alpinum* (Edelweiss), *Clematis integrifolia*, *Tangutica*. These at 25 cents per packet.

With best wishes for good luck growing your new seeds, yer ole skipper,

Florence Carrell

### TUBEROUS BEGONIA SEEDS

Ruffled Novelties—Double Camellia Flower  
Double Fringed

Large Packets \$1.00 Small packets 75c

• FREE GARDEN CATALOGUE •

**CAMPBELL SEED STORE**

137 W. Colorado Blvd, Dept. B  
Pasadena 1, California

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH:** Attended the first meeting of the year with their new President Minnie presiding. Some one brought a few strawberry weevils in a glass jar and a discussion was held on the damage they do and how to stop them in larva and adult age. It is found they will eat the crown of the primrose and often damage the fine roots of fuchsias. If a begonia tuber is found with the eyes eaten away, leaving an indentation, it is possible it was caused by the strawberry weevil. A dust with D. D. T. can be used. Ortho spray will kill this pest in adult form.

Mrs. Hilda Nunan read a paper on compost and it was interesting to note the refuse that can go into it and the mineral content these wastes have; such as feathers, silk, cat tail reeds, egg shells, banana peels and citrus fruit rinds. There was a list of greens, ground meals, manures and kitchen refuse. But do not throw on the dish water! It has grease in it that bring ants and ants bring aphids. Mrs. Nellie Pape read an article on compost made of just leaves, noting the different kinds that may be used and the minerals they contain.

Ferndale members were the hosts for the evening and served the refreshments.

**MIAMI BRANCH:** Outlined their program for the year and it promises to be interesting. Mrs. Kendricks gave a talk at the January meeting on types of begonias grown in this area. Members brought plants for her demonstration. Jack Beark, student of Botany at the Miami University, was the Speaker for the evening and he is going to give a series of talks on naming the begonias, their origin and their native habitats. Pres. Rosengren donated two door prizes, one for the guests and one for members.

*Mrs. A. E. Sackett, Nat'l Director*

**WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH:** Have elected the following officers for 1949; Mr. Phil Meyer, President; Mr. A. S. Gulas, Vice President; Mr. M. W. Peterson, Secretary and Treasurer; Mr. Leo Lackamp, Membership Chairman and Mrs. Edward Lobser, Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. E. Lobser, *Corresponding Secretary*

You'll find it pays you to patronize Begonia advertisers.

## USE HALF GEORGIA PEAT

... For starting and growing begonias and fuchsias. Growers are getting better results from its higher content of humus, acid food and nitrogen.

**SACRAMENTO BRANCH:** Had a big turn out for their January meeting to hear R. A. Gunther talk on growing orchids. Mrs. R. C. Young, Show Director, urged members to continue growing begonias for their exhibit at the California State Fair. A. M. Larwick told how to prepare the soil for planting begonia tubers this spring. The business meeting followed and a plant sale and refreshments climaxed the evening.

*Lynn Cross, Publicity Director*

**DOROTHY PIERSON BARTON BRANCH:** Report the following officers elected to serve in 1949; President, Mrs. Edwin Crosby; Vice President, Mrs. Harold Reese; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. S. V. Clark to serve until the May 6th meeting at which time Mrs. Otto Jirovetz will accept the office. Plans for the spring exhibition of begonias during the last week of May were discussed. The begonia pronunciation drill at each meeting, enables all the members to familiarize themselves with the proper pronunciations. This is conducted by Mrs. Barton. Mrs. Crosby's method of keeping members of the branch active and interested by having mimeographed copies of personal letters sent to each member, is a splendid idea. The Branch meets quarterly and by the use of these letters, is kept in close contact with the planned activities.

*Dorothy Pierson Barton, Director*

**LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH:** Held their elections and report the following officers installed; President, Burdell Bulgrin, 1732 Temple Ave., Long Beach, Vice Pres., Mrs. Ethel G. Arbuckle, 5932 Sevil Ave., Huntington Park, Secy., Mrs. Roy Ohlson, 1925 Marine Ave., L. B. 6, Treas., Mrs. Mary Congdon, 1506 East 4th St., L. B. 14, Librarian, Mrs. Raymond Sturgis, 2021 Dawson Avenue, L. B. 6, Nat'l Representative, J. S. Williams, 2034 Florida St., Long Beach 14, Calif.

*J. S. Williams, Nat'l Repr.*

### GARDEN EXCHANGE MAGAZINE

That "biggest little" publication for gardeners that features EXCHANGES of garden ideas, tips, hints and articles—as well as its main feature, EXCHANGE of seeds, plants and bulbs! YOU'LL LIKE THIS!

Sample Copy 10c; Year \$1.00  
Published Monthly

**E. JOHNSON**

683 NEVADA ST. RENO, NEVADA

FOR MORE THAN A  
QUARTER OF A CENTURY

*Destruol*

PRODUCTS

HAVE STOOD FOR QUALITY!

**CONDENSED MINUTES** meeting National Board A.B.S. held in the City Hall Los Angeles, Calif., Jan. 24th, 1949 with President Gale presiding.

Board members present for the meeting—Messrs. Gale, Moore, Walton, Bozon, Dere, Bailey; Mesdames Drummond, Behrends, Hartwell, Schwerdtfeger, Sommerfeld; Representative Directors from Santa Barbara, Ventura, Glendale, Hollywood, Pasadena, Inglewood, Riverside, Southgate, North Long Beach Branch, Parent Branch, El Monte.

Meeting opened at 8 p.m. with Salute to the Flag and statement of Aims and Purpose of the A.B.S.

President Gale announced the following appointments On Public Relations Committee under Mrs. Schwerdtfeger; Northwestern, S. A. McClanahan; Northern California, Irvin Kramer; Midwest, Mrs. Jewel Dill. As Librarian and Assistant Editor, Mrs. Gladys Nolan of Glendale Branch; as Flower Show Chairman, Calvin Trowbridge of Inglewood Branch; as Hybridizing Chairman, Mrs. Mary B. Choate of Inglewood Branch. Motion by Mr. Dyckman, seconded by Mrs. Marek—"That the above appointments be approved by the Board". **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** Special Committee Reports—Messrs. Lawrence and Hart, in the matter of Honorary Vice Presidents and Honorary Directors offered the following recommendation: "That we drop the title Honorary Directors but retain the Honorary Vice President's title and limit it to ten persons. The incoming President to make the selection and parties to be contacted first, before their name is added. We would also recommend that we print the addresses of the Honorary Vice Presidents along with their names."

Re: Clayton M. Kelly Research Department, we offer the following motion: "That the Research Department of the American Begonia Society shall hereafter be known as The Clayton M. Kelly Research Department". Seconded by Mrs. Marek. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Motion by Geo. Lawrence "I move that the President of the American Begonia Society be empowered to appoint from seven to ten Honorary Vice Presidents to serve during his term of office. Second Mr. Trowbridge. **CARRIED.**

Treasurer instructed to issue check for fifty dollars in favor of Librarian in payment for books ordered for Library.

Reports of Treasurer, Editor, Secretary, Membership Chairman read on motion ordered filed as part of the minutes.

Business Mgr. Moore reported "advertising outlook at the present time is very good have several advertising plans pending and is considering putting in a page in the **BEGONIAN** as a "Buyer's Directory". Increased our circulation approximately 20 per cent since last Sept. Would like to set goal for 5000 members this year. Would request that the Finance Committee, with the approval of the Board make an allowance at this time to cover some classified advertising, as this would help in obtaining new members.

Motion by Walton, "I move that the Finance Committee be empowered to expend up to \$60.00, through the balance of the year, for such classified advertising". Second Mrs. Marek. **CARRIED.**

Discussion of the printing and revision of Tuberos Cultural Bulletin on Tuberos Begonias be referred to the Clayton M. Kelly Research Department for revision; on completion, text be turned over to Business Mgr. Moore to secure bids for printing."

Matter of exchanging magazines with other publishers and putting schools, etc. on complimentary list left to the discretion of Editor and Membership Chairman.

Revised Constitution and By-Laws of Santa Barbara Branch presented for approval. On motion same was accepted as presented and filed with Public Relations Director.

Dr. Drummond reported his progress on the Pest Control Bulletin. Was instructed by President Gale to continue along the lines outlined and take whatever time is necessary to complete the task.

Report of Grace Bayer for the Kodachrome Slide Library indicated increased activity and demand for these slide programs by the branches.

Mrs. Drummond suggested adding the names of E. Wimmer and Mrs. B. L. Shippy to the Committee on Awards. President asked that Mrs. Drummond continue to work with this committee until same is fully organized and ready to function.

Mr. Trowbridge, Flower Show Chairman, gave a brief outline for the March Flower Show and stated

he would need plenty of help and begonias and urged members to get their begonias in shape and be willing to help when he called for help.

New Life Member . . . Mr. Worth A. Brown of Capitola. Secretary instructed to prepare and send to Mr. Brown Life Membership card.

Secretary instructed to discontinue sending card notices for Nat'l Board meeting each month as date of meeting was so well established, cards deemed unnecessary.

Reports of Repr. Directors showed clearly continued interest in the meetings; flower shows and summer programs planned; some difficulty in securing speakers but always able to fill in with round-table discussions, etc.

Mrs. Hodgins for the Ventura Branch stated it was their desire "that the date of the National Convention (to be held in Ventura) be moved to an August date" and asked a ruling from the Board. This will be brought up for settlement at the Feb. meeting of the Nat'l Board.

President Gale stated the Editor has found it necessary to omit printing of the list of Representative Directors more often than twice a year, due to lack of space.

Meeting adjourned 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gonda Hartwell, Sec.

**FOOTHILL BRANCH:** Reports the following officers to serve in 1949: President, Col. J. Mattison; Vice President, Mrs. Bertha Whisler; Treasurer, Mrs. Tillie Weaver; Secretary, Mrs. Phyllis Heth and Horace Whisler, Director.

### Prize Winning, cont. from page 49

**MR. DAY'S SOIL MIXTURE:** Using a two gallon measure . . . four parts fairly well rotted leaf mold (Oak is good), one part sharp sand that is free from alkali, two parts of compost or well-rotted manure, one-half part hardwood charcoal bits, one four inch pot of Nitrogenic (sludge) and a three inch pot of fish meal or steamed bone meal.

Mrs. Mullen uses Nitrohumus for the Nitrogenic and she especially likes Mr. Day's suggestion of using sphagnum or green moss in the bottom of the pot for drainage and the sprinkling of a few crystals of crude naphthaline to keep earth worms out of the pots. Earth worms soon destroy the leaf mold and reduce it to a useless soggy mass which drains poorly.

## BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES

### **BARTON, DOROTHY PIERSON BRANCH**

Regular meetings, Quarterly, 1st Fridays  
Flint, Michigan, May 6.  
Mrs. S. V. Clark, Sec.,  
1919 Zimmerman St., Flint 3, Mich.

### **BELLFLOWER BRANCH**

1st Monday, Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m.  
I.O.O.F. Hall, Ardmore and Palm Sts.  
P. Knapp, Secretary  
6144 Blackthorne Ave., Bellflower, Calif.

### **EAST BAY BRANCH**

3rd Thursday, Mar. 17, 7:30 p.m.  
Willard School, Ward Street  
Mrs. H. E. Thorpe, Sec.  
1692 San Lorenzo Ave., Berkeley 7, Calif.

### **EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH**

3rd Thursday, Mar. 17, 8:00 p.m.  
Columbia Grammar School, Rm. 160  
Mrs. Mary Bradley, Cor. Sec.  
701 Asher St., El Monte, Calif.

Turn to page 66



## Branch Meeting Dates and Places

*Continued from page 65*

### FOOTHILL BRANCH

1st Friday, Mar. 4, 8:00 p.m.  
Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa.  
Mrs. Phyllis Heth, Secretary  
228 Bonita Ave., Azusa, Calif.

### GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 22, 8:00 p.m.  
206 West Cypress  
Mrs. F. M. Brown, Sec.  
3633 Revere, Los Angeles 26, Calif.

### GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Mar. 21  
Community House, LaJolla  
Tillie Center, Sec.-Treas.  
7356 Eads St., LaJolla, Calif.

### GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 22,  
Member's Residence  
Mrs. Frank H. Mather, Corr. Sec.  
515 Windover Rd., Hatboro, Pa.

### HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Mar. 10, 8 p.m.  
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Miss Marjory Robinson, Sec.  
1137 No. Orange Dr., L. A. 46.

### HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Mar. 21  
Roosevelt High School Cafe  
1200 E. Olive, Compton, Calif.  
Mrs. Eloise Scheller, Sec.-Treas.  
3556 Imperial, Lynwood, Calif.

### HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 14, 8 p.m.  
Lanes Memorial Hall, 1st Christian Church  
Miss Margaret Smith,  
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

### INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Feb. 10, 8 p.m.  
325 No. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.  
Leo McBride, Secretary  
3665 Mountain View Ave., Los Angeles 34, Calif.

### LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 14, 8 p.m.  
La Mesa Grammar School, La Mesa, Calif.  
Mrs. Edna F. Barker  
89 Central, Lemon Grove, Calif.

### LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Mar. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Robert Louis Stevenson School, 5th & Atlantic  
Cafeteria, Lime St. Entrance, Long Beach, Calif.  
Mrs. Roy Ohlson, Sec'y.  
1925 Marine Avenue, Long Beach 6, Calif.

### MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 22, 8 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
Mrs. Elizabeth S. Hall, Sec.  
2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

### MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesdav, Mar. 22, 2 p.m.  
Mrs. Bruce Dill, Secretary  
3715 Harrison, Kansas City, Mo.

### NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. H. H. Buxton, Sec.  
114 Central St., Peabody, Mass.

### NEW YORK SUBURBAN BRANCH

Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Dorothy F. Michaelson  
P. O. Box 718, Denville, N. J.

### NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Houghton Park Club House  
Harding & Atlantic, No. Long Beach  
Mrs. Merle Penrose, Sec.  
4142 Walnut Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

### ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Mar. 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Farm Bureau Hall, 353 So. Main St., Orange.  
Sec.-Treas., Ann Peterson, 414 E. Palmyra,  
Orange, Calif.

### PASADENA BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Mar. 1, 7:30 p.m.  
Longfellow Hi School, E. Washington St.  
Mrs. Fred E. Distel  
1320 Elizabeth St., Pasadena, Calif.

### PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Mar. 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Danish Hall, 19 Main St.  
Mrs. Elizabeth Schlener, Sec.  
18 10th Street, Petaluma, Calif.

### PHILOBEGONIA CLUB BRANCH

Mrs. Lillian Watts, Sec., 405 Cotswald Lane  
Wynwood, Pa.

### RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Mar. 9, 8 p.m.  
Mrs. Wm. Allen, Sec.-Treas.  
7904 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

### ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 22, 8 p.m.  
3030 Homer Street, San Diego 6, Calif.  
Mrs. R. K. Whitney, Secretary  
4661 Brighton Avenue, San Diego 7, Calif.

### SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Mar. 15, 8 p.m.  
Garden Center, McKinley Park  
Mrs. A. Boyd Collier, Secy.  
2777 Harkness Way, Sacramento, Calif.

### SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Mar 28,  
Hard of Hearing Hall, 3843 Herbert Ave.  
Mrs. Donald Green, Sec.  
1626 Emerald St., San Diego, Calif.

### SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Mar. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Pierce Jr. College, 6201 Winnetka Ave.  
Canoga Park. Mrs. Frank Ecker, Secretary  
21003 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, Calif.

### SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Mar. 2, 7:30 p.m.  
American Legion Hall, 1641 Taraval St.  
Sec.: Mrs. Walter Ashe, 1855 33rd Ave.  
San Francisco, Calif.

### SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Mar. 23, 8 p.m.  
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.  
Mrs. Calvin T. Adams, Sec.  
911 No. 2nd Ave., Arcadia, Calif.

### SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Mar. 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Rm. 5, Com. Center, 914 Santa Barbara St.  
Santa Barbara, California  
Roy C. Pierce, Secy.  
914 Olive St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

### SANTA MARIA BRANCH

Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Peter Mehlschau  
Nipomo, Calif.

### SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Mar. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
University High School, Room 232  
11800 Texas Ave., West Los Angeles  
Mrs. Denman Bemus, Sec.-Treas.  
345 So. Anita Ave., Los Angeles 24, Calif.

### SANTA PAULA BRANCH

4th Thursday, Mar. 24, 6:30 p.m.  
Steckel Park  
Margaret Richardson, Rt. 2, Box 242A  
Santa Paula, California

### SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Mar. 15  
Member's Homes  
Mrs. W. A. Walker, Secy.  
4727-34 N. E., Seattle, Washington

### SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Mar. 1, 7:30 p.m.  
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.  
Miss Carolyn Peyton, Secretary  
335A So. Evergreen Dr., Ventura, Calif.

### SO. ALAMEDA CO. BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Mar. 17, 8 p.m.  
Faculty Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.  
Mrs. Dorothy Bayliss, Corr.-Sec.  
26706 Monte Vista Dr., Hayward, Calif.

### SOUTHGATE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 22, 8 p.m.  
Girls Scout Clubhouse, Southgate Park,  
Miss Ellen P. Dionne, Secy-Treas.  
3139 1/2 Illinois Ave., Southgate, Calif.

### WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.

4th Wednesday, Bimonthly, Mar. 23, 8 p.m.  
Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St., Cleveland, O.  
Mrs. Fred McCune, Secy., 1470 Waterbury Rd.  
Lakewood, Ohio

### WHITTIER BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Mar. 22, 8 p.m.  
Union High School, Room 19  
Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.  
Mrs. Haidee Hackler, Secy.  
219 S. McNess St., Whittier, Calif.



---

# A MILLION DOLLAR SHOW!

---

## ***All Indoors!***

---

- Beautiful Gardens
- Specimen Pot Plant Displays
- Flower Arrangements
- Table Arrangements
- Educational Exhibits
- Garden Shopping Center
- Prize-winning Cut Flowers
- Exhibits of Garden Clubs
- Exhibits by Horticultural Societies
- International Exhibits
- Art Exhibit
- Restaurant



# CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW

---

**MARCH 26th thru APRIL 3rd**

---

**Admission \$1.00 incl. tax**

**10 A.M. — 11:00 P.M.**

(Opens 1:00 P.M. March 26th)

**HOLLYWOOD PARK**

**INGLEWOOD CLUBHOUSE**

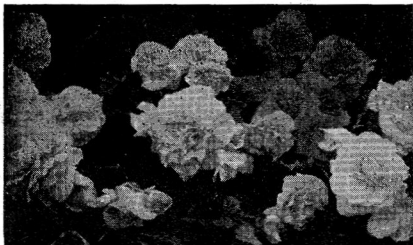
POSTMASTER  
Return Postage Guaranteed.  
Please notify Roy K. Dere  
of all changes.  
1618 Fickewirth Ave.  
EL MONTE, CALIF.

**CANADIAN PEATMOSS  
LEAF MOLD  
EXCELLENT COMPOST**

Everything for Your Garden Needs

**WILLETTS SEED  
& FERTILIZER COMPANY**

1027 N. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena 8, Calif.



THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT  
AND FINEST NEW DEVELOPMENTS

of the  
**PACIFIC STRAIN**

of

**TUBEROUS BEGONIAS**

Write for Catalog

**Vetterle and Reinelt**

Capitola, California

PLANTSMITHS  
**SPOONIT**

Spoonit promotes huskiness and vigor and a  
more-than-generous production of flowers.

Send one dollar for a 32 ounce can, post  
and tax-paid.

**PLANTSMITH**

Box 818

Palo Alto, California

**YOUR GARDEN  
NEEDS NITROHUMUS**

It needs the soil building qualities, the  
mild but long lasting diet contained in  
every bag of Nitrohumus. Thousands of  
professional and hobby gardeners are  
getting more colorful flowers, sturdier  
stem growth and healthier roots with  
this organic plant food.

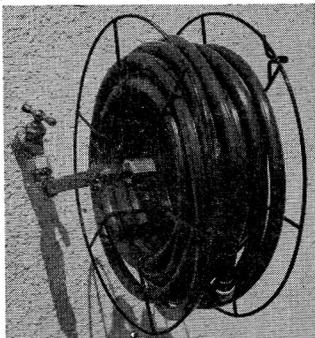
Write to Dept. B for Descriptive Folder

**KELLOGG SUPPLY CO.**

204 West Sepulveda, Wilmington, Calif.

Phones TE. 4-6479 NE. 6-1376

**KELLOGG'S**  
**NITROHUMUS**  
**FERTILIZERS**



**The New 'TAP REEL'**

**PROTECT YOUR GARDEN HOSE AND LAWN NOW!**

★ Easily attached to any faucet in the garden or patio. The  
hose unreels to any length required—the water going directly  
through the hose and reel. Eliminates attaching and uncoupling  
your hose.

★ The hose is easily rolled up on the "Tap-Reel" by the  
handle. Holds 100 ft. of plastic hose or 50 ft. of rubber. Al-  
ways ready for instant use, just turn on the water.

Price \$6.75 plus sales Tax, Total \$6.95

Postpaid F.O.B. Glendale  
Send check or money order to

**J. C. BRIDGE**

1414 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale 1, Calif.

Phone Citrus 38535 or 22791