

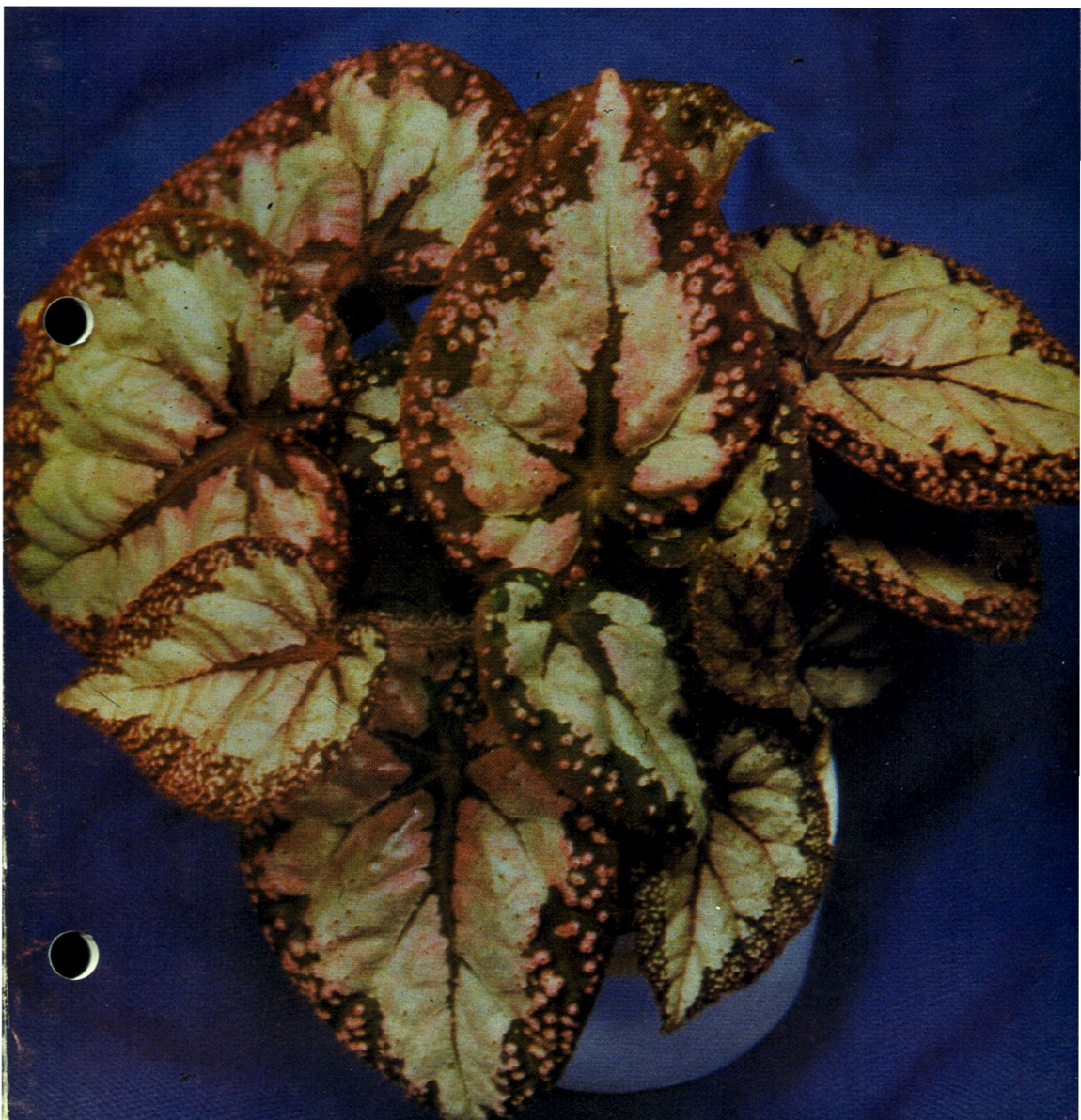
The BEGONIAN



JUNE, 1975

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

VOL. 42, NO. 6



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Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editors, the Society or its officers.

COVER PICTURE — Begonia Rex 'Glory of St. Albans'

Grown By Gordon Lepisto, St. Paul Minnesota

A favorite of mine among the exotic rexes, *B. 'Glory of St. Albans'*, a chance seedling, was introduced into this country from England in 1938. Really a temperamental plant, it's a challenge for most begonia enthusiasts. For me, it thrives best under sheltered, well ventilated, humid conditions.

Many times I've been frustrated trying to grow this extraordinary rex into a well shaped compact plant. By rex standards, it's considered weak and is very thin leaved. But the leaves are among the most brilliant and beautiful in the rex group. Nicely shaped, the mature leaves become a glistening bright rose overlaid with a silver sheen. I understand there is a pink leaved variation which I have never seen.

I can only relate how I have grown this rex under my fluorescent light conditions. The rhizome normally twists and curls around all over the place; the plant eventually becomes leggy and bare looking. Until a few years ago, no matter what I did, using various growing mediums, more or less light, wet or damp, I could never bring this rex up to what I believed to be its potential beauty as a compact, well proportioned plant. Finally, I may have achieved some success. Now, I grow these

cultivars, indeed all my rex begonias, in a coarse redwood bark medium under high humidity (85-90%). No longer do I have a sparsely leaved, bare rhizome *B. 'Glory of St. Albans'*, but a lush, shapely, proud-to-own begonia. The plant pictured on the cover is young, the photo taken about five months ago.

I am sure the root system of my begonias changes radically to adjust to their new medium of coarse bark from the previous sphagnum moss. The bark, by the way, is kept moist at all times. I don't really know the reasons why this rex, under these environmental conditions, has decided to become a more bushy plant.

In natural light, under other cultural conditions, the plant may perform quite differently, maybe better. I have grown only under fluorescent lights.

I must mention that not *all* my rex begonias have become compact growers in the bark medium. Some that are naturally tall and leggy (upright branching types), have remained so.

B. 'Glory of St. Albans', as with all my rexes, is fertilized now once a week, during active growth, with a fish emulsion (5-2-2), alternating with a chemical fertilizer (4-3-3)
(Continued on Page 151)

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The purpose of this Society shall be:

TO stimulate and promote interest in *Begonias* and other shade-loving plants;

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

TO standardize the nomenclature of *Begonias*;

TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonias* and companion plants;

TO issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and

TO bring into friendly contact all who love and grow *Begonias*.

CAN PLANTS COMMUNICATE WITH US?

Reprinted from *The Begonia Leaf* — Santa Clara Valley Branch Newsletter

By Linda Parsley

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This month's column of Parsley's Parables was written by a younger member of "Parsley's Productions, Inc.," the 20-year-old sister of Don Parsley. Linda is a second year business student at West Valley College and can't help sharing her family's interest in plants.)

Most people have taken plants for granted. They have been used for many years to brighten up homes, given as gifts, and used to cheer up people in the hospital. Today, because of ecological trends, plants have taken a larger role in society. People are growing more vegetable gardens, making terrariums, and becoming more aware of plants and closer to them. In fact, there are not many homes around which do not have some sort of a potted plant inside.

Some people seem to somehow have better luck at getting their plants to grow than others, even though the plants get sunshine and water. What is the reason? Some of the "green thumbs" claim they talk to their plants and even play music for them. Plants, for some unknown reason, seem to respond better with that type of care.

As difficult as it may seem to believe, plants actually do seem to respond to human communications. Many experiments have been tried to support this theory. One such experiment was done by Dieter Giessler, a senior in high school, with the help of his teacher, Fred Fisher. Giessler did a polygraph test with his philodendron. (A polygraph is the same thing as a lie detector.) When he first hooked up the polygraph to the plant it quivered, making up-and-down lines on the polygraph. When Dieter spoke softly to the plant, the lines became stable as if reassured.

One of the first accidentally begun series of experiments started in 1966, by Cleve Backster, a New York lie detector expert and former CIA em-

ployee. Backster hooked up a lie detector to a tropical plant and found it registered changing reactions. He did more experiments on the other plants and found violent reactions when one plant was ripped up within the sight of another. The experiment was set up so that nobody knew who was to rip up the one plant, except the plant that witnesses the "murder." There were six men and two plants. The six men were blindfolded and drew slips of paper from a box. One slip of paper said to rip out one of the plants by the roots and stomp on it. Nobody knew who drew the slip of paper. After one of the plants was murdered the remaining plant was hooked up to the polygraph. Each one of the six men entered the room, one at a time. When the murderer entered the room, the remaining plant caused the polygraph needle to start jumping violently.

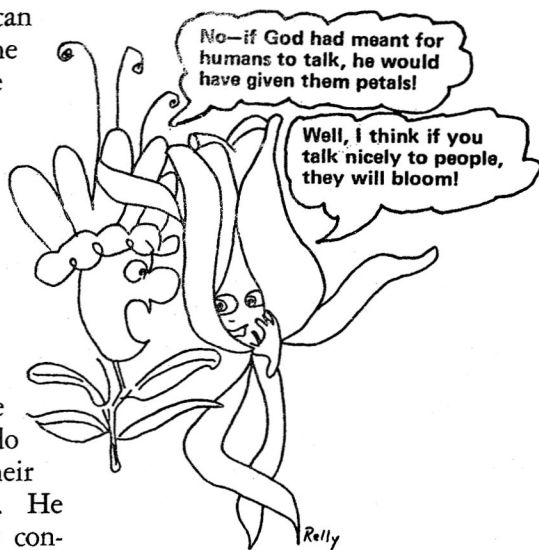


Backster also feels a plant can read a person's mind. With the help of Collier, author of the article "Do Plants Have Feelings Too?," Backster hooked up a lie detector to a philodendron. Then Backster asked Collier several questions. When Collier answered untruthfully the plant made the polygraph needle move. Through his 21 years of experiments, Backster has come to the conclusion that plants do have feelings and know who their friends and their enemies are. He says, "Plants possess a cellular consciousness that permits communication between plant and animal life."¹¹

John E. Hendrix, a botanist from Colorado State University, disputes Backster's findings. Hendrix states, "All the apparent reactions recorded by Backster could be accounted for by mechanical or atmospheric factors."¹² Hendrix does not feel there is any evidence to support the fact that plants have some sort of nervous system. Whether Backster or Hendrix is correct is difficult to say.

Because of the results Backster has arrived at through his experiments, interest in plant-human communication has increased substantially. People from various backgrounds have tried experiments in connection with plant communications. Not long ago there was an article in the *San Jose Mercury-News* about Adam Kuryliw, a police detective for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. Kuryliw operates a lie detector for the department, and recently used the polygraph on his wife's philodendron.

Kuryliw received no response from



the plant to his questions, but the minute his wife entered the back door the polygraph needle went wild. Mrs. Kuryliw asked the plant some questions including one that suggested the plant be moved to the sliding glass doors. The plant responded wildly. If the philodendron was hit or pinched it reacted crazily on the polygraph as if in pain. The plant was so sensitive it would react when someone merely thought of hitting or pinching it. Could this reaction possibly help support Backster's theory that plants can read a person's mind?

More and more attention is being paid to the theory that plants have some form of consciousness. Peter Tompkins, author of *Secrets of the Great Pyramids*, and Christopher Bird, a biologist, anthropologist, and Soviet expert, collaborated and recently wrote the book, *The Secret*

¹¹"Student Researcher Says Plant 'Can Communicate,'" *San Jose Mercury-News*, March 23, 1971.

¹²"Plants May Be Listening," *San Jose Mercury-News*, December 22, 1973, p. 37.

Life of Plants. In the book they say that "evidence now supports the vision of the poet and philosopher that plants are living, breathing, communicating creatures, endowed with personality and the attributes of soul. It is only we, in our blindness, who have insisted on considering them automata."³ Both Tompkins and Bird imply botanists do not understand plants but merely give plants Latin names.

Bird has done some research into the experiments going on in the Soviet Union. In Russia it is believed plants can communicate their feelings to man. Experiments have been conducted to prove this theory. One such experiment was done at the Timirgazev Academy of Agricultural Sciences in the Laboratory of Artificial Climate. *Pravda's* reporter, V. Cherkov, tells how he witnessed the scream of pain of a barley sprout.

"Before my eyes a barley sprout literally cried out when its roots were plunged into hot water. True, the plant's "voice" was registered only by a special and extremely sensitive electronic instrument which revealed a "bottomless vale of tears" on a broad paper band. As though it had gone crazy, the recording pen wriggled out on the white track the death agony of the barley sprout, although, to look at the little plant itself, one would never have guessed what it was going through. While its leaves, green as ever, stood upright, the plant's "organism" was already dying. Some kind of "brain" cells within it were telling us what was happening."⁴

³*Ibid.*

⁴Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird, *The Secret Life of Plants*, p. 64.

Pravda's reporter also interviewed Professor Gunar, head of the academy's Department of Plant Physiology, who, with his staff, has conducted hundreds of experiments that prove plants have electric impulses similar to nerve impulses in man.

Another Russian scientist, Merkulov, conditioned a philodendron to recognize when a piece of mineralized rock was put beside it. The plant, which was hooked up to a type of polygraph, would get emotionally upset anticipating the hurtful shock whenever the block of ore was set beside it. When a rock containing no minerals was set beside the plant, it made no reaction. This proved the plant could distinguish between mineralized rock and rock which contained no minerals. Maybe someday plants will be used in geological prospecting.

Unlike the experiments described previously, the same conclusions are not always obtained. Some people will get a response while someone else will not. (Possibly because the person is not attuned to the plant being employed.) How then, can anything be proven if the same results are not obtained? When the same results are produced several times in different laboratories, scientists can then begin to accept the original conclusions.

Galston, a biologist, feels Tompkin's and Bird's book, *The Secret Life of Plants*, consists mostly of bizarre claims presented without adequate supporting evidence. "The reader will be cluttering his mind with mythology rather than science."⁵

⁵Galston, Arthur W., "The Unscientific Method," *Natural Science*, March 1974, p. 18.

Galston feels that talking to plants will not have an effect on them until more scientific evidence is found to support it. Not only has it been implied that talking affects plants, but music also has been alleged to have an effect.

Mrs. Dorothy Retallack plays recorded music for her plants at Temple Buel College. She has found that the plants cringe and die with a regular diet of acid rock. With classical music they flourish and grow toward the music.

Mrs. Retallack set up a controlled condition where there were four identical rooms. They had the same climates and lighting. The only difference among the four chambers was that each had a different type of music piped into them. Chamber one had acid rock, chamber two had classical music, chamber three had jazz music, and chamber four had country-western music. The plants in each of the four chambers reacted differently to the different types of music. The plants with a regular diet of acid rock eventually died. Inspection of the plants showed they had tried to grow away from the music. Even their roots were growing away from the sound of the music. The plants with a diet of classical music all grew toward the sound and flourished. The plants that had jazz seemed to like it as did the plants which had a diet of country-western music, although not as pronounced as with the classical music.

Other experiments based on the effect of music on plants were done by Arthur Locker, a florist in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and a farmer,

Eugene Canby, from Ontario, Canada.

Locker said by playing music into his greenhouses his "plants grew straighter, germinated quicker, bloomed more abundantly, and the colors of flowers were more striking to the eye, and the blooms seemed to last longer."⁶

Canby's results were almost as good. The plots he played music in seemed to produce more wheat and the stalks seemed stronger and healthier.

Through these experiments of Mrs. Retallack, Locker, and Canby, it seems as if "a person can reach out invisibly, immaterially and can affect the growth of plants for good or ill."⁷

Many people are getting into the controversy over whether plants have feelings and can communicate or not. Students, teachers, detectives, authors, and biologists have experimented with the relationship between humans and plants. Some readily believe that plants can in fact communicate with humans, while others are not so readily persuaded.

If one really sits down and thinks about the prospects, perhaps the idea of plant-human communication is not so farfetched. Plants have been living on this planet since way before the time of human life. That means that plants are very adaptable to environmental changes, and have had to possibly alter their way of life to survive through centuries of time. Therefore, is it difficult to accept the possibility that plants may

⁶Tompkins, *op. cit.* p. 148.

⁷"They Cringe at Acid Rock, Flowers Have Classical Music Taste," *San Jose Mercury-News*, March 27, 1973, p. 44.

have to learn how to communicate with humans in order to survive in the future? Another way to look at it is the fact that humans may have to learn to decipher a language of plants in order to survive as plants provide food and oxygen. Think about it.

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RESEARCH FUND

The last report of the Research Fund was in the March issue of the *Begonian*. Since January 25th the following donations have been received:

- Santa Clara Valley Branch \$15.00.
 - Long Island Branch, Monthly donations, Feb., Mar. and Apr. \$30.00.
 - Long Island Branch, Balance of 1974 Convention fund \$186.95.
 - ABS Seed Fund, Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan. \$99.73.
 - Knickerbocker Branch, In memory of Midge Grasheim \$25.00.
 - Mrs. Anne Magram, In memory of Midge Grasheim \$5.00.
- The Seed Fund is giving 10% of its monthly receipts to the Research Fund.

Two grants of \$600.00 each have been given this year to Rutgers University and New York Botanical Library. Another \$600.00 has been earmarked for any xerox material needed in the Library project.

This leaves a balance of \$315.13 in the Research Fund as of April 28, 1975.

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu
 Research Director



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NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1975 ABS AWARDS

By Walter Pease

Chairman, Awards Committee

With the Forty-Third Annual Convention and Show only three months away, it is time to start considering the nominations for the three top American Begonia Society Awards for 1975: the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal and the Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award. Nominations may be made by any member of the ABS and must be in writing. Please remember that these coveted awards are not given as the result of a popularity contest but for merit and extraordinary service. The rules governing these awards are as follows:

EVA KENWORTHY GRAY AWARD

This award is presented to a person who has contributed literary material which aided members in their study of begonias, or who has been outstanding in his or her promotion of interest in the culture of begonias and understanding between the members in their search for knowledge of begonias. He or she need not be a member of the American Begonia Society.

HERBERT P. DYCKMAN SERVICE AWARD

This award is to be presented to a member who has rendered long-time or very outstanding service above and beyond that usually expected of a member or officer of the ABS.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON MEMORIAL MEDAL

This medal is awarded to an outstanding *Begonia* hybrid. The following rules govern this award:

1. All *Begonia* nominees must have been registered with the ABS Nomenclature Director.

2. The originator of the *Begonia* nominee must be a member of the ABS.

3. The *Begonia* nominee must have been released to the public for at least five years but not more than ten years prior to nomination.

Each nomination for the Eva Kenworthy Gray and the Herbert P. Dyckman Awards *must* include a list of specific reasons why the nominees are deemed worthy of receiving these honors, and no nominations will be considered without such list.

All nominations must reach the Chairman of the Awards Committee by July 10, 1975, in order that they may be forwarded to the other six members of the committee for review and analysis. The awards will be based on the nominees' merits rather than the number of letters received. A single letter of nomination will receive just as much attention and carry just as much weight as several. I must repeat that these are awards for merit and service, not popularity, so keep this in mind and send your nominations to:

Mr. Walter W. Pease, Jr.,
Awards Chairman ABS
8101 Vicksburg Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90045

July 10 is the deadline for receiving nominations. **DO IT NOW.**

Previous recipients of the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award are: Mrs. Bessie Buxton, 1955; Miss Charlotte Hoak,

1956; Miss Constance Bower, 1957; Mrs. Alice Clark, 1958 Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenne, 1959; Mrs. Louise Schwertdfeger, 1960; Mrs. Helen Krauss, 1961; Mr. Bert Slatter, 1962; Mrs. Bernice Brilmayer, 1962; Dr. Clyde Drummond, 1963; no award, 1964; Mary L. Gillingwaters, 1965; Mrs. May Taft Drew, 1966; Mrs. Sylvia B. Leatherman, 1967; Drs. Lyman B. Smith and Bernice G. Schubert, 1968; Mr. Harry M. Butterfield, 1969; Mrs. Ruth J. Pease, 1970; no award, 1971; Mrs. Elda Haring, 1972; Dr. Fred Barkley, 1973 and Mrs. Carrie Karegeannes, 1974.

Previous recipients of the Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award are: Mrs. Florence Gee and Mr. Herb Warwick, 1968; Mrs. Alva Graham and Mrs. Edna Korts, 1969; no awards, 1970 or 1971; Mr. Everett Wright, 1972; Mr. Walter Barnett, 1973 and Mrs. Clyde (Hazel) Snodgrass, 1974.

Previous recipients of the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal are: B. 'Silver Star', B. 'Freddie' and B. 'Golden West', 1949; B. 'Ricky Minter', 1950; B. 'Glendale', 1950; B. 'Virbob', 1951; B. 'Orange Rubra', 1954; B. 'Verde Grande', 1957; B. 'Kumwha', 1961; B. 'Madame Queen', 1964; B. 'Sophie Cecile', 1966; B. 'Purple Petticoats', 1968; B. 'Lady Francis Jean', 1969; B. 'Eunice Gray', 1972; B. 'Paul-Bee', 1973 and B. 'Universe', 1974.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We're happy to welcome to the Board of the American Begonia Society our new Show Chairman, Frederick Burgess. He is an employee of Raytheon in Goleta, part time student at Santa Barbara City College, a Navy veteran, married to Diane who will design the 1975 Show, and father of a young daughter and son. Fred is president of the Santa Barbara Branch and he and Diane have probably the most interesting indoor garden that we have ever seen. The plants are a part of the furniture. Get behind Fred and his committee by volunteering to do some of the many jobs he is responsible for.

We're also welcoming Ed Thompson of Hampton Branch to the national Board as Eastern advertising representative. Mabel Corwin is delighted for the help, and we look forward to more advertisers in that area to take care of the needs of our growing membership.

Congratulations are to go to Edward and Mildred Thompson who received Life Memberships by vote of the Board at the last meeting for their services in organizing branches and in forwarding the ABS in many ways, including their publishing of the *Thompson Begonia Guide*.

The Awards Committee was enriched by the acceptance of nominations to that important committee of Gene Daniels of Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch, and Clarence Hall of Sacramento Branch, two times a national ABS president. With nominations coming up for 1975 top ABS awards, the new members will soon be at work!

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ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Sharing and comparing is only part of the fun for the two hundred-plus members in the Round Robins. Members at large benefit from hints picked up by other members at various branch meetings.

Hazel Kipp, Florida, is trying to work up some local interest in begonias. Her canes have had G. I. haircuts and the cuttings were handed out free at a garden store. She was also growing small plants to give to each member at a local garden club meeting. Hazel had a huge and beautiful plant of *B. 'Sophie Cecile'* that bloomed last year but not this year. A piece taken off that plant made four small plants that have bloomed all winter.

Priscilla Beck of Connecticut reported on a talk on terrariums by Wendy Stuart at the Eastern Convention last fall. Wendy patterns her terrariums on a woodland garden. To give a feeling of depth, she banked all the soil practically halfway back held in place by rocks. The front half of the 10 gallon tank has soil no deeper than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. All plants were planted on ledges formed by the rocks, following lines of color with dark and light patterned, green leafed begonias. As a transition, she used some *B. bowerae* hybrids for a tie-in color. On the bare soil in front, she carpeted the ground with moss. In order to make the moss grow, the bottom was scraped of soil, exposing

rootlets and stimulating growth. Also, at the base of the rocks she tucked in small pieces of *B. prismatocarpa* which will eventually tumble over the moss. She used no drainage material as she feels that since the container has no drainage holes the water has no place to go so DON'T overwater! If you wish, you may dry the moss, run it through a sieve and sprinkle on the soil. All of these pieces will eventually grow and form a carpet.

Daniel Haseltine, Illinois, buys wicks by the foot. He is trying some pots with wicks, using a 4" plastic pot, letting the wick extend out of the pot about 2". He sets the pot in a large plastic drinking glass (the disposable kind he found at a discount store). When he waters the plant, the water drains through the pot into the glass and is later absorbed back up through the wick although the pot is not sitting in water. You can see the water in the pot go through and into the reservoir glass. When the glass is out of water, your plant probably needs water. You do not have to water as often this way. Bonny Bersch, California, likes the way the wicks dangle into the glass. However, she warns that it is not good to drain water through the soil and then let it be reabsorbed from the bottom. There are salts diluted

(Continued on Page 136)

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into the water when it goes through the soil and this water should be dumped — she thinks it would be better to put water into the lower glass and let it go up the wick.

Dan had some small leaves that he placed into water (using the paper-towel method) root and grow much larger in size without producing plants at the base of the stem. Also, a couple of leaves of *B. 'Maphil'* that he left in water have produced plants all along the stem — there must be about 50 plants! These are still in the glass of water and growing well after about a year's time. He is wondering what to do with the mass of plants!

Barbara Waddel, Oregon, is growing *semperflorens* and *rex* begonias in the same mix she uses for African violets — pure vermiculite and perlite in wicked foam pots. On these she is using a special constant feeding solution. They seem to like it. She is sure her *B. 'Maphil'* plant does since it's thrown up 4 bud stalks, which it has never done before. The semps have doubled in size and are always in bloom.

Gloria Wakefield, Illinois, needed to start her seeds but wasn't prepared with premoistened soil mix. So she just put some in a plastic bag, added water and kneaded it all together and it worked out fine.

Arline Peck of Rhode Island said she started to grow from seed a long time ago and found that she usually got better plants than she could buy. When she grows from seed she has a few extra ones and will try them in different places and ways to see what their needs are. In this way she finds the way they like to grow.

Debi Miller, California, quoted an expert who talked to their branch. He said if your seeds don't come up, maybe they were too FRESH. He suggests letting them sit in an airtight container in a cool place for at least six months for 100% germination.

Debi is already making plans for another Robin "Get-together" at the Convention coming up in the fall. Be sure you don't miss out if you are planning to go to the Convention!

Yvonne Wells, Texas, believes *B. crispula* needs very strong light to grow well and bloom. She nearly lost it all when she moved it to her greenhouse and it didn't get sufficient light. She took the tiny piece back into the house and put in long-fibred sphagnum moss in a bowl in a window that gets very strong light. It recovered and did well.

Erich Stiniger, Ohio, always uses a pinch of lime in each pot. Also, he noticed that a dropped blossom from a tuberous begonia stayed fresh for 10 days when he placed it on a field-stone with which he has the flowerbed edged.

Dora Lee Dorsey of Florida says many people pack their plants with too much moisture and decay begins in delayed mail. She finds fresh-cut leaves and stems, or plantlets, enclosed in plastic bags maintain all the moisture needed but, even if wilted a bit, will revive quickly. If heating and decay begins it is hard to stop. Zip-lock bags are ideal for leaves. Just slip cut into bag with label and pack flat. There will be

(Continued on Page 149)

PROLIFEROUS REXES

By Carrie E. Karegeannes

Research Department

Lois Covey wrote in the September 1974 *Begonian* of a *rex* begonia cultivar that formed "bulblets" and then plantlets at the basal sinus of its leaves while they were still attached to the parent plant. Her description and photo of the "piggy-back" begonia recall a begonia mentioned by Charles Chevalier in his book *Les Begonias*, published in Belgium in 1938 (translated into English by Alva Graham), as well as a report by another A.B.S. member in 1965.

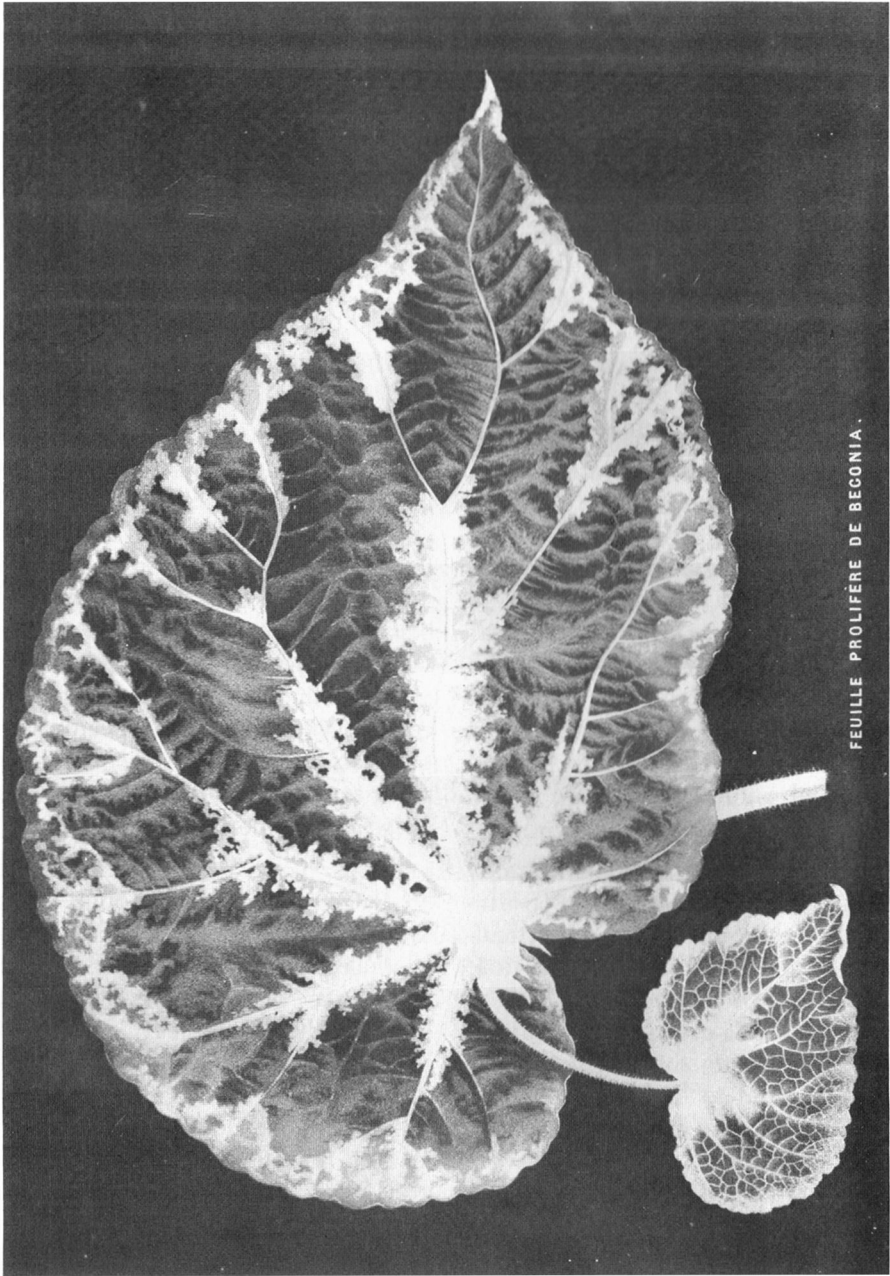
Charles Chevalier wrote: "Proliferations are sometimes found on leaves. Prof. Morren published in the *Belgique Horticole* (1868) a colored plate of a hybrid begonia of the *B. xanthina* series showing a leaf proliferation; a viviparous bud, thick and fleshy, was formed at the point of union of the principal veins and gave rise to one leaf with a well developed blade."

A colored plate in my collection fits Chevalier's description so exactly that I think it must be the 1868 illustration from this Belgian horticultural journal. And it also seems close to Lois Covey's photo and description of her Florida-grown *rex* cultivar. Chevalier wrote that *B. xanthina*, closely related to the species *B. rex*, was "interwoven in the creation of the first hybrids" of *B. rex*. With the long, intermingled history of our many and varied *rex* hybrids, it would be unexpected to find one of the earliest hybrids still with us today, but this is at least very similar in appearance and unusual habit.

Lois Covey's "many-pointed" leaf has small lobes (which *B. xanthina* could have contributed) where the colored illustration from 1868 shows a leaf merely crenate to slightly wavy, but the coloring, as well as the manner of new growth at the base, appears the same. Both leaves are silvery green with darker green edge and a dark green star in the center and both have the "bulblet" or fleshy bud (bulbil or beginning of a rhizome?).

Reports of adventitious plantlets forming on mature leaves of some *rex* hybrids have been frequent, but the only reports I have known of the fleshy bud at the base of the leaf blade have been for plants of this same coloring and pattern — silvery green with darker green edge and center zone. Also, the appearance of plantlets on young leaves (when petioles are three or four inches high, Lois Covey reported), is less usual.

Rufus C. Neas of Greenville, S.C., wrote in Round Robin letters of 1965 and 1966 of a begonia that produced a growth like this, appearing like a "tiny tuber" that sent out leaves. The parent leaf, attached to the original plant, also had tiny leaves growing along its veins, without the fleshy bud, at the same time as the plantlet at the junction of petiole and leaf blade. On this unnamed *rex* cultivar, the two oldest leaves were the only ones with viviparous buds. The begonia had a creeping rhizome and the leaves were light silvery green with dark green



FEUILLE PROLIFÈRE DE BEGONIA.

border and center. He found it harder to grow than Lois Covey did her plant.

Dorothy Behrends in *Begonias Slanted Toward the Beginner*, Bernice Brilmayer in *Begonian* articles and in her book *All About Begonias*, and other members have mentioned a tendency in some rexes to form plantlets on leaves while still on the parent plant, often apparently as an attempt to perpetuate themselves before dormancy or death — but without mention of this viviparous bud. And some members also have reported adventitious plantlets on many leaves at a time on certain begonias, as a regular habit (not just before dormancy), sometimes even developing rhizomes of some size while still on the original plant.

Dorothy Behrends wrote in the October 1953 *Begonian* of a *Begonia* 'Mother,' growing twenty-four inches across and eighteen inches high — with each medium leaf carrying fully developed plants with rhizomes, as a usual performance. This rex hybrid had leaves of "heavy silver with an irregular brown center zone and matching margin," with

red underleaf. In 1966 and 1967 Round Robin letters, Ruth Wille of Jackson, Miss., reported growing a rex cultivar of similar silver and brown that bore plantlets on its leaves all the time, from the time leaves were mature. Plants in eight-inch pots had a small, fully developed plantlet at the petiole-join on each leaf, reminding Ruth Wille of the "piggy back plant" (or "picka-back": *Tolmiea menziesii*), on a larger scale. She thought her plant was perhaps *B.* 'Bertha MacGregor,' or related. *B.* 'Bertha MacGregor' is sometimes described as olive green splashed with silver.

Ruth Wille also reported adventitious growth on rex hybrids *B.* 'Evergreen' and *B.* 'Amy' in her greenhouse, but apparently not as a regular habit.

In the August 1945 *Begonian*, Gonda Hartwell reported that her *B. rex* cv. 'Emerald Isle' had "gone viviparous." Each of its nine leaves had a healthy young plant developing in the center. It was the only one of her rexes that developed these. The photo accompanying her article showed an unpatterned leaf.

Opposite:

Color plate probably from *Belgique Horticole* of 1868 and mentioned by Charles Chevalier.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

All material for publication — articles, notices, photographs — should be sent to the Editor, preferably six weeks before date of publication. Deadline is the first of the month preceding month of publication.



From *The Buxtonian*, April, 1975, Buxton Branch:

**THE BEGONIAS ARE COMING!
THE BEGONIAS ARE COMING!***

1975 Eastern Regional Begonia Convention

September 25, 26, 27.

Horticultural Hall & the Mid Town Motor Inn,
Boston, Massachusetts

Save September 25, 26 and 27 on your calendar. Buxton is hosting the 1975 convention and big plans are in the making for a bangup Bicentennial Begonia Show.

The show and seminars will be held at Horticultural Hall, with eating and sleeping accommodations directly across Huntington Ave. at the Mid Town Motor Inn. Both are 2 blocks from the Copley Square exit of the Mass. Pike.

Each ABS branch in the East will be sharing part of the task of putting the convention and show together. Pittsburgh will take charge of the show itself; Knickerbocker is arranging for the program and speakers; Long Island will handle the show

trophies; Hampton will arrange for judges and clerks; Geraldine Daley in Rhode Island will coordinate the hosting of the show; Connecticut will concentrate on national publicity; and Buxton will do registration and local publicity.

Each branch will contribute to plant sales. You will remember our plant sales table was totally wiped out at our show last October, so let's start propagating now for the many more we'll need at Horticultural Hall.

C. Engle, Show Chairman

*With apologies to Paul Revere. Most likely the begonias will invade Boston by land — or maybe by air.

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TENTH EASTERN REGIONAL BEGONIA CONVENTION and SHOW

Horticultural Hall, 300 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.

September 25th, 26th and 27th, 1975

The main objective of any begonia show should be to display as many different species and hybrids as possible. It is impossible for any begonia enthusiast to grow the vast number of varieties there are in cultivation. Exhibitors should be proud to bring all their well-grown begonias of different varieties to show or display to share with other growers. Shows and displays are an excellent opportunity to share the beauty and variety of begonias. "SHOWING IS SHARING."*

SHOW RULES

1. Competition is open to all begonia growers.

Definition of exhibitors:

- a) *Professional and/or Commercial Grower*—one who grows or sells plants as his principal source of income.
- b) *Experienced Amateur Grower*—an amateur who has won over 35 blue ribbons in specialized begonia shows and/or two sweepstakes.
- c) *Amateur Grower*—one who does not sell or grow plants as his principal source of income.
- d) *Novice Grower*—an amateur who has not yet won a ribbon at any specialized begonia show.

Only A.B.S. members are eligible to compete for Perpetual and A.B.S. Cultural Awards.

2. *Professional and/or Commercial Growers*—eligible to enter Divisions K, L, N and O; and R through W.

3. *Experienced Amateur Growers*—eligible to enter Divisions J through M; P; and R through W.

4. *Amateur Growers*—eligible to enter all divisions except N through Q.

5. *Novice Growers*—may enter Division Q instead of Divisions A through I. They are eligible to enter Divisions R through W.

6. There will be no required registration fees.

7. All entries must be made Thursday, September 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Late entries accepted Friday, September 26 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Please notify the Show Chairman prior to the show if you intend to enter on Friday.

8. All entries must be classified by the Classifications Chairman. The Classifications Chairman will make all decisions according to the "Classifications for Show Purposes Section" of the *Thompson Begonia Guide*, Vol. II which is primarily based on the American Begonia Society's booklet, *A Suggested Guide to the Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes*.

9. Each entry will have an entry tag properly filled out, assisted by the Classifications Committee. This tag will show the exhibitor's name, entry number, name of variety, the division and class. All husband and wife entries must be entered as one entry and not separately.

10. An exhibitor may enter more than one plant in any class, provided each plant is a different variety. However, each entry may compete in only one class.

11. All entries exhibited in competitive classes must have been grown by the exhibitor and been in his possession for three months. Division R and S are excepted.

12. All plants must be clearly labeled. Errors will not disqualify but the judges will recognize correctness in close competition. Synonymous names are acceptable.

13. Diagrams must accompany all entries in Divisions R and S. These should

*"Classification for Show Purposes Section" of *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, Vol. II, page S-14.

show the placement and correct names of the plant material.

14. No artificial plant materials may be used.

15. The Photography Division will be open to all. If you are unable to enter this division on Sept. 25th personally, you may mail your entries to the Classifications Chairman. Entries that are mailed must be received by Sept. 17th. Black and white and color prints may be any size no larger than 8" x 10", and must be mounted with a suitable mat. Prints and slides of leaves or portions of plants will be accepted.

16. Plants must be entered in clay pots, plastic pots, moss lined containers or wood containers except in Divisions R through T.

17. Containers and plants must be clean and neat. The Show Chairman has the right to exclude any diseased or infected plants.

18. All plants shall be placed by the Placement Committee. No one will be permitted in the show area during the placement of plants or judging except personnel authorized by the Show Chairman.

19. The judges will use the American Begonia Society's booklet, *The Point Scoring System for Judging Begonias*.

20. The judges shall make awards according to merit only. If the entry is without merit, the judges shall make no award, regardless of the number of entries in the class.

21. The decisions of the judges are final.

22. The Buxton Branch will safeguard the exhibits as much as possible, but cannot assume responsibility for injury or loss.

23. Exhibits must be removed on Sunday, September 28th between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

24. For any questions concerning entries or classifications, please contact the following:

Show Chairman and
Classifications Chairman —

Frank A. Kerin
922 Savannah Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15221

SHOW SCHEDULE

DIVISION A — CANE-LIKE

Class:

1. Superba type
2. Mallet type

ALL OTHER CANES

3. low (generally under 2 ft. at maturity)
4. intermediate (generally 2 ft. to 4 ft. at maturity)
5. tall (generally over 4 ft. at maturity)

DIVISION B — SHRUB-LIKE

BARE-LEAVED:

6. large leaved (generally over 6" at maturity)
7. medium leaved (generally 4" to 6" at maturity)
8. small leaved (generally under 4" at maturity)
9. small leaved, everblooming type

HAIRY LEAVED:

10. wide leaved (generally over 3" at maturity)
11. Narrow leaved (generally under 3" at maturity)
12. felted

DISTINCTIVE FOLIAGE:

13. unusual surface and/or unusual coloring
14. listida-like type
15. compact type

DIVISION C — THICK STEMMED

BARE-LEAVED:

16. large leaved (generally over 6" at maturity)
17. medium leaved (generally 4" to 6" at maturity)
18. small leaved (generally under 4" at maturity)

HAIRY-LEAVED:

19. large leaved (generally over 6" at maturity)
20. medium leaved (generally 4" to 6" at maturity)
21. small leaved (generally under 4" at maturity)

TRUNK-LIKE, NON-RAMIFIED:

22. species
23. hybrids

THICKSET:

24. thicket

DIVISION D — SEMPERFLORENS

SPECIES

25. semperflorens type
26. schmidtiana type

HYBRIDS

27. single flowered with green foliage
28. single flowered with bronze foliage
29. semidouble/double flowered with green foliage
30. semidouble/double flowered with bronze foliage
31. variegated foliage

DIVISION E — RHIZOMATOUS

SMALL LEAVED (generally under 3" at maturity):

32. entire/subentire
33. lobed
34. cleft
35. parted
36. compound leaved
37. crested margin
38. spiral leaved

MEDIUM LEAVED (generally 3" to 6" at maturity)

39. entire/subentire
40. lobed
41. cleft
42. parted
43. compound leaved
44. crested margin
45. spiral leaved

LARGE LEAVED (generally 6" to 12" at maturity)

46. entire/subentire
47. lobed
48. cleft
49. parted
50. compound leaved
51. crested margin
52. spiral leaved

GIANT LEAVED (generally over 12" at maturity)

53. entire/subentire
54. lobed
55. cleft
56. parted
57. compound leaved
58. crested margin
59. spiral leaved

RHIZOME WITH ERECT STEM:

60. entire/subentire
61. lobed
62. cleft
63. parted
64. compound leaved
65. crested margin
66. spiral leaved

RHIZOME JOINTED AT OR BELOW THE SOIL WITH ERECT STEM:

67. rhizome jointed at or below the soil with erect stem

DISTINCTIVE FOLIAGE:

68. pustular type (imperialis-type)
69. unusual surface and/or unusual coloring, small leaved (under 3")*
70. unusual surface and/or unusual coloring, medium leaved (3" to 6")*
71. unusual surface and/or unusual coloring, large leaved (over 6")*
72. unusual shape and/or unusual habit of growth

*These are general leaf sizes at maturity.

DIVISION F — REX CULTORUM

SMALL LEAVED (generally under 3" at maturity)

73. spiral
74. non-spiral

MEDIUM LEAVED (generally 3" to 6" at maturity)

75. spiral
76. non-spiral

LARGE LEAVED (generally over 6" at maturity)

77. spiral
78. non-spiral

UPRIGHT STEMMED:

79. spiral
80. non-spiral

DIVISION G — TUBEROUS

SEMITUBEROUS

81. semituberous

TUBEROUS:

82. species and first generation hybrids,
low growing
83. species and first generation hybrids,
tall growing

TUBERHYBRIDA

84. tuberhybrida

HIEMALIS:

85. rieger elatior types
86. all others

CHEIMANTHA:

87. cheimantha

BULBOUS

88. bulbous

*DIVISION H — TRAILING -
SCANDENT*

89. species
90. hybrids

*DIVISION I — CONTAINED ATMO-
SPHERE WITH SINGLE VARIETY OF
BEGONIA (to be judged hortical-
turally):*

RHIZOMATOUS:

91. small leaved
92. medium leaved and large leaved

DISTINCTIVE FOLIAGE:

93. rhizomatous, pustular types
94. rhizomatous, unusual surface
and/or unusual coloring
95. rhizomatous, unusual shape and/or
habit of growth
96. shrub-like

REX:

97. small leaved
98. medium leaved and large leaved

SHRUB-LIKE and CANE-LIKE

99. all types except those with distinc-
tive foliage

TUBEROUS

100. semituberous and tuberous

*DIVISION J — HANGING
CONTAINERS and/or WALL POCKETS*

101. any cane-like
102. any shrub-like
103. any thick stemmed
104. any semperflorens
105. any rhizomatous

106. any rex
107. any tuberous or semituberous
108. any trailing — scandent (wall
pockets only)

DIVISION K — SEEDLINGS

109. under 6 months
110. 6 months to 9 months
111. 9 months to 1 year old

*DIVISION L — SPECIES (judged
horticulturally)*

112. any cane-like
113. any shrub-like
114. any thick stemmed
115. any semperflorens type
116. any rhizomatous
117. any rex type
118. any tuberous or semituberous
119. any trailing — scandent

*DIVISION M — NEW BEGONIA
INTRODUCTIONS (by Amateurs)*

120. hybrid introductions
121. species
122. mutations

*DIVISION N — NEW BEGONIA
INTRODUCTIONS (by Professional
and/or Commercial Growers)*

123. hybrids
124. species
125. mutations

*DIVISION O — PROFESSIONAL
and/or COMMERCIAL GROWERS*

126. any cane-like
127. any shrub-like
128. any thick stemmed
129. any semperflorens
130. any rhizomatous
131. any rex cultorum
132. any tuberous
133. any variety in a hanging basket
134. any variety in a contained
atmosphere

*DIVISION P — EXPERIENCED
AMATEUR GROWERS*

135. any cane-like
136. any shrub-like
137. any thick stemmed
138. any semperflorens
139. any rhizomatous
140. any rex cultorum
141. any tuberous
142. any variety in a hanging basket

143. any variety in a contained atmosphere

DIVISION Q — NOVICE GROWERS

144. any cane-like
 145. any shrub-like
 146. any thick stemmed
 147. any semperflorens
 148. any rhizomatous
 149. any rex cultorum
 150. any tuberous
 151. any variety in a hanging basket
 152. any variety in a contained atmosphere

DIVISION R — CONTAINED ATMOSPHERES WITH MORE THAN ONE VARIETY (judged artistically and horticulturally)

ALL BEGONIA PLANTING

153. bubbles and bowls
 154. terrariums (square or oblong)
 155. bottles

MIXED PLANTING WITH BEGONIA PREDOMINATING

156. bubbles and bowls
 157. terrariums (square or oblong)
 158. bottles

DIVISION S — ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS OF BEGONIA ROOTED AND GROWING

- (no artificial plant material)
 159. dish or tray gardens (*Begonia* predominating)
 160. centerpieces — holiday or season (*Begonia* predominating and accessories permitted to complete theme)

DIVISION T — NOVEL METHODS OF GROWING

161. bonsai
 162. driftwood plantings
 163. rock plantings
 164. standards
 165. totem poles
 166. trellises

DIVISION U — EDUCATIONAL BEGONIA DISPLAYS

167. branch display
 168. professional and/or commercial grower display

DIVISION V — ARTS and CRAFTS

169. needlework
 170. painting — water color
 171. painting — oil
 172. painting — black & white

DIVISION W — PHOTOGRAPHY (judged for photographic value)

173. print — black & white
 174. print — color
 175. slide — color
 176. print of flower or flower cluster
 177. slide of flower or flower cluster

Becoming a Begoniac

Color photographs of the begonia collections of two members of the ABS Knickerbocker Branch, Adele Zemansky and Jack Golding, were featured in a recent article in *New York* magazine. "Becoming a Begoniac" was written by Richard W. Langer and appeared in *New York*, dated March 10, 1975, pages 44 to 47. Both Mrs. Zemansky and Mr. Golding have been contributors to the *Begonian*. Check your local library for this excellent article.

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For the beginners, pamphlets on Begonia Basics:

- 'Growing from Seeds'\$.25
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- Jn 1 — *B. 'B. G. H. Ben'*, (orphan); unidentified species, low growing bush type. Naturally symmetrical, olive green on top of leaves, red beneath. Leaves about 1 x 2". Flowers white. Much basal growth per pkt. \$1.00
- Jn 2 — *B. 'Bikerack #3'*. This is a cross between a very hardy fibrous, red-stemmed, pink-flowered plant and *B. 'Caravelle'*, Red. It is large-leaved, 8 x 7", low-growing, green leaved and stemmed. Large trusses of long-pedicelled, 2 1/2 in. red flowers. Has a tendency to be a good cascading type, ideal for a window-box or a shady porch per pkt. .50
- Jn 3 — *B. bracteosa*. A direct import from Bolivia. This seems to be new to cultivation. An easy growing shrub, 3 to 6' high, with glossy green leaves and light pink flowers. It is related to *B. roezlii* but does not have a red spot at the base of the leaf blade. per pkt. 1.00
- Jn 4 — *B. coccinea*. Brazil species of 1774. Very tough leaf, dark green, medium size. Tends to grow prostrate or drooping, red flowers. Good basket or wall-pocket per pkt. .50
- Jn 5 — *B. costello*. Rhizomatous, similar to *B. acetosa* but leaves are larger and light green on both sides. A sturdy grower with white flowers. per pkt. 1.00
- Jn 6 — *B. 'Encanto'-grex*. From seed of *B. 'Elizabeth Lockhart'*. A great deal of variation in these, from tall, over 6', to medium height canes. Mostly large superba-type leaves with heavy texture. Flowers in drooping custers, ranging from pale pink to deep rose, but not on same plant. Many new interesting plants are being obtained from this per pkt. 1.00

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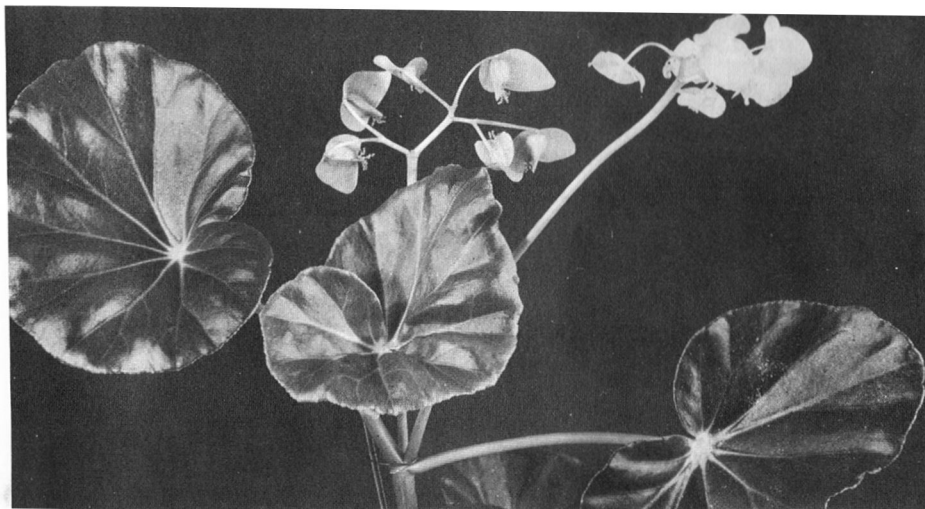
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- Jn 7 — *B. 'Paul-Bee'*. *B. echinosepala* x *B. paulensis*. Bush type, leaves about $1\frac{1}{2}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " or more, dark green, crinkly. Upright grower, but will basket with training. Winner of the 1973 Robinson Award per pkt. 1.00
- Jn 8 — *B. paranaensis*. Belongs to the *Pritzelia* subgenus. Medium growth, with thick stems, large leaves with dentate margins. Huge white flower clusters in earliest spring, lasting for several weeks. Plants grow a new stout stem each year from the ground, but flower on top of last year's growth per pkt. .50
- Jn 9 — *B. richardsiana*. A semi-tuberous species from Africa, with tuber resembling a small potato. Low growing, tiny thin textured leaves, deeply cleft. White flowers; very succulent growth. Goes partially dormant per pkt. 1.00
- Jn 10 — Mixed begonia seeds. Some interesting plants in these. Consist of many of my previous offers from seeds that have spilled, and from items received, not enough to offer, and from unidentified seeds received. Mostly rhizomatous and fibrous species. For those who just desire nice looking plants for pot or ground plantings
per pkt. .50
- Other seeds — Weeping Willow; *Salix blanda*. For a new experience to many of you, growing your own plants to make a bonsai. In this way you control the growth from 'birth'. Limited amount of these.
6 seeds .50

Make all checks or money orders payable to Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund and mail to Mrs. Pearl E. Benell, 10331 Colima Rd., Whittier, Calif. 90604. Please include complete return address!



Begonia bracteosa. A. DC.

photo by R. Jansen

CONDENSED MINUTES ABS BOARD MEETING April 28, 1975

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society was called to order by President Margaret Ziesenhenné at 7:45 p.m. 4/28/75. A quorum was present. The minutes of the meeting of March 25, 1975, were read and approved.

Correspondence read by Secretary Margaret Ireton included a letter from Edward and Mildred Thompson returning their loan. They had sent the ABS Slide Librarian a 2½-hour taped program and 120 color slides entitled "Begonia in General" in gratitude for the loan.

Research Director Carl L'Hommedieu's report outlined financial status and activity at New York Botanical Garden Library and Rutgers; he acknowledged with gratitude work being done for the committee by Carrie Karegeannes.

The charter of Smokey Valley Branch, Salina, Kansas, was received. The branch had disbanded last year.

Business Manager Gilbert Estrada, read his report of the compensation of the Membership Secretary, Jacqueline Garinger, who had asked for a contract. He had contacted another letter shop which had bid on the ABS mailing and membership work. Mr. Estrada moved that the ABS enter into a contract to continue the services of Jacqueline Garinger dba J & J Mailing Service and that the said contract be effective until September 1, 1976; the motion was seconded; a suggestion that the written contract be made a part of the motion was amended to the original motion with the second's consent; the motion passed.

Treasurer Walter Barnett reported income from membership activity as \$1456.59 for the period ending 4/18/75. He presented a copy of his monthly report and a comparison of actual receipts and disbursements with the proposed budget 9/1/74 through 4/18/75. Balance on hand in the general fund 3/18/75 was \$1829.93; receipts were \$2025.13; disbursements \$1776.85; balance 4/18/75 \$2078.21. The board members were asked by the president to study the budget comparison.

The resignation of John Provine, junior past president and chairman of the finance committee, was read by the secretary; he had called a meeting of the committee on April 27 to discuss fiscal matters, which was to be his last official act on the board. Rudolf Ziesenhenné moved that the board accept with regret Mr. Provine's resignation from his position on the ABS Board of Directors. Motion was seconded and carried. He will con-

tinue always as a past president of ABS.

Nomination of Gene Daniels and Clarence Hall as members of the Awards Committee were moved for approval by Walter Pease, awards committee chairman; motion seconded and carried.

Nomination of Fredrick Burgess as ABS Show Chairman was moved by Mr. Ziesenhenné; seconded and carried.

The president asked Board for permission to appoint a corresponding secretary as well as a recording secretary to do the necessary secretarial work of the ABS. It was pointed out that this would entail a change in the bylaws, which should be considered at next annual meeting; she was authorized to hire the necessary secretarial help for correspondence in Santa Barbara.

The establishment of the position of Advertising Representative for the East Coast was recommended by the president. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the position be established.

The approval of nomination by the president of Edward Thompson to fill this position was moved, seconded and approved.

A suggestion by Mrs. Thompson that an ABS Library be established on the East Coast was postponed until next meeting.

Discussion of first class postage for officers lead to the conclusion that if an officer, such as members of the **Begonian** staff, needs a prompt delivery of the **Begonian**, the membership secretary will arrange for first class delivery upon request.

The president questioned whether the travel fund of officers to conventions as recommended by the 1974 Show Committee and passed by the Board had been set up; the treasurer was to investigate.

The president, on behalf of her Santa Barbara Branch, invited the Board to a regional meeting at Ernest and Metta Thomsen's home, 3354 Cliff Dr., Santa Barbara; there being no objection the president announced officially that the next meeting of the ABS board will be at 3354 Cliff Dr., Santa Barbara, at 2 p.m., May 17; the meeting will start with a shared dinner at two.

New membership rosters were obtained by Business Manager Estrada at the president's request for distribution to public relations personnel, the editors, and others who might need them.

Seed Fund Administrator Pearl Benell reported income from seed sales \$323.33, bulletins \$19.50, a gross deposit of \$342.83.

Judging Course Director Margaret Lee reported income from 8 judging courses, \$48.00 and point scoring and classification booklets, \$16.50, with postage making a total of \$68.25; profit \$54.04.

Mrs. Peggy McGrath moved that Mrs. Lee be authorized to have the necessary copies made to complete the judging courses. Motion seconded and passed. Mrs. Lee moved that those persons who wished the courses in judging gesneriads, ferns, and fuchsias in addition to the **Begonia** judging course be charged one dollar for each extra course. Motion seconded and carried.

Mrs. Lee moved that Mildred and Edward Thompson should be granted Senior Judges Cards in recognition of their work on the **Thompson Begonia Guide** and their services at numerous shows in the classification activities; motion seconded and carried.

The Librarian had not attended but it was reported she had been mailing out the Japanese begonia book.

Treasurer Barnett moved that in recognition of the work Mildred and Edward Thompson had done in helping to form the Long Island Branch and Hampton Branch, and the memorial gift of the copy of the **Thompson Begonia Guide** to the ABS Library, they each be given an ABS Life Membership. Seconded and carried.

Debi Miller, vice president and program chairman of Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch, speakers bureau director, explained the note book and forms which she has devised to obtain information regarding prospective speakers and to send to program chairmen throughout the country. The note book will be given the branches free but other plant societies will be charged a fee. Mrs. Margaret Taylor moved that the speakers bureau director be given authority to spend up to \$100 in preparing the forms and note books; seconded and passed.

Nomenclature Director Ziesenhenné reported receiving a letter from New York Botanical Garden regarding work being done on **Begonia** literature there. May Taft Drew's card index to **Begonia** from the **Begonian** through 1974 has been received by the ABS president in trust for the Society.

A motion was made, seconded and carried that the secretary send a letter to Mrs. Drew on behalf of the Board of Directors thanking her for her many years' service to the ABS and for depositing her index with the Society, as well as giving her file of the **Begonian** to the ABS Library.

The treasurer presented the Editors' expense bill for \$66.93 for approval; his motion was seconded and passed.

Parliamentarian Peggy McGrath will submit an amendment to the ABS Constitution at the annual meeting to use the Revised (1971) Robert's Rules of Order.

Condensed by
M. Ziesenhenné & P. Bates

CALENDAR

June 5, 1975 — Whittier Branch. 7:30 P.M., Palm Park Community Center. Jack Louder, narrator. Beautiful slide program: "Flowers and Gardens Around the World". Guests are always welcome.

June 7 — Portland Branch **Begonia** show and sale at the Union Manor Westmorland, 6404 S. E. 23rd, Portland, Oregon from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

June 9 — Hampton Branch meeting at Parrish Memorial Hall, Southampton, at 7:45 P.M. Program: "Culture of **Begonia**: Its Relationship to Horticultural Classifications" by Millie Thompson. **Begonia** of the Month: *B. molleri* by Gene Moglia.

June 27 — Redondo Area Branch. 6:30 P.M. at Dana School, 135th Street and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif. Greenhouse Workshop conducted by Henry Meyers. Visitors welcome. Door prizes. Refreshments. Plant table.

ROUND ROBIN

(Continued from Page 136)

enough air in to prevent crushing. Pots need a cover of plastic over the top around the stem to prevent spill. Fasten with tape or rubber band around POT but not around stem of plant. It is almost impossible to remove either without damage to plant or cutting if around stem. Wrap pots in a sleeve of newspaper or corrugated paper to prevent shifting and bruising.

To join the Robins, just write me.

Mrs. Mae Blanton
Round Robin Director
118 Wildoak Drive
Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Raymond C. Cronin, Secy
88 Ledgeways, Wellesley, Mass. 02181

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Sunday of each month
Mrs. Priscella Beck, Secy.
R D No. 1, Box 121,
Mystic, Conn. 06355

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School
Telegraph at Stuart, Berkeley, Calif.
Miss Carol E. Orpin, Secy.
428 Norvell Street
El Cerrito, Calif. 94530

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Diane McElroy
9010 209th Ave., N.E., Redmond, Wash. 98052

EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Phipps Conservatory
Beverly Coyle, Corr. Secretary
144 McCurdy Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15235

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Gladys Máttuket, Secy.
1801 Azalea Drive, Alhambra, Calif. 91801

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Miss Lola Price, Secy.
628 Beach Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J. 08044

GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunnyside School
9972 Russell Ave. at Brookhurst, Garden Grove, Ca.
Loretta Stocks, Sec'y.
2668 Redlands Drive, Costa Mesa, Ca. 92626

GERALDINE DALY BEGONIA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Arline G. Peck, Secy.
Eagle Peak Road, Pascoag, R.I. 02859

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand
Mrs. Katharine Alberti, Secy.
3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90068

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH

Mrs. John H. McKay, Secy.
5116 Baton Rouge Ave., Baton Rouge, La. 70805

HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m.
Parrish Memorial Hall, Southampton, N.Y.
Mildred L. Thompson
310-A Hill Street, Southampton, N.Y. 11968

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Secy.
5926 Jackwood, Houston, Texas 77036

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Horticultural Society of New York
128 West 58th St., New York
Samantha G. Langer, Secy.
233 E. 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Great Western Sav. and Loan Bldg.
6300 E. Spring St., near Palo Verde
Long Beach, California 90818
Miss P. E. Powell, Secy.
3031 Shakespeare Dr., Los Alamitos, Ca. 90720

LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Planting Fields Arboretum
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
Mrs. Decise Barthold, Corr. Sec'y.
248 Manor Road, Douglaston, N.Y. 11363

MESQUITE BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Members homes
Mrs. Mae Blanton, Secy.
118 Wildoak Drive, Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
55 South West 17th Road, Miami, Florida
Mrs. Alma Crawford, Secy.
14250 Madison St., Miami, Florida 33158

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Friday, 11 a.m., Member's Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Mrs. Glenn Lucas, Secy.
Kansas City, Mo. 64109

MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts., New Monterey, Calif.
Mrs. Mary Peterson, Sec'y.
24522 Pescadero Rd., Carmel, CA. 93921

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Mercury Savings and Loan Assn.
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach
Miss Carol Ruane, Secy.
2133 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
First Christian Church,
1130 E. Walnut Street, Orange, California
Mrs. Norma Taylor, Secy.
2414 N. Bristol, Santa Ana, Ca. 92667

PORTLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Otelia Klobas, Secy.
35330 S.E. Dunn Rd., Boring, Ore. 97002

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m.
R. H. Dana School Cafetorium
135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.
Mrs. Susian Shaner, Secy.
5026 W. 122nd Street, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members
Juana Curtis, Secy.
4107 Taos Dr., San Diego, Ca. 92117

RUBIDOUX BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., West Riverside Memorial Hall
4393 Riverside Drive, Rubidoux, Ca.
Mrs. Cindy Gray, Secy.
22601 Whittier Street, Colton, CA 92324

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Mrs. Beverly Bartlett, Secy.
725 36th Street, Sacramento, Ca. 95816

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS

4th Monday, 1:30 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Jesse B. Harper, Secy.
Route 3, Salina, Kansas 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Mrs. H. C. Banks, Secy.
1279 35th Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94122

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.
 Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart, Secy.
 169 Mauna Loa Dr., Monrovia, Ca. 91016

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.
 Casa del Prado (Rm. 104)
 Balboa Park, San Diego
 Mrs. Nova Gillis, Secy.
 11885 Walnut Rd., Lakeside, Ca. 92040

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
 2559 Puesta Del Sol
 Mrs. Patricia Hill, Secy.
 1339 Mission Ridge Road, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH

4th Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
 Covington School
 Covington Rd. near Foothill Expressway and
 El Monte Road in Los Altos
 Mrs. Elizabeth K. Sayers, Secy.
 369 Ridge Vista Ave., San Jose, Ca. 95127

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 P.M.
 Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave. N.E.
 Janeen Lynch, Secy.
 8248 16th N.E., Seattle, Wash. 98115

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St.,
 Ventura, Ca.
 Mrs. Bernice Barker, Sec'y
 3316 Porter Lane, Ventura, CA. 93003

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House
 430 South 156th Burlen
 Mrs. Viva Musgrave, Secy.
 11447 12th Ave., Seattle, Wash. 98146

TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH

Mrs. Grace McDougall, Secy.
 Plum St., Inverness Highlands
 Inverness, Florida 32650

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Bank of Fort Worth
 Mrs. Richard Ellis, Secy.
 2117 Hillcrest, Ft. Worth, Texas 76107

TEXASTAR BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center
 1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
 Mrs. V. O. Harman, Secy.
 306 Cody, Houston, Texas 77009

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club
 8020 Alverstone Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.
 Barbara Mack, Secy.
 424 Oregon St., El Segundo, Ca. 90245

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday 11:00 a.m. every month
 Pittsburgh Garden Center, 1059 Shady Ave.,
 Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Mrs. Alfred Slee, Secy.
 211 Arlington Ave., Butler, Pa. 16001

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Palm Park Community Center
 5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier
 Miss Anne Rose, Secy.
 14036 Ramona Drive, Whittier, Calif. 90605

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members
 Mrs. John W. Watson, Secy.
 209 Pembroke Ave.
 Wayne, Pa. 19087

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COVER PICTURE

(Continued from Page 127)

quarter teaspoon per gallon of water. The whole plant is sprayed — leaves and all. In fact, my whole plant room is dripping wet when finished. There is no danger of leaves remaining wet for long, as vents are opened and fans whisk away excess moisture.

I should mention that this rex has always propagated easily for me, both in damp sphagnum moss and now, bark chips. I admire this begonia as much as any I have ever grown.

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