

# Austin Area Begonia Society Branch • of the American Begonia Society •

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 9

Nelda Moore, Editor

SEPTEMBER, 2013

MEETING DATE: September 22

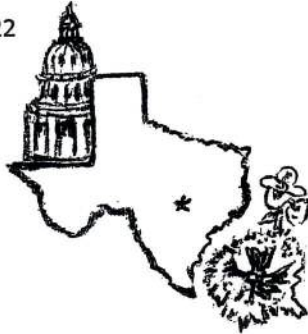
2 P.M.

GREENE ROOM

ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDEN

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746



Austin Area Garden Council September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

Open House at Zilker September 21

For October and December refer to the

Calendar published on the website or read

*Down the Garden Path.*

Please welcome New Member

Arlene Lantz

7008 Narrow Oak Trail

Austin, TX 78759



Begonia 'Christmas Candy'

## Begonia U014

According to Mary Weinberg Begonia U014 was first discovered in Ecuador in 1979 and imported by Tom Melelous and Fred Fuchs.

In May 1982 Kingsley Langenberg brought seedlings as a research project to the Greater Chicago Branch. Mary chose 3 plants—two became *B. cucullata* and the third was U014. They were planted outside in a shady area in sandy soil since her garden is five blocks from Lake Michigan. They started new growth and developed flower buds close to the ends of the stems. In mid September Mary potted them in an 8 inch azalea pot using the soilless mix recommended by Millie Thompson. She also included most of the garden soil attached to the roots. Then she placed B. U014 on the floor next to the light garden where it got early morning sun from an east window for about an hour and glancing light from the garden throughout the day. In October, blooms opened; then it was never without flowers during the winter.

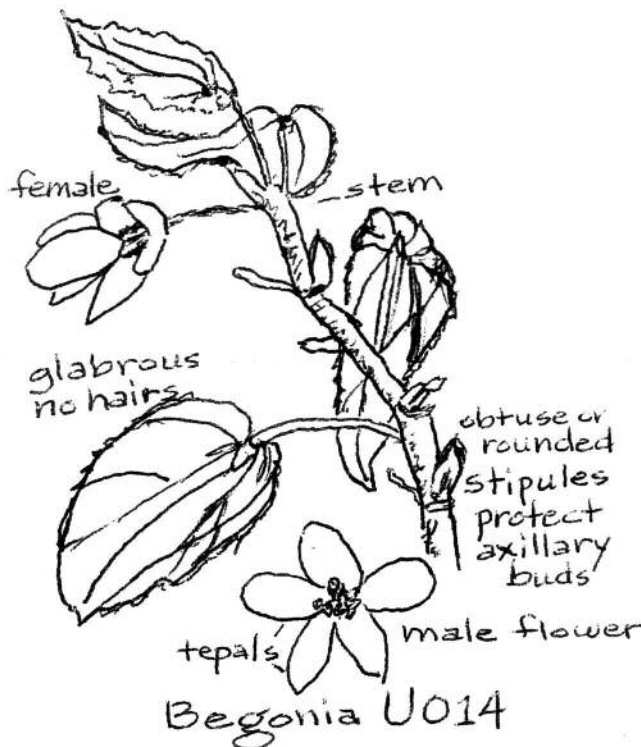
In April Mary made 2 tip cuttings from the main stems. She removed the flowers to help promote root growth. Within 3 weeks both cuttings were rooted and were transplanted to a soil mix.

In summer B. U014 was returned to the shade garden to promote flowering with the intention of more tries at pollination since during the winter months male flowers did not open probably because the plants did not have enough light. (Continued page 2)

## Begonia U014 (Continued)

Mary describes this begonia as a shrub-like plant with grass-green, ovate, subentire leaves 4-5 inches long. Stipules are obtuse, and tan in color. Channeled petioles are arranged alternately along the stem; stems, petioles, and leaves are glabrous. Flowers are large, orange-red with white ovaries. Staminate flowers have five tepals, and pistillate flowers have 2 tepals. Female flowers have 3 orange-red bracts loosely veiling the ovaries.

Successful crosses have been made using B. U014 as the male parent; in all cases it was crossed with semperflorens. Hybrids from these crosses are B. 'Christmas Candy,' B. 'Cockatoo,' and B. 'Firebird.' All hybrids retain the nearly ever-blooming quality and the large orange-red flowers.



## PLANTING AND PRUNING FOR BEST RESULTS USING THE SIGNS

For transplanting or for planting in **Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces:**

**Cancer** September 27, 28, and 29

**Scorpio** October 7 and 8

**Pisces** October 15 and 17

**Cancer** October 25 and 26

For best pruning select **Taurus** on **September 22, 23, and 24**

**October 20 and 21**

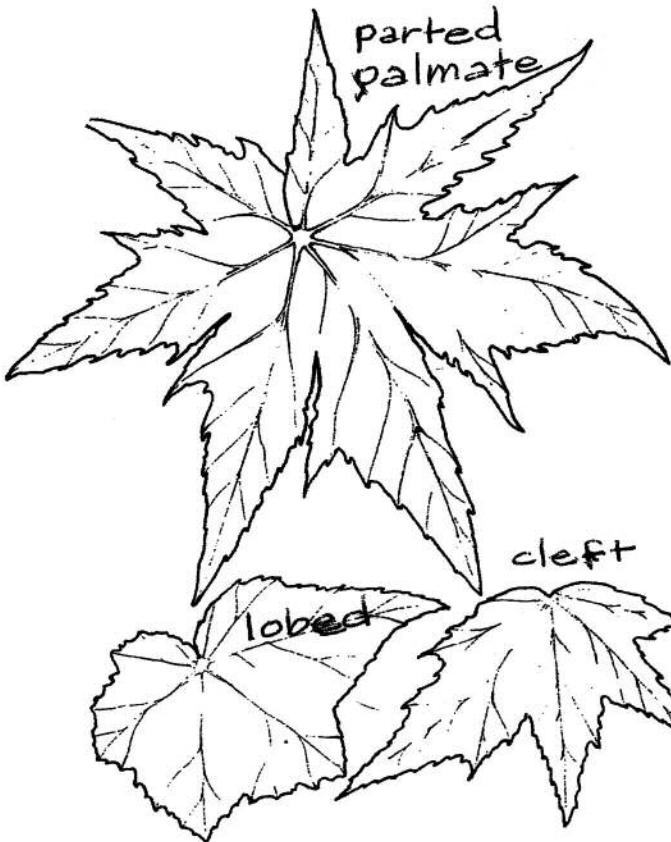
**Happy Growing for Showing Anytime!**

## HORTICULTURE

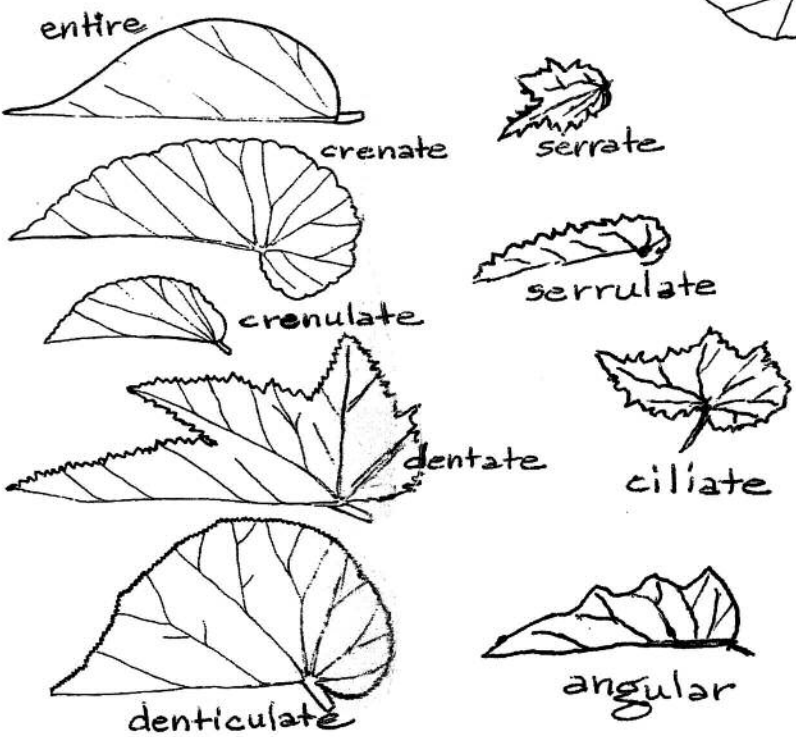
With the weather being so hot as it is now in triple digits, water the plants when the soil is dry. Watch for burning edges of leaves even when these begonias are in shade. Remove the yellow or dying leaf and keep the plants clean of any dead parts over the soil. Misting may help or for healthy begonias use a small amount of fertilizer in the water before misting the plants. Keep the floor damp for extra humidity.

At times it is wise to collect some rainwater in a container and use this to water begonias or simply have water drawn and allow it to stand for a few days before watering the plants. Add some Nutricote or Osmocote after watering and then fertilize with a ¼ strength liquid fertilizer every month. Do not fertilize the plants when they are dry.

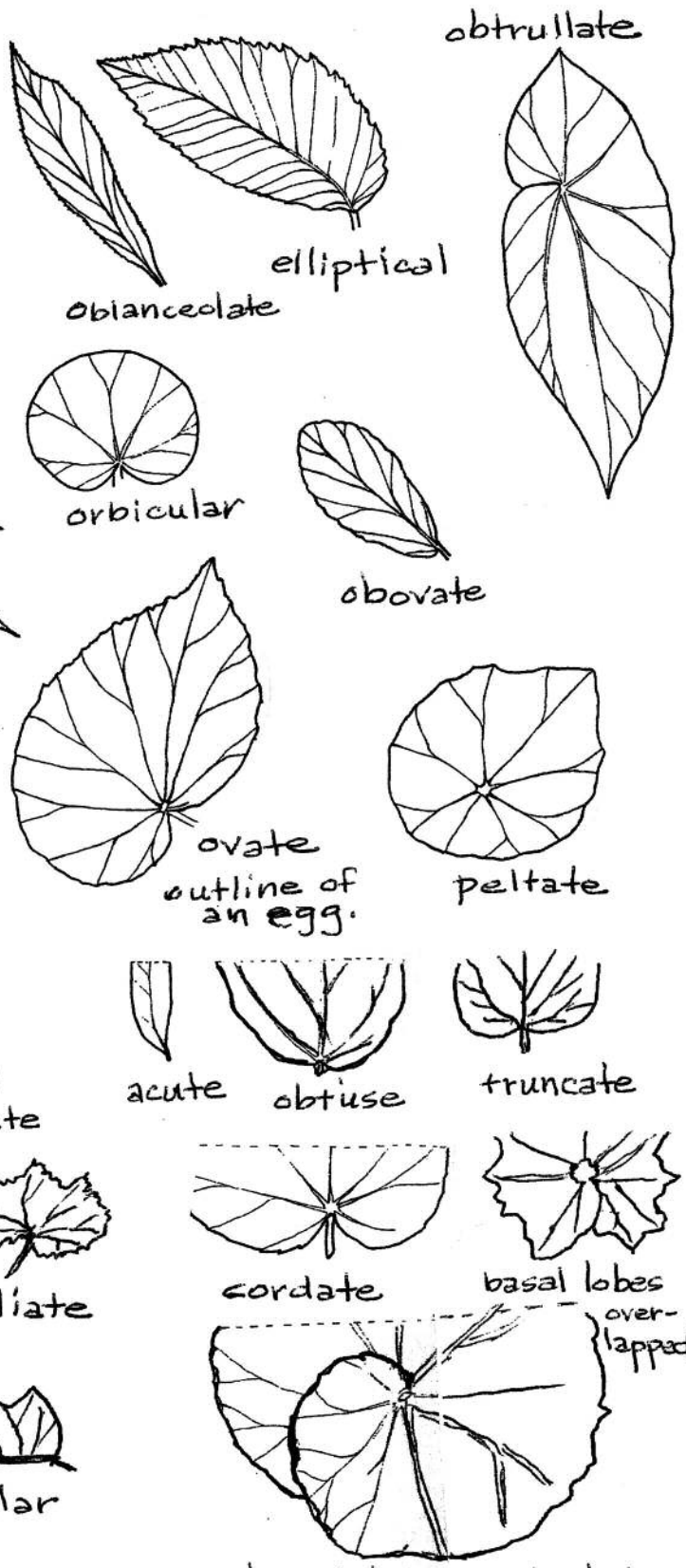
LEAF SHAPES



LEAF INCISIONS



LEAF MARGINS



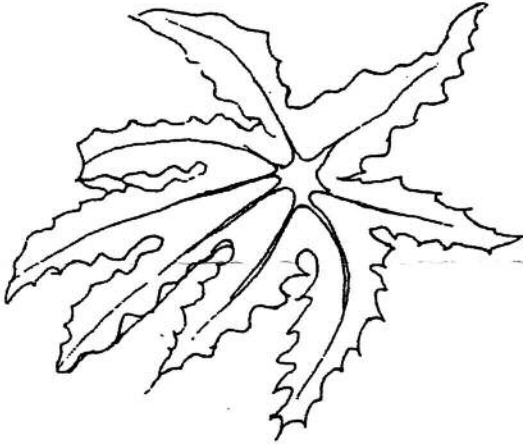
LEAF BASES

From Begonias  
 The Complete Reference Guide  
 Mildred W. Thompson & Edward J. Thompson

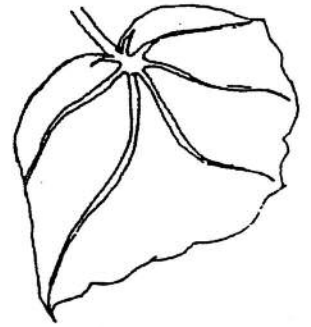
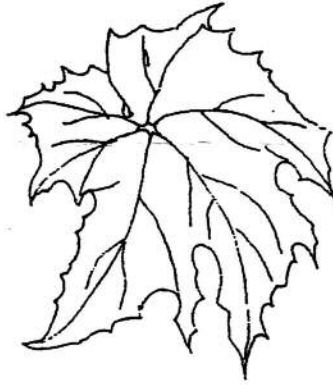
Leaf shapes of all the begonias in the background  
of B. 'General Landon':

B. strigillosa

B. heracleifolia

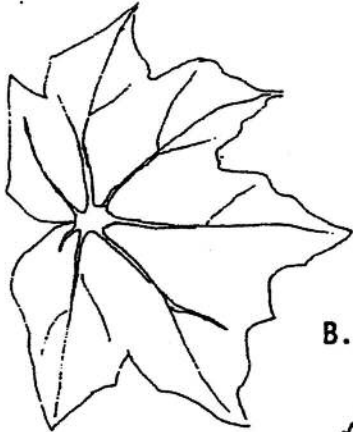


B. 'Fuscomaculata'

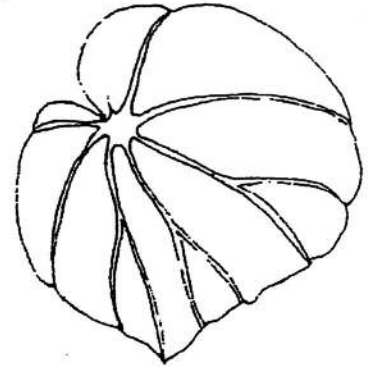
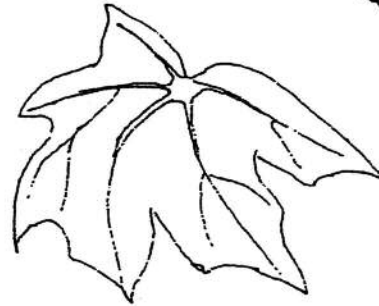


B. mazaе

B. 'Reichinheimii'

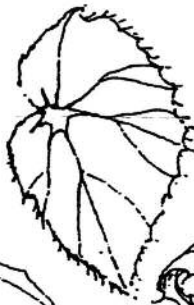


B. 'Joe Hayden'

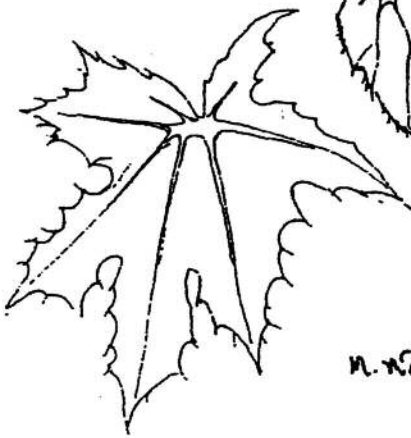


B. 'Bow Joe'

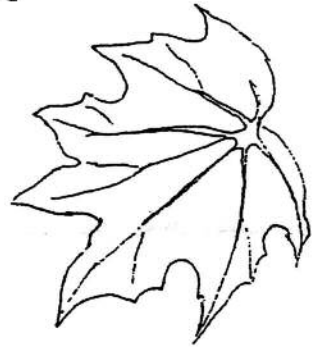
B. bowerae



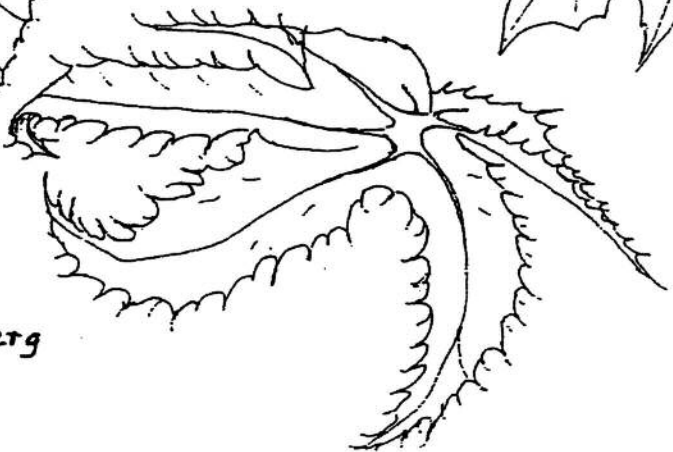
B. 'Chumash'



B. 'Helene Jaros'



M. Weinberg



AUSTIN AREA BEGONIA SOCIETY BRANCH

Of the

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2013 MEETING

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The Austin Area Begonia Society Branch met August 25, 2013, in the Greene Room of the Austin Area Garden Center. Eleven members were present: Doug Byrom, Vickey Cole, Jim Estes, Joan Estes, Ken Fuchs, Jackie Johnson, Jim Landers, Arlene Lantz, Julie Marcus, Nelda Moore, Verlene Schoen.

President Doug Byrom called the meeting to order at 2 P.M.

Minutes were approved as published in the July newsletter.

Doug Byrom sent a plant to Gene Salisbury's funeral. Gene will truly be missed since he published *The Leaflet*, the newsletter for the Southwest Region. His wife also serves as the Membership Chairman. For the American Begonia Society Gene was Business Manager as well as director or chairman of Nomenclature and Public Relations.

Jackie Johnson selected a fantastic program. Ken Fuchs showed the DVD that he developed for the ABS/Southwest Region Convention, which included the hotel and its lobby, the plant sale, the plant show, the tours, the meetings, the banquets, and the room with all of the African violets during the National African Violet Convention at another hotel.

The Begonia Branch will also have a display during the Open House in the Zilker Auditorium September 21, beginning at 9 A.M. This event is open to the public so that individuals can learn about all of the clubs and their activities. They have the opportunity to join clubs, ask questions about plants and the gardens, and become a volunteer.

The next meeting will be September 22 in the Greene Room.

The meeting adjourned at 4 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nelda Moore, Secretary

B. 'Green Medora'





B. 'PINK MINX'



B. PINK SURPRISE'