

Latin American Begonias

This program was presented at the Astros Branch meeting, October 2004.

There are two primary goals of this meeting: 1). To view, handle, and discuss several unique begonias which originated in Latin America, including Mexico. 2). To take cuttings and share these plants.

First, the Latin American begonias currently in cultivation come from all the countries, but with the majority of the named species from Mexico. There are also a great deal of the Uxxx species from Costa Rica.

These species encompass the entire range of begonia growth habits with the possible exception of those tuberous/semi-tuberous.

Perhaps the best known of all of the Latin American species is *B. heracleifolia*. This plant is found in all the countries from southern Mexico to Panama and comes in numerous recognized varieties. Some are light green, some dark green, and many light green with dark highlights.

Two of the species are of particular interest to me because they have such good sun resistance. I have found that both *B. scabrida* and *B. nelumbiifolia* will take full sun after a brief adjustment period. These are both great landscape plants for the Houston area. Both will freeze at or below about 28 degrees F., but both will come back the next year and make a full size attractive plant by mid-summer.

Another plant of particular interest to hybridizers has been *B. bowerae*. This plant was found in Mexico in the late '40s by MacDougall and came to the R. Zieshenne, Santa Barbara Ca. He began hybridizing with it and it immediately became a favorite because of its dominant genes. By 1975, there were over 750 cultivars that owed their attractive appearance to the one species. When you see a plant with light green leaves with distinctly black margins and eyelash margins, it is probably of *B. bowerae* derivation. I personally grow *B. 'Persian Brocade'*, *'Giddy'*, and several others of this type.

We have been very fortunate to have had some persistent collectors visit Mexico and Latin America over the past 50 years. MacDougall was active in the '40-'50s; Dr. K. Burt-Utley was very active in the mid '80s; and Dr. Rekha Morris is busy today. We have received new species over these years, and replenished the established ones. We are receiving new seeds on a regular basis now, and adding to our collections.

There is much more to discuss, but let's start sharing cuttings as we talk.

Latin American species commonly seen in collections.
(begonia name, author of name, year of name, country of origin)

- **acuminata** Dryander , 1791 , Costa Rica
- **acutifolia** Jacquin , 1787 , Costa Rica,Cuba
- **alice-clarkiae** Ziesenhenné R. , 1976 , Mexico
- **allenii** Standley , 1938 , Costa Rica, Panama
- **aridicaulis** Ziesenhenné R. , 1952 , Mexico
- **auriformis** Van Houtte ex Klotzsch , 1854 , Mexico
- **bakeri** de Candolle C. , --- , Nicaragua
- **balmisiana var. balmisiana** Balmis , 1794 , Mexico
- **balmisiana var. mitellifolia** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico
- **barbana** de Candolle C. , 1896 , Mexico, America C.
- **barkeri** Knowles & Westcott , 1840 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **barrigae** Smith & Schubert , 1946 , Honduras, Colombia
- **bettinae** Ziesenhenné R. , 1965 , Mexico
- **biserrata var. biserrata** Lindley , 1847 , Mexico
- **boissieri** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **bowerae var. bowerae** Ziesenhenné R. , 1950 , Mexico
- **bowerae var. major** Ziesenhenné R. , 1973 , Mexico
- **bowerae var. nigramarga** Ziesenhenné R. , 1973 , Mexico
- **bowerae var. roseiflora** Ziesenhenné R. , 1973 , Mexico
- **bulbillifera** Link & Otto , 1831 , Mexico
- **candollei** Ziesenhenné , --- , America C.
- **cardiocarpa** Liebmann , 1852 , Nicaragua
- **carolineifolia** Regel , 1852 , Mexico
- **carpinifolia** --- , --- , America C.
- **carrieae** Ziesenhenné R. , 1976 , Mexico
- **cavum** Ziesenhenné R. , 1948 , Mexico
- **chivatoa** Ziesenhenné R. , 1950 , Mexico
- **cobana** de Candolle C. , 1908 , Guatemala
- **conchifolia Dietrich var. rubrimacula** Golding J. , 1973 , Costa Rica
- **conchifolia var. conchifolia** Dietrich , 1851 , Costa Rica, Panama
- **cooperi** de Candolle C. , 1895 , Costa Rica
- **corredorana** de Candolle C. , 1925 , America C., Costa Rica
- **corredorana** de Candolle C. , 1925 , Costa Rica
- **crassicaulis** Lindley , 1842 , Guatemala
- **cristobalensis** Ziesenhenné R. , 1971 , Mexico
- **cuspidata** de Candolle C. , 1896 , America C., Costa Rica
- **dayi hort. (sometimes written dayii or dayii hort.)** --- , --- , Mexico, Guatemala
- **depauperata** --- , --- , Mexico
- **estrellensis** de Candolle C. , 1895 , America C., Costa Rica
- **falciloba** Liebmann , 1853 , Peru, America C.
- **ferruginea var. ferruginea** Linnaeus , 1781 , Honduras, Colombia
- **filipes** Benthám , 1844 , Panama, Colombia

- **fimbriata** Liebmman , 1852 , Mexico
- **fissurarum** de Candolle C. , 1919 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **foliosa Kunth var. miniata** (Planchon) Smith & Schubert , 1946 , Honduras
- **fonsecae** Standley 1952 Honduras
- **francisiae** Ziesenhenn R. , 1950 , Mexico
- **fuchsioides Hooker WJ. var. miniata** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Honduras
- **fusca** Liebmman , 1853 , Mexico
- **glabra var. glabra** Aublet , 1775 , America C.
- **glabra Aublet var. cordifolia** (de Candolle C.) Irmscher E. , 1960 , Mexico
- **glabra var. corallipetala** --- , --- , Costa Rica
- **glandulosa** Hooker WJ. , 1861 , Mexico
- **gracilis Kunth var. diversifolia** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico
- **gracilis Kunth var. martiana** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico
- **gracilis var. gracilis** Kunth , 1825 , Mexico
- **guadensis** --- , --- , America C.
- **guaduensis** Kunth , 1825 , Panama, Colombia
- **heracleifolia Schlechtendal & Chamisso var. sunderbruckii hort.** ex Chevalier C. , 1938 , Mexico
- **heracleifolia pyramidalis (a misspelling)** --- , --- , Mexico
- **heracleifolia Schlechtendal & Chamisso var. longipila** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico, America C.
- **heracleifolia Schlechtendal & Chamisso var. nigricans** Hooker JD. , 1857 , Mexico, America C.
- **heracleifolia var. heracleifolia** Schlechtendal & Chamisso , 1830 , Mexico
- **heydei** de Candolle C. , 1895 , Costa Rica, Guatemala
- **hidalgensis** Smith & Schubert , 1950 , Mexico
- **hispida-villosa** Ziesenhenn R. , 1950 , Mexico
- **hispidivillosa forma hispidivillosa** Ziesenhenn R. , 1950 , Mexico
- **hispidivillosa forma nigramarga** Ziesenhenn R. , 1982 , Mexico
- **holtonis de Candolle A. var. macrophylla** Smith & Schubert , 1946 , Honduras, Colombia
- **huberti** Ziesenhenn R. , 1980 , Mexico
- **hydrocotylifolia var. hydrocotylifolia** Otto ex Hooker WJ. , 1842 , Mexico
- **hypolipara** Sandwith , 1931 , Honduras, Mexico
- **imperialis var. brunnea** Lemaire , 1861 , Mexico
- **imperialis var. imperialis** Lemaire , 1860 , Mexico
- **imperialis var. smaragdina** Lemaire , 1860 , Mexico
- **incana** Lindley , 1841 , Mexico
- **incarnata var. incarnata** Link & Otto , 1829 , Mexico
- **involucrata** Liebmman , 1852 , Costa Rica
- **karwinskyana** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **kellermanii** de Candolle C. , 1919 , Guatemala
- **kenworthyae** Ziesenhenn R. , 1950 , Mexico
- **killipiana** Smith & Schubert , 1946 , Honduras, Colombia
- **kortsiae (was kortsae)** Ziesenhenn R. , 1971 , Mexico
- **lachaensis** Ziesenhenn R. , 1985 , Mexico
- **lepidota** Liebmman , 1853 , Mexico
- **liebmannii** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico
- **lindleyana** Walpers , 1843 , Guatemala
- **lobulata** de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico

- **ludica** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **lyman-smithii** Burt-Utley and Utley , 1987 , Mexico
- **macdougallii** Ziesenhenné R. , 1947 , Mexico
- **macdougallii var. prupurea** --- , 1962 , Mexico
- **macra** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Colombia, Honduras
- **manicata Brongniart var. aureo-maculata** Ziesenhenné R. , 1988 , Mexico
- **manicata Brongniart var. manicativiridi** Ziesenhenné R. , 1988 , Mexico
- **manicata Brongniart var. ocozocoutlaensis** Ziesenhenné R. , 1988 , Mexico
- **manicata Brongniart var. peltata** Smith & Schubert , 1961 , Guatemala
- **manicata var. manicata** Brogniart , 1842 , Mexico
- **martiana** Link & Otto , 1825 , Mexico
- **mazae forma nigricans** Ziesenhenné R. , 1980 , Mexico
- **mazae forma viridis** Ziesenhenné R. , 1980 , Mexico
- **mazae var. deminuta** Ziesenhenné R. , 1980 , Mexico
- **mazae var. mazae** Ziesenhenné R. , 1947 , Mexico
- **megaphylla** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **metallica** Smith WG. , 1876 , Costa Rica, Brazil
- **mexicana** Karsten ex Fotsch , 1933 , Mexico
- **michoacana** Smith & Schubert , 1947 , Mexico
- **monophylla** Pavon ex de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **multinervia** Liebmann , 1852 , America C., Costa Rica
- **nelumbiifolia** Schlechtendal & Chamisso , 1830 , Mexico, Costa Rica
- **nigrovenia** Regel , 1867 , Mexico
- **nigrovenia hort.** Linden ex Hooker , 1861 , Mexico
- **oaxacana var. oaxacana** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **oaxacana var. stenoptera** Smioth LB. & Schubert BG. , 1961 , Costa Rica, Panama
- **opuliflora** Putzeys , 1855 , America C, Panama
- **ottonis** Walpers , 1843 , Panama, Colombia
- **palmaris** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **palmeri** Watson S. , 1886 , Mexico
- **patula** Haworth , 1819 , Brazil, Honduras
- **pedata** Liebmann , 1852 , Mexico
- **peltata Otto & Dietrich var. auriformis** (de Candolle) Golding J. , 1981 , Mexico
- **peltata var. peltata** Otto & Dietrich , 1841 , Mexico
- **peponifolia** Brongniart AT. , 1842 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **philodendroides var. philodendroides** Ziesenhenné R. , 1954 , Mexico
- **pilifera** de Candolle A. , 1864 , America C.
- **pinetorum** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico, Guatemala
- **plebeja** Liebmann , 1852 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **polygonata** Liebmann , 1853 , Mexico
- **popenoei** Standley , 1930 , America C., Honduras
- **portillana** Watson S. , 1887 , Mexico
- **pringlei** Watson S. , 1891 , Costa Rica, Mexico
- **pruinata** (Klotzsch) de Candolle A. , 1864 , Costa Rica
- **purpusii** Houghton ex Ziesenhenné R. , 1960 , Mexico
- **pustulata** Liebmann , 1852 , Mexico
- **quaduensis** HBK , --- , Honduras

- **quaternata** Smith & Schubert , 1950 , Panama
- **quetamensis** Smith & Schubert , 1946 , Honduras
- **reniformis Pavon** ex de Candolle A. , 1864 , Mexico
- **reptans** Bentham , 1840 , Mexico
- **roseibractea** Ziesenhenné R. , 1983 , Mexico
- **sandtii** Houghton ex Ziesenhenné R. , 1969 , Mexico
- **santae-martae** --- , --- , Panama
- **sarcophylla** Liebmann , 1852 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **sartorii** Liebmann , 1853 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **scandens Swartz var. cardifolia** de Candolle C. , 1908 , Nicaragua
- **seemanniana var. seemanniana** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Costa Rica, Panama
- **sericoneura** Liebmann , 1853 , America C.
- **setulosa** Bertoloni , 1840 , America C., Guatemala
- **sousae** Burt-Utley K. , 1983 , Mexico
- **sparsipila** Baker , 1873 , America C.
- **squamosa** de Candolle C. , 1908 , Costa Rica
- **stigmosa** Lindley , 1845 , Mexico
- **strigillosa** Dietrich , 1851 , Mexico, America C.
- **tenuipila** de Candolle C. , 1908 , Panama
- **tenuipila de Candolle C. var. kennedyi** Ziesenhenné R. , 1977 , Mexico, Nicaragua
- **theimei var. purpurea** --- , 1895 , America C.
- **thiemei** de Candolle C. , 1895 , Honduras, Mexico
- **tilliifolia** de Candolle C. , 1908 , Honduras. Colombia
- **tonduzii** de Candolle C. , 1896 , Costa Rica, Panama
- **U018** Johnson M. & Mathias M. , 1976 , Guatemala
- **U029** Barkley F. , 1981 , Honduras
- **U036** Ziesenhenné R. , 1978 , Guatemala
- **U039** Morgan S. , 1976 , Mexico
- **U041** Barkley F. , 1986 , Mexico
- **U053** Whitlock L. , 1976 , Mexico
- **U054** Whitlock L. , 1976 , Mexico
- **U055** Johnson M. , 1977 , Costa Rica
- **U060** Wilson B. , 1981 , Costa Rica, Peru
- **U067** Ziesenhenné R. , 1981 , Nicaragua
- **U100** Brin R. , 1983 , Panama
- **U101** Johnson M. , 1983 , Panama
- **U104** Goldsmith L. , 1984 , Costa Rica
- **U106** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U107** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U108** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U111** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U112** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U113** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U114** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U115** Brin R. , 1984 , Costa Rica, Panama
- **U117** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U118** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama

- **U119** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U120** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U121** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U125** Worley P. , 1990 , Mexico
- **U150** Brin R. , 1984 , Panama
- **U154** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U155** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U157** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U158** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U159** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U160** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U161** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U167** Brin R. , 1985 , Panama
- **U169** Correale S. , 1985 , Mexico
- **U171** Haussman F. , 1985 , Mexico
- **U173** McLellan T. , 1985 , Costa Rica
- **U178** Hoover S. , 1979 , Guatemala
- **U179** Hoover S. , 1979 , Guatemala
- **U180** Correale S. , 1984 , Panama
- **U181** Correale S. , 1984 , Panama
- **U193** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U194** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U195** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U196** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U197** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U198** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U199** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U200** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U201** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U202** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U203** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U204** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U205** Brin R. , 1986 , Panama
- **U207** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U208** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U209** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U210** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U211** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U212** Hoover S. , 1986 , Costa Rica
- **U213** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U214** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U215** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U216** Hoover S. , 1986 , Panama
- **U226** Bates P. , 1990 , Mexico
- **U227** Bates P. , 1988 , Mexico
- **U228** Bates P. , 1990 , Mexico
- **U233** Johnson M. , 1988 , Mexico

- **U249** Brin R. , 1988 , Panama
- **U250** Brin R. , 1988 , Panama
- **U253** Harris M. , ~1987 , Mexico
- **U256** --- , 1989 , Mexico
- **U257** Brin R. , 1990 , Panama (or New Guinea?)
- **U258** ABS Seed Fund Director , 1990 , Mexico
- **U263** Wells S. , 1990 , Mexico
- **U286** --- , 1990 , Panama
- **U287** --- , 1991 , Panama
- **U332** --- , 1997 , Mexico
- **U333** --- , 1997 , Mexico
- **U434** --- , --- , Brazil (Honduras)
- **U443** Morris R. , 2003 , Mexico
- **udisilvertris** de Candolle C. , 1919 , Guatemala, Panama
- **urophylla** Hooker WJ. , 1855 , Guatemala, Colombia
- **urticae** Linnaeus f. , 1781 , Costa Rica, Venezuela
- **uruapensis var. uruapensis** Sesse & Mocino , 1890 , Mexico
- **velutina** Brongniart ex Neumann , 1844 , Mexico
- **velutina hort.** Berol ex Klotzsch , 1855 , Mexico
- **vestita** de Candolle C. , 1908 , Panama
- **violifolia (misspelled violaefolia)** de Candolle A. , 1859 , Mexico
- **viscida** Ziesenhenné R. , 1969 , Mexico
- **wallichiana** Steudel , 1840 , Mexico