

VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

June 2017 - No. 40

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Our calendar:

June 27, 2017.

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of July 3.

July 6-8, 2017.

Gesneriad Society Convention Show. At the Hilton Omaha in Omaha, Nebraska. For more info: www.gesneriadsociety.org

Free stuff and how to get it!

2018 AVSA Show awards.

Best Robinson collections
1st place: \$200
2nd place: \$100

Write a review.

Write a review before ordering, good or bad, we'd like to know. Get a free plant added to order.

Enter our photo contest!

First prize \$50, Second prize \$10
Entry deadline July 1, 2017. See: www.violetbarn.com/contest

Contact us:

email. comments@violetbarn.com

mail. POB 9, Naples, NY 14512

phone. 585-374-8592
Mon. thru Sat., 12-5 pm ET

Our shop and glasshouse at:

7209 County Road 12
Naples, New York 14512
Open Tuesday-Saturday 12-5 pm

Are you a member?

Consider joining the African Violet



(Some of) What's "New":

Pearl Joy. A gorgeous plant! This is a wonderful mutation of 'Rob's Boolaroo' we acquired from a grower in Russia. Same sparkling sdbl. light pink blooms, heavily peppered with blue fantasy. Absolutely beautiful cream and seafoam-green, heavily variegated trailing foliage. A rare leaf chimera--heavy white variegation is stable regardless of environment and propagates true only by crown or tip cuttings. Semiminiature trailer.

Bullfight Gold. Beautiful variegated mutation of 'EK Bullfight'. Same double red stars, but over golden variegated foliage. A slower grower, but wow!

RS Dynasty. Large double pink stars with thick raspberry edging, then thinly edged in white. Medium green foliage. Standard.

Tie Dye. Beautiful rex begonia with deeply spiraled red leaves with green markings and heavily serrated edges. A favorite.

What's News:

Don't forget to enter our **photo contest!** Our January and March contests were so popular, we're doing it again! Entry deadline is July 1. For contest details and rules, and to view many of the past entries, see www.violetbarn.com/contest



AVSA Convention highlights. Olive just returned from this year's national convention show in Orlando. Since it meant flying to the show and shipping (or sending as baggage) plants, we had no showplants to enter and a small sales booth. We were pleased to see one of our trailing hybrids, 'Rob's Boolaroo' on the court of honor winning Best in Show! Congratulations to Kurt Jablonski for this spectacular entry.

To see some of the other beautiful entries, visit our '[facebook](#)' page. Next year's convention show is in Buffalo, NY, a mere two hour drive from us. We plan to have many entries and plants for sale!

This month's questions:

I purchased streps from you and are happy with them. One question. I have them under a flora light. The leaves are getting brown areas on them. The veins even turn brown on some. Would they be lacking something?

If light is very strong, streps sometimes will show more red on veins or on edges. The

Society of America. Sign up through our website and get a free plant! For more information, visit www.avsa.org

Has your collection grown far beyond violets? Consider joining the Gesneriad Society. For more info: www.gesneriadsociety.org

foliage may also be thicker, stiffer, and more brittle--you may also get more blooms. Some varieties seem to show this more than others.

If edges are dry and brown, this may be a symptom of root stress--either from dry periods or need of repotting and/or dividing. It's a good practice to repot your streps at least once each year, dividing crowded in the pot or rootbound. Don't overpot however, since streps don't like soggy feet in excessively large pots.

Some of the crowns I bought in April have taken root nicely and are moving along. However, a few of them are looking droopy and have no signs of roots on the bottom of the plant. Do you have any suggestions? I have them in a light AV mix with extra perlite and in a sandwich bag under florescent lights, like rooting a leaf cutting.

(Note, this was an international order necessitating removal of roots and soil). Your soil should be fine, as well as the use of the baggie and lights. It is very important that the base of the crown is firmly anchored in soil. Moisten the soil first, make a small hole or divot, then press the base of the crown into this. Firm the moist soil around the base by gently pinching soil around it. If the crown wobbles at all when you touch it, it won't root. Soil should be moist, not soggy or dry. Usually crowns will root within four weeks.

Use this same procedure when rooting large suckers, or crowns of trailing violets, or restarting violets for whatever reason.

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