


VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

November 2016 - No. 33

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Our calendar:

November 22, 2016.

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of December 5.

Winter shipping now applies!

Safe delivery on orders shipped after Nov 15 guaranteed only by *Express mail*.

Free stuff and how to get it!

2017 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.

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



New (lower) prices on standard chimeras!

We've lowered prices on a number of standard African violet chimeras, by 20% or more. This includes (shown left to right above) ['Ma's Incantation'](#), ['Ma's Tranquility'](#) and ['Queen's Dowry'](#). Other varieties have been discounted as well.

Because of their unusual nature and difficulty in propagation (they grow just as easily), chimeras can, admittedly, be a bit pricey. With that in mind, we're also offering a "seller's choice" option that includes at least 2 chimeras among the [10 different standard violets](#) package.

What's news:

Our apologies to those who were expecting to see us at this year's NY State AVS convention show. We were overwhelmed with work and shipping orders as well as being short-handed, so had to change our plans.

We did attend the Mid-Atlantic AVS convention show the following week, in Mount Laurel, New Jersey. Excellent show, with lots of gorgeous plants. Some of these plants can be seen on our [facebook](#) page.

This month's questions:

The leaves on my streptocarpus plants are turning light green and some yellow. A few of them have had the edges turn a purplish brown color. Do you have any idea of what can be causing this? These are being grown under lights (48" florescent) with the top of the pot being about 12" from the light, and they are on 13 hours a day. I switched from T12 to T8 bulbs about six months ago.

Sounds like they may be getting too much light. T8 bulbs are generally much brighter than the old-style T12. We also grow our streps further from the light, about 18" from pot rim to bulb. Too much light can cause the symptoms you describe, including the

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

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purplish color on the leaves. They'll tolerate this without dying (strels are really tough), and you'll get plenty of blooms, usually on shorter stems, but the bleached leaves can be a distraction.

We have had a hoya (unknown species) for years and years. It's a great plant, quite healthy. But we've never seen it bloom. We've moved it around, thinking it needed different lighting, fed it regularly, and repotted it as it grows. Yet no blooms. Is there some secret I'm missing?

Same rule of thumb as for other plants. If plant is growing and healthy, but not blooming, provide more light.

Without knowing the species, cannot say, but some simply take longer to mature and bloom (though typically not "years and years"). Most plants, hoyas included, also are helped when they have a period of cooler nights to encourage buds to form--this is why many plants tend to bloom best in spring and fall. If you have a cold, but bright, window, try growing it there. Also, special to hoyas, once blooming, never remove the flower bract--future blooms will appear from the same bract.

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