

# VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

August 2018 - No. 54

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## Our calendar:

### August 21, 2018.

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of August 27 .

### September 7-8, 2018

#### Ohio AVS Convention Show.

At Kingwood Center, in Mansfield.

For more info: [www.osavs.org](http://www.osavs.org)

## Free stuff and how to get it!

### 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](mailto: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 to public Wed-Sat, 12-5 pm

## If you're visiting...

Because of high volume of spring shipping, this year's national show, and the recent hot weather, there are fewer blooming plants on display in our shop than usual

## (Some of) What's New:



**Milk's Ten Cats.** Unique, one of a kind. Semidouble blue purple pansies over scalloped, medium green and white variegated, euonymous type chimera foliage. Semiminiature. A slower grower and difficult to propagate (why it's so rare), but one of the most beautiful, and different, plants you can grow. *Very limited number available.*

**AE Miss Perfection.** Bright fuchsia-pink sdbl. stars irregularly edged white and spotted purple fantasy. Medium green foliage. Standard.

**RM Vacation in Rome.** Large white semidouble stars with light blue fantasy speckling on pink thumbprints. Medium green foliage. Standard.

**RS Potpourri.** Large, fully double light lavender-pink stars heavily speckled and splashed with blue fantasy. Medium green foliage. Standard.

**Many more!** These are just *some* of the new varieties that have been listed in the past month.

## What's news:

Visit us at our sales booth at the Ohio State AVS Convention show in early September. A week earlier than it's usual dates. Kingwood is a beautiful place with lots of wonderful gardens to see. Even better when the violet show is in town!

## Inventory updates:

Our listing of standard African violets has recently been extensively updated. There are a number of new varieties, and many previously out of stock items have been relisted.

## This month's questions:

I growing three of your miniatures under florescent light. They all started to bud, but only 'Rob's Astro Zombie' produced a couple of beautiful flowers. 'Rob's Itchy Britches' curled up in a ball and died. 'Rob's Bad Bunny' just has pretty leaves. I watch the watering and fertilize, but help! Wrong varieties? I know they get enough light, my apartment is kept at 60 degrees, and they could get a draft from the AC. What should I do?

at this time of year. Always best to come prepared with a "shopping list" for this reason.

#### **Are you a member?**

Consider joining the African Violet Society of America. Sign up through [our](#) website and get a free plant! For more information on AVSA, visit [www.avsa.org](http://www.avsa.org)

Has your collection grown far beyond violets? Consider joining the Gesneriad Society. For more info: [www.gesneriadsociety.org](http://www.gesneriadsociety.org)

*Temperature might be an issue, since 60 degrees is definitely cool. At this temperature, plants will be very slow growing. Leaves will be a bit more brittle and center growth can be crowded. Though it shouldn't have died, this would explain why 'Rob's Itchy Britches' would be difficult ("curling up in a ball"). It's leaves are thick, and a bit wavy, and it's nature is to grow a bit tight--we consider it a lower light variety for the same reason. Cool temps will only make these traits more pronounced.*

*As for 'Rob's Bad Bunny', this is a small miniature variety with very heavily variegated foliage. Our guess is that it is even more variegated in your cool temperatures--perhaps even all, or mostly all, white. With so little green in the leaves, this would explain its lack of growth. See if you can moderate the temperatures around the plants to about 70 degrees. This should help.*

I am disappointed with my order. My Oxalis had cuttings taken off of the plant and you sent it to me. Why would you do that?

*We frequently prune plants. Sometimes, it's simply necessary to safely ship them, if they are too large to safely ship without breakage, or to fit within the dimensions of the packaging. Even if not shipped, though, most all of our plants are pruned, for proper appearance or growth, or for propagation purposes. In the case of the Oxalis, this would have been pruned even had we not shipped it. Do so produces a fuller plant by forcing it to branch. If this wasn't done, it would just produce a lot of weak, spindly, vertical growth--the same reason we trim any hedge, shrub, or tree. We do use these cuttings to propagate new plants, though this wasn't the case with your plant.*

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