

VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

February 2019 - No. 60

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Our calendar:

February 26, 2019

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of March 4.

February 21-24, 2019.

CT Flower & Garden Show.

Visit us at booths 800, 802. More info: ctflowershow.com

March 15-18, 2019.

Rochester GardenScape.

Visit us at booths 58,59. More info: rochesterflowershow.com

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.

Winter shipping now applies!

Safe delivery on orders shipped prior to April 1 guaranteed only by *Express mail*.

Contact us:

email. comments@violetbarn.com

mail. POB 9, Naples, NY 14512

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

(Some of) What's New:



AE Phaeton Son of Helios. Single to sdbl. white stars with red-purple thumbprints. Medium green foliage. Standard.

AE Pink Bunny. Double light orchid-pink blooms with light purple fantasy speckling and variable hints of white. Medium green foliage. Standard.

LE Arabesque. Unusual, ruffled, double pink stars, often mottled white, with purple fantasy streaking and speckling. Medium green, ruffled, foliage. Standard.

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

What's news:

Ohio State AVS Conention Show. Held the first week of September at the Kingwood Center in Mansfield, this show was of it's usual high quality, with many beautiful plants. The gardens and grounds were particularly nice this year as well--another reason to visit this show if you have a chance. We'll be posting photos on our 'facebook' page very soon.

Inventory updates:

After a very long wait, we are listing a very *limited* number of miniature sinningia for shipping. We intend to have a larger offering sometime next year. Until then, the listing, and quantities available, will be small.

This month's questions:

I have purchased a few African violets from you, and for the most part, they have done very well. Unfortunately, af few I have lost. I am very carefulla bout watering, that has been my most common mistake. I water only when the soil is dry on the top. I water with a dropper to prevent too much water at one time. The temp in the room is about 72. I am still losing plants and am very frustrated. Can you help?

Not sure what watering with a 'dropper' means, but guessing that this may be part of the problem. You want to water when the soil surface is dry, but water thoroughly. Enough

Our shop and glasshouse at:

7209 County Road 12
Naples, New York 14512

Open to public Wed-Sat, 12-5 pm

so that the water makes it down to the bottom part of the root ball, but not so much water that it pours out the bottom of the pot every time you water.

Good watering takes judgement and some skill and practice, like anything else. If kept too soggy, roots can be damaged or rot. If the soil is only surface watered, the roots will never grow deeper and develop. The goal is consistency and even moistness--never overly soggy nor dry.

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

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

I am trying to propagate my African violet. I followed the instructions you have on cutting the leaf. I put them in a plastic container with a lid. Yesterday I looked at them and the leaves were turning dark and wilted. Before placing them in the container I put a small amount of water in them. I also used root hormone if that makes a difference.

Rooting hormone is best used for very woody or difficult to root cuttings. You won't need rooting hormone to root African violet leaves, since they are very tender and it often does more harm than good. If the leaves were overhandled or stressed to begin with, or the soil was too wet (though this doesn't seem the case), you could see the same symptoms. Also, keep the container in a location with moderate temperature and light. Until the leaf roots, it doesn't need a lot of either. Again, this will take some practice to do well. I would try again without the rooting hormone and expect better results.

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