


VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

July 2020 - No. 77

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Our calendar:

July 14, 2020 .

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of July 20.

All of our spring shows have been cancelled. If all goes well, we will hope to see everyone at a show this fall or next spring.

Free stuff and how to get it!

2021 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
Naples, New York 14512

(Some of) What's New:



Bristol's Beach Bunny. Our latest streptocarpus hybrid. Lovely, sdbl. shell-pink blooms with deep pink lines from lighter throat. Compact foliage. Easy to grow and bloom.

OS Charm of Russia. Sdbl. to double pink stars with purple rays and fantasy. Medium green standard foliage. Chimera.

Much more! Check the website for all of the newest varieties.

What's News:

Yes, many of the shelves are bare....

Our continuing apologies for the very limited (or absence of) listings in the online catalog. Recent demand has been extreme, and it takes us anywhere from three to nine months or more to grow plants to shippable size. We continue to add plants to the site as they become available. They never seem to last long.

Our policy is to list only what we actually have available for shipping--if you see it, we have it. If you order it, you'll get it--no substitutes (on a rare occasion we'll make an inventory mistake, or a listed plant will die or become unshippable). So if you don't see it, come back to the site later and look again. It will reappear as we have more.

New pots.

Plants that we had grown and shipped in 2" round, white plastic pots are now being grown in 2" square black pots. We were increasingly unhappy with the quality of the 3 oz. bathroom cups that we had long used as the small pots, so decided to make the change. The 2" square pots hold about the same soil volume and are more sturdy and durable (reusable).

Inventory updates.

Mini chimeras will return to inventory in another week and are in good supply. If they haven't already, **episcia** will be again listed very soon but, based upon the last time they were listed, may not last long. **Trailing** violets will be fully stocked in the coming week.

This month's question

Sorry, our shop is closed to visitors at this time.

Place an order for pickup!

For those living locally, we are offering [pickup service](#). Save on shipping, and we'll have your plants waiting for you.

I received my violets from you in fantastic condition. I'm wondering if you can help me figure out why I'm starting to get browning of leaves and buds. I think it's too much light but I may be incorrect. They have been in a southern window, but there is a patio outside with a translucent roof so it blocks most of the direct sunlight until early evening.

It may be too much light, but the plants look fine otherwise (a photo was shown). The plant is heavily variegated, which means the white portions of the leaves are more easily bruised or damaged by almost anything. Heat, dryness, or intense light can all cause browning.

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, visit www.avsa.org

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

Update received a week later: Thanks for getting back to me. I moved them farther back from the window and they are doing better. That bud is starting to open and so are the other ones.

On my episcia, if I cut of the stolons, how can that increase the number of flowers, when the stolons produce flowers? Just wondering how many stolons should be removed. Is there a rule of thumb, like half the stolons or a quarter of the stolons?

There is no hard and fast rule, and a lot depends upon the appearance you want. If you prefer a fuller plant with more foliage (and smaller leaves), and a spreading, or cascading, appearance, let it grow more leaves and stolons. You won't see many blooms when grown this way, though. If you want more blooms, limit the number of stolons. Episcia are actually very good bloomers when they don't have a choice.

It's a difficult decision with episcia, since their beautiful leaves are often why we grow them to begin with. But doesn't everyone want flowers too? Our practice is to remove most stolons until the main crown develops and begins to bloom, then let stolons appear, letting them mature before letting them produce stolons, and so on. If we're lazy or neglectful, we'll find they've grown more than we intended--no harm there, they'll still look fine.

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