

VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

June 2020 - No. 88

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Our calendar:

July 6, 2021 .

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of July 12.

All of our shows have been cancelled thru 2021. If all goes well, we will hope to see everyone at a show in 2022.

At this time all orders are guaranteed by any means of shipping (i.e. priority mail).

Free stuff and how to get it!

2022 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.

Join AVSA.

See further below in this column.

(Some of) What's New:



Ma's Tiger Tiger. Just introduced at the recent AVSA convention, our latest standard variety is now available to everyone. Semidouble fringed bright fuchsia-red blooms. Dark green and white to pink TL variegated foliage. Presently only in very limited supply, we expect to have more available in early July.

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

What's News:

Gesneriad Society Convention. We would normally be attending this show in person but will be doing so "virtually" this year. The convention is being held online June 29 - July 3. Though the show is open only to members, everyone is invited to participate in the convention. There will be six international speakers, programs for those new to gesneriads, and more. For more information, and to register, visit this page:

<https://gesneriadsociety.org/conventions/2021-convention/>

Special "convention" offer!

To encourage more people to grow gesneriads (African violet 'relatives'), we are offering 20% cash back on all sales of [Codonanthe](#) and [Nematanthus](#) made during the week of the convention (June 29-July 3). You will receive a coupon good for 20% of the value of these items, which can be redeemed on any future order made before July 2022.



Inventory update.

Saintpaulia species have been restocked and most are in plentiful supply at this time. For those new to the species, we have a "[seller's choice](#)" offer to get your collection started.

This month's questions

I have a question about one of the violets I got from the Violet Barn. It has spots on its leaves. They've been there almost from the start on one of the leaves, and now seems to be spreading. I cut the spot off one of the leaves. I have both my violets on wick pots with African violet soil that I added lots of perlite to. I have been very careful not to get

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Our shop and glasshouse at:
7209 County Road 12
Naples, New York 14512

Open to public Sundays 12-5 pm
Please call ahead for appt.

Place an order for pickup!

For those living locally, we offer pickup service. Save on shipping and we'll have your plants waiting for you.

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

water on the leaves. Attached are photos. Please let me know what it might be and what I can do.

Your soil does appear wet, but does have lots of perlite, which is good. The pot also is a bit too large for the plant at the moment, at least until it grows into it. This will keep the soil even wetter, since there is more water in the soil than the relatively small root system can use. It otherwise looks very healthy.

The spotting appears to be from water on the leaves. Though you don't water from above and are careful not to wet the leaves, it's likely that there has been condensation on the leaves. This is one of the drawbacks of keeping the soil very wet, which wicking does. Much like the morning dew on grass, humidity or dampness can condense on your violet's leaves, especially edges, then can mark them when the temperature changes. This appears to be what happened here. The good news is that these marks alone should not affect the health of the plant.

I have a question about my streptocarpus. I bought a number of them last fall. As they got bigger, I repotted them a few months ago. They were all doing well but two of them have suddenly become wilted. The leaves are just laying over the side of the pot, with no rigidity at all. They are still green. I have never let them sit in water or bright sun. They've been like this for a few weeks. The soil is just slightly damp. The others along side them are fine.

We are guessing that at some point, after repotting, they were overwatered, especially if the soil was not light enough (with lots of perlite) or the pot was substantially larger than the root system. This is easy to do just after repotting, and streps are more sensitive than other plants to this. When put into a larger pot, the volume of soil, and water, can be much more than the root system can initially process. Once new roots begin to grow into the added soil, this will be less of a concern. Until then, it is easy to damage the finer roots, reducing the size of the root system, making it easier to overwater, damaging more roots, and so on. Careful, moderate, watering, from the top, is best just after a plant has been repotted.