


VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

May 2023 - No. 111

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Our calendar:

May 30, 2023

International orders must be received by this date for shipment week of June 5.

June 1-3, 2023

AVSA Convention Show

National show and sale held in Atlanta, GA. Visit AVSA website for details: www.avsa.org

November 5, 2023

Display and sale at our shop, all are welcome. Exhibition plants and much for sale.

We want you to succeed!

Plant not growing well? Don't wait until it's too late. Send us a photo and an outline of care and environment. You are not alone--perhaps we can help.

Having success?

Let us know and share your story.

Free stuff and how to get it!

2023 AVSA Show awards.

Best Robinson collections

1st place: \$200

2nd place: \$100

(Some of) What's New:



K's Sweet Silas. Exclusive to the Violet Barn, this is the latest new introduction from Kathy Hajner. Semidouble periwinkle blue pansies with white reverse fantasy. Medium green, white, and cream, quilted, TL variegated standard foliage.

Check the website for all of the newest varieties.

What's news:

Very sorry, but we will not be able to attend the AVSA convention this year. We do hope to attend at least one of the fall shows. However.....

Violet "Fun-time" display and sale!

We are making plans and preparing plants for this event at our shop November 5. Many plants are being grown for exhibition ("show" plants), both large (standard violets and streptocarpus) and small (miniatures) will be displayed. For those who have seen our display booths in past flower and garden shows, the display will be similar.

All display plants will be for sale, as well as other plants we will be setting aside for sale on that day. Free advice (if requested) and refreshments also provided.

We've been closed to the public for much of the time since the onset of Covid, despite receiving daily requests to visit. We're hoping to make your wait worthwhile. Make plans to visit on that day, if you can. For those than cannot, we hope do a video tour of the display that will be posted for viewing.

If you do plan on attending, let us know (comments@violetbarn.com) so we can plan accordingly. More details and updates to appear on the website and forthcoming newsletters.

Inventory

For those that have been asking about kohleria and sinningia, our apologies. We are only now beginning to work on our stock of these items. We hope to have them available for shipping by late summer or early fall.

Write a review.

Write a review on product pages before ordering. Get a free plant added to order.

Join AVSA.

See further below in this column.

Contact us:

email. comments@violetbarn.com

mail. POB 9, Naples, NY 14512

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

Sorry, shop is closed to visitors at this time.

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

This month's questions

I am the happy owner of '[Rob's Combustible Pigeon](#)', which I have had since 2015. Please tell me what causes leaves from its new plants to turn pink?

This variety has "crown" (or "Champion") variegation, where the variegation (white, yellow, pink or beige) appears from the center, or crown, of the plant, then typically becomes less, or greener, on lower or older leaves. It is in the genetic makeup of this plant, and will appear, more or less, depending upon environment or plant age.

Typically, variegation will be greater when grown under cooler condions, and less when grown warm. As the description above implies, variegation will also be greatest on newer growth (younger leaves in center). If temperatures aren't too warm, and you have good light, more "pink" can appear in the variegation. For us, this particular variety, in the course of its life, and through the seasons (conditions in our growing areas do vary a bit), leaves can appear as shades of green, white, yellow, cream, pink, or beige or combinations of. Growing in moderate temperatures (65-75f) and good light bring out the best colors. It's a beautiful plant even when not in bloom.

When propagating, you might use leaves that appear all, or mostly, green. As plantlets appear, they will express the variegation, sometimes very strongly. If too variegated, you may need to wait a bit longer for plantlets to develop and show a bit of green before potting up.

I'm loving the mini trailing violet my son sent me from the Violet Barn two years ago, it's never stopped being covered in blooms. I have taken leaf cuttings and I need to know if I should leave the "parent" leaf attached when potting up the new plant. I'm thinking to leave it on until the new plant has established itself in the new pot. I'd like to know if this is the best option.

Once the plantlet has grown large enough for you to want to pot it, you can remove the parent leaf. It has served its purpose. For that matter, the plantlet can be potted with neither the parent leaf attached nor any roots. So long as the plantlet has a viable growing center (you can see tiny beginnings of new leaves in very tip/center), it can survive and grow on its own. To protect very young, or small, plantlets while they develop, we place them under, clear, protective cover for about 4 weeks after potting them--a plastic food container or baggie will work.