New Rieger begonia has super-sized blooms



THE SPECTACULAR Schwabenland Rieger begonia with is luxuriant foliage and super-sized flowers is becoming more available and popular in this country.



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Nothing warms a flower lover's heart so much as the introduction of a new, larger version of an old favorite. And, if it takes a bit of sleuthing to track it down, so much the better.

track it down, so much the better. There is something to be said for being the first on your block to display a begoin plant of the outstanding new Rieger variety. With its humain foliage and super-sized flowers, the Rieger is the begonia-fancier's counterpart to the gardener's three-pound tomato.

Developed by the German firm of Otto Rieger and introduced to the U.S. in 1972 by an Ohio firm, the Rieger begonia is available in everincreasing supply at florists and nurseries, according to the Society of American Florists.

A FIBROUS ROOTED begonia that rivals the showy tuberous rooted be-gonia, the Rieger comes in an upright multi-stemmed form (Schwabenland) and a single-stemmed form (Aphro-

dite). While the Aphrodite is recommend-ed for use in hanging baskets, the Schwabenland potted plants have rap-idly become highly lavored because of their heavy-blooming and striking colors, including a glorious red, as well as pinks, oranges and rose.

Home&Garden

resistant to powdery mildew, a prob-lem that has discouraged U.S. produc-tion of large flowering begonias for many years.

LIKE ALL BEGONIAS, the Rieger is a shade lover and should be protected from summer sun. Let the soil become dry between waterings, and water potted plants thoroughly to flush out saits that can accumulate in the soil.

Although resistant to mildew, care should be taken to avoid wetting the foliage of the Rieger begonia when watering. Kept the plant in a cool (68-70 degrees), well-ventilated, dry area.

WHEN A POTTED plank, outgrows its pot and seems near the bad of a blooming-cycle, it can be renewed by pruning and reporting. Let the son-lary for a period of seven to ten days; then, cut the main shoots back to three to four inches, using a sharp knife or razor plade.

Water the plant sparingly until the

ELM BEATLE.

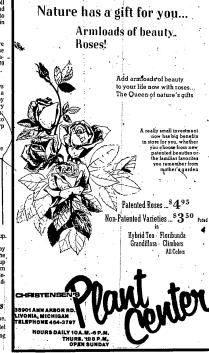
This small beaths of olive green color with indistinct black stripes on wing devers appears in homes at this time of year. They ear nothing, but are a nuisance. They migrate from the elm trees to find sheller in the fall. This time of year they are moving to the outside to June.

Wider stud spacing saves on additions

When adding new space to your home or partitioning an attic or basement, space those wall stude at 14 inches instead of the traditional 16 codes. Check with your local building inches instead of the traditional 16 codes.

pruning wounds heal; then, repot in a larger container, planting the soil ball of the plant lant one-fourth inch to one-half inch above the new soil line. Once the cut has entirely healed, begin regular watering and apply a

light solution of ,fertilizer weekly. In three to four moiths your Rieger be-sonia, will be in full bloom again. Visitors to Burupe this summer will see the Rieger begonia e everywhere, in lwindow boxes, as bedding thants and as bright flowering plants in the bome, says SAF. As the Rieger be-comes more widely available in the U.S., this plant can be expected to brighten many American homes





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