

Kentucky Garden Flowers

Begonia

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Begonia – Begonia

Begonia x hybrida – Angel Wing Begonia – ‘Dragon Wing’TM

Flower Color	Height	Season	Pests	Uses	Propagation
rose red, pink	10"-24"	May - October	few	planters, borders	seeds, stem cuttings

Performance - A new begonia type that performs well in containers, hanging baskets and gardens. Trials in the summer of 2000 at the UK Horticulture Research Farm show this plant to be well adapted for Kentucky gardens.



‘Dragon Wing’ Angel Wing Begonia

Begonia x semperflorens-cultorum - Bedding Begonia, Wax Plant, Wax Begonia

Flower Color	Height	Season	Pests	Uses	Propagation
white, red or pink	6"-16"	May - October	stem rot, powdery mildew	planters, low edging, bedding, borders	seeds, stem cuttings

Performance - Bedding begonias are one of the best performing annuals grown in Kentucky gardens. They are a standard for commercial landscapes because of the strong colors and ease of maintenance. These plants will bloom all season until the first hard frost. Begonias perform well in shade and partial shade, but also grow well in full sun. The only common problems occur when gardeners do not give

these plants enough water and fertilizer when planted in full sun. Begonias are valued for their profuse bloom and low maintenance.

Comments - Plants can be purchased with green leaves or bronze-green leaves. Cultivars with bronze-green leaves seem to perform best in full sun. There is also a group of begonias that is larger-sized for landscapes. Seeds are difficult to germinate because of their very small size and need for precise germination conditions. Most commercial greenhouses buy the plants as plugs from specialty propagators. It is best for homeowners to purchase plants from a garden store but if you are determined to grow you own, start seeds by scattering them on the surface of a moist growing medium.

Varieties - 'Cocktail' series (the most commonly used cultivars), 'Bingo' series, 'Harmony' series, 'Senator' series, 'Ambassador' series, 'Prelude' series, 'Super Olympia' series, 'Victory' series, 'Party' series



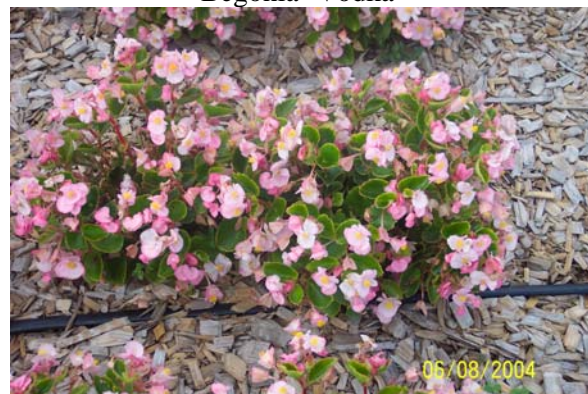
Begonia 'Gin'



Begonia 'Vodka'



Begonia 'Bayou'



Begonia 'Hot Tip Pink'

***Begonia x tuberhybrida* - Tuberous Begonia**

Flower Color	Height	Season	Pests	Uses	Propagation
white, red, orange, yellow, salmon, pink	6"- 24"	May - October	stem rot, occasionally powdery mildew	containers, bedding, borders	seeds, tubers

Performance - Tuberous begonias are showy garden or container plants. The flowers are large and have bright clear colors; the flowers are typically double so they make a spectacular display. Unfortunately, they prefer conditions generally cooler than Kentucky summers. Thus they require excellent care in the home garden or patio. Plants should be grown in partial shade or full shade in gardens or containers. Garden soil should be amended with organic matter for tuberous begonias; in containers keep plants on the dry side.

Comments - Older varieties are grown from tubers that are started indoors in early spring. These tubers are available at various garden stores or mail order catalogs. Seed propagated varieties appeared in the early 1980s and now dominate as the source for tuberous begonias. Tuberous begonias are generally grown as annuals, but the tubers of the traditional varieties and tubers of the seed propagated varieties can be stored over winter and started again the following spring.

Varieties - 'Nonstop' series, 'Panorama' series, 'Ornament' series, 'Charisma' series, 'Pin-up' series (bicolors)



Begonia 'Nonstop'

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