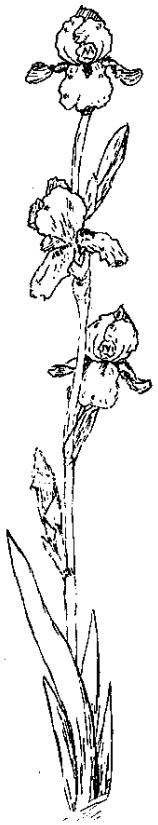


# THE REBLOOMING IRIS REPORTER

## Objectives



To breed an improved assortment of reblooming irises, as to beauty, dependability and usefulness.

To promote a better understanding of their cultural needs.

To extend their geographical range.

To educate the public about such range, regarding varieties currently on the market.

To inspire and encourage beginners in this field of interest.

To spearhead research about rebloomers.

To cooperate with A.I.S. officers and committees in the registration, introduction, honoring, and exhibition of this class of irises.

To supply the AIS Bulletin with articles and quotations deemed of interest to its readers.

To supplement the A.I.S. Bulletin by publishing data of interest chiefly to researchers in this field and to members of AIS Reblooming Iris Robins.

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Varieties { A B C

No. 2

JULY 1962



YOU  
ARE  
INVITED



GET  
OUT  
TWEEZERS

### *Polar Flame*

A cool climate rebloomer need not have poor form, muddy color, veined hafts or weak stems. Flame-colored POLAR FLAME has none of these faults. In early fall, when all rebloomers should be judged, it is 20 to 24" tall. It is a proven parent of rebloomers in southern Indiana.

### *The Cast*

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Published twice a year, January and July, in Staten Island, N.Y., as a non-profit educational project under the direction of the Editor.

## *An Arilbred Breeding Program* *for* *New and Different Rebloomers* *by David J. Flesh*

In the past few years many excellent hybridizers have done extensive work with the reblooming iris category, their efforts having borne fruit in improved rebloomers of increased useful climate range, better colors, more vigor and hardiness, better flowering habit, and, best of all, quite fertile, so capable of further use in advanced breeding programs.

The Sass Brothers worked with reblooming iris for many years and produced some good ones, but they followed a varied program not aimed at reblooming iris exclusively, and did not specialize. Today, fine hybridizers such as Dr. Percy Brown, Edwin Rundlett and Raymond G. Smith, and others, have very large programs dedicated specifically to the production of better repeat bloomers, so that we may enjoy the full beauty of our iris in bloom more than just once each season.

Being more or less a neophyte, and having an inquisitive mind, plus a keen interest in observing all events which transpire in our gardens, I noticed that certain iris of Aril or Arilbred origin would repeat their blooming periods here in eastern Texas. I also observed that these iris had some highly desirable characteristics, such as broad falls, firm substance, great vigor, and very unusual color patterns, plus wide, lacy style arms, and huge, thick beards of startling appearance. Some sport showy, contrasting signals on the falls. It also was apparent that those which were well known to be fertile, such as the Clarence G. White, 44-chromosome amphidiploids, plus their derivatives and compatible contemporaries, could very easily be crossed with the usual 48-chromosome, tall bearded tetraploids, as well as with other reblooming iris in this same category.

This was a tempting challenge, so a few early crosses were made using pollens from JOPPA PARROT, BALI AGHA, BLACK JOPPA, IMAM SALAH and KALIFA HIRFA, directly upon the stigmas of proven reblooming tetraploids, such as MISHAWAKA, AUTUMN TWILIGHT, POLAR KING, WHITE ALONE, GIBSON GIRL, NAPPANEE, POTTAWATOMI, and others, including in this first experiment a few tangerine-bearded pinks, such as BEAU CATCHER, MEMORIES, FANTASY and HAPPY BIRTHDAY. Many of these early crosses failed to set pods. Some pods contained few seeds, and the progeny failed to show much of the desired Arilbred character, appearing predominantly tall bearded in both looks and growth habit. One or two rather muddy-looking seedlings rebloomed, but were not considered of any great importance, so were set aside and almost forgotten.

We then began to look carefully for those reblooming iris which seemed to have a strong affinity for Arilbred pollen, as we had noted that these gave large, firm pods and plentiful seed harvests, and that the seeds were easy to germinate under natural planting conditions in the open garden beds. Having acquired SLICK CHICK, a white "child" of LADY MOHR, we noted that it not only rebloomed heavily, but was fertile both ways in either Arilbred or TB crosses. SLICK CHICK, as a garden flower, is not impressive, but it has good branching, cold hardiness, great vigor of increase, and it does rebloom easily here. So we began to use it in our program.

We also started crossing the pollens from proven TB rebloomers,

directly on the stigmas of the Clarence G. White, 44-chromosome, Arilbred "breeders' iris", with better success than that of the reverse crosses, especially as to the resulting progeny, which showed a higher degree of Arilbred character, plus a somewhat increased tendency to rebloom, though none of these had the full perfection of form, substance, or multiple branching which we desired. We saved a few out of this second series, set them aside, and tried a third approach, involving, as mentioned above, SLICK CHICK and GENEROUS, a huge Arilbred beauty of Tell Muhlstein, which sometimes reblooms here, using these with CGW 44-chromosome things, and with our own seedlings from both previous lines.

Now things began to happen, and it is believed that another year or two of line-breeding some carefully selected seedlings, will produce the excellent results which were our original goal. I have confidence in it. We have seed pods of huge size ripening in the sun, from many crosses involving this line of breeding. There are seedlings in the seed beds due to bloom in the spring of 1963, and the expectation grows keener all the time.

I told my good friend, Edwin, that this program was far from complete, but since it did offer some entirely new possibilities, and had shown enough encouragement to indicate merit, it could be presented in the Reblooming Iris Reporter to stimulate interest, allow others to participate, while the whole matter was still in its infancy, and that this would be of benefit to all concerned. It is something new and different, and is "wide open", so come on in; the more the merrier.

These CGW 44-chromosome iris have repeated here this season, reblooming on the same clumps which carried heavy seed pods: BLACK JOPPA and KALIFA HIRFA plus Gene Sundt's #5631 -J, the latter from Gene's ARDRUN-ARDIMAC line of seedlings. SLICK CHICK has already bloomed twice and will soon bloom again. The Oncogelias, CLARA, LUTETIA and DARDANUS have made scattering second bloom, before digging them to be cured for shipment. The TB rebloomers, AUTUMN TWILIGHT and ORCHID and FLAME have repeated. Most of our clumps all over the garden look in excellent shape, and it should be a very busy fall season here.

Henry Moore, Jr., of Karnack, Texas, has large seed pods from WESTERN HILLS X KALIFA GULNARE, and also from KALIFA GULNARE X WESTERN HILLS, so you can see that these are interfertile, as are many other crosses of this type. Bill Webster, Gardena, Calif., reports a whole series of seedlings which rebloom several times a season for him, using one of his own seedlings "ABIGAIL", as pod parent, and using IMAM SALAH as the pollen parent. "ABIGAIL" is (SNOW FLURRY X CALIFORNIA PINK), and is a pearly pastel pink with mauve-violet beard. We acquired it last fall (1961) and it bloomed heavily this spring of 1962. Now we will await fall blooming.

The writer will be glad to answer questions or give help to anyone interested in this program, but has no un-named seedlings or other material to release at this time, believing that anything good enough to distribute, is good enough to deserve registration.

A list of suggested parents for this type of breeding program can be included, but this does not even begin to cover all of the possibilities involved, as we continue to test new approaches every season. There are others, among the rebloomers, and even among standard TB iris, which are not normally rebloomers, that can be used with Arilbred pollens, among these: CHARMALIZE, SNOW FLURRY, CALIFORNIA PINK, PAGAN PRINCESS, AUTUMN PRINCESS and BALL GOWN, possibly many more, which have

a high degree of compatability with Arilbreds.

The Clarence G. White, 44-chromosome Arilbreds, are interfertile with the following Oncogelias, which have reblooming tendencies: CLARA, LUTETIA and DARDANUS; possibly using SYLPHIDE as another parent in this category.

#### SUGGESTED PARENTS

##### POLLEN PARENTS

\*KALIFA HIRFA  
 \*KALIFA GULNARE  
 KALIFA BALTIS  
 JOPPA PARROT  
 BLACK JOPPA  
 BALI AGHA  
 \*AHMED AGA  
 \*IMAM SALAH  
 \*SLICK CHICK  
 \*GENEROUS  
 \*BEISAN AGA

The rebloomers marked by (\*) in the right-hand column.

KING HENRY  
 \*IMAM AHMID  
 \*CHENIK AGA  
 \*TATAI PASHA

##### POD PARENTS

FALL PRIMROSE  
 \*SLICK CHICK  
 \*GENEROUS  
 \*VIVEZA  
 BEAU CATCHER  
 MEMORIES  
 \*HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
 \*MISHAWAKA  
 \*POLAR KING  
 \*WESTERN HILLS  
 \*WHITE ALONE  
 \*JULY BEAUTY  
 \*SUMMER SURPRISE  
 \*SEPTEMBER SPARKLER  
 \*GIBSON GIRL

The Arilbreds marked by (\*) in the left-hand column  
 \*DOUBLE DUTY  
 \*DOUBLE DATE

These should give any ambitious hybridizer more than enough material to keep busy, but write for more data if other suggestions are needed. We wish everyone happy gardening and successful hybridizing. May your fondest dreams materialize in your seedlings.

\*\*\*

Ed.- David Flesh, besides being an ardent hybridizer on the Reporter editorial staff, is an AIS Judge and a Consulting Oil Well Engineer. His mail address is Box 491, Jefferson, Texas.

## *Money Matters*

Indeed it does. Our first issue was a bit skimpy from lack of it. This one is a bit better, thanks to new subscribers and to purchasers of rhizomes of POLAR FLAME. Fortunately rebloomers increase faster than most irises. Therefore a few are left for sale this year. Not many. Free copies of "The Reporter" to robin members will cease with this issue, our belief being that deserving people are willing to pay the nominal subscription charge. Be a booster. Bring in subscriptions. Send in data.

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All are urged to read the excellent article on the oldest rebloomer, Iris subbiflora (syn. I. biflora L.) by Dr. Lenz in April AIS Bulletin.  
 Ed.

VARIETY 1961	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
JULY BEAUTY divided summer 60	mff	moved										
LADY MOHR	mff	mff	59d									
LADY MOON divided summer 59	mff	mff					6dd					
LT. DE CHAVAGNAC new summer 1960	mff	mff			moved to report sun							
'LINA BETH new summer 1960	mff	mff										
MARY McCLELLAN new clump Jan. 1961	f											
MASTER NEIL new summer 1959	mff	mff										
OCTOBER SHADOWS to new fall 1960	mff	mff										
PEARL ORIENTAL divided summer 60	mff	mff										
PINK LACE divided summer 60	mff	mff										
POLAR KING divided summer 60	mff	mff										
SANGREAL divided summer 59	mff	mff										
SLICK CHICK new summer 1959	mff	mff										
TECHNICOLOR new summer 1959	mff	mff										
TWO FOR TEA	mff	mff										
TOURNAMENT QUEEN divided summer 59	mff	mff										
WITCH DOCTOR new summer 1960	mff	mff										

## Chart of Rebloomers — Los Angeles Area

Those who read the Number 1 issue of the "Reporter" doubtless noticed that the varieties in my record chart ran from A to G only. They probably wondered about the rest. Space limitations barred the printing of both charts that had been prepared. In fairness to readers living in climates not too different from mine, the Editor now has added the rest. Explanation and climate data are repeated for your convenience.

The thin vertical lines indicate weeks; the heavier ones months. Solid horizontal bars indicate good blooming, while hatched bars indicate only a stalk at a time. Probably a fertilizing in the spring would have been beneficial.

D -- Divided. Steer manure, humus and bone meal dug into the soil.

1/2D -- Some of the variety left undivided.

m -- Mulched with chopped fir bark and vermiculite between the rhizomes.

F -- Fertilized with steer manure slightly scratched into the surface.

f -- Fertilized with an all-purpose commercial mix, bone meal, potassium sulfate, a small amount of epsom salts and a trace element mix.

d -- The bloom is on a recently divided rhizome.

p -- The stalk was picked off because of too recent div. & no increase.

Pacific Palisades is a far west portion of the city of Los Angeles. The garden is on a flat "palisade" about 200 feet above sea level within hearing distance of the surf. In spring and early summer there may be long periods of coastal fog, while in the fall and winter we are subject to desiccating desert winds. Watering must be adjusted to conditions. The temperature gets down to freezing once every few years, and we rarely have more than a few days of heat over 80 degrees. Our few drops of rain water occur anytime between October and April. Obviously varieties of iris cannot be expected to perform in more rigorous climates as they do here. The amazing thing is that so many rebloom in so many places under a wide variety of conditions.

(Mrs. Daniel I.) Nancy Axelrod, Pacific Palisades, Calif.

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## Cover Design

There have been questions about the artistry of our cover. Granted that it is a bit futuristic, yet we are proud of it and of the artist, Fred Nacke, Richland, Washington. He's modest, so leaves it to me. Let's start at the lower left corner. Varieties A, B, C might be any series of rebloomers, the more the merrier. You will notice that the cross-hatching shows them as blooming at various times of the year, every month having some iris variety in bloom, often more than one. There is a little fantasy displayed too. Notice that, if colored, the border would be a formalized rainbow with a pot of gold in the lower right corner.

Zerah May Brummett of El Paso, is going to be surprised to find her award vase displayed so widely. See the cover of the January 1961 AIS Bulletin. We are going to fill numerous vases and garden beds with reblooming iris of all shades of the rainbow and, where climate permits, in all months of the year. The rest of the cover speaks for itself.

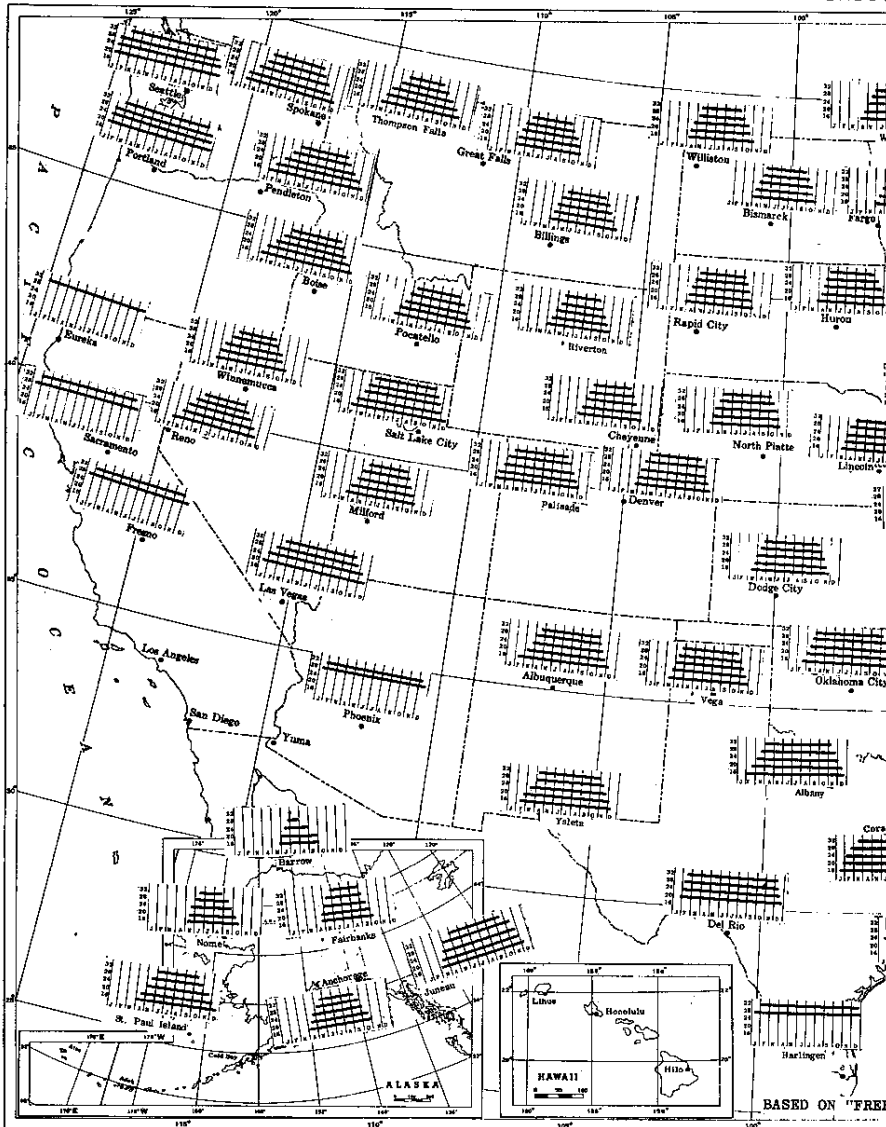
Ye Editor.

P.S.

Fred wrote in a robin letter, "SUNDROPS is my most reliable rebloomer"

## Editorial

MEAN LENGTH OF PERIOD BETWEEN LAST IN SPRING AND FIRST  
For Select



As Division Chairman of A.I.S. Reblooming Iris Robins, nearly all such robin letters pass over your editor's desk. The several hundred letters involved disclose much enthusiasm in many places; also the existence of some problems and frustrations. It is the latter that call for continued effort and for improved cooperation among all who are interested in furthering the announced objectives.

Climates vary so much across the country and around the world, that iris varieties claimed to be dependable rebloomers (remontants) in some important areas, are condemned as dependable in others. One of our chief efforts will continue to be the segregation of varieties to fit specific climates so that home gardeners can enjoy expected results. Money losses from buying as rebloomers iris that prove to be spring-only performers, or from investing in "duds in the stud", really hurt.

By "duds in the stud" is meant varieties in the Intermediate class (T.B. X Dwarf). These, especially chamaeiris hybrids, occasionally are good rebloomers, but usually they reproduce poorly, or what they do produce will not rebloom. Pumila hybrids have also been disappointing as rebloomer parents. There is need for more chromosome counting in the Intermediate class to separate varieties which are just shorter or earlier than usual, from those that are genetic "mules". This technique is for college-trained specialists only. Breeding Dwarf rebloomers continues to be difficult. Chromosome counting and study of pairing behavior might help in this field too. The Tall Bearded (not too tall) and Border iris classes offer fastest progress. As pointed out by David Flesh in his excellent article in this issue, interspecies hybridizing offers a fascinating challenge.

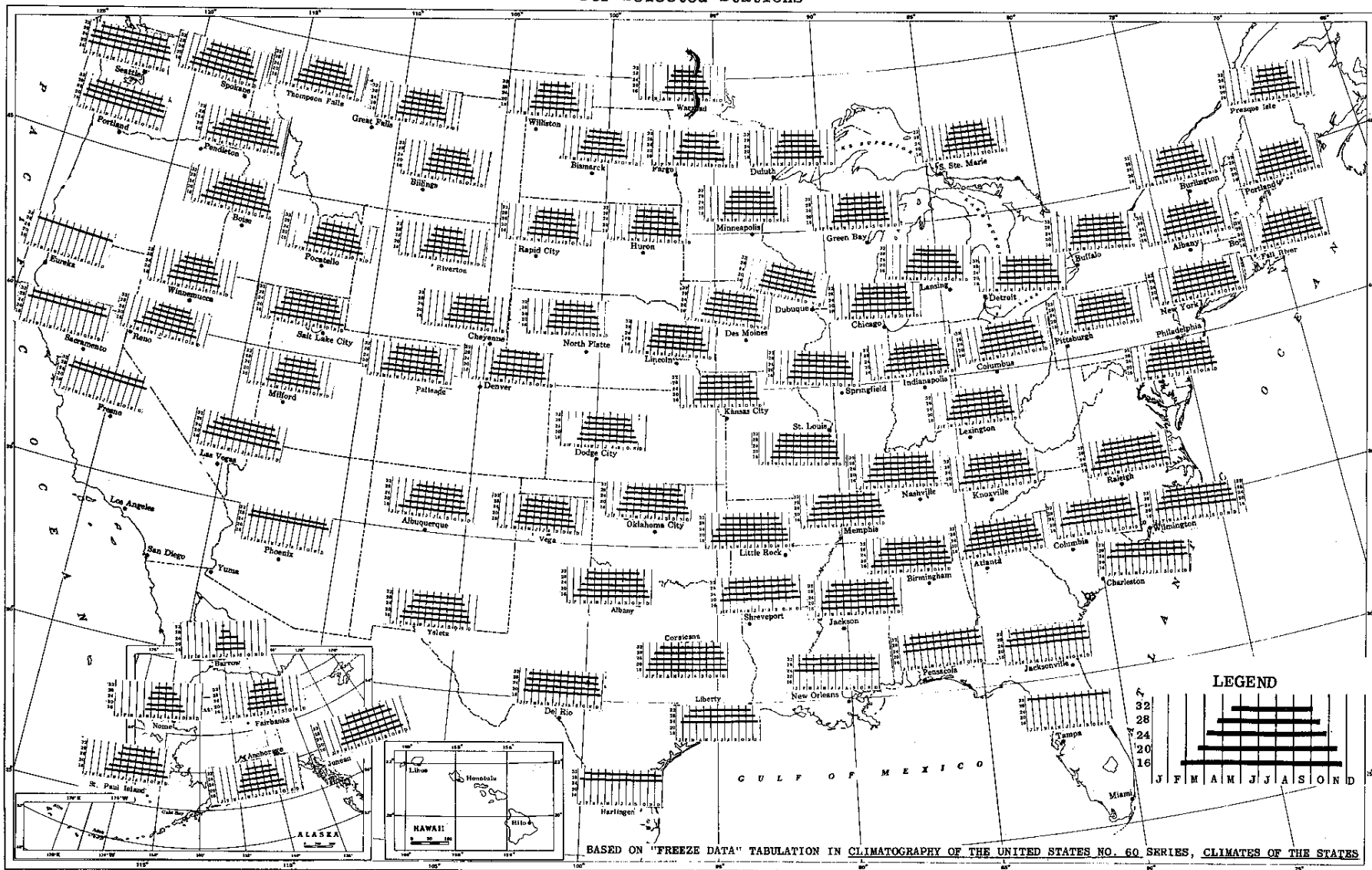
Another problem that confuses many people is the proper definition of "Rebloomer". This is most acute where winters are mildest. In such places standard tall bearded often bloom in winter and spring, but hot weather hinders or prevents late summer or early autumn flowering, the very period when most rebloomer "fans" are clamoring for performance. Another complication is that some people wrongly call an iris a rebloomer if it flowers in the autumn, regardless of whether it has flowered the previous spring. It must do both to qualify.

Here is another wrinkle. A warm climate dealer ships an iris to a much colder climate in July or August. It proceeds to bloom in September or October of that same season. This does not assure that this variety is a "real" rebloomer for the colder climate. From then on most likely it will perform only in the spring, or even succumb from winter injury. It's autumn bloomstalk had been initiated in embryonic form before shipment from the south or far west. Longer testing would be needed to tell of its qualification as a rebloomer.

The matter of defining "Rebloomer" is still under discussion by the Climate Study Committee consisting of (besides the Editor) Dr. Jesse W. Collier, RVP, Texas, David J. Flesh, Texas and Grant Merrill, California. Still others have been consulted. The following version comes nearest to full acceptance. "Any bearded iris is a rebloomer if it has two or more distinctly separate periods of bloom between the average date of the last 32-degree freeze in spring and the first 32-degree freeze in autumn, as reported by the U.S. Weather Bureau or the State Climatologist for that location. It will be deemed worthy of being labeled a rebloomer for that particular climate if it does so for two successive calendar

(continued on page 24)

MEAN LENGTH OF PERIOD BETWEEN LAST IN SPRING AND FIRST IN AUTUMN OF 32°F, 28°F, 24°F, 20°F, and 16°F, RESPECTIVELY  
For Selected Stations



MEAN DATE OF LAST 32°F. TEMPERATURE IN SPRING, FIRST 32°F. IN AUTUMN,  
AND MEAN LENGTH OF FREEZE-FREE PERIOD (Days)

State and Station	Mean date last 32°F. in spring	Mean date first 32°F. in fall	Mean freeze-free period (no. days)	State and Station	Mean date last 32°F. in spring	Mean date first 32°F. in fall	Mean freeze-free period (no. days)
ALA, Birmingham	Mar. 19	Nov. 14	241	NEBR, Grand Island	Apr. 29	Oct. 6	160
Mobile U	Feb. 17	Dec. 12	298	Lincoln	Apr. 20	Oct. 17	180
Montgomery U	Feb. 27	Dec. 3	279	Norfolk	May 4	Oct. 3	152
ALASKA, Anchorage	May 18	Sept. 13	118	North Platte	Apr. 30	Oct. 7	160
Barrow	June 27	July 5	8	Omaha	Apr. 14	Oct. 20	189
Cordova	May 10	Oct. 2	145	Valentine Lakes	May 7	Sept. 30	146
Fairbanks	May 24	Aug. 29	97	NEV, Elko	June 6	Sept. 3	89
Juneau	Apr. 27	Oct. 19	176	Las Vegas	Mar. 13	Nov. 13	245
Nome	June 12	Aug. 24	73	Reno	May 14	Oct. 2	141
ARIZ, Flagstaff	June 8	Oct. 2	116	Winnemucca	May 18	Sept. 21	126
Phoenix	Jan. 27	Dec. 11	317	N.H. Concord	May 11	Sept. 30	142
Tucson	Mar. 6	Nov. 23	261	N.J. Cape May	Apr. 4	Nov. 15	225
Winslow	Apr. 28	Oct. 21	176	Trenton U	Apr. 8	Nov. 5	211
Yuma U	Jan. 11	Dec. 27	350	N.MEX, Albuquerque	Apr. 16	Oct. 29	196
ARK, Fort Smith	Mar. 23	Nov. 9	231	Roswell	Apr. 9	Nov. 2	208
Little Rock	Mar. 16	Nov. 15	244	N.Y. Albany	Apr. 27	Oct. 13	169
CALIF, Bakersfield	Feb. 14	Nov. 28	287	Binghamton U	May 4	Oct. 6	154
Eureka U	Jan. 24	Dec. 25	335	Buffalo	Apr. 30	Oct. 25	179
Fresno	Feb. 3	Dec. 3	303	New York U	Apr. 7	Nov. 12	219
Los Angeles U	*	*	*	Rochester	Apr. 28	Oct. 21	176
Red Bluff	Feb. 25	Nov. 29	277	Syracuse	Apr. 30	Oct. 15	168
Sacramento	Jan. 24	Dec. 11	321	N.C. Asheville U	Apr. 12	Oct. 24	195
San Diego	*	*	*	Charlotte U	Mar. 21	Nov. 15	239
San Francisco U	*	*	*	Greenville	Mar. 28	Nov. 5	222
COLO, Denver U	May 2	Oct. 14	165	Hatteras	Feb. 25	Dec. 18	296
Palisades	Apr. 22	Oct. 17	178	Raleigh U	Mar. 24	Nov. 16	237
Pueblo	Apr. 28	Oct. 12	167	Wilmington U	Mar. 8	Nov. 24	262
CONN, Hartford	Apr. 22	Oct. 19	180	N.DAK, Bismarck	May 11	Sept. 24	136
New Haven	Apr. 15	Oct. 27	195	Devils Lake U	May 18	Sept. 22	127
D.C. Washington U	Apr. 10	Oct. 28	200	Fargo	May 19	Sept. 27	137
FLA, Apalachicola U	Feb. 2	Dec. 21	322	Williston U	May 14	Sept. 23	132
Port Myers	*	*	*	OHIO, Akron-Canton	Apr. 29	Oct. 20	173
Jacksonville U	Feb. 6	Dec. 16	313	Cincinnati (Abbe)	Apr. 15	Oct. 25	192
Key West	*	*	*	Cleveland	Apr. 21	Nov. 2	195
Lake Land	Jan. 10	Dec. 25	349	Columbus U	Apr. 17	Oct. 30	164
Miami	*	*	*	Dayton	Apr. 20	Oct. 21	184
Orlando	Jan. 31	Dec. 17	319	Toledo	Apr. 24	Oct. 25	184
Pensacola U	Feb. 18	Dec. 15	300	OKLA, Okla. City U	Mar. 28	Nov. 7	233
Tallahassee	Feb. 26	Dec. 3	280	Tulsa	Mar. 31	Nov. 2	216
Tampa	Jan. 10	Dec. 26	349	OREG, Astoria	Mar. 18	Nov. 24	251
GA, Atlanta U	Mar. 20	Nov. 19	244	Bend	June 17	Aug. 17	82
Augusta	Mar. 7	Nov. 22	260	Medford	Apr. 25	Oct. 20	178
Macon	Mar. 12	Nov. 19	252	Pendleton	Apr. 27	Oct. 8	163
Savannah	Feb. 21	Dec. 9	291	Portland U	Feb. 25	Dec. 1	279
IDAHO, Boise	Apr. 29	Oct. 16	171	Salem	Apr. 14	Oct. 27	197
Pocatello	May 8	Sept. 30	145	PA, Allentown	Apr. 20	Oct. 16	180
Salmon	June 4	Sept. 6	94	Harrisburg	Apr. 10	Oct. 28	201
ILL, Cairo U	Mar. 23	Nov. 11	233	Philadelphia U	Mar. 30	Nov. 17	232
Chicago U	Apr. 19	Oct. 28	192	Pittsburgh	Apr. 20	Oct. 23	187
Freeport	May 8	Oct. 4	149	Scranton U	Apr. 24	Oct. 14	174
Peoria	Apr. 22	Oct. 16	177	R.I. Providence U	Apr. 13	Oct. 27	197
Springfield U	Apr. 8	Oct. 30	205	S.C. Charleston U	Feb. 19	Dec. 10	294
IND, Evansville	Apr. 2	Nov. 4	216	Columbia U	Mar. 14	Nov. 21	252
Fort Wayne	Apr. 24	Oct. 20	179	Greenville	Mar. 23	Nov. 17	259
Indianapolis U	Apr. 17	Oct. 27	175	S.DAK, Huron U	May 4	Sept. 30	149
South Bend	Mar. 3	Oct. 16	183	Rapid City U	May 7	Oct. 4	150
IOWA, Des Moines U	Apr. 20	Oct. 19	183	Sioux Falls U	May 5	Oct. 3	152
Dubuque U	Apr. 19	Oct. 19	184	TENN, Chattanooga U	Mar. 26	Nov. 10	229
Koekuk	Apr. 12	Oct. 26	197	Knoxville U	Mar. 31	Nov. 6	220
Sioux City	Apr. 28	Oct. 12	167	Memphis U	Mar. 20	Nov. 12	237
KANS, Concordia U	Apr. 16	Oct. 24	191	Nashville U	Mar. 28	Nov. 7	224
Dodge City	Apr. 22	Oct. 24	184	TEX, Albany	Mar. 30	Nov. 9	224
Goodland	May 5	Oct. 9	157	Balmorhea	Apr. 1	Nov. 12	226
Topeka U	Apr. 9	Oct. 26	200	Beeville	Feb. 21	Dec. 6	288
Wichita	Apr. 5	Nov. 1	210	College Station	Mar. 1	Dec. 1	275
KY, Lexington	Apr. 13	Oct. 28	198	Corsicana	Mar. 13	Nov. 27	259
Louisville U	Apr. 1	Nov. 7	220	Dartmouth Exp. Sta.	Apr. 23	Oct. 18	178
LA, Lake Charles	Feb. 18	Dec. 6	291	Dallas	Mar. 18	Nov. 22	249
New Orleans	Feb. 13	Dec. 12	302	Del Rio	Feb. 12	Dec. 9	300
Shreveport	Mar. 1	Nov. 27	272	Enclinal	Feb. 15	Dec. 12	301
MAINE, Greenville	May 27	Sept. 20	116	Houston	Feb. 5	Dec. 11	300
Portland	Apr. 29	Oct. 15	169	Lampasas	Apr. 1	Nov. 10	223
MD, Annapolis	Mar. 4	Nov. 15	225	Matagorda	Feb. 12	Dec. 17	308
Baltimore U	Mar. 28	Nov. 17	234	Midland	Apr. 3	Nov. 6	218
Frederick	Mar. 24	Oct. 17	175	Mission	Jan. 30	Dec. 21	325
MASS, Boston	Apr. 16	Oct. 25	182	Mount Pleasant	Mar. 23	Nov. 12	233
Nantucket	Apr. 12	Nov. 16	219	Nacogdoches	Mar. 15	Nov. 13	243
MICH, Alpena U	May 6	Oct. 9	156	Plainview	Apr. 10	Nov. 6	211
Detroit	Apr. 25	Oct. 23	181	Presidio	Mar. 20	Nov. 13	238
Escanaba U	May 14	Oct. 6	145	Quanah	Mar. 31	Nov. 7	221
Grand Rapids U	Apr. 25	Oct. 27	185	San Angelo	Mar. 25	Nov. 15	235
Marquette U	May 14	Oct. 17	156	Ysleta	Apr. 6	Oct. 30	207
S. Ste. Marie	May 18	Oct. 3	138	UTAH, Blanding	May 18	Oct. 14	148
MINN, Albert Lee	May 3	Oct. 6	156	Salt Lake City	Apr. 12	Nov. 1	202
Big Falls R.S.	June 4	Sept. 7	95	VT, Burlington	May 8	Oct. 3	148
Brainerd	May 16	Sept. 24	131	VA, Lynchburg	Apr. 6	Oct. 27	205
Duluth	May 22	Sept. 24	125	Norfolk U	Mar. 18	Nov. 27	254
Minneapolis	Apr. 30	Oct. 13	166	Richmond U	Apr. 2	Nov. 8	280
St. Cloud	May 9	Sept. 29	144	Roanoke	Apr. 20	Oct. 24	187
MISS, Jackson	Mar. 10	Nov. 13	248	WASH, Bumping Lake	June 17	Aug. 16	60
Meridian	Mar. 13	Nov. 14	246	Seattle U	Feb. 23	Dec. 1	281
Vicksburg U	Mar. 8	Nov. 15	252	Spokane	Apr. 20	Oct. 12	175
MO, Columbia	Apr. 9	Oct. 24	198	Tatoosh Island	Jan. 25	Dec. 20	329
Kansas City	Apr. 5	Oct. 31	210	Walla Walla U	Mar. 28	Nov. 1	218
St. Louis U	Apr. 2	Nov. 8	220	Yakima	Apr. 19	Oct. 15	179
Springfield	Apr. 10	Oct. 31	203	W.VA, Charleston	Apr. 18	Oct. 28	153
MONT, Billings	May 15	Sept. 24	132	Parkersburg	Apr. 16	Oct. 21	189
Glasgow U	May 19	Sept. 20	124	WIS, Green Bay	May 6	Oct. 13	161
Great Falls	May 14	Sept. 26	135	La Crosse U	May 1	Oct. 8	161
Havre U	May 9	Sept. 23	138	Madison U	Apr. 26	Oct. 19	177
Helena	May 12	Sept. 23	134	Milwaukee U	Apr. 20	Oct. 25	188
Kalispell	May 12	Sept. 23	135	WYO, Casper	May 18	Sept. 25	130
Miles City	May 5	Oct. 3	150	Cheyenne	May 20	Sept. 27	130
Superior	June 5	Aug. 30	85	Lander	May 15	Sept. 20	128
				Sheridan	May 21	Sept. 21	123

\* Occurs in less than 1 year in 10. No freeze of record in Key West, Fla.  
U Indicates urban.

Charts and tabulation were derived from the Freeze Data tabulation in *Climatology of the United States No. 60 - Climates of the States.*

EDITORIAL (continued from page 21)

years. For this purpose "spring" shall be defined as the period from January 1st to midsummer, and "autumn" as the period from midsummer through December 31st. In the southern hemisphere the seasons are reversed, their winter being our summer and their spring our autumn."

It becomes clear that lists of proven varieties for typical climates in important iris growing areas must be developed and published. Differences in elevation, especially in mountainous country, make dependence upon climate maps alone unsatisfactory, though a great help, and State Climatologists in each state, as well as local Weather Bureaus can be helpful. Addresses of all of the State Climatologists, as well as much of their literature are in your Editor's office.

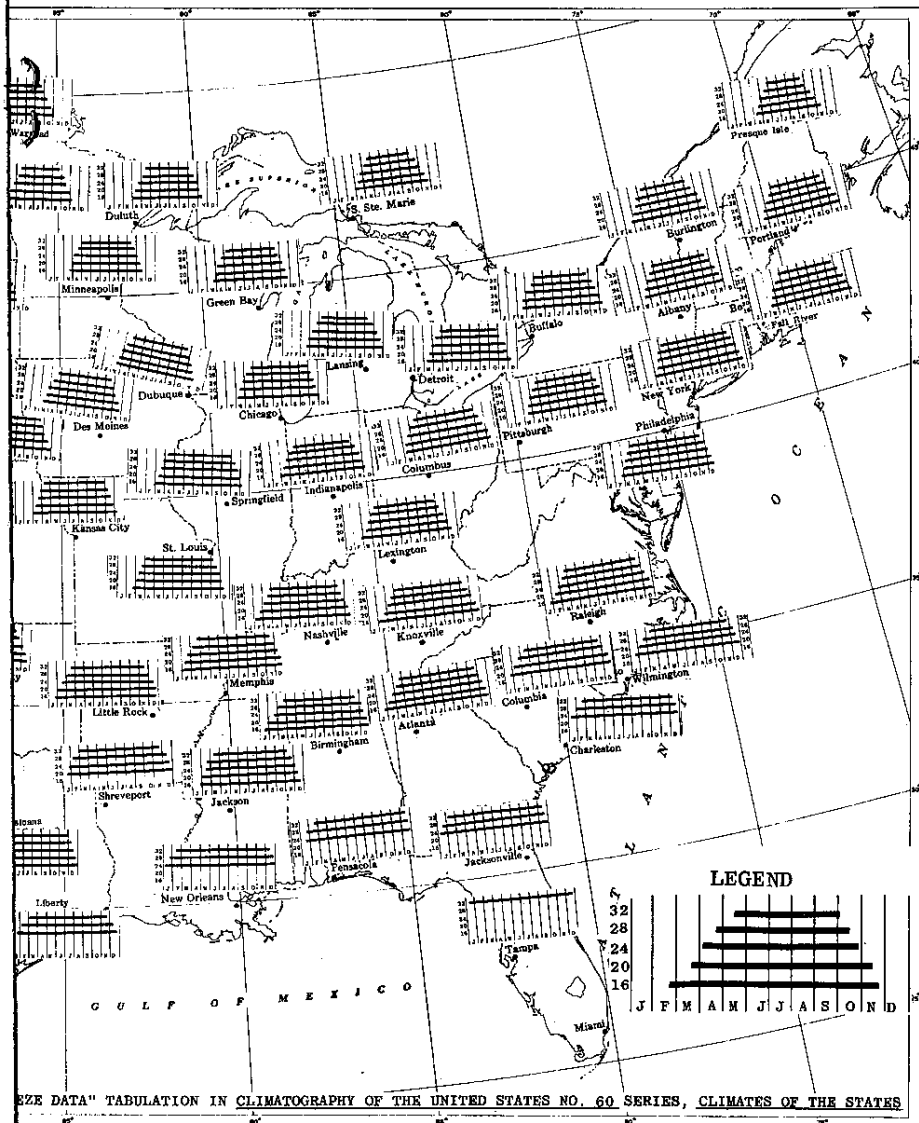
Wherever favorable iris growing conditions exist near the larger cities, that is where most of them are grown. Likewise it is in such locations where AIS conventions are held; major iris shows and Region gatherings. Our first aim, therefore, should be to work up lists of dependable rebloomers for these centers. Later it would be logical to spread attention to smaller centers of iris interest and to less favorable climates. The results can then be mapped.

At first sole dependence was placed upon reports of robin members. However, there is a limit to the number of these that can be processed by the writer. Further, robins are perishable. It seems best, therefore to invite subscribers to the "Reporter" to make it their mouthpiece. Many of the best hybridizers are too busy or otherwise unwilling to take part in robin writing. By accepting the best of subscriber reports and building up the list of subscribers, progress may be speeded.

Study of numerous robin letters has disclosed that the chief limiting factor in the reblooming of iris where real freezing weather occurs in winter is lack of adequate heat over a sufficiently long season to mature the bloomstalk. Length of the mean freeze-free periods, sometimes called growing periods, needs close study. See the accompanying map. Notice the long growing seasons on the west coast, even up in the states of Oregon and Washington. More detailed maps will be needed later, but they are available. Freezes are rare in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas, hence no map data is shown, but see figures on the pages of freeze-free figures. In such places objectives can be stretched due to lack of really cold weather. Year-round flower production is possible. Watering and other cultural problems take precedence over heredity. Iris with extra long blooming periods are favored there, with winter flowering being favored over late summer and fall flowering.

In raising iris of mixed ancestry it will be found that excess rainfall is a limiting factor in reblooming in parts of the rainy East and of the rainy Gulf Coast. It will be interesting to see how the Oncobred rebloomers behave in such rainy places. Acid soil is a factor in humid regions too, and alkaline soil in arid regions. We may find that 32 degrees is not the proper critical point for season limits. Some robin references to flowering in Indian Summer point this way. Perhaps 28 degrees would be better. Iris sap is not pure water, so has a different freezing point from water. Study needed on these refinements. Florida has not enough cold weather for bearded iris to thrive. Yes, there are problems. We need to know, too, what conditions trigger the initiation of bloomstalks. Auxin chemistry is probably involved. There is much to be done, but doing is great fun. Who knows but things learned in this quest will have far-reaching importance beyond the study of reblooming iris? This is just a survey of the field. We have just begun. However, rebloomers are appearing in hybridizers' gardens rapidly.

IN AUTUMN OF 32°F, 28°F, 24°F, 20°F, and 16°F, RESPECTIVELY  
ted Stations





## Reblooming Iris in Australia

by Lois Hale

Blacktown, New South Wales, is situated 22 miles west of Sydney and 13 or 14 miles from where the Blue Mountains start to rise, and is about 30 miles from the sea. Altitude, 184 feet. Temperature range, 26 to 116 degrees. Rainfall, 30 inches.

Our climate is very varied. We have very long spells of both wet and dry. In summer we usually get a number of days over the century, and most of it well up in the 90's with quite a lot of humidity, mainly from late January. Our winters, on the other hand, can be cold. We have quite a lot of mornings around or below freezing point. Usually these mornings are accompanied by very severe frost when taps are usually frozen. Of course we have weeks of lesser frost. We get winds from all directions and our yard is very open to them all. It also gets the maximum sun. Our nights start to get cold, but our days can, like they are doing in mid-May, be very hot. June, July and August are our coldest months, and from mid-December our summers are hot, through January and February when they start to ease off as March progresses. We do get very cold spells in summer, and there are times when we will get quite a warm spell.

I don't do anything extra that would give me so much rebloom. The only thing that I can suggest that may have some control over the rebloom is the combination of warmth and cold. Even when we have freezing mornings, our winter day can be quite warm in the sun, just as our March to May days can be hot, as they have been the last couple of years. But then it can be necessary for us to have heaters on at night in April. Last week it started off very hot and it was very dry as we had not had much rain for two months after six months of continual wet. Then it turned cold, and in 48 hours we had 935 points of rain.

I have noticed this year that the blooms have been really first class, the stems not quite so tall as in the season, but then the foliage is also a lot shorter. When I notice that a plant is going to bloom, I put around it a mixture of commercial fertilizer, and if dry weather I water each day. My plants depend on natural rainfall all year, except in very long dry spells. Then I give a good soaking but not frequently. I find this helps the plants to stand the dry spells better than if they were used to a lot of water.

Last winter was very dry, windy and sunny. At the end of August it started to rain and this continued till mid-March, which meant that the beds never dried out properly till April. The spring was hot and we had days of over 100 degrees, but the winter was cold, humid and very dull. Autumn, on the other hand, till May 12, was dry, very hot by day and cold by night, and sunny almost every day all day.

All beds are now raised, some better drained than others. The soil is clay which is very sticky when wet and like concrete when dry. I have lightened it with sand, compost when available, and in a hot, dry summer mulched it with thin layers of lawn clippings around the plants. I give a dressing of commercial fertilizer in the spring. When possible I keep the top few inches broken up.

The following is a list of iris which have bloomed for me in the months January to August, or which have flowered early in the Season and give every appearance of having finished blooming for the year, and then rebloom later in the season.

- ADMIRAL NIMITZ. Planted Jan. 1960. Flowered 26th May & 10th Oct. 1960. Moved in Nov. 1960. " 25th June & 22nd Oct. 1961.
- ANDALUSIAN BLUE (Int.) Planted Feb. 1959. No flower that year. Flowered 17th Sept. 1960; 29th Sept. & 5th Dec. 1961.
- BALLERINA. Planted June 1959. Moved Nov. No flowers that year. F. 28th Sept. 1960, 13th Oct. 1961 & 4th Apr. 1962.
- BENTON DAPHNE. P. Jan. 1960. F. 28th July & 11th Oct. 1960. Moved whole plant after F. Bloomed 14th October.
- BLACK HAWK (Int.). Moved plant June 1958. F. 6th Oct. & 2nd Nov. 1958. Moved again Feb. 1959. F. 30th Sept. and 8th Nov. Good.
- CHINA MAID. Moved plant Nov. 1959. F. 30th May & 26th Sept. 1960, also 18th June & 8th Oct. 1961. Good grower. Beautiful.
- CHIVALRY. Planted Jan. 1961. F. 17th Oct. & 30th Dec. and is going to flower again as I write this in May 1962.
- DUKE OF EDINBURGH. Planted Jan. 1959. F. 6th June & 11th Sept. Moved Oct. F. 7th May; single stems July & Aug. Slow but improving.
- GOLDEN BOW (Int.). Planted Jan. 1959. F. 7th Oct.; 1960 F. 20th March, 15th May & 23rd Sept. when it flowered itself out.
- HIT PARADE. Planted Jan. 1960. F. 23rd May & 3rd Oct.; 1961 flowered 9th October.
- JOSEPH'S MANTLE. Planted Jan. 1959. F. 13th Aug. Moved Nov. F. 21st Mar. & 12th Apr. 1960. Much rot. F. 26th Jan. & 15th Oct. '61.
- KARDINIA. Planted Jan. 1958. Moved June. No flower in season. 1959 F. 20th Oct. 1960 F. 11th Oct. 1961 F. 18th Jan, 12th May and 12th October.
- LADY MOHR. 1960 moved at end of Nov. 1961 F. 5th June & 14th Oct. Some rot. Recovered. F. 4th May big and promising.
- MANYUSA. Planted Jan. 1960. F. 17th May, 17th Oct., 17th Nov. 1961 F. 28th Apr. through June & 18th Oct., 25th Dec.
- MAJENICA. Moved June '58. F. 17th Aug.; 1959 F. 6th July & 16th Sept. Moved Nov. 1960 F. 17th May & 25th Sept. 1st Oct '61
- MIOGEM. Planted 28th Nov. 1960; 1961 F. 23rd Oct. Moved early Nov. In 1962 F. from 21st Jan till early March.
- MOUNT TIMP. Moved Nov. 1958. F. 16th Sept. '59, 27th May & 5th Oct. 1960. Moved Nov. F. 3rd May & 10th Oct. Then moved.
- OREGON SUNSHINE. After slow start F. 1959 6th Nov. 1960 26th March, 10th April & 18th Oct.; 1961 7th March, 24th Apr & 14th Oct.
- PARAGON. Planted April 1959. No flower till 21st April 1960, again 11th Oct. 1961 5th Oct.
- RADIANT. 1958 planted Jan. F. Nov.; moved. No F. till 1st Nov. 1960. 1961 31st March till 7th May, again 31st Oct.
- ROSE FESTIVAL. Moved Nov. 1960. F. 2nd Aug. & 8th Oct; 1961, 12th Oct.
- SAN PASQUAL. This is a winter bloomer, good grower, lovely blooms. Flowers over long period. Breaking makes no difference. In 1961 commenced 15th July and went on to end of Sept.

SUSA. Planted Jan. 1961. Flowered last week in May and again 6th October and 12th November.

SULTAN'S ROBE. Planted 28th November 1960. Flowered 21st October 1961, and is going to flower in May 1962.

SPRING GLOW. Planted Feb. 1959. F. 15th July & 22nd Sept; In 1960 F. 24th April and continued till July, then again 7th Sept. from all remaining fans. Moved Dec. 1960. In 1961 F. 21st April, 20th Sept. then again in Nov. Moved Dec. F. April.

SULINA (Dwarf) Reblooms quite a lot for me.

Iris milesii Rebloomed last year. So did a douglasiana x innominata seedling.

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Ed.- Mrs. Edwin Hale resides at 6 Fourth Ave., Blacktown, LW, N.S.W. She is a hybridizer endeavoring to encourage Australian Iris Society members to become more interested in Reblooming Iris.

Esmond Jones, Muscle Creek, 3N., N.S.W., writes that PINNACLE in his and other Australian gardens reblooms. He adds that LADY MOHR reblooms for Mrs. I. Wilson, Austinmer, N.S.W., and the following varieties rebloom for Dr. E.W. Ferguson, Newcastle, N.S.W.: FINEST HOUR, HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PAGAN PRINCESS and SHANNOPIN. More coming.

## Reblooming Iris Registrations—1961

ANTELOPE VALLEY (Lilley, R. 1961). Sdlg. 597-741. TB, 39", Remontant, YLM. Canary-yellow self; high crest, orange beard. White Goddess x Pink Sensation.

AUGUST GOLD (R.G. Smith, R. 1961). Sdlg. 60-1R. TB, 32", Remontant, YO5P. Medium buff-yellow self, buff beard. Pink Lace x Autumn Flame.

AUTUMN JANE (G.P. Brown, R. 1961). BB, 24", Remontant, BlM. Medium blue self. Jane Phillips x Autumn Snowdrift.

AUTUMN ORANGELITE (G.P. Brown, R. 1961). BB, 18", Remontant, OLM. Orange self, orange beard. Fall Fairy x Sally Ann.

AUTUMN SENSATION (G.P. Brown, R. 1961). TB, 29", Remontant, W4V. S. flushed blue fading to pure white; F. dark blue-purple. (Snow Carnival amoena sdlg. x Green Dragon) x (Fall Fairy x Planet).

FALL PERFECTION (G.P. Brown, R. 1961). TB, 29", Remontant, YLM. Medium yellow self, white blaze around orange beard. Fall Primrose x Guiding Star.

FLYING REPEATER (Austin, R. 1961). Sdlg. 8184. TB, 30", Remontant, YO3L. S. soft fawn-pink; F. and flounces, fawn-rose. Happy Birthday x Unicorn.

MY MAIZIE (Farrell, R. 1961). Sdlg. 1. BB, 20", Remontant, Y1F. Deep gold self, darker venation at haft, deep yellow beard. Char-Maize x Summer Sun.

SEPTEMBER BUTTERCUP (G.P. Brown, R. 1961). BB, 25", Remontant, Y1. Buttercup-yellow self. Fall Primrose x Double Date.

SUMMER INSPIRATION (G.P. Brown, R. 1961). TB, 30", Remontant, Y4V. S. light yellow; F. same with orchid flush at base. Autumn Twilight x Lapham's mauve sdlg.

SUNBIRD (c. James, R. 1961). Sdlg. 380-24. Tb, 48", Remontant, Y1. Mimosa-yellow self. Spring Romance x Zantha.

### ADDRESSES OF ORIGINATORS

AUSTIN, LLOYD, Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens, Placerville, Calif.  
 BROWN, DR. G. PERCY, 1603 Main Road, Central Village, Mass.  
 FARRELL, Mrs. H.C., R. 3, Box 111, Belton, Texas.  
 JAMES, MRS. NORMAN H., Ferndale Cathcart, Cape Providence, South Africa.  
 LILLEY, WILLIAM H., 1150 West Avenue, J-14, Lancaster, Calif.  
 SMITH, RAYMOND G., 1600 East Hillside Drive, Bloomington, Indiana.

## Sources of Reblooming Iris Registered 1955-1960, Inc.

The following listing was done by our Catalog Research Consultant in a spirit of helpfulness, guided by such price lists as had come to hand, and inspired by numerous robin writers who reported trouble in finding places to buy reblooming irises. The list contains some varieties that are claimed by their originators to be rebloomers, but which most likely will not rebloom except in their especially favorable conditions of climate or culture. In general greatest dependability should be expected from commercially grown stock originating in a climate not very different from that of the buyer. This is because of heredity and of the better disease inspection usually found there.

### Key LIST OF GROWERS

1. Brown's Iris Gardens, Dr. G.P. Brown, 1603 Main Rd., Central Village, Mass. from May 1 to Nov. 1. Barre, Mass. Nov. 1 to May 1.
2. Brown's Iris Gardens, 14920 Highway 99, Lynnwood, Wash.
3. Cedar Lake Iris Gardens, Colville, Wash.
4. Come 'n Look Gardens, Declo, Idaho.
5. Eden Road Iris Garden, P.O. Box 117, Wenatchee, Wash.
6. Flesh Gardens, P.O. Box 491, Jefferson, Texas.
7. Hidden Acres Iris Gardens, Box 272, Rt. 1, Federalsburg, Md.
8. Hildebrandt's Iris Garden, Star Route Box 4, Lexington, Neb.
9. Moore's Iris Gardens, Odom St., Karnack, Texas.
10. Noyd's Iris Garden, 1501 Fifth St., Wenatchee, Wash.
11. Parsons Manor, 2635 South 9th St., Lincoln 2, Neb.
12. Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens, 2036 Carson Rd., Placerville, Calif.
13. Reeves, Clement B., Jr., 724 Broadway, West Cape May, N.J.
14. Roe Nursery, 1059 Bird Ave., San Jose, Calif.
15. Schaan's Iris Gardens, 7409 Parkwood Drive, St. Louis 16, Mo.
16. Schliefert Iris Gardens, R.F.D., Murdock, Neb.
17. Schmelsler's Garden, 731 Edgewood, Walla Walla, Wash.
18. Smith's Iris Gardens, 614 Bryden, Box 483, Lewiston, Idaho.
19. Southern Meadows Garden, 1424 South Perrine, Rt 2, Centralia, Ill.
20. Tell's Iris Gardens, 691 East 8th North, Provo, Utah.
21. Tom Craig, Rt. 4, Box 315, Escondido, Calif.

### VARIETY LIST

AUTUMN BRONZE (G.P. Brown -55)	1	6	12
AUTUMN ORCHID (Austin -56)		12	
AUTUMN PRINCESS ( " -59)		12	
AUGUST INDIAN (G.P. Brown -57)	1	6	
BEARDED LADY (Craig -55)		20	21
BEAU CATCHER (Craig -55)	3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 20, 21.		
CHANT ( " -60)	21		



## Performance Record for Seattle

This is a condensed version of a robin letter of Carol Ely Harper, who is an amateur hybridizer living in a big, old house on the shore of Lake Washington, Seattle, Wash. The climate is doubtless affected by the lake. More about climate later. Varieties are TB unless otherwise shown.

- AUTUMN AFTERNOON - Three plants, set in 1960. One bloomed Sept. 27, 1961, and has kept blooming since. Am not sure if it bloomed in spring.
- AUTUMN ELF -(IB)- Planted 1960, bloomed beautifully this spring, set seed to LULU MARGUERITE, also to pollen of JULY BEAUTY.
- AUTUMN GLEAM -(IB)- Planted 1959, bloomed each spring, 3 plants. Each rebloomed last year over a long period. Did the same this season.
- AUTUMN QUEEN -(DB)- Planted 1960, bloomed spring 1961. Rebloomed 12/9/61.
- CUPID'S DART - Planted 1959. Bloomed each spring and fall since.
- DORCAS HUTCHISON -(IB)- Planted 1960. Bloomed spring 1961, one stalk, one bloom opening in fan November 15, 1961.
- GAY PAREE - Planted 1959. Bloomed both springs. One plant has not rebloomed. Another plant was in bud September 16, 1961.
- GIBSON GIRL - Planted 1959. Bloomed each spring. Rebloomed last year but not this one.
- GREEN DRAGON - Planted 1960. No bloom spring 1961. Came into bloom Sept. 1st, 1961, and keeps sending up waist-high stalks. Many, many flowers.
- HALLOWE'EN NIGHT - Planted 1959. Bloomed each spring and November since. Many stalks, all tall, never stand up straight.
- JEAN SIRET -(DB)- Planted 1960. Bloomed spring 1961. First rebloom on November 15, 1961.
- JULY BEAUTY - Planted 1960. Bloomed spring 1961. Bloomed all August and until Nov. Pollen from JULY BEAUTY sets seed on difficult rebloomers.
- KEEPSAKE -(DB)- Planted fall 1960. Bloomed spring '61, again 11/27/61.
- LIEUTENANT DE CHAVAGNAC -(DB)- Planted 1960. Bloomed spring 1961, first to open this fall.
- MARTIE EVEREST - Planted 1959. Bloomed each spring and summer since.
- OLIVE WHITE -(IB)- Planted 1960. Bloomed heavily spring 1961. Kept reblooming until November 28th.
- POLAR KING - Planted 1959. Bloomed each spring. Rebloomed in September, still bloomed December 1, 1961.
- PRIORITY - Planted fall '60. Bloomed spring '61. Budded in fall of 1961.
- SANGREAL -(IB)- Planted 1959. Bloomed each spring and fall since then.
- SEPTEMBER SPARKLER - Planted several plants fall 1960. Not sure about spring bloom. First opened 10/31/61. Large clumps, many flowers.
- WHITE KNIGHT - Planted 1959. Bloomed all winter 1960-'61. Bloomed each spring. Rebloom December, 1961.

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Ed.-Here is the climate data based upon a 30-year record on the grounds of Washington University, Seattle, and published April 1962. Thermometer readings in shade 5 feet above ground, which is standard. Latitude 47 deg., 39 min. Elevation 60 feet. 32-degree freeze expectancy follows.

PROBABILITY - SPRING				PROBABILITY - FALL				Growing Season 240 Days
90%	75%	50%	25%	25%	50%	75%	90%	
Feb 26	Mar 10	Mar 23	Apr 6	Nov 6	Nov 18	Dec 1	Dec 11	

There are several months' difference in the length of the growing season across this mountainous state. Spokane 175 days, Walla Walla 171, Wenatchee 177, Yakima 167. Mean annual temperatures, respectively, for these five places are 52.7 degrees, 47.1, 54.2, 50.6, 50.2. Precipitation, also respectively; 34.78 in., 14.92, 15.07, 8.07, and 7.21. Much food for thought.