

with dry sand, and water again. The bulbs should be barely showing through the sand. Place the box in a warm position near the glass where the sun at midday does not strike directly on it, and in about ten days, a tuber or two may be carefully raised from the sand: if small fibrous roots about an inch long are showing, the tuber is ready for potting. In potting use well-drained pots not too small. A tuber one inch in diameter requires a six inch pot. Very large tubers may require a nine or ten-inch pot, as it is best to have the pot large enough so that transplanting may not be necessary. Repotting is a dangerous process on account of the great number of fibrous roots formed. Care must taken in potting the tubers, not to injure the young fibrous roots, by pressing the soil too closely around them.

In growing, the plants do not require a high temperature, not more than 50 or 60 degrees, to produce stocky plants with good foliage.

Give the plants plenty of fresh air, and do not water the leaves, as the rough spiny surface retains the water and may spot or even rot the leaves.

The tuberous begonias may be propagated from cuttings with fairly good success, in pots or in pans well drained and about half

filled with loamy potting soil, mixed with a small proportion of sand. Then fill the pot up with nearly level with sand. The surplus growth of a large tuber may be utilized for cuttings.

The plan of getting the cutting, is to pull or break the growth away from the tuber, for the base of the branch near it takes root more easily as it is always partly callosed when taken off.

If there are any flower buds on the cutting, pinch them off, and be careful not to bruise the cutting in putting it into the soil. The cuttings when first started require a warm situation not fully exposed to the sun.

The begonia may also be propagated from the seed. The seed is small and requires some care in planting. Like other small seeds they must not be planted deep in the soil.

In the fall, about October, after tops have been slightly touched by the frost, but before the tubers are touched, take the plants up foliage and all, place them in boxes so deep that the tubers can be covered an inch deep with moist sand. Put the boxes in a dry cool place, 40 or 50 degrees, and withhold water gradually until the foliage drops away of itself from the tubers, then stop watering till the next spring.

