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SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1991

B. Charles Jenkins, Editor
Spuria Iris Society Newsletter
418-A Cayuga Street
Salinas, California 93901

FIRST CLASS

SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 1991, Volume 32
OFFICERS OF THE SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY

| | |
|---------------------|--|
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY is a Section of the AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY and membership in the S.I.S. is contingent on membership in the A.I.S. All A.I.S. members are encouraged to join whether or not they are spuria growers. Dues are as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| SINGLE ANNUAL \$5.00 | SINGLE TRIENNIAL \$12.00 |
| FAMILY ANNUAL \$6.00 | |
| FAMILY TRIENNIAL \$14.00 | LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$60.00 |

1991 SPURIA POPULARITY POLL

As has been the custom at recent national conventions a questionnaire was handed out to participants in the Annual Meeting of the Spuria Iris Society. Included was a request that each individual list their five favorite spurias. Results were, to say the least, discouraging as less than half of the attendees turned in their questionnaires. However, for what it's worth, here are the top ten of the 41 cultivars mentioned:

1. SON OF SUN
2. LOVE FOR LEILA
3. ARCHIE OWEN
3. BETTY COOPER
3. BETTY MY LOVE
3. KITT PEAK
3. LOOK LIVELY
3. MEGATREND
3. REDWOOD SUPREME
3. VINTAGE YEARS

All cultivars showing third place were tied in number of votes received.

DESIRABLE SPURIAS FOR NORTHERN CLIMATES

The questionnaire given out at the Annual Meeting of the Spuria Iris Society stressed the need for articles for the Newsletter. In this connection, Virginia Heller of Detroit suggested a series of articles with varietal listings on how to grow spurias in the Northern Gardens and naming those which do well there. Here is a subject that needs to be considered as one of the more important ones facing the Society. This is obvious from a review of recent national conventions in the more northerly states and especially the poor showing of the spurias at both Omaha and Washington in the tour gardens.

Not only do we need to know which spurias do well outside the South but also growers need to be educated as to the cultural requirements of spurias, namely:

1. Full sun, especially in areas where there is considerable cloudy weather.
 2. Neutral or slightly alkaline soil.
 3. Lots of fertilizer rich in nitrogen and phosphorus.
- Let's flood the Editor with articles on this subject.

What Worked (Continued)

had huge blooms and others that performed well were BETTY COOPER, ARCHIE OWEN, PURPLE PROFUNDO, EVENING DRESS, VINTAGE YEAR, JUST REWARD, HIGHLINE BLUBIRD, ILA CRAWFORD, CINNAMON ROLL, SPRING ISLAND, ADA PERRY, JUBILANT SPIRIT AND GUEST ARTIST.

On first year clumps 8 or 10 bloomed which is good for first year plantings. The only one with more than one bloom stalk was FINALLY FREE. Others blooming were BELISSINADO, PIECES OF EIGHT, CHOCOLATE FUDGE, BORDER TOWN, ARIZONA CONVENTION, HIGHLINE CORAL AND CENTERING POINT. I fed these with a balanced water soluble (Miracle Grow) every 2 weeks from the end of February until the end of April. I did not fertilize them with commercial granular fertilizer in February. Last fall we were called out of town on an emergency and they dried out while we were gone. They had been planted about 10 days when we left, another bed had only been planted about 3 days and I lost about 50% of those plants.

That's why I used the liquid fertilizer to give them all a boost to make up for the poor start. In the bed with the large loss only 6 plants bloomed out of 24 varieties that were left.

FROM THE EDITOR

You are no doubt wondering what happened to the Spring '91 issue of the Newsletter. I take full responsibility for any disappointment you may feel at not getting one. As explained in our presidents message and confirmed at the annual meeting in Washington, it was decided that we have a summer and winter issue from now on. That works much better for me but I realize there may be disadvantages for others.

If the Newsletter is to benefit the membership, it must provide a means of communication and that is why you are reminded again that your observations and experiences should be passed on. Remember to get articles in by December 15 for the winter issue and June 15 for future ones for the summer.

One way to reduce the Newsletter expense would be for someone who types to volunteer as Editor. Since I don't type, it is necessary for me to hire the typing done, thus increasing the publication price. Surely someone out there is interested enough in the society to make the contribution.

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For back issue availability, see Fall 1990 Newsletter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We hope that you will find membership in the Spuria Iris Society a rewarding one and that you will participate in its activities. Articles, letters, etc. are always welcome regardless of the subject so long as they pertain to spurias. If you attend the National Conventions of the American Iris Society, be sure to include our Annual Meeting. We always try to have something of interest for both the new members and the old-timers.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I hope your spring has been as good as mine. We had a mild winter and a real spring, so I had a great TB season and the Spurias did pretty well considering that they had a rough start in the fall. Also I am retiring from 23.4 years of teaching. It took me 5-1/2 days to clean out my files and turn it all over to a good friend, but now I can start doing some of the things we all save up for retirement.

Now as far as spurias go I am finding out that it is almost impossible to over-fertilize them. I have used both commercial granular and liquid applications. My established clumps were taller, had more buds, and larger blooms.

Our annual meeting in Washington D.C. was well attended. It was late in the day and 80 people came, but only 57 of them signed the attendance sheet. We had questions from the audience asking, What are Spurias?, Where can we buy them?, and how do you grow them?. So we had some drop-ins that are interested in "our Flowers".

Some of us are going to try and write article for the AIS bulletin as well as our newsletter. Speaking of our newsletter, we were late this spring, because Charles didn't have enough articles. The officers discussed this over the phone and at the annual meeting we asked the group how they felt about changing the dates of the newsletter from April to July and October to January. There were no objections and the majority of us felt that a July issue would allow members to write about the bloom season and what worked for each of us, so please be thinking about this for next spring.

Have a lovely summer and send Charles some article for the January newsletter.

Maxine

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The mailing label on this Newsletter shows the status of your dues payment according to records of the Secretary. Please check this notation and if it is incorrect, please, advise the Secretary accordingly. If it is correct and you are delinquent in your dues, how about renewing?

Floyd Wickenkamp,
Secretary/Treasurer

WHAT WORKED FOR ME IN NEW MEXICO

Maxine Perkins (New Mexico)

Actually I can only speak for two parts of N.M. Mesilla Park is in the semi-arid desert area and Tucumcari is on the eastern side where the winters are much colder and the growing season is about 180 days and ours is about 200. The summers are hot with many days above 100 degrees in both places and of course the sun shines most of the time. Mesilla Park has an average of 7 inches of rain and Tucumcari has about 14 inches.

I treat spurias the same in both places and they perform best for me here in Mesilla Park, because I'm here more and that extra care makes all the difference.

Each year I dig every thing from part of the beds and roto-till the ground, add humus or soil builder (a forest product) then I apply vapam, sprinkling it on, then watering it into the soil to seal the top and cover with plastic. I leave the plastic on a week then roto-till again and wait 2 weeks to plant. We do have some nemotode problems in the sandy soil, but I haven't found this to be a problem with spurias. I use the vapam to kill the weeds and annual grasses as well as bermuda grass.

The most important thing about spurias is not to let them dry out. I dig, trim, and divide, then place each variety in a plastic bag with peat moss or soil builder and keep them moist until they are planted, then I keep them damp for 2 to 4 weeks depending on the weather. It is still in the 90's here in September and October. Several people at the convention didn't seem to know this. It doesn't make any difference how much time and effort you spend on the preparation of the bed, if you let them dry out you loose a large percent, and you get little or no bloom on the survivors the first year.

I fertilize heavily when I plant (a hand full mixed into the soil under and around the rhizome). Our pH is around 7 so I don't add bone-meal. I use a fertilizer with twice as much phosphate as nitrogen. In February I fertilize again with a balanced commercial fertilizer and I fertilize right after they bloom. This year I also used fertilizer at two week intervals in the spring.

Best bloom in the established beds was CUSTOM DESIGN. First time I have had 6 & 7 buds on a stalk. GILDED CHALACE

Washington Annual Meeting (Cont.)

lication unless within that three month period five members in good standing have notified the President of the Society and they desire a vote on the proposed amendment. Any proposed amendment brought to a vote will be ratified if approved by a majority of the votes cast. (Fall, 1980 Newsletter, p. 24).

The next order of business was election of officers for the ensuing two years. Glen Corlew, Chariman of the Elections Committee, proposed a slate of officers as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| President | Maxine Perkins |
| First Vice President | Ruth Wilder |
| Second Vice President | Patricia Johnson |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Floyd Wickenkamp |
| Editor | B. Charles Jenkins |

Additional nominations were solicited by the President, and there being none, the slate proposed by the Elections Committee was declared approved.

The President again stressed the need for more articles for the Newsletter and it was suggested that one type of article which would be well received would be varietal comments from various parts of the country, together with cultural hints on growing spurias in a variety of climates. Such articles, or informal comments on any subject pertaining to spurias should be sent to the Editor whose name and address appear at the front of the Newsletter.

Business being concluded, a slide show was presented which included many of the newer introductions and numbered seedlings.

SLIDES FOR OUR SLIDE SETS

As mentioned elsewhere, the Society has slides available for rental. We try to keep these slides up-to-date with photos of the new introductions and must depend on the hybridizers to make sure we have their babies included. Here is a good way to get some free publicity for your new ones. Send them to Marilyn Holloway.

SPURIA IRISES IN A NORTHERN PRARIE GARDEN

F. Patrick Healy (Belmont, Manitoba, Canada)

My adventures with spurias started with Siberian irises. The climate here on the Canadian prairies certainly seems Siberian. Winters are long and cold; the temperature is generally below freezing from early or mid-November through to late March. The coldest temperatures are expected in January or early February when they normally range between -15° and 25° C ($+10^{\circ}$ to -10° F). However, they may fall into the -30° to -40° C (-20° to -40° F) range for several days, or up to 2 weeks at a time, or jump up to thawing for a day or two. Springs are very short. The warming having been delayed by snowmelt, temperatures quickly climb in late April, but frosts may occur into June. Peak summer temperatures occur in July and August and are in the 30° to 35° C (90° to 100° F) range. Adding stress to the temperature extremes, the climate is quite dry. Average annual precipitation in this area is about 40 cm (16 inches), about $2/3$ as rain, $1/3$ as snow. Precipitation is also very variable, both within the year and from year to year. For the past several years, it has been much below normal. This has resulted in both a drier than usual soil and reduced snow protection from winter cold.

To get back to Siberian irises then, temperature extremes are probably not a problem for these plants, but the dry climate probably is. *Iris sibirica* is native to central Europe, Russia, and western Siberia, a much wetter climate than that found here. Another problem is the soil; it tends to be alkaline here, in places sufficiently alkaline to kill apple trees and roses and make the foliage of some peony and daylily cultivars chlorotic. Siberian irises prefer a neutral to acid soil. Probably because of the dry climate and alkaline soils, siberian cultivars do not grow well here, especially the newer cultivars. But spuria irises are derived from species native to drier climates in southeastern Europe and southwestern to central Asia, where they often grow in alkaline or saline soils. This caused me to think they may be more at home here than the Siberians and were potential candidates to replace Siberians for late season iris bloom in the drier parts of the central plains.

The spurias I grow have been obtained from three sources. I obtained some older cultivars almost ten years ago

Spuria in a Northern Prairie Garden (Cont.)

from a grower in Ontario, and added a few more about five years ago. These were mostly introductions from the 1930's to the 1950's. None has been lost but most have been slow growers; DUTCH DEFIANCE and LARKSONG have increased the most. The original five cultivars flowered nicely where first planted in the wetter years of the early 1980's, but had to be moved because of crowding and the encroachment of a lilac hedge. I moved them to a lower part of the garden where I thought they would get more moisture, but I now believe I was mistaken. Because of some large spruce trees nearby, I think the soil is drier there than farther up the garden. That, combined with the recent very dry years, may account for the slower growth and poorer flowering I have seen in recent years. However, the more recent introduction, PROTEGE, acquired five years ago, has stood out from the others. Although its increase has not been as fast as that of some others, it has been much more consistent in flowering. I am now preparing a new site for these plants, still in the lower part of the garden but away from large trees.

When I recently contacted the Ontario grower from whom I obtained my original plants to ask if he had any more cultivars to offer, he told me he was no longer growing any for sale. He further suggested that since they were not doing well there, they probably would not survive the harsher climate here. I don't know what problems he had encountered. Perhaps the humid summers or winter thaws and rains led to rotting, or the moist summers to vegetative growth and little flowering. I expect the spurias prefer a drier climate, as long as it doesn't get too dry. If spuria irises can grow better in the harsh climate of the Canadian prairies than in the milder climate of Ontario, that only increases my interest in them.

My second source of spurias is the SIGNA seed exchange, where I have obtained many packets of seeds from spuria cultivars and species or natural varieties in the spuria group. Most of this seed has been planted out in lath-shaded frames where germination has been slow but generally good. I now have a large number of seedlings coming along. The first derived from spuria cultivars bloomed in 1990. Comparison of these with the older cultivars I

Dues are \$5.00 a year, \$12.00 for three years for singles; \$6.00 and \$14.00 for Family Memberships \$60.00 for LIFE Membership. Those who join will shortly receive a pamphlet giving information on growing spurias and listing some of the varieties that have proven themselves.

SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY

Washington Annual Meeting, 1991

The meeting was called to order by Maxine Perkins, President, followed by the report of the Secretary-Treasurer, a copy of which is included in this Newsletter.

The chief order of business was to consider a proposal made by the Editor of the Newsletter regarding changing the time of issuance of the Newsletter from April and October to January and July. The Editor had indicated that he thought that it would be easier to get people to write articles if they were fresh from seeing irises in bloom, and further that there might be more interest in purchasing spurias if the subject was fresh in their minds from reading the Newsletter; hence the proposal that the latter be published in July rather than April. The only disadvantage mentioned was that the publishing of the previous year's registrations and introductions would be held up until July as the information would not be available for the January issue.

The President asked for a show of hands regarding the proposal after discussion from the floor, and it was evident that the January-July dates were preferred. The President stated that the change would require a change in the Society-by-laws and that such a change would be proposed in the next issue of the Newsletter. The procedure to be followed in changing the by-laws is given in Article IX which reads as follows:

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendment to these By-Laws which has the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee will be submitted to the membership by publication in the Spuria Newsletter. Any such proposed amendment will become effective three months after pub-

REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

Washington Annual Meeting, 1991

1. MEMBERSHIP - We gained 24 in total membership during the past year for a total of 256; however 17 members are delinquent in paying their 1991 dues. I continue to send cards to those who have not paid their dues within 60 days after the due date, and this has resulted in an improvement in keeping the old members.

2. FINANCES - As of 18 April the balance in the bank was \$3,415.06, \$15 more than this time last year. However, none of the costs of the upcoming Newsletter have been paid, and there were some minor expenses preparing for this meeting (Questionnaire printing, and other copying, for example) also will appear on the next month's debits. Our big expenditure each year is for the Newsletter; the Fall, 1990 issue cost \$671 including postage, nearly double the cost five years ago. Steps are being taken by the Board to try to find a way to reduce these costs.

3. THE 1985 CHECKLIST - We currently have about 20 copies remaining of the 400+ in the initial printing. These remaining copies are being bound together with the two supplements and are available from the Secretary-Treasurer at a cost of \$6.00 including postage. The recently completed Supplement #2 covering all registrations and introductions for 1988, 1989, and 1990, plus all A.I.S. awards during that period for all previously introduced spurias, is available from the Secretary at no cost other than a stamped self-addressed envelope (29 cents). If you want both the supplements (1985 through 1990) the postage cost is 52 cents. Current plans are that when the present stock is exhausted the two supplements will be included in the bound copies as supplements. Incorporation of the information in the body of the Checklist will be a major job and will have to await the revised edition, presumably to be issued in 1995.

4. JOINING THE S.I.S. - If you are not a member and would like to join at this time you may do so after the meeting. Please put your name, address and amount of check or cash paid so that I will be able to identify the source of all the money received. Believe me, it gets sort of hairy at times.

Spuria in a Northern Prairie Garden (Cont.)

have been growing for several years showed me how much progress toward larger flowers and clearer colours has been made in the past few decades. The "species" seedlings I have all have names which I see Brian Mathew in "The Iris" has put as varieties of *I. spuria* (*carthaliniae*, *halophila*, *musulmanica*, *sogdiana*). Of these, only plants from seed labelled *I. halophila* have bloomed. The flowers showed a range of yellow and blue colours, but Mathew mentions only yellow shades for this iris. Undoubtedly, the seed from which all these *I. spuria* varieties were obtained was from garden-grown plants, and most or all the seedlings may be hybrids, not the natural species or varieties.

Finally, in 1989 I found a U.S. grower who would ship to Canada. In the fall of that year I received a fine shipment of large rhizomes (Thank you Cordon Bleu!). Then came the coldest December in a century - two weeks of -30° to -40° C (-20° to -40° F) temperatures with virtually no snow cover. Earlier in the fall I had put on 15 to 20 cm (6 to 8 inches) of wheat straw, my usual precaution with fall plantings. This mulch had done its job of trapping snow from earlier light snowfalls. Just before the very cold weather began, I added a further 20 to 30 cm (8 to 12 inches) of straw. This caught a further few centimetres of snow which came as the temperatures fell. By itself the straw mulch is too porous to provide much protection from low temperatures: its role is to trap whatever snow may fall and, by shading it, prevent it from melting during intervening thaws. In spite of my fears, all but one cultivar survived the winter and several bloomed in 1990. Comparison with older cultivars emphasized again the progress of the last few decades. In bloom, the plants attracted visitors as honey attracts bees. Said one lady: "'Who needs orchids?'" Encouraged by this, last fall I added to my collection with shipments from two U.S. growers.

For cultivation I have followed guidance in books and the newsletter. For the main plantings I have chosen areas in the lower part of the garden as more likely to remain more moist (or less dry) through the summer. Before planting, I have mixed in well-rotted manure. In my reading, I haven't found, or have overlooked, any mention of depth to

Spuria in a Northern Prairie Garden (Cont.)

plant, but have planted with the rhizome covered with about 5 cm (2 inches) of soil to give as much winter protection as I dared. For further protection I cover all plantings with about 15 cm (6 inches) of straw over the winter. Of this I leave about 5 cm (2 inches) through the summer to help keep the soil from drying. This mulch probably mimics grass and other plants which I expect surround the iris in their native state. I water the plants in well after planting but otherwise have not irrigated them, there being so many other demands on the water supply. This may have to change if the dry weather continues.

I am very pleased with spuria irises so far, but some uncertainties remain. Although some of the parent species and varieties are native to central Asia, most grow in warmer climates nearer the Mediterranean. Furthermore, most hybridization and selection is being done in much more milder climates than here. As a result, winter hardiness remains uncertain. Again, while the parent plants range over dry areas, they are often mentioned as growing along irrigation ditches or in moist meadows and marshes. Thus they may not perform as well as expected in dry garden soil. Only many years experience will provide the answers, but so far indications are promising that spuria irises may prove good garden plants for the dry interior of North America.

POLICY STATEMENT

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SUPPLEMENT #2 TO SPURIA CHECKLIST NOW AVAILABLE

This supplement includes descriptions and related data for all spurias registered and/or introduced during 1988, 1989 and 1990; also awards issued during those three years not only to those varieties listed but also to those contained in the Checklist itself and Supplement #1. The supplements are the same size as the Checklist and may be bound to the latter by means of a "slip-on" edge binder, available at office supply stores.

A copy may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed large envelope (business size) to the address listed below. Include postage for one ounce. If you want both supplements two ounces worth of postage is required.

The 1985 Checklist with both supplements is available for \$6.00 within the U.S.A. The supplements will be bound with the Checklist using the above-mentioned slip-on. The charge for Canada is \$6.50. For air shipment overseas the rates are as follows:

Europe and South America - \$8.00

Africa, Asia, Australia & New Zealand - \$9.00

Orders should be addressed to:

FLOYD W. WICKENKAMP, Treasurer

10521 Bellarose Drive

Sun City, AZ 85351

OMISSION FROM 1985 EDITION OF THE SPURIA CHECKLIST

Member Jo Ann Neagles has pointed out that Ben Hager's 1983 introduction DRAGON RIDER is not listed in the Checklist. Here is the description as given in the 1983 REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS:

DRAGON RIDER (B. Hager, R. 1983). Sdlg. S712DkBch. SPU, 45" (114cm), M. Very dark brown, subdued orange signal. Proverb X S454DkBl: (Farolito x Arbitrator). Melrose Gardens 1983.

MISSOURI RIVERS (O.D. Niswonger, R. 1989) Sdlg. Sp 3-86. SPU, 38" (97 cm), M. Ruffled blue, yellow blaze on F. Missouri Streams X unknown, probably self. Cape Iris 1990.

ORO DE SONORA (F. Wickenkamp, R. 1990). Sdlg. SP-84-3. SPU, 54" (137 cm), ML. Gold, narrow orange stripe on F. Midrib; wavy and ruffled F. Butter Paddle X McCown ruffled gold sdlg.

SAGE (J. Ghio, R. 1989). Sdlg. SP84-221A. SPU, 36" (91 cm), M. S. slate violet: F. yellow veined violet overall. Evening Dress X Eleanor Hill. Bay View Gardens 1990.

SULTAN'S SASH (O.D. Niswonger, R. 1989). Sdlg. Sp 4-81. SPU, 40" (102 cm), M. Deep red violet, infused yellow on F. Cinnamon Stick X Redwood Supreme. Cape Iris 1990.

TINY LOU (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1990). Sdlg. A28-11A. SPU, 26" (79 cm), E. Lightly ruffled blue, small yellow signal. Protege X Dawn Candle. Shepard Iris 1990.

TOUCH OF LACE (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1990). Sdlg. A20-11K. SPU 45-56" (114-142 cm), M. Lacy pale bluish white, small yellow signal. Ila Crawford X Dawn Candle.

UNIVERSAL PEACE (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1990,. Sdlg. B5-3D. SPU, 36-47" (91-119 cm), M. S. purple; F. purple lines over ivory ground. Equality X Crow Wing.

WHITE SHIMMER (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1990). Sdlg. A20-11B. SPU, 36-49" (89-124 cm), E. Lacy white, yellow signal. Ila Crawford X Dawn Candle.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Dues may be sent either to the Secretary-Treasurer listed inside the front cover or to the American Iris Society Membership Secretary. Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155.

The membership rolls for the Spuria Iris Society are kept by the S.I.S. Secretary and NOT by the A.I.S. Membership Secretary. Therefore, in case of a change in your address, PLEASE advise the S.I.S. Secretary; otherwise you may not receive future mailings.

PINK CANDLES TOOK A HIKE Thelma Murphy (California)

I suspect none of us, whether as attendee or speaker, has ever experienced a garden club iris program's question phase without some nice lady inquiring why her fine new and various bearded iris all "reverted to white," (or yellow or lavender) -----different meetings, different ladies, different hues. We can deduce from her question that she had been growing a tolerant, rampant sort, she didn't get all the little nubbins of increase out of the soil and that she was not being a breathlessly addicted gardener while the tough babies were growing apace, crowding out the fancy new iris.

What does this have to do with spurias? Several years ago my border of spurias, then about 4 by 25 feet, planted but a few years and not very crowded, threatened to "revert" to PINK CANDLES (Ferguson '73). During peak bloom season that spring I was amazed to see PINK CANDLES blooming hither and yon. Although it had been set out in only one place, some were blooming as far afield as the second clump away.

The rhizomes had not shown any preference for zigzagging through the areas of bare soil. When spuria neighbors were in the path their rhizomes were pressed down, with throughly self-planted PINK CANDLES growing and blooming on top.

Using the various blooms for positive identification, I got right at prying out the imposters, matching broken ends when I lost the trail, back to the mother clump. I decided I could do without PINK CANDLES and dug it up. None of the others showed any permanent damage from what must have been a comparatively short banishment to the sub-basement of the garden spot.

I'm wondering where PINK CANDLES got its extraordinary vigor, and if there are other cultivars as assertive. In twenty years now, I've noticed the range from temperamental to seemingly infinitely tolerant spurias, but I haven't had this kind of experience again. Or if I have, I haven't been observing at the right time to notice a takeover in progress.

Editors Note:

Wide fluctuations in vigor are being noted among the 180+ cultivars being established in the display garden near Aromas.

SPURIA REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS IN
1990

BRONZING (B. Blyth, R. 1989). Sdlg. S267-2. SPU, 36" (91 cm), M-ML. Mid blue, bronzy gold signal. Niswonger 14-77: (Ferguson dark sdlg. x Crow Wing) X Niswonger 14-78: (Ferguson dark sdlg. x Butter Paddle). Tempo Two 1989/90

CAFEINE (P. Anfosso, R. 1990). Sdlg. P 81 S 11A. SPU, 47" (120 cm), E. Dark brown, gold in center of F. Proverb X Sdlg. Iris en Provence 1990.

CALIFE (P. Anfosso, R. 1990). Sdlg. P 82 S 5. SPU, 36" (90 cm), ML. S. purple with brown veining; F. gold yellow with brown veining, bright mauve edge. Sarong X Just Reward. Iris en Provence 1990.

CANDLE LACE (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1989). Sdlg. A20-11C. SPU, 49" (124 cm), M. Laced clear yellow self. Ila Crawford X Dawn Candle. Shepard Iris 1990.

CENTERING POINT (J. Ghio, R. 1989). Sdlg. SP84-220B. SPU, 42" (107 cm), ML. Muted purple with precise dime sized gold signal. Evening Driss X Cinnibar Red. Bay View 1990.

CHESTNUT CHIME (B. Blythe, R. 1989). Sdlg. S265-1. SPU, 36" (91 cm), E-M. Pure chocolate brown self. Niswonger 14-78: (Ferguson dark sdlg. x Butter Paddle X Niswonger 14-77: (Ferguson dark sdlg. x Crow Wing). Tempo Two 1989/90.

COLOR FOCUS (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1989). Sdlg. A20-0B. SPU, 45" (114 cm), EM. S. light purple; F. ivory ground, large yellow signal, radiating purple lines; ruffled purple edge. Ila Crawford x unknown. Shepard Iris 1990.

FIXED STAR (B. Hagar, R. 1989). Sdlg. S859Wh. SPU, 29" (74 cm), M. White with hint of yellow in signal area; white styles. S536: (((Ruth Nies Cabeen x Media Luz) x self) x Clarke Cosgrove) X S511WhSmSg: (Media Luz x Marilyn Holloway). Melrose Gardens 1990).

GOLDEN TIGER (J. Wight, R. 1990). Sdlg. 79-1B. SPU, 42" (107 cm), M. Golden green with prominent light maroon veining. Char-Tru X Forty Carats.

GOLD MANIA (B. BLYTHE, R. 1989). Sdlg. S265-2. SPU, 42-45" (107-114 cm), M. Pure rich gold. Niswonger 14-78: (Ferguson dark sdlg. x Butter Paddle X Niswonger 14-77: (Ferguson dark sdlg. x Crow Wing). Tempo Two 1989/90.

IMPERIAL YELLOW (R. Sloan by J. Wight, R. 1990). Sdlg. 79-4-A. SPU, 40" (102 cm), M. Full yellow (RHS 13A). Far Out X Archie Owen.

JEAN COLLINS (H. Collins, R. 1990). Sdlg. 1985/SP 10. SPU, 55" (140 cm), M. S. white, lined gold; F. white, yellow area in throat lined gold, white signal; slight fragrance. Unknown parentage.

KIWI GOLD (H. Collins, R. 1990). Sdlg. 1985 SP 18. SPU, 51" (130 cm), M. S. bright yellow, gold line in center; F. bright yellow, gold line from hafts, yellow signal; slight fragrance. Unknown parentage.

LIGHTED SIGNAL (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1990) Sdlg. C26-36E. SPU, 40-48" (102-122 cm), M. Blue purple, small yellow signal uniquely diffused at edge. Ping X Terra Nova.

LOOK AGAIN (B.C. Jenkins, R. 1990). Sdlg. B5-1D. SPU, 31-43" (79-109 cm), EM. Purple with uniquely shaped signal. Equality X Ada Perry.

LOUQSOR (P. Anfosso, R. 1990). Sdlg. P 82 S 10A. SPU, 39" (100 cm), M. S. white; F. bright yellow edged white. Equality X (Marilyn Holloway x Fort Ridge). Iris en Provence 1990.

MARITIMA GEM (B. Hager, R. 1989). Sdlg. S834-1. SPU, 19" (48 cm), M-L. Deep violet, violet veining surrounding yellow line signal and halfway down F. Clarke Cosgrove X *I. maritima*. Mellrose Gardens 1990.