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Bringing Hybridizers and Growers Together

Brugmansia Growers International

www.brugmansia.us

Brugmansia Growers International

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On the cover: French Canadian

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The many faces of the genus Brugmansia



New Orleans Lady ***2012 Brugmansia of the Year*** ***Hybridizer: Mary Voss*** ***Released: 2006***

This year we asked the BGI Advisors to pick our Brugmansia of the Year. After much discussion, New Orleans Lady was chosen for its proven track record, great blooms and fragrance! One that is a must for everyone's collection!



New Brugmansia Cultivar Names

Brugmansia Growers International would like to announce the following new cultivar names in the genus Brugmansia.

New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* Pink Blush

Pod Parent: Angel's Swingtime

Pollen Parent: Tabby

Hybridizer: Mike Pettitt

Seedling Parent: Mike Pettitt

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: Pink

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Robust plant, long lasting blooms which darken as flower matures. Small to medium leaf.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Margaret'

Pod Parent: Double Dark Rosetta

Pollen Parent: B. aurea [yellow]

Hybridizer: Volker Sanders

Seedling Parent: Gill Peters

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: White/Cream

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Single, creamy white through to pale peach flowers with very strong fragrance and long corolla tips. Flowered first year from seed and flushes several times during the season. Appears resistant to Spider Mite, Aphids and Blackfly.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Hurstwood Sundown'

Pod Parent: (Rosa Lila x Wildfire) #7

Pollen Parent: Mystic Fire

Hybridizer: Alan Ashworth (Hurstwood)

Seedling Parent: Alan Ashworth (Hurstwood)

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: Apricot/Melon/Peach

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If variegated, type of Variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: arbovensis

Comments: Strong grower. Heavy bloomer during its bloom flush. Unusual colouration.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Hurstwood Sunshine'

Pod Parent: (Sang X Amethyst 4)

Pollen Parent: (Sang X Amethyst 5)

Originator/Hybridizer: Alan Ashworth (Hurstwood)

Seedling Parent: Alan Ashworth (Hurstwood)

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Position: nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If variegated, type of Variegation:

Species/Breeding History Set: rubella

Comments: Large bloom. Strong grower. Blooms early on small plant.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Snuggles'

Pod Parent: Earth Angel

Pollen Parent: Unknown

Hybridizer: Edna Murphree

Seedling Parent: Edna Murphree

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: Pink

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If variegated, type of Variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Very soft, almost fuzzy bloom. Tendrils almost non existent, maybe 1/8" at best. Very unique looking.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Fruit Salad'

Pod Parent: Georgia Peach

Pollen Parent: Lizzy

Hybridizer: Elizabeth Fichtl

Seedling Parent: Elizabeth Fichtl

Flower Form: Double or more

Flower Color: Apricot/Melon/Peach

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If variegated, type of Variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Multi-colored (pink-melon-yellow-cream) multi-corolla flower that remains multi-colored throughout the life of the flower. Easy to root. Fast growing. Medium - tall plant overall. Medium, sweet fragrance.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Tiger'

Pod Parent: Angels Endless Summer

Pollen Parent: Tabby

Hybridizer: Edna Murphree

Seedling Parent: Edna Murphree

Flower Form: Double

Flower Color: Orange

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If variegated, type of Variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: 100% doubles, never a single. Opens yellow/orange. Fragrant. Healthy plant for over 2 years.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Marisol'

Pod Parent: White Pearl

Pollen Parent: Salmon Perfection

Hybridizer: Mario Verhellin

Seedling Parent: Linda Hachez

Flower Form: Double

Flower Color: Yellow

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If variegated, type of Variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Strong, healthy plant, pest and disease resistant, moderate, continuous flushes. Flowers lasting well over two weeks, skirts defined but tightly tucked in, thick, but not waxy. Roots well from cuttings, cuttings flower true.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Miz Scarlett'
Pod Parent: Esmeraldas
Pollen Parent: Mountain Magic
Hybridizer: J.T. Sessions
Seedling Parent: Brenda Bautista
Flower Form: Single
Flower Color: Pink
Flower Position: Nodding
Flower Shape: Trumpet
Foliage: Solid
If variegated, type of Variegation: N/A
Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis
Comments: Flushes all summer, hardy in extreme heat.
Strong pure lemon scent.



Australian Knightii

By: Jean Briggs (sunset)

I thought those overseas may be interested in seeing a *Brugmansia* which resides in the Botanic Gardens near me in Portland, Victoria.

I first noticed the tree a few years ago when some of the surrounding plants were cut back. Unless you see them in flower, sometimes brugs do go unnoticed.

I brought a small piece home as there was a nearly dead flower left on the tree which showed me the blooms were double whites.

My small piece grew well and and flowered for the first time last year.

On asking at the Gardens, I was directed to the head gardener who has been there for many years. He was able to tell me that the *Brugmansia* had been there since the mid 1800s.

As you can see from the picture, the trunks have been cut over many years. The base is about 3' x 2', and the tree itself is looking the best I have seen it over the years. I cannot resist stroking the velvet leaves of the Knightiis. So soft.

The pictures are of the tree base and some blooms from my cutting from the old fellow.



Things I've Learned - Lessons #1 - 9 from my first brug year.

By: Donna Slaga (dj77)

#1 Amazing things can start from humble beginnings

In the fall of 2011 I decided to give some cuttings a try. Having never grown brug cuttings before, I wasn't sure if they would have time to bloom in 2012. I planted them, they rooted, and then I basically kept them in a holding pattern until the spring of 2012 due to a lack of space. Xena was one of the cuttings and by 6/30/12 had 1" buds on it. 7/19/12 she opened her first blossom and from that point forward had at least one open blossom for the entire remaining growing season. By 9/7/12 she was over 10' tall and you'd never have known she had spent the previous winter as an 8" cutting. I've learned to never underestimate the growth potential of a brug.



#2 Stick with what you know

I'd grown and propagated plants for many years before I decided to give brugs a try. I read about the different soil mixes, long-stranded sphagnum moss and other methods people use for rooting their cuttings. I chose a method from a successful grower and into pots my cuttings went. All looked well for a while and then before I knew it I started losing them. I had been very careful about not overwatering or under watering them but even with a very close eye on them they were dying. I would unpot them, finding parts of the cuttings soft, cut it off and repot. This went on and on until there was nothing left to cut-off. This was very disappointing, especially since I had been so successful with some difficult to grow types of plants in the past. Brugs were supposed to be easy and I was failing badly. I had a particular soil mix that I had used for years on other plants, many different types of plants, and had great success with it. I knew how fast the mix dried, how much water it held, the difference in the weight of a pot that needed water and one that didn't, I knew my mix inside and out. I decided to try it with my brug cuttings and sure enough, great success. There was no need for me to try something I was completely unfamiliar with, I should have just stuck with the mix I knew best.

#3 Don't knock it until you've tried it

I had purchased some cuttings from a BGI member and as a bonus they had thrown in the Xena cutting. Not having a lot of space, I wasn't sure I was going to keep the cutting. I looked Xena up in the gallery and while pretty, I really wasn't sure if it was a keeper. I've definitely learned not to form an opinion on a plant until I've tried it. This plant flowered endlessly, was incredibly strong and stout in growth, never was bothered by bugs and was a star performer all summer long. I can't believe I so seriously considered throwing the cutting out. A Xena close-up is below.

#4 If you've got a lot of big pots to fill and you mix your own soil, let it get you "over a barrel"

All of my plants were grown in large 20+ gallon pots in a soil that I mix myself. Right around pot #8, I decided there HAD to be a better way. In addition to my broken back from the effort, I was making progress at a very slow rate. With over 20 plants and only having time to play with my plants on the weekend, it looked like I'd finally have all of them potted up right about the time I was going to have to bring them in for the winter! Not good. After I had just finished potting one up and was sitting waiting for the moment my back might actually let me stand up straight again, it dawned on me, my composting barrel! I throw in my soil ingredients, give it a few spins and presto chango, brug soil by the wheelbarrow loads. What an absolute godsend this has been.



#5 There's pigs and then there are HOGS

I'd read where brugss need lots of fertilizer but these plants give "lots" a whole new meaning. Being a newbie, I was very cautious at first but dang if they didn't devour everything I gave them and come back for more. I ended up using timed-release fertilizer in the soil AND fed them 3 times a week with liquid fertilizer. They thrived and bloomed better than I could have ever hoped.



#6 Tough break

You can't expect a plant that grows at the speed a brug does to have great structural strength. The wood is going to be soft because of the rate that the cells are multiplying. There's not a lot of "aging" going on. Add to the soft wood a tremendous number of large blossoms and a structure that likes to "Y" often, and you have the potential for disaster. I was introduced to that disaster one early morning when I found one of my best shaped plants that was loaded with buds destroyed. One entire half of the main "Y" had snapped completely off. The branch could just not support the weight of all the buds on it. It was heartbreaking to see the shape of the tree destroyed. From that point forward I made certain to tie some supports on all my other trees to add some strength to the main "Y". Even after some really severe winds I never had another plant with a broken branch.



#7 Don't feed the animals

Because I grow my brugss in pots, I like to have some companion plants in the pot with them to add some color to my yard when the brugss aren't in bloom. Finding the right companion plants is still an ongoing pursuit. Petunias love all the fertilizer and moisture a brug does and thrived for me this summer. The potato vines I added with the petunias also thrived but at a whole 'nother level. They grew at warp speed and quickly overwhelmed anything in their path. Not only did they completely overgrow the petunias and shade them out but they grew down the pot and across the lawn in a radius of approximately 6'. I was looking for color, not ground cover! Sometimes things can grow a little too well.

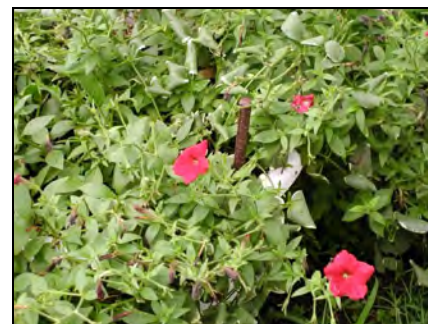


#8 So much for logic

When I potted up my plants my plan was to grow them as standards. I fell in love with that look from seeing pictures of them on BGI. While planning on growing them that way, I also hoped that perhaps my plants would send up additional shoots that I could then cut off, root and keep as a back-up. In my mind, I would cut off the new shoot and leave the original mother plant, figuring that the older plant would be more established and grow faster. I learned that is not always the case. On a few of my plants that I left young shoots on, they quickly outgrew the mother and flowered sooner. Plus, if I removed the woody "mother", I had a much higher chance of getting it to successfully root as compared to the young new growth. Flowers sooner and much higher chance of propagating the plant, it was a win/win for me.

#9 A little stake with those potatoes

While my sweet potatoes did their best to engulf my pots and spread their tentacles in a wide path firmly gripping my lawn, brugss grown as standards do get tall and full in large pots. Take a lot of height with a lot of large leaves, add a little wind to the mix and before you know it, TIMBERRRRR. It took just a light breeze to knock over my tall growing New Orleans Lady. While some people like to bury a portion of their pots in the ground to stop this from happening, I like to be able to move my pots around. Burying wasn't going to work for me. I didn't like the idea of stakes and cords around each plant because while it would give me a chance to practice my limbo moves, I'm certain I would just be tripping over them. What worked great for me was to pound a 3' piece of rebar through the pot and into the ground beneath. No more worries about anything toppling over.



To be continued in a future issue...

Why I grow Datura stramonium

By: Al Maas (Al)

I used to think it was nonsense. Growing marigolds to keep bugs away. I've seen marigolds so covered with spidermites, aphid, & whitefly that you couldn't recognize them.

But this trick really works for me.

Datura stramonium (or Tatula) WILL attract every flea beetle, rose chafer, cucumber beetle, tortoise beetle in the neighborhood, and the bugs will leave your other plants alone AS LONG AS there are some tender stramonium seedlings nearby to dine on.

There IS a trick to it, though. You will have to be sure you don't let them get out of hand. When they get old enough to start setting seeds, you've got to pull them and compost them or your garden will be over-run. They are called a weed for a reason. But they can be useful too.

Here is a picture of some precious Brug seedlings with some stramonium seedlings growing right beside them. (above) The Dautras are covered with holes from all sorts of critters, but there's not a single bug on the Brugs. And NO Chemicals!! (yet)

I will have to pull out the stramoniums soon so they don't take over compete, and shade out the Brugs, but it has been convenient not to have to worry about bugs while the Brug seedlings have gotten established.

I use stramonium seedlings as bait in my turnip, kale, chard, lettuce, and mustard-greenpatch too, as I grow these all completely chemical free.

