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Spring '61

THE SIBERIAN IRIS



Published

By

The Society For Siberian Irises

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER
Peggy Edwards

With this first issue of The Siberian Iris our new Society really gets under way as an organization. With your help it can develop its full potential; without you it cannot. I don't mean merely that you must go out and gather in Siberian fanciers if it is to grow - although that too will help. What all our members will have to do if we are to grow, is to do whatever is within their abilities to improve the Siberian iris as a garden plant and increase interest in its use. You will find in this issue several suggestions and hints - you will no doubt think up others. Look over the list of Committees and consider whether you couldn't be useful on at least one of them. And don't be bashful! The editors of this publication never edited anything before - but we were willing to try (and I don't think we did too badly, did we?) take a hint from us.

Everyone who grows any Siberians at all can help on one of the research projects: describe carefully, following the form you will find in this issue, every named variety you grow, and every species or plant sold you as a species. If you hybridize at all, keep careful records of the result of crosses involving Siberians. We hope in our next issue to list several specific crosses on which information is needed. You don't have to be a trained scientist to do these jobs. If you can match swatches of fabric, or fill out an application for a driver's license, or follow a recipe, you can do these jobs. Even more than this, talk Siberian every chance you get. If you belong to a garden club, tell - even better, show - your fellow members how wonderful they are for arranging, how handsome in the garden. If you take color slides of your iris, take one for you and one for us, and help build up a slide collection. When the collection is in existence try to get your garden club or iris group to borrow it for a program. If you have a good collection of Siberians, open your garden to visitors - and let the local papers know about it: where and when visitors will be welcome. Create - investigate - propagandize the Siberian iris.

And if you are an accredited AIS judge, by all means study the ones eligible for awards and vote for them as enthusiastically as your conscience allows! Let's get the Morgan Award reactivated.

Now, if you will excuse me while I change hats -

My thanks to the contributors to this our first issue, and I know Charlotte Withers joins me. To Sarah Tiffney, who worked her way through the AIS Check Lists and Supplements, Bulletins, BIS Year Books, old and new catalogues and other publications for the material in the various lists she put together on sources, awards, and varieties in commerce - and to her husband too; Wes MUST have had a few cold suppers! To Irene Van De Water who rummaged through quite a few publications researching facts for her article, and not all in her own bookcase either. To Bill McGarvey who was a fertile source of ideas, as well as the producer of the name The Siberian Iris. And Charlotte herself did the really dirty job of cutting all the stencils and seeing them through the duplicating machine. All of them made my job so much easier than I had expected - for which I am especially thankful.

I hope you members all enjoy it!

A. I. S. AWARDS TO SIBERIAN IRISES

Present Status (The Highest Level Each Variety Has Achieved,
As of April 1961)

MORGAN AWARD

Tycoon 1951 (Also H.M. 1950)
Eric the Red 1952 (Also A.M. 1946, H.M. 1944, H.C. 1943)
Caesar's Brother 1953 (Also H.M. 1936)
Tropic Night 1954 (Also H.M. 1951)

AWARD OF MERIT (A.M.) Of the same rank as Morgan Award, and
given before the Morgan Award was instituted.

Helen Astor 1942 (Also H.M. 1941)
Mountain Lake 1944 (Also H.M. 1942)
Eric the Red 1946 (Also Morgan Award 1952;
H. M. 1944, H.C. 1943)

HONORABLE MENTION (H.M.) THESE ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR THE
MORGAN AWARD.

Martha le Grand 1936
Snowcrest 1936
Cool Spring 1951
Royal Ensign 1953 and 1958
White Swirl 1957

HIGH COMMENDATION (H.C.)

Yankee Trader (as "No. 52") 1953

Note - Any Siberian iris that has been introduced in 1960 or before
(no matter how long before) is eligible for H.M. Those introduced
during 1961 will be eligible for H.M. in 1962.

Any Siberian iris that has not been introduced, whether it is
under number or has been registered under a name, is eligible for H.C.

ENGLISH HONORS:

Snow Queen A.M. RHS 1902
Emperor A.M. RHS 1914
Perry's Blue A.M. RHS 5 June 1917
Margot Holmes Silver Medal, I.S.(E.) 1927;
Dykes Medal England 1927
A.M.RHS 1927
Caesar A.M.RHS 1928
Ottawa A.M.RHS 1928

THE SIBERIAN IRIS

Irene Van De Water

Part I

To characterize the Series Sibiricae in a strictly botanical way, it is necessary to refer to the works of Dykes, Foster or Lawrence, and since the latter's is the most recent work, it would be logical to use this as the reference. According to Lawrence, the "Siberian-type" iris are in the Section Spathula (i.e. spoon-shaped); Subsection Apogon (i.e. beardless); Series Sibiricae which consists at present of ten species. This series is closely allied to Series Californicae, but differs from it in the relatively stouter, heavier rhizomes. The Sibiricae differ from all other iris in having a hollow stem, with the exception of *I. clarkei*, and this can be used as a test if you are in doubt as to whether a certain iris is or is not a Siberian.

These ten species and some of their known characteristics are listed here in table form:

SERIES SIBIRICAE

<u>Species</u>	<u>Bloom Time</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Leaves</u>	<u>Stalk</u>	<u>Chromosome Count</u>
bulleyana	June	lilac-purple	shiny	18"	40
Chrysographes	June	violet, red, black-purple yellow-gold, veins usually	dull	15"	40
clarkei	May	blue-purple	shiny	24"-solid	40
delavayi	June	purple	dull	45-60" leggy, high above leaves	40
dykesii	July	violet, gold markings	dull (sometimes described as falcate)	24-30"	---
forrestii	May	yellow, brown veins	shiny	18-20"	40
phragmitetorum	May	deep blue	---	18"	---
sanguinea (orientalis)	May	red-purple white; spathe red-purple	dull, broad droopy	30"	28
sibirica	June	blue, purple white	dull	36"	28
wilsonii	June	pale yellow, light purple veins	dull	24"	40

It is interesting to note here that a 'man-made species might be included in this list. If one is inclined to consider a tetraploid as such. G. W. Darby has recently produced by the use of colchicine a tetraploid Siberian which he has named 'William Darby '.

In trying to characterize Siberian Iris it is necessary to remember that the name is commonly applied to garden hybrids. Since most of these are derived from crosses of *Iris Sibirica* and *I. sanguinea* (often known as *orientalis*), it is well to list separately the characteristics of both these wild species. *I. sibirica* is a native of central Europe and blooms in June. *I. sanguinea* is a native of northeastern Asia and blooms in May.

FOLIAGE: The foliage of *sibirica* is dull green, narrow, grasslike, erect, arising in dense clumps from the extensive mats of fibrous roots. That of *sanguinea* is also a dull green, but noticeably broader than that of *sibirica* and has a tendency to droop. This characteristic of droopy foliage, giving an effect of a green fountain, is seen in several named varieties.

FLOWER STALK OR STEM: *sibirica* has an irregularly-branched hollow stalk which is appreciably taller than its foliage, reaching a height of 36" or more. The stalk of *sanguinea* is also hollow but is only about 30" tall. Named varieties, which are mostly hybrids, show a range of 15 inches to 5 feet. Perhaps 'hybrid vigor' explains some of these figures. *Sanguinea* possesses a distinctive character in that it has reddish-purple spathes. A new English variety, Ellesmere (Hutchison) has a stem which is 'clothed at intervals with long reddish-black spathes'.

FLOWER: the flower of *sanguinea* is noticeably larger than that of *sibirica*, the falls especially being broader and more rounded. A white form of *sanguinea* called Snow Queen has handed these desirable characteristics to its progeny, e. g. Gatineau, which in turn is known to pass on these traits to its children. Besides this, Gatineau carries the gene for recessive white from Snow Queen and has produced some whites. The usual color of *sanguinea* is a red-purple; that of *sibirica* is a blue-purple, with occasional white forms. Another color difference is that the color in the falls of *sanguinea* pales to a conspicuous white area in the center of the fall. The inheritance of this characteristic is quite evident in Gatineau.

ROOTS: M. E. Kitton writes: "Sibiricas are not generally regarded as rhizomatous in the 'Tall bearded' sense, but, in the plants that have been examined, the outside fans of leaves have a very definite thickening at the base very much like a small rhizome, and more important, on the outside face of each there are invariably to be seen the buds of the new roots, exactly like, except for size, those found on the outside faces of the rhizomes of tall bearded irises dug up immediately after flowering". This writer also mentions digging up siberians planted in an unfavorable spot and finding two sets of roots, short fibrous ones near the surface and tough string ones going down two feet or more. He called these "feeding" roots and "water" roots.

(This is the first of a set of articles by Mrs. Van De Water. Later issues will carry descriptions of the 40-chromosome species and their hybrids and the points by which we can distinguish the Siberians from other Apogons.)

CHECKLIST OF SIBERIAN IRIS VARIETIES
EXISTING NOW OR RECENTLY

The 28-Chromosome Varieties

The following list of the common garden Siberian - that is, those derived from Iris siberica and I. sanguinea (orientalis), presumably having a 2n number of 28 chromosomes - includes all the varieties we know which are now or were recently growing in a garden somewhere, or were registered or listed in catalogs or articles within approximately the last ten years. Some of them have not yet been introduced, some may well have been lost and some may be mislabeled, but for the most part these are the Siberian varieties existing today. The information following each name is not a complete or official version; rather it is an abstract of the most useful parts from the official records, with some additional notes ((in double parentheses)) which are strictly unofficial!

Each variety is described according to the following form:

Name (Originator, date of registration or introduction), Season of bloom E early, M midseason, L late in the Siberian season; height of flowering stalk in inches; Color L light, M medium, D dark and the color name as translated from the Checklist symbols, or in the case of recent introductions, copies from the Registration Lists as given by the originator; parentage if known; honors, if any; ((further notes which are unofficial)).

NOTE ABOUT COLORS - the colors as translated from the Checklist symbols are often very uninformative (B is used for both blue and purple in many cases, and whether a flower is light, medium or dark depends on what the describer was comparing it to at the moment, "feathered" sometimes means "with a big signal patch"! So don't take these too seriously!

Abbreviations - AIS American Iris Society; RHS - Royal Horticultural Society, England; H. C. - High Commendation; H. M. - Honorable Mention; A.M. - Award of Merit.

Additions of living varieties to this list would be welcome.

ABITIBI (Preston 1932) L-blue self. Siberica maxima x Snow Queen.

ACUTA (Willdenow 1813. Europe and Asia) dwarf; M-blue self. ((Apparently occurring over large area in nature. One available now has extra large white signal patch.))

AHALYA (Nesmith 1932) ((L-pink-lavender, short)).

AMELIA EARHEART (H.P. Sass-Scheffy 1939) E. D-blue. ((Apparently bred by Sass; listed by Scheffy))

ANN STAHLMAN (Washington 1931) L-blue self.

AOTEA ROA (McCashin, D. 1957) M. 24" M-blue self. Madawaska x Ottawa. ((Recent New Zealand introduction))

- BAXTERI (Macoun before 1912) L-blue. ((? M-D-blue))
- BICKEL BLUE (Stoll 1953) E. 25" L-blue self (M&P 41-A-6) Gatineau x Snowy Egret.
- BLUE BRILLIANT (Cassebeer 1959) M-L. 26" Standards M-blue, falls slightly lighter. Parentage unknown.
- BLUE CAPE (Kitton 1956) M. 42" D-blue self. A Gatineau seedling. ((Recent English introduction))
- BLUE CHARM (H. P. Sass 1932) M-blue self ((? L blue))
- BLUE FLAME (Cleveland 1927) L-blue self.
- BLUE HERON (Cleveland 1927) M-blue self.
- BLUE KING (Barr 1902 collected Japan) M-blue self. ((Presumably a selection of L. sanguinea)
- BLUE MERE (Hutchison 1959) L. 36" Gentian-blue self. Wisley White seedling x Gatineau. ((Recent English introduction))
- BLUE MOON (Scheffy 1952) M. 36" M-D-blue violet, more vivid at center. ((Flat form, standards and falls horizontal))
- BLUE RIDGE (Cleveland 1929) L-blue self.
- BLUE STAR (Cleveland 1927) D-blue self ((Flat form, standards and falls horizontal))
- BLUE WINGS (Cleveland 1929) L-blue self.
- BOB WHITE (Cleveland 1927) White self.
- BUTTERFLY (Cleveland 1920) L-blue self.
- CAESAR (Morgan 1930) D-reddish blue ((rich purple)) Nigrescens x Blue King. A.M.,RHS, 1928.
- CAESAR'S BROTHER (Morgan 1932) D-blue ((very dark purple-blue)) H.M.AIS 1936, Morgan Award 1953.
- CHAUDIERE (Preston 1932) L-blue self. Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen.
- CHINA BLUE (Preston before 1933) L-blue self, Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen.
- CONGO DRUMS (Walter Marx) L. 36" Very deep purple self. Caesar's Brother x unknown.
- COOL SPRING (W.M.Kellog 1939) L-blue self. H.M.AIS 1951.((color slightly deeper in the center))

- COURT RUFFLE (Kitton 1958) M 36" Standards reddish blue veined dark violet; falls midshading to dark blue. Gatineau x Eric the Red. ((recent English introduction))
- CRYSTAL CHARM (Scheffy 1949) White self ((tall))
- DRAGONFLY (Dykes 1923) L-blue self. ((very tall))
- DUCHESS OF YORK (Perry 1924) ((purple))
- ELLESMERE (Hutchison 1956) M. 32" Vivid royal blue self. Caesar x Eric the Red. ((recent English introduction))
- EMPEROR (Barr collected before 1914) D-blue self. Named by Wallace. Form of I. sanguinea (orientalis). A.M. RHS 1914.
- EMPRESS VICTORIA (Stoll 1958) M-L. 33" Standards Victorian Violet, falls same with white blaze, old gold in throat. (Lady Northcliffe x Blue Sapphire) x Stoll Seedling from Tycoon.
- ERIC THE RED (Whitney 1943) M-L. D-red self ((wine color, "red"))
Helen Astor x seedling. H. C. AIS 1943; H.M. AIS 1944; A.M. AIS 1946
Morgan Award 1952.
- FAIRY BUTTERFLY (Cassebeer-Smith 1955) E. 45" Bitone: standards pale blue, falls light lavender blue. Parentage unknown.
- FAIRY DAWN (Scheffy 1953) E. 24" Bicolor: standards white, falls same flushed pinkish. Parentage: Old white "sibirica type" iris with slight pinkish cast x unknown.
- FLORRIE RIDLER (Perry 1918) D-blue self.
- FLYING SWAN (Stoll 1958) M. 33" White self. Snowy Egret x Gatineau.
- FRANK STUBBS (Cassebeer 1954) L. 40" White self. Parentage unknown. ((Called Fred Stubbs in 1957 list)). ((Name changed to White Swirl in 1957))
- GATINEAU (Preston 1932) L-blue self. Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen.
- GAYHEART (Scheffy 1934) L. D-blue self. ((with large white and gold blaze)) Emperor x unknown.
- GEORGE WALLACE (Wallace 1894) M-blue bitone.
- GRANDIS (Before 1912) L-blue bitone or bicolor. ((tall; has I. sibirica characteristics))
- GREY DOVE ((AIS Checklist, 1949, says this name belongs to a TB, but there is a Siberian around under this name, a medium-dark blue))
- GREY PRINCE (Simpson 1929) L-blue-toned blend ((? M-D-blue))

HEAVENLY BLUE (Waterer 1928) D-blue self.

HELEN ASTOR (Whitney-Kellogg 1938) M -"red" self. H.M. AIS 1941;
A.M. AIS 1942. ((wine color, "red"))

KENOGAMI (Preston 1938) L. D-blue self. Also called Youkon.

KINGFISHER (Dykes 1923) D-blue-bitone.

KINGFISHER BLUE (Wallace 1924) L-blue self.

KOOTENAY (Preston 1932) L-blue self. Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen.

LACTEA (1876) White self ((Does anyone have this?))

LADY GODIVA (Perry 1906) Pinkish white ((Pinkish-lavender, short,
early))

LADY NORTHCLIFFE (Perry before 1918) L-blue self. ((?D-blue))

LAKE ARBUTUS (Streibich 1955) M. 39" Bitone: standards near corn-
flower blue, falls deeper. Parentage unknown.

LITTLE BOY BLUE is VELVET GEM (Cleveland 1932) M-blue self.

LLEWELLYN (Cleveland 1929) L-blue self.

MADAWASKA (Preston 1932) M-blue self. Snow Queen x Sibirica maxima.

MARGARET (Wallace 1933) L-blue self.

MARTHA LE GRAND (Washington 1935) White self. H.M. AIS 1936.

MATANE (Preston 1937) M. White self. Snow Queen x Sibirica maxima.
Also called NELSON.

MATAPEDIA (Preston) ((Mentioned in articles; does not seem to
be in Checklists.))

MATTAWIN (Preston 1932) Blue.

MAY MORNING (Wayman 1938) D-blue self.

MELISANDE (Wallace 1940) L-blue "feathered".

MILDRED STAHLMAN (Washington 1931) L-blue self.

MISS DODO (Koehler 1924) L-blue self. ((Very tall))

MISS DULUTH (J. Sass 1933) D-reddish blue.

MOONSPRITE (Jennings 1937) L-pinkish white. Superba x unknown.

MORNING MAGIC (Cleveland 1931) L-bluish red. ((Pinkish-lavender))

MOUNTAIN LAKE (Gersdorff 1933) M-L. M-blue self. Blue King x Perry's Blue. H.M. AIS 1942; A.M. AIS 1944.

MOUNTAIN POOL (Cleveland 1931) L-blue self.

MOUNTAIN STREAM (Hodson 1954) M. 24" Cerulean blue self. Gatineau x Mountain Pool.

MRS. GRAY HILL (Perry 1909) L-blue "feathered".

MRS. PERRY (Perry 1912) Bitone, L-pink-toned ((Pinkish lavender))

MRS. ROWE (Perry 1916) L-pink-toned self ((pinkish lavender)).

MY LOVE (Scheffy 1949) M-blue self. ((REBLOOMER))

NATICK (Gage 1933) M-blue self.

NEW BLUE (Salbach 1941) M-blue self.

NIGHT SPRITE (Gersdorff 1939) M-L. M-blue bitone ((?Dark))

NIGRESCENS (Van Houtte 1875) ((Very dark purple; does anyone have this?))

NIPIGON (Preston 1932) D-blue "feathered".

NORA DISTIN (Perry 1923) M-reddish-blue bitone. ((Purple with large white signal patch and white edge on falls.))

NOTTINGHAM LACE (Hutchison 1959) L. 36" Pale wine-purple self laced white. Wisley White Seedling x Helen Astor. ((Recent English introduction.))

OBERON (Wallace 1933) D-blue self.

ORIENTALIS NANA 1927 ((D-blue, dwarf))

ORIENTALIS SUPERBA 1920 D-blue self.

OTTAWA (Preston 1928) D-blue "feathered"! ((Very large white blaze))

PAPIILLON (Dykes 1923) L-blue self.

PEGGY PERRY (Perry 1912) D-blue bitone.

PEMBINA (Preston 1932) D-blue self. Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen.

PERIWINKLE (Cleveland 1926) M. L-reddish blue bitone.

PERRY'S BLUE (Perry 1912) M-blue self. A.M.RHS 1917. ((Suspect a number of different strains in commerce))

PICKANOCK (Preston 1937) E. Reverse D-blue bitone. Snow Queen x Sibirica maxima.

- PINK ALLURE** (Scheffy 1953) M-L. 32" Bitone: standards light lavender, falls same, finely peppered deeper. Bright pink landscape effect. Selected seedling from Mrs. Perry seedlings x unknown. ((This one is probably lost unless someone has it in a garden.))
- PORCELAIN DOLL** (Shinkle 1959) 32" Porcelain blue self. Kingfisher x seedling.
- POWDER BLUE** (Cleveland 1938) M-blue self.
- PRINCE OF WHITES** (Shinkle 1959) 36" White self, 5 green lines at haft. Snowy Egret x Lord Woolstley.
- PURPLE MERE** (Hutchison 1959) M-L. 36" Very dark blue-purple self. Caesar x Gaineau. ((Recent English introduction))
- RED EMPEROR** (Sturtevant 1924) M-bluish red. ((Short, wine color, "red"))
- RIDEAU** (Preston 1932) L-blue self. Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen.
- RIMOUSKI** (Preston 1937) E. White self, "yellow tones". Sibirica maxima x Snow Queen. ((Said to be the white with the most yellow on the falls, that is, with the biggest yellow blaze))
- ROYAL ENSIGN** (Hall 1950) Violet red, blue heart. Red Emperor x unknown. ((Deep wine-red, "red") H.M. AIS 1953. H.M. AIS 1958.
- ROYAL FLUSH** (Cleveland 1929) M -"red"
- ROYAL HERALD** (Scheffy 1949) E-M. D-bluish-red self. ((Very dark purple. Tall.))
- SAPPHIRE WINGS** (Stoll 1953) E-M. 30" Sapphire blue self (M&P 41-G-12). Kingfisher x Gaineau.
- SEVEN SEAS** (Louise Marx 1956) M. 36" Deep blue-toned violet, prominent gold signals. Parentage unknown.
- SHY ANN** (Hodson 1954) M. 24" Sky-blue self. Gaineau x unknown. ((Perhaps lost))
- SILVER TIP** (Cleveland 1929) L-blue self. ((M-to D-blue-purple standards and falls with light blue style arms.))
- SKEENA** (Preston 1938) L. D-blue self. Dwarf. ((One under this name now is hardly a dwarf))
- SKYBLUE WATER** (Gersdorff 1939) E-M. M-blue self. Perry's Blue x Blue King. ((There is one now under the name "Sky Blue" - is this the same?))
- SKYLARK** (Cleveland 1923) L-blue.
- SKYROCKET** (Cleveland 1927) E. M-reddish blue self.
- SNOW BUNTING** (Wallace 1934) M. White.

SNOW CREST (Gage 1932) White. Emperor x Snow Queen. H.M. AIS 1936.

SNOWFALL (Kitton 1956) M. 36" White self, slight yellow flush at haft. Gatineau x unknown. ((Recent English introduction))

SNOW QUEEN (collected Barr 1900 Japan) White. A.M.RHS 1902.
((Presumed to be a form of Iris sanguinea)

SNOW WHEEL (Hodson 1954) M. 30" White self. Snowcrest x Gatineau.

SNOWY EGRET (Cleveland 1938) White.

STAR DUST (Cleveland 1927)

STAR WHEEL (Edwards 1959) M. 20" M-violet self, standards have appearance of falls; 2 styles. Parentage unknown.

SUMMER SKY (Cleveland 1935) Reverse bitone, blue-toned white.
((Falls and standards are pale blue, style-arms white, giving a bicolor effect.)) Short.

SUNNYBROOK (Cleveland 1920) L-blue self

TEALWOOD (Varner 1959) M. 27" Blue-purple self, flat form. Caesar's Brother x Caesar's Brother.

THELMA is THELMA PERRY.

THELMA PERRY (Perry 1923) L-blue bitone.

THISBE (Wallace 1934) L-blue self.

TOWANDA REDFLARE (Scheffy 1949) M-red self. ((Wine color, "red"))

TROPIC NIGHT (Morgan 1937) D-blue self. Caesar x unknown. H.M.AIS 1951, Morgan Award 1954.

TRUE BLUE (Fryer 1919) D-blue self.

TUNKHANNOCK (Scheffy 1944) M. White. Large.

TURQUOISE CUP (Cleveland 1927) L-blue self.

TYCOON (Cleveland 1938) M-blue self. H.M.AIS 1950, Morgan Award 1951.
((Said to be largest flower))

VELVET GEM (Cleveland 1932) D-blue self. Also called Little Boy Blue.

VELVET GOWN (Cleveland 1938) D-blue self. Also called Royal Velvet.

VELVET NIGHT (Edwards 1959) M. 20" D-blue-violet self. Parentage unknown.

VIOLET FLARE (Cassebeer 1959) L. 34" M-violet self. Parentage unknown.

- WASIOJA (Fryer before 1920) D-blue self. Dwarf.
- WEISSER ORIENT (Steiger 1959) M. 36" White self. Tunkhannock x unknown. ((Recent German introduction))
- WHITE BONNET (Stoll 1953) E-M. 26" White self, few yellow haft markings. Gatineau x White Dove.
- WHITE DOVE (Cleveland 1927) White self.
- WHITE EMPRESS (Cleveland 1927) White self.
- WHITE SWIRL (Cassebeer 1957) L. 40" Pure white self. Parentage unknown. Name changed from Fred Stubbs. H. M. AIS 1957.
- WHITE WAY (Wayman 1935) White self.
- WISTERIA (Andrews 1933) M-blue self.
- YANKEE TRADER (Wheeler 1953) M. 20" Bicolor: standards medium blue, falls same, heavily marked white. Snow Queen x unknown. H.C. AIS 1953 (as "No. 52").
- ZERITA (Scheffy 1949) M-blue self. ((Tall with reddish style arms))
- ZEST (Sturtevant 1934) M-blue self.

The following have been offered for sale recently; they are not in the AIS Checklists and may be old varieties which were not registered:

CALDWELL

NORMANDY

EXCLAMATION

ORCHID LADY

IMPERIAL

VELVET ROYAL (is this Royal Velvet, which is Velvet Gown?)

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C O L O R F A N

The Nickerson Color Fan is available from the American Horticultural Society, 1600 Bladensburg Road, North East, Washington 2, D. C. Price-\$5.

The Wilson Color Chart is available from the American Iris Society, Write to: Clifford W. Benson, Sec'y, 2237 Tower Grove Boulevard, St. Louis, 10, Missouri. Price - \$20.

Both of these publications will assist the iris grower to determine the color of iris and even the color of foliage.

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GENERAL SOURCES FOR SIBERIANS IN THE UNITED STATES

People often do not know where to get them, so here for your convenience is a list of the commercial catalogs we know that offer a selection of Siberian Irises. Additions to this list would be welcome! (This list is correct to the best of our knowledge, but "the management takes no responsibility for errors ...etc., etc.,")

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PLANTS:

Brown's Iris Gardens, 14920 Highway #99, Lynnwood, Washington

Chautauqua Flowerfield, Greenhurst, New York

Edenwald Gardens, Vincennes, Indiana (Closing out of Siberians)

Fairmount Gardens, 166 Fairmount Street, Lowell, Massachusetts
(Catalog 20¢)

Franklin Gardens, Big Springs, Nebraska (Catalog 10¢)

Lamb Nurseries, East 101 Sharp Avenue, Spokane 2, Washington

Melrose Gardens, Route 1, Box 466, Stockton, California

Walter Marx Gardens, Boring, Oregon (Catalog 50¢)

Carl Starker, Jennings Lodge, Oregon, has been closing out his Siberian collection, but still has some for this spring. He does not have a list - don't write him; send a stamped envelope to Sarah Tiffney, 226 Edge Hill Road, Sharon, Massachusetts for information.

Sunny Gardens, G. Neuhaus - Owner White Cloud, Michigan

SEEDS:

Pearce Seed Company, Moorestown, New Jersey (Also some plants)

Thompson and Morgan, Ltd., Ipswich, England (Send a U.S. quarter,
25¢, for catalog)

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Many other Nurseries offer two or three of the older standard varieties.

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**SOURCES FOR THE MORE RECENT SIBERIAN INTRODUCTIONS IN THE
UNITED STATES**

If you are looking for some of the more recent introductions, here is the information we have to date. It is right so far as we know, but please do not hold us responsible for errors! Corrections and additions are welcome.

My Love (Scheffy)	Melrose Gardens, Rte 1, Box 466
White Swirl (Cassebeer 1957)	Stockton, California
(They have Star Wheel and Velvet Night(Edwards) on view)	

Blue Brilliant (Cassebeer)	Cassebeer Iris Nursery
White Swirl (Cassebeer)	414 Strawtown Road
Violet Flare (Cassebeer)	West Nyack, New York
(The above sold at the Nursery, not mail order)	

Porcelain Doll (Shinkle)	Mrs. Berniece I. Shinkle
Prince of Whites (Shinkle)	3227 Old Salem Road
	Dayton 15, Ohio

Royal Ensign (Hall)	Brown's Iris Gardens
Blue Moon (Scheffy)	14920 Highway 99
	Lynnwood, Washington

Yankee Trader (Wheeler)	Fairmount Gardens
Royal Ensign (Hall)	Lowell, Massachusetts

Tealwood (Varner)	D. Steve Varner
	Illini Iris
	Monticello, Illinois

Mr. Varner introduced this iris this spring and lists it in his new 1961 list. It can be seen in his garden and it has been gusted with Nathan Rudolph, Aurora, Ill., Raymond Alexander, Lexington, Ky., H. W. Goodrick, 16610 West Pepper Lane, Brookfield, Wis., Mrs. Omar Rutledge, Clifton Hill, Missouri, and South Illinois Test Gardens, James S. Tucker, 1424 South Perrine, Rte 3, Centralia, Illinois.

Congo Drums (Marx)	Walter Marx Gardens
Seven Seas (Marx)	Boring, Oregon (Catalog 50¢)

Crystal Charm (Scheffy)	Franklin Gardens
Fairy Dawn (Scheffy)	Big Springs, Nebraska
Blue Moon (Scheffy)	(Catalog 10¢)

Zerita (Scheffy)	Lamb Nurseries, E. 101 Sharp Ave., Spokane, Washington
	and Carl Starker, Jennings Lodge, Ore.

Royal Herald (Scheffy)	Are offered in several of the
Towanda Redflare (Scheffy)	catalogs listed under "General
Tunkhannock (Scheffy)	Sources" on another page.

(I think that Shy Ann (Hodson) and Pink Allure (Scheffy) are lost and gone unless someone has them in a private garden. I do not know any catalog that now offers Snow Wheel (Hodson) or Mountain Stream (Hodson).
S. Tiffney

HOW TO DRIVE A SIBERIAN FAN MAD

* * * * *

- A. The visitor who looks at Wadi Zem Zem and exclaims: "I didn't know there were yellow Siberians!"
- B. The visitor who gazes rapturously at your collection of fairly expensive Siberian named varieties and cries: "Ooh, look at all the lovely wild iris!"
- C. The one who has read a book and looks knowingly at your precious clone of Chrysographes Ruby Form and murmurs: "Hmmm - that would be the true sanguinea, wouldn't it?"
- D. The one who looks at your favorite grouping of Yankee Trader, White Swirl and Royal Herald and mutters: "I don't know why you grow these old wild flags, there are much larger ones on the market now. I have one called Miodoroki which would make these things look like two cents".
- E. And of course the one walks briskly around your garden and then turn to you and scolds: "Why do you waste space on these silly things when you could put the space into something handsome like Duke of Burgundy and Melodrama and Emma Cook?"
- F. Then there is the idiot who says: "Next time you divide the clump would you give me some of the bulbs?"
- G. But worst of all is the one who smiles at your nice clump of Royal Ensign and says: "You should come see my clumps of Ellesmere and Bluecape! I imported them last year and they are doing fine." The snob!

Peg E.

S L I D E S

To those of you who are camera fans may we ask that when you take a slide of those lovely Siberians in your garden you take an extra slide for our Siberian Slide Collection. We will reimburse you at the rate of 50¢ for each slide selected. We are trying to get enough slides to make up at least one set of slides for distribution through the AIS Slide Committee as soon as possible.

Thou art the iris, fair among the fairest,
Who, armed with golden rod
And winged with the celestial azure, bearest
The message of some God.

(Longfellow)

OUR HONORARY MEMBERS

* * * * *

Miss Isabella Preston. Miss Preston originated a number of Siberians in the 1920s and 1930s, among the best known of which are Gatineau, Ottawa and Skeena. She was for many years on the staff of the Central Experiment Farm in Ottawa, Canada, where she was a specialist in Ornamental Gardening. Since her retirement several years ago she has lived in Georgetown, Ontario.

Mr. F. Cleveland Morgan. Mr. Morgan, another Canadian, from Montreal, is the originator of Caesar's Brother, and the latter's offspring, Tropic Night. His iris, like those of Miss Preston, are in the ancestry of many of the finest newer varieties, and are still in commerce. The Morgan Award is named for him, and two of his introductions are among the winners - Caesar's Brother and Tropic Night.

Mr. Charles E. F. Gersdorff. Originator of Mountain Lake and many other Siberians, as well as other iris, gladioli and other plants. He was one of the founders of the American Iris Society and for more than twenty years the Registrar. For many years a member of the United States Department of Agriculture, he still lives in Washington, D. C.

* * * * *

OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

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Mr. Maurice Kitton is our first corresponding member. He lives in England, and recently registered Bluecape. He has sent some information which will appear in our next issue, concerning his work with Sibiricae species, particularly delavayi, forrestii and wilsonii. Tip to hybridizers: he has found delavayi a very good parent in many ways.

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PUBLIC GARDENS WITH DISPLAYS OF SIBERIAN IRISES

Presby Memorial Iris Gardens	Montclair, New Jersey
Cedar Brook Park Iris Garden	Plainfield New Jersey
Rainbow Iris Garden	Denver, Colorado
Royal Botanical Gardens	Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Many nurseries whose catalogs are listed on the other pages should have collections that one could look at.

WHERE TO SEE SIBERIANS IN BLOOM AND APPROXIMATE DATE OF BLOOM

<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Number</u>
ARKANSAS:		
Mrs. H. B. Girard Mt. Valley Route Hot Springs, Ark.	Mid-May	22
CALIFORNIA:		
Melrose Gardens Stockton, Cal.	Apr.25-May 16	Many
CONNECTICUT:		
Mrs. Troy Westmeyer Stamford, Conn.	June 5-15	75
ILLINOIS:		
D. Steve Varner - Illini Iris Monticello, Ill.	June 1	20
INDIANA:		
Eugene M. Myers South Bend, Ind.	June 1	31
IOWA:		
Mrs. Raymond B. Craig Oskaloosa, Iowa	May	30
MASSACHUSETTS:		
Mrs. Foster Spofford Beverly Farms, Mass.	June 15 July 1	125
Mr. & Mrs. W.N.Tiffany Sharon, Massachusetts	Mid-June -Siberians June 25-July 5(40-chr. spec. & hybrids	100
Mrs. W.W.Warburton Westboro, Massachusetts	June 15	15
MICHIGAN:		
Dr. David L. Reath Vulcan, Michigan	June	35
MISSOURI:		
Mrs. O. C. Moon 5009 E 115th St. Kansas City, Mo.	May 25	30

<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Number</u>
MONTANA:		
Sherman J. Preece, Jr. Missoula, Mont.	June 1-15 (Garden recently moved)	40
NEBRASKA:		
Hazel & Vivian Grapes Franklin Gardens Big Springs, Nebr.	May 31 June 15	36
Mrs. Eugene Parsons Lincoln, Nebr.	Last of May	2 (800 T.8s)
NEW YORK:		
L. R. Partch Binghamton, N.Y.	May 15- June 1	12-15
Mrs. Edwin C. Dunbar Rochester 19, N.Y.	June 6-10	13
NORTH CAROLINA:		
Mrs. W. B. Melnick Hendersonville, N.C.	New seedlings Time of bloom?	20
NORTH DAKOTA:		
Mrs. John Withers Mandan, N. Dak.	June 15	10
OHIO:		
Mrs. Frank L. Balzer Miamisburg, Ohio	New Plants 1960	15
Mrs. Herbert Shinkle Dayton 15, Ohio	Last week May	40
PENNSYLVANIA:		
Mrs. William Chambers Merion Station, Pa.	May 30	5
TENNESSEE:		
Mr. Geddes Douglas Brentwood, Tenn.	?	6-8
TEXAS:		
Mrs. C. L. Ezell El Paso, Texas	May	
UTAH:		
Mrs. M. R. Johnson Salt Lake City, Utah	?	5-10

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Society For Siberian Iris

Balzer, Mrs. Frank L. (Betty)	120 N 10th Street, Miamisburg, Ohio
Brown, Mrs. Res (Alta M.)	14920 Highway 99, Lynnwood, Wash.
Chambers, Mrs. William E.	282 Forrest Road, Merion Station, Pa.
Cooper, Mr. William	R.D.#4, E Genesee St, Baldwinsville, N.Y.
Craig, Mrs. Raymond B.	609 6th Ave. East, Oskaloosa, Iowa
Douglas, Mr. Geddes	Hill Road, Brentwood, Tennessee
* DuBose, Sid	Route 1, Box 466, Stockton, Cal.
* Dunbar, Mrs. Edwin (Margaret)	115 Flanders Street, Rochester 19, N.Y.
* Edwards, Mrs. H. L. (Peg)	235 Koehl St., Massapequa Park, N.Y.
* Ezell, Mrs. C. L. (Ida May)	6487 N Strahan Road, El Paso, Texas
Fueger, Mr. William	Walter Road, Novelty, Ohio
Girard, Mrs. H. B.	Mt. Valley Route, Hot Springs, Ark.
* Grapes, Miss Hazel	Big Springs, Nebraska
* Grey, Mrs. Robert (Peg Burke)	P.O. Box 443, St. Helena, California
* Hager, Mr. Ben	Route 1, Box 466, Stockton, Cal.
Hoffacker, Beatrice	Hoffacker Gardens, Box 66, Covert, Mich.
* Huffman, Mrs. B. Ava	20 W 16th, Antioch, California
* Johnson, Mrs. M.R. (Mildred)	2275 Kensington Ave., Salt Lake City 8, Utah
Marx, Mr. Walter	P.O. Box 38, Boring, Oregon
McCaffrey, Mrs. Hazel T.	1215 Travis Street, El Paso, Texas
* McGarvey, Dr. William	R. D. #3, Oswego, New York
* Melnick, Mrs. W.B. (Virginia)	Rte 5, Box 176, Hendersonville, N. C.
* Moon, Mrs. O. C. (Lillian)	5009 E 115 Street, Kansas City, Mo.
Myers, Mr. Eugene M.	Rte 6, 17800 Madison Road, South Bend 14, Indiana
Parsons, Mrs. Eugene H. (Pat)	2635 S 9th St., Lincoln 2, Nebraska

- * Partch, L. R. 28 Griswold Street, Binghamton, N.Y.
- Preene, Sherman, Jr. Linda Vista Addition, Rte 3, Missoula,
Montana
- * Randall, Mr. Allan L. 1986 Hinckley Hills Road, Hinckley, Ohio
- (*) Reath, Dr. D. L. Box 251, Vulcan, Michigan
- Sherman, Mr. Ted 1029 East 8th St., Pittsburg, Kansas
- Shinkle, Mrs. Berniece I. Timberline Gardens, 3227 Old Salem Road,
Dayton 15, Ohio
- * Spofford, Mrs. Foster 19 Everett St., Beverly Farms, Mass.
- * Tiffney, Wesley N. 226 Edge Hill Road, Sharon, Mass.
- (*) Tiffney, Mrs. W. N. (Sarah) 226 Edge Hill Road, Sharon, Mass.
- (*) Van De Water, Mrs. Carlton (Irene) Rte 1, Box 98, New Paltz, New York
- Varner, Dwight Steve Illini Iris, Rte 1, North State Road,
Monticello, Illinois
- (*) Warburton, Mrs. F.W. (Bee) Route 1, Box 541, Westboro, Mass.
- (*) Westmeyer, Mrs. Troy Gary Road, Stamford, Connecticut
- (*) Withers, Mrs. John (Charlotte) Rte 1, Box A-10, Mandan, North Dakota
- Knock, Mrs. Herman E. (Gertie) Rte 2, Box 185A, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

* Charter Members

HONORARY MEMBERS:

- Miss Isabella Preston, Box 542, Georgetown, Ontario, Canada
- Mr. F. Cleveland Morgan, c/o Henry Morgan and Co., Ltd.,
Colonial House, Montreal, Canada
- Mr. Charles E. F. Gersdorff, 1825 N Capitol St., Washington, 2, D.C.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT:

- Mr. Maurice Kitton, "Littlecourt", Page Heath Lane, Bickley,
Kent, England

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIMEN OF SIBERIAN IRIS

1. Name if known: _____
2. Rhizome:
 - a. Thickness _____
 - b. Color _____
 - c. Any other distinction _____
3. Basal foliage (leaves arising from the rhizome):
 - a. Length _____ Width _____
 - b. Color _____ Color at base if different _____
 - c. Shiny _____ Dull _____ One side shiny, one dull _____
 - d. Erect throughout season _____ Erect but with drooping tip _____
Tending to fall over as season goes on _____
4. Stalk (flowering stem):
 - a. Average height from ground to top of flower _____
 - b. Thickness _____ Hollow _____ Solid _____
 - c. Does it branch? _____ How many branches _____
 - d. If so, how are branches spaced along main stem _____
 - e. Branches held close _____ Well out _____ Slightly out _____
 - f. Stalk straight _____ Curved _____ Angular _____
 - g. Branches straight _____ Curved _____
 - h. Buds: Number in top socket _____ In upper branch _____ In lower branch _____
 - i. Spathes covering flowers: Color _____ Size _____
Shape _____ Any other distinction _____
 - j. Stem foliage: Size _____ Shape _____ Color _____
 - k. Stem coloring _____
5. Flower:
 - a. Size _____ Height _____ Width _____
 - b. Standards:
 - i. Size _____ Length _____ Width _____
 - ii. Position: Erect and touching _____ Erect & not touching _____
At angle of _____ degrees from horizontal _____ Horizontal _____
 - iii. Shape: Long oval _____ Short oval _____ Round _____ Other (describe) _____
Smooth _____ Fluted _____ Ruffled _____ Other (describe) _____
Tip rounded _____ Pointed _____ Notched _____ Flat _____
 - iv. Color: _____
 - v. Texture: Substance - Smooth _____ Crepy _____ Thin _____ Thick _____ Translucent _____
Other (describe) _____
 - c. Falls:
 - i. Blade position horizontal _____ Vertical _____ At an angle of _____ degrees
from horizontal _____
 - ii. Blade size: Length _____ Width _____
 - iii. Blade shape: Round _____ Oval _____ Oblong _____ Smooth _____ Ruffled _____ Fluted _____
Tip rounded _____ Notched _____ Pointed _____
 - iv. Color: Basic _____ Markings _____ Signal patch _____
 - v. Claw: Angle _____ degrees from horizontal: Length _____ Width _____ Color _____
 - d. Style Arm:
 - i. Stands free above claw _____ Pressed close to claw _____
 - ii. Size: Length _____ Width of stigma _____
 - iii. Coloring: _____
 - iv. Special features: _____
6. Habit of growth:
 - a. Season of bloom: Early _____ Midseason _____ Late _____ Reblooming tendency _____
 - b. Disease: Susceptible _____ Resistant _____
 - c. Hardiness: Tender to cold _____ Tender to heat _____
 - d. Any special problems: Needs extra water _____ Needs shade _____ Other _____
 - e. Does it set seed readily _____ Pollen good _____
Seedlings vigorous _____ Seedlings attractive _____

Measurements approximate; checkmark means yes; comments or sketch can go on back if spaces insufficient.