

THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY

FOR

JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 29

NUMBER 1

SPRING 1992



KAMO NURSERY AT KAKEGAWA
Looking toward entrance building

Photo by Currier McEwen

THE REVIEW
OF

VOLUME 29
NUMBER 1

THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES SPRING, 1992

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BUSINESS ITEMS

"The Review" is published semi-annually by the Society For Japanese Irises. Editorial office is at 7979 West D Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Deadlines for receiving copy are March 1 and September 1; with earlier receipt desirable. Black and white photographs, colored prints (glossy) and black and white drawings are welcome. Reprinting -- permission is granted to any other iris society publication to reprint any material in this publication with due acknowledgement.

Dues: Single annual, \$3.50; triennial \$9.00; life \$75.00
Family annual, \$4.00; triennial, \$10.50; life, \$100.00
Send either to the AIS Membership Chairman, or directly to **Membership Chairman, The Society For Japanese Irises.**

Renewals: If your mailing label is marked with the expiration date **9201** this will be the last copy of "The Review" on your present membership. Please renew.

Address Changes: Please notify the **Membership Chairman.**

Sales and

Rental Items: The Japanese Iris by Currier McEwen \$24.95

Back Issues of "The Review", per copy \$1.50
Volume 1 (1964) consists of three issues,
all subsequent volumes contain two issues
each.

SJI Slide Set Rental. \$5.00

IRIS LAEVIGATA - book rental \$5.00

All prices include postage. Send your requests for items above to **Slides/Librarian Chairman, John Coble,** with check made out to **The Society For Japanese Irises.** Please order slide sets early for scheduling.

1992 Cumulative Checklist of JI

U.S.A. postage paid \$5.25
Canada & Overseas - surface mail 6.00
Overseas - air mail 10.00

Order the Checklist from **Howard Brookins, P.O. Box 0965, Menomonee Falls, WI 53052-0965.** Check payable to **The Society For Japanese Irises.**

Advertising: Will be accepted for plants and horticultural related items. Charges are: Full page layout, \$18.00; ½ page layout, \$10.00; short adds, text only, \$2.00 for up to five lines and for each additional five lines or fraction thereof.

For information on how to prepare and submit adds, contact the **Editor.** Send adds to the **Editor** with payment in the form of a check made out to **The Society For Japanese Irises.**

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Sometimes it takes years for seeds to germinate. Clarence Mahan planted extra good seeds. In 1990, he wrote letters to commercial nurseries asking them to upgrade the quality of Japanese irises listed for sale in their catalogs. He asked members to join him in this campaign. His efforts are already showing results. One of the nurseries is no longer selling Japanese irises. Another is taking steps to register the irises they sell with the American Iris Society. My thanks to Clarence and to anyone else who helped in this campaign.

Each year more garden magazines are featuring articles on Japanese irises. Consequently, more gardeners are becoming interested in growing them. Now we must find a way to supply them. I've received letters from people asking where they can purchase good Japanese irises. I know quite a few good gardens, but I need your help in compiling a bigger list of gardens that will supply good quality, named and registered JIs. Right now the demand is greater than the supply. We must help nurture this newly awakened interest or it will die quickly.

Howard Brookins will have the new JI checklist ready for Atlanta. He had several proof-readers help him make corrections and additions before final editing, so it should be very beneficial to all of us.

Virginia Burton is asking for irises from all hybridizers for the Summerville, SC, Convention in 1994. The first JI convention I attended was in South Carolina. I haven't forgotten the wonderful hospitality. Please help "Ginny" and her committee put on a good show for us.

Where do we go in 1996? Let me hear from you.

Don't miss the irises and Jim Copeland's fish fry in Kalamazoo this year.

Best wishes for a wonderful iris season.



ROBINS LOOKING FOR FELLOW FLIERS

Pat Brooks writes that the "robin is traveling back and forth without any problems." She would like however to see more people involved, maybe enough for another flight?

Robins offer an opportunity to become acquainted with other growers and to exchange ideas. If you are having a problem, ask the other members!

If you should be interested in joining a robin, contact the **Robins Chairman, Pat Brooks**. Her address appears at the front of this issue.

THE 1992 CUMULATIVE CHECKLIST OF JAPANESE IRISES

Howard Brookins

In the two winter seasons spent on revising and updating the 1988 Cumulative Checklist, I have spent many hours reviewing information from the 1939 and 1949 Check Lists. If you've ever had the opportunity to work with a copy of the 1939 Check List, you'd swear nearly HALF the listings are for JAPANESE IRISES! Whoever put the first Cumulative Checklist together on Japanese irises must have gone blind trying to make sense of all the listings. As a result, what I considered to be necessary information wasn't included (Both REGISTRATION and INTRODUCTION dates). In many cases, it was hard to distinguish in the past issue whether the date given was the registration date, or the introduction date, so in the current version the standard AIS format was used, with a few exceptions. I took the time to distinguish between VALID AIS NAMES, and INVALID NAMES, which will be a great help for those trying to determine varieties ELIGIBLE for AWARDS in horticultural shows. Many of the older varieties coming from Japan were never registered with AIS, as happens even today. Some people still list varieties from overseas in their catalogs, and don't make a distinction whether they will be disqualified in future AIS sanctioned shows. Enough on THAT matter for now.

With the help of many of the sellers and hybridizers, and especially with the help of Clarence Mahan, who has clarified THIRTY ONE VARITAL NAMES by registering them with AIS for the benefit of the Society for Japanese Irises, I have given clearer meaning to nearly 400 names from the 1988 Check List. In the 1992 edition, questionable names have been clarified with special codes:

1. Varieties in the previous Check List, but never approved by AIS, will have the pound (#) sign after the varietal name, which will appear in lower case lettering; ex: **Blue Pearl #**. The word "Listed" will appear before the date of the Checklist listing the variety as invalid. The exception to this will be recent Japanese imports, which have never been listed in prior Checklists, including Dr. Hirao and Kamo things.
2. Varieties listed as obsolete in prior checklists will have the star (*) sign after the name, as in **Blushing Geisha***. The word "Listed" will appear before the date of the Checklist showing this status.
3. Varieties listed as superseded will have the dollar sign (\$) after the name, as in **Attraction \$**, and most will show the approved sign followed by the year listed as superseded.
4. Varieties in question in prior check lists, but given approval in small capital letters will be in lower case, with no other designation, and will show the word "Approved", followed by the year of the Checklist listing them approved.

5. All approved names, even though not registered, will be in upper case letters, but instead of saying "Reg." before the date, will say "Approved" before the date, with the date following the "Approved" word being the CHECK LIST YEAR it was approved.
6. The pound (#) sign in parentage name also indicates an unregistered or unapproved name for the parent.

If all this sounds confusing, spend a few nights "curled up" reading the 1939 Check List!!! Guaranteed to "straighten you out!"

The 1992 Check List has listings for 1,458 Japanese iris at this date, and will be the LAST ISSUE to contain all the obsolete names. By the time the next version comes around, hopefully all the improper names in commerce will be registered!

To order the 1992 Cumulative Checklist for Japanese Irises, send \$5.25 (USA only), or \$6.00 Foreign Surface mail, \$10.00 Air Mail Foreign to:

Howard L. Brookins
PO Box 965
Menomonee Falls, WI 53052-0965

DR. KOJI TOMINO

In Memoriam

Word has been received of the death of Dr. Koji Tomino, of Japan, on February 12, 1992.

Dr. Tomino was well known as a hybridizer of Japanese irises who specialized in the Ise Type. He was the major modern hybridizer of Ise irises, introducing a number of varieties, and is especially known for his work in pink colored varieties. He was also well known as a scientist who did research on Japanese irises.

He wrote a number of articles published in Japan, being viewed as one of the greatest authorities on Japanese irises. One work, Studies of the Genus Iris in Japan, Especially Cytotaxonomy of the Genus and Breeding of Iris Ensata Thunberg was, for the most part, reproduced in the Spring 1968 issue of "The Review", (Volume 5, Number 1).

Two of the best known Tomino introductions being grown in the United States are KYOKKO (Aurora Borealis) and SAKURAJISHI (Pink Lion). Some other well known varieties, especially in Japan, are: TSUZURI-NISHIKI, SHUGETSU, HOSHIZUKIYO, and SHUMMIN.

Those in the iris world will greatly miss Dr. Tomino's presence.

1992 SJI CONVENTION
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

JUNE 26 & 27, 1992

"Back to Kazoo in '92"

Preparations are well under way to greet you in Kalamazoo in '92. Be sure to mark your calendar, make your reservations, and prepare to enjoy the irises. We hope to see you here.

HEADQUARTERS:

The Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center
100 West Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007
Tel. (616)343-3333
1-800-333-3333

Room rates \$63 + 7% tax, single or double
\$73 + tax, triple or quad.

To obtain this special rate be sure to indicate you are attending the Society For Japanese Irises Convention. A block of rooms is being held until May 25th, 1992.

Special features of the hotel.

Completely renovated this past year.

Limousine service from the airport.

Downtown location.

3 blocks from Amtrack and bus station.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE:

Friday, June 26.

8:00 - 10:30 AM Entries accepted for Iris Show
10:30 - 11:30 AM Judges training on show judging
11:00 AM Show judging
1:00 PM SJI Board Meeting
2:30 PM Ikebana demonstration by Sylvia Wong
4:00 PM Judges training on garden judging
6:00 PM Welcome dinner, program -- Currier
McEwen will show slides of his 1991
trip to Japan.

Saturday, June 27.

Breakfast - on your own or have continental break-
fast in your first tour garden. Juice,
coffee & rolls will be available.
8:00 AM Buses leave for garden tours.
Lunch at Copeland Garden
5:00 PM Buses return to Hotel
6:00 PM Social hour with cash bar
7:00 PM Banquet, program and plant auction.

REGISTRATION:

Registration fee: \$60 if paid before June 1st.
\$70 June 1st and after.
Partial registration fees available upon
request.

Make checks payable to:
The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society

Send registration, or inquiries, to:

Carol Kerr, Registrar
13015 Crinnion
Cedar Springs, Michigan 49319

THE SHOW:

The show will be held at the convention site. It will be in a central open area on the lower level, open above to the main lobby. In conjunction with our show will be an exhibit of Bonsai by the BONSAI SOCIETY OF KALAMAZOO.

We urge anyone who has bloom at the time to bring some of it along and participate in the show. There will be sections for both named varieties and seedlings.

Artistic arrangements for this show will be by invitation -- a non-judged exhibit. If you are an arranger we invite you to participate. Bring your own container and accssories, flowers if you are able. Let us know and we may be able to provide some bloom and live materials. The use of Japanese iris is encouraged, but other flowers may be used in combination with them. To reserve space and receive complete information on schedule and type of spaces available, please contact the show chairman, Anna Mae Miller. Her address is:

6065 N. 16th Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
Tel. (616)349-5934

JUDGES TRAINING:

The judges training session on show judging JI is open to anyone. Bloom will be provided. Participants will select and groom the blooms for a special section of the show, and participate in the judging of that section. If you are interested in participation in this event please inform the Registrar at time of registration, so that we can have some idea of the number of blooms and space to provide.

The garden judging training is also open to anyone. We would like however to have some idea how large a room is needed, so if you feel you will be interested in attending this session please inform our registrar.

THE GARDENS:

Ensata Gardens

For those who have not previously visited Ensata Gardens, this trip should be an experience. Robert Bauer and John Coble, owners of Ensata, have collected a personal collection of between 475 and 500 JI varieties; probably the largest current collection in the nation. In addition to this, there are about 150 guest irises planted at Ensata for your consideration.

The area between the driveway and the commercial garden has been redesigned and now includes a new pool. In the Japanese garden behind the house, the S curved bed has been planted with 80 varieties of JI which Bob and John consider to be their top favorites. Scattered about in featured locations are several irises by the late Dr. Hirao of Japan. If we are lucky, we may also get to see SAYO-NO-TSUKI blooming, the fertile amphidiploid brought by Mr. Kamo to the 1990 auction in Maine.

There are also a large hosta collection, numerous Siberian irises, some spurias and Louisianas, and other types of irises along with other interesting perennials. In addition to this are many dwarf and weeping conifers with other unusual trees and plant materials.

Copeland Garden

The Copeland garden is located at the Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery, owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and managed by Jim Copeland. This fish hatchery is considered to be the largest, most up-to-date and most diversified hatchery in the world. If you get tired of looking at JI, you may wish to wander across the street and view the exhibits in the visitor center.

The main iris garden is planted in a flat area which was, years ago, a pond for the hatchery. It is surrounded on three sides by creek, ditches and springs. Here in a high pH level water live some JI, dumped there by Jim and Jill as they culled their seedlings, which decided to be at home in this environment. Also a large group of I. pseudachorus. The main garden contains named varieties, Jill Copeland's seedlings, about 100 guest iris plants, and a special group of about 20 plants from Ed Varnum which had been given to him by the late Dr. Hirao.

Above the main garden, behind the house, are two specially prepared bog beds. These beds contain Copeland introductions.

We may get to see another inter-species hybrid blooming in this garden. Jill's own TXE-1 seedling, currently sporting the garden name of "Pixie Won." The plant is a cross of I. ensata and I. pseudachorus, and has been divided and planted in four locations, so let's hope.

On the spacious lawn is where we will be enjoying Jim's fish fry for lunch. This is always a big hit, so be prepared for a treat.

O'Melay Garden

The home of Dick and Eileen O'Melay is located south of Mattawan on a large lot, with the house built into a hillside. The lawn sweeps down the hillside to the main garden planting at the lower level. A pond and waterfall built into the hill at the corner of the house has undergone some recent renovation. A new planting area at the upper level toward the back of the lot has been developed to take care of the expanding number of JIs.

Since the SJI convention of four years ago, the O'Melay's personal collection of JI has increased to about 95 varieties. In addition there are 112 guest irises growing in this garden. Eileen has begun to do some hybridizing on her own. There should be new seedlings (about 60) blooming for the first time and awaiting our evaluation. One can also find other plants of interest in the landscape beds.

Wikel Garden - "Crow Moon Garden"

Christina Wikel began developing this garden in partnership with her sister Linda and mother Virginia about 10 years ago. It is relatively small, consisting of what remains of a $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lot once the area for house, garage and front lawn are removed.

A path from the drive leads around the garage and an arbor through a planting of various perennials, including several varieties of thyme, ground covers, dwarf and weeping conifers and some young weeping deciduous trees.

Reaching the back corner of the garage, one comes upon the major feature of this garden; an ambitious pool and waterfall project. This was developed with much "woman-power" required by Christina and Linda to move and set the stones. The waterfall descends from a small pond down an incline to the lower level at the back where there is a second pool. The path crosses this waterfall on two bridges, one of them being a zig-zag bridge.

Christina has always been interested in irises, but began to grow Japanese irises only about 4 years ago. At present the garden contains over 60 JI varieties in her own collection plus 27 guest irises. There are also 44 Siberian varieties. The guest irises and the larger part of the Japanese and Siberian collection are planted in two bogs at the back of the garden. There is a third smaller bog bed near the front of the garden. Japanese, Siberian and other irises are also scattered throughout the perennial beds.

Yunger Garden

About 6 years ago Andy and Kay Yunger moved into the former Arthur Hazzard home. Andy is a superb gardener, and having differing interests from Arthur, began to redesign, revamp, and replant the entire area. You will now find the grounds laid out in a fairly formal manner, with a variety of plant materials growing in the numerous beds. There are ground covers, perennials, and a special interest of Andy's, a collection of hostas, now numbering about 80 varieties. There are also about 75 varieties of daylilies. Another special interest is dwarf conifers; a collection which now numbers about 50.

Andy first began to grow Japanese iris about 8 years ago. He now has about 35 varieties in his personal collection with an addition of about 30 guest irises. There are also many other irises, including about 40 varieties of Siberians.

1992 SJI POPULARITY POLL

The popularity poll is being conducted again this year. We had set a goal of 100 participants last year, but sadly it was missed. Only 44 ballots were cast. How about meeting the goal this year? The more people vote, the more valid and useful the poll results!

Some people do find reference to the poll results helpful in selecting irises for their gardens. The summary in this issue by P. W. Cook, may provide even more valuable assistance, as over a period of time it shows what varieties are consistently liked, and gives some trends. It would be even more valuable if it represented the results from a larger number of ballots.

The SJI Convention in Kalamazoo this year will hopefully be a good place to see a lot of iris varieties. How about planning to attend, make your notes, compare them to varieties growing at home, and fill out your ballot. Whether or not you can make the convention, see as many JI as possible and vote the popularity poll.

You will find the ballot on the last page of this issue. Cut it out and mail as directed to Virginia Burton. Let's see if we can meet or exceed that 100 goal this year!

SJI MEMBERSHIP LIST AVAILABLE

An up-to-date membership list for S. J. I. can be obtained by ordering from the Secretary, Robert Bauer. It will be produced as a computer print-out, listing members alphabetically by states. Price is \$3.00 each, including postage.

Send a check made out to **The Society for Japanese Irises** with your request to **Robert Bauer**, address as listed in front of this issue.



REQUEST FOR GUEST IRISES
1994 SJI CONVENTION, SUMMERVILLE, SC.

The Summerville Iris Society will be hosting the 1994 SJI Convention in Summerville, South Carolina. They are anxious to receive guest iris plants as soon as possible so as to assure maximum growth prior to the convention.

Two to four rhizomes per variety or seedling will be accepted prior to October 1, 1992. If possible to send the plants as soon as they can be dug, or right after bloom, notify the Guest Iris Chairman. They will be potted and given pool culture until time to plant out in late summer.

The following information should be provided for all rhizomes: name or seedling number of the iris; description of iris; year of introduction if introduced; how you wish the plants to be disposed of after the convention; your name, address and telephone number. If you wish the plants returned to you, they will be returned at your expense. You may also choose to have the plants destroyed, given to the gardener, or donated to the auction. If any of your seedlings become registered prior to the convention, please notify the Guest Iris Chairman, so that the iris can be properly identified in the convention program.

There are five gardens scheduled for the tour to receive guest irises. These are the gardens of Peggy Beason, Lavina Goldsberry, Pat Brooks, B. C. and Maggie Johnson, and Virginia Burton.

Please address all inquiries, information and plants to the Guest Iris Chairman:

Virginia Burton
3275 Miller Dr.
Ladson, SC 29456
Tel. (803)873-7388

SPECIAL AWARD GIVEN

At Clarence Mahan's suggestion and with the unanimous approval of the Executive Board of The Society for Japanese Irises the Special Recognition and Honorary Lifetime Membership Award for 1991 went to Virginia Burton.

This award was presented to "Ginny" during the Section Meeting of the Society for Japanese Irises in Manassas last May.

HAZZARD MEMORIAL GARDEN REPORT

Rich Randall

Thank you for a good response to our request in the last issue of "The Review." As a result, the Arthur Hazzard Memorial Garden does not need as many irises as before. We now have 63 of the 88 irises that he introduced. If you grow any of the irises listed below and would like to contribute them to the garden, please let me know. In appreciation, your name will be listed as donor. To prevent duplication, contact me BEFORE sending the plants. Hopefully by the '93 SJI Convention, we will have the complete collection.

THANK YOU

RICH RANDALL
524 Windsor Gate Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
(804)340-9077

IRISES THAT THE MEMORIAL IS STILL IN NEED OF

ANGELIC ADVOCATE	PRAIRIE FORALPHA
BLEW DOWN	PRAIRIE GLAMOUR
CHIMADE	PRAIRIE IDYLL
ELEANOR'S CHOICE	PRAIRIE LOVE SONG
MAGNIFICENT MAGIC	PRAIRIE MARVEL
ORIENTAL ORGANDY	PRAIRIE PAL
PASTEL RUFFLES	PRAIRIE PATIENCE
PRAIRIE BLISS	PRAIRIE PINK
PRAIRIE BUE RIBBON	PRAIRIE SUNRISE
PRAIRIE CHARM	PRAIRIE VIOLET
PRAIRIE COMET	PRAIRIE WAND
PRAIRIE COQUETTE	STOUT FELLOW
	VIRGINIA B.

VOTE -- MAYBE DON'T VOTE

John Coble

Recently, I voted in the Michigan Presidential Primary. In November I expect to vote in the national election. I've listened and read and voted for what I consider the sincere interest of the nation for the future years. I respect other voters that have considered all candidate platforms and view a better future through a different candidate. I do not respect those who urge people to ignore the issues and "just get out there and vote".

There is another ballot with a deadline before the November election -- the AIS Judges Ballot. There are few qualifications for becoming an AIS judge, and ample judges training sessions are held on garden judging, which set the criteria for voting the Ballot. The most abused criteria for voting an award to an iris is that the judge shall grow, or view growing in another garden, an iris being considered for an award, for at least two years. This does not mean that you see a nice clump blooming in a garden one year and the next year you reminisce how well you saw it growing last year and then conclude that you have "considered" it for two years!

How many cultivars in one class of iris do you grow or get around to see for good comparison in helping you decide which iris most deserves your limited number of votes? If you have observed only two cultivars, say out of twelve on the ballot, do you feel qualified to give your two votes to the two you observed? You would be telling AIS that those two are the best of the twelve! And, AIS and SJI are supposed to publish the ballot results to the world, saying that the judges have awarded two cultivars considered the best out of twelve for garden worthiness and distinction!

The AIS and Section awards are not as important as they are proposed to be. They are supposed to be platforms from which we "promote and educate the public". Seldom do the results of our awards system reach the public for "promotion" or "education". They mainly end with their listing in our own membership publication. At least the "politics" of our awards are not paraded in public. But now there is rapidly increasing interest in Siberian and Japanese iris. Sincere gardeners (non-iris society members) and nurseries are taking notice and interest in these increasingly popular iris types. They are seeking cultural information, cultivar availability and information on award status. There are hundreds of cultivars in commerce and beginners are looking for award status as a guide to help them get started. So there is now increasing awareness by the general gardening public looking for the judge's recommendations of distinctive newer cultivars that will grow well in various climates, and perform well in the perennial garden.

I urge judges to carefully consider your criteria for marking your ballot. Are you sincerely recommending to gardeners that THIS iris is better than other cultivars already in commerce? If you are voting your ballot just because you think you have to, or if you don't raise enough cultivars or observe their garden growth habits for at least two years, or if your biggest contact with cultivar qualities are well groomed stalks on a show bench -- please do not vote. If you've ever considered voting for an iris because you like the hybridizer or feel the hybridizer deserves it -- please do not vote. If you are a judge that has ever been heard to say "oh, I think they are all beautiful" -- please do not vote. There are no points given to an iris in the judges handbook for "oh, its beautiful"! 50 of the 100 points are given (or deducted) for the **plant**. This can only be observed in the garden over a period longer than an annual bus stop on a convention tour!

Sign your ballot to fulfill AIS requirements, but you do not have to put an X on the ballot if you are not sure for what you are voting.

**1991 & PARTIAL 1992 JAPANESE IRIS
REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Information supplied by Howard Brookins

- BRIDGE OF DREAMS Hirao, S. Reg. 1991 Sdlg SH-3 (32" 81cm) M Dip 3F S. purple (RHS 82A) veined darker, narrowly edged white: cream to white styles sanded and veined blue-violet (93B): F. white, blue halo, heavy sanding, veining and center streak of blue violet, yellow signal. Unknown parentage.
- BROCADE BLUE Ackerman, William L. Reg. 1990 Sdlg A3-10-62 (32" 81cm) E Dip 6-F Violet (RHS 93A), near yellow signal, blending to brighter shades of violet-blue near ruffled edge; occasional 4 stylearms. D4-7-128: (D5-11-33, irradiated seed x Double Cream) X self. Nicholls Gardens 1991
- BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT Aitken, J. T. Reg. 1991 Sdlg 85J2 (42" 107cm) ML Dip 6-F White ground delicately veined blue violet, intensifying around yellow signal: dark violet style arms. Knight in Armor x Flying Tiger. Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden 1991 Available
- CASCADE SPRING DRESS Reid, Lorena Reg. 1991 Sdlg D552-4 (42" 107cm) M Dip 6-F Ruffled white ground, edged and flecked violet (RHS 87B/C), lemony signal: white styles tipped violet (87D). A116-5: (dark magenta sdlg. x white sdlg.) X Mystic Buddha.
- CASCADE STORM Reid, Lorena Reg. 1991 Sdlg D608-4/7 (42" 107cm) L Dip 6-F Slightly ruffled violet blue (RHS 95A), veined slightly darker; large yellow (13A) signal. A106: (striped sdlg. x Rose Tower) X A123-3: (striped sdlg. x blue sdlg.)
- DAMSEL KNIGHT Knight, H. by J. Wood Reg. 1990 Sdlg K-101-86 (38" 96cm) ML Dip 6-F White ground with 1/2" to 3/4" blue-violet (RHS??) border; ruffled white styles edged blue-violet. Unknown parentage. John Wood 1991 Available
- DIOMEDES Innerst, Sterling Reg. 1991 Sdlg 3044-1 (40" 102cm) M-L Dip 6-F Light blue, 3/4" dark blue edge, light yellow signal. Center of Interest X Reign of Glory. EC: 1991
- EPIMETHEUS Innerst, Sterling Reg. 1991 Sdlg 3042-2 (40" 102cm) M-L Dip 6-F Wine purple, splashed and speckled white lavender-purple pink. Dark Sea X Japanese Sandman.
- EXUBERANT CHANTEY McEwen, Currier Reg. 1989 Sdlg 84/66(1) (37" 93cm) E-VL & RE Dip 6-F Dark blue-violet (near RHS 88A but darker than 89A), yellow signal. 80/165: (77/65(1): (((Garden Caprice x self) x Frostbound) x unknown) x unknown) X self. Pope's Perennials; Seaways Gardens 1991 Available
- GALATEA MARX W. Marx by S. For J. I. Reg. 1991 (40" 102cm) M Dip 6-F Ruffled near flax blue with white pencil veining; pure white styles and petaloids. Unknown parentage. Marx Gardens 1961 Available
- GOSAN-NO-TAKARA (Treasure of 3 & 5) Society For Japanese Iris Reg. 1992 (18" 46cm) ML Dip 3-6 F White, edged red-purple, yellow gold signal; white styles with some red-purple markings; blooms have 3, 4, 5 and 6 petals on same plant; equal number of tiny standards; Edo type, considered best dwarf. Unknown parentage. Introduced in Japan before 1940 Available

- HAGOROMO (Robe of Feathers) Seiko-En by S. For J. I. Reg. 1992 (36" 91cm) M Dip 9-F Peony type; very full and overlapping white F., brushed blue-lavender between the central rays; yellow signal. Unknown parentage. Introduced in Japan before 1940 Available
- HAKUYOKURO (Show Place) Hirao, S. by S. For J. I. Reg. 1992 (36" 91cm) M Dip 6-F Snow white self, yellow signal; very large. Higo strain. Shuichi Hirao 1965 Available
- HEKIUN Toyokazu by S. For J. I. Reg. 1992 Sdlg N-7A (30" 75cm) M Dip 3-F S. blue (RHS 89B), shading to white at center; blue (89B) styles; F. blue (96A), sharp white lines often forked at endings about 1.25 cm from blue (89B) edge, yellow signal. Mezame introduced in Japan, Unknown Date
- JACIVA Harris, Chad Reg. 1991 Sdlg 85JA3 (42" 107cm) ML Dip 6-F White petaloids and styles edged lavender-blue; F. sanded blue-lavender, lemon yellow signal, very fine white rim; ruffled. Knight in Armour X Marx 7507.
- JOAN TREVITHICK McEwen, Currier Reg. 1991 Sdlg 84/128 (34" 85cm) EM-L Dip 3-F S. pink (RHS 77D); F. pink (77D) with darker (77B) center streak, yellow (12C) signal. (Rose Queen x self) X (Rose Queen x self).
- KYOKKO Tomino by S. For J. I. Reg. 1992 (36" 91cm) EM Dip 3-F S. pink, dark edge, white veins; F. bright pink in center, shading to white edges; pink styles; yellow signal. Unknown parentage. Koji Tomino 1957 Available
- MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS McEwen, Currier Reg. 1990 Sdlg 85/95F (39" 98cm) M-L Dip 6-F Blue (RHS 95C/D) with clean white lines extending to edge. rich yellow signal; ruffled; tufted stylearms and stamen petaloids. 7" flower, one branch, 3 buds. White Parachute X Continuing Pleasure. Pope's Perennials; Seaways Gardens 1991 Available
- ORIENTAL BOUQUET Ackerman, William L. Reg. 1990 Sdlg A3-10-111 (22" 56cm) M-L Dip 10-F Very pale violet-blue (RHS 91D) ground, veined very dark violet-blue (89A), heavier around green-yellow (1A) signal; 8 stylearms veined violet-blue (90A); 6 petaloids. D4-10-86, inv sdls from Seiko-en Nursery X self. Nicholls Gardens 1991 Available
- PICOTEE PRINCESS Reid, Lorena Reg. 1991 Sdlg 87J24 (6 8/9-1) (48" 123cm) M Dip 6-F Ruffled white, sanded violet blue (RHS 91B), heavier at edge, greenish yellow signal; 3-5 styles making tuft in center. Garnet Royalty X Summer Splash.
- ROWDEN Carter, J. R. L. Reg. 1991 (36" 91cm) L Dip 3-F S. purple; F. white. Unknown parentage.
- RUBY STAR Aitken, J. T. Reg. 1991 Sdlg 86J-1-2 (36" 91cm) M-L Dip 6-F Raspberry red with white flash around yellow signal. Stranger in Paradise X King's Court. Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden 1991 Available
- RYUKO HIRAO Hirao by Soc. For J. I. Reg. 1991 Sdlg SH-8 (39" 99cm) M Dip 3-F white and cupped; creamy styles; F. white with diamond dusting, yellow signal with greenish cast, conspicuous center ridge which bleeds into F.: slight fragrance. Unknown parentage.
- SAKURAGAI Society For Japanese Iris Reg. 1992 (26" 66cm) M-L & RE Dip 3-F S. light pink (lighter than RHS 65D); light pink (65D) styles; F. pink (69D), darker (77C) veins and blush (near 77D), yellow signal. Unknown parentage. Introduced in Japan by M. Kamo

SHERWOOD GLACIER W. Marx by D. Rogers Reg. 1991 (40" 102cm)
M-L Dip 6-F White ground with random blue splashes, lemon
yellow signal; white styles. Unknown parentage. Caprice
Farm Nursery 1991 Available

SHINING PRINCE Hirao by Soc. For J. I. Reg. 1991 Sdlg SH-24
(37" 94cm) M Dip 6-F Deep violet (RHS 86A), blue halo and
white veins washed blue, yellow signal; white styles.
Unknown parentage.

SUITEN ISSHOKU (Sky and Water; One Color) Nishida, N. by S.
For J. I. Reg. 1992 (39" 100cm) M Dip 3-F Clear deep
blue, yellow signal. Unknown parentage. Introduced in
Japan prior to 1939 Available

SUMMER SPLASH Reid, Lorena Reg. 1991 Sdlg D558-2 (48" 123cm)
E Dip 3-F S. white, rimmed violet (RHS 87B); white styles
edged violet (87B); F. white, marked violet (RHS 87/BC),
heavier at shoulders and edge, white around greenish
yellow signal. Mystic Buddha X Frilled Enchantment.

TAGA SODE (Geisha Sleeve) Hirao, S. by S. J. I. Reg. 1992
EM Dip 6-F Red purple boldly veined white, yellow signal;
white styles edged red-purple. Unknown parentage.
Shuichi Hirao 1957 Available

WILDERNESS CRINOLINE Wood, John Reg. 1990 (35" 89cm) ML Dip
6-F White ground infused pink and blue, giving a
mother-of-pearl iridescence, gold signal; white styles.
Icy Peaks X unknown. John Wood 1991 Available

WILDERNESS DEBUTANTE Wood, John Reg. 1990 Sdlg W-102-82 (35"
89cm) M Dip 6-F Crimped and lightly ruffled pink (RHS
73B), gold signal; white styles tipped pink. Enchanting
Melody X unknown. John Wood 1991 Available

WILDERNESS INTRIGUE Wood, John Reg. 1990 (30" 76cm) ML Dip
6-F White ground, violet blue (RHS 89C) veining on
border, yellow (5A) signal; red purple (72A) petaloids
veined lighter on border; violet-blue (89A) styles.
Ike-No-Sazanami X Prairie Velvet. John Wood 1991
Available

YAMATO HIME (Pink Princess) Hirao, Dr. Shuichi Reg. 1992 (36"
90cm) M Dip 6-F Pinkish lavender (RHS 77D), white center,
yellow signal. Unknown parentage. Shuichi Hirao 1957
Available



NOTES ON OUR TRIP TO JAPAN IN JUNE 1991

Currier McEwen

Following the Japanese Iris Convention held in Maine in July 1990, Elisabeth and I had the very pleasant privilege of having the five Japanese visitors who attended the convention stay with us at Seaways for several days. Subsequently, we received the kindest invitations to visit them in Japan. It was too lovely an opportunity to be missed, even though it would mean our being away during Siberian iris bloom which at South Harpswell, Maine is at the same time as peak Japanese iris bloom throughout most of Japan. We flew non-stop from New York to Tokyo on May 29th and returned to Portland, Oregon on June 12th in time for the 1991 Japanese Iris Convention there. The only problem for us during the entire trip was jet lag. This is something to plan for in a flight crossing so many time zones in so few hours. We had planned for this and spent the first 24 hours or so after arrival quietly in our hotel at the Tokyo International Airport.

Before turning to our experiences at each of the gardens we visited, I must mention the most outstanding and treasured experience of all, namely the care we received and the warmth of hospitality given to us. At every airport or other stop we were met and our bags taken care of and at every visit we were overwhelmed with thoughtfulness and kindness. The hospitality of the Japanese is proverbial but it surpassed anything we could have anticipated.

Our first visit was to Miyazaki on the southern island of Kyushu where Dr. Tsutomu Yabuya is an associate professor in the Applied Genetics and Biotechnology Division of the Faculty of Agriculture at Miyazaki University. As those of you know who heard him speak at the Maine Convention and have read his articles in recent issues of "The Review", his interest is in research. His laboratory is well equipped for his studies which, at the time of our visit, were chiefly concerned with embryo culture methods for growing his colchicine treated wide-cross hybrids, and with analyses of iris pigments. His use of embryo culture and colchicine have resulted in fertile polyploid hybrids of *I. laevigata* by *I. ensata* and also of *I. pseudacorus* by *I. ensata* although the latter had not reached sufficient maturity to permit crosses at the time of our visit. An especially promising development from his work with pigments has been his identification of delphanin in a single Japanese iris, CHITOSEHIME^{1,2}. Studies by others³ have indicated that flowers containing delphanin crossed with others containing flavones, needed as a co-factor, can give rise to true blue flowers. He had assumed that high flavone content would be found in creamy white cultivars. To his surprise, however, the highest flavone contents in his studies have been found in rich blue-purple varieties⁴, so these will be the flowers of choice in future crosses.

A particularly memorable feature of our stay in Miyazaki was the opportunity to meet Mrs. Yabuya and their young children at luncheon in their home. Dr. Yabuya gave us a tour of the resort areas on the coast and a visit to the excellent city art museum, and then a visit to the Miyazaki public Gardens.

This was our introduction to this type of garden which can be found in most cities in Japan. Many acres are devoted to plantings of shrubs and various flowers but, at least in the ones we visited, the major emphasis was on thousands of Japanese irises, many of them growing beside water or in pots in the water.

In view of the nature of his interest in Japanese irises, it is not surprising that Dr. Yabuya does no hybridizing or growing except for research purposes. He therefore has only a small experimental garden. Elisabeth and I enjoyed visiting this garden with him where he showed us some 30 or more potted plants resulting from his wide crosses.

The serious volcanic eruption on Kyushu occurred during our stay in Miyazaki but it was on the southern side of the island some 200 miles away and we were aware of it only through television.

Our next garden visit was to the Kamo Nurseries at Kakegawa. Our flight from Miyazaki took us only as far as Nagoya. There we were met by one of the scientific members of Mr. Kamo's staff, who drove us the 100 miles or so to Kakegawa. This trip through beautiful mountainous country was instructive as well as pleasant. We had known, of course, from reading and hearsay, how densely populated Japan is but this was sharply brought home on the drive. The long central chains of mountains extending the length of the country are unsuited to habitation or farming. Where areas permitted the establishment of small towns, the houses were severely crowded together.

The Kamo Nurseries are surely the most beautiful and multifaceted gardening enterprise I have ever imagined. The property, beautifully situated in a valley between impressive mountainous hills, has been in the family for some 200 years and was originally a rice farm. Mr. Kamo's grandmother had a small flower garden which stimulated his interest in Japanese irises. The Kamo's home, and some other buildings, go back to the original farm but the main nursery buildings are new. The visitor comes through a main entrance into a large, low building which houses business offices, area for preparing lunches and teas, and the shop displaying Mrs. Kamo's lovely silk screened scarves and other articles. Extending out at right angles from that building is a long, wide, covered walkway with tables for teas and lunches and hung with overhead pots of hundreds of begonias; and this long walkway frames the huge planting of thousands of Japanese irises shown in the frontispiece of our book on Japanese irises. The day we arrived we were two of approximately a thousand people who had come to select choice articles from the gift shop, have lunch and tea, and admire and purchase irises. Mr. Kamo estimates that some 100,000 visitors come each year. The nursery does not advertise these tours. All that is done by bus companies. It is a striking illustration of the way the Japanese people feel about these irises; 100,000 people yearly will travel four hours in tour buses from Tokyo and other cities to Kakegawa to spend a few hours having lunch, viewing and buying plants and then spending another four hours on the return trip.

In spite of the demands on their time and attention by the myriad of visitors, Mototeru and Fumiko Kamo showed us the kindest hospitality in this beautiful setting. Toyokazu Ichie, the principle hybridizer of Mr. Kamo's large staff, who had accompanied the Kamos at the 1990 Maine Convention, then took us on a tour of the nursery and devoted the better part of the next two days to us, showing the best of the newest seedlings and named varieties and explaining his work with tissue culture under way in his laboratory. We saw many lovely new as well as older flowers including many luscious pink ones. I was particularly impressed by a seedling under number which is surely the closest to true blue that I have yet seen; bluer than my own SOUTHERN SON and MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS. There were many diploid, sterile hybrids of I. pseudacorus by Japanese irises in an interesting range of colors. Most important of all, however, are Mr. Ichie's HATSUHO and seedlings from it. HATSUHO is a remarkable hybrid from I. pseudacorus by a Japanese iris which is polyploid (2N=56) and which came from tissue culture of a diploid variety which was never treated with colchicine. It is fertile and Mr. Ichie has crossed it successfully by my white tetraploid MAINE CHANCE. About 50 seeds resulted of which 49 gave albino seedlings, which died, but the 50th, which I saw, was a fine small plant of tetraploid appearance and good green leaves. Mr. Ichie had one more similar seedling from HATSUHO crossed by one of his tetraploid seedlings. In 1991 these two plants were merely small new seedlings, but they give promise of the break-through we have been seeking to introduce fertile Japanese irises in yellow and other new colors.

Although the Kamo Nurseries specialize chiefly in Japanese irises, they grow thousands of begonias and also delphiniums. The begonias were in full bloom at the time of our visit and were more magnificent than any I had previously seen. In addition to the hundreds hanging in the walkway and tea area mentioned above, there is a separate building for them up the hillside behind the Kamo's home where we saw a breathtaking display of thousands.

On the third of our wonderful days at Kakegawa, Mr. Kamo drove us the approximately 50 miles to Asagiri in the foothills of Mt. Fuji, where he is developing a second nursery. He had mentioned this project on his visit to us in South Harpswell in 1987, explaining that the climate at Kakegawa is too warm to be ideal for Japanese irises and that he had chosen the area at Asagiri where the elevation made the climate rather similar to ours at Seaways. This was borne out by the fact that only buds were seen in the huge beds at Asagiri where peak bloom is about three weeks later than at Kakegawa.

The building to house the business offices, gift shop and tea area for tourists, and the huge greenhouse were about half furnished, with all the work being done by members of Mr. Kamo's large staff. It was most impressive to Elisabeth and me to see the enthusiastic way in which scientists and general gardeners were working together to build what obviously they all felt a part of. It illustrated also Mr. Kamo's relationship to his staff and his ability to inspire them.

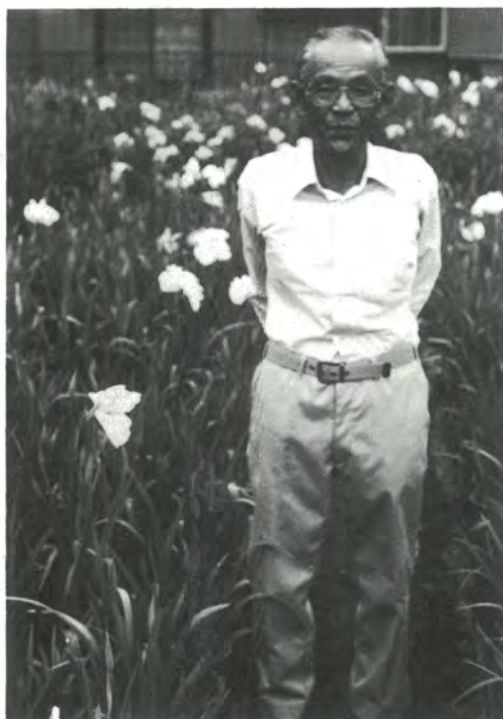
Elisabeth and I met another side of Mototeru Kamo that evening. In his half finished quarters in the entrance building, with only the barest amount of furniture for his weekly visits from Kakegawa, he had already moved in a grand piano. Prior to taking us out to dinner he entertained us by playing some of our favorite classical music. He is truly what in the West we would call a Renaissance man.

One more aspect of the Asagiri nursery that demands comment is the attraction of its location to visitors. Mt. Fuji and two of the most magnificent waterfalls in Japan are only a few miles away. It is clear that the tourist bus companies will make the most of its attractions. Mr. Kamo anticipates that in addition to the 100,000 visitors who come yearly to Kakegawa, there will be 500,000 or more to Asagiri.

The following day, Hiroshi Shimizu drove to Asagiri to pick us up for a drive of several hours to his home in Sagami-hara. On the way we circled Mt. Fuji to see it from all sides, but in spite of this we very nearly did not see it at all. Although it is within easy distance of Asagiri it was completely obliterated by clouds during our three days there. Mr. Shimizu drove us up the long tourist road as high as one can go by car, but even there the mountain was cloud covered. We were starting to drive away when McEwen luck asserted itself. As we watched, the clouds parted and perhaps for half a minute the mountain was visible in all its snow-capped beauty.

On this drive, getting closer to Tokyo, the overcrowding of villages was ever more apparent. Mr. and Mrs. Shimizu, however, are fortunate in having a family home with enough space for them to be able to have overnight guests. Our three days with them were indeed a most interesting and lovely highlight of our trip. Mrs. Shimizu was a delightful hostess and their two young daughters, Keiko and Akiko, added to the enjoyment of the visit.

Mr. Shimizu has limited space for a garden but makes amazingly efficient use of the area he has. Except for newly sprouted seedlings in flats, he grows his plants in individual pots. As explained in my article in the last issue of "The Review"⁵, pots are used not because that is an ideal cultural method, but because more potted plants can be grown in a small space and can be more easily moved about. Hiroshi Shimizu was one of the first breeders in Japan to have a continuing interest in tetraploidy. As described in my article on PINK TRIUMPH in "The Review"⁶, I had discovered in 1975 that the plant of Louise Marx' PINK TRIUMPH that Dr. Shuichi Hirao was growing was an apparently "spontaneous" polyploid. Mr. Shimizu, already deeply involved in hybridizing, received a plant of it from Dr. Hirao and immediately started crossing it with my tetraploid RASPBERRY RIMMED. He now has excellent pink and white tetraploids as well as many diploids. Mr. Shimizu took us to visit the famous gardens at the Meiji Shrine and to the Keio Hyakkaen, a public park where Mr. Shigeo Oshida, one of the currently important hybridizers, is director. Again, as at Miyaszaki, we saw thousands of beautiful Japanese irises, about half of them growing in pots in pools and streams, and hundreds of visitors enjoying them. We appreciated the chance to meet Mr. Oshida who served us tea and showed us many of his named cultivars.



Left:

**ISAMU NISHIDA
At his nursery.**

Below:

**HIROSHI SHIMIZU
and FAMILY
In the Shimizu garden**

Photos by Currier McEwen



We also spent a day visiting the Nishida Nursery, Syuhoen, at Yokohama. Started by Nobutsume Nishida (1862-1938) in the early 19 hundreds, it has been continued by his sons as one of the important commercial Japanese iris nurseries in Japan. I had the privilege of meeting Mr. Isamu Nishida who carries on the hybridizing lines started by his father. Here, in addition to enjoying conversation at the tea table, I saw a magnificent display of potted Japanese iris standing in traditional fashion in front of a long golden screen. Mr. Nishida kindly demonstrated the way in which he divides plants to single pieces to plant in pots. During this process he suddenly laughed and explained that Dr. George M. Reed, of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, in his 1930 visit to Japan, had taught his father how to do this and now, 60 years later, he was showing another American how to do it.

Mr. Shimizu also gave me a brief outline of the breeding programs of a number of the important hybridizers in Japan. Dr. Koji Tomino has been a leader in the development of the Ise type of Japanese irises with many lovely pink ones such as MIYOSHINO to his credit as well as others in pastel shades. Most of the other currently active hybridizers have worked especially with the Edo and Higo types. This goes back to the early efforts of Matsudairo Shōō and his father, Sadahiro, from the mid 1700s to 1856. Between 1833 and 1852, Junnosuke Yoshida brought from the Edo region (now Tokyo) some 64 of Matsudaira Shōō's cultivars to Higo, an old province in Kyushu, where intensive hybridizing led to what became known as the Higo type of Japanese irises. Nobutsune Nishida started working with them in the Higo area and in 1923 brought them to his new nursery in Yokohama as the basis for his important breeding line. In addition to Nishida's sons, all of the present hybridizers have used cultivars of the Nishida line making particular use of Higos, but also of the older Edo type. These hybridizers include beside Isamu Nishida, Shuichi Hirao, Yoshio Mitsuda, Shigeo Oshida, Mototeru Kamo, Toyokazu Ichie, Hiroshi Shimizu and others.

I was not able to see Dr. Tomino or Mr. Mitsudo on this trip although I had met Dr. Tomino years ago. I was particularly sorry to miss Mr. Mitsuda and his garden because of his distinction in the world of Japanese irises and because of the excellence of his introductions. I did see some of his magnificent pink flowers, of which I was especially charmed by SENS HIME.

Indeed, this experience in Japan was all that Elisabeth and I could have wished -- wonderful gardens and flowers, the many things we learned and, especially, wonderful friends.

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REPORT ON REGISTRATION PROJECT

Clarence Mahan, Chairman, Awards and Registrations

Some progress has been made in the formidable task of getting Japanese iris registrations straightened out. As instructed by the Board, the Marx iris in commerce as "Galatea" was registered in 1991 with the name GALATEA MARX. Although Walter Marx introduced this iris as "Galatea" in 1961, he never registered it with AIS. The name "Galatea" had previously been awarded to a TB iris registered under that name by Schreiners. All of you who are growing this gorgeously ruffled flax blue iris should change your records to reflect the new corrected name: GALATEA MARX.

Three more of the late Dr. Hirao's seedlings, which were sent to us for the Washington, D. C. Convention, were also named and registered in 1991. Seedling SH-24 is now SHINING PRINCE. It is 6F, 37", M, deep violet with blue halo and white veins washed blue, with white styles.

BRIDGE OF DREAMS was the name selected for registering SH-3 which is 3F, 32", M., S. Purple veined darker, narrowly edged white; cream to white styles sanded and veined blue violet; F. white with blue halo, sanding and veining, and a center streak of blue violet.

The third Hirao seedling was registered as RYUKO HIRAO, in honor of Dr. Hirao's widow. This iris (SH-8) is 3F, 39", M., S. white and cupped; creamy styles; F. white with diamond dusting and yellow signal with greenish cast. It has a conspicuous center ridge, and is very beautiful.

The registration data on two other Japanese irises was corrected this year. RENJO-NO-TAMA was registered with this information: "JI (6F), 80 cm, ML. Lilac, white centers and veining, yellow signal. Unknown parentage. This is an historic cultivar from the 19th century. Believed to have been hybridized by Matsudaira Shoo. Incorrectly declared obsolete in 1939 Check List." The name RENJO-NO-TAMA means "Lilac Jewel."

The second corrected registration was MAIKO. The new registration reads: "JI (6F), 36" (91 cm), M. White with red purple edging and plicata markings, yellow signal; white styles tipped red purple. Unknown parentage. This iris originated at Shuho-en prior to its import into U.S. in 1937. It supersedes the 1939 Check List entry "Mai-ko" which misidentifies Mr. Uyeki as the originator. Mr. Uyeki of Yokohama Nursery obtained many irises from Shuho-en and was the first to export Maiko to the U.S.". The name MAIKO means "Dancer."

Twenty-four (24) irises imported from Japan and in commerce in the U.S., previously unregistered, have been registered to date in 1992. These irises are listed with the name of the iris translated into English in parenthesis: GOSAN-NO-TAKARA (Treasure of Three and Five); HAGOROMO (Robe of Feathers); HAKUGYOKURO (Paradise); HEKITO (Blue Wave); HEKIUN (Blue Cloud); IKE-NO-SAZANAMI (Rippling Pond); ISE HOMARE (Glory of Ise); KYOKKO (Aurora Borealis); MAI OGI (Dancer's Fan); MOMIJI YAMA (Maple Mountain); NARIHIRA (Hero in "Tale of Ise"); NEMURIJISHI (Sleeping Lion); NIHONKAI (Sea of Japan); RURI OGI (Bright Blue Fan); SAKURAGAI (Sunset Shell); SAKURAJISHI (Pink Lion); SEI SHONAGON (Famed Court Lady and Authoress); SUITEN ISSHOKU (Color of Sky and Water); TAGA SODE (Geisha's Sleeve); TAIKO (Title of Toyotomi Hideyoshi in Retirement); TAMATSUSHIMA (Peninsula of Tsushima); TSUZURE NISHIKI (Patterned Brocade); USHIO-NO-KEMURI (Tide of Smoke); YAMATO HIME (Princess of Yamato). All of these irises were previously introduced in Japan and thus are not eligible for AIS awards (except show ribbons, of course!).

I would like to thank Dr. Currier McEwen who assisted me by providing some registration information on several of the above irises. If we are to get this project completed by 1995, we will need more help this year. If you are growing any named but unregistered irises from Japan, won't you lend a hand by sending descriptive information to me after bloom season?

(Editor's Note: The following information was received in a second communication from Clarence. It is being included as part of this article.)

The Consolidated 1989 Check List published by AIS will correct the registration information for YUKICHIDORI (Shuichi Hirao by Don Delmez, 1969) which was officially registered in 1983. Originally registered as a "double", it will now be correctly shown as "9 Falls." In Japanese YUKICHIDORI means "Snow Plover" (a type of bird).

A NOTE FROM JOE GRINER

Was it beginner's luck, or simply added care for a newly found interest? When I purchased ten TB rhizomes from hybridizer Frank Carr in 1985 to plant in the acidic sands of the Pinelands of new Jersey, I enjoyed nine blooms the next year! Parenthetically, Frank's small, but prolific, garden was two blocks from my former residence in Bordertown; I had to move 25 miles south before I could appreciate the potential of my back yard. Frank introduced me not only to TB iris but to the American Iris Society through the Garden State Iris Society. In reading the Bulletin, pictures and articles on Japanese iris caught my interest; however, the JIs probably could not adapt to the Pinelands. Our township of Southampton has wet lands and cranberry bogs but, I am on a 100 foot elevation - high and dry. Although the Japanese iris may enjoy the low pH, the sands of the locale are brutal to many plants - especially in the summer. A five (5) inch rain in June left a large puddle in the side yard which drained in less than half an hour. Nutrients are carried away with each rain. After I had spent a year appreciating the beauty of JIs in the Ensata Garden catalogue, Carol Warner of Maryland presented a slide show at the Garden State Iris Society banquet. Encouraged further by Nancy Szmuriga (President GSIS) and Liz Aulicky, Margo and I decided to give Japanese iris a try.

Enjoying challenges and trying to meet the short season criticism of TBs, I parted with \$35. Last summer (Editor's note: Mr. Griner sent this article in November, 1991, but is refering here to the summer of 1990) I wrote to Bob Bauer and John Coble of Ensata Gardens requesting ten (10) of their best growers. I didn't anticipate so much fun for a few dollars and a little work!

In June my son Joe and I dug a pit 4' x 8' and 3 feet deep, lining it with a couple layers of thin clear plastic. The plastic extended about a foot over the perimeter edge at a few inches below the surface to act as a catch basin. The pit was located at the lowest spot in the sunny area and was a few yards beyond the nearest pine tree branches. We filled the pit as follows:

1. oak leaves (about 4 inches)
2. peat (about 4 inches)
3. old (over 6 months) horse and chicken manure (2 inches)
4. top soil (2 inches)
5. mixed in (10-10-10) fertilizer (1.5 - 2.0 pounds)
6. repeated 2 thru-5 until about 6 inches from the ground level.

The soil was sprayed with diazinon (2 tbls./gallon) to reduce the grubs.

The JIs arrived in early July wrapped in plastic. The Ensata plants were of excellent quality having 2 or 3 fans in many cases. They were planted about two inches below the surface and one foot apart; it was assumed that all would not survive the experiment in the Pinelands. Cream and yellow pseudacorus plants were placed behind the JIs from another location where they were not performing. They benefited from the special treatment!

Two gallons of MiracleGro was poured on the bed and the plants were watered daily into September. Once a week the bed was flooded. The "shot gun" approach was used on the spraying schedule every two or three weeks in late evening and at low rates: 1) Sevin and Maneb 2) Malathion and benlate 3) Diazinon. A few MiracleGro applications were made during the summer and a side dressing of 10-10-10 was applied in September. The increase by fall was triple or more fans three to four feet in height! Organic matter (2-3 inches) was placed around the plants for extra winter protection in November. Spring was anxiously anticipated: the daffodils, TB iris and the Japanese! A side dressing of 10-10-10 was applied in early April. In May we had record high temperatures (90s) with little rain. Watering became a daily chore but the efforts were paying off as bloom stalks were appearing on all ten JIs. If this was not enough of an accomplishment, I was hoping to have some ready for the GSIS show May 27! No way! June 6th was the first bloom and it was worth the wait! Every morning and evening I was out video taping the new surprises. During one of the video tapings, a hummingbird came to visit each flower. My wife, Margo, enjoyed the blooms also, but was getting somewhat impatient after the second week when I would come home to greet the JIs before she or the children were greeted! Extending the iris season was a success thanks to the JIs.

The Garden State Iris Society meeting held on July 23 included JI judges' training and grooming presentations by Elizabeth Aulicky and RVP Nancy Szmuriga respectively. I did not have my best blooms as samples. This season's fun, excitement and success was not a "fish story" as I have proof on video tape. I had to move a couple of JIs this first year and expanded the bed to include more from Bob Bauer and John Coble of Ensata Gardens. Thanks gentlemen for a good start. I hope this becomes an annual event and wasn't beginners luck for me! There seems to be growing interest in JIs in Jersey. The variety of color and style and length of bloom season are appealing. I know of only three active growers in Region 19. The good increase this year allowed me to add two new growers of JI. Perhaps a JI show by GSIS (Region 19) is in the not too distant future!

Each plant had its attributes and uniqueness.

SUMMARY of PLANTS:

name	clr.	hgt.	blm. stks.	blms./stk.	comments
Dace	W	42"	2	5-7	fades fast, little substance, heat affected most of these
Galatea	B	40"	3	5-6	appears as two different flowers: before and after styles open.
Goldbound	W	48"	3	6-8	excellent substance; held up in extreme heat and after rain.
Hidden- ishiki	R/V	40"	3	6-8	finished blooming early.

Kjozasa-Gawa	B	47"	2	6-8	pretty blue; withstood heat well even tho it looked frail.
Maiko-no-hama		40"	2	5-6	petals irregular length and curled, opened unusually, it was crowded?
Purple Parasol	P	48"	2	6-8	good branching.
Royal Radiance	R/V	47"	2	6-8	good branching.
Token of Friendship	W/V	44"	2	6-7	white with stripes/veins, narrow light rim; petals stayed straight out during rain storm and in 95F heat; long blooming.
UmiBotaru	V/W	36"	2	4-5	

1992 SCHEDULED JAPANESE IRIS SHOWS

The following areas have indicated they will be sponsoring Japanese iris or "late iris" shows this year. Any one of them would welcome you as a visitor, or as an exhibitor if you have blooms to show. Shows are listed in order of show dates.

Summerville, South Carolina --- May 23.

The Summerville Iris Society, an affiliate of The American Iris Society, will hold their annual JI weekend on May 22nd and 23rd, 1992. It will include the JI show, 2 hours of judge's training, bus tour, auction and four meals. Registration fee for the complete weekend is \$25.00. A check should be made out to the Summerville Iris Society and mailed to Peggy Beason prior to May 12, at R#2, Box 584, Summerville, SC 29483. Telephone (803)688-4414.

The show and judges training will be held at the Cuthbert Community Building, 101 W 5th St. South, Summerville, SC. Theme for the show is "Poetry in Motion." Show chairman is Claudia Hucks and co-chairman is Maggie Johnson. The show has horticultural divisions in both iris and companion plants, and an artistic design division. Green bottles will be furnished by the show committee for the iris. Those entering the companion plant division need to furnish their own green bottles. Horticulture and design entries will be taken Friday May 22 from 9pm to 11pm and May 23 from 7am to 9am.

Judges training will be held from 5pm to 7pm on Friday, May 22, followed by refreshments. Saturday's breakfast is from 7:30am to 9am. The bus tour will leave approximately 10am for Meadowlake Gardens in Hendersonville, SC, where they have numerous JI, hemerocallis, and beautifully landscaped grounds with many companion plants for JI.

Lodging is available at four motels, one near the show building and the others about 2 miles away at the intersection of I26/17A.

Hamilton Motel - Main St. in Summerville, Tel. (803)873-0220

Comfort Inn - Continental breakfast - Tel. (803)851-2333

Econo Lodge - Tel. (803)875-3022

Holiday Inn - Tel. (803)875-3300.

For additional information regarding either the show or the week-end activities please contact the reservation chairman, Peggy Beason (address above) or Virginia Burton (address at front of this issue of "The Review").

Virginia Beach, Virginia - June 6.

The Tidewater Iris Society will stage its second Japanese iris show at the Lynnhaven Mall, on June 6. Entries will be taken from 8 to 10am with judging at 10:30am and the show will be open to the public from 12 noon to 6pm. Further information may be obtained by contacting either the chairman, D. J. Kelly, 1289 Holly Point Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23450, Tel. (804)496-0852 or the co-chairman, Bill Smoot, 213 Derby Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23702, Tel. (804)393-4617.

Hendersonville, North Carolina - June 11 & 12.

The Carolina mountain iris Society staged a display of Japanese iris for the first time last year. This year they have decided to hold their first juried Japanese iris show. It will be staged at the Opportunity House in Hendersonville on June 11th and 12th. Show judges for this historic occasion will be Virginia Burton of Region Five and B. J. and Frances Brown from Region Four.

Chairman for the show is Walter Hoover, P. O. Box 337, Saluda, NC 28773, Tel. (704)749-5846. He will welcome any inquiries for additional information regarding the show.

We wish them the best of success in this endeavor.

St. Louis, Missouri - June 13.

The Greater St. Louis Iris Society will present its annual beardless iris show on June 13th, at the Missouri Botanical Garden. There will be both horticultural and artistic classes in the show. Entries will be received from 8am to 10am, with the show open to the public from 12 noon to 5pm.

For additional information contact: Don Delmez, 3240 Connecticut, St. Charles, MO 63301, Tel. (314)724-4274.

Washington D.C. area - June 20.

The Washington D. C. area show will be jointly sponsored by the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society and the Francis Scott Key Iris Society. Location of the show will be at the Botanical Garden in Washington D. C.. Chairman of the show is Clarence Mahan. For further information contact him at: 7311 Churchill Rd., McLean, VA 22101, Tel. (703)893-8526.

Portland, Oregon - June 20.

The Portland Oregon area Japanese iris show will be held at the Japanese Garden Pavilion in Portland. The show is free but there is a charge to enter the garden. The show will be open from 10am to 5pm. Horticultural entries only will be taken for this show. For further information please contact the show chairman, John Ludi, 35071 S.E. Highway 211, Boring, Oregon 97009, Tel. (503)668-9230.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania - June 26.

The date for the Harrisburg show has been set for June 26. Please check with the show committee as there may be a change in date due to its conflict with the SJI Convention. Location of the show is the Wanamaker Court at the Harrisburg East Mall. Entries will be received until 10am and the show will be open to the public from 1pm to 6pm.

For further information contact either the show chairman, Hope Nantarow, 4906 Garden Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17105 Tel. (717)545-3578 or Harold Griffie, Box 315, Biglerville, PA 17307 Tel. (717)677-7818.

Kalamazoo, Michigan - June 26.

The annual JI show in Kalamazoo is being held in conjunction with the convention of the Society for Japanese Irises. Anyone who is planning to attend the convention and has bloom available is encouraged to bring it with them for the show. There are divisions for horticultural classes, seedlings, and artistic designs. For further information please contact the show chairman, Anna Mae Miller, 6065 N. 16th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49004 Tel. (616)349-5934.

Portland, Maine - July 11.

Maine's first Japanese Iris Show was held in 1990, in conjunction with the Japanese Iris Convention held in Maine. Since that time Maine and Massachusetts have entered into an informal agreement to host Japanese iris shows on alternate years.

On July 11, 1992 Maine's 2nd JI show will be held at the Auburn Middle School in Auburn, Maine. The show will be open to the public from 1 to 5pm. John and Evelyn White will be chairmen of the show. Shirley Pope will head the horticultural division. Peter Young is in charge of the design division and has prepared a schedule of classes using "The Wonderful World of Disney" as a theme.

As an added attraction, the recently revived Maine Hosta Society will prepare a cut leaf hosta exhibit. Russ and Joan Moors will be in charge. At its last 2 Japanese iris shows Massachusetts has had a hosta display. Hostas serve as nice complements to Japanese iris, and interest in both has been growing in Maine in the last few years.

For further information please contact the chairmen at RR 2 Box 980, Auburn Me 04210-9560 Tel. (207)345-9532.

HONEYSONG FARM NOTES ON JAPANESE IRIS

Alex Summers

It is possible, by carefull selection, to have a garden full of plants that actually want to grow with little care and no watering. All one needs to do is study the plants that grow wild close by, and plant those that appeal to you. Thus, if dogwood, mt. laurel and holly are wild nearby, you can buy dozens of named varieties of each and actually have a planting that is attractive. These can be added to with other items that like the same growing conditions.

Unfortunately, Japanese Iris will not grow under those conditions. Neither can the dogwoods, mt. laurel and hollies exist under the conditions most favorable for the prosperity of Japanese iris. Before we all move to Japan, buy a wet meadow full of wild iris and replace these with the latest named varieties, let us look at how to duplicate these Japanese growing conditions at home.

My interest in soil structure dates back to Long Island landscaping days, when I encountered glacial residues from pure clay to pure sand. Gravel encountered ran from a sand mix called "bank run" to small boulders. I remember one place where drainage was so good, that the hose left running on the surface to wet a newly planted tree rapidly disappeared to at least 6 feet down and had to be cut.

When I first saw these premises, now Honeysong Farm, a small farm of 37 acres of clear land and about 85 of woodland was available (since expanded). It was the woodland with lady slippers, native azaleas, mt. laurel, dogwood and magnolias that attracted. The many evergreen hollies up to 80 feet tall were impressive. The shadblows were in flower and there were many puddles and wet areas everywhere. None of the above wild plants grew in the wet, but close by.

Old drainage ditches were evident, indicating a soil that was retentive of moisture. Sample holes revealed no gravel. In fact, recent years have proved that stones of any size are rare. It is what I call good "balling" soil.

Southwestern Delaware, where we are located, probably has an elevation of under 40 feet. Since the Mason and Dixon line runs up the center of the DelMarVa peninsula separating Delaware from Maryland, and is one of our property lines, complete with an original Mason and Dixon marker, we are equally distant from the Chesapeake Bay and the ocean. It is about 40 miles either way, indicating that the land falls about a foot to a mile. The land, basically flat with many low wet areas, has some areas higher by a foot or so where dwellings are located and crops are grown. Drainage ditches are common, feeding when full into branches that flow very slowly into tidal rivers. The rivers are interesting because the incoming tide backs the fresh water up, raising the level 35 miles from the bay. Thus, towns like Seaford are 35 miles from the Bay with inches of fresh water between it and the brackish tidal water mixture reaching in from the salty Bay.

All the above conditions indicate an acid soil and an ideal situation for Japanese iris -- yes and no. The yes part is

the soil, considered sandy by those used to red clay, but heavy enough to permit standing water to soak very slowly down. The no part is that, unlike Japan, the rainfall is outside the growing season and the water table, actually at the surface in late winter, is down plus or minus 8 feet each summer. One drought year it dropped 9½ feet. There is a swamp about 4 miles to the East of us on an elevation a few feet higher. On Honeysong premises there exist a few very small spots in the woods that while not wet enough to contain visible water are damp during the summer. It leads one to believe that if one were to do a shallow excavation in a low area, it should stay damp. The problem here is that in the wet period of the year one has dug a shallow pond. This is exactly what I did about 5 years ago and now have a half acre shallow pond. Not suited for Japanese iris at all as it is 2½ feet deep in the spring and becomes a small puddle during the usual dry summers. The deep pond mentioned in my last article, begins to fill in the fall. It is now 5 feet from full. (Editors note: Alex's article was received at the end of February.) Last year at this time it was 7 feet down. Strangely it is spring fed, the color a pretty green even when low. The springs operate only after heavy rains saturate the earth and pressures of the higher land (only by a few feet) to the East push up the water level from below. There was a clay barrier down about 6 feet, removed when the pond was dug. The springs work as follows: With the ground soaked, 2 inches of rain will raise the pond level about a foot and 4" will raise it up to 3 feet. Last year it filled but failed to overflow.

With the above background I'd like to explain how I grow Japanese iris at present. We use a ground water heat pump for heating and cooling. The water is supplied by our household sumersible pump, rather oversize at ¾ horse. Instead of being pumped back into the ground it flows along side the pond in a shallow ditch into a flat area where the iris are planted in a wide ditch. Originally one row in the bottom of a 3" deep ditch, 4 feet wide. In 2 years small clumps reach a size of 30" across the base. With extensive root mass a clump becomes 5 feet across. As I do not care to cut of the roots I use a small back hoe which lifts them out like a charm, altho the dug wet mass is impossible to handle at this size. Not all varieties grow with the same vigor so not all dug plants are so unwieldy. Bear in mind that this is an on-going study and further changes are likely. At present, without rodent problems to contend with, it is only natural to expand. A further area was ditched, this time 5 feet wide, with the sides sloped up and a row planted on each side, so that the crowns are about 1" above water level. This promoted earlier spring top growth. The original ditch is being redone at 5 feet wide with ditch now lower, and with a row of plants on each side.

At present the plantings are under 300 varieties. Please do not ask for a list as I do not retail. With annual winter applications of manure (horse this time) the iris increase rapidly and it is important that excess be promptly removed. This only works for me on the wholesale level with one large outlet taking all my supply in undivided clumps.

One interesting question. Someone told me that chicken manure is acid. Can anyone let me know if this is so? Surely, there must be a manure expert among the readers.

SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1991 - December 31, 1991

MONEY MARKET SAVINGS

Balance on hand 1/1/91	\$6,965.45
Interest	505.64
Life Memberships	75.00
Book Royalty	2,912.13
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/91	\$10,458.22

Note: \$1200.00 is Life Memberships

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on Hand 1/1/91	\$9,177.93
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Income:

Dues	\$1,734.50
Interest	369.23
Librarian (reprints and slides)	338.50
Book Sales	1,254.85
Checklist Sales	77.00
Auction (Portland, Oregon)	2,448.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,222.08

Expenses:

Secretary (copies, postage, photos)	\$375.05
Librarian (copies, postage)	155.72
Editor Spring REVIEW	1,185.92
Editor Fall REVIEW	1,126.11
Membership Chairman (postage)	110.86
Books (University Press of N.E.)	1,031.85
Repay Loan to AIS Foundation	5,305.41
Awards	36.12
Ship Auction Plants	41.85
Register Irises	230.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$9,597.89
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BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/91	\$5,802.12
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TOTAL CASH ON HAND 12/31/91	\$16,260.34
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Carol Warner

"TRAMPS" OR "TREASURES"?

Philip W. Cook

Perhaps one shouldn't equate plants with pets, but nonetheless, I can't help but think of my first experiences with Japanese iris in terms of finding an undernourished, bedraggled and injured cat or dog on the doorstep. The poor creature obviously has a will to live but you wonder about the chances that it can ever recover and, if it does, will it be a desirable companion. My first Japanese iris was ordered from a general nursery catalogue and arrived on my doorstep -- a withered single fan division, packed in dry peat moss or sawdust, showing a pale yellowish region amongst the almost unidentifiable remains of roots and leaves. There was a picture which matched the catalogue description and a lot of Japanese characters which meant nothing to me. Knowledgeable iris growers would probably have said that it wasn't worth the trouble and sent it to the compost heap. Well, I had paid for it and I find that making complaints takes more time and energy than it is usually worth. So, it was carefully soaked for a couple of days and then potted up in a mixture of peat moss and acid loam. Little by little it began to green up and by the end of the first summer it had a respectable sprout. It was planted out and managed to survive the winter but didn't flower the next year. It did, however, become more robust and the next season, the first flower buds. Alas, it wasn't what the catalogue description said it would be. Disappointed? Not really. It was a very attractive plant, it prospered, and it has been with me for over 10 years. no name, no pedigree, but a very enjoyable companion.

This "success" led to more experiences with general mail order nurseries, some with not-so-happy endings (the plants didn't recover) and some in which the plants did appear to be true to name, and some which were surprises. However, none of them were what I would call "trash", "rubbish", or "junk", and many of them rival the registered varieties which I'm beginning to grow. Now, I have to admit that I like to be able to put names on plants and I am really impressed with the quality of the plants which are distributed by any of the specialist growers that I've dealt with. I've learned what a rip-off the prices for dried out rhizomes can be. I search out the award winners and have learned the major breeders. But, somehow, that first mislabelled plant on the verge of expiration is still one of my favorites, and I'm not sure that my love of the Japanese iris would be as great if my introduction had been any different.

Is there a moral to this story? If you like names and pedigrees, probably not. But if you like plants for their own sake, there can be some happy surprises out there amongst the confused names and mistreated plants of the general nursery trade. Please don't dismiss them as rubbish. Perhaps I've seen too much Gilbert and Sullivan but I have a sneaking suspicion that some of the poor mislabelled plants may be of royal sap.

SUMMARY OF JAPANESE IRIS POPULARITY POLL 1985-91

Only Cultivars Which Have Received 5 or More Votes
In at Least One of the Polls are Listed

Information submitted by P. W. Cook

CULTIVAR	P85	P86	P87	P88	P89	P90	P91	* S#1	* S#2	* S#3
CAPANEUS	0	0	0	0	6	4	1	11	3	1
CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY	0	0	0	1	11	5	5	22	4	3
CASCADE CREST	0	0	0	1	4	8	10	23	4	2
CENTER OF ATTENTION	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	6	2	1
CONFETTI SHOWER	5	0	0	4	2	3	0	14	4	1
CONTINUING PLEASURE	0	0	4	6	7	5	2	24	5	3
CRYSTAL HALO	0	0	1	1	8	4	3	17	5	1
DACE	3	0	2	2	0	6	4	17	5	1
DANCING WAVES	0	0	1	4	17	5	2	29	5	2
DOUBLE FIRST	0	0	0	6	3	8	1	18	4	2
EDGE OF FROST	0	0	0	0	4	9	1	14	3	1
ENCHANTING MELODY	0	0	3	6	1	0	4	14	4	1
ENDURING PINK FROST	0	1	2	2	6	0	1	11	5	1
FRECKLED GEISHA	0	0	7	15	16	20	12	70	5	5
FRILLED ENCHANTMENT	0	0	5	3	4	7	10	29	5	3
FROSTED PYRAMID	0	0	3	3	5	2	1	14	5	1
GALATEA MARX	4	0	6	2	3	3	1	19	6	1
GARNET ROYALTY	0	0	3	2	6	7	2	20	5	2
GAY GALLANT	0	0	2	1	14	4	8	29	5	2
GAYETY	0	0	6	8	0	1	1	11	4	1
GEISHA GOWN	3	0	7	6	4	3	0	23	5	2
GLITTER AND GLAMOUR	2	0	1	0	5	0	2	10	4	1
GOOD OMEN	0	0	3	1	2	0	10	16	4	1
GREAT WHITE HERON	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	1	1
HAGAROMA	0	0	5	8	2	5	2	22	5	3
HEGIRA	0	0	2	6	6	5	4	23	5	3
HOTARUBUNE	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	1	1
IAPETUS	0	0	0	1	8	2	1	12	4	1
ICY PEAKS	0	1	9	10	6	8	5	39	6	5
IKE-NO-SAZANAMI	3	0	1	2	5	4	1	16	6	1
IMMACULATE WHITE	0	0	2	1	6	1	2	12	5	1
JAPANESE PINWHEEL	0	0	0	3	30	14	5	52	4	3
JAPANESE SANDMAN	0	0	2	0	5	1	3	11	4	1
JEWELLED SEA	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	10	2	1

CULTIVAR	P85	P86	P87	P88	P89	P90	P91	* S#1	* S#2	* S#3
JOCASTA	0	0	0	7	5	3	3	18	4	2
KALAMAZOO	0	0	0	0	14	12	9	35	3	3
KATY MENDEZ	0	0	0	0	3	5	2	10	3	1
LIGHT AT DAWN	0	0	0	1	5	0	2	8	3	1
LILAC PEAKS	1	2	7	7	8	9	9	43	7	5
MAINE CHANCE	0	0	1	3	2	10	1	17	5	1
MIST FALLS	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	7	2	1
OCEAN MIST	0	0	0	2	5	4	0	11	3	1
OL' MAN RIVER	0	0	0	2	5	4	0	11	3	1
ORIENTAL CLASSIC	0	0	0	0	6	4	1	11	3	1
ORIENTAL EYES	0	1	6	6	8	21	6	48	6	5
PEACOCK DANCE	3	0	3	1	1	2	7	17	6	1
PERIWINKLE PINWHEEL	0	1	1	1	3	0	5	11	5	1
PURPLE PARASOL	0	0	6	3	3	0	2	14	4	1
RASPBERRY RIMMED	0	0	4	7	5	4	2	22	5	2
REIGN OF GLORY	0	0	0	1	1	1	11	14	4	1
ROSE QUEEN	2	0	2	2	9	1	1	17	6	1
ROYAL CROWN	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	8	2	1
ROYAL FIREWORKS	0	0	6	3	4	2	2	17	5	1
ROYAL GAME	0	0	2	9	4	4	3	22	5	1
SAKURAJISHI	3	1	1	5	5	2	0	17	6	2
SHERWOOD GLACIER	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	1	1
SOUTHERN SON	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	6	2	1
STRUT AND FLOURISH	0	1	3	6	4	4	3	21	6	1
TAGA SODE	0	0	0	0	15	3	1	19	3	1
THE GREAT MOGUL	2	0	3	3	7	2	3	20	6	1
TRANCE	0	0	0	0	1	21	2	24	3	1
UMI-BOTARU	0	0	3	5	1	5	4	18	5	2
WARAI-HOTEL	0	0	0	6	2	4	2	14	3	1
WORLEY PINK	0	0	5	1	2	1	0	9	4	1

KEY: *

S#1 = Summary No. 1, Total No. of Votes.

S#2 = Summary No. 2, No. of years the iris received at least 1 vote.

S#3 = Summary No. 3, No. of years the iris received at least 5 votes.

Editor's Note: It should be kept in mind that many of the above varieties were not registered and introduced until sometime during this polling period. Thus, the indication of no votes in years prior to their introduction is in no way a reflection upon their popularity.

THE EDITOR'S "REVIEW"

Today is April Fools Day, and the weather in Southwestern Michigan is playing the part. It has been a relatively mild winter, not much snow cover, in fact much of the time it has been too warm and too open to be ideal for many plants. So today the wind is blowing and a light snow falling. They predict a wind chill of 0 degrees this evening. The I. danfordii and I. reticulata bloomed and froze off weeks ago. Robins have been around for some time and the Purple Finch has gladdened our hearts with his song, but they are getting cold feet this week.

Hopefully, the Japanese irises will put up with all these weather vagaries, coming on to bloom perfectly and time properly for the convention. We are keeping all "fingers and toes crossed", wishing to put on a good show. And of course, we hope to see all of you here for the event. One little note I forgot to mention in writing up the convention preview; if you happen to have any food allergies or problems, please let our registrar know. The convention hotel has promised to meet special dietary needs for the two dinners.

As of March 1st it looked like this was going to be a very small issue of "The Review". Well, I rationalized, "how much can one hope to find to write about on just one type of iris and its organization on a continuing basis, it has got to happen sooner or later." Then extra little articles began to appear. Nothing big, but enough to make this a respectable issue. My gratitude to all those who contributed, keep it up!

This issue is another first. it is being shipped off to Kansas for printing, and the printer will also do the mailing. This will save my having to pick up the finished product, and do the mailing myself, but there is anxiety involved in sending it more than a local phone call away. Main reason for the change was problems with quality of printed photographs in past issues. So, this time few photographs materialized for inclusion, and these were slightly overexposed. Wouldn't you know! Well, anyway, I would appreciate hearing any reactions you have to the change.

One final plea. Don't forget the popularity poll! We would like to see a really good response on this.

Best wishes to each of you for an enjoyable bloom season.



1992 POPULARITY POLL BALLOT

Vote your favorite 10 Japanese irises as seen in gardens this year. They do not need to be listed in any particular order. This form is to be used by both members of a family membership. Place comments on the reverse side. Mail the ballot, post marked no later than Aug. 15th, to:

Mrs. Wells E. (Virginia) Burton
3275 Miller Dr.
Ladson, SC 29456

Member #1.

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Member #2.

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Member's name #1. _____

#2. _____ OVER

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