

Humidity

Remember that begonias are succulent or semi-succulent plants originating in humid tropical habitats and treat them accordingly. The ideal humidity level is 60% so aim for something 20% either side of this.

Replace

Begonias, like so many garden plants, wear out over-time. Be aware of the optimum life of your begonias and plan a re-propagation program so that you will have mature plants ready when needed.

Experiment

Don't be afraid to experiment with your garden plantings. We used one (*B. arborescens* var. *oxyphylla*) in hedge planting, very much tongue-in-cheek, and it worked amazingly well, so much so that it is one of the show pieces in the RBG begonia beds!

Final word

I have learnt to love begonias for their beauty, their variety and their obvious desire to please the grower. I feel sure that they will have a similar effect upon my readers.



Begonia 'Shirley Sharp' named by the NSW Begonia Society in honour of my late wife