

*B. heracleifolia*. An excellent plant for the garden, this rhizomatous begonia native to Mexico has deeply cleft dark green leaves with darker markings along the main veins. It will delight all year with its very pleasing foliage and in spring will reward you with deep pink flowers in abundance. Also look for *B. heracleifolia* var. *nigricans* whose leaves feature much darker green (almost black) between the main veins. The immature foliage has a velvety appearance. Grow this one in a shaded location otherwise it will lose the dark green colouration.

*B. hydrocotyfolia* is a low growing rhizomatous type with dark, fleshy, slightly patterned leaves and is most suitable for use as a border plant in the shady garden. If subjected to too much light the dark colour will fade and the leaf pattern will become more obvious. Produces small rose pink flowers from late winter through spring.

*B. 'Immense'*. As the name implies, this hardy cultivar grows very large leaves, but it does not grow to a great height, being a rhizomatous type. The mid green leaves are heavily indented whilst the pink flowers produced each spring stand well above the foliage. Use as an eye catching border plant or in a mass display where space is not a problem. Prefers a lightly shaded location.

*B. 'Kara'*, is a superb rhizomatous garden plant having large crinkly edged leaves of a very dark green with red overtones somewhat reminiscent of rhubarb! Grows to perfection in a well shaded location and produces a mass of pink flowers above the foliage in spring. Recommended as a real eye-catcher.