

# BEGONIA BRONZE LEAF MIX (PINK, WHITE, RED)

## *Begonia Semperflorens Cultorum*



### Characteristics

- Type: Annual
- Zone: 10 to 11
- Height: 0.50 to 1.00 feet
- Spread: 0.50 to 1.00 feet
- Bloom Time: June to frost
- Bloom Description: White, pink, red, bicolor
- Sun: Full sun to part shade
- Water: Medium
- Maintenance: Low
- Suggested Use: Annual
- Flower: Showy
- Tolerate: Rabbit, Dry Soil, Black Walnut

### Culture

Wax begonias (*Begonia semperflorens*) are fibrous root begonias that are the most popular perennial plants grown indoors and in flower beds. In summer, the bronze leaf begonia will produce many blooms, and the rest of the year it will bloom with single flowers. Bronze leaf begonias are available in many different varieties, and begonia blooms come in pink, white, bicolor and red. Bronze leaf begonias grow from 6 to 18 inches tall and have a spread of 6 to 12 inches. Growing begonias from seed is difficult due to their tiny size, and they can take two to three weeks to germinate. Once bronze leaf begonias are established, however, they require little care and will continue to produce beautiful blooms year-round.

### Noteworthy Characteristics

Bronze-leaved varieties are more tolerant of full sun. Plants tolerate considerable shade, but are generally less floriferous therein. Plants are best with consistent moisture throughout the growing season, but tolerate periods of drought due to their thick and waxy leaves which help minimize water loss in hot weather. Space plants well (8" for dwarfs and 12" for taller ones) to promote good air circulation and to reduce potential fungal disease problems. Container plants may be cut back in fall and overwintered indoors a cool location with reduced watering. Waxy dark green to bronze leaves and loose clusters (cymes) of single or double flowers bloom in shades of white, pink or red plus bicolor versions thereof.

### Problems

No serious insect or disease problems. Susceptible to bacterial leaf spot, powdery mildew, blight and stem/crown rots. Watch for mealybugs and thrips.

### Garden Uses

Mass in beds or borders. Edgings. Containers and window boxes