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BEGONIA SEMPERFLORENS. FREE-FLOWERING  
BEGONIA.

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*Class and Order.*

MONŒCIA POLYANDRIA.

( Nat. Ord.—BEGONIACEÆ. )

*Generic Character.*

MASC. *Cal.* o. *Cor.* polypetala, petalis plerumque 4, inæqualibus.

FŒM. *Cal.* o. *Cor.* petalis 4—9, plerumque inæqualibus. *Styli* 3, bifidi. *Caps.* triquetra, alata, trilocularis, polysperma.

*Specific Character and Synonyms.*

BEGONIA *semperflorens*; glaberrima, foliis ovato-rotundatis inæqualibus vix cordatis planis apiculatis, minute serratis subciliatis, capsulæ alis valde inæqualibus, maxima triquetra obtusissima.

BEGONIA *semperflorens*. Lodd. *Bot. Cab. t.* 1439. *Graham in Ed. New Phil. Journ. May, 1829.*

DESCR. *Stem* erect, rather thick, terete, fleshy, glabrous, reddish green, scarcely, if at all branched. *Leaves* alternate, remote, plane, ovato-rotundate, obtuse at the base, rarely a little cordate, unequal, apiculate, the margins minutely serrated, more or less ciliated at the margin, the color pale green, the surface particularly smooth, and free from hairiness. *Petiole* long, reddish, channelled: at the base of each are two large, ovato-oblong, deciduous, ciliated, brownish stipules. *Peduncles* axillary and terminal. *Male Flowers* with two large, rounded, and two small, oblong or linear, rose-coloured petals: *Female*, with five small, unequal petals, of the same colour. *Capsule* greenish brown, membranous

membranous, reticulated, having three very unequal wings; two small, narrow, and equal in breadth throughout, while the third forms a large, triangular, very projecting and obtuse membrane.

The nearest ally of this species is, probably, the *B. spatulata* of WILLDENOW; but there, the leaves are far more concave, not apiculated, the stipules are larger, and the larger wing is acute. The present species was sent to the Liverpool Botanic Garden, by CHARLES CHAMBERLAYNE, Esq. from Brazil, and flowered in October, 1828.

I have seen this species cultivated in gardens in Britain, under the names of *B. setaria* and *B. sellovii*.