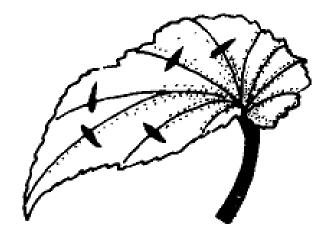
Propagation for Split Vein



This method of propagation works well with a Rex Begonia

Steps:

Obtain a 4-6 in pot and fill it completely with damp soil

Select a healthy leaf from your plant, leaf does not need to be fresh new growth but also does not need to be an older leaf that is starting to yellow or loose color

Remove the entire leaf from the plant making a smooth cut at the base of the stem.

Cut the petiole (stem) from the leaf leaving less than an inch of stem remaining

Turn your leaf over and carefully, using a sharp knife pointed away from your body, make cuts along each of the prominent veins that are located in the largest section of the leaf (see picture). You will need to cut all the way through the vein so the cut is open on both sides. Be careful doing this so that you do not make your cut too large and destroy some of the tissue surrounding the vein

Turn your leaf back over so that the top of the leaf is facing up

Place it on top of the soil and gently press it in so each vein makes contact with the soil. If the edges of your leaf start to curl, you will need to put a thin layer of soil around the edge of your leaf to keep it flat. You can also please small rocks along the edges of your leaf to keep each cut in contact with the soil.

You will need to keep your cuttings water, keeping the soil damp at all times.

One or more new plants will form at each of the cuts your made in the veins of the leaf

Once the new plants are established and starting to show signs of root development, they need to be severed from the original leaf. You can do this by cutting your leaf into wedges separating each of the veins into its own leaf section.

Plant this new leaf section into its own pot, burying the leaf section so only your new plants emerging from the cut are above the soil.



This is a free resource provided by Georgia Agricultural Education Original creator: Melissa Riley, Central Region Horticulture Teacher