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Jurassic Megalo<sup>™</sup> Reptile Begonia Begonia 'Jurassic Megalo Reptile'

Height: 24 inches Spread: 24 inches Spacing: 18 inches Sunlight: Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Jurassic Megalo Series

### **Description:**

A low maintenance and drought tolerant variety with a vigorous, mounded habit; presents green foliage with silver variegation and dark red margins; suitable for indoor or outdoor use in shaded containers or beds

#### **Ornamental Features**

Jurassic Megalo Reptile Begonia foliage Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Jurassic Megalo Reptile Begonia's attractive large heart-shaped leaves remain dark green in color with showy silver variegation throughout the year on a plant with a mounded habit of growth.

#### Landscape Attributes

Jurassic Megalo Reptile Begonia is an herbaceous annual with a mounded form. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration:

- Insects
- Disease

Jurassic Megalo Reptile Begonia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Moana Lane Garden Center & Corporate Office South Virginia St. Garden Center 1100 W. Moana Lane Reno, NV 89509 (775) 825-0600 (775) 825-0602 - Corporate Office

11301 S. Virginia Street Reno, NV 89511 (775) 853-1319

Pyramid Way Garden Center 3397 Pyramid Way Sparks, NV 89431 (775) 425-4300

Landscape Services & Design Center 1190 W. Moana Lane Reno, NV 89509 (775) 825-0602 ext. 134 NV Lic. #3379A, D & CA Lic. #317448

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## **Planting & Growing**

Jurassic Megalo Reptile Begonia will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Jurassic Megalo Reptile Begonia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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