

#### Cover slide

- *B. metallicolor*
- Photographed by Michael Lo, <http://junglemikey.blogspot.com/>
- Great resource for photos of begonias, orchids, and snakes native to Borneo

#### Slide 2:

- Young plants of *B. metallicolor*, started by seed

#### Slide 3:

- *B. metallicolor*
- Described in 2017 by botanists Che Wei Lin and Ching-I Peng.
- *Eleven new species of Begonia from Sarawak, Taiwan* Vol. 62, No. 3, September 2017.
- Beautiful species with iridescent blue leaves
- Etymology: Name derived from strongly metallic blue color on upper surface of leaf
- Collected in Borneo, and endemic to state of Sarawak, Malaysia, near border of Indonesia.
- Found at a low elevation, dipterocarp forest
- : any of a family (Dipterocarpaceae) of tall hardwood tropical trees chiefly of southeastern Asia that have a 2-winged fruit and are the source of valuable timber, aromatic oils, and resins. The dipterocarp forest occurs on dry land just above sea level to an altitude of about 900 metres
- Section *Petermannia*

#### Slide 4:

- Describe the photos
- Deeply shaded soil slopes in a dipterocarp forest, elevation 100-400 m
- Leaves oblique, pendant, thinly succulent, strongly glossy, with metallic indigo blue to malachite green iridescence giving a dazzling appearance.
- Shrub-like
- Stem ascending or overhanging, more or less branched, 4-12 inches tall
- This very colorful begonia is characterized by elongated and asymmetrical foliage, slightly embossed between the veins, entirely red on the reverse, but of a green shade of red on the surface with iridescent reflections of an intense metallic blue-green. The stems are scarlet red
- An overwhelming majority of *Begonia* species in Sarawak have a very narrow to moderately restricted distribution, and are often confined to a particular geology. Julia and Kiew (2014) estimated that more than 600 species of *Begonia* occurring in Borneo, which means that many more species are yet to be discovered and scientifically named.
- Other 10 species described are quite beautiful, ranging from a large species, *B. dinosaurian*, to a small species, *B. lichenora*.