

## Aril (AR) and Arilbred (AB) In Garden Evaluation (Chapter 13)

### OVERVIEW

The name "aril" refers to *Oncocyclus* and *Regelia* species and hybrids involving only these two groups:

**The Arils (AR)** - There can be hybrids of *Regelia* (RH) species and hybrids of *Oncocyclus* (OH) species. A hybrid of a *Regelia* and an *Oncocyclus* that is predominantly *Regelia* is called a *Regeliocyclus* (RC). A hybrid of a *Regelia* and an *Oncocyclus* that is predominantly *Oncocyclus* is called an *Oncogelia* (OG)

**The Arilbreds (AB)** - The term "arilbred" refers to hybrids between the arils and other bearded iris. An arilbred must contain at least one-quarter or more aril chromosome complement. Arilbreds are divided into three subclasses: *oncogeliabred* (OGB), *oncobred* (OB), and *regeliabred* (RB). Iris in each of the 3 subclasses are further divided by aril chromosome complement; i.e., less than 1/2 aril, 1/2 aril, and more than 1/2 aril. This is indicated respectively by a minus (-), no sign, or a plus (+) after the class abbreviations, (e. g., RB-, OB, and OGB+).

### Terminology

These irises are so different and variable that it is difficult to judge them properly without a thorough knowledge and understanding of the entire group. Therefore, it is vital that judges review "Terminology: Understanding Aril and Arilbred Iris" before entering the garden or any exhibition

Arilbreds must exhibit at least two aril flower characteristics. To review these characteristics, see the illustrations in the chapter, "Terminology: Understanding Aril and Arilbred Iris." The recognizable aril flower characteristics include:

### Regelia Type

1. Elongated standards or falls as in *Iris korolkowii*.
2. Linear beards and beards on standards as well as the falls.
3. Conspicuous veining.
4. A prominent V-shaped spot in contrasting color.

### Oncocyclus Type

5. Broadly domed and reflexed standards as in *I. gatesii*.
6. Ruffled and reflexed standards as in *I. lortetii*.
7. Accentuated globular form as in *I. susiana*.
8. Extremely broad falls.
9. Well recurved falls.
10. Thick, heavy, or broadly diffuse beards as in *I. susiana* or *I. gatesii*.
11. Exaggerated styles as in *I. bismarckiana* and *I. iberica*.
12. A definable signal spot at the end of the beard.
13. Flaring and lanceolate falls as in *I. acutiloba*.
14. Narrow and flaring falls as in *I. paradoxa*.
15. Linear beards as in *I. meda* and *I. maculata*.
16. Beards on standards as well as falls.

Although some of these examples appear to be in direct conflict, they have been chosen to represent the incredibly wide and varied forms.