

# Request for *Beardless* Guest Irises

## 2026 AIS CONVENTION NJ-NY

The American Iris Society is happy to host the Annual National Convention the week of May 18, 2026. Convention attendees will tour four gardens: Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, Rutgers Gardens, Gary Slagle's garden in New Jersey; and Brooklyn Botanic Garden in New York City.

### GUIDELINES FOR SENDING YOUR IRISES

Please observe the following guidelines when sending beardless guest irises, as only officially submitted rhizomes will appear in the AIS convention booklet. **Up to two rhizomes of each beardless variety** will be accepted between **April 15 and April 30, 2024** (we would appreciate it if you ship as early as possible on these dates.)

**Please ship plants to:** George Hildenbrandt  
4245 Lovers Lane  
Slatington, PA 18080  
Phone: 814-571-6839  
Email: [grh3@psu.edu](mailto:grh3@psu.edu)

The package should clearly be marked "AIS GUEST IRIS."

The name of the variety or seedling number should clearly be marked on each plant. In addition, the following information should accompany each variety on a separate packing list:

1. Hybridizer's name and address
2. Name or seedling number of variety
3. Type of iris
4. Height, color, distinguishing features (photo if possible)
5. Year of introduction if applicable.

The packing list should include the hybridizer's email address to receive an electronic receipt.

*If the guest seedling is later named, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the guest iris chair no later than January 31, 2026.*



The American Iris Society  
2026 National Convention  
New Jersey & New York

RUTGERS  
Gardens



Presby Memorial Iris Gardens

### DISPOSITION OF IRISES

Because these gardens don't have personnel or volunteer staff to dig and mail rhizomes back, we're asking hybridizers this time to donate their irises. We're hopeful that because three of the gardens are open to the public, they will display your irises for years to come. A fourth garden owner is a member of AIS and is also a hybridizer.

**No guest plants will be returned and all unregistered seedlings will be destroyed by the host gardens.** The Convention Committee will assume authority over all guest plants beyond two rhizomes per variety in all host gardens. A plan is under development to retrieve and sell some of those plants by auction or other means to raise funds to defray Convention expenses.

The convention committee and the owners of the host gardens will strictly adhere to the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.

The convention committee and the host gardens will not be responsible for losses beyond their control. However, hybridizers will be given the opportunity to replace lost plants up to one year prior to the convention.

If you have any questions, please contact Convention Chairs:

### COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Gary White  
Jill Bonino  
Andi Rivarola

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Howie Dash  
Debi Chowdhury  
George Hildenbrandt, Guest Iris Chair





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### GUIDELINES FOR SENDING YOUR IRISES

Please observe the following guidelines when sending bearded guest irises, as only officially submitted rhizomes will appear in the AIS convention booklet. **Up to three rhizomes of each median, tall bearded, and aril-bred varieties** will be accepted between July 10 and August 10, 2024.

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