

Oryzalin is a chemical that can alter the ploidy level of garden plants. I applied it to *Iris tectorum* by subjecting newly germinated seedlings to repeated baths spaced several weeks apart. My goal was to get tetraploids. I am not sure if it worked. I haven't had any of the seedlings scientifically analyzed.



After the final bath the seedlings were planted out into the garden. Some grew more vigorously than others. Those vigorous clones were selected as the parents of the seeds offered in this Seed Exchange.





These flowers are larger & seem to have more substance than my diploid *Iris tectorum*, but those diploids could simply be inferior selections. These photos aren't intended as proof. I just wanted to show you what I was working with. My seed source for this experiment was the surplus seeds from previous years SIGNA Seed Exchanges. It was an inexpensive source for a large quantity of seeds.



If I was successful then the hand-pollinated seeds I donated should produce fully fertile SPEC-X seedlings. That could open the door for a whole new family of fully fertile hybrids. Here are some photos of the TB's I used as the pollen parents.





Both of these TB's are about 3 feet tall and bloomed at exactly the same time as *Iris tectorum*. I have done similar tectorum/bearded crosses with other pollen parents, including arilbreds. I'm hoping that the first of those will bloom this spring (2020). If so I'll post them to the SIGNA group on Facebook.

There is a lot of good reference material on Oryzalin online. I encourage you to read about it if you're interested in this project.

If my oryzalin-treated tectorum seedlings are still diploid, then the SPEC-X seeds I donated will produce sterile triploids. They will still look cool, but it would be a dead-end for line breeding.

Contact me if you have any questions: dkramb@badbear.com