

SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

GARDENETTES

January 1961

Fellow Gardeners:

January is here with all of its promises to the busy gardener as he sits and visualizes the coming seasons with each change in the glorious colors that greet each passing day. Eagerly he waits for the first opening of the buds, crocus, narcissus, tulips, camellias, azaleas and all the early flowering shrubs that march one after each other, parading their beauty before the eyes of those who planted and wait so patiently, and yes, so anxiously, for the result of many hours of thoughtful effort.

Is it worthwhile? We, the dirt gardeners, say yes, emphatically yes. Our labors are rewarded and we stand amazed in the presence of God as we see His handiwork come into glorious fruition as the results of our labors.

Come to the January meeting of the Club, Monday the 23rd, 1961, at the First Federal Savings and Loan Building, North Church Street, and let us swap experiences and ideas. A grand fellowship of kindred minds awaits you, and a wonderful program has been prepared for you. Don't miss the first meeting, 7:30 P.M., - a wonderful year is ahead of us.

This is dues date. Come prepared to get your new membership card for 1961 and hear the Program Committee report on the future programs. You will be delighted. Come on time. A door prize is to be awarded - it may be you.

GIADIOLUS ARE NOT ALL ALIKE

By  
Philip G. Corliss

There are double, miniature, butterfly and novelty types from which to choose and all are easy to grow.

You admit you are lazy; you have no help in the garden; yet you want a flower display that will be the talk of your neighborhood. Impossible? Not at all. Just plant gladiolus. You have a wide choice--the standard varieties, as well as many unusual species and hybrids, some of which we will discuss further on.

Like daffodils, tulips, and other popular bulbous flowers, gladiolus bulbs (corms) from reputable dealers come with the flowers "built-in" -- the flowerheads were formed in the bulbs in the growing fields. All you have to do is put them in the ground at a reasonable depth (about four times the depth of the bulb) in soil that is not completely lacking in available minerals and other essential elements. Let nature do the rest.

Of course, if you want to raise super-duper flower spikes, you can cultivate, fertilize, spray, stake and otherwise wear yourself out. But we're talking about the easy way to garden, and there is nothing easier than gardening with gladiolus. It doesn't take a green thumb to plant a bulb, as it does to transplant bedding flowers or to nurse seedlings to maturity.

You may think gladiolus are exclusively midsummer flowers and that you must depend on tulips, daffodils, colchicums, iris, and other bulbs to enjoy easy-gardening-with-bulbs and at the same time have all-season bloom. But you can have color from early summer to late fall with gladiolus by planting bulbs of the standard hybrids every week, starting after the last frost in spring and continuing until midsummer. For spring flowers from gladiolus, plant species and species hybrids in fall. Many flower in the middle of winter in areas where winters are mild.

Species and species hybrids are said to be cold hardy. But they are natives of South Africa, tropical Africa, and the Mediterranean region, and they have not proved completely hardy in this country. They are well worth a little extra care in the choice of a sheltered location and a winter mulch. Here are some interesting ones which are easy to obtain.

*G. segetum*, *G. byzantinus* and its white form, *G. byzantinus albus*, have stiff spikes about 2 feet high and, with the exception of the white form, a dozen or more formally placed purplish flowers. They are dependable, vigorous, and multiply well, except for the white form which seems prone to disease.

The pale yellow *G. tristis concolor* and the gladiolus cousin, *acidanthera*, are among the most fragrant flowers in existence. One open floret of either will perfume your entire garden in the evening.

*G. tristis concolor* sends up four or five 2- to 4-foot wiry spikes, each bearing five flowers. These spikes will bend to the ground in the wind without breaking.

*Acidanthera* is not a gladiolus, although it belongs in the gladiolus family. Sold under many outlandish names, it sends up spikes nearly as flexible as those of *G. tristis*, and the white flowers with contrasting chocolate-maroon blotches are striking.

Almost as early as these species are the so-called baby gladiolus, not to be confused with miniatures. These are species hybrids developed by Colville many years ago and are either listed as baby gladiolus, *G. nanus*, or Colvillei hybrids. The 12-to 18-inch stalks are slender and carry eight to twelve flowers. The variety *The Bride* is white; *Blushing Bride*, pink; and *Amanda May*, salmon with purple spear.

There are other gladiolus species with which you can amaze your neighbors, but they bloom at the same time as the conventional hybrids and are planted in spring or early summer. Two outstanding ones are *G. cooperi*, which is a pale olive-green, and *G. dracocephalus*, which has reddish-streaked green flowers with a dark blotch. If you fold the petals back, the flowers look like a spray of cymbidium orchids.

Miniature gladiolus come in all colors, and their petals may be plain, ruffled, blotched, or picotee. There are hooded ones descended from *G. primulinus*, and lacinated, regular, face-up, or open-face types, the last being a specialty of Butt of Canada. Roberts of Idaho has introduced many ruffled miniatures as well as the ruffled giants for which he is so justly famous. Some of the first, and still among the best, miniatures were bred by Brown in New Zealand. Pierce of Illinois; Lins and Fischer of Minnesota; Van Voorhis of New Jersey; Kundred of Indiana; Vasaturo of Massachusetts; and Vawter of Oregon are others who have made outstanding contributions to this group.

Butterfly gladiolus are currently enjoying a tremendous vogue among gladiolus enthusiasts. These are medium-sized flowers whose distinctive stamp is a blotch of contrasting color.

The Dutch firm of Konynenburg and Mark gave the name to this group, and they have introduced several dozen named varieties. They are so easy to grow and so useful in flower arrangements that I heartily recommend them.

Double gladiolus are gaining in popularity. Doerr of Minnesota is the leading breeder of the true doubles, which are descended from a seedling of Koerner known as "Multipetal No. 1." Each year Doerr introduces new and improved doubles. I am particularly fond of his studding Orchid Driftwood whose 3-inch florets are unusually heavy textured and face all around the remarkably sturdy spikes. Elizabeth Kenny has waxy alabaster petals. This year Doerr has added fragrance and a new color to double gladiolus with the introduction of Springtime. Some people may not detect its honeylike fragrance, but all will appreciate the lovely watermelon-pink color.

Novelty gladiolus worth special mention are the dragon and the bird-of-paradise types. Dragon gladiolus are the special interest of Michigan's Gosling. They have intriguing spurs on the backs of the florets. (The buds and open flowers of Doerr's double Orchid Driftwood are covered with these spurs.) The bird-of-paradise varieties are now available in several colors. In addition, there are novelties with elongated curled petals, giving the flowers the appearance of pin wheels or cactus dahlias.

Enterprising nurseries and garden centers handle these unusual gladiolus as well as well as the popular standard varieties, like the All-America Gladiolus Selections pictured in the January issue, which no garden can be without. Look for them in the catalogues offered by Gladiolus specialists in this issue. They cost no more, as a rule, than standard varieties and they will do much to heighten the pleasing effect that you can give to your garden.

This is the story of what can happen when fifty-six garden clubs begin a beautification campaign:

### KNOXVILLE'S DOGWOOD TRAILS

By  
Jean Bible

Knoxville, big and lovely city in Eastern Tennessee, is well on the way to becoming the Dogwood Capital of the United States. Last year fifty-two thousand dogwoods were planted, the high point in a city beautification program that started as a whispering campaign by garden club members some twelve years ago. Today the people of Knoxville are thinking in terms of a million more dogwoods.

When the members of the Knoxville Garden Club back in 1948 decided to make Knoxville the Dogwood City of the South, they called on the city officials with their plan, for they knew they would need backing and publicity for a citywide campaign. But their appeal fell on deaf ears. It seemed an ambitious and expensive project, needing more cooperation on the part of homeowners than city officials thought could be mustered.

A whispering campaign about dogwoods was started, and each time a garden club member spoke at some other club in the city, she managed, regardless of her topic, to bring up the dogwood idea. Dogwoods seeped into conversations at social functions, big and small. It was not long before the Knox County Council of Garden Clubs (fifty-six in all) took up the campaign. Trees were planted by club members, their friends, relatives, and neighbors to supplement the dogwoods which already graced many parks and private lawns.

By 1955 a committee composed of a representative from the City Council, from the Chamber of Commerce, and the garden clubs, was formed under the auspices of the Knox Beautiful Commission, an agency of the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce. The garden clubs at

last had the go-ahead signal for organizing wood trails.

Members were assigned to mark routes. They chose those streets that had the most and best dogwoods. Art departments of the city high schools prepared signs and directional arrows which would lead tourists as well as local people through the most densely dogwooded areas. As it turned out, everything went wrong that first year, -- it was one of the worst years for dogwood bloom, and the trail signs that were put out in the winter were covered with foliage by spring. But in spite of all obstacles the dogwood idea gained a foothold and more and more homeowners planted more and more dogwoods. Since then the police department, the county highway department and the Chamber of Commerce have worked out the details of the directional signs. (Tourists bound for Atlanta, turning off the Asheville Highway at a Dogwood Trail marker, for example, are sure to end up back on the highway and not on the road to Cincinnati.)

The Dogwood Trails are popular both day and night, for lights on the trees produce a glittering effect that is as rewarding to see as the flower-laden trees in daylight. Night lighting was an inspiration of one club member who felt business people should have an opportunity to see the trees they have been hearing so much about but could not view leisurely during the day. Homemade pie-plate reflectors the first year gave way to commercial reflectors a year later, and the Knoxville Utilities Board, noting the enthusiasm for night lighting, offered the services of its lighting experts in turning lights on and off and in installing reflectors. Volunteer block chairmen also assist. It is reported that one block chairman who checks for lights each evening blows a horn three times if a homeowner neglects to turn on his light.

Operation Dogwood was a competition sponsored last spring by the Knox County Council of Garden Clubs and the Esso Standard Division of Humble Oil and Refining Co. Individuals and Clubs sold young dogwood trees, specifying the proceeds be used for civic work. Part of the money went as prizes to clubs and individuals selling the most trees. First prize was won by Westwood Garden Club, which sold 336 pink and 269 white dogwoods. The Charter Garden Club was second; Wal-N-Oaks, third; Green Valley, fourth; and Woodland Acres, fifth. Prizes also went to Noweta, West Hills Evening, Audina, Holston, and Cumberland Estates Garden Clubs.

At a luncheon at which the winners were announced, Joe N. Melton, Esso Standard official, quoted from a letter by Herman D. Wynn, a Knoxville Industrialist, who wrote, "To make Knoxville the Dogwood Capital, you ought to think in terms of one million dogwoods." He contributed one thousand dogwoods for planting on Neyland Drive.

To date none of the superhighways has been planted, but there are dogwood plantings on some of the cloverleaves, and in one section of the city the local garden club has done a highway planting. In 1958's dry season, the city water department volunteered to water it.

Thanks to the cooperation of the city, the Chamber of Commerce, and thousands of individual homeowners, the garden clubs have not had to spend more than \$50 a year in sponsoring the Dogwood Trails.

The project is still in its infancy. Mrs. Frank Creekmore, who represented the Knox Beautiful Commission at the Southern Zone Meeting of the Garden Club of America, held in Knoxville recently, said, "Plans are perking now for a spring festival in Knoxville to be held during the last two weeks in April, which is the best time to see the dogwoods. The festival will center around the Dogwood Trails, but will also include art exhibits, symphony concerts, flower shows, and historical tours. "

Meet me under the "Grapevine", Monday, January 23rd, 1961, 7:30 P.M., First Federal Savings and Loan Building, North Church Street.

Your Grubworm

SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

GARDENETTES

February 1961

Fellow Gardeners:

What a change from the first two weeks of February! From the feel of the weather the last few days Spring is just around the corner, but I wouldn't be too hasty to begin your garden work, remember March 1960. It is a good time to be getting ready. You have been "studying" all the new catalogs - you have made all your plans, now start to promote them. Buy your seed, your plants, your shrubs and trees, be ready to start when Spring is really here. Here are a few more timely hints:

It is rose pruning time in the Piedmont. When buds start to swell it is time to begin. Don't hard prune, but take out diseased, damaged and twiggy wood. Unless plants are very tall, limit topping to one-quarter, or at most, one-third of the height. Where large cuts (one-half inch or more) are made, cover the wound with orange shellac.

In the mildest areas it is time to plant cammas and gladiolus. Have you tried any of the newly popular miniature glads? They make a bright spot in any garden. Glads planted at two-week intervals give a long season of bloom.

In the coastal country watch azaleas for bud color and spray against petal blight.

Vegetables and flowers which were planted in the deep South last month come into their own in the Piedmont now. We in the mountains must wait until March to get started.

For plenty of color in the border and lots of flowers for cutting sow seeds of dwarf dahlias now. Few bedding plants give so much for so long.

As lawns near the greening stage it is time to fertilize. Use of a fertilizer containing the new urea-formaldehyde form of nitrogen, plus some in an organic form, will insure available nitrogen over a long period. This means more even growth and less browning during hot, dry periods in summer.

All annuals planted in the autumn should be thinned as they start into growth. Delay will result in spindly plants.

Don't let your spring-born enthusiasm lead you to work your soil when it is too wet. The resulting loss of good structure will last for years.

Scale infested plants should be sprayed with an oil emulsion before growth starts. The temperature should be 45° or above and no frost should be predicted for the following night.

If you are sprigging or plugging a lawn with St. Augustine, carpet, bermuda, centipede, or zoysia, prepare the ground thoroughly first. Add adequate amounts of fertilizer and work in uniformly.

CAMELLIAS ARE MOVING NORTH

By Fred J. Nisbet

The fame of camellias in the deep South and along the Gulf Coast has been world wide for more than a hundred years.

The magnificent old plants at Magnolia, Middleton, and other long-established gardens in very mild regions were, and are, admired by many thousands of travelers every year. Stories of their beauty and tenderness spread to more thousands who envied those fortunate few who could grow these prized shrubs out-of-doors.

It is a shame that this was true. Not that people admired these magnificent plants,

but that they saw them only in regions of very mild winters. They jumped to a seemingly logical conclusion--they believed that camellias could be grown only in such mild climates.

In this they were in plentiful company, for just about every gardener here and abroad believed it. It wasn't until the coal shortage of World War II that the British tried to grow camellias outdoors in even the mild regions of Great Britain.

Camellias are actually much hardier than most people realize. It has taken all too many decades to realize this. And, during all this time many of us have needlessly denied ourselves the pleasure of growing them in our gardens.

Now this is not to say that we can plant any variety of camellia in, let us say, Syracuse or Chicago and have success. These prized evergreens are not that hardy. Such a planting would fail, there is no doubt.

Well then, just how hardy are they? Frankly, we don't know. The encouraging part of this story is that we are beginning to find out.

Dr. Zimmerman, of the Boyce Thompson Institute, has been growing a few kinds of camellias at Yonkers, N.Y., for about 30 years. He has grown them in a very protected spot and he is satisfied evidently if he gets one year of good bloom out of several. He has been a true pioneer and has done much to open our eyes to what can be done.

Not everyone has his zeal nor would all of us be satisfied with good blooms only occasionally. Yet he has helped set the bounds for us all.

In Washington, Philadelphia, mild parts of New Jersey, on Long Island, in the mid-South and Southwest, more and more gardeners are now growing camellias. At the same time, in the Southeast, plantings are spreading west into the mountains.

When I came to Biltmore Estate, Asheville, N. C., in 1956, I looked for a few camellias growing outdoors. From every side came the emphatic assertion that they weren't hardy here. As time went on, however, the minority report started to come in. Dr. Jim Raper, a good neighbor, pointed to his healthy young plants. They haven't gone through a bad winter yet so he doesn't know which varieties will do best for him. Dr. Nicholas Fortesque, Hendersonville, N. C., has a number of small and medium size plants of varieties of both *C. japonica* and *C. sasanqua*. Most striking, though, are two large plants of "Cleopatra", a *sasanqua* variety, which flank his front door. These are six or seven feet high, wider than tall and each bears hundreds of flowers each fall. It must be said that Hendersonville is lower in elevation and somewhat milder than Asheville, which has an elevation of about 2,300 feet.

My assistant, Bill Garren, started growing camellias in Asheville in 1954. At that time he was not able to obtain a list of hardy varieties, so he simply planted those he liked and hoped for the best. During the first winter the plants were given protection; after that they took what came. Half of his original selections are doing well now. He finds the hardiest blooms on "C. M. Hovey," "Gov. Mouton," "Empress," "Lady Clare" and "Prof. C. S. Sargent" do well. The buds of "Pink Perfection" are prone to frost damage but the plant is kept for its foliage value alone; any blooms are considered a bonus. Varieties which have not done well under his conditions are "Debutante," "Alba Plena," "High Hat," "Joshua E. Youtz."

Other reports from this mountainous area are still coming in, indicating that camellias are much more widely planted than is generally supposed.

Just where does this leave the average gardener?

If he or she wants only the safe, no gamble plants, this is no area to explore, at least for the moment. Too much experimenting remains to be done before we know just what is the true range of camellias. On the other hand, for those of us who don't mind some risk in return for new knowledge and skill, there is a challenge. Failures may be many at first, but each success will not only add satisfaction but valuable information as well.

If you would like some idea of the odds you would be facing, let me put it this way. If your usual low winter temperature is about 5<sup>o</sup>, you can expect to grow a number of varieties. If you can expect about zero every winter, start with the hardiest known kinds and try others rather gingerly. If your usual low is -5<sup>o</sup>, you are a real gambler, but there will probably be some varieties which will come through. How great odds you are willing to face it up to you.

Let's draw up a balance sheet of known facts and things we must still discover.

Young plants are less hardy than older ones. Also, newly set plants are more subject to winter damage than those which are well established.

It is evident, therefore, that we should not attempt fall planting in cases where there is any doubt. Rather plant in the spring so that the bushes may be well established before really cold weather sets in. Also, start with as large plants as you can manage.

It goes without saying that you will have to give some winter protection for a year or two to allow the plants time to dig their roots in deep.

A burlap screen around three sides of the plant, side open, is a big help. This screen should extend somewhat above the top of the plant for maximum protection. It must be admitted, though, that this leaves considerable to be desired from a scenic point of view. Somewhat better is a barrier of reed fencing tied to stakes set back from the plant and not forming a completely closed circle. The opening should be on the side with the greatest natural protection. A box of lath slats will help, but this too is not attractive.

Spraying the whole plant with an anti-transpirant (such as Wilt-Pruf) promises to be helpful. This does not detract from the appearance of the plant. On the other hand, it is not known exactly how much protection is afforded by the treatment. Here is another area where experiments are necessary to give us the information we need.

In England and on the Continent it is a common practice to grow doubtfully hardy shrubs espaliered against a south facing wall. That is a possibility here, as some camellias make fine espaliers. Certainly it is an attractive way of giving added protection.

For some time it has been thought that *Camellia japonica* varieties were less hardy than those of the lesser known but lovely *C. sasanqua*. When considering the hardiest known varieties of both groups, the reverse has been found to be true. Dr. Francis de Vos, of the National Arboretum, Washington, D. C., noted in the nasty winter of 1957-58 that in windy weather with temperatures of 4° to 12° extending for a couple of days, foliage and twig damage in *C. sasanqua* varieties was moderate to severe. Nearby plants of *C. japonica* varieties received only slight damage. He has also determined that *sasanqua* buds exposed to temperatures of less than 18° either did not open or gave poor bloom. In contrast he noted that most *C. japonica* varieties in bud will withstand temperatures of ten degrees without serious impairment of flowers.

This is not as bad as it sounds with regard to the *sasanqua* varieties, for usually, we depend on these for bloom in the autumn before such low temperatures are experienced. Here at Biltmore we expect temperatures of approximately five degrees each winter. (In February of 1958 we had -6°!) Yet we have a fairly good bloom on even small plants, under average conditions, before temperatures of less than 18° are registered.

There are those who believe that in the East the northern limit for *sasanquas* is near Washington, D. C. That this is not a hard and fast limitation, however, is shown by the experience of Richard Thomson, Wynnewood, Pa. He showed me several nice plants blooming in his garden in mid-December, 1959. Most of these he has had for a number of years. He, too, believes that the blooms which open before really bad weather (usually sometime in December) are more than enough to justify growing the plants. And, he adds, "Several varieties would be worth growing as foliage plants if they never bloomed! It must be admitted, though, that this is more true of varieties of *C. japonica*."

Some adventurous growers are trying a few camellias outdoors near Cleveland, Ohio, but I have not heard how they are doing. Several recent plantings on Long Island seem to have a better chance of success. Without a doubt some gardeners north of Memphis are trying camellias, but I haven't been able to get any exact information on their plantings, or results.

Now let us look at the question of exposure. There are several aspects to be considered. In every case plants should be sheltered from sweeping winds. As for sunlight, there is more latitude but certainly exposure to early morning sunlight will give trouble in severe weather. Where risks are greatest, a northern exposure to plenty of light and little sunlight will be safe. Between these two extremes you will have to try varying amounts of high shade to see what is the safe minimum under your own conditions.

It must be realized that plants grown in fairly heavy shade will not give the compact growth which is the mark of plants grown in the lightest shade or full sun. Until you know your conditions, err on the side of more, rather than less, shade.

At the same time, you must consider that flower bud formation requires rather high temperatures. Too cool a situation then, will cancel all your efforts. Conversely, cool temperatures are needed for blooming.

There is another area of culture which has a decided bearing on the subject of hardiness. Even the hardiest varieties will be injured, or even killed, if they are not properly hardened off when cold weather arrives. Fertilization, especially with high nitrogen-bearing mixes,

should be discontinued early, usually July first at the latest. Mulches should be pulled back from around the plant in September unless the season is extremely dry. This will tend to run the plant on the dry side. It will also allow the ground warmth to seep up around the plants and keep the air somewhat warmer.

Should warm, wet weather prevail in September and October, the plants will not harden normally. The only action to take under such conditions is to apply a 0-10-10 or 0-12-12 fertilizer to help harden the tissues. Beyond this, the fate of your plants under such conditions, is pretty much in the lap of nature.

With all these factors covered, you are ready to select varieties for trial. Let it be understood that there is no general agreement on just which varieties are best. In any event, your conditions may vary from those of other pioneers in this field.

#### HOW TO PLANT CAMELLIAS

As for planting directions, they are simple. Remember always that, under adverse climatic conditions, emphasis on the finest soil preparation and planting procedures may make the difference between success and failure!

First see that the soil is well drained. This is of primary importance. If there is any doubt on this score, set the plant high so that the surrounding soil will take any excess.

The number of kinds of soil which will grow good camellias are many. Yet they all have certain characteristics in common. Above all, they must contain a very considerable amount of humus. They should have at least moderate fertility and generally a pH of between 5.0 and 6.0. They should drain well, never be dry and be cool. The last two requirements may be taken care of with proper watering and the use of a deep, fluffy mulch.

The sources of humus are almost legion. Most popular are granulated peat moss, well decomposed manure and good compost which has not been treated with lime.

There are many recommended soil mixtures for planting camellias. Which one you should use will depend to a great extent on the basic soil in your garden. If it is light you can use one part humus and one part soil. If very light try four parts humus, four parts soil and one part heavy loam. For heavy soils a good mix is equal parts humus, soil and sharp, clean sand. For real clay reduce the soil by half.

There are those who add a complete fertilizer to the prepared mix, generally one to two pounds of azalea-camellia special or 5-10-10 per wheelbarrow load. My personal preference is to dig in some superphosphate in the bottom of the hole. A four- or five-inch potful is enough. Then add a four-inch potful of cottonseed meal per bushel of planting mix.

As for planting, make the hole big! With luck the plant should be in place 20 years or more and this is the only time you will have complete control of the soil.

If the ball on the plant is one foot high and one foot wide, make the hole three feet across and two feet deep. There are benefits in not taking out the hub of the hole. Rather, leave this as a column of undisturbed soil in the middle of the hole. Your hole, then, will look like a doughnut in reverse. Next, measure the depth of the ball of the plant and subtract two inches. Cut this amount from the top of the central column. Place the plant on this and fill in with the prepared soil mix. Water well and let the soil settle. Now add more soil mix to bring the whole up to the new level, two inches higher than the surrounding soil. In time this whole area will settle to meet the surrounding soil level.

Finally, add a good mulch. Pine needles three inches deep will do well. Peat moss, tan bark, partially composted oak leaves or similar materials may also be used.

It is generally beneficial to shade the plant during the period of establishment. Never let the new planting dry out.

Check the plant periodically for the first year to see if it has settled too much. If the feeder roots are covered with more than an inch of soil, raise the whole plant.

There you have it. If you have something of the gambler in your make up and are willing to work a bit for something really lovely and special, you may enjoy trying camellias even in areas formerly thought too severe for these aristocrats. If your climate isn't too awfully rough, you may well succeed.

---

This is membership renewal time. If you haven't mailed your check for \$5.00 do so now, so you will not miss the National Magazine "Gardener", or the national letters, or the local "Gardenettes". Next meeting will be Monday, February 27, 1961. The Program Committee has prepared another fine program for your benefit. Be sure to bring a friend. Don't forget to call the members on your telephone list.

Meet me under the "Grapevine".



SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

GARDENETTES

March 1961

Fellow Gardeners:

NOTICE: This is to advise that the March meeting of the Men's Garden Club has been moved up one week to Monday, March 20, 1961, in order to accommodate our guest speaker, who could not come on the regular meeting night.

Our guest speaker is Mr. Hyman Young, of Asheville, N. C. His subject will be "Bedding Plants".

Our Program Committee is to be congratulated on securing Mr. Young and for arranging this type of program, and because of the interest in the program the Club, at its last meeting, proposed, unanimously to invite our wives to be our guests. So, be sure and let her know and bring her.

In our Gardenettes last month we gave you an article on "Camellias are moving North, by Fred J. Nisbet". We didn't have room to give you the names of some of the hardy types for this section, so regard the following as a tentative guide, rather than as a blanket endorsement:

THE HARDIEST CAMELLIAS

Two general statements are frequently made about hardiness in camellias. "Varieties with dark colored flowers are hardier than those with lighter colors," and, "Fully double flowered varieties are less hardy than those with single or semi-double flowers." There are exceptions to both of these statements, yet on the whole, they seem to reflect the true situation.

Among the hardiest red varieties of *C. japonica* are 'Mathotiana', 'Prof. C. S. Sargent', 'C. M. Hovey', 'Blood of China', 'Tricolor Red', 'Jarvis Red' and 'Flame.' In the variegated varieties the first to try are 'Lady Vansittart', 'Tricolor', 'T. K. Variegated' and 'Governor Mouton.' In the pinks the hardier varieties seem to be 'Magnoliaeflora', 'Semi-Double Blush', 'Rev. Drayton', 'Rev. Bennett' and 'Berenice Boddy.' In whites try 'Leucantha' and 'Triphosa'.

If you are not at what we may consider the extreme range, you might add, 'Chandleri', 'Eleanor Hagood', 'C. M. Wilson', 'Pink Perfection' and 'Gen. George Patton' to the pinks. For reds add 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Goshoguruma' and 'Sarah Frost.'

The varieties doing best for Thomson, near Philadelphia, are: 'Blood of China', 'Berenice Boddy', 'Ville de Nantes', 'Lady Kay', 'Mathotiana', 'Tricolor' (Siebold), 'Leucantha', 'T. K. Variegated', 'Jarvis Red', 'Latifolia' and 'Latifolia Variegata.' In addition, he is growing some sasanquas, including 'Sasan' (early), 'Maiden's Blush' (by far the best in full sun), 'Totenko', 'Narumigata' and 'Rosea.' He finds 'Summer Snow' too late in flowering to be satisfactory.

These lists are neither final nor complete, but they will give you a starting point.

ASPARAGUS IN THE GARDEN

By Ben F. Vance -

Iowa State University

Asparagus is one of our most popular spring vegetables. It is wholesome, nutritious, and can be used fresh, frozen or canned. It is a hardy, long-lived perennial. A planting will produce crops for a period of 15 to 20 years if soil conditions are favorable and good care is given.

Asparagus can be grown on many different soil types if there is good drainage. The crop will not tolerate poor drainage. It's a good idea to make a soil test to determine the soil reaction. A neutral or slightly alkaline soil is best although you can expect good production in soil that is in the slightly acid range. If tests indicate a pH below 6.0, limestone should be applied.

Give careful attention to the preparation of soil before planting. If manure is available it may be turned under, preferably in the fall before the planting is to be done. In the home garden, you can use leaves, sawdust, or other organic materials if manure is not available. To such fibrous materials as sawdust, leaves, or straw, nitrogen fertilizer can be added to hasten decomposition and prevent a nitrogen deficiency.

Commercial fertilizers are essential for good yields of asparagus. A soil test will determine nutrient levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. For small plantings a "complete" fertilizer may be used if soil tests have not been made. 10-20-10, 10-10-10, 12-12-12, or similar analysis can be applied at 15 to 20 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

'Mary Washington,' is an excellent variety for most areas. This variety is rust-resistant and productive. It is available from many sources. You will perhaps find it more convenient to purchase crowns for planting than to grow them from seed. Commercial growers often grow their own crowns from seed to reduce planting costs. This requires an extra year before the planting comes into production.

One-year-old crowns are superior to two- or three-year-old ones for transplanting. It is a mistake to dig and use crowns from an old planting to establish a new one. When such crowns are used, yields will be reduced.

#### SPRING TRANSPLANTING

Early spring is best for transplanting. If crowns are grown at home they should be dug and transplanted before growth starts. If you have cold storage facilities, crowns may be dug in the fall and held over until soil conditions are suitable for spring planting.

Depth of planting varies somewhat with soil type. In light, sandy soil six inches is deep enough. This means six inches from the top of the crown to the soil's surface. A four-inch planting depth is suggested for heavier soils. Space crowns 18 to 24 inches apart in rows four to five feet apart. Make the bottom of the furrow wide enough to accommodate the roots without crowding. Spread the roots with the buds up and cover them with two inches of soil. As the plants grow, pull soil around them until the furrow is filled. Filling of the furrows should be completed by mid-summer.

#### WEEDS

Weeds can be a major problem in asparagus production, both in home gardens and in commercial plantings. In the established asparagus patch three years from transplanting, a thorough disking and harrowing in spring before growth starts helps control weeds. Another disking about the middle of the cutting season may be needed if many weeds start to come up. You will lose two or three days harvest, but future production will be improved. A third cultivation at the end of the cutting season will usually keep most of the weeds under control.

Common salt has sometimes been recommended for weeds in asparagus, but it is not efficient. The continued use of salt may cause undesirable soil structure and reduce future yields. In recent years several chemicals have come into use for controlling weeds in asparagus. These can be expected to give good results if they are carefully applied at the proper time.

If you apply weed control chemicals, certain precautions must be followed so that damage to sensitive crops will be prevented. Avoid spray drift to areas where sensitive crops are being grown. Do not spray after the spears have emerged. After spraying, be sure to clean the sprayer thoroughly before using it again to apply pesticides to sensitive crops. Wash it out several times with water containing detergents.

#### GETTING ESTABLISHED

Asparagus plants must become well established before any spears are harvested. No cutting should be done the first year. Harvesting can last for only about two weeks the second year.

In the third season cutting should stop after the third week of harvest. Beginning

with the fourth season, cutting may continue until around the middle of June. You can expect to harvest asparagus over a seven- to eight-week period. If you keep on cutting too late in the season you will reduce yields the following season.

Cut spears at or slightly below the surface of the soil. If you push the cutting knife too deeply into the soil you may damage spears that have not yet emerged. Breaking of spears is another way of harvesting. Either method is satisfactory.

The frequency of harvesting will depend on temperature and moisture conditions. If temperatures are high you may need to harvest every day. During cooler weather cutting may be done at two- or even three-day intervals. Clean cutting is best during the entire harvest season. Ferny growth that is allowed to develop will delay or stop development of new spears. Crooked or injured spears should be cut and discarded.

#### LENGTH OF SPEARS

The length of spears at the time they are cut has an important bearing on total yields. Spears nine to 12 inches long will give the best yields. Asparagus deteriorates rapidly after being cut. Every effort should be made to keep it cool. High temperatures reduce the sugar content and cause toughness. If the spears are not to be used shortly after harvest, they should be refrigerated.

The care an asparagus planting receives after harvest is important from the standpoint of future yields and quality. If fertilizer was not applied before the spears emerged in the spring an application can be made immediately after the cutting season. A fertilizer with a 1-2-1 ratio such as 10-20-10, or a 1-1-1 ratio (10-10-10, or 12-12-12), may be applied at 15 to 20 pounds per 1,000 square feet. After the application, cultivate the planting to a depth of two or three inches. This will mix the fertilizer with the soil, and help control weeds.

The tops should be allowed to grow through the summer until they are killed by a hard frost. Do not remove tops during the growing season. This would seriously reduce future yields. In the northern part of the country the tops can remain standing over winter to help protect the plants from cold injury. If manure is available, an application in late fall and remaining on the surface during the winter will be of benefit. The manure can be mixed with the soil during the first cultivation the next spring.

#### PROGRAMS

Some of the program treats in store for our club in the coming months are:

APRIL - Auction sale, with an additional future

MAY - Film on Insecticides and Methods, by the Hayes Company

JUNE - Rose Parade - Dr. Wardlaw Hammond

JULY - Trying to get Dr. Fred J. Nisbet, Biltmore Estates, to bring us a program which we know will be tops

AUGUST - Vacation month

SEPTEMBER - Annual Picnic and Wm. J. Parks of Geo. W. Parks Seed Co. of Greenwood (What a combination!)

OCTOBER - Bulbs with a grower from Holland

NOVEMBER - Auction Sale with an added feature

Isn't that enough to make your mouth water, and to bring a new member?

### THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

If this month is like last March we will spend our time shoveling snow instead of gardening.

This is the major month for feeding established plants. Usually one-half of the year's supply is put on now and the remaining quarters at six- to eight-week intervals. Current thinking suggests that smaller amounts applied at more frequent intervals produces better results, but this method involves more work.

Most camellia growers fertilize when the blooming season is about over, for then the plant goes into active vegetative growth. For these, and rhododendrons (including azaleas), use a special azalea-camellia plant food.

Bald or thin spots in the lawn should be reseeded. Add humus, a little fertilizer and work six inches deep. Then seed and rake in lightly.

'Pennlawn' fescue is a good fine-bladed grass for shady areas or where fertility is low. For sun and more fertile areas 'Merion' bluegrass is good. It is slow to germinate but once it makes a turf it will not brown during summer heat.

In the deep South outdoor plantings of marigolds, zinnias, ageratum and the like are in order. At higher elevations these can be started indoors now.

Remember the old Indian rule of thumb for when to plant tender vegetables like beans, corn and squash--plant when the leaves of the white oak are the size of a squirrel's ear. There is no better guide, even today.

Start spraying roses as soon as the foliage has developed. Keep new growth covered and spray after every heavy rain to prevent blackspot from getting a foothold.

Clean pools before the water warms so that you won't disturb the goldfish at breeding time.

Are you planting new roses? AARS winners 'Duet' and 'Pink Parfait' did very well at Biltmore last year. Most attention, though, centered on 'Fire King' and 'Hawaii,' plenty of bloom and vivid colors on sturdy plants.

The following letter was received from Mr. L. M. Cline, Jr., M.D., National Representative and Chairman of the National Membership Committee, addressed to our President. The letter is self-explanatory, and we hope that several of our members will respond and become sustaining members of the national body:

"As Chairman of the Membership Committee of MGCA, I am trying, with the aid of all committee members, to increase the Sustaining Membership in MGCA. The five dollar membership fee does not give the member any special privileges but is his expression of his desire to further the activities of MGCA in 1961. It's impossible for me and my committee members to visit every club so I am asking you as President of your Club to obtain these memberships for us. We would like to have the Officers of each Club become Sustaining Members. Send your check for five dollars to MGCA, % Mr. George Spader, Morrisville, New York, and your membership card and lapel button will be sent by return mail."

So, again, "Ye Glowworm" bids you adieu until we meet in fellowship with our fair ladies on Monday evening, March 20, 1961, at the First Federal Savings and Loan Association Building, at 7:30 P.M.

YOUR GLOWWORM

SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

GARDENETTES

April 1961

Fellow Gardeners:

What a wonderful time we had with our ladies at our last meeting, the many flowers that were brought by the membership in honor of the ladies. The door prizes, one for the ladies and one for the men, were given by the Littlejohn Garden Center. The program was one of the best presented so far this year, with refreshments thrown in for good measure. The Program Committee is certainly on its toes.

Don't forget the program for this month - AUCTION - Be sure and bring your plants. All the more the merrier. There will be another feature on the program, not telling, so come and see. Another door prize will be waiting for you if you hold the lucky number. Why not call one or two members and remind them of the auction night, and bring a friend for membership?

NOTICE - This will be the last number of Gardenettes that you will receive unless your annual dues are paid for 1961. If you haven't sent the Secretary a check for \$5.00, do so TODAY.

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH - April is the month of compost, old and new. Start building a new pile as you clean the garden for spring. Use last fall's production in all new plantings.

Prune azaleas, camellias, forsythias and other spring blooming shrubs as they finish blooming and start new growth. Be sure to remove all dead and diseased wood first. Then remove all twiggy, unproductive branches. Finally, shape the plant.

Move dogwoods, magnolias and other fleshy rooted trees now. It isn't too late to move American holly, although March is a better time.

Why not plant a few old fashioned tea (not the same as hybrid tea) roses? These take two to four years to get established and make large plants, so give wide spacings. Don't worry if blackspot hits them, they shrug it off. But isolate them from hybrid teas and floribundas or they will be a source of infection to other roses.

If you haven't started tuberous rooted begonias or caladiums for those problem shady spots it is not too late. In the milder areas see your nurseryman or florist. In colder regions there is still time to start them indoors.

In pruning roses, other shrubs and trees, paint all cuts which are an inch or more in diameter. Use regular tree paint, orange shellac, or one of the new push button cans of tree wound paint. Check last year's cuts, too, and renew the covering just up to the new tissue covering the old wound.

Tender vegetables can now be planted on the coastal plain and in the lower Piedmont. If you are impatient to get started and live at higher elevations, sow a few in peat pots in the house.

Do the weeds get the jump on you when you sow carrots and other slow starting vegetables? Mix in a few radish seeds. These germinate and grow quickly to set apart the rows so that you can work them.

The new, smaller flowered dahlias are deservedly popular. They bloom freely, need little or no staking and last well in arrangements. If you want more, start some in flats of light soil, indoors. Make cuttings of the new shoots when they are four to six inches long, using half sand, half peat moss. Pot into three- or four-inch pots and plant out when all danger of frost is past.

A GOOD MAN TO KNOW:

YOUR COUNTY AGENT  
By Robert Brilmayer

"Or ask your County Agent." behind those five words you often read in a gardening article or book is a complete consulting service on every conceivable horticultural problem, from how

to pot a house plant to increasing the bushel-per-acre yield of wheat. And it's yours for the asking.

Your County Agent is an educated, dedicated, hard-working public servant whose duties and headaches are as varied as your family doctor's. He answers all kinds of questions about food for plants and animals; sprays and dusts for insects and diseases; varieties of trees, shrubs, fruits, flowers and vegetables suitable for your section; soil analyses and treatments; landscaping, pruning, cover crops, harvesting, canning and freezing foods, flower compositions, cold frames and hotbeds, and which side of a begonia tuber is up. And if he doesn't know the answer off-hand, he knows where to find it.

Since he is mainly interested in your locality and familiar with your local conditions, he can help you more than almost anyone else. That's the way his job is set up by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Extension Service of the state agricultural college. Originally, of course, the county agent dealt mainly with farmers and commercial growers in the vicinity. But now he works just as hard and long for homeowners with gardens of all kinds and sizes. His job is to give agricultural and horticultural advice, and the type of advice needed is dependent largely on the area in which he is located. In suburban sections, he is an expert on small gardens; in the North, he's constantly concerned with hardiness; some years, he bones up on what to do about drouth; others, he's faced with a brand new insect infestation. He may call a petunia by name, or suggest treatment for a sick cow. Since he is the representative of a tremendous network of federal and state agricultural agencies, the latest information on subjects in his field is always available to him.

But don't take the word "servant" too literally. There's a right and a wrong way to work with your county agent, for his benefit and yours. Don't expect him to write your gardening article for the local newspaper. Don't phone him late at night or on Sundays, if possible. Try to solve small problems yourself--with books, or by consulting local nurserymen or gardening supply dealers--before you contact him. Ask his advice on general, not purely personal, matters. For example, he has information on what vegetable varieties do best in your area, but he can't lay out and completely plot your vegetable garden for you. And by all means, keep up with the information he releases through newspapers, radio, and special demonstrations; don't ask him to repeat it, after it has been publicized.

On the other hand, do use his service and advice on matters that are a real part of his job. If you don't know him, you'll probably find him listed under "county organizations," in your telephone directory; or ask information, if he's in another exchange; or ask your newspaper for his name and address. Get acquainted with one of the hardest-working, most patient, most pestered men in the world -- then, don't bother him unless you really need him and unless your problem is really in his bailiwick.

## ROSES

By

Rachel Snyder

If you are not a present devotee of the rose, now is the time to become one. No need here to go into the qualities that make this flower a favorite. Its popularity bespeaks its many virtues. Of late the traditional manner of growing roses in special beds (still the easiest way to take care of them) has given way to more interesting uses such as patio plants, hedges, and perennial garden accents. The rose horizons have widened, too, in hardier varieties that permit more areas to grow them. And industry gives us better and better products for taking care of roses. In this expansive spirit, the following suggestions in condensed form are offered as ready reference for present rose growers and those about to begin.

**FIRST--BE SELECTIVE** - A rose is a rose. But choosing the right one for your location and purposes makes the difference between satisfaction and the opposite. The books list many classes but for simplicity we consider here just four main groups of modern roses and their uses -- **HYBRID TEAS, FLORIBUNDAS, GRANDIFLORAS, AND CLIMBERS OR PILLARS.**

**HYBRID TEAS**-- When one thinks of roses, these are usually the ones envisioned. Often these have large flowers, exquisitely colored and formed, medium size bushes, and good qualities for cutting. They bloom repeatedly through the season. Bred from the tender tea roses, they have had hardiness added and often retain the fragrance. **USES:** Especially valued for exhibition, for flower arrangements and for beauty in the garden. Examples are 'Charlotte Armstrong,'

'Dainty Bess,' 'Mojave' and 'Peace.' Most of these will make plants easily kept under four feet tall.

**FLORIBUNDAS**-- Developed from the older polyanthas, these usually have lower and bushier plants than hybrid teas but larger than polyanthas; and the flowers may resemble hybrid teas in miniature but occur in clusters. As a rule they have cold hardiness, are tough and vigorous, and bloom continuously. **USES:** Although good for arrangements and corsages, they are at their best in the garden. They are colorful for low borders, as edgings to beds of taller growing roses, as landscape accents in front of evergreens or for low foundation plants. Although a few floribundas are tall ('Betty Prior,' 'Masquerade'), most are three feet or under. **Examples:** 'Fashion,' 'Pinocchio,' 'Spartan,' 'Rosenelfe' and 'Circus.'

**GRANDIFLORAS**-- The most recent "class," these are a combination between hybrid teas and floribundas. They bloom both singly and in clusters. They usually grow quite strong and tall, and flower profusely and continuously. The stems are longer than in floribundas and the flowers are larger, but yet not of the size of a hybrid tea. Although grandifloras may take plenty of blue ribbons, it will be a rare day when one beats a hybrid tea for "Queen of Show,". **USES:** They excel both for cutting and in the garden. Some approach the size of shrubs, and must be allowed room. In the garden they are care and trouble free. **Examples:** 'Starfire,' 'Queen Elizabeth,' 'Carrousel', and 'Dean Collins'.

**CLIMBERS**-- These are strong growing, large flowered roses blooming singly rather than in clusters (otherwise they would be "ramblers"). They are likely to repeat blooming through the season. Climbers are customarily trained up on arbors or trellises. Occasionally they bear spectacularly large flowers. No rose is really a vine, nor are these. They do not climb unless a support and assistance are provided. Some are less vigorous than others, and these are referred to by the name "pillars." They are more suitable for lamp posts than regular climbers, which may ascend to the second story. **USES:** Depending on the potential size of the variety you select, you can do everything with them from festooning a fence to covering the side of a house. **Examples:** 'Don Juan,' 'Climbing Crimson Glory,' 'Ednah Thomas,' 'High Noon' and 'Gold Rush.'

The only way to choose roses well is to get acquainted with them. Study them in books and catalogs. Study them at flower shows, in public gardens, over your neighbor's fence, and most of all, in your own garden.

## SECOND--GIVE ROSES A GOOD HOME

**LOCATE THEM WELL**-- Requirements of roses are not nearly so complex as we once thought. Two main things they need are a place in the sun, and a place on dry land. By "in the sun" is meant a spot that gets direct sunlight half the day. By "Dry land" is meant a spot that does not stand with water when it rains, or hold water like a bog. Two other points, although less important, are to put roses out of the reach of tree roots; and to put them where air circulates freely. The rest depends on your esthetic tastes and the design of your garden. It is fair to add that care will be easier if all roses are grouped together and not scattered; and if plantings are judiciously mixed as to variety so there will be no possible pockets of disease-susceptible kinds.

**GIVE A WELCOMING SOIL** -- Out of the many theories on rose soil the following ideas are approved in some measure by most rosarians: Roses need good soil of moderately granular structure, neither all sand nor all clay but a firm loamy mixture. It should be porous enough that water may enter and be retained. It should not bake to a brick in hot sun. If the natural soil where you want to plant roses does not satisfy because of being too sandy or too clayey, the approved remedy is to add peat moss or leaf mold, lots of it, to the top 18 inches of soil. Test the soil too for acidity-alkalinity. Roses perform well if the soil pH is between 6.0 and 7.5--prefer pH 6.5. If your soil is too acid, work in ground limestone; if too alkaline, work in agricultural sulfur. As you prepare the rose bed incorporate balanced fertilizer designed for roses (sold at garden stores) at the rate suggested on the package. This fertilizer often consists of a formulation similar to 5-10-5 (5% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus, 5% potash). Try to have this preparation done four weeks before the roses arrive, so the soil can settle.

**DIG A GOOD HOLE**-- This sounds simple but has a few vital points. One is spacing. About two feet apart is the usual for floribundas and hybrid teas. Roses that get big need more room--perhaps four feet or more. A second point is to dig a **LARGE** hole to accommodate the root spread without coiling the roots around. Finally, gather a center mound of loose soil in the bottom of the hole to support the crown as you plant and give the roots a downward direction.

### THIRD--MOVE THEM IN GENTLY

**BARE ROOT** - Unwrap roses as soon as they arrive. Inspect them. Root or crown galls are better discovered now than later in the garden. It's unlikely, but if you should find a plant with gall, burn it and send for a replacement. Moisten root packing on the others or if you are able to plant soon, put them to soak in a tub of water. Take them a few at a time to the planting site and there keep them covered with wet sacks until used. Have sharp pruners handy and as you plant each rose, trim off broken roots or straggly ones that won't fit without coiling in the king-size hole you have already dug.

Hold the plant in the hole so the bud union (thickened place at base) is just above ground level. If you can't tell where ground level is, lay a yardstick across the hole. Spread the roots evenly down over the mound and begin to fill in soft soil around and over them. Work the soil in with your fingers as you go so it becomes firm. When roots are covered and hole is half full, gently tread the earth firm. Pour in a bucket of water and let it soak down while you go on with the next planting. After water drains away, finish filling the hole. If all has gone well, the bud union will now be just at ground level or slightly covered. Northerners often plant roses a little deeper. Mound loose earth over the crown to a depth of six inches. This final hilling, an important step, prevents the top from drying while roots get established. When you see growth beginning, remove the mound at once--but carefully.

### EDISTO GARDENS OWE BEAUTY TO SOIL ENRICHED BY LEAVES

By Carlton W. Truax, Staff Writer for The State

**ORANGEBURG--** The flowers at magnificent Edisto Gardens have surpassed themselves this year, but they all began in a pile of dead leaves.

Viewing the rapturous symphony of blooming bushes, and green lawns against the gray background of Spanish moss and somber cypress it is easy to believe that South Carolina is the child of spring, and this 55-acre anthem is the heart of spring.

But it is not so easy to remember that back of every snow dropped dogwood bloom, every pendant, purple wisteria and every burning or purple azalea was a pile of dead leaves.

**ONCE ERODED LAND** - in 1927, when the gardens began to come into being this bit of land on the bank of the Edisto River was rather typical eroded South Carolina land.

"We have had to make practically all of our soil," says Andrew Dibble, who has supervised the Orangeburg gardens for about 25 years. "This is all filled land or eroded land. When we get ready to develop a new area of the garden, we dig it all out and back fill it with top soil, peat moss or humus."

Operating on a tight budget, he has to find economical ways of making soil. Down in a low lying section of the park which is awaiting future development is a mountainous pile of dead leaves. Here Dibble is making soil.

**LEAVES KEPT** -- All of the leaves from the park and most of the leaves gathered in the fall and winter by the city street department are brought here. "We make a six-inch layer of leaves, cover it with a one-inch layer of earth and a thin application of super phosphate. On top of this we put another six-inch layer of leaves, one inch of soil, and another application of super phosphate. In this way, layer upon layer we pile them up and let them rot. It takes about a year. "You cannot beat nature and that is nature's way of making soil," Dibble says.

It is here that the fabulous flowers of Edisto Memorial Gardens begin.

So be sure and meet us at the usual place, First Federal Savings and Loan Building, at 7:30 P.M., Monday, April 24th.

Until then, don't work too hard.

YOUR GLOW-WORM



SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

GARDENETTES

May 1961

Fellow Gardeners:

We had a good auction meeting last month. There were many fine plants, and our Treasury was increased about \$25.00.

We received a new member - Wallace E. Cantrell, 210 Briarcliff Road. Welcome, Wallace, to our fellowship.

There are plenty more gardeners we should have in the Club. How about bringing some more next meeting?

Last meeting I was asked to bring you an article on Day Lilies and one on Herbs. In a later issue I want to tell you about growing mushrooms in your own basement.

It has been suggested that as daylilies are easy to grow and can be separated after the second or third year, that several members of the Club purchase two plants each, then separate and trade with the other members. Good Idea!

THE MODERN LOOK IN DAYLILIES

By George E. Lenington

(George Lenington has been in the officialdom of the American Hemerocallis Society since it was founded. He is now chairman of the Awards and Honors Committee, which determines each year what varieties to honor with medals, awards of merit, citations and honorable mentions. As a hobbyist and hybridizer he grows daylilies by the acre, and has himself originated many worthwhile new varieties.)

When a man climbs to the top of a hill, he needs to look back down over the road he has traveled if he would know to what height he has reached. Likewise, to realize better the advancements that have been made with daylilies, we should compare the modern varieties with the ones we used to think were so outstanding.

Just 15 years ago, when the Hemerocallis (daylily) Society had its birth in the town of Shenandoah, Iowa, the daylily was considered to be the Cinderella flower of the time. In only ten years the number of named varieties had jumped from less than 200 to nearly 3,000!

The 475 charter members who attended that first meeting discussed the superior qualities of such varieties as 'Ophir,' 'Sudan,' 'Hyperion', 'Sunny West,' 'Theron', 'Dominion,' 'Purple Waters' and 'Baronet' and they talked excitedly of the new "pink" hybrids such as 'Rosalind,' 'Sweetbriar' and 'Pink Charm.' The size of the flowers had been increased to an average diameter of nearly five inches and some--all of six inches--were called giants. The usual narrow petals had been replaced with wider ones as much as one and a half inches wide. Everyone was proclaiming daylilies to be the "flower of the future."

How do the former top varieties compare with the ones we have today? I believe I can best answer that question by saying that not a single one of the varieties mentioned above is found among the 100 varieties listed in the 1960 popularity poll of the Hemerocallis Society. It is true that they can still be found adding their beauty to many gardens but they just have not been able to hold their own before the flood of 5,000 new varieties that have been named since 1946. A visit to any sizable nursery or hybridizer's garden will disclose the amazing improvements that have been made in the size, form, color and color pattern--not to mention the improvement in branching and bud count.

GETTING BIGGER

It is undoubtedly true that all hybridizers have been breeding for larger flowers, but there are some who have specialized in them and they have, as a result, developed some enormous blooms. In my travels to several Southern gardens, this past season, I found one hybridizer

who had big daylilies everywhere I looked. When new seedlings started to bloom, regardless of anything else, if they weren't at least six inches in diameter they were dug up and discarded. Most of the flowers in that garden were six to eight inches across and many were even larger!

Of more importance than large size, in my opinion, is the improvement that has been made in flower form. In addition to the usual tubular-shaped blooms, we now find them recurved or gracefully curled in a multitude of forms. Some are round and flat like a saucer. Petals have become wider, making the flowers more full, and they have also become quite ruffled and textured, adding distinctive beauty to many varieties. Personally, I wouldn't trade mere bigness for a smaller flower that was gracefully recurved or ruffled.

#### GETTING SMALLER

Improvement in flower size has been in the opposite direction too. Responding to the demand for small flowers on short scapes, suitable for rock-garden use or the front of a flower border, some hybridizers have devoted much time and effort with the wee ones. On one of the garden tours, during last year's national convention in Florida, I saw a large crowd gathered around one spot in the garden. When I was finally able to edge my way in and see the cause of all the excitement, there stood a beautiful, small, ruffled, yellow and pink bi-color just about 20 inches tall. Needless to say, everyone wanted to buy it but a great many had to be disappointed, as there were only a few plants for sale.

Great improvement has indeed been made in getting clearer colors. The reds are really red, with little or no yellow in them--the pinks are actually pink, with a color range from shell pink to rose-purple. Lavender and blue are becoming a reality and the dream of a real white seems about to come true. Some of the lightest or palest yellows are now truly classed as ivory.

In recent years, two very important color advances have taken place that have helped to make daylilies the beautiful flowers we now have. They are the addition of melon and green to the color range. The melon class--that elusive color somewhere between yellow and pink--has taken the daylily world by storm. New varieties of this class are usually introduced for \$25 to \$100 per plant.

Although I must admit that some of the melon tones are very beautiful--especially those that tend towards pink or apricot shading--I believe that the progress with the green coloring is of even more importance. The infusion of chartreuse or green in the yellow flowers has given them a cool look--a nice improvement in a summer flower. Even more important, with the change of the yellow throat to a pale green throat, the yellows are doubly beautiful.

Some of the most beautiful new varieties are difficult to classify as to color, since they are blends of two or more colors. Imagine a lovely ruffled, light pink with a rose eye-zone--or a pale yellow flecked with peach and rose--or a delicate ivory edged with lavender! Better yet, instead of dreaming about them, plan to see them this season. They are only a small part of the new look in daylilies!

#### THE SIMPLE CARE OF DAYLILIES

1. Plant in a sunny, well-drained place. Sun three or four hours a day is needed--shade the remainder of the time will do no harm. Prepare soil deeply.
2. Plant with one inch of earth over crowns. Do not plant too deeply.
3. Give only shallow cultivation--roots fan out close to surface.
4. Go easy with fertilizer, especially a kind strong in nitrogen. Too much causes foliage growth at the expense of flowers.
5. Give adequate water as bloom scapes are coming up and while the plants are blooming-----this promotes better flower size.
6. Don't divide plants until they have established themselves and shown what they can do. Allow at least three years before dividing.
7. In harsh winter climates evergreen varieties may be mulched lightly.
8. Daylilies are relatively free of insect pests and diseases. There are a few to watch for: THRIPS--damage buds, eat part of the pigmentation and streak the flower-- spray with chlordane or malathion; RED SPIDER--cause yellowing foliage--spray with malathion or Aramite; APHIS--has caused trouble in the South-- spray with nicotine sulfate.

## FOR FLAVORFUL FUN PLANT A HERB GARDEN

By Mildred F. Bush

If you've never grown herbs, by all means set aside a section of your garden, or borders along a path, or a little area not too far from your kitchen door for this useful, happy kind of gardening.

You'll enjoy the scent of spicy herbs as you walk and work in your garden. And you will be delighted by the sight of colorful herb plants about your home. A year-round supply, fresh picked in summer, dried for winter, can be harvested from amazingly few herbs planted in amazingly little space.

Most herbs are easy to grow, and as you pick, they multiply rapidly. The more flavorful leaves you pick, the more flavor the plants seem to want to give you.

Sun is important, soil unimportant. Most herbs don't require too rich or too specialized a soil. Set the plants in moist soil that has been spaded and raked. Water plentifully. A good water-soluble plant food is a great growth booster, giving your herb plants extra vitality, with resultant superior flavor.

Herbs may be grown from seed, except tarragon (it doesn't set seeds). However, it takes so much longer for seeds to amount to anything that it is often quicker to buy small plants or obtain cuttings. With young plants, shade them a bit for the first week, until they become established--if planted during hot weather.

### HARVESTING

Although herbs are at their peak of flavor when picked fresh from the garden, they're also excellent when dried, providing seasoning throughout the year. Choose a hot dry day to pick the leaves, just before the plants bloom. Leave the leaves out in full sun until they wilt.

Then take them indoors and spread on an old fashioned half-window screen in a dry, fairly cool place. If none is available, make your own screen from wire or cheese cloth. Make sure that the air can circulate under and over the leaves or seeds. Drying on a screen will be quicker than tying in bunches and hanging on a line.

Remove leaves from stems and spread out on the screen. Stir every day, removing bruised, decayed leaves and bits of stem, until you're sure not a bit of moisture remains in any leaf.

Hand rub or work the dried leaves through a sieve before packing them in small airtight wide-necked labeled bottles. They keep better this way, look neater, and are more handy for the cook.

With seeded herbs such as caraway and anise, gather the seeds just when the pods seem at the bursting point. Cut them off to drop in a cloth-lined basket. Spread the seed heads out to dry on the screens used earlier in summer for the leaves. Dry them thoroughly, for about three or four days. Put the seeds through a coarse screen or sieve to remove chaff. Then pack in bottles.

If you live in an apartment prepare a box for your kitchen window sill and plant sweet basil, chervil, parsley, sweet marjoram or any low-growing herb. Planted boxes used at entrances or on terraces will have room for taller plants and a more gardenlike arrangement. A thriving herb garden will enrich your table and also enable you to enjoy the beauty of interesting plants.

### FAVORITE HERBS AND HOW TO USE THEM

Sweet basil--12 to 18 inches high: Excellent with tomatoes, meats and soups. Has a warm taste resembling clove.

Dill--2 to 3 feet high: Use leaves for sauces, and seeds for pickling. The taste of the seeds is an odd blend of different spices.

Fennel--2 to 3 feet high: Especially good with boiled mackerel, salads, seeds for baking.

Parsley--10 inches high: For salads, garnishes and sauces.

Chervil--10 to 18 inches high: For salads, soups, sauces, garnishes. Slight licorice flavor.

Chives--9 to 12 inches high: Use fresh or dried chopped in coups, with cheese, vegetables, and eggs. Mild onion-like flavor.

Sweet Marjoram--12 to 20 inches high: Use for garnishes, salads, stuffings, with vinegar.

Sage--14 to 18 inches high: Excellent in poultry dressing, or with pork. Surprisingly good in canned soups and salads.

Thyme--6 to 9 inches high: Popular seasoning for soups, chowders, meat sauces. Flavor is strong and distinctive.

Mint--10 to 24 inches high: For sauces, jelly, beverages, garnishes, especially good with roast lamb, peas and carrots. Flavor is cool, refreshing.

Coriander--24 to 30 inches high: Seeds for baking and poultry stuffing.  
Savory--12 inches high: Just right in stuffings, stew, meat balls, beans and peas.  
Tarragon--2 feet high: Important in chicken, egg, tomato and meat dishes. Use in sauces and salads, too.

### PLANT THESE BULBS THIS SPRING

#### **DWARF DAHLIAS-** By Marguerite P. Kunkel

If you've been wondering whether there is an easy way to all-summer color, there is -- plant dwarf dahlias. There are many good reasons for growing them: Their rich, warm colors; their sturdiness and self-reliance; their long period of bloom; and their usefulness in the garden and as cut flowers indoors. Use them as decorative hedges, for color in front of evergreens, as path blazers, birdbath beacons, and border highlights. Few of these grow over 2½ feet high and all form compact, bushy plants that require no staking.

All dahlias like warm soil so don't rush them into the cold wet ground in spring. Wait until days are balmy before setting them out. Full sun and well drained soil are the only MUSTS but, like all plants, they respond to extra care. Loosen the soil to a foot or more and work in leafmold or compost to help retain moisture. Set the tubers 4 to 6 inches deep and no less than a foot apart. Place a handful of bonemeal in each planting hole to insure a reserve food supply; also give the plants supplementary feedings of a high phosphorous-potash fertilizer such as 0-20-20 while they are in bloom. Apply a mulch to help conserve moisture and, in dry weather, soak the ground every week to ten days.

There are so many variations in size, form and color that it is often difficult to select just a few for planting. There are formal decorative, cactus, ball, or pompon types in vest pocket editions of the larger kinds. And there are collarettes, Coltness hybrids, also Unwin types you can grow from seed indoors in April for garden bloom before the end of June.

I have many favorites among these dahlia gems. I like to use bright scarlet Nellie Geerling with the little white mignon dahlia Sneezy. Soliel or Sungold silhouette their clear yellow "suns" against dark evergreens. I often add blood-red pompon Heloise for contrast.

Cactus-flowered Little Star has curled and twisted petals and delights in showing off among brighter colors such as Coltness Gem, one of the oldest mignons and still one of the splashiest reds.

Gypsy teams up beautifully with any of the white or yellow dahlias. Henrietta is soft orange with a scarlet center. Grace is clear rose and is unequalled for cutting. Breendonck is blood red with an iridescent sheen.

There are cool silvery pinks like Zomerzon and Silverette, lilac-pink Delicate Beauty and Lullaby.

The collarettes have their own special appeal, each flower having a well defined collar of petals at the center. Their profusion of bloom is amazing; constant cutting for indoor arrangements only encourages them to step up production. La Cierva is deep purple collared in snowy white. Christiana has striped cherry-red petals and a white collar. Merry-Go-Round sports an unusually large white collar on carmine-red outer petals, and Geerling's Elite is a magnificent cardinal red with a yellow collar and yellow petal tips. Try it with North Pole, the largest and showiest of the collarettes.

Now there is an appealing new strain of Lilliput dahlias called TOP-MIX, bred to extreme dwarfness for rock gardens and edging use. The mixture contains all the rich dahlia colors. Imagine this on 10-inch high plants! They are worth trying in window boxes and planters, too. A piquant addition to the charming baby dahlia group.

We have a good program coming up for the May meeting, Monday, May 22nd, 1961. Be sure and be present, at the First Federal Savings and Loan Association Building, North Church Street, 7:30 P.M.

SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

GARDENETTES

June 1961

Fellow Gardeners:

Lots of good news this month, so glue your optics to the printed sheet and get ready to enjoy a few minutes relaxation and enjoyment.

If you didn't get to attend the last meeting you missed a treat. We traveled through some of the finest gardens in Europe and returned home refreshed.

Several new committees have been appointed since we last met:

Plant Committee - E. B. Hines, Chairman  
Jack Lemmon  
Red Arnold  
J. P. Carlton  
M. P. Nantz

Yard of the Month Committee:  
Claude Sherrill, Chairman  
Red Arnold  
J. P. Carlton

It was decided that the nine Board members shall each select a yard of the month, for any worthy lawn, flowers, arrangements, etc., that make the yard outstanding, call Claude Sherrill on or before the first Monday after the tenth of the month. The committee will make the selection, carry out the plan of procedure, and notify the Men's Garden Club at their regular meeting, the fourth Monday of the month.

The Plant Committee is to purchase various plants, shrubs, etc., to sell to the membership at cost, or for sale to the public, such as the tomato plant sale the 26th and 27th of May. By the way, the Treasury was upped a little over \$100 by that sale.

It was also decided that the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club should beautify a vacant lot in the city, and a committee, W. O. Ezell, Jack Lemmon and Charles Lea, was appointed to proceed to select and plant such a lot in the name of the Club.

We have a treat in store for the meeting of the Club. Dr. and Mrs. Wardlaw Hammond have invited all members of the Club, and their wives, to be their guests at their home, 1435 Thornwood Drive (Andrew's Farm Section) - June 26th, 7:30 P.M. The program will be presenting the 72nd Tournament of Roses Parade Film of January 2, 1961, in color, - a two-hour parade in 30 minutes. "Nuff said". Come and enjoy the outing with the program. I had about forgot to tell you that the Hammonds included "dessert" after the film.

Directions to get to the Hammonds' Home - Take Woodburn Road (Old Connecticut Avenue extension), turn right on Pinecrest, at the top of the hill turn right on Thornwood Drive, the 4th house down, name on gate.

DWARF CANNAS  
By  
Betty Brinhart

Years ago, when many houses were large and had spacious lawns, tall cannas were popular and were widely used in garden landscaping. But, as houses and lawns diminished in size, cannas, with their gigantic foliage and massive flower clusters, gradually disappeared from

the scene. Hybridizers have now brought cannas back to our gardens by developing smaller, dwarf-size kinds that fit into the landscape of the modern home.

The new canna colors are far brighter and more beautiful than those of the old taller varieties. And there are many pastel tints that blend well with any background. The foliage is either dark green or bronze, and each plant has several unbranched, stately stalks shooting up from a single rootstock.

These lovely new hybrids take about as much room in the border as perennial summer phlox or peonies, growing from 2½ to 3 feet tall. They are compact and freely produce large, gladiolus-like florets on medium-sized spikes.

Dwarf cannas are suited to the ranch-type house. We use them in many ways to highlight different areas of our lawn, garden, or foundation planting. We like to plant several red cannas beside our white garden gate to add a splash of color all summer. On either side of the borders, we use some to frame the plantings as well as within the borders themselves, to provide accents. We plant a few along our white garden fence as a background for low-growing annuals such as petunias; and set others out in front of evergreen plantings to add color.

We also tried planting four cannas of the same variety in the center of our circular bed, surrounding them with low-growing annuals of a lighter shade. This combination creates a striking effect on a smooth, velvety green lawn.

We save most of the rootstocks each fall and usually have quite a few divisions left over after planting in spring. These we set out in a row to separate the cut flower garden from the vegetables, and planted a row of dwarf dahlias at their base. This combination looks lovely, and provides cut flowers all summer long.

Because dwarf cannas are so popular today, new and interesting varieties are constantly being developed. Our favorites are those developed by Wilhelm Pfitzer, outstanding hybridizer of Stuttgart, Germany. He has produced five of the most striking dwarf cannas I have ever seen. My pet is Pfitzer's Cherry Red, which grows only 36 inches tall, produces long clusters of cherry-red florets, and is excellent when used as an accent color. Pfitzer's Chinese Coral, which grows 30 inches tall, is another excellent variety--the most beautiful coral shade I have ever seen. If yellow is your favorite color, try Pfitzer's Primrose Yellow. It grows 30 inches tall, and produces the most true yellow flowers of any in the entire canna family. Pfitzer's Salmon Pink grows to 32 inches, is an unusual color in cannas, clear, bright, and very pretty. Pfitzer's Shell-Pink reaches 30 inches and will delight you if you love pastel shades. It is the most compact, robust dwarf canna yet developed, which means it is very easy to grow. Its lovely spikes of gladiolus-like flowers appear just above the deep green foliage.

Many fine cannas have been developed by other hybridizers. These include The President, a nice deep red; City of Portland, a pink; Halli, a silvery pink; and Rosamond Cole, a red fringed with yellow. You will find all of the dwarf cannas easy to grow. If you have a greenhouse or a large sunny window, buy divisions around the first of March and start them in 4- to 6-inch fiber pots for early bloom. Fill each pot two-thirds full of sandy soil. Lay the division down flat with the eyes pointing upward, then cover it with 1 inch of soil. Keep the soil moderately moist at all times.

If you prefer, or if space is limited, plant all of your divisions in one large flat, placing 3 inches of sandy soil below them, and 1 inch above. Make certain that the divisions do not touch, or rot may set in. Cannas are tropical plants and must have constant warmth to produce growth. Temperatures should be kept around 70° night and day until sprouts have developed.

When the sprouts are 3 inches high, transplant the plants into larger pots or into a sheltered coldframe outdoors until all danger of frost is past. If you want to increase your supply of plants take up the divisions and cut each into as many sections as there are shoots. Leave as much of the fleshy division with each shoot as possible and take care not to harm the small roots already formed. These divisions can then be replanted individually into fiber pots, and placed on a sunny window sill until all danger of frost is past; or they can be transplanted into a coldframe until outdoor planting time. If you do not want to divide the plants, leave them in the flat in a south window until they can be moved outdoors.

Although there is a decided advantage in starting cannas early indoors, it is not a must. The unsprouted divisions can be planted in their permanent location outdoors as soon as the weather warms up. These will bloom by midsummer or earlier, depending upon variety.

Prepare the outdoor beds well in advance of planting time--as early as the ground can be worked so that the organic matter, lime, or commercial fertilizers will have time to be broken down by the soil bacteria, and converted into food for the plants.

Since dwarf cannas are heavy feeders with massive root systems, deep cultivation and plenty of organic matter are the secrets of success. We spade our beds to a depth of 18 inches, then turn in a reasonable amount of aged cow manure, peatmoss, compost, or leafmold, depending upon the needs of our soil. The beds are then raked smooth and watered down well to settle the soil for planting.

If you do not have any organic matter on hand, you can use dehydrated cow manure with a 5-10-10 commercial fertilizer. Use this mixture only in the holes where the divisions, or plants, are to be placed. After all plants have sprouted, the entire bed can be top-dressed with this same mixture to help produce robust plants with plenty of bloom.

If you have established shoots growing in the house or in the cold-frame, harden them off by gradually placing them in the open by day and bringing them in again on cool nights. In most areas, the first week in June is a good time for transplanting canna shoots into their permanent locations. Place two handfuls of fertilizer in each hole and mix it well with the soil. If fiber pots have been used, place pot and all into the hole. When transplanting the divisions from the coldframe, take a ball of earth with each one and water well after planting. Plant them just as deep as they grew in the coldframe.

Unsprouted divisions should be set 2 inches deep, 12 to 24 inches apart, depending upon the effect you wish to achieve. When we plant our divisions outdoors, we like to insert a small peg at the head of each hole to mark the spot until shoots appear. Sometimes divisions take a long time to sprout, or do not sprout at all. The pegs help us check these late sprouters without disturbing the rest of the bed. If no growth is evident, we replace the division with another division that has already sent up two or more shoots.

Cannas are fast growers and need a great deal of water. Dry soil will retard growth, and deform the flower spikes. Water well at least twice a week during hot, dry weather. To help conserve moisture and to keep the soil in good tilth, we mulch our cannas with at least 6 inches of green grass clippings after the shoots have reached a foot in height.

During the last week in July, just as the plants are setting their buds, we apply a liquid fertilizer made by stirring one-half cup of dehydrated cow manure into a gallon of warm water, using a quart per plant. If you prefer, you can give another top-dressing with a 5-10-10 commercial fertilizer instead of the liquid fertilizer. When using a dry fertilizer, water it in immediately with a fine hose spray.

So far, only Japanese beetles have bothered our cannas. We pick these off by hand. If any other insects should infest your plants, use an insecticide according to manufacturer's directions. It is important to spray regularly as recommended until they all disappear.

When frost finally blackens the canna foliage, cut off the stalks, take up the rootstocks and, after drying them off, store in a dry, cool place until spring.

END

### WHY ORGANIC GARDENS? By Richard V. Clemence

A successful amateur states his side of this controversial subject.

Organic gardening is not a new system; it is as old as agriculture. Only the name is new or, shall we say, comparatively new.

First, I will state the basic principle of organic gardening. It is very straightforward and simple: Let natural processes do the work. Study these processes, try to understand them, and use this knowledge to produce results. The basic principle also frowns upon the use of inorganic chemicals, poison dusts, sprays, and so on. To the zealous organic gardener, the use of such materials is inconsistent with the principle upon which the system is founded. It is in this matter of principle that so many beginners go wrong and on which so much misunderstanding exists.

The beginner, having accepted the fundamental concept, is prone to make a fetish of it. To him, organic gardening is nature's way. Gardening practices take on a moral flavor and he regards the poorest organic garden as preferable to any other.

More experienced gardeners, being already accustomed to judging methods by results, are not likely to get unduly worked up over questions of principle. They adopt an organic practice because they perceive an advantage in some specific feature, such as mulching. For the rest, they tend to use techniques patterned after commercial farming.

What both beginners and experienced gardeners often miss is the fact that the basic principle of organic gardening is derived, not from philosophical speculation, but from practical garden experience. The story really goes back a generation or more.

Forty years ago all gardening was organic gardening. The name wasn't used, as there was no other method. Fertilizer then was chiefly manure, supplemented by animal derivatives sold by meat packers and rendering plants. All these organic substances were cheap and were applied to gardens with a lavish hand. What results were obtained? Few reliable records are available, but anyone old enough to remember the typical home vegetable garden usually has two strong impressions. First, yields were heavy and small gardens supplied even large families with an abundance of food to eat fresh and to store. Second, and more remarkable, insect pests and plant diseases were virtually unknown.

Anyone too young to recall these days may think I am dreaming of the fond memories of my youth. But these recollections can be supported by facts.

Forty years ago there were more than twenty million horses on American farms, and in our towns and cities there were at least forty million more. These animals produced manure enough to cover more than thirty million acres of land. In addition, a great volume of organic fertilizers was yielded by the carcasses of dead horses.

The automobile and other power equipment eliminated this source of organic fertilizers. As the machine displaced the horse, the manufacture of chemical fertilizers boomed. At the same time, because of large scale, single-crop farming, insect pests and plant diseases appeared as serious threats to commercial agriculture; and chemical dusts and sprays were devised to combat them. Since then, the growing of fruits and vegetables for profit has increasingly become a scientific endeavor. The farmer with superior education and training who keeps in touch with his experiment station and other sources of information can make money. Few others can, except with good luck.

It would appear, upon hasty examination, that the procedures followed by commercial farmers have been largely forced upon them by circumstances beyond their control. The question arises as to what gardening might be like for people outside this sphere of influence. Instead of aping the technique of commercial growers and trying to improve on their results, why not go back to the gardening methods of our youth and see what can be done with them? Were the big yields and absence of pests and disease a part of history to which we cannot return? Or were they logical consequences of practices that may be repeated at any time? There is an easy way to find out. The wonder is that so few have thought to try it and see.

For my part, I decided that the only fair trial would be an all-out attempt to plant the sort of garden father had, and pretend that there had been no advances since his day; that is, use no sprays or dusts and no chemical fertilizer, and sit tight until the outcome was known. Frankly, I expected nothing much.

For years I had followed up-to-date methods and had done better than many of my neighbors. But now I was astonished to find that my yields had substantially increased and that diseases and pests were not a problem. But, like any experienced gardener, I was wary of hasty optimism, realizing that procedures that work well one year may never do so again.

On the other hand, as I began to think more about traditional methods, I began to see possibilities. From what I knew about soil, I thought that the heavy application of manure might encourage the development of organisms that would feed plants and protect them against serious harm from insects and disease. If so, a year or two more of the same kind of gardening might pay large dividends, and I decided to continue. I kept records each year, and could give results in detail. All that counts is that I shortly became an organic gardener by returning to traditional methods and trying to improve upon them wherever possible.

The case for the organic principle rests, not on appeals to emotion, but on the returns it yields. I regularly grow vegetables of the highest quality on an area of about 5,000 square feet. The yields are at least as large as the ones I remember from my youth, and I am sure that I recall these with reasonable accuracy. Improvements on the old techniques consist mainly of economics of space and labor. My crops are very closely packed and returns per square foot are far above the average. Apart from harvesting, I spend an average of less than three minutes a day on the garden throughout the season.

My notion of gardening with nature is that I should put the seeds where I want the crops and that nature should do everything else. Beyond planting and a little thinning and mulching, I do no work whatever. If anyone else is getting better returns with less effort by some other method of gardening, I should like to hear from him.

END

YOUR GLOWWORM



THE SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
 Affiliated with the  
 MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA  
 "EVERY GARDENER A MEMBER"

July 24, 1961

President	James Culcleasure,	682 S. Converse St., Spartanburg, S. C.	
Active Past Pres.-	Jack Lemmon,	300 Springwood Dr.,	"
1st Vice-Pres.	M. P. Nantz,	145 Collins Ave.	"
2nd Vice-Pres.	D. H. Kennemur,	618 Palmetto St.	"
Secretary	Charles Lea,	1008 Greenville Hwy.	"
Treasurer	Raymond Tessmer,	Box 394,	"

DIRECTORS

J. P. Carlton,	Chairman,	Duncan Park Committee
W. O. Ezell,	Chairman,	Projects Committee
R. B. Hines,	Chairman,	Supplies Committee
D. H. Kennemur,	Chairman,	Membership Committee
Jack Lemmon,	Chairman,	Judging-Awards Committee
M. P. Nantz,	Chairman,	Program Committee
Raymond Tessmer,	Chairman,	Publicity Committee
Toy Westbrook,	Chairman,	Industrial Beautification Committee

Regular Meeting - Fourth Monday each month  
 FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION  
 North Church Street  
 7:30 P.M.

Dr. Fred J. Nisbet, Biltmore Estates, finds it impossible to be with us this month, but assures us that he will fill one of our Fall programs. We are sorry, but he is worth waiting for. A report on the Detroit Convention will be given by W. O. Ezell and Charles Lea. Jack Lemmon will show how he takes slips and cuttings and grows fine azaleas.

A presentation of a new project for the Club will be presented by W. O. Ezell, Projects Chairman, and a proposal to enlist the Businessmen in further City Beautification.

We are glad to announce that the Chamber of Commerce has invited the Industries, small and large, and Professional Businesses to beautify their premises this summer and fall. Considerable interest has been shown, and if successful, it will be made an annual affair. Judging and prizes will be made by the Chamber in the late fall.

We look forward to hearing the name of the "Garden of the Month" at the next regular meeting.

We are grateful for the fine hospitality and program given to the Club at the home of member Dr. Wardlaw Hammond. We enjoyed seeing flowers, especially the glads and day lilies. The pictures of the Rose Parade of 1961 was especially enjoyed, followed by refreshments served by Mrs. Hammond. We are looking forward to a repeat performance next year, Hammonds.

There will not be any meeting in the month of August, so visit prospective members and invite them to come and make our Club larger and better.

Get ready for the auction in October. Select your plants now and let's have at least three per member. The Treasury can use the money.

Remember the Annual Picnic in September. If you have any suggestions as to the place and food, please present them next Monday at the meeting. Some of you have been talking about bringing your neighbor, try it next Monday.

- Get your latest Rose Catalog and read about the four "All America Winners for 1962":  
Christian Dior - First red All-American hybrid tea in nine years.  
King's Ransom - Brilliant, chrome-yellow blooms of exceptional size, and of remarkable lasting color, (H.T.)  
John S. Armstrong - Velvety, dark red of intense deep tone which never varies in intensity from bud stage to its glorious open bloom.  
Golden Slipper - A floribunda that presents a dramatic break-through in color-fluorescent orange and gold.

### 5 IRIS OF THE YEAR

- Sable Night - This famous Dykes Medal winner is a rich black-violet with claret undertones. It is also cherished for its silken sheen. For a charming garden effect, combine it with any of the light varieties
- Mary Randall- Both falls and standards of this big, lovely Dykes Medal winner are a deep rose, while the beards, in sparkling contrast, are tangerine-red. Flower form is near perfect.
- Lady Ilse - The rounded form of this fine variety is as intriguing to behold as its beautiful light blue coloring. Like the other varieties, two or three roots (rhizomes) planted this summer will soon form a distinctive flowering clump.
- May Hall - The pleasing shade of light flamingo pink is just one feature of this delightful variety. Other features are the chiseled ruffled edges of falls and standards, and the good flower form which is unmarred by any rough texturing of the petals
- Carmela - A "laced" variety, its falls and standards delicately ruffled and crimped at the edges, this beauty has been increasing in popularity over the years. Its color is a sensational blend of honey and rose. Use with blues and purples.

### ENJOY THE SPLendor OF JAPANESE IRISES IN YOUR GARDEN By Lys Housley

Some gardeners must just be contrary! When the wise ones told me it was impossible to grow Japanese Irises in Denver, that was all it took! "Our climate is too dry, too hot in summer, too cold in winter; our soil is too alkaline; Japanese irises are just not grown here."

So, I scouted through the catalogs and sent off for four of the oldest, most inexpensive varieties. While waiting for their arrival, we built a small, cement-bottomed, rock-lined, kidney-shaped lily pool (total cost: about \$10). This was flooded several times to take away the lime curse of the cement. Adjacent flower beds were prepared by removing all the soil for about a foot or more in depth and replacing it with peat moss and humus. When the Japanese irises arrived, their new home, in which they were eventually joined by Louisiana irises, marsh marigolds, gentians, and shooting stars, was waiting for them. Since they were planted in the spring, they did not, of course, bloom that same summer, but by the following summer they were flaunting regal purple and snowy white in early July. Please don't ask me their names, for they all proved to be mislabeled! (This is not likely to happen with irises purchased from reliable sources today.) In splendid anonymity, they continued to put up their annual display so long as we remained at that location. Like Mary, Mary, I had been quite contrary, and my garden grew.

You may be wondering why, aside from contrariness, I was so determined to grow something that I had been assured was a waste of time. The first reason was that anyone so devoted as I am to the iris wants some kind of iris in bloom in the outdoor garden as long and as often as possible. From the first *I. reticulata* in February to the last re-blooming bearded iris in November, it is possible to have irises in bloom for at least part of ten months of the year,

even in this mile-high climate. There is a lull after the tall bearded stop blooming and before *Iris dichotoma* (vesper iris) begins which can be filled only by the Louisianas (*I. hexa-*  
*nae*) and the Japanese.

The other reason is that if the *reticulatas* and the dwarf bearded are like little pixies, the table iris are graceful teen-agers, and the tall-bearded may be considered the "solid Citizens" (the aristocracy or the "upper-middle-class" of the iris world, as you please), then the Japanese are unquestionably the glamorous show girls, the gaily-costumed entertainers. Some may consider them flamboyant; others may accuse them of being un-irislike, but what might be considered extravagant against a background of the tender buds of April is exciting in July. (Note that while the Louisiana irises may bloom in their native swamps as early as March and April, in cooler climates they arrive in late June and Early July, while the Japanese appear in July in such diverse areas as the Midwest and Oregon. If you live in the deep South, they will bloom earlier for you.)

Do not hesitate to grow these flowers because of their exotic background. Actually all of our usual, bearded garden iris are of foreign origin, while the Japanese iris are more closely related to our native American species than are the bearded, and theoretically, at least, should thus be more adaptable to conditions in many parts of the country. All our native species (with two tiny exceptions, *I. cristata* and *I. verna*) belong to the Apogon group: These are beardless with narrow, heavily rooted rhizomes like the Japanese irises.

There has been some question about the actual pedigree of these beauties from Japan. Most experts believe that the modern Japanese iris is a highly developed form of the pure species, *I. kaempferi*; a few authorities have thought that they might be hybrids of *I. kaempferi* with some infusion of the closely related *I. laevigata*, which is more definite a swamp iris than *kaempferi* which demands flooding only before the bloom season and tolerates dry conditions later on. Also, the blooms of modern varieties more closely resemble those of *kaempferi* than of *laevigata*, the differences probably resulting from generations of careful selection by man. To most gardeners, this may be a purely academic question, but hybridizers and collectors like to know the history of these plants, and a knowledge of ancestral species can aid all gardeners in understanding cultural needs.

Our leading American hybridizer of Japanese irises is Walter Marx of Oregon. When our grandparents planted these imported irises, there was much confusion of nomenclature. Several years ago, when Mr. Marx began to import the finest clones available, he made every effort to obtain true stock of the varieties and to get the names straightened out. He preferred a particular strain of exceptional superiority known as "Higos" and used them as the ancestors of a line of his own development now called "Marhigos." Two of the best of these ancestors were 'Hisakata' and 'Karahashi.' (At present I do not know of a source for these two, so please, don't ask me. If I did, I would have them for historical interest.)

Among Mr. Marx's more recent introductions and of special interest to connoisseurs is the truly double 'Frosted Pyramid,' a ruffled, pure white. Many other Japanese irises are described as double because of the development of petaloids, and those in which the standards are flattened horizontally give a double appearance, so that these iris often more closely resemble a peony than they do other members of their own family. Others of the newest and rarest are 'Frisled Enchantment,' a large, ruffled white, bordered in bright rose-red; 'Geisha Dance,' described as red, white and blue; 'Blue Pompon,' almost a deep navy-blue with bright gold signals and measuring a full eight inches across, with a pompon center; and 'Apple Blossom Cascade,' which may not be liked by those preferring the flat, saucer form over the draped effect, but which has a ten-inch spread and is an exquisite orchid-pink hue.

A little older and less expensive but highly deserving a place in the collector's garden are 'Hoyden,' a bit smaller than some, but still reaching as much as six or seven inches in its single, two-colored blooms; 'Great White Heron,' one of the largest and whitest of all; 'Stippled Ripples,' with a stippled rose-red border; 'World's Delight,' the closest approach to a true rose-pink self; 'Vain Victor,' with a splendid, dark red border; and the deep, velvety purple 'Summer Storm.'

If you are more interested in the general type than in named varieties, make your selection at a low price from the Grand Opera Series, in which you have choice of color and pattern but the individual clones are not separately named. Perhaps Madame Butterfly is your favorite opera, and you would like to choose a plant from the "Butterfly" series and receive a delicately bordered or stippled one. If you think Pinafore is more fun and like lots of good blue in your garden, this is the series for you; while those who like dash and verve and the brilliance

of warm purple which can nearly be called red will select something from the Carmen series. Manon, Parsifal, Rigoletto and Rhinegold all find devotees.

Two of the best imported Higos are 'Nishiki-Gi' ('Brocade Trees') a richly marbled white and purple and my own favorite, 'Torizan,' widely banded in rich, rosy red.

For beginners wishing to cut their teeth on older, reliable varieties before progressing to newer ones, long-time favorites, available from many sources, include 'Nishiki-Yama' ('Brocade Mountain'), 'Red Emperor,' 'Norma,' 'Gold Bound,' 'Mrs. J. S. Hayden' and 'Rose Anna.' Another economical way to start is to get a collection of unnamed seedlings from a good hybridizer.

"Well," you may think, "that is all fine to read about, but I have neither pool nor stream, so how can I grow them in my garden."

It is not necessary to grow the gorgeous Japanese irises at waterside. While a pool is convenient, because it is easy to flood pool and iris simultaneously (and the floods of spring do the same for us now that we have moved our own beardless irises to a streamside) all you really need is a corner of your garden that you are willing to keep quite wet from spring into July--perhaps even a low place that has hitherto been a problem to you, although there should be some drainage. If your soil is alkaline, rather than neutral or slightly acid, prepare the bed before your plants arrive by removing any heavy clay and filling in with peat or your favorite form of humus. If you still fear alkalinity from the local water, make an application of sulfates (I usually prefer iron sulfate for our conditions, although ammonium and aluminum sulfates may be used, but do not over-do). Grandmother did not have this problem, for she had her cow and horse! Such a dressing should not be needed more than once or twice a year, and if your soil is acid, it will not be needed at all. Wherever you are, DON'T ADD LIME!

Then remember, that unlike the bearded irises which do not object to sunbaths for their toes, all beardless irises, including the Japanese beauties, are very modest about their feet and want them well-covered with mulch at all times. If this is taken care of, they can be planted in full sun, even in the sunshine states. If your winters are sub-zero or given to alternate freezing and thawing, it is better to plant Japanese irises in the spring, so that they may have all summer to get established. Otherwise, they may be planted in the fall.

With these few precautions in mind, you may be surprised to discover that these irises are far less trouble than many hardy perennials and shrubs you see planted everywhere, and often they are more rewarding.

#### THINGS TO REMEMBER - By Dr. Fred J. Nisbet

Can you remember when roses used to be held back in midsummer, with no water, no fertilizer and maybe even the buds picked, to "get them ready for fall bloom?" This was nonsense, of course. It not only reduced the fall bloom but robbed the grower of late summer bloom as well. Keep roses growing with plenty of water, small, frequent applications of foliar fertilizer and a mulch. Summer bloom will be better; fall bloom should be spectacular.

Bulbs which bloom in the fall should go in this month, or just as early as you can get them. Better go over the catalogs of the Dutch bulbs too and get your order in now for October delivery.

Cool nights and warm, humid days spell trouble from mildew. If you use sulfur or Mildex with temperatures much above 80 degrees, foliage burn will surely appear. The new Phaltan or copper sprays are much safer.

Red spider is bad when the weather is hot and dry. Use a miticide like Aramite according to label directions and get a thorough coverage under the leaves. Pick up all fallen yellow leaves and burn them.

Sow camellia and magnolia seed just as soon as they are ripe. Do this in a cold frame so that moisture can be controlled and mice and squirrels kept out.

Check your camellias, azaleas and rhododendrons. The mulch should be up to proper depth, water should not be lacking and the leaves a good green. If leaves are yellow, have your soil tested. If iron chlorosis is the trouble, use chelated iron to correct it. It will probably be necessary to lower the pH too. Keep an eye out for scale infestations. If you have some, use an oil emulsion at summer strength.

Feed and water your mums regularly. If you are after spectacular bloom, disbud so that the terminal bud will get all the strength of the plant.

Will see you Monday night, July 24th, at the usual place.

YOUR GLOWWORM

THE SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
 Affiliated with the  
 MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA  
 "EVERY GARDENER A MEMBER"

August 14, 1961

President,	James Culcleasure,	682 S. Converse St., Spartanburg, S. C.	
Active Past Pres.-	Jack Lemmon,	300 Springwood Dr.,	"
1st Vice-Pres.	M. P. Nantz,	145 Collins Ave.	"
2nd Vice-Pres.	D. H. Kennemur,	618 Palmetto St.	"
Secretary	Charles Lea,	1008 Greenville Hwy.	"
Treasurer	Raymond Tessmer	Box 394,	"

DIRECTORS

J. P. Carlton,	Chairman	Duncan Park Committee
W. O. Ezell,	Chairman	Projects Committee
R. B. Hines,	Chairman	Supplies Committee
D. H. Kennemur,	Chairman	Membership Committee
Jack Lemmon,	Chairman	Judging-Awards Committee
M. P. Nantz,	Chairman	Program Committee
Raymond Tessmer,	Chairman	Publicity Committee
Toy Westbrook,	Chairman	Industrial Beautification Committee

-----

The Club does not have a regular meeting in August, but at the Officers and Directors meeting held August 8, 1961 it was decided to accept an invitation to visit John Cantrell's summer "playground" in the mountains.

The invitation was extended to the members of the Club and their families, and the date was set at Monday, August 28, 1961. We are to meet at the home of John Cantrell, at Boiling Springs, at 2 P.M. sharp, and all leave together from there, taking only as many cars as will accommodate the crowd. We are to prepare and bring sufficient food for your family -- 1 or more -- and we will spread together in picnic style. John will look after the drinks.

We hope as many members and their families as can will arrange to make the trip. We have made the time early in order to get back before too late. Don't forget the date, the time and the meeting place.

The Board also approved a Membership Campaign in September under the leadership of the Membership Committee, D. H. Kennemur, Chairman. Information will be given you on August 28th and in the next issue of the Gardenette.

The Board also approved a recommendation not to charge an entrance fee to new members, but only the regular annual dues of \$5.00. All new members taken in during the September campaign will have their dues paid to December 31, 1962 for the regular annual dues of \$5.00, fifteen months for \$5.00. Bring them in "Gang", there are many on the outside just waiting for a bid.

It was also decided to hold a Rose Show this fall. No judging or awards this time. Mike Nantz will have charge of the arrangements, and it will be held in one of the Banks of the City. Further information will be given you in the next issue of the Gardenettes.

The Camellia Committee, Dr. Wardlaw Hammond, Chairman, has been asked to continue his arrangements to hold a camellia show in 1962, but suggests that our first camellia show be a local show only. So begin now to prepare your Roses and Camellias for a good showing.

On Monday evening, September 25, 1961, the Club will hold its annual picnic at Croft State Park. The Board hopes that every member and his family will be present. Dinner will be served promptly at 7 P.M. Good food and good fellowship together.

The Program Committee has prepared a wonderful program for that evening. William J. Park, of Park Seed Company, of Greenwood, will bring us a message on planting and raising annuals and other plants. This should not be missed, so bring the family and let us have a good time together.

The October meeting will be about Bulbs, and our Guest speaker is a Holland Grower. He will be accompanied by Mr. Hyman Young, of Asheville. You will remember the fine program Mr. Young brought us last March on "Bedding Plants".

The November meeting will be our Fall Auction Sale. Remember two or three plants from each member. There will be an added feature, the Program Committee informs "Ye Editor".

No meeting in December, so let us make the next four months count for the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club.

Will see you at John Cantrell's, Boiling Springs, at 2 P.M., Monday, August 28, 1961. Until then, get your Roses ready for the coming Rose Show.

#### THOROUGH COVERAGE A MUST FOR GOOD CONTROL

Whether you apply insecticides and fungicides as sprays, dusts, mists, or aerosols, all parts of the plant must be covered for effective control.

A fine cone-shaped spray under constant pressure is best, and a long spray gun with an adjustable nozzle that can be turned up enables you to wet the undersides of even the lowest leaves. Move the spray nozzle quickly up and down in overlapping strokes around the entire plant. Both the upper and lower surface of the leaves should be wet to the point of dripping.

Dusters with a flange nozzle help produce a fine cloud which settles rapidly, leaving a thin film of dust on the leaves. Clouds should be blown underneath as well as on top of the leaves. Best coverage is obtained if the plants are wet or damp and the air is calm--usually in the early morning or in the evening after dew has formed. While it is easier to dust than to spray, dusts must be used more frequently to obtain equal control.

With mists and aerosols it is not necessary to wet leaves to the point of dripping, as it is with sprays, but they must be applied on windless days to insure very thorough plant coverage.

Granular insecticides and fungicides to control soil insects, diseases, and nematodes are generally sprinkled on lawns and gardens with a fertilizer spreader and then watered in. It is important to get an even distribution, and the best way is to apply half the amount in one direction and the other half at right angles to it.

Recommended amounts of biological controls, such as milky disease spores for the control of Japanese Beetles in lawns are usually spotted at 3-foot intervals over the area.

YOUR GLOWWORM

THE SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
 Affiliated with the  
 MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA  
 "Every Gardener a Member"

October 1961

President,	James Culcleasure	682 S. Converse St., Spartanburg, S. C.
Active Past Pres.	Jack Lemmon	300 Springwood Dr. "
1st Vice-Pres.	M. P. Nantz	145 Collins Ave. "
2nd Vice-Pres.	D. H. Kennemur	618 Palmetto St. "
Secretary	Charles Lea	1008 Greenville Hwy. "
Treasurer	Raymond Tessmer	Box 394 "

DIRECTORS

J. P. Carlton	Chairman	Duncan Park Committee
W. O. Ezell	Chairman	Projects Committee
R. B. Hines	Chairman	Supplies Committee
D. H. Kennemur	Chairman	Membership Committee
Jack Lemmon	Chairman	Judging- Awards Committee
M. P. Nantz	Chairman	Program Committee
Raymond Tessmer	Chairman	Publicity Committee
Toy Westbrook	Chairman	Industrial Beautification Committee

-----

One of the finest meetings of the year was the annual picnic at Croft State Park. There was a goodly number present and the food was of the best. It was good to have our ladies present and to renew acquaintances. Bill Parks from Greenwood was in fine form and told us many things that were of interest to a gardener. Those of you who couldn't make it certainly missed a treat.

Our next meeting will be held in the usual place, the Civic room of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association Building on Church Street. We will have a talk on Bulbs, and the speaker will be from Holland where they grow them. He will be introduced by Mr. Young of the Young Nurseries, Asheville, N. C. You will remember Mr. Young was with us during the early summer. Bring a prospective member with you this time.

The Nominating Committee will also make their report for the officers in 1962, so be sure and be present on Monday, October 23, 1961.

The next meeting in November will be our fall auction night, and every member should remember to bring two plants to be auctioned off so that the Treasury will have sufficient funds to carry on its work. This will be the last meeting in 1961, as we do not meet in December, so let's all be present for these last two meetings.

Have you been out to see the new project on Pine Street? Claude Sherrill and W. O. Ezell have already begun work getting ready for the plantings. Claude handles the tractor and farm implements just like he had been raised on the farm. We expect to have an up-to-date report at our next meeting on the work and the financing.

THE QUOIT GAME THAT CHANGED THE FACE OF SPRING  
 THE LEGEND OF THE HYACINTH

Hyacinthus, a handsome mortal, was the favorite of Apollo, the Sun God, and Zephyrus, God of the West Wind. One day as Apollo and Hyacinthus were playing quoits, they were spied upon by Zephyrus--who flew into a jealous rage. Waiting for Apollo's turn to throw the quoit, Zephyrus blew it off course, striking Hyacinthus in the head.

The blow killed the boy at once. Grief-stricken, Apollo vowed that the beauty of his young friend should be immortalized, and from the blood of the youth he created the rich, fragrant flower known as the hyacinth.

Since then, the hyacinth has transformed the face of many Springs with its clear, rainbow colors and haunting, heady fragrance.

References to the hyacinth are found in some of man's earliest writings but it took till the 16th Century for it to reach Europe. By the 18th Century, it had become the "fashion" flower of France where you needed literally a king's ransom to buy certain hyacinth bulbs. Madame de Pompadour (who had a king of her own) insisted upon hyacinths to decorate the grounds and great halls of the Palace of Versailles.

But it was in Holland that the hyacinth found its true home. There, four centuries of loving care and devotion by Dutch horticulturists have brought about a startling transformation from a sparsely flowered plant, to today's rich petalled varieties with the deep, unmistakable fragrance.

Hyacinths can be grown in many colors including the truest and largest number of blues of any spring flower. Artistically inclined flower lovers find them perfect for decorating. They'll grow indoors or out; in gardens, window boxes; on rooftops or terraces--wherever the hyacinth fancy strikes you.

#### THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

By Dr. Fred J. Nisbet

As the leaves fall you should build your compost piles. It helps to have two, if you can spare the room. One should be of oak and beech leaves, with no lime added. Use this on camellias, rhododendrons (including azaleas) and the like. Softer leaves, like maple and yellow poplar, are fine for a general compost.

Start your fall sanitation program now. Burn all plant parts which are diseased or carry insects. Keep spraying roses and keep all weeds down. Pick off bagworms and burn them.

Bring in dahlias, tuberous-rooted begonias, caladiums and the like before heavy frost. Dry, clean and store them.

Where winter lawns are necessary, sow now. First, cut the existing grass quite short, fertilize (10-6-4, 8-8-8 or similar) and water in well. Sow winter rye at not more than five pounds per thousand square feet. Heavier sowings will crowd the bermuda grass too much. Also, don't overplant bermuda until it is well established.

As the vegetable garden is cleaned, sow winter rye. In the spring when this is turned under (at eight- to ten-inch height), your soil will gain valuable humus. This cuts down on winter erosion, too.

All newly set trees and shrubs need careful attention to watering until they are well established. This means until winter for most of us, but where palms are summer-planted this takes about a year.

Better order your roses now. Try some of the new varieties and don't forget a few old-fashioned or shrub roses. Try a few grown on Dr. Huey rootstocks, rather than R. multiflora. In all of our area, especially the deep South, this is producing exceptionally fine growth.

When planting rhododendrons and camellias be very fussy about setting the plants shallow. Deep planting, or excessive settling, will actually kill these plants if drainage is at all poor. Better give them some temporary shade, too, until they are well established.

By the last of the month you can sow many annuals, such as larkspur, cornflower, poppies and sweet peas. In the warmer areas wait until November.

#### CORRESPONDENCE COURSE RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEAS

Learn what variety of rhododendron and azalea is suitable for your region and how to make it a beautiful addition to your landscape. Pennsylvania State University is offering a home correspondence course that will help Easterners succeed with these plants.

The four lessons cover cultural methods, soils, fertilizers, mulching, disease and insect controls plus an introduction to other members of the Ericaceae family: blueberries, cranberries, bearberry, wintergreen, laurel, trailing arbutus, pieris, leucothoe, enkianthis, sourwood tree and Scotch heather.



Write to Correspondence Courses, 202 Agricultural Education Bldg., University Park, Pennsylvania. Send your \$1 registration fee along with your name and address.

## CHINESE HIBISCUS By Kitty M. Simpson

Exciting and rewarding are Chinese hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*). They are capable of performing beautifully for gardeners in every climate. Whether you grow them as house, greenhouse or garden plants, I am sure you will agree with me.

Their varied, exotic blooms are ideal for corsages, to float in bowls or to make into arrangements. Except in cool weather, hibiscus blooms last one day, crisp and beautiful with or without water. If they are picked early and put into the refrigerator they may be worn in the evening of the same day. When the weather is cool they last for several days. In arrangements they may be taped to wire or tree twigs to save cutting the hibiscus wood from the plant, for many of them bloom from the growing tip.

Hibiscus foliage is glossy, and of different sizes and shapes according to the variety. When small, Chinese hibiscus make lovely winter house plants. They will provide many blooms if given a sunny, warm window.

Hibiscus may be grown for several years in five-gallon containers. These may be placed so as to decorate the garden or patio during warm weather. They will take a light frost without damage, but a real freeze will kill them. When grown in larger containers, hibiscus may be wintered in a greenhouse, sunporch, or a light cellar or basement. If in a cellar, they should be watered sparingly, for often in such a location, the foliage drops and the plant will go into dormancy. In my greenhouse, with a night temperature of 45 to 50 degrees, they flower all winter.

Some hibiscus are more adapted to pot culture than others, particularly such not-so-ram-pant varieties as 'Peachblow' (luscious peach-pink with maroon at the petal base; the petal tips are frosted with pearly white), 'American Beauty' (deep rose shaded violet, with blooms 5½ inches across; floriferous, with blooms at the branch tips and along the trunk), 'Hills-o-Gold' (large, bright yellow with outer petals like crepe, stunning, peony-like flower) and 'Jigora' (large double blooms, orange with crimson and vermillion at the petal base; eye-catching and showy).

'San Diego Pink' is a larger growing hibiscus, suitable for a five-gallon can. It is known also as 'Kona,' and has huge, silvery pink, almost round blooms that show three stamens. It is a consistent bloomer, rapid grower and good as an understock for grafting other hibiscus onto. I have grown this from a rooted cutting in a three-inch pot, transferred to the garden in March, and had a well-branched plant five feet high by November of the same season!

The most exquisite of all hibiscus is *H. schizopetalus*. It comes to us from East Africa. The foliage is small and the pendent coral-pink blooms are intricately cut and reflexed, hanging from every branch tip. The utterly charming blooms look like tinkling bells; the plant is neat and almost always in bloom.

Hibiscus 'Psyche' has small foliage and is always loaded with its small, gay, single red blooms that have reflexed and ruffled petals.

Hibiscus 'Old Gold,' is a large single, golden with a throat of violet-rose color. The petals are crepe-like and altogether lovely.

These are but a few of the older but reliable hibiscus varieties that you may grow and enjoy. The larger growing hibiscus may be pot-grown, but they should be cut back to size in late fall. I used to sink my containers in the ground in spring, but now I keep them in saucers (an old garbage pail top makes a good saucer for a five-gallon container). This way I can keep them well-fed and watered. I feed them every three weeks with a balanced fertilizer, varying with foliar feeding and root feeding. By using the saucers, the roots stay in the pots. By sinking, my experience has been that the roots either come out of the drainage holes and the plants are shocked when dug for winter, or the roots plug the holes and the plants drown. Hibiscus like plenty of water, but they will not tolerate poorly drained, soggy soil.

The cuttings of most Chinese hibiscus root easily in winter when they have bottom heat. Half-ripened wood in the form of tip cuttings may be taken from May to July and rooted in any good rooting medium--clean sand, vermiculite, sand and peat or perlite. They may be air-layered at almost any time to obtain new plants. Hibiscus like humusy garden soil. They grow and bloom well in full sun or half shade. Few hibiscus are fragrant, but they are so beautiful that one forgives them this one fault.

## NEW ROSES TO ADD TO YOUR GARDEN THIS FALL

By Paul F. Frese

The big news about roses is color--not just subtle improvements that only the experts can detect, but obvious and exciting new blends and tints, refreshing pinks, clean yellows, vibrant oranges, and clear, brilliant reds!.

The trend toward improved color in roses was first evident in the four All-America Rose Selections for 1962, announced in last June's issue of Popular Gardening. It has been confirmed by the other new roses for 1962. Having watched many of these new roses perform in my own garden and having observed them in trial gardens elsewhere, I am convinced they are pace-setting novelties. So far as I know, the following varieties, grouped according to type--hybrid tea, grandiflora, floribunda, climber and miniature, comprise all the new roses offered for planting this fall. The introducer's name is given in parenthesis after the variety name.

Hybrid teas: Christian Dior (Conard-Pyle) has performed very well the past spring, matching in grand style the introducer's claim of a bright, sparkling rose-red that holds its color and does not blue. The blooms are attractive at all times, the deep red, pointed buds opening to completely double, high-centered flowers. In time, the outer petals become pointed. Plants grow upright, and stems are very long, ideal for cutting. This origination by Meilland, named after the famous fashion designer, is a 1962 All-America Selections winner, and also has received several important awards abroad.

Avon (Jackson & Perkins) produces enormous pointed buds and double blooms, and is a lively red. In spite of their great size, both the long buds and high-pointed blooms have fine form. They're held high on long stems. A mark of real distinction is its rich fragrance. The public got its first view of this rose in the Avon Products garden display at the International Flower Show in New York last March.

Rose Bowl (Jackson & Perkins) is notable for its vibrant red, double blooms, carried singly on tall, strong stems. Buds are long and pointed. The medium-green foliage is large and tinted red when young. This origination by Dennison Morey is named for California's famous annual sports classic.

Imperial Queen (C. R. Burr) is another example of the current trend toward bright, unfading red roses. The deep red in the bud changes to bright cherry-red in the open, cup-shaped flowers. This variety has inherited exceptionally large, glossy foliage from one of its parents, Queen Elizabeth.

There are still other exciting tones of red available this fall. San Francisco (Germain's) is two-toned, with petals a velvety oriental red above and cardinal red below. The over-all effect is a glowing, vibrant color. Large, glossy, dark green leaves cover the bushy medium-high plants.

The other extreme in red is found in Black Velvet (Jackson & Perkins). Its initial bud color is the deepest possible black wine-red, opening to dark velvety plum. The wide-open flowers are broad-petalled, held on long stems. To appreciate fully the deep coloring of this rose, cut the flowers and bring them indoors.

Even as clarity of color is found in new red hybrid teas this season, so also are other pure colors to be had. Memoriam (Peterson & Dering) is an outstanding pink. The depth of color will vary, according to season and prevailing temperature, says the introcer, from delicate pastel pink in summer to near-white in cool weather. Both buds and blooms have a perfect sculptured form, and everyone who has seen this rose is delighted with it.

Champagne (Howards of Hemet) is an intriguing blend of pink, yellow, apricot, and buff. Both in the long-pointed bud and open bloom, these colors are sparkling bright, not washed-out. Full-blown blooms have a center of golden stamens. Blooms come singly or in sprays. Plants are vigorous, tall, upright.

Rose Opal (Wayside), is a name that comes as close as is possible to describing the unusual color of this rose which is truly everblooming.

Far more delicate in tone is Fullcream (Wayside) whose heavy buds open into big high-centered flowers of a cream color which lightens toward the petal edges. This rose, from England, has exhibition quality and size.

(Continued in November)

THE SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
 Affiliated with the  
 MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA  
 "Every Gardener a Member"

GARDENETTES

November 1961

President	James Culcleasure	682 S. Converse St.	Spartanburg, S.C.
Active Past Pres.	Jack Lemmon	300 Springwood Dr.	"
1st Vice-Pres.	M. P. Nantz	145 Collins Ave.	"
2nd Vice-Pres.	D. H. Kennemur	618 Palmetto St.	"
Secretary	Charles Lea	1008 Greenville Hwy.	"
Treasurer	Raymond Tessmer	Box 394	"

DIRECTORS

J. P. Carlton	Chairman	Duncan Park Committee
W. O. Ezell	"	Projects Committee
R. B. Hines	"	Supplies Committee
D. H. Kennemur	"	Membership Committee
Jack Lemmon	"	Judging- Awards Committee
M. P. Nantz	"	Program Committee
Raymond Tessmer	"	Publicity Committee
Toy Westbrook	"	Industrial Beautification Committee

Monday Night, November 27th, will be the last meeting in 1961. It will be a good opportunity to meet our new members. Let us try and have a one hundred per cent meeting. This meeting is our AUCTION NIGHT, when every member brings two plants to be auctioned off for the benefit of the Treasury. Be sure to bring at least two plants for sale.

At our last meeting all officers and directors were re-elected for another year. Committees will be re-arranged for 1962. Mike Nantz, Chairman of the Program Committee, has asked for suggestions for programs to be presented during 1962. Gather your ideas together and bring them with you Monday.

There will also be a discussion on the planting for the Pine Street project. We are going to need many shrubs and plants of all kinds. Please come prepared to tell the Projects Committee what you can spare for this undertaking.

Finally, the Campaign Chairman will be prepared to give you a report on our membership campaign for the Pine Street project.

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

By

By Dr. Fred J. Nisbet

This is the big bulb planting month. Don't delay too long or they will have insufficient time to grow strong roots. Poorly rooted bulbs give small flowers on short stems and can be late in blooming.

Continue and finish your sanitation campaign. Cut peony stems at or just below the ground level. Sprinkle with bordeaux mixture to clean up botrytis blight.

Don't apply new mulches until really cold weather. Mice will set up winter quarters in mulches applied early, then eat the bark or stems of the plants.

Be sure that all evergreens go into freeze-up with plenty of moisture in the soil. Otherwise they will be burned by winter winds.

These winds will rock roses if tall shoots project above the regular bush outline, and damage the roots. Cut back errant shoots to the normal bush height, leaving final pruning until late winter or spring.

Plant roses, camellias, azaleas and the like in time for them to get settled and start root growth before hard cold sets in. Water well until they are fully established.

Check your compost pile to be sure it is not dry. Quick breakdown depends on plenty of moisture at all times. Keep the top dish-shaped, not rounded, so water will seep in rather than drain off. A separate composting of oak leaves and pine needles is decidedly worth while if you grow camellias, rhododendrons, azaleas or blueberries.

Have you planted any more holly this fall? The kind known as "Howard" is fine for the lower elevations, while "Delia Bradley" or "Cumberland" are good there and also up into the mountains. These are all American kinds. A fine species with large, dark green leaves is *Ilex latifolia*. It grows quickly into a large, beautiful shrub or multistemmed tree. Plant at least one male to every four to ten females (depending on the closeness of planting), if you want plenty of berries.

## HOW TO PREPARE YOUR GARDEN FOR WINTER

By Malcolm C. Shurtleff

Winter injury to trees and shrubs varies from complete killing to twig blight and dieback, root and bud killing, frost cracks, limb or trunk cankers, winter sunscald, leaf scorching of evergreens, crown or collar rot, "little leaf," and other abnormalities.

These injuries may weaken or wound plants, leading to attack by insects or disease.

Trees and shrubs growing in sunny, windy locations or in poorly drained soils may be injured by low temperatures, alternate freezing and thawing, or drying winter winds and sun. Plants overfed late in the season with a fertilizer high in nitrogen, or those still actively growing in late fall, are most commonly injured.

Kinds of winter injury fall into two main categories, frost injury and winter killing.

**FROST:** Severe injury or death results from freezing temperatures in the fall before plants are "hardened" by periods of moderate cold. Twigs may die back or entire trees and shrubs may be killed. Injury is most common on young plants with thin, smooth bark which continue active growth late in the fall.

**WINTER KILLING:** The type and severity of injury caused by low winter temperatures varies with the species, variety and age of plant, degree of dormancy, state of vigor, soil moisture, type and condition of root system, location, natural protection, weather conditions and many other factors.

Winter killing may be divided into three types:

**FROST CRACKS --** A sudden great drop in temperature causes vertical cracks to occur in the bark and wood of the trunk. This injury is common on many young, isolated, thin-barked trees. Cracks usually occur on the south or southwest sides of the trunk. Heat from the sun warms the bark on those sides during the day. As the temperature plunges downward during the night, great strains are set up due to unequal shrinkage between the outer and inner wood. The layers of wood then separate.

Frost cracks close in warm weather and seal up with ridges of callus growth called "frost ribs". The crack never completely closes, however, and may reopen during following winters.

**WINTER SUNSCALD OR FROST CANKERS --** Well-defined, scorched, dead areas may occur in the bark on the south or southwest sides of the trunk, exposed branches, or in the crotches of larger limbs. Winter sun causes overheating, drying out, and killing of the inner bark and cambium. Later dead bark may curl and peel off. Cankers may form at these scalded areas which are surrounded by ridges of callus growth. Young deciduous trees with smooth, thin bark are most susceptible. Such plants should be protected from both direct sunlight and that reflected from nearby light-colored walls, concrete, or ice and snow.

**LEAF SCORCHING OF EVERGREENS --** Broad-leaf and narrowleaf evergreens may be injured when cold weather is followed by warm, dry, windy periods. Extreme and rapid fluctuations in temperature are most damaging. Too much water is lost from the leaves, and cannot be replaced either because the soil is frozen making water unavailable to the roots, or because the wood in the

stem is frozen. The needles or leaves wilt, dry up, and later turn brown entirely or part way downward from the tip. Leaf margins of broadleaved evergreens look scorched. Young twigs may die back. Shallow-rooted plants growing in sunny, exposed spots where the soil is bare of snow or vegetation are most susceptible.

#### WAYS TO MINIMIZE WINTER INJURY

**Wrapping** -- Protect young trees from frost cracks and sunscald by wrapping with burlap strips, sisal-kraft paper, aluminum foil, or simply tie a six-inch board upright on the south side of the trunk.

**Painting** -- Remove dead and decayed bark from sunscald cankers or frost cracks and cover with tree paint.

**Shielding** -- Protect exposed evergreens by erecting burlap or canvas screens to shield off drying winter winds. Some states recommend covering the foliage with a "no wilt" spray such as Wilt Pruf in the autumn.

**Watering** -- Water evergreens thoroughly during the fall and early winter before applying a two-inch layer of straw, leaves, sawdust, shavings, or peat moss. Mulching helps prevent deep freezing or alternate freezing and thawing after the ground is frozen. Apply mulch after ground freezes.

**Adapting** -- Grow species and varieties of plants which are winter hardy, and are adapted to your area. Before planting, check with your nurseryman, extension horticulturist or landscape architect. Grow touchy plants in protected locations, whenever possible.

**Discouraging late growth** -- Avoid practices which encourage growth late in the season, such as large applications of high-nitrogen fertilizer from midsummer on, heavy pruning, or excess watering.

**Shading** -- Injury-prone plants may be grown where shaded from midday or late afternoon sun -- or add shade with a cheesecloth or lath screen.

**Revitalizing** -- Fertilizer and aerate the topsoil around injured plants in the spring to increase vigor. Remove dead parts.

#### NEW ROSES TO ADD TO YOUR GARDEN THIS FALL

By Paul F. Frese

(Continued from last month)

Added to the extremely short list of white hybrid teas now available is WHITE PRINCE (Peterson & Dering). It appears to have the qualities most sought for: long, slender buds and large, 50-petal, high-centered white blooms. Plants are tall and upright.

Peace has now sported a new color, salmon-pink, which has been named PEACEPORT (Wyant). Since this rose has all the characteristics of its parent, including typical Peace foliage and vigor, we can expect great things from it.

New yellow hybrid teas are getting progressively better, an example being KING'S RANSOM (Jackson & Perkins), an All-America Selections winner for 1962. It rates high in all ways: long, pointed bud, fragrant, large double, golden yellow blooms borne profusely on long stems; a tall, well-branched plant; and ample medium-green foliage which complements the color of the blooms. This rose might be called a lighter-colored, improved Golden Masterpiece, from which it was bred.

The medium-sized blooms of BANZAI (Conard-Pyle) have a gradation of petal color which runs from rich raspberry to pink, with cream at the base. Though the flowers are of average size, the low, compact plants bear abundantly. The name, in translation, means a cheer, like "hooray!" according to the introducer.

#### GRANDIFLORAS

As with hybrid teas, the red coloration of grandifloras has reached new dimensions in the 1962 novelties. The pace was set a year ago by BEN HUR (Germain's), a vivid cardinal-red with Queen Elizabeth type of upright growth and vigor, and EBONY (Peterson & Dering), with neatly formed, deep dark red blooms that come singly, or in great candelabras.

Foremost among the red grandifloras for 1962 is JOHN S. ARMSTRONG (Armstrong), an All-America Selections winner. The fact that the originator chose this rose to carry the name of the ninety-five-year-old founder of the firm is significant in itself. Here, again, is a rose with weatherproof red color, which from pointed bud to wide open double bloom, does not turn magenta, known as "bluing" a common weakness in some older varieties. The bud color is often deep, black-

maroon, becoming lively dark red as the buds open. At this writing early in July, my plants are sending up many new buds--evidence of the plant's vigor.

My first blooms of War Dance (Conard-Pyle) were as perfectly formed as those of a hybrid tea. They appeared singly, on long stems. The color is a deep, burning, orange-scarlet, often with still darker coloring at the petal edges. The color lasts for the life of the flowers. The new foliage is red.

JANTZEN GIRL (Peterson & Dering) bears clusters of bright red blooms or tall stems. They're nicely rounded, the petals elegantly waved.

#### FLORIBUNDAS

Lilli Marlene (Jackson & Perkins) is another new nonfading red rose. The bud is extremely dark, and even in the 3½-inch open blooms, some outer petals are dark maroon, intensifying the over-all dark cherry-red. The flowers are borne singly or in clusters on bushy plants.

Contrasting colors -- bright orange and gold-- make Golden Slippers (Peterson & Dering) a dazzling variety. This is one of four roses to win an All-America Selections award for 1962. It is especially suited for the foreground of rose beds, since the plants are low and bushy, and the foliage is disease-resistant.

Next spring, in gardens everywhere, the Girl Scout rose (Jackson & Perkins), bred by Eugene S. Boerner, will be planted to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. In the Girl Scout garden in Newark, New York, the plants were covered with golden buds, tipped with red, which opened to 3-inch, clear yellow, double blooms. The foliage is rich green and glossy. The bushy plants average 2 feet high. Girl Scouts and all gardeners should enjoy this rose.

La Fontaine (Conard-Pyle) makes a bright display of 4-inch, semi-double, rich yellow blooms, nicely displayed in open clusters. The flowers have an attractive background of dark green leaves which cover the compact plants.

Pink-A-Boo (Jackson & Perkins) will be available only to West Coast gardeners. I was most favorably impressed with the neat and perfect form of its buds and double blooms, a clear salmon pink which, though it lightens some with age, is always pleasant.

Angelique (Burr Nurseries) is also pink, ranging from coral to salmon. The blooms are semi-double and borne in rounded clusters on bushy plants.

Amberlight (Wayside) introduces a new color to the floribunda class, best described as a "Havana shade." The ruffled blooms are gracefully displayed in open clusters.

Few single roses are introduced these days, though they often have a distinctive beauty like that of Lilac Charm (Wayside). The open, bright, lilac flowers have a contrasting cluster of golden stamens in the center. Plants grow to average height.

Pigmy Lavender (Jackson & Perkins) meets the need for a really low, broadly spreading edging rose, with clear lavender blooms. The ample foliage is dark green.

#### CLIMBERS

The color range in climbers has now been extended with Royal Lavender (Jackson & Perkins), an everblooming variety that blooms the first year after planting on 6- to 9-foot canes. Tones of lavender-rose, dove, and warm pink are seen together in the double, fragrant flower clusters.

The ever-popular floribunda Circus has sported to give us Climbing Circus (Armstrong). Now we can enjoy all the bright tints of yellow, orange, pink, and red, blended together in each cluster of neatly-formed flowers.

-----

Don't forget the meeting place -- First Federal Savings and Loan Association Building, Civic Room, 7:30 P.M., Monday, November 27th, - Entrance at the rear.

YOUR GLOWWORM

THE SPARTANBURG MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
Affiliated with the  
MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA  
"Every Gardener a Member"

GARDENETTES

December 1961

The year 1961 has been a good year for the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club. We have had good programs and the meetings have been fairly well attended.

Some of the program highlights were: The visit to the Wardlaw Hammonds and the Rose Parade, The annual picnic with William J. Parks as guest speaker, the Auction Sale, and the visit to John Cantrell's summer home.

Some of the programs for the new year will include: January- Shrubbery and landscaping, with Mr. Taylor, of Greer; February- Mr. Dibble, of the Edisto Rose Gardens; March- Auction; April- Dr. J. Fred Nesbit, Biltmore Estate; May- Fertilizers; June- Insecticides; July- to the Wardlaw Hammonds and the Tournament of Roses; September- the annual picnic; October- Bulbs, and November- Auction night again, so plan to be present on every meeting night.

All Officers and Directors were re-elected for 1962. A list of the Officers, Directors, and all Committees is given in the Gardenettes this month. Please keep for future reference.

The regular meeting is held each fourth Monday night of each month, with the exception of the months of August and December, in the Civic Room of the First Federal Savings and Loan Building, on North Church Street, at 7:30 P.M. Bring your neighbors and increase our membership.

The Pine Street beautification project is making good progress, thanks to Mr. Ezell, and it has the promise of being the show place of the city when completed. Be sure to tell Mr. Ezell what plants and shrubs you can spare for the project.

The campaign for associate members is making headway, and as this project is going to cost money, be sure to continue your drive for members and funds.

Last, but not least, this is the month to pay your annual dues of \$5.00. Please send check or cash to Charles Lea, Secretary, 424 Montgomery Building, in order that you will not miss anything that your dues cover. Don't put this matter off, do it NOW.

Your Glowworm wishes each and every one of you the best and happiest of Christmases, and may your 1962 garden be everything you wish it to be.

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

By

Dr. Fred J. Nisbet

On a warm day check the soil around all evergreens and newly set plants. If dry, water long and deep. This will help prevent foliage burn.

At the same time check temporary shade on newly set rhododendrons, camellias, azaleas and hollies. Be sure it is large enough to give adequate protection and secure enough to stand up against the hard winds of winter.

Finish your sanitation clean-up. Burn all disease- or insect-infested materials. All clean material can go in the compost pile.

Go over all tools during periods of bad weather. Clean, sharpen and oil all sharp metal tools. Old burlap soaked in used crank case oil makes a good cleaning rag. Go over your motorized equipment too. Clean thoroughly and paint where necessary. Drain crank case and flush. Drain the gas tank too. Give the motor a tune up if you are handy, or send it to your dealers for a general overhaul. Most important, look for worn parts and replace to prevent breakdowns during the spring rush season.

Clean sprayers with warm water plus four tablespoons washing soda per gallon. Let this stand in tank and hose before flushing oil washers.

If you have delayed bulb planting it is not too late to get them in. Stems will be a bit short and bloom late, but that is better than a spring without bulbs!

Check all mulches and pull them slightly away from the stems of plants. Mice are active in such warm quarters and they can girdle an apple tree or prize holly very quickly. Spray with a good repellent if rabbits are around. Use this on azaleas, too, for rabbits and especially deer.

Although this is not the preferred time for pruning, you can prune hollies and many evergreens late in the month. Of course, the idea is to use the prunings for Christmas decorations. Select carefully the branches to be cut, so that plants will be improved in shape and bushiness. Better yet, if you have a little-used corner in an out-of-the way part of the garden, plant a few choice evergreens just for this purpose.

\*\*\*\*\*

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1962

OFFICERS

President	James Culcleasure	682 S. Converse Street,	Spartanburg, S. C.
Active Past Pres.	Jack Lemmon	300 Springwood Drive	"
1st Vice-Pres.	M. F. Nantz	145 Collins Ave.	"
2nd Vice-Pres.	D. H. Kennemur	618 Palmetto St.	"
Secretary	Charles Lea	1008 Greenville Hwy.	"
Treasurer	Raymond Tessmer	Box 394	"

DIRECTORS

J. P. Carlton	W. O. Ezell	R. B. Hines
D. H. Kennemur	Jack Lemmon	M. P. Nantz
Raymond Tessmer	Toy Westbrook	

COMMITTEES

PINE STREET:

J. P. Carlton, Chairman	W. G. Gowan	W. O. Ezell	Charles Lea
Jack Lemmon		Charles P. Patillo	Claude Sherrill

PROJECTS:

W. O. Ezell, Chairman	Jack Lemmon	Charles Lea
-----------------------	-------------	-------------

SUPPLIES AND SALES:

R. B. Hines, Chairman	F. L. Arnold	M. G. Davenport
Montgomery Oates	Bill Nash	

MEMBERSHIP:

D. H. Kennemur, Chairman	John Cantrell	Wallace Cantrell	Leonard Cuthie,
George Drummond,	Cecil Haney	Wm. M. Miller	W. F. Mobley
	T. G. White	Warren Robertson	



WINNING AND AWARDS:

Jack Lemmon, Chairman

George F. Ladd

Wm. B. Littlejohn

PROGRAM:

M. P. Nantz, Chairman

L. T. Lister

J. M. Culcleasure

G. B. Smith

George D. Johnson

PUBLICITY:

Raymond G. Tessmer, Chairman

Glen Naves

Bill Nash

NEGRO DIVISION, GENERAL HOSPITAL:

Charles Lea, Chairman

Paul Parks

R. B. Hines

YARD OF THE MONTH:

Claude A. Sherrill, Chairman

Henry Thompson  
Robert L. Dargan

Cecil Haney

CAMELLIA:

Wardlaw Hammond, Chairman  
F. L. Arnold

C. Y. Brown  
R. B. Hines

Tom Butler  
Toy Westbrook

ROSE SHOW:

M. P. Nantz, Chairman  
W. F. Mobley

R. E. Kimmell  
Karl Selden

Jack Lemmon

YOUR GLOWWORM