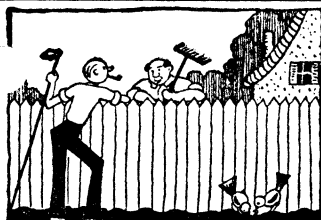


THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAP

MEMBER—MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA

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Jack Cohen, Editor

MINNESOTA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 1946
Ed Montgomery, Associate Editor

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APRIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 9th
Place: Fountain Terrace,
Medical Arts Eldg.

PROGRAM

5:30 P.M. Dinner
6:30 Announcements
6:35 "Bedding Plants & Arrangements,"
Gregory Lucking
7:00 "Control of Weeds with 2,4-D,"
A. H. Larson
7:30 "Production and Preparation of
Flowers for a Show," Bill Holm-
berg
7:45 "Recommended Vegetables,"
Bill Swain
8:15 "Musts for April" A Member.
Questions & Answers - Walter
Menzel

Directors

Archie Flack
Herbert Kahlert
Harold Kaufmann
Ed Montgomery
Fred Paul

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

. . . The Sweet Pea Committee met at lunch at Harry's Cafe on Thursday, March 14th. It is probable that they will make a report at the next meeting.

. . . Forty-eight attended the March meeting of the Men's Garden Club. This is a good percentage of the membership.

. . . Green seems to be the favorite color of our new officers. Our new roster came in green and the membership labels are in green. Seems like a logical color to select for a garden club, doesn't it? Incidentally, the Secretary and President are to be complimented on the completeness of the roster as well as of the program

. . . Some of the guests at the last meeting were Herbert G. Spencer, K. F. Spielman and Grant Gregory. Also the son of Mr. Wright, whose name we did not catch.

. . . We are happy to welcome as a new member Mr. Corbett of the Northrup-King Co. We are sure to be the gainers by his membership and we hope he speaks up at meetin' whenever the occasion arises.

. . . A copy of a folder on Sperguson, a seed protendant, was distributed at the last meeting. The product is for making fungicidal sprays and dusts and the folder indicates it is distributed by Bof-

NEW PLANTS WORTH TRYING

Jack Cohen

The Editor had the pleasant task of following in the steps of the Assistant Editor, Ed Montgomery, who talked on a similar subject at the February meeting. Some of the recommendations and suggestions offered were the following:

Try Vermiculite. It is comparable to the Mica-Gro put out by the Breck Company of Boston. It is sterile, exploded mica and is excellent for seed germination and the rooting of cuttings. It is low in price and is usually available at building supply houses.

Chrysanthemums. Minnesota seems to be the leader in nursery catalogs seemingly replacing in popularity the peony which brought a national reputation to the State. This is due, of course, to the fine work of Dr. Longley, Dr. Alderman, and other members of the horticulture department of the Farm School, who did so much good work in developing a chrysanthemum that will bloom early and be frost resistant.

A new type of chrysanthemum that seems to be popular is the English chrysanthemum. It grows well in Canada and in the Pacific Northwest and has rich color and large blooms of the florist type quality. In the East, commercial growers grow it outdoors for the florist trade. When disbudded, the bloom may grow up to 4" in width. It is not too hardy and has to be moved to the cold frame in Winter. There is a question that time will only answer as to whether it will bloom early enough for Minnesota gardens.

Marigold - Real Gold - won the bronze medal in 1945. The Flash Marigold won the silver medal in 1945.

Gladiolus - try the small types developed by Arthur Koerner of St. Paul Park.
Stock - branching - will bloom from June to frost.

The Jap Peony and Jap Iris are both novelties that are not seen often enough in the garden. The Jap Iris is the Summer Iris and usually blooms in July. It does need a lot of moisture, however.

Dumbarton Oaks Mixture. A mixture of annuals put out by Breck, can be scattered in a broadcast fashion and will give new and unusual varieties of flowers that you probably haven't seen before.

Hibiscus. Hardy, exotic and perennial if grown in full sun. Not enough hibiscus are planted in this area.

Ray Lilies now come in red, rose, purple and bicolors.

Glione - Pink Queen - won the silver medal in 1943 and is a showpiece in a garden.

Vegetables

Try a hybrid garden in your vegetable patch this year. For tomatoes, you can try planting either the Fordhook or the Burpee, which are both recent novelties. Another new hybrid is the Burpee Cucumber; and, while we are speaking of hybrids, you might try the Tetra Snapdragons, also produced by Burpee.

Color in the vegetable garden. Give a little life and color to the vegetable garden by using odd and unusual colors in the standard vegetables. Yellow tomatoe - Mingold - less acid in taste than most yellows. Yellow tomatoe - Jubilee - good, but does not give a large crop. Purple-leaf cabbage; purple-leaved corn; purple cauliflower. Purple and red beans. Ruby chard.

Midget vegetable garden. For a novelty, try growing some of the new midget vegetables. Midget watermelon; midget bush cucumber (grown on a small bush and developed at the University of Minnesota). Tiny Tim Tomatoe. Golden Midget Corn.

MARCH WAS ROSE MONTH

The month of March was a good one for absorbing knowledge about the growing of roses. Dr. Allen, secretary of the American Rose Society, was in Minneapolis to talk to the members of the Minnesota Rose Society on the growing of roses. Charlie Doell attended the meeting and made a good report to the members of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis.

Here are some of the things that Charlie told us:

If you are a true Rosarian, you will want to become a member of the Minnesota Rose Society, of which our good friend, Dr. Longley is secretary and treasurer and our own member, Mr. Wilcox, is president. It costs only \$1 a year to become a member of this fine group. This membership includes bulletins on roses, as well as subscription to the Minnesota Horticulturist.

If you just want to grow roses and are not fussy about names, there is no harm in getting roses called bench roses at around \$2 a dozen. These are usually available from the Minneapolis Floral Co. Such roses are only for beginners, for after you get the rose-growing bug, you will want to have the name varieties.

A few points on the selection of name

varieties: (1) Avoid recent introductions. They are not good for the rose beginner and are usually expensive and a gamble; (2) Start with the tried and true varieties. Some are Gruss au Top-litz; Radiance; Etoile de Holland - good red; President Hoover - good bicolor; V for Victory - a good yellow; and Eclipse - another good yellow.

Try the floribunda roses for they will give blooms all through the Summer and, while they are smaller in size and not so spectacular in appearance, the satisfaction that comes from steady blooming during the Summer months and their hardiness make it worthwhile to have some in the garden. They are easier to grow than are the hybrid tearoses.

A few safe floribunda varieties are El-sie Poulsen, Lafayette, Permanent Wave, Betty Prior.

Climbers are difficult for the beginner and the simplest one is the Dorothy Perkins, but even this is hard to grow.

Taking care of roses is not too difficult a job as long as the job is done regularly and with good care and judgment. Sulfur in powdered form will take care of mildew, and sulfur combined with Fermate will usually take care of those ugly black spots - the bane of the rose-grower.

COLD FRAMES AND THEIR IMPORTANCE

Our good friend, Henry Latham, gave us a running comment on the place of the cold frame in the home gardening picture. Henry knows so much about the subject that the most good from his talk came during the time when the members asked questions. Cold frames are important because you may add up to a month to the blooming period

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: How are the roses in International Falls? (Addressed to Mr. Spielman.)

Answer: A good garden soil with rotted manure or peat.

Answer: We planted 257 varieties because everyone wants to raise roses in our town. The best rose for us is the Hansa Rugosa. We get 16 hours of sunshine in July and August, so we trim to the third bud every 3 years. We find that the finest shrub rose is Amelia, which is grown only by Rosehill Nursery. Grass au Peplitz blooms continuously until frost. Pink and red Radiance are runners-up in popularity. We find that the secret of growing roses is to keep them dry in Winter.

Question: How about the All-American Garden?

Answer: We will have one at Lyndale Park this year.

Question: How should spirea warpus be trimmed?

Answer: Cut to the ground in the Spring.

Question: Is hibiscus a perennial?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Should roses be planted deeper than the graft?

Answer: Yes. About two inches below.

Question: How can I get rid of chickweed in the lawn?

Answer: Use elbow grease.

Question: What is a good soil for potting roses?

Question: How deep do you plant amaryllis?

Answer: Four inches.

A VISITOR FROM INTERNATIONAL FALLS

We were treated to an interesting talk by Mr. Spielman of International Falls, who was our guest for the evening and who developed into a delightful source of information. He came here as a guest of Mr. Corbett and told us that gardening was his avocation, although judging by his knowledge of it, it would seem to be a vocation.

He told us what the paper industry, in the person of the Minnesota & Ontario Paper Co., did for the town in landscaping and encouraging their employees to become garden conscious. As a result, the town was beautified and many of the workmen became interested in this civic project. They feel that they have the finest city, from landscaping standpoint, in the U.S. Their chief problem in International Falls is sunscald - not snow or heat. The long sun cycle tends to give a brighter bloom and sparkle in their flowers, particularly roses and delphiniums, than we get down here.

"MUSTS" FOR MARCH

As preached by Herb Kahlert

Bishop was out of town and unable to take his usual assignment, so Herb Kahlert helped out with his ideas of what to do in March. Here is what he advises:

1. Get your manure now and use it as quickly as you can.
2. Get tuberous begonias at once and put them in for the first setting.
3. Get a good spot planned for your sweet peas; start in paper pots.
4. Get some roses if you haven't already ordered them. The Subzero type raised by Brownell is now available at the Lynnhurst Nursery or Gould's in St. Paul.
5. Sow grass as soon as snow is gone.
6. The last call to trim old wood off shrubbery, trees and hedges.
7. Plan and plant for our June flower show if we decide to have one.
8. Get cinders and rocks for drainage.
9. Select seed.
10. Start things in a cold frame now such as pansies, ageratum, lettuce.
11. Take the mulch off the tulips.
12. Start delphiniums and other perennials.