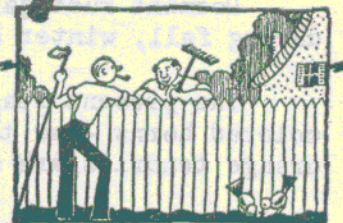




# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Member--Men's Garden Clubs of America • Minnesota State Horticultural Society



June 1962  
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G. Victor Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors  
Wm. H. Hull, Neil Barry  
Otto Nelson

## June Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 12, 1962  
Place: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church  
Knox Avenue at W. 50th  
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp  
Price: \$1.75

## Officers

N. W. Christopherson President  
Ev Haedecke Vice-Pres.  
Dwight Stone Secretary  
Charles Proctor Treasurer

Office of the Secretary  
4620 Hampton Road

## P R O G R A M

Christmas Lake, above and below water - An illustrated talk by Hibbert Hill, Chief Engineer, Northern States Power Company.

Member's Vignettes - Brief talks by members on projects for 1962.

Jerry Olson  
Frank Vixo

Gar Anderson

Otto Nelson  
Dwight Stone

### MOWER POWER TO ME!

Recalling how I spread those pounds  
Of fertilizer on our grounds;  
How I extracted every weed,  
And lavishly sowed clover seed;  
Recalling how each dusk and dawn  
I sprinkled all that sprouting lawn,  
And how I prayed for it to grow,  
And how it did, and how I mow,  
With three-day intervals 'twixt cuts,  
I heard it to say: I was nuts!



## CEDAR-APPLE RUST APPEARS AGAIN

Cedar-apple rust time is here again.

Dormant rust galls up to two inches in diameter have been on cedar trees during fall, winter and early spring.

The present stage of the disease is spectacular. Gelatinous orange colored horns - or tendrils - grow out of the galls. Galls with a mass of the orange tendrils are sometimes called "cedar flowers."

As the tendrils dry, spores are released and float away on the wind. Those landing on young apple trees and apple fruit may cause infection, resulting in lower yields and damaged apples. The disease does little damage to the cedar.

Herbert G. Johnson, extension plant pathologist at the University of Minnesota, says rust spores will travel as far as a quarter of a mile from cedar to apple. Removing galls from cedar trees would help protect apples - if done over a wide area. But it does little good to remove them from only a few trees.

If there's a chance of rust damage, spray apple trees with ferbam or zineb fungicide at pink and petal fall stages of bloom. If the blossom period is long, due to cool weather, spray again at full bloom, but in no case include an insecticide in this application.

On untreated apple leaves the rust spots will appear in late summer as yellow spots with red centers. Infected apples will have green, rough areas, usually at the end opposite the stem.

For more information on cedar-apple rust, ask for Plant Pathology Fact Sheet No. 4, "Cedar-Apple Rust," at the Institute of Agriculture, U of M., St. Paul 1.

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP - PHOTOGRAPHY

By L. W. (Les) Johnson

As flower gardeners we all derive a great deal of pleasure from our borders. During the growing season we can enjoy the changing colors and patterns from Spring to Fall. But this beauty is short lived and soon is only a memory.

But you can capture and preserve this beauty through color photography, to continue to enjoy month after month whenever you wish to recall it. A good color slide is almost as enjoyable as the real thing. So it seems most natural that the hobby gardener should also be a hobby photographer.

This is the reason for the Photography Special Interest group. Our Club is fortunate in having several experienced photographers who have been willing to share their knowledge of how to take good pictures. For over a year a group has been meeting once a month to learn how to get the best results from their cameras.

It is not necessary to own expensive equipment to take good pictures, but it is necessary to know how to use it effectively. With Eng Hoyme, PW Young, Vern Roufs and Bob Sicora as instructors, the group is learning how to improve the quality of the pictures they take.



### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

You can join this group any time by calling Eng Hoyme, Chairman or Fred Paul, Secretary. Meetings are held one evening a month at the home of one of the members. After a discussion of the topic of the night, slides are shown and suggestions made as to how they might be improved. Topics that have been discussed range from the simple mechanics of your particular camera through the more technical fields such as the use of filters.

Past and future meetings take up and discuss such things as different types of lens and shutters, depth of field, lighting, composition, light meters, use of flash light reflectors, filters, etc. One or more field trips will be made at which actual experience in taking good pictures will be demonstrated.

Those who have been in the program since the start are all now taking better pictures and getting more pleasure out of their slides as a result. You will probably see the improvement in slides shown at future Christmas Parties. If you want to improve your pictures we would be glad to have you join the group.

### PRUNING IMPORTANT IN FRUIT PRODUCTION

For success in growing fruit in the home garden, it's necessary to learn proper pruning techniques, reports T. S. Weir, Ass't Supt. Univ. Fruit Breeding Farm.

- Thin out old wood and excess new wood in currants and gooseberries.
- Remove old canes and thin new canes in raspberries.
- Prune grapes to 40 buds or less on weaker growing varieties.

Strawberries well adapted to planting in Minnesota gardens include Earlimore and Trumpeter, June-bearing varieties, and O'gallala, Gem or Superfection, ever-bearing varieties. Cyclone, a large-fruited, attractive June bearer, should also be worth planting in the home garden. Latham continues to be the standard raspberry for Minnesota gardens.

### RIGHT PLANTINGS WILL ATTRACT BIRDS

If you want to attract birds to your garden, plant trees and shrubs with "bird appeal" ----- varieties that will provide food and shelter for the birds.

Ornamental flowering carbapples, especially the Radiant and Flame varieties, have special appeal to birds because of the small fruits that hang on the tree and provide food throughout the winter. Migratory birds are also attracted to the fruit of these trees. Among other shrubs which have seeds or berries which birds find edible Phillips suggested viburnums, dogwoods, cotoneasters and highbush cranberries. The mountain ash, Russian olive and the mulberry are small trees which birds especially like the horticulturist said.

by R. A. Phillips, Ass't Prof. of Hort,  
Univ. of Minn., Univ. Short Course



## WHAT AN AUCTION! SUCH FUN!

The boys really went all out in making our annual plant auction one of the smoothest running auctions we had ever held and certainly the most entertaining.

Am sure everybody enjoyed themselves and whether they bought anything or not felt well rewarded for having participated.

The spinning wheel, the "surprise" lots auctioned, the cute little girls with their give-a-ways and the older females impersonations who followed later added to the merriment of the occasion.

All in all, it proved to be a highly successful party and from all reports financially satisfactory. To the donors of material, the auctioneers, the auctioneer helpers, the actors and actresses and to all those who planned both the dinner and the auction we say most gratefully, "thank you."

## WILL GARDENERS NEED A GEIGER COUNTER?

Bob Adams is the source of a news release dealing with irradiated bulbs, shrubs and roses.

Gladioli bulbs, rose of Sharon, climbing and hybrid tea roses are being marketed this spring from Mentor Nurseries, Mentor, Ohio. Irradiation was done at New York Central Research Laboratories, Cleveland, Ohio. Sani-Speed Manufacturing Co., 1364 East 47th Street, Cleveland 3, Ohio are distributors.

One the market this fall will be crocuses, tulips, hyacinths and daffodils.

Gamma rays were first used by the Atomic Energy Commission in irradiating seeds that produced sports.

Grains, grasses and vegetables were used in early tests at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Subsequent experiments produced roses eight feet tall with four differently colored blooms. Marigolds reached a height of ten feet while glads attained six or more feet.

The element of surprise is a factor with all irradiated plant material as regards both size and color. Experimenters are now working on long-range projects in an effort to seek out some of the possibilities with cherries, peaches and blueberries.

Tree crops will require years of experimentation because of the uncertainty of effects of gamma rays on the slower growing trees.

Other companies may be expected to arrange for irradiation of plant materials as there is no monopoly on this process.



## MY VENTURE WITH LILIES FOR MANY YEARS

by Arthur J. Fakler

Like most avid gardeners, you could probably consider me as gullible as the proverbial public referred to in Barnum & Bailey's time.

If a new lily was heralded as something sensational and out of this world, it would plague me until I possessed it. It didn't seem to make any difference how the lily would fare in our area or how accurately the color was described. If the bulbs disappeared by the following spring, you just took it in stride. The lily grower had you convinced of the hardness and the infallibility of his bulbs, so the loss must naturally be your fault. It didn't dawn upon me that they were located in the most favorable propagating areas of the Pacific northwest.

Over twenty years ago lilies were just beginning to come into prominence. My first purchases included one group of regales and then the comparatively new aurelian strain of Heart's Desire. Both varieties are extremely fragrant and very hardy. It is a gorgeous fragrance of these lilies. The following year Centifoliums White Trumpets; Centifoliums-Select Trumpets; Speciosum-Red Champion; Speciosum-Album Novem (white); Auratum Platyphylum and Madonna lilies were added. My experience with the Speciosum and Auratum groups was rather disappointing. I could not bring the Speciosum when I tried them again. The first season they attained their normal height; the second year about half the normal height and finally the third year they disappeared. Auratums did not seem to develop at all into full maturity and even after importing bulbs from a Canadian grower my luck did not improve. The Madonna lilies gave me about three years of good blooms and delicious fragrance, but after each season a goodly number of bulbs would disintegrate, no doubt from mosaic and mite disease. After the third year I discontinued them entirely.

Having heard so much about Jan De Fraaff's originations with the Enchantment and other Mid-Century varieties, I purchased some of each. This group is very disease free, hardy and very vigorous but in a relatively short time will over run all allotted space. The Enchantment was publicized as a red but to me it was just another orange color, which I do not care for in lilies and I have since discarded it. I did not care for the Mid-Century lilies as they seemed to be too heavy stemmed. The tall, wiry Talisman also was too orangy and was discarded. After discarding the Mid-Century group, I replaced them with two varieties called Cherokee and Valiant, which were classed as reds but of a deeper shade than Enchantment. Valiant has a slightly more glossy red appearance than the Cherokee and the flowers face slightly skywards. All of the lilies mentioned in this paragraph do not have any fragrance.

My next addition of non-fragrant lilies, consisted of the Havemeyer Hybrids and Klines Golden Harvest varieties. Both of these lilies are very disease free, but tall growers, usually from six to eight feet high. They make excellent background plantings and the colors range from a beautiful light cream to deep chrome yellow, with open flaring blossoms of a luminous sheen. I added the T. S. Havemeyer Clones - Yellow Clarion and Aurelian - Yellow Trumpets for additional fragrance. Running true to form all of the aurelian strain of lilies have proven extremely hardy, vigorous and disease free.



MANIPULATING NATURE - Reprinted from the Wall Street Journal

Researchers here are hotly pursuing a mysterious benefactor of mankind - a light-sensitive compound, contained in most plants, that's known to control plant growth from germination of seeds to coloring of fruit.

Once the scientists can isolate and identify this elusive substance, they may be able to tamper with nature by spraying plants with chemicals specially designed to speed up or slow down the work of the growth control compound. They may be able to breed new plant strains with made-to-order sensitivity to light. Some startling possibilities may emerge. Among them:

Superplants - including food and fiber producers - that grow several times as fast as usual. As a sample of what might result, reserachers through extra doses of artificial light, already have shot a six-year-old loblolly pine tree to a height of 18 feet, while a normal tree of the same age stands only two feet tall.

Plants that yield fruit or flowers practically on demand. Now by interrupting the nightly sleep of a cocklebur plant with blazing light, the scientists have kept it from flowering, even though it has grown a full four feet tall, while a normal cocklebur, only eight inches high, has flowered and turned brown. By giving the frustrated plant one full night of darkness, the researchers say they can permit it to begin budding.

Plants adapted to grow healthily far from their native regions. By retarding budding for several weeks until frost danger is past, or by breeding later blooming varieties, peach trees might be safely grown in places where short growing seasons make success chancy now.

Knowledge of this reversible reaction opened the way last June to recording of it. A researcher took a ball of ground-up corn; corn was chosen merely as a handy, abundant medium for test work. He jammed the ball onto a lens-like device, flattened it into a thin layer and placed the lends in a spectophotometer, an instrument designed to compare brightness of varying colors by measuring their wave lengths.

A beam of bright red light was shot through the substance; reflecting the amount of light that passed through, an indicator moved along a track, inscribing an ink line. Then a beam of far red was flashed on the mushy material; instead of continuing on its trask, the scribe truded back to the starting point and stayed there. The scientists concluded that the ball of corn contained the mystery compound. Nothing else, they say, would explain why two lights which affected growth in differing ways would be absorbed to different extents.

Dr. Byron T. Show, the Government's farm research chief, calls the measuring and recording of this reaction the most important gain in plant research in a quarter-century. And now the scientists are looking ahead to new breakthroughs.

This much is already known: The substance is a pigment; it must be blue, because in the spectophotometer test it wholly or partly absorbed red light, as blue materials do. It's undoubtedly a protein because it satisfies protein tests, such as coagulating at a certain temperature in hot water.



## MANIPULATING NATURE (Cont'd)

In the protein test, the corn plant was crushed into liquid form, then placed in water. The part of the solution that did not coagulate was then subjected to the solution, indicating that the mystery compound was in the part of the solution that had coagulated.

The compound has a name. "We call it phytochrome - plant color," says Dr. Harry A. Brothcock, group leader in the plant physiologist laboratory here at Beltsville.

## THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU

They all go to the Lucky Buck Fun Auction Committee who really staged a fun auction to end all fun auctions.

Bob Smith and his committee of Bud Christenson, Dale Durst, Bill Swanson and others explored all angles of hilarity to make the affair an exciting evening.

Really all the "Thank You's" do not go to the Committee, as many of them belong to those who grew or donated the material for the auction, such as Si Rutherford, Bob Bryant, Dick & Roger, Lloyd & Henry and Bob & Larry - even more - Joe, Fred, Bill, P. W., Les, Morrie, Doc, Chris, Sherm, Al, Jerry and on and on.

To these people perhaps even more "Thank You's" than the committee.

Not to be forgotten is the member or guest with the open purse, he too deserves many a "Thank You" because without him we do not have an auction.

Others to receive a big "Thank You" are Bob Adams and his Grub Committee, the Auctioneers, Haedecke, Doc Stillman, Eng Hoyme, the Washer Women and of course the lovely Flower Girls from N.S.P.

So to everybody - even if your name wasn't mentioned - you are the ones who made the Fun Auction successful.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

## CANKERWORM INFESTATIONS REPORTED

A heavy infestation of cankerworms is at work on a variety of Minnesota shade trees, according to John Lofgren, extension entomologist.

Cankerworms are slender "inch worms." Their favorite foods are the leaves of elm, basswood and apple trees. But they will also attack maple, box elder, oak and other trees. Heavy infestations can cause almost complete defoliation.

Cankerworms can be controlled now by spraying the trees with DDT or methoxychlor. Use two tablespoons of 50 percent wettable powder per gallon of water. Treating shade trees will require power sprayers which develop enough pressure to cover the entire tree.