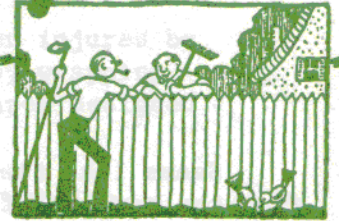




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



November 1963
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G. Victor Lowrie, Editor

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

November Meeting

Date: November 12, 1963
Place: Mount Olivet Church
50th Street and Knox Avenue South
Time: 5:45 p.m.
Price: \$1.75

Officers

Ev. Haedecke	President
Dwight Stone	Vice-Pres.
G. R. Christenson	Secretary
Charles Proctor	Treasurer

Office of the Secretary
8300 Sheridan Ave. S.

PROGRAM

Election of Officers

Home Landscaping - Herb Baldwin of
Landscape Architect Associates

- Question and Answer Period -

Round-Table Discussion - Roses

Hybrid Teas - Jerry Olson	Grandiflora - Fred Holzman
Floribunda - Carl Holst	Climbers - Ron Twite

Dues are due NOW! Included with the "Spray" is your dues statement. Please do the club a favor by returning this statement to our treasurer with your \$10.00 immediately.

We need to bring our Club Roster up-to-date. Please help us by completely filling in the bottom portion of the statement. Please check it over carefully before returning to the Treasurer. The roster cannot be issued until all dues are paid. Also, remittances to the Minn. State Hort. Society and MGCA are due January 1. All dues should be paid by December 15, 1963.

WINTER ROSE PROTECTION

Seems like there are as many different ways of protecting roses from the ravages of winter as there are varieties of roses. I guess it depends upon how many you have; how they are planted; and the natural protection afforded from the wintry elements.

Some gardeners dig them up and completely bury them; others loosen the soil on one side of the root, bend the plants over and cover them with soil; still others loosen the roots sufficiently to allow the plant to lie on the surface of the ground, and then cover the plants with leaves up to eight inches deep, when packed.

Now if you have a lot of roses, a weak back and not too many trees to provide sufficient leaves, what does one do to cover them?

First and foremost, keep your roses healthy. It's a little late to attend to that now, if you haven't taken good care of them during the growing season. This means that if you should have any sickly ones, you might as well discard them now, for the chances of their surviving the winter and amounting to anything next year are practically nil.

Next, give your roses their last spraying or dusting with an anti-mildew preparation followed with lime sulphur.

Before the ground freezes hard, hill them up to about ten inches with good clean soil. It is better to add additional soil for this purpose rather than scraping it up from between the plants.

Then after a heavy freeze, cover the plants with marsh hay.

It is not necessary to cut them back except for the very high ones which might get whipped by the wind; neither is it necessary to tie the canes of each shrub.

Climbing roses do need special treatment. Take down the canes, lie them flat on the ground; sprinkle them with poisoned wheat; then wrap them in burlap sacking. Following a heavy freeze, give them a liberal coverage of marsh hay.

All that is left to do is to hope for a heavy covering of snow that will last all winter long. Good luck!

SLIDES FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

To enable P. W. Young to organize the select slides of your garden, they must go to him right away. Either bring them to the November meeting or mail now to "P.W."

WINTER PROTECTION OF TREES AND SHRUBS

Newly-planted shade, ornamental and fruit trees are often injured by sun-scald during the winter months. This can be prevented by wrapping the trunks from the ground up loosely with burlap or with paper designed for the purpose.

If you are troubled with rabbits or mice, place a wire netting around young trees, especially young fruit trees. Anchor the netting to the ground so that mice cannot work their way underneath, and run the wire high enough to be out of reach of rabbits - they can stretch pretty high when hungry.

THE WINDUP

Finish planting your tulips - you still have plenty of time until the ground freezes too hard to break.

Cut all perennials with long canes or stalks back within six inches of the ground.

A warning from the University of Minnesota says:

Don't put the winter mulch on your ornamentals too soon.

Wait until we've had a hard freeze or two and the plants are dormant.

Practically all perennials will benefit from a mulch. It not only protects them from extreme cold but also from the damage that results from alternate freezing and thawing in early spring. And don't forget to mulch the bulbs you planted this fall.

Pull out all annuals and clean away all dead foliage.

In other words, clean up every inch of your yard, and you will have less disease trouble come spring.

Put your tools away cleaned and well oiled.

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We are sorry to report that Dr. Fred Rodda is at this writing still too ill to receive visitors.

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PRUNING ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND TREES

A recent issue of ARNOLDIA, the bulletin of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, put forth some rather interesting facts pertaining to pruning:

WHEN TO PRUNE

Pruning can be done almost any time except in the early summer. Shrubs are divided into two groups, those that bloom in the early spring which might be pruned after they flower; and secondly, plants that bloom on the current year's wood and which can be pruned in the late winter or early spring. Trees are usually pruned in the late winter and early spring (with the exception of those that "bleed" profusely like the birch and maple); for at this time, before the leaves appear, it is much easier to see which branches should be removed, and also it gives the tree the entire spring and summer to form new growth.

WHAT TO PRUNE

1. Dead, broken or diseased branches.
2. Broken roots and one-third of the branches at transplanting time. Some roots are always cut when a plant is dug. A good general rule is to remove about one-third of the total linear branch length when the plant is moved by thinning out weak or damaged branches and correcting structural defects. This compensates for the loss of roots which have been cut in the transplanting operation, and always results in more vigorous plants at the end of the first year.
3. Young trees should be pruned early. Timely corrective pruning saves trouble later. If the tree is one that normally has a single trunk, see that only one straight trunk develops and cut out any others that try to grow. Occasionally, several branches grow out from the trunk at the same place and these will always make weak crotches. All but one should be removed. Sometimes young shrubs should be "headed back" a bit to force them to grow more branches from the base. Know how the tree or shrub will develop at maturity, and help it in early life by selecting the proper leaders, removing the others, if necessary.

PRUNING ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND TREES

(Continued)

4. Correct structural defects. Never allow two equally vigorous leaders to develop on exactly opposite sides of the same trunk. This will always be a "weak" crotch, susceptible to splitting as the tree grows older. It may spoil the symmetry of the entire tree when this happens.
5. Cut suckers from the bases of grafted or budded plants. Many plants used in gardens such as roses, crab apples, lilacs and fruit trees, are either grafted or budded on another kind of understock. Usually, this is never more than a foot or so from the ground. Hence, all suckers developing below this point should be removed as soon as they are observed; for if allowed to develop, they will not only spoil the symmetry of the plant and sap the strength of the variety wanted, but will develop into an entirely different and usually undesirable plant.
6. Rejuvenate old shrubs. A mock orange, privet, lilac, spirea, or many another shrub may grow too tall and become open and ungainly at the base. Most shrubs can be rejuvenated in one of two ways: either by cutting the entire shrub to 6" above the ground in the early spring and allowing it to develop as a new plant; or by thinning out the old wood, cutting some of the older branches off near the ground and allowing new ones to form, then repeating the process with a few more of the older branches the second and third years.
7. Hedges, screens and windbreaks. These should be pruned with the objective of increasing their density, for if a twig is cut back a few inches, it frequently sends out more than one new shoot to take the place of the one removed. This growth habit of plants can be utilized to force them to grow more densely.
8. Certain limbs for utility purposes. The lower limbs of street trees, or limbs that interfere with a certain view, walk, window or wire must sometimes be removed.
9. Girdling root. Close observation of the base of poor-growing trees often discloses a girdling root; that is, a root partly on the surface of the soil or just beneath that is growing in such a way as to choke or constrict the trunk of the tree or a larger root. Such girdling roots can do real harm and usually should be cut as near as possible to the trunk of the tree, or at least at the point where they are doing the damage.

(To be continued in December "Spray")