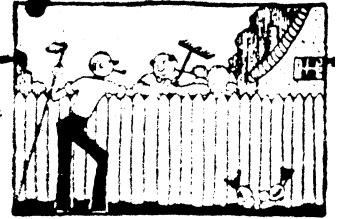




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

Member--Mens Garden Clubs of America • Minnesota State Horticultural Society



August 1976, Volume 34, Number 8

TWO EVENTS THIS MONTH. PLAN TO ATTEND BOTH.

1. Saturday, August 21st: A BIG FAMILY DAY AT THE ARBORETUM.
(Show your membership card or let the gateman know you are a MGCM member for free admission.)
 - 8:30 - 11:30 Enter specimens in show competition. (Posters will tell you location of display area.)
 - 11:30 - 1:00 Lunch. Bring a picnic lunch or take advantage of the Arboretum lunchroom. (Get there early to avoid the crowd.)
 - 1:00 - 2:00 Men's Garden Club meeting in Education Building lounge. Remarks by Dr. Jim Ozbun, Head, Department of Horticulture, U. of Minn. Dr. Snyder will then show slides of and discuss trees for Minnesota to be seen in the Arboretum collection.
 - 2:00 Coffee and dessert. Price \$1.00.
 - 2:30 View the Flower and Vegetable Show.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MGCM MEMBER EXHIBITORS are attached to this issue of the GARDEN SPRAY. Please note that only official containers are to be used for flower specimens but that you supply your own paper plates for vegetable exhibits. Those wishing to arrange their flowers at home may obtain containers from:

SOUTH AREA: Darwin Price, 6739 15th Ave. S. 866-7760

NORTH AREA: Walter Schmidt, 2600 Lee Ave. N. 588-3469

For those unable to make the show but who would like to enter specimens these may be prepared at home and Dale Durst will deliver them to the Arboretum. Contact Dale, 6108 Oaklawn Ave., 922-6685 before the 21st.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUTH GARDENERS are also attached to this issue of the GARDEN SPRAY. Scour the neighborhood, fellows, for the kid or youth with a vegetable garden. Get him to enter an exhibit under your sponsorship. What kid won't cherish a ribbon and there'll be lots of them? Then there's always that \$10.00 for the two lucky top winners. So it's up to you. Never let a child's gardening efforts go unrecognized.

Since this will be a show to attract youth competition and since some wives and children normally help members enter and display their specimens, we want to emphasize that wives, children, family, friends are welcome to come and share in the day at the Arboretum. In fact we encourage and urge them to do so.

2. Sunday, August 29th: FISCHER APPLE ORCHARDS and STEAMBOAT INN
This is the gala LADIES' DAY we've been looking forward to. Visit a couple of local gardens then off to Croix Farms, Point Douglas, Minnesota to see member Louis Fischer's commercial orchard at it's peak of glory. Top off the day with a buffet dinner at the famous Steamboat Inn, Prescott, Wisconsin. Cost only \$5.00 per person. (The treasury pays the balance.)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The July tour was a success in spite of the continuing drought and temperatures in the high 90's. An overcast sky that brought no rain and a breeze made the evening quite pleasant. A chicken and ribs barbeque was of the usual high quality that we have learned to expect from Delarias. The shade in the back of Haley's garden was most welcome. All of the gardens visited were in excellent condition. Congratulations to the Tour Committee for a job well done.

The hot, dry weather we have been having has been very hard on gardens as well as on our farm friends. When water is limited either because of cost or an inadequate supply, we must set priorities on what we water. Although a green lawn is aesthetically pleasing, turf grasses can survive better than trees, shrubs, and flowers. The lawn simply goes dormant during hot dry weather and resumes growth in the fall. For this reason it is best to concentrate your watering on those plants that are of greatest value to you. Mulching under trees and shrubs will also conserve moisture.

It looks like our Show Committee is planning a fine show in August. Plan to exhibit if at all possible and plan to visit the show to give your support to this effort.

Don't forget the August tour on the 29th. If you have never seen the Fischer orchards and gardens, you have a treat in store. The setting for the Fischer home is out of this world and you will not see a finer garden.

--Leon Snyder

EVERYONE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE FOR LEHMAN TROPHY

The Lehman Trophy committee of the Minneapolis Men's Garden Club, Inc. made its first visitation of gardens on the July garden tour. All gardens were outstanding. Only a few points separate the top and bottom competitors. There will be more inspections on the August tour.

If you wish to participate in the contest and are not scheduled on a tour please contact Ev. Haedecke, chairman, at 941-2053 and we will make an appointment to inspect your garden during August. The judging is on five categories: General Landscape Treatment; Plant Selection; Border Use and Special Appointments; Lawn Appearance; and, General Maintenance.

MINI-TOURS HAD SUCCESSFUL SEASON

The 1976 Mini-Tours ended with the July 13th tour which was well attended and a great success. There were lovely gardens, gracious hosts and hostesses and a gorgeous floral display at the Edina Country Club engineered by Harry Sova.

--Jim Perrin

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

William Cowcill 533-5558

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Raymond D. Marshall 425-9896
6809 Balsam Lane North
Maple Grove 55369

JULY WAS GARDEN TOUR NIGHT

Everywhere we went we were met with lush green lawns and flowers in window boxes. There the similarity ended. Dwight Stone, guide on our bus, hurried us along from garden to garden. Net result--a first for the club--we saw all the gardens before dusk settled upon us.

Bob Haley a recent Rookie-of-the-Year had tomatoes in peony supports, cucumbers on plastic covered wire, a shade garden under the back porch of all places, petunias and snapdragons in profusion and several beds of assorted herbs. (It's evident that Kay is a home economist.) The tall yellow tansy which grows so wild on the Mesaba Range but is seldom seen here centered one bed.

At Falconer Thomas' place a walkway of alternate squares of cement slabs and of large pebbles led to a big garden much of it enclosed in wire mesh. Corn was growing through the roof of a huge screen house. Raspberries ripened in another. There were rolls and pieces of wire enough around to start a hardware store; proof that Falconer intends to outwit his worst enemies, the blackbirds, at all costs. According to Falconer bugs in the rest of the garden are only a secondary problem.

Henry Halvorson likes solid beds of perennials (iris, daylilies, true lilies) and roses. He makes a lot of compost in a big area to the rear of his garden which he uses on the gay beds of mixed flowers near the entry drive. A beautiful angel wing begonia and a huge Christmas cactus summering (simmering?) in the shade of a tree gave evidence of his winter interests.

Dick Hulbert, as expected, had all manner of roses along his south lot line and a waterfall under the junipers in a rear corner. The shade garden of tuberos and fibrous begonias with a gay gloxinia or two on the north side of the house had to compete for attention with the refreshment Dick and Vera provided.

Walter Schmidt's landscaping with many evergreens was more formal but he still found space for raspberries under netting, onions and other vegetables. And, what a combination, that purple heliotrope with the pink geranium. The rear garden drops away toward (into?) a deep glen which is hidden in the trees.

Dwight Stone doesn't believe in weeding--not if he can help it. Every place weeds might find anchorage like under fences or around trees he has covered with pea sized gravel or redwood bark. His roses are bedded in peat moss. The petunias on the fence, the hanging baskets, the touches of color here and there, the circle of cabbages around the base of an evergreen were typically Dwight. No potato plant this year. Guess he rooted it up after reading the June SPRAY.

Dave Johnson had a mass display of geraniums around the front door. His back yard was a fairyland of flowers not the least of which were his always superb pansies, petunias and those stately powderpuff hollyhocks standing as if to guard the vegetable garden from the flowers. Vegetables on the terraces were vigorous and healthy. The water we can understand but how does he get enough light on those terraces?

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Correct your calendar. The September meeting will be held Monday,

PROPAGATING BY CUTTINGS by Bill Cowcill

ADVANTAGES OF PROPAGATING BY CUTTINGS: Propagation by cuttings is a cheap and convenient way to increase a stock of plants. Sizeable plants are usually much more quickly obtained in this manner than from seeds; besides, many garden varieties and hybrids vary greatly if raised from seeds, while from cuttings one is sure to obtain a very uniform set of plants which resemble the parent plant in every way.

Certain plants also, do not readily produce seeds in cultivation, or as is the case, for instance, with willows or poplars are rather difficult to propagate from seeds. Skilled propagators claim that there is no plant which cannot be propagated from cuttings. This unquestionably, is true, but certain plants notably most of our fruit trees grow so much better and are so easy to propagate from buds or grafts that with them these latter methods are to be preferred.

SOFTWOOD OR GREEN CUTTINGS (Taken from the plant while it is still in leaf and growth, thus providing half ripened wood.): Easiest and most frequently used is the softwood cutting. For best results, cuttings of this type should be taken when the plant is at a certain intermediate stage of growth--that is, when the cuttings are neither too soft and succulent nor too mature. If the young shoots when bent, neither snap off like glass nor crush without breaking, they are in the right condition to use.

For only a few plants does this rule not hold true. Lilacs and Azaleas, for example, have been found to root most readily when the cuttings are very soft, while others like varieties of Weigelia and Hydrangea, give better results if the cuttings are almost mature. June to August are the months in which outdoor plants may be propagated in this manner. Softwood cuttings of greenhouse or bedding plants are usually taken in the early spring.

The shoot chosen for a cutting must be healthy and in good condition and must show the characteristics which are typical for the variety we wish to propagate. The most vigorous shoots, however never make the best cuttings. The best results are usually obtained with side shoots of intermediate strength and if these are cut directly at their base they will root most readily.

The frequently recommended "heel" a small slice of the main stem left on the base of the side shoot cutting is with many plants more a hindrance than a help. Only with certain plants, not all, side shoots make equally desirable cuttings. On carnations for instance only the side shoots from the center of the stem make flowering plants of good habit.

Editor's Note: The above article by Bill Cowcill was excerpted from a longer article which appeared in THE COMPOST PIT the publication of the North Suburban MGC in January-February.

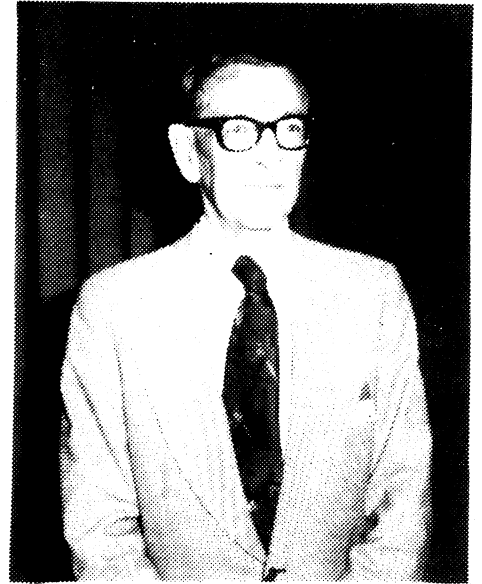
Charles Robbins is on the right path. When we arrived ahead of the others on the July 13th mini-tour a little fellow came rushing out, "Want to see my garden?" He led us to his tiny plot near the fence and pointed out and named each vegetable therein. An even smaller brother wanted to claim a portion of the garden, too. Just seeing the eager interest of these two youngsters would have sufficed to make our visit

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August 1976, Volume 34, Number 8
Deadline: the 15th OF EACH MONTH.

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MGCM PRESIDENTS: CHARLES PROCTOR, 1965

Charles Proctor, alias "Pete" Proctor, is as American as apple pie. His ancestors were from England, coming to New England at the time of the Mayflower. His mother's family dates back to early French history. He was born in Somerville, Massachusetts, but grew up in Lexington, where his father was in the hay, grain and feed business. As a boy, he served as a guide at the Lexington battlefield museum and adjoining places of interest and is well versed in the history of the area, including Paul Revere's ride to warn the Minutemen at Lexington.



Charlie Proctor

Charlie's father was wont to nickname the members of his family and friends and Charlie was given the name of Pete at birth. It has remained with him through life. Charlie, or Pete, was introduced to gardening as a boy, not entirely voluntarily. His father would hitch him and his brother to the hand cultivator and use them for power while he guided it through the large family garden.

After several transplantings by the Air Force during World War II, Charlie was stationed at Boise, Idaho, where he met and married Ruth, his home and garden helpmate. They lived in Boise, where he joined Prudential Insurance Company, until they transferred to Minneapolis when the new office opened here in 1954. Charlie had started gardening in Boise, partly because of a neighbor who was in the seed business, and one of his first acts at his Minneapolis home on York Avenue was to "plow up the back forty" behind the garage for a vegetable garden. What started out to be a flower border at the rear of the yard is now a bigger vegetable garden edged with flowers. His "light garden" downstairs started as a winter home for coleus and impatiens and grew into a well managed seedling operation for spring planting.

Charlie joined MGCM in 1958 at the urging of Sam Abrams, a neighbor and old-time MGCM member, and has been active in many capacities, including the Hardware Mutual flower shows, (chairman two years). He was MGCM Treasurer two years and became President in 1965. He is a member of the Lily Society and is currently Treasurer. He is a member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Charlie practices what might be called intensive gardening. His yard has some of everything, including vegetables in the sun, pole beans covering the garage, flowers and vegetables together in the sun, flowers in the shade, indoor plants outdoors for the summer and clematis, begonias and other foundation plantings surrounding the house. He is truly an all around gardener.

--Chet Groger

NEW MEMBERS

(Clip and paste in your roster)

FLOWER SHOW TIPS
by Marlin Gilhousen

As flower show time approaches, most of us are busy trying to anticipate which flowers will be ready and which ones will have just finished or not quite started to bloom. It is funny how everything seems to be just past its prime or not quite far enough along on show day. What we have to do is consider what we actually have and do the right things to it so that we can bring home the ribbons. Did you ever walk through a show and wonder why one flower won a ribbon and another similar one did not? Take a real good look next time and you will probably see why. Listed below are some of the things you might do to enhance your chances of winning.

Blooms should be picked in the cool of the day, either the evening before or early in the morning on the day of the show. It is also a good idea to give the plant a good soaking the day before picking. This will help produce good substance in both the bloom and the leaf and stem structure. Take a container of luke warm water with you into the garden. Cut as long a stem as you can without damaging the plant, remove the lower leaves and place the stem in water immediately. Condition in a cool dark spot.

The exhibit should be free from mechanical injury, insect damage, spray residue and dirt. An old shaving brush, small paint brush or wad of cotton is handy for removing any foreign matter from plant leaves or blooms.

Select blooms that are true to type and strive for uniformity in size, shape and color. If the schedule calls for more than one bloom, they should be as much alike in length of stem, size, color and maturity as possible. The perfect exhibit is one where all blooms are exactly the same. It is much better to have smaller size of bloom and all the same than to have two large blooms and one small one. Also, be sure that all blooms are of the same variety.

When placing the bloom or blooms in the bottle, remove all foliage below the neck of the bottle and leave enough stem above the bottle. Judge the length of stem you should have by the size of the bloom and its natural growing habits. Waxed paper or aluminum foil are very good to wrap the stems so that the specimen will stand up straight in the bottle.

Spike type blooms should have as many florets open as possible without the bottom ones being overmature or wilted. If there are wilted florets they should be removed. In snapdragons watch for skips (missing florets) and clubby stalks. Round headed blooms should be open (matured) enough so that the outer petals begin to turn down, but do not show discoloring.

If that special bloom comes along too early it may be saved for some time in the refrigerator. Store in plastic bags without water. Pick a day before normal show stage except glads and lilies which should be cut at full development. Mums and carnations are the best keepers, but snaps, zinnias, marigolds, cosmos and many others can be kept for up to a week or more.

Now let's get out in the garden and bring everything we can find. Let's make this one of the best shows ever. It is up to you, the specimens are out there.

Are there friends and acquaintances at work who should be MGCM members?

YOUTH VEGETABLE EXHIBITION
1976 Garden Show
At the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
Saturday, August 21 and Sunday, August 22
Sponsored by
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis and
North Suburban Men's Garden Club

Eligibility

All youths through the age of 18 who have grown vegetables in their own garden.

Two age brackets of competition:

- Through 12 years of age
- 13 through 18 years of age

Sponsorship

Exhibitors must be sponsored by a member of the cooperating men's garden clubs.

Awards

Ribbons for:

- All meritorious exhibits
- 10 Court of Honor exhibits (5 in each age bracket)
- 2 Grand Champion exhibits (one in each age bracket)

Plus:

- A \$10 gift certificate for the Grand Champion exhibit in each age bracket

Rules for Entry

- 1) Exhibits must be entered and registered at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, from 8:00 am to 11:30 am, Saturday, August 21. Judging will begin at 11:30 am.
- 2) No exhibits may be removed until after 4:30 pm, Sunday, August 22.
- 3) Identification of each competing entry will be by official registration tag upon which the name of the exhibitor will be concealed until after the judging.
- 4) Each exhibitor will be required to fill out a registration and s

- 5) Exhibitors are not limited in the number of entries as long as each entry is a different combination of three kinds of vegetables.
- 6) Exhibitors shall provide paper plates or other containers on which their entries are displayed.
- 7) All entries must be grown and prepared for display by the exhibitor.

Exhibits

All entries must be collections of three kinds of vegetables. They may be a combination of three of any of the kinds listed below with the required number of specimens for each as indicated for small, medium and large size vegetables.

Small vegetables - 12 specimens required

green beans	peas
wax beans	radishes
lima beans	any other small size vegetable

Medium size vegetables - 3 specimens required

beets	peppers
carrots	potatoes
cucumbers	summer squash
kohlrabi	sweet corn
onions	tomatoes
parsnips	any other medium size vegetable

Large size vegetables - 1 specimen required

broccoli	pumpkin
cabbage	Swiss chard
cauliflower	winter squash
eggplant	watermelon
muskmelon	any other large size vegetable

Examples of eligible entries:

12 green beans, 3 tomatoes, 1 winter squash
3 potatoes, 3 tomatoes, 3 peppers
1 eggplant, 3 ears of sweet corn, 3 carrots

There is no limit to number of entries per exhibitor as long as they are different combinations of 3 kinds of vegetables.

Things to remember when selecting and preparing vegetables for exhibit

Specimens should be uniform in every respect, especially in size, shape, color and maturity.

- Not small or oversize for the variety.
- Shape must be typical for the variety.
- Color must be typical for the variety; must be bright and uniform (Don't shine or wax)
- All vegetables should be at the same stage of maturity.

Proper grooming and trimming procedures tell you --

- Specimens should be clean.
Wash root crops.
Dip leafy vegetables in cool water.
Wipe some vegetables with a damp cloth.
Clean other vegetables with a soft bristled brush.
- Trim tops and tap root of root vegetables.
- Leave wrapper leaves on cabbage, husks on corn and scales on onions.
- Remove stems from tomatoes and muskmelons.
- Leave stems on beans, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins and watermelon.
- Exhibit Swiss chard and celery as one plant.

Your vegetables should be of edible maturity.

- Many reach their highest quality when young and immature (sometimes determined by size; sometimes determined by color; sometimes determined by texture.)
- Some vegetables should be fully mature.

Vegetables that have a longer shelf life are preferred for showing.

- Should be firm and not break down.
- Some lose quality quickly such as leafy greens and sweet corn.
- Should not be overripe, shrivelled or wilted.
- Care should be taken in handling specimens to avoid mechanical injury.

One final word --

- No insects should be present on specimens.
- Do not wrap specimens in transparent films to maintain quality.
- No specimens should be exhibited in water.

For additional information or instructions contact any member of the cooperating clubs or the show chairman, Bob Smith at 938-8473.

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS AND
NORTH SUBURBAN MEN'S GARDEN CLUB
1976 FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW
SATURDAY AUGUST 21 AND SUNDAY AUGUST 22

Rules for Exhibitors

1. Exhibits may be entered and registered at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, from 8:00 a. m. to 11:30 a. m., Saturday August 21. Judging will begin at 11:30 a. m.
2. Each club participating in the show will select one of its members as its representative.
3. No one will be permitted in the exhibition room during the judging except members of the judging committee and the representative of each club.
4. No exhibits may be removed until after 4:30 p. m. Sunday, August 22, except by permission of the club representatives.
5. Identification of each competing entry will be by official registration tag upon which the name of the exhibitor will be concealed until after the judging.
6. Each exhibitor will be required to fill out a registration and scoring sheet to be delivered to the clerk in charge.
7. Exhibitors are not limited in the number of entries they may make in each class. Exhibitors may make more than one entry in each class provided that each entry is of a different variety and the name of the variety is specified on the entry tag as in Dahlias, Glads, Roses, Tomatoes, etc. When varieties exist (unnamed) in color only, the color must be specified on the entry tag and an entry may be made in each color, as in Tuberous Begonias, Pansy, Phlox, Zinnias, etc. Additional class numbers will be assigned by the staging committee at the exhibit table as needed. In Miscellaneous Classes new numbers may be assigned if three or more entries of a species have been made and two or more are meritorious.
8. Judging will be strictly on the merits of the entry and more than one prize may be awarded to an exhibitor in a class provided that Rule 7 is complied with.
9. Awards will be made on the merits of the entries and if in any class there are no entries worthy of awards the judges may withhold any or all awards.
10. Section A entries will be exhibited in containers available at the Landscape Arboretum and at other designated locations. Section B entries will be exhibited on paper plates provided by the exhibitor.
11. Permanent trophies will be awarded to the winner of the greatest number

Rules for Exhibitors

made to the member of Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis attaining the highest number of points in Section A and the Tom Foley Memorial Award will be made to the member attaining the greatest number of points in Section B.

12. Court of Honor Awards will be made to ten particularly meritorious exhibits in Section A and ten in Section B.
13. National Awards will be made to the particularly meritorious zinnia and tomato exhibits.
14. All exhibits must have been grown and prepared for exhibition by the exhibitor.
15. The show will be open Saturday, August 21 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, August 22 from 11:30 a. m. to 4:30 p.m. Everything including containers and personal property must be removed between 4:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on August 22.

IMPORTANT - READ CAREFULLY

1. Make a thorough study of both the "Schedule of Entries" and the "Rules for Exhibitors", particularly Rule 7.
2. The Registration and Scoring Sheet is your personal registration blank. Very important.
3. On the upper right corner of the Registration and Scoring Sheet appear your personal Exhibitor's Number which will be entered by the Registration Clerk. Print your name and the name of your club plainly underneath this number.
4. Indicate the number of actual entries in the "No. of Entries" column of the Registration Sheet. Class Number as per "Schedule of Entries" including all of the sub entries under the main class number.
5. File this sheet, when fully completed, with the Registration Clerk when you enter your exhibits.
6. On each entry tag used print your personal "Exhibitor's Number" and your name and the Class Number. Conceal your name by folding the tag and taping under cutout.
7. When known print the name of the variety of specimen on the entry tag.
8. After your entries have been listed file the Registration Sheet with the Registration Clerk not later than 11:30 a.m. Saturday, August 21. Your cooperation in getting entries in well before the deadline will be appreciated.

To make the show a success we will need all of the flower and vegetable exhibitors that you will have time to prepare and enter in a wide variety of colors and species. Your attention is again called to Rule 7. Prior to judging the judging committee will subdivide classes where large numbers are entered. Example: Class 2 Aster could end up 2A Aster red; 2B Aster white; 2C Aster blue.

	elsewhere	
67	Miscellaneous Perennial not listed elsewhere	
68	Begonia-Fibrous	Potted
69	Begonia-Tuberous	Potted
70	Begonia	Hanging Basket
71	Caladium	Potted
72	Chrysanthemum	Potted
73	Fuchia	Potted
74	Geranium	Potted
75	African Violet	Potted
76	Miscellaneous Plants	Potted

SCHEDULE OF VEGETABLE ENTRIES

SECTION B

101	Beans	12	116	Potatoes	5
	A Green			A White	
	B Wax			B Red	
	C Lima		117	Pumpkin	1
102	Beets - Table	5		A Small Pie	
103	Broccoli	1		B Field	
104	Brussel Sprouts	12	118	Squash	
105	Cabbage	1 head		A Summer	3
106	Carrots	5		B Winter	1
107	Cauliflower	1 head	119	Tomato	
108	Corn - Sweet	3 ears		A Red	3
	A Yellow			B Yellow	3
	B White			C Small Preserving	6
	C Bicolor		120	Watermelon	1
109	Cucumber		121	Any not listed	
	A Slicing	3	122	Collections - more than 3 labeled specimen	
	B Pickling	6	123	Apples	
110	Eggplant	1		A Standard	3
111	Kohl-rabi	3		B Crab	6
112	Muskmelon	1	124	Grapes	2 bunche
113	Onion	3	125	Pears	3
	A Yellow		126	Plums	6
	B White		127	Raspberries	pint
	C Red		128	Strawberries	pint
114	Parsnips	3	129	Any not listed	
115	Peppers	3	130	Collections - more than 3 labeled specimens	
	A Sweet Green				
	B All Other				