

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

PEONY SOCIETY

Bulletin

JANUARY, 1936
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Northbrook, Ill.

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R. S. WILCOX.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of September, 1935.

(Notarial Seal.)

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Membership in the Society is open to both professional and amateur growers. Nomination is not necessary for those desiring admission, but a list of applicants for membership is presented to the Society at its annual meeting and the names are there voted upon.

Those who make application for membership at any time receive the current publications of the Society as they are issued.

The dues are \$3.00 a year, of which \$1.00 is toward a year's subscription to the American Peony Society BULLETIN. *All checks covering membership dues should be made to The American Peony Society and sent to the Secretary with application for membership.* Dues in future are to run from January 1st to January 1st of the following year.

Back BULLETINS of the Society will be charged for at the rate of 25 cents per copy and 50 cents for the Symposium Number (No. 14). To non-members these prices are doubled. No BULLETINS available prior to No. 13.



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



JANUARY, 1936

The Sanctuary

By ERNEST FLINT KELSEY, Porterville, N. Y.

A garden is a holy place
Replete with mystic life and grace;
The sunrise mullioned by the trees,
The fluted notes from feathered keys,
Muezzin calls to morning prayer,
Bid me to holy ground repair.

A garden is a holy place,
God whispers there, Behold My face;
The rosebud's opening shrine behold
Shekinah light in petaled mould;
The peony that lifts her face to me
Envisions immortality.

A garden is a holy place
Where Love and Joy and Peace embrace;
Where incense rises up to God
Above the scattered prayer-rug sod;
The lily's chaste communion cup
Invites the worshipper to sup.

A garden is a holy place
Where I may humbly pray and praise,
For when the stained glass sunset sheds
A heavenly light on bowing heads
And starlight chancel candles shine,
I worship in this place divine.

Growing Seedling Peonies

For the beginner who is thinking seriously of taking up the work.

By BENJAMIN WILDER GUPPY

Many of the beautiful peonies in the world have been originated by growing seedlings by what may be called the hit-or-miss method.

The approved method of procedure is to set out a collection of the high-rated varieties, leave the pollinating to the wind and insects, harvest and plant all seeds produced and wait for results.

Beautifully simple, but a certain amount of care is necessary in forming your collection of plants if you wish to obtain a maximum of seed production without resorting to hand pollination.

From the breeder's point of view there are three types of blossoms: the sterile, the pistillate and the fertile.

The sterile have neither stamens nor pistils, hence are incapable of producing seed or pollen and are of no use for breeding.

The pistillate, furnished with pistils only, require pollen to be brought from an outside source in order to produce seed so that for every pistillate variety in your collection there should be a fertile variety ripening its pollen at the time the pistillate bloom is ready to receive it. Even then some pistillate varieties have the pistils set so deeply in the flower that hand pollination is necessary to obtain seed.

The fertile, furnished with stamens and pistils, produce both pollen and seeds. Some of the fertile varieties are so constructed that the pistils are fully exposed when the blossoms are open and fertilization from outside sources is as probable as self-fertilization. Others have the pistils buried so deeply that pollination from outside sources is all but impossible and seeds are only occasionally produced by self-fertilization. Here again a judicious use of the fingers will increase seed production.

The single varieties produce the most pollen and the most seed. Some of the singles when self-fertilized will produce nothing but singles and when crossed with doubles the resultant seedlings will, with a few exceptions, all be singles. Other singles will produce both single and double flowers either when self-fertilized or when crossed with double varieties.

Unfortunately the printed descriptions of the various varieties do not furnish this information so necessary to the plant breeder. It must be obtained by studying the blooms and questioning experienced growers.

Having read this far you should realize that your field of endeavor can be greatly broadened by using hand pollination. You will be able to fertilize varieties that otherwise might not produce seed; late blooming varieties can be crossed with pollen saved from earlier blooming sorts and early blooming varieties can be crossed with pollen from those blooming later if you work in collaboration with someone whose garden is situated where the blooming season is earlier than in your locality. And there will also be open to you the exciting adventure of crossing various species, or hybridizing as it is called, with its attendant surprises.

ON KEEPING RECORDS

Of a certainty your objective is a beautiful bloom on a vigorous plant and naturally you should wish to know its pedigree. A very simple record will enable you to keep track of the offspring resulting from each cross from the time the pollen is applied to the pistil until the plants are ready for distribution or consignment to the rubbish heap, but by a little elaboration these records can be made to yield much valuable information. It is surprising how quickly data will accumulate and how much information they will yield to the student.

The first record is that of the cross: seed parent and pollen parent and date. By also noting weather conditions, number of blossoms fertilized and number setting seed and also the number of seed obtained, you will learn the affinity of one variety or species for another and the effect of weather conditions on the fruitfulness of the cross. Do not be discouraged by the number of zeros this record will probably contain but keep on repeating the experiment if you think there are worth while possibilities in the results of the cross.

The second record is the seed-bed record to keep track of the seed resulting from each cross. Information concerning germination can also be obtained by recording number of seeds planted and the number of seedlings transplanted to the first trial bed.

The third record is a record to keep track of the seedlings resulting from each cross transplanted to the first trial bed. If you also make brief notes of the various characteristics of the plants and blossoms and compare these with the same characteristics of the parent plants you will learn which of the characteristics are dominant and which are recessive and which are linked together so that if one appears the other is sure to keep it company, and if you keep similar notes of such second generation seedlings as you raise you will learn which characteristics follow

Mendel's law and which do not. Of course all this detail is not necessary if you do not care to make a study of heredity, but I hope you will.

The fourth record will be a record of seedlings dug, divided and transplanted to the second trial bed. In addition to a record of parents it should contain a detailed description of the plant and blossom, relative time of blooming and notes concerning the keeping qualities of the blossoms when on the plant and as cut flowers and in cold storage. From this bed the selection is made of the plants for dissemination.

This work is not as formidable as it sounds. You can make it comparatively easy by being systematic and you have no idea how much pleasure and profit you will obtain from studying these notes on long winter evenings and how much help they will be when planning your work for the following season.

WHY SECOND GENERATION SEEDLINGS?

You have worked out a combination of characteristics to produce a plant and blossom to your liking, carefully selected seed and pollen parents, made the cross and waited five or six years for the seedlings to bloom only to find that the results are not at all what you had hoped for and you wonder what has gone wrong. Absolutely nothing, you have only just got started. The next move in the game is to self-pollinate or intercross the best of these seedlings and raise all the plants that your space will permit. If you raise enough of these second generation seedlings the combination of characteristics you are seeking will eventually appear. And the reason why?

The characteristics of organic growths can generally be paired as opposites. Taking the peony for example, there are:

Early blooming—late blooming.

Large flower—small flower.

Single flower—double flower.

Fragrance—no scent.

Tall plant—dwarf plant.

Strong stems—weak stems.

And so on, until you have dissected the plant and blossom into their smallest component parts. In some of these pairs of opposites, but not all, one characteristic has more influence on the cross than the other so that when two plants of opposite characteristics are crossed the stronger or dominant characteristics appear in the seedlings of the first generation. The weaker or recessive characteristics will not appear in the first gen-

eration seedlings but will lie dormant and reappear in a certain number of the second generation seedlings. As the first generation seedlings contain the tendencies of all the dominant and recessive characteristics of both parent plants, their offspring will show the recombination of these characteristics in various ways and as I have already stated, the particular combination you are seeking is bound to occur if you raise seedlings enough.

When dealing with colors you will find that crossing red with white will generally produce pinks; red with pink, reds and pinks; red with red, reds; white with pink, whites and pinks, and white with white everything from paper white to darkest reds and yellow will appear most unexpectedly, especially in the crosses of white with white. And with respect to all characteristics, some that have lain dormant for generations are liable to reappear at any time, giving an additional zest to your work.

These brief notes have been written to explain the necessity for raising second generation seedlings. If you have become interested in the subject study some good book on heredity or genetics. Among other things you will add a number of strange new words to your vocabulary.

A HINT IN CLOSING

Every time that you grow some seedlings from a single that is in itself a cross between a single and a double you are in fact growing second generation seedlings of the original cross producing the single you are using as a parent. The tendencies for reproducing both the dominant and recessive characteristics of both parents are contained in this single flower and their combinations are almost infinite in number. Hence, if you know the parents of the single you are using, you will be able to obtain almost any combination of their characteristics by growing a sufficiently large number of seedlings exactly in the same manner as if you had made the original cross and you save a wait of from four to six years.

What is the answer? Well, it all depends upon whether you are going to make a serious study of peony breeding or just want to raise a few beautiful flowers.



A Prevention for Rot

By FRED H. SHAVER, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

I would like to make a suggestion to some experienced growers. I headed off rot of telephone poles at my Wisconsin summer camp by using powdered arsenic.

Have been a peony fan for twenty-five years and had a few old plants that developed root rot or at least developed a multiplicity of small shoots or stems. I cut back all weak stems, stirred a heaping tablespoonful of powdered arsenic around roots and at least these peonies improved.

Now, I am not certain of results, neither am I inclined to try it on a large scale but I pass on the tip for what it may be worth to try out.

My yard space is limited to seventy-five varieties of the better peonies, one of a variety, so my opportunity to experiment is limited.



New Cornell Bulletin

(Extract from Cornell Extension Bulletin No. 321)

The following valuable table appears in the Cornell Extension Bulletin No. 321 of April, 1935, published by the New York College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

It will be found of great value and interest and it is presented herewith knowing that it can be referred to many times during the blooming season and be found a source of continued profit, as it is a most interesting and instructive treatise.

LIST OF VARIETIES

Some twelve hundred varieties of herbaceous peonies are offered in the catalogs of American nurserymen. Some of these varieties are duplicates, but the vast majority have their peculiar virtues and faults which set them apart from others. In compiling this table of approximately two hundred varieties, an effort has been made to cover all the various types and colors but at the same time to limit the list to well-known, reliable, and moderately priced varieties.

The abbreviations: Size of flower—L., large; M., medium; S., small. Height of plant—T., tall; M., medium; M. T., medium tall; D., dwarf; M. D., medium dwarf. Season of bloom—E., early; M., medium; M. E.,

medium early; L., late; M. L., medium late. Fragrance—D., disagreeable; F., faint; P., poor; S., strong.

VARIETIES OF PEONIES, CLASSIFIED BY TYPE

Variety	Rating*	Originator	Size of flowers	Height of plant	Season of bloom	Fragrance	Color	
							Petals	Stamens
SINGLE								
Black Prince	8.5	Thurlow	L.	M.	M.	D.	Crimson	Yellow
Flanders Fields	8.74	Brand	M.	M.	M.	.....	Red	Golden
Helen	8.88	Thurlow	M.	T.	E.	.....	Pink	Yellow
Jeanne Ernould	8.88	Doriat	.....	.....	.....	.....	Silvery carmine	Yellow
Jewel	8.98	Glasscock	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jimmie Franklin	8.60	Franklin	M.	M.	M.	.....	Dark red	Yellow
L'Étincelante	8.4	Desert	L.	T.	M.	S.	Pink	Yellow
Le Jour	8.6	Shaylor	L.	M.	M. E.	S.	White	Yellow
Mellin Knight	8.49	Brand	L.	T.	M.	.....	Red, crimson	Yellow
Mischief	8.66	Auten	M.	M.	L.	S.	Pink	Yellow
Nellie	8.40	Kelway	M.	D.	M.	D.	Blush	Yellow
Presto	8.60	Auten	M.	M.	M.	.....	Red-purple	Yellow
Pride of Langport	8.9	Kelway	L.	T.	M.	S.	Pink	Golden
Scarf Dance .....	.....	Auten	M.	D.	M.	.....	Light pink	Yellow
Stanley	7.8	Kelway	L.	T.	M.	S.	Dark crimson	Yellow
The Bride	8.4	Desert	L.	T.	E.	S.	White	Yellow
Vera	8.79	Gumm	L.	M. T.	E. M.	.....	Red-maroon	Yellow
Verdun	8.95	Desert-Doriat	L.	M. T.	E. M.	.....	Crimson-red	Yellow

Variety	Rating*	Originator	Size of flowers	Height of plant	Season of bloom	Fragrance	Color	
							Petals	Stamens
JAPANESE								
Alma	8.5	Shaylor	M.	M. T.	M.	.....	Pink	Yellow
Ama-no-sode	9.2		L.	M.	M.	.....	Rose-pink	Yellow, rose
Charm	9.27	Franklin	L.	M. T.	L.	.....	Deep red	
Departing Sun	8.5		L.	M.	M.	.....	Crimson-rose	Rose, yellow
Flamboyant	8.5		L.	T.	M.	P.	Violet-crimson	Yellow
Fuyajo	9.2		M.	T.	M.	S.	Maroon	Buff, old rose
Gold Mine	8.2	Hollis	M.	M.	M.	P.	Deep rose-pink	Pink-yellow
Haikodate	9.03	Millet	L.	M.	M.	.....	White	
Hari-ai-nin	8.90	Babcock	M.	M.	M.	.....	Dark red	
Instituteur Doriat	8.85	Doriat	L.	T.	L.	.....	Red	
Isami Jishi	9.3		L.	M. T.	M.	P.	White	Buff
Isami Gudui								
Jap Giant	9.00	Franklin	L.	M.	M.	.....		
Jeanne Lapandry	8.50	Doriat	L.	M.	M.	.....	White	Yellow
King of England	8.6	Kelway	L.	T.	E. M.	S.	Ruby-madder	Buff-pink
Kukeru-jishi	9.5		L.	M. T.	E. M.	F.	Silvery-pink	Yellow
Madam Butterfly	9.05	Franklin	M.	M. T.	M.	.....	Rose-pink	
Margaret Atwood	8.7		L.	M. T.	M.	S.	White	Golden yellow
Mikado	8.6	Japan	M.	T.	M.	D.	Crimson	Rose red, buff
Mrs. Mac	8.65	Franklin	M.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	Yellow
Nippon Beauty	9.38	Auten	L.	M.	L.	.....	Deep red	Yellow
Onahama	8.87	Gumm	L.	M.	M.	.....	Dark red	
Prairie Afire	8.80	Brand	L.	M. T.	M.	.....	Cream-rose	Red
Princess Duleep								
Singh	8.7	Kelway	M.	T.	E. M.	F.	Deep rose-pink	Buff-yellow
Rashmoon	8.7		L.	M. T.	M.	F.	Rose-red	Pink, yellow
Ruth Force	8.33	Shaylor	M.	M.	L. M.	.....	Cerise-pink	Yellow-pink
Snow Wheel	8.3		L.	D.	M.	D.	White	Yellow
Tamate-Boku	9.4		L.	M.	M.	F.	Pink	Yellow, pink
Tokio	8.9	Desert	L.	T.	M.	.....	Rose-pink	Pale yellow
Toro-no-maki	9.0		L.	D.	L. M.	Not	Blush-white	Amber yellow

*On scale of 10. Ratings taken from "Peonies, The Manual of the American Peony Society" (1928) and from the supplement to this Manual (1933).

Variety	Rating	Originator	Size of flowers	Height of plant	Season of bloom	Fragrance	Color of petals	
							Main	Secondary
ANEMONE								
Aureolin	8.9	Shaylor	L.	M.	L. M.	F.	Rose-pink	Cream
Golden Dawn	8.43	Gumm	M.	M.	M.	F.	Ivory	Cream, yellow
Laura Dessert	8.8	Dessert	M.	M.	E. M.	F.	Pale pink	Cream
Philomele	7.7	Calot	M.	M.	E.	F.	Old rose	Buff
Primevere	8.6	Lemoine	M.	T.	M.	F.	Cream white	Canary yellow
Red Bird	8.40	Franklin	L.	M.	M.	.....	Dark red	Rose-red
DOUBLE								
A. B. Franklin	9.51	Franklin	L.	T.	M.	F.	White	Blush
Acme	8.90	Franklin	L.	M. T.	L.	.....	Pink	.....
Adolphe Rousseau	8.5	Dessert, Mechin	L.	T.	E. M.	D.	Deep red	.....
Alesia	8.98	Lemoine	L.	M.	L. M.	F.	White	Cream
Alice Harding	9.39	Lemoine	M.	M.	M.	P.	White	Flesh pink
Argentine	8.76	Lemoine	M.	M.	L.	F.	White	.....
Auguste Dessert	8.7	Dessert	M.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	.....
Avalanche	8.7	Crousse	M.	M.	L. M.	F.	White	.....
Ball O'Cotton	8.8	Franklin	M.	M.	L. M.	.....	White	Crimson edge
Baroness Schroeder	9.0	Kelway	L.	T.	L. M.	F.	White	Cream-pink
Betty Blossom	8.73	Thurlow	M.	M.	L. M.	.....	White	Cream-yellow
Blanche King	8.90	Brand	L.	M.	L. M.	.....	Deep pink	.....
Cherry Hill	8.6	Thurlow	S.	T.	E.	.....	Red-maroon	.....
Chestine Gowdy	8.4	Brand	M.	T.	L.	F.	Pink, light rose	.....
Claire Dubois	8.7	Crousse	L.	M. T.	L.	D.	Pink, mauve	.....
Clemenceau	8.5	Dessert	M.	T.	L. M.	F.	Pink, rose	.....
Cornelia Shaylor	9.1	Shaylor	M.	M.	L.	S.	Pink, pale-rose	.....
Couronne d'Or	8.1	Calot	M.	M.	L.	F.	White	Crimson tip
David Harum	8.4	Brand	L.	T.	M.	.....	Red, light crimson	.....
Denise	8.74	Lemoine	M.	M.	M.	F.	Flesh-pink	Flecked
Diadem	8.95	Franklin	L.	M.	L.	F.	Pink	.....
Dr. J. H. Neeley	9.35	Good and Reese	M. L.	M.	M.	.....	White	.....
Duchess de Nemours	8.1	Calot	M.	M.	E.	F.	White	.....
Edulis superba	7.6	Lemon	S.	T.	E.	F.	Pink, old rose	.....
Edward W. Becker	8.40	Franklin	M.	M. T.	M.	S.	Light pink	.....
Edwin C. Shaw	9.1	Thurlow	L.	M.	L. M.	F.	Light rose	Flesh-pink
E. J. Shaylor	8.65	Shaylor	M.	M.	L. M.	F.	Pink, deep rose	.....
Elizabeth Barrett	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Browning	9.2	Brand	L.	T.	L.	F.	White, cream	Red marks
Elizabeth Huntington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
ton	8.88	Sass	.....	.....	.....	.....	White	.....
Ella Christiansen	8.84	Brand	L.	T.	M.	F.	Pink	.....
Elsa Sass	9.18	Sass	.....	.....	.....	.....	Pink	.....
Elwood Pleas	8.7	Pleas	M.	M.	L.	F.	Pink, pale rose	.....
Enchanteresse	8.9	Lemoine	L.	T.	L.	S.	White-cream	Crimson tip
Eunice Shaylor	8.60	Shaylor	M.	M. T.	M.	F.	Pink, pale flesh	Crimson tip
Exquisite	8.5	Kelway	M.	M.	M.	P.	Pink-rose	.....
Felix Crousse	8.4	Crousse	M.	M.	L. M.	P.	Red-crimson	.....
Festiva Maxima	9.3	Mielliez	L.	T.	E.	F.	White	Crimson flakes
Florence Macbeth	8.99	Sass	L.	M.	L. M.	S.	Pale pink	.....
Frances Willard	9.1	Brand	M.	T.	L. M.	F.	White	Cream pink
Frank E. Good	8.65	Good and Reese	M.	T.	M.	.....	White	Cream
Frankie Curtis	8.94	Vories	L.	M. T.	M.	.....	White	Pale flesh
Franklin's Pride	9.45	Franklin	L.	T.	L.	F.	Pink	.....
General Gorgas	8.50	van Leeuwen	M.	M.	M.	F.	White	Rose-pink
Genevieve	8.65	Lemoine	L.	M.	L.	.....	White	Cream
Georgiana Shaylor	8.9	Shaylor	L.	M.	L. M.	F.	Pink, light rose	Crimson mark
Grace Batson	8.84	H. P. Sass	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grace Loomis	9.2	Saunders	M.	M.	L.	S.	White	Lemon-cream
Grandiflora	8.8	Richardson	L.	T.	L.	F.	Pink	.....

Variety	Rating	Originator	Size of flowers	Height of plant	Season of bloom	Fragrance	Color of petals	
							Main	Secondary
DOUBLE								
Grover Cleveland...	8.2	Terry	M.	M.	L. M.	S.	Red	.....
Hansina Brand.....	9.04	Brand	L.	T.	M.	F.	Pink	.....
Hazel Kinney.....	8.71	Brand	M.	M.	L. M.	.....	Light pink	.....
Henry Avery.....	8.8	Brand	M.	M.	L.	S.	Light pink	Cream
Inspecteur Lavergne.....	8.67	Doriat	M.	T.	E.	.....	Crimson	.....
James Boyd.....	8.9	Thurlow	M.	M. T.	L.	F.	Flesh pink	Cream
James Kelway.....	8.7	Kelway	L.	T.	E. M.	.....	Pale pink	.....
James R. Mann.....	8.7	Thurlow	M.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	.....
Jeannot.....	9.2	Dessert	M.	M.	L.	.....	Pink	.....
John M. Good.....	8.89	Welsh	M.	T.	L. M.	F.	White	Pale pink-cream
Jubilee.....	8.9	Pleas	L.	T.	M.	F.	White	Cream
Judge Berry.....	8.6	Brand	L.	M.	E.	S.	Pink, light rose	.....
Judge Snook.....	9.50	Neeley	.....	.....	.....	.....	Pink	.....
June Day.....	9.07	Franklin	M.	M.	M.	F.	Pink, light old rose	Lavender
Karl Rosefeld.....	8.8	Rosenfeld	M.	T.	M.	N.	Red, crimson	.....
Katherine Havemeyer.....	9.0	Thurlow	M.	M.	M.	F.	Pink, light rose	.....
Kelway's Glorious.....	9.8	Kelway	L.	M.	M.	F.	White	Cream
Kelway's Queen.....	8.8	Kelway	M.	M.	L. M.	F.	Flesh pink	Red flake
La Fee.....	9.2	Lemoine	L.	T.	E. M.	F.	Rose, light pink	Cream-pink
La France.....	9.0	Lemoine	L.	T.	L.	F.	Rose, light pink	.....
La Lorraine.....	9.06	Lemoine	M.	T.	M.	P.	White	Cream
La Perle.....	8.5	Crousse	M.	M.	M. L.	F.	Pink, light rose	Red flake
Lady Alexandra Duff.....	9.1	Kelway	M.	M.	M.	F.	Rose-white	.....
Lady Kate.....	8.85	Vories	M.	T.	M. L.	.....	Light pink	.....
Lake O'Silver.....	8.62	Franklin	S.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	.....
Laverne Christman.....	8.83	Brand	L.	T.	M.	.....	Deep pink	.....
Le Cygne.....	9.9	Lemoine	L.	M.	M. E.	F.	White	Ivory
Lillian Gumm.....	8.95	Gumm	L.	T.	L. M.	F.	Pink, deep rose	.....
Longfellow.....	9.0	Brand	M.	M. D.	M.	S.	Red, crimson	.....
Lora Dexheimer.....	8.4	Brand	M.	M.	M.	F.	Red, crimson	.....
Lorch.....	8.69	Goos & Koemann	M.	M.	M.	F.	White	Lemon-cream
Mabel L. Franklin.....	9.0	Franklin	L.	M.	M.	F.	Pink	Lavender
Madame Calot.....	8.1	Mieliez	M.	T.	E.	F.	Pink, light old rose	Crimson flakes
Madame de Verneville.....	7.9	Crousse	S.	M.	E.	F.	White	Blush
Madame Emile Debatene.....	8.75	Dessert-Doriat	L.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	Silvery
Madame Emile Galle.....	8.5	Crousse	M.	M.	L.	F.	Pink, light rose	.....
Madame Emile Lemoine.....	8.9	Lemoine	M.	T.	M.	F.	White	Crimson flakes
Madame Forel.....	7.7	Crousse	L.	M.	L. M.	F.	Pink-lavender	.....
Madame Geissler.....	7.9	Crousse	L.	M.	L. M.	.....	Pink, light old rose	.....
Madame Jules Dessert.....	9.4	Dessert	L.	T.	L. M.	F.	Flesh white	.....
Marie Crousse.....	8.9	Crousse	L.	M.	M.	F.	Pale pink	.....
Marie Jacquin.....	8.3	Verdier	M.	M.	M.	F.	Blush white	.....
Marie Lemoine.....	8.5	Calot	L.	D.	L.	F.	White	Cream
Martha Bulloch.....	9.1	Brand	L.	T.	L.	F.	Pink, old rose	.....
Mary Brand.....	8.7	Brand	M.	M.	M.	F.	Red, dark crimson	.....
Mary Woodbury Shaylor.....	9.0	Shaylor	L.	D.	L. M.	F.	Flesh white	Crimson flecks
Matilda Lewis.....	9.19	Saunders	M.	M.	L.	.....	Dark mahogany	.....
Milton Hill.....	9.0	Richardson	M.	M.	L.	.....	Light pink	.....
Minnie Shaylor.....	8.93	Shaylor	M.	M.	M.	.....	Light pink	.....
Minuet.....	9.35	Franklin	L.	T.	L.	.....	Light pink	.....
Monsieur Jules Elie.....	9.2	Crousse	L.	T.	E. M.	F.	Pink-rose	.....
Monsieur Martin Cahuzac.....	8.8	Dessert	M.	M.	E. M.	D.	Red-maroon	.....

Variety	Rating	Originator	Size of flowers	Height of plant	Season of bloom	Fragrance	Color of petals	
							Main	Secondary
DOUBLE								
Mr. L. van Leeuwen.	8.62	Nieuwen-huyzen	L.	M.	L. M.	F.	Red	
Mrs. A. B. Franklin.	9.41	Franklin	L.	M.	L.	F.	White	
Mrs. A. M. Brand.	9.04	Brand	L.	M. T.	L.	F.	White	
Mrs. C. S. Minot.	9.2	Minot	L.	D.	L.	F.	Pink	
Mrs. Dean Funk.	9.05	Brand	M.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	
Mrs. Edward Harding	9.3	Shaylor	M.	M.	M.	S.	White	
Mrs. F. A. Goodrich.	8.88	Brand	M.	M.	L.	F.	Deep pink	
Mrs. Frank Beach.	8.95	Brand	M.	M. D.	L.	E.	White	Cream
Mrs. Harriet Gentry	8.95	Brand	M.	T.	L.	.....	White	
Mrs. John M. Good.	9.10	Good & Reese	M.	M.	L. M.	.....	White	
Mrs. John M. Kleitsch	8.98	Brand	L.	M. T.	L.	F.	Pink, light rose	Lavender
Mrs. J. V. Edlund.	9.44	Edlund	M.	M.	L.	.....	White	
Mrs. Romaine B. Ware	8.85	Brand	M.	T.	M.	S.	Pink, light flesh	
Mrs. W. L. Gumm	9.30	Gumm	M.	M.	M.	.....	Pink	
Myrtle Gentry.	9.06	Brand	L.	M. T.	L. M.	F.	Pink	Flesh
Nancy Dolman.	8.92	Vories	L.	T.	L.	.....	Pink, pale rose	
Nell Shaylor.	8.67	Shaylor	L.	D.	M.	F.	Shell pink	
Nina Secor.	9.0	Secor	M.	M.	M.	D.	White	Cream
Octavie Demay.	8.5	Calot	M.	D.	E.	F.	Pink, light rose	Crimson flakes
Philippe Rivoire.	9.2	Riviere	S.	M.	M.	F.	Red, dark crimson	
Phoebe Cary.	8.8	Brand	M.	T.	L.	F.	Pale pink	
Phyllis Kelway.	9.0	Kelway	L.	M.	M.	S.	Pink-rose	
President Wilson.	9.3	Thurlow	L.	M.	L.	F.	Pink-rose	
Pride of Essex.	8.9	Thurlow	M.	T.	M.	F.	Pink	Blush
Rachel.	8.3	Lemoine	M.	M.	M. L.	S.	Pink, light rose	
Raoul Dessert.	9.0	Dessert	M.	M.	L.	F.	Pink	
Reine Hortense.	8.7	Calot	L.	T.	M.	S.	Pink-rose	Crimson fleck
Richard Carvel.	8.8	Brand	M.	T.	E.	S.	Crimson	
Rosa Bonheur.	9.0	Dessert	L.	M.	L.	F.	Pink, old rose	
Rose Shaylor.	9.1	Shaylor	L.	T.	M.	F.	Light pink	Cream
Sarah Bernhardt.	9.0	Lemoine	L.	M.	L.	F.	Pink, deep rose	
Sarah Carstensen.	8.5	Terry	M.	D.	M.	S.	Pink, light rose	Crimson flake
Sarah K. Thurlow.	9.1	Thurlow	M.	M.	L.	F.	White	Blush
Silvia Saunders.	9.04	Saunders	S.	D.	E.	P.	Pink-rose	
Solange.	9.7	Lemoine	L.	M. T.	M.	F.	White-cream	Buff pink
Souvenir de Louis Bigot.	9.1	Dessert	M.	M.	M.	F.	Pink	Salmon
Therese.	9.8	Dessert	L.	M.	M.	F.	Pink, pale old rose	
Thomas C. Thurlow.	9.1	Thurlow	M.	M.	M.	F.	Pink-white	Cream
Tourangelle.	9.4	Dessert	M.	M.	L.	F.	Pink	Cream
Venus.	8.3	Kelway	M.	T.	M.	F.	Pale pink	Lavender
Victoire de la Marne	8.2	Dessert	L.	M.	M.	D.	Purple-red	
Victory Chateau Thierry.	8.92	Brand	L.	M. D.	M.	F.	Pink	
Walter Faxon.	9.3	Richard-son	S.	M.	M.	F.	Pink	Shell pink
W. F. Christman.	8.8	Franklin	M.	M.	M.	F.	Pink	Flesh white
Wilton Lockwood.	8.8	Shaylor	L.	T.	M.	F.	Light rose-pink	
William F. Turner.	8.4	Shaylor	M.	T.	E. M.	.....	Crimson	

Mulches for Winter Protection

By DR. C. H. CONNORS, of New Jersey College of Agriculture

The dictionary defines a mulch as any substance—straw, sawdust, leaves and the like—spread upon the ground to protect the roots of plants from heat, cold or drought. Sometimes the mulch fulfills two of these requirements—protection from heat and drought, or from cold and drought.

The need for mulching is not always clear in the minds of gardeners. At one time it was considered almost criminal not to mulch the perennial border in winter, when, as a matter of fact, plants have gone safely through winter without this protection. The danger of damage, of course, varies with climate and with the condition of the soil. If the soil is not in good physical condition, the danger of injury during winter is always greater. For good growth of plants, it is advisable to have a rather high content of decayed organic matter in the soil. This absorbs and holds moisture against the time of drought and at the same time lessens the danger of injury from heaving, since the organic matter slows up the reaction of the soil to heat or cold.

Probably the greatest loss of plants in gardens during the winter is the result of heaving, although in very sandy soils there is some loss from what is called dry freezing. If the soil in which plants are growing freezes and thaws frequently, the roots which anchor the plants may be broken off and the crowns of the plants will be raised above the soil level. This is especially likely to happen with those plants which have rather heavy roots that are tap-like in nature, such as gypsophila, aquilegia, delphinium and so on. The breaking off of the feeding roots means that moisture cannot be absorbed, and the raising of the crown in the air exposes a portion of the root to free air, which is an unusual condition frequently resulting in the killing of the tissue.

To prevent this damage, the mulch should be applied after the soil has been frozen to a depth of about two inches. The object of the mulch, in this case, is not to keep the soil from freezing, but to keep it frozen as long as possible. Of course, warm spells will come, but if the soil is covered with a mulch, it will not thaw so quickly as it would if it were bare. Neither will it freeze so rapidly as it would if it were bare. The mulch, then, results in a retardation of the freezing and the thawing, and consequently is an insurance against heaving.

Mention has been made of the dry freezing that is apt to occur in

very sandy soils. Unless these soils have been improved with decayed organic matter to act as a sponge, the soil water quickly drains from the surface three or four inches. Because of the large spaces among the grains, the large body of air in these spaces becomes very cold, and in contact with the roots kills the tissue. A mulch in this case helps to retain moisture in the top layer of soil and hence tends to reduce danger from freezing.

FOR EVERGREENS

A good example of the use of a mulch to keep heat out is observed in the case of ericaceous plants, such as rhododendrons and azaleas. These plants naturally grow in partly shaded situations, in soils with a high organic content. It has been observed that they will make sturdier, more stocky growth, that more flowers will be produced and that there is more freedom from certain diseases if they are grown in full sun. However, certain conditions must be fulfilled. There must be plenty of organic matter in the soil, which in this case must be acid in reaction, and there must be a heavy mulch to keep the roots cool and at the same time retain moisture.

The mulch over the roots of rhododendrons and similar evergreen plants serves another important purpose, that of keeping out the cold. This holds true whether they are growing in full sun or in shade. These plants are all relatively shallow-rooted; that is, the feeding roots are close to the surface. These broad-leaved evergreens are constantly transpiring moisture, even during winter when growth has ceased, and the transpiration is especially rapid when the wind is blowing. If the soil about the roots freezes too deep, there will be no moisture for the roots to absorb, and that which is transpired will be taken from the plant tissue. Thus the vitality of the plants is lowered and death often results.

For rhododendrons and their like, there is no better mulch than oak leaves. The mulch should be four to six inches deep and should be added to each year. It can be held in place by using twigs among the leaves. These leaves, as they decay, supply nutrients that the plants require and at the same time create the acid condition that is necessary. If only maple, poplar or similar soft, thin leaves are available, it would be wiser to use a mulch of two or three inches of coarse peat moss. Maple and other soft leaves rot quickly and leave an alkaline residue, which in time will be injurious to the plants.

During the past two years there has been severe injury to boxwood from freezing. While it is true that the extremely low temperatures have

killed tissue, and also that weakening of the plants by attacks of disease has made them more susceptible to injury, nevertheless a number of cases have been observed where there was practically no killing because proper protection had been given.

In one case in particular, the tops of the plants had been protected, but, in addition, certain of the plants had the added protection of a mulch which prevented deep freezing. These latter plants came through with little leaf scorch, while those with only the tops covered showed some injury. The freezing of the soil water placed it in such a condition that the roots could not absorb it, resulting in partial desiccation of the leaf and stem tissue through the transpiration, and consequent danger from extreme cold.

The last two groups mentioned have been broad-leaved evergreens. It is seldom necessary to protect coniferous evergreens, such as arbovitae, retinisporas, yews and junipers after they have become established. However, it is usually advisable to mulch them for a year or two after planting, especially if they have been planted in the autumn. While they are usually moved with a ball of soil about the roots, it takes a little while for this ball to become consolidated with the soil about it. It will take a longer time if the burlap is left about the ball. A mulch will help to retain moisture and will prevent deep freezing, thus permitting and encouraging root action throughout a good part of the winter.

MATERIALS FOR MULCHES

Of the types of materials to use for mulches, much can be said. Certain types of planting may require different treatment. A recommendation has already been made concerning the mulch for rhododendrons and their kin, namely, oak leaves or peat moss.

Snow is an excellent mulching material, for it is a good insulator because of the numerous air spaces. A good coating of snow, therefore, gives protection against severe freezing. This was evidenced during the winter of 1933-34, when partially hardy plants, such as California privet and hybrid tea roses, were killed back to the snow line. In one garden, an alpine garden in the true sense, no mulch is applied until two or three inches of snow have fallen. As soon as this occurs, a mulch of salt hay is applied. The salt hay tends to prevent the melting of the snow, and a natural mulch on that type of garden is therefore present.

As a general statement, a mulch should be loose and open, because what is known as an exchange of gases is necessary. Even though plants

are dormant during the winter, there are chemical changes that are brought about in the plant tissue and in the soil that result in waste gases being given off. It should be possible for these gases to escape and to be replaced by fresh air containing oxygen. Consequently, if the mulching material is of such a nature that it will pack tight, or if it becomes water-soaked readily and will pack down and freeze, the exchange of gases will be prevented. Further, the mulching material should be free of disease and insects and of objectionable seeds.

An older recommendation was to allow the dead stems of perennials to remain on the garden in winter, to catch and hold the leaves and snow. It is now believed much wiser to remove dead plant stems from the garden and to destroy them by burning, as they may harbor diseases and insects over winter.

In certain works on gardening it is recommended that the garden be mulched in winter with spruce, fir or hemlock boughs. These do form ideal mulching materials where they can be obtained readily, but so few of us have forests of these evergreens where we can cut mulching material that their use is generally out of the question. Next to these, a hard straw, such as rye straw or wheat straw, is to be recommended. It is wise to try to obtain straw that has been well threshed, however, for the seeds may cause a problem, although not a serious one, in the garden the following year. Strawy manure is sometimes used, but unless it is very strawy, the solid part may freeze to the ground. Besides, there may be weed seeds present in the remnants of hay.

Well-rotted manure is not usually considered desirable. It is apt to freeze solid and hence create a smothering blanket. Salt hay is often used, but the stems are so fine that they are apt to pack down. If the mulch of salt hay is loosened up occasionally with a fork, it will prove satisfactory. Leaves by themselves are seldom to be recommended, unless oak leaves are used. These do not become water-soaked. If the leaves of maples, poplars and lindens are the only mulching material available, it is advisable first to place a layer of twigs upon the soil, and then to put the leaves on top of the twigs. This will permit a free circulation of air under the leaves even if they should pack down and freeze.

WHEN TO APPLY

The time of applying the mulch will vary with the subject. For evergreen plants, such as rhododendrons, boxwood and coniferous evergreens, recently planted, make sure that the soil surrounding the plants

is well supplied with moisture. Before deep freezing occurs, the mulch should be applied, because with these plants it is deep freezing of the soil that we desire to prevent, as far as possible.

In the perennial border, it is advisable to wait until the soil is frozen to a depth of about two inches, and then to apply the mulch. The object of using the mulch, in this case, is to keep the soil frozen as long as possible and to retard thawing and, again, freezing. It is rapid alternate freezing and thawing that is responsible for the heaving of plants.

The mulch in the perennial border should be applied to a depth of from three to six inches. In applying it, care must be exercised not to cover the tops of those plants that retain their green leaves all winter, such as iberis, or hardy candytuft, oriental poppies and armeria. Covering the tops may result in the smothering and consequent death of the plants. The leaves should be lifted and the mulch carefully placed under them and around the corms of the plants.

There is one other type of mulch that is used, and that is a soil mulch about the more tender types of roses, especially hybrid teas. In this case, additional soil is piled up about the crown of the plant to a height of about six inches. The tops of the rose plants may kill back, but this killing back will usually be only to the top of the soil. Thus ample wood is left for the production of a new top the following year.—From *American Nurseryman*, November 15.



A Communication

From J. A. BONGERS, Ottumwa, Ia.

It is cool today so I shall take advantage of the weather and write you concerning a trip I took to Canada, to see peonies in retaliation to myself for not having gone to the Boston Show. I still regret that I did not go to the show and I rather think that in the future I will not have any regrets, I'll simply go. Mr. Claybaugh gave me a very nice write-up of the show and Mr. Peyton wrote briefly, promising a full account later. He is quite busy I know but I am expecting a letter from him any day. In addition, I shall have your write-up in the BULLETIN, so those reports will have to satisfy me for the year. At the same time, one of the features of the show with me, is to meet old friends and new ones, too, and that feature has been lost for the year, hence my regret.

I went out to Sass Bros. and saw some very nice things in peonies and iris, too, mostly those of H. P. Sass. Henry Sass has two long rows of seedlings but I could not work up much enthusiasm for any of them. He has a pink Jap that looked very good, a red double that attracted, but I did not like the stems, they were quite bending. He has a promising white double, too, but aside from them I was not much interested. Hans, though, has three or four worthy of notice. That 9-26 of his is choice, even with *Elsa Sass* or *Diana* lying around. He had five plants of it in a row with five plants of *Alice Harding*, and he remarked he thought it as good, said "maybe better." I have it on a two-year-old and like it and as I saw it in his field, I like it better. He has a red and a white Jap, just numbered, that were very attractive. Those, along with five new iris seedlings were the best I saw at their places.

Then to avenge myself, as it were, for not going to the National Show, I concluded to go to Toronto to see Dr. Brethour's things. I went and I left feeling well repaid for having made the trip. Aside from the kindly hospitality of himself and daughter, I saw five peonies that are really comers, namely, *Ecstasy*, *Blanch Elie*, *Lady Rolfe*, *Lady Eleanor* and *Mrs. Lawrence*. My chief concern in the trip was to see *Blanch Elie*, heralded as a duplicate of *Jules Elie*. I saw it and was satisfied and convinced. It is real early and I saw one fine bloom, the last good one to open. It never shows red, has the same row of guard petals, with the long incurved petals as in *Jules Elie*. In other words it is an exact duplicate and though it may not attain the great size of *Jules Elie*, yet Dr.

Brethour said it was very large. He said, too, that the stems were better than *Jules Elie*, and the plants I saw bore evidence of that. For what it is represented as being, I think it has *Frankie Curtis* or *Luxor* skinned a mile. I don't know of a peony added to the list in recent years that is so distinctive and good. If he can show that peony in first class form at Toronto, providing the show is held there, and the three with whom I talked are anxious for it, I feel it is one peony worthy of the gold medal. His *Ecstasy* in a white with a yellow glow or cast, which is retained throughout the life of the flower is good. It seems to have extra good substance and is full rose form. The plant and the stems are good and he said it opened well. I don't know how it would do around here but I intend to find out. Because of the deep yellow coloring throughout the flower it is different, not as *Luella Shaylor*, but throughout the petals. I think it much better than *Luella*.

He has three pinks that are most satisfying. Two, I believe, are originations of a near-by grower and one his own. *Lady Rolfe* and *Mrs. Lawrence* are the two which he obtained from this grower and he thinks he has the only available stock. *Lady Eleanor* is his own. *Lady Rolfe* is a duplicate of *Therese* and is gorgeous. The clear, wonderfully colored petals linger in my memory. It is a splendid flower. As much can be said for *Mrs. Lawrence*. Very large and opening a deep pink it fades into a grand flower. It reminded me very much of *Martha Bulloch*. It has charm and class and you simply cannot quit looking at it and admiring it. Those who admire *Blanche King* and think it very good should behold *Lady Eleanor*. Just as deeply colored with good stems and a fine plant, the fragrance alone would make the flower notable. I think anyone revels in the fragrance of *Marie Lemoine*, *Kelway's Glorious* or *Vories' Mrs. R. M. Batcheller*, but for deep, heavy rose fragrance that will fill a room *Lady Eleanor* leads any of the above. In color, in form and size and in plant habit it easily equals *Blanche King*, and it holds its color well in the sun; it was eighty-nine degrees when I was in the patch. Then, because of its notable fragrance, I would much prefer it to *Blanche King*, in a deep pink, and to many others of whatever color.

In seeing those five flowers I felt well repaid for the trip and felt compensated in part, for not attending the show. Harry Norton stopped off in Toronto on his return from the show, three days before I arrived and the doctor showed me three seedlings that Mr. Norton thought he ought to number and watch. I just couldn't see much in them. A pink or a white splashed red does not attract me at all. *Festiva Maxima*, *Denise*

and *General Gorgas* and sometimes *Mrs. A. M. Brand*, are enough of them for me; in fact, I think we have too many of them now, and a pink splashed red gets on my nerves. He has two pink Japs, one rather deep pink and the other lighter toned that were very pretty, possessed very good substance and were not bad. The carpels in one, the deeper pink, named *Betty Hires*, were tipped rose and in the lighter one they were cream. It seemed to me the staminodes were too few and not distinctive. In comparison to *Ama-no-sode*, *Tamate-boku*, or *Antwerpen* were not in it, so I could not show much interest in them. He has a nice white single under number, that was different and looked like it might be worth while. It had been divided last year so was not up to standard, but the petals had a noticeable waxiness and smoothness and were of fine substance. I thought pretty much of it. The carpels were tipped red with a good bunch of stamens. It possessed good form, held right up, cup shaped and was quite late, blooming with *Solange* and the later ones.

His *Etienne Brule* was disappointing to me, and also to himself this year. I could see some *Solange* form but no color in the flower. It has a strong tendency this year to open sidewise and being very late I rather think it would be hard to open here. The flower has good substance and the rounded form of *Solange*, but it lacks a whole lot of equalling *Solange* in color. I could see little or no value in it because all the blooms were so uneven and sidewise in opening. He was disappointed and needless to say, I was. Unless it changes materially I do not look for it to get very far.

I could mention three others he has under number which looked first rate, at least two of them did. The other was a profuse blooming pink, medium height, with the best of stems, which made the plants attractive. Indoors the blooms looked rich, much on the order of *Milton Hill* and even outdoors it was quite an attraction. It was an elegant performer and not at all a bad color. On most of the blooms the center petals were edged a very fine red, not discernible, unless upon very close inspection. I rather think he will name it and if so, I would prefer it to *Etienne Brule*. The odor is just fair.

The doctor has a nice lot of seedlings taken as a whole and I believe he is careful and painstaking. He is looking forward to the show being held in Toronto and said they had ample halls to stage the show; that he expected a good attendance and there was no question about the financial end of the show. Toronto is quite a fine town of 800,000,

so on the face of it it looks as if it would be all right. He stated, too, that the growers farther west in the Dominion would stage most of the show or rather, provide most of the bloom. However, I suppose you will have a line on that before the final decision is made, and if it is Toronto, I'll be there with some bloom.

I have before me as I write some very nice blooms of *Jules Elie*, *Richard Carvel* and *Walter Faxon* and also a few of *Solange* and *Tourangelle*. The two former were in storage five weeks, the latter ones a month. All were cut in fairly soft bud and placed in water and held in thirty-six degrees temperature. I brought them out yesterday (July 12) and they are standing up particularly well. *Jules Elie* seems best, its form is first class; *Richard Carvel* is a surprise. Most of them had opened quite a bit but some were still in bud and have opened nicely, showing good color. To say the least, I am surprised. I am only sorry I did not put a few dozen buds in water for six hours and then put them in storage, freeze them till September 1 and then see what they would do. I intend to do it next year. Someone else has some blooms in a box in storage, stored dry, and they are a frost. Petals are falling and they will be a mess once they are handled. I have thought all along that water in storage was essential, and from the actions of my blooms and seeing the other ones stored dry, I am fully convinced that water is the thing. I had mine in a fifty-pound lard can, right up to their necks and I did not change it, though I believe one should. I had not seen them since I put them in storage until I took them out. They were just about wide open and in splendid condition, and to see them now is quite novel.

We had a nice peony show here June 7-8. I had splendid bloom. About half the blooms had been in storage and the rest I cut out of the patch. I never saw better bloom anywhere.

I hope to write you soon concerning my blooming season. If I live to be one hundred I'll never see a better one. Weather conditions were perfect and the peonies responded in a way that made my heart glad. *Kelway's Glorious*, *Mrs. James Kelway*, the most gorgeous blooms I ever saw, *Therese*, *Martha Bulloch*, *La Lorraine*, *Georgiana Shaylor* and *La France* were perfection.

Tribute to a Vase of Peonies

By P. S. McDONALD

Oh persistent loveliness which will not let me be,
You have enticed my hand to write this poem.
Some day memory will stir me as I see these words
And faintly on a phantom breeze will come that tender,
Fragile scent to lift my eyes. Discovery
Shall leave me breathless then as now.
Open as ever you shall be
Deep pink about a golden heart, perfect and whole,
Stem tall and straight
Lifting the rosy perfumed weight
Of petal and stamen and pollen, leaves
Glossily, greenly accenting these.
How sweetly I have been enticed to look again, again
Before tomorrow's loosening breeze will start its rosy rain
Of petals on the carpet, petals which will darken
And never be again a perfect flower part.
Oh persistent loveliness, my eyes have gazed profoundly,
My hands have held your coolness,
My lungs have breathed you slowly,
No hour this day has passed without its awareness
Of you in your widest, sweetest fairness,
That faint fresh lure of your scent compelling
My eyes to turn to your petals swelling
And stretching out to their utmost glory.
I shall sweep up pink tears tomorrow morning.

North Dakota Peony Society's Show

By MRS. M. B. KANNOWSKI, Grand Forks, N. D.

The fourteenth annual show of the North Dakota Peony Society was held in the lobby of the Ryan Hotel at Grand Forks on June 28 and 29. Although it was a few days early for some of the varieties, the display was the finest of any show held by the Society. The blooms were large and perfect, standing up well during the entire show. July 1 being Dominion Day, the show was held over an extra day that Canadian visitors here for the week-end might have the opportunity of viewing the display. Fresh flowers were brought in to replace those which had wilted and the display was fine through the entire three days.

There were two hundred entries, the majority of which were choice named varieties. Shuster Greenhouses of Crookston, Minn., had a fine display. Other displays were made by Mrs. Mabel Collins, florist; Northwest Nursery of Valley City; Northwestern Plant & Floral Company of East Grand Forks, and Mrs. M. B. Kannowski.

A perfect bloom of *Therese*, raised by Mrs. Henry Ruud of Grand Forks, won the prize as Grand Champion. Sweepstakes went to Mrs. B. P. Chapple of Bathgate, N. D., who entered a large number of the better named varieties and easily carried off the honors.

The largest number of entries came in the dark pink and red classes. Many of the fine varieties of white and light pink opened too late for the show. The early whites were splendid, huge blooms. *Mary Brand* and *Adolph Rousseau* were outstanding in the reds. *Kelway's Glorious* was all its name implies. We missed *Le Cygne*, there being but one entry



A corner of the Northwest Peony Show at Grand Forks

and that poor. The pinks were the most perfect of all, *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Therese*, *Reine Hortense*, *Eugenie Verdier*, *Walter Faxon*, *Asa Gray* and many others as perfect as one could wish for. There were only a few entries in the Japanese and Singles, and none at all in the seedling class.

The judges for the show were Mr. E. J. Lander and Mr. E. C. Hilborn of Valley City. The garden flower entries were judged by Mrs. Collins, assisted by Mr. Hilborn.

The officers and directors of the Society are W. W. Blain, president; Franklin Page, of Hamilton, N. D., vice-president; Helen Hamilton, treasurer; Mrs. M. B. Kannowski, secretary, and F. L. Goodman, Dr. H. G. Woutat, Dr. J. H. Moore, T. R. Bangs, Dr. W. H. Hewitt, directors.



Iowa Peony and Iris Society

By EMMA V. SCHOOLEY, *Secretary*

The Iowa Peony and Iris Society held its annual meeting in Ames, November 22, in connection with the Iowa Horticultural and affiliated societies. Mr. Edward Auten, Jr., was secured to give two addresses.

In order to give more people the opportunity to hear him, the first, on the subject, "Hybridizing Peonies to Extend the Blooming Season," was given before the combined groups of the P. & I. and the Nurserymen's Association, and the second, "Peonies in the Landscape Picture," before the combined groups of P. & I. and the Federated Garden Clubs.

Mr. Auten easily adapted his remarks to the special interests of each audience. To the nurserymen he explained the need of earlier peonies, as the heat of June makes it undesirable to extend them much later than those already on the market. If they are to mature well in the summer heat they must be loose petaled and have a very vigorous root system. To secure earlier varieties, the crosses must be with the *Chinensis* and *Officinalis* varieties. These hybrids are almost always sterile, which has its advantages, since sterile blooms are the best keepers, but it also requires that for each cross a new start must be made from the primary stock.

Mr. Auten advised the Garden Club members to plant the latest things in peonies. At a certain flower show he noticed the cars were all up-to-date, but the peonies exhibited were of the 1900 introduction. For landscape planting, use peonies with good stiff stems, rather short. Plant them in groups. The peony is a royal flower and should not be dotted in among others as most flowers can be. Plant singles and Japs in one

group, doubles in another. Japs and singles are not so popular as full doubles, although the former have the richest yellows in their stamens. All peony tops should be cut and burned by the first of October, to prevent blight spread.

New officers of the society for 1936 are W. S. Snyder, president, Sioux City, Ia.; Elmer M. Reeves, vice-president, Waverly, Ia.; Miss Miriam Haw, secretary-treasurer, Ottumwa, Ia.



In Behalf of the Ladies

A Bit of Midsummer Madness

By BENJAMIN WILDER GUPPY

John Doe has been growing seedling peonies for years. He finally raises one that satisfies and promptly names it *Mrs. John Doe* as a tribute to his charming wife, probably not realizing that he is only advertising to the world that he, John Doe, has a wife. Our sympathy is with poor Mrs. Doe. Her individuality is submerged in that of the aforesaid John. Moreover John, perhaps, has sown the seed that may develop into an embarrassing situation in the future. It is claimed that the growing of seedling peonies promotes longevity and, as it is not good for man to live alone, there may be during a long, industrious and honorable life, several Mrs. John Does before John finally passes on to the Great Beyond. If John still wishes that peony to commemorate his first love he will have to amend its name to *Mrs. John Doe Number One*. The person who has no nickname is to be pitied. That person has no friends. Assume that the first Mrs. John Doe had been known to her husband and friends as Betsy. What name could have been more appropriate for that first peony than *Betsy Doe*? Then John and Betsy and all their friends would know that that particular peony had been named to compliment and commemorate Betsy. The rest of the world won't give a "hang" any way. To it the name is only a means for identification.



Urbana Test Gardens

The following Japanese and single peonies were observed at the University of Illinois Test Garden, Urbana, Ill., Sunday, June 9, 1935, in company with Prof. F. F. Weinard, 203 Floriculture Building, Urbana,

III. (Hyphenated numbers indicate test garden plot location; numbers not hyphenated are originator's numbers.)

SURUGU—Red Jap; blue-white cast to center; A-1 plant and bloom.

DUCHESS OF PORTLAND—Big, high-built white, pinkish tipped center; fine growth; free bloomer.

WHITE QUEEN (Holland)—Very fine bloom; similar form and color to *Auten Seedling No. 745* or *Alpha Sulphurea*; medium tall; fine plant; free bloomer.

TOKIO—Pale Pride of Langport; A-1 growth; free bloom.

PURITY (Holland No. 82)—Similar (and probably superior) to Aureolin; very tall, strong upright growth; white guards; cream center, with very distinct pink sepals.

TOGO-NO-TSUKI (Holland)—(No. 21-7); very loose, very large fluffy white, with pale cream center; very tall; delicious fragrance; similar to *Auten Seedling No. 745* or *Alpha Sulphurea* but larger.

HANA-NO-SATO (Syn. Cathedral)—Tall, upstanding growth; free bloomer; very fragrant; unattractive "violet-rose" color.

TORO-NO-MAKI—Very fine big flower; white guards, buff center; very fine upright growth; free bloom.

GEORGETTE—Very large, shaggy lavender pink; very strong, upright growth.

KUKENI-JISHI—The few blooms of this which I saw on young plants appeared to be of the same type as Toro-no-maki, but not as good. (I am not certain about the accuracy of this note.)

EXQUISITE (?) (Single or Jap?)—(114; 7-22); big, loose, pale pink and white, with yellow and pink center; very tall.

CATHEDRAL—Not needed. (See Hana-no-sato.)

JOSEPHINE (Jap)—Same general type as Pride of Langport, but deeper pink, with very yellow center; very early; very free bloomer, making an enormous bouquet in the field, about sixty blooms on mature plant. (Somewhat similar in color and form to *L'Étincelante*, but little later.)

BABCOCK SEEDLING—(11-1); small deep red pink, rather attractive. (Not in commerce.)

DIANA (Jap?)—(83; 9-3); very fine, big fluffy pink.

HINODE-SEKAI—(Holland 85; 16-4); strong magenta pink, good in mass; very tall. (This is listed as synonymous with Sunrise, but Sunrise, as I saw it is a dwarf.) (See Sunrise.)

YAMATO-SANGAI (Crown on crown)—(22-4); very high-built, very fine, three-story, double bloom; pink guards; second story white; third story pink.

KASMINO-REQUOIS—(Holland); (85; 17-6); medium dwarf, cup-shaped, deep magenta pink.

YOKOHAMA—(22-13); pale pink buds; enormous fluffy white bloom, with pale pink lights in open flower; fragrant.

ZAN-ZETZU—Very fine white; chiefly valued because last Jap to bloom.

CURRANT—Red pink, very fine large bloom. (This does not appear to me to be such an outstanding peony as is claimed by some observers, but it is a peony of some value for its mass effect.)

SUNRISE—(27-3); dwarf; clear dark pink, buff center; very "cute" and attractive. (The Peony Manual [p. 62] says Sunrise is a syn. for Hinode-sekai, but the latter peony, as I saw it, is very tall, while Sunrise is a dwarf.)

INSTITUTEUR DORIAT—(27-17); very tall dark red pink; broad petaloids, lower part tipped cream.

HATSUEGI—(25-17); tall light red; unique chrysanthemum form; good mass.

OSTRICH PLUME (Syn. Dr. Edgar Pleas)—(25-22); name suggests form; very tall, free bloomer; pink with pale yellow petaloids.

- FUJI-MINE (Syn. Cornelia)—(22-19); similar in form and color to *Auten Seedling No. 745* or *Alpha Sulphurea*; perfect form.
- MAKITATEYAMA—(85); very late, dark pink-red, buff center with chrysanthemum form; tall, upright growth.
- LARGO—(115); late; light pink guards, cream center; very large bloom; very tall, upright growth.
- APPLE BLOSSOM (Jap; syn. Rei-kai-Zan)—(59); half-dwarf; good, free-blooming small flower, similar in color to Marie Jacquin.
- SHINSO-JIBIKI (Single?)—(85); somewhat similar to Apple Blossom, but more dwarf and opens clearer pink; very free bloomer.
- TREADOR (Single)—Fine red (King of England type); very tall, upright growth.
- SEEDLING NO. 101 (Farr?)—(93; 26-5); slightly cupped, white guards, very yellow, fine petaloids; tall, upright growth.
- AKASHI-GATA—Fine, very dark pink guards, with heavy ball buff center; upright growth; medium tall; free bloomer.
- CONSTANCE—Big, clear pink, cupped guards, buff chrysanthemum-form center; tall, spreading growth.
- FAUST—Good white ball; upright growth, medium tall. (This peony must be classed as a Jap only because of its breeding as it is apparently full double in form.)
- BLACK MAGIC (Single)—Very large, free-blooming, black-red, fine growth. (I think this peony is too dark in color to be attractive, but it is *very fine* of that type.)
- ONAHAMA—Deep magenta; tall, upright growth. (This is a good peony, but not outstanding.)
- ABBE (Jap)—Dull, deep pink self; medium tall; pretty good peony, but not outstanding, and apparently has the habit of blooming on one side of the plant only.
- MAETERLINCK—Fluffy, flat white bloom; rather attractive, unique form.
- FUJI-SOME-GINA—(85); purplish pink guards, white center; medium tall; early; makes fine mass.
- GEKKIODEN—White guards, pale cream center; medium tall; flower of fine character.
- EMILIE—(85); three-story flower; first story, white guards; second story, pink petaloids; third story, broad white feathers with brick red spots, and pink sepals showing.
- ANTWERPEN—Lilac-pink guards; heavy, clear orange-buff center; late; tall. (Would have to see more of this peony in order to be as much impressed with it as others seem to have been who have doubtless had better opportunity for observation.)
- GOLDEN DAWN—This peony, supposed to be identical with Primavere, did not appear to me to be exactly the same, and I think it has distinctive value.
- GINKO-NSHIKI—(This is apparently the best of a very odd type of recent Japanese hybridization. It looks as if it might have been produced by the same Japanese who bred the chickens with their feathers turned back.) It is a mottled white and magenta, with a distinctive mongrel look. (There are several new Japanese peonies of this class, and none of them is worth garden space except as curiosities.)
- REI-KAI-ZANI—(I understand this is the peony also listed as Apple Blossom, description of which see above.)
- FABIOLA (Jap)—Fine light pink Jap in half-open bud; not a free bloomer; and probably only to be generally classed as fair.
- NOONDAY (Single)—(115); blooms of fine character, having deep pink guards, with crinkled, rose-pink, ¼-inch wide petaloids, edged buff; tall, upright growth.
- PETITE RENEE (Jap)—Big, very clear light pink flower, of fluffy high ball form, with flaring guards; very tall.
- GLORY (Jap)—(5); guards of salmon pink when opening, fading to clear pale pink, with very twisted, loose, ruffled center of irregular form and quite attractive.
- FUJI-ZOME-GORONO—Pale Amo-no-sode, with fine, thread-like petaloids.
- TAIHO—I am not certain, but I think my note on this indicates that I regarded it as a fine peony.

 

Secretary's Notes

 

At this season of the year most of us have time to peruse more carefully the various publications that may come to us. We feel sure you will find this issue of the BULLETIN interesting and particularly so the table taken from the Cornell Extension Bulletin. This college has done some splendid work in promoting interest in the peony and the various publications it has presented pertaining to this flower are all very useful and valuable. I trust that some of our members who are statistically inclined may continue the observations along this same line covering varieties not included in the table presented. On a number of varieties, fragrance, or lack of fragrance is not noted. We have a number of very fine peonies that lack fragrance, or if they possess this attribute, they have a displeasing odor and a knowledge of this information is very helpful in making selections for our plantings.

* * *

Mr. Kelsey has again favored us with one of his splendid poems, "The Sanctuary." We grow to love our gardens with each succeeding year, for there is always hidden therein God's wonders. We await the spring with eagerness to behold the beauty to be unfolded to our gaze, and with the passing of days, new wonders are always being brought out to greet us.

* * *

Mr. Guppy has given us some sound advice in the matter of growing seedling peonies. The past few years has brought about some splendid results in the production of new kinds of peonies and one has only to glance through the pages of the BULLETIN to note the interest being shown along this line. Unfortunately, the Department of Registration only carries a few of the new ones developed as we find some of our most successful growers are reticent, or possibly too modest to list their new varieties. I would dislike very much to feel that they were indifferent in the matter as by registering varieties, we will avoid, in many instances, duplications of names, which we wish very much to avoid.

* * *

Mr. Bongers has given us a most interesting description of his trip to various peony plantings that I am sure will be read with profit. We

hope the coming season will bring to us many fine reports of pilgrimages to peony plantings and exhibitions. Our opinions on identical varieties may be at considerable variance but this brings out a very interesting feature. There are many features to be considered before arriving at a definite conclusion as to the merits of any flower or variety. Healthy stock, soil and climatic conditions, methods of cultivation and handling, location in relation to sunlight, freedom from roots of other plants or shrubs and proper drainage conditions are some of the outstanding points to be reckoned with.

* * *

"Mulches for Winter Protection," while a little tardy in this issue, will still be found to be of value as much of our real damage is done during the early spring when alternate freezing and thawing is so often experienced. While this article was prepared to cover the general mulching of plants and shrubs, it will be found full of valuable advice that can be used to advantage by the peony lover who usually has many of the plants and shrubs mentioned.

* * *

I am indebted to Edward J. Benes of 3412 West 84th Street, Chicago, Ill., for the poem, "A Tribute to a Vase of Peonies." Mr. Benes is an ardent peony lover and has a fine collection of peonies and we are fortunate to have him as one of our loyal members.

* * *

We were obliged to hold over the report of the North Dakota Peony Society's show but are pleased to present it in this issue together with a picture of a corner of the display. We are glad to get these reports of activities of the various peony societies as well as garden clubs featuring peonies in their display.

* * *

We brought the material for the BULLETIN with us and in some manner failed to get the name of the author of the comments on varieties observed at the trial gardens at Urbana. Rather than delay the publication longer than necessary we will present it and give credit to the author in a later issue. The letter of transmission has become detached from the article. These terse comments very aptly convey the impression of the author and we are grateful to him for this report and the splendid manner in which it is presented. The fifty-one varieties commented upon cover only a small number of the varieties being grown in the test garden

at Urbana which will be fully reported on this coming season when a final decision in the confusion existing of duplicated names will be attempted.

* * *

These notes were started while aboard the Hiawatha, the crack fast train of the Milwaukee Railway that was carrying us toward Minneapolis, Minn., where, with my family, we plan to spend the holidays.

As my mind wanders back to childhood days, I am greatly impressed with the changes that have taken place in the methods of transportation. The good old "horse and buggy" days when we used to speed along at five to ten miles per hour seemed to be adequate for our purpose. These days do not seem far removed from the present when we are flying through space at sixty to eighty miles in automobiles and in excess of one hundred miles per hour on railroad trains and far in excess of this amount by air transportation. With these facts in mind, we cannot help but wonder what another fifty years will bring forth in the way of travel comfort and speed. We do know that this excessive speed is taking a terrible toll of lives every day of the year and feel something drastic will have to be done to remedy this condition.

* * *

Another year has come to a close and with its closing we are facing the future with considerably more optimism than we did with the beginning of the year just ended, as we feel with reasonable assurance that we have emerged from the depths of confusion and uncertainty and are entering a period with more confidence and certainty than we have experienced for some time.

There is still much to be accomplished, but with renewed confidence and an assured feeling of security, we face the New Year with revived ambitions, stronger desires to set aright conditions that have been brought about by governmental experiments, many of which have been found to be unworkable, and to attack with fresh courage and energy the problems that still confront us.

* * *

This optimism is based on the assurance and hope that a return to more normal times can reasonably be expected. Every indication points to better conditions and the lesson we have learned from the depression should be a lasting one. We have passed that proverbial corner and are on the straight road to certain progress.

We are indeed very grateful to our loyal members for their continued co-operation and support during the past. A few have been compelled to cancel their memberships due to the stress of the times but have assured us that as soon as conditions will permit, they will rejoin us in our work.

Just how much we can improve our BULLETINS will depend upon the support given us by our members.

This is the season for making resolutions and may we suggest that one of these will be to continue your membership in the Society and try to prevail upon some peony lover who is not already a member to join our ranks. You will not find it a difficult task to persuade a peony lover that the BULLETINS will be of great value to him during the year. Mr. Peyton has in course of preparation, much more information about varieties of peonies, dealing particularly upon the newer and better kinds, that will appear in the next issue and following issues of the BULLETIN during the coming year. We will also have presented in the BULLETIN the coming year, a complete and valuable index that is being prepared by an expert, that will show at a glance all items of interest appearing in the BULLETINS since the first publication. These, and many more interesting articles will be presented during the year 1936.

We want to grow this coming year and with your support this is an assured fact. May we count on you?

* * *

THE COMING JUNE SHOW

Preliminary plans for the June exhibition of the Society have been completed and considerable publicity work has been accomplished.

The Royal York Hotel has been selected for headquarters during the show. The exhibition hall is yet to be selected but it will be within a few minutes' trip of the Royal York.

The general chairman is Charles Bauckham, Stirling Towers, 372 Bay Street, Toronto, Canada, in which city the exhibition will be held. A member of the publicity committee is a government lecturer to horticultural societies and I am satisfied we will get more publicity for this show than we are accustomed to receive. Splendid cold storage facilities will be provided and they are looking for some fine exhibits from the states that will make stiff competition in all the classes. This storage will enable those in districts where the season is much more advanced to store their bloom until the exhibition opens.

Definite dates will doubtless be announced in the March BULLETIN.

1936 dues are payable in advance and several have already sent in their remittances. If you have not already done so, we will greatly appreciate your remittance at this time. We have some very good BULLETINS planned for the coming year.

* * *

The directors and officers extend to you the season's greetings and wish to thank each and every one for their support and co-operation. It is our wish that the year 1936 may mean a very profitable and happy one for you, and that the interest in our favorite flower, the peony, may continue to increase each year.

It will be our aim to serve you to the very best of our ability during the coming year and will welcome your communications, comments and articles. We would be pleased to have enough articles to double the size of the BULLETIN and this could easily be done if our members would be willing to supply the necessary material. Let the articles come and watch the BULLETIN grow.



Department of Registration

W. E. Lanigan, Lincoln, Ill., submits for registration the following brief description of his seedling:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (*Lanigan*). Large white, double. Free-blooming. Note.—A more complete description will be given later.

NOTE.—This is not to be confused with President Lincoln (Brand, 1928), red single.



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THE American Iris Society has, since its organization in 1920, published 45 Bulletins which cover every phase of Iris growing and should be useful to all gardeners.

The society has copies of all but three of these Bulletins for sale. A circular giving list of contents of each Bulletin, price, etc., may be secured from the Secretary, B. Y. Morrison, Room 821, Washington Loan & Trust Bldg., Washington, D. C.

In order to dispose of surplus stocks of some numbers we offer 6 Bulletins (our selection) for \$1.00.

■ ■

Through an endowment given as a memorial to the late Bertrand H. Farr the American Iris Society is able to offer free to all Garden Clubs or Horticultural

Societies the use of our traveling library. This library contains all books ever published on Iris and a complete file of the Bulletins of this society and the English Iris Society, and miscellaneous pamphlets.

The library may be borrowed for one month without charge except the actual express charges. Organizations desiring it should communicate with the nearest of the following offices:

Horticultural Society of New York,
598 Madison Ave., New York City.

*Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh, Missouri
Botanic Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

Sydney B. Mitchell, School of Librarianship, Berkeley, Calif.

*Mrs. Leigh also has charge of the Society's collection of Iris lantern slides, which can be rented for \$10.

To Members of the *American Peony Society*

Did you ever wonder what peony species look like? Do you know what our American species look like? We often have, and so we begged the help of Professor Saunders whom you all know. The result is a beautiful series of photographs in the July issue of *The National Horticultural Magazine*. As a special offer to members of the American Peony Society, we will send a copy of this number for fifty cents. Payment should be made to The American Horticultural Society and the order sent to B. Y. Morrison, Room 821, Washington Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C. If stamps are sent, send only two-cent and three-cent stamps, please. Be sure to mention your membership in the American Peony Society.

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