



with the Garden Clubs

Evening Primrose

The Evening Primrose (Oenothera) is native to almost any part of the United States where it can gain a toehold in dry soil and a sunny spot. Oenotheras are divided into two classes; the nocturnal species which open in the night on the following day, and the Sundrops which remain open all day. There is really very little difference in the effect they create, since the nocturnal species close only to drop the faded flower, which is replaced by a fresh one. If you watch closely, you can see—and even hear—the flowers spring from bud to bloom in a single, lightning-quick motion.

Their flower form resembles the California poppy in shape and size. The prevailing color is yellow, but there are a number of species with white, pink, rose and red blooms. Since there is a wide variation in growth habit, they lend themselves to countless uses in the garden.

The best known of the night flowering group is Oenothera biennis, the common Evening-primrose native to our fields and light woods. It is a rather weedy perennial growing to 4 or 5 feet and coming from self sown seed. O. Speciosa, often called the wind primrose, grows to about 1 1/2 ft. with large silken flower cups, flushed soft pinkish yellow.

O. Tricoccata is a lower growing type, and is lovely tucked in a sunny pocket among rocks. It has immense white flowers flushed apricot. Another beauty for the rock garden is O. Missouriensis, rarely more than 10 inches high, with prostrate stems and beautiful and large golden flowers up to 4 and 6 inches across, blooming all summer long. O. mexicana rosea has showy deep rose flowers, blooming all summer on horizontal stems that branch from a center rosette of leaves.

There are a number of other types that give a lot of color to the perennial border during the summer. They come easily from seed or from clump division, and given dry soil and sun, demand little or no attention.

Lookingglass Garden Club

The Lookingglass Garden Club will meet at the Pearly Oar home June 28, at 1:30 p.m. All former board members are asked to be present at 1:00.

The roll call topic will be evergreen shrubs and the program topic will be "Soil and Compost." Also Mrs. Jacoby will give a report on the robin. All old members are urged to attend, and anyone wishing to become a member is welcome.

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Nitrogen Fertilizers Effects Vary Little

When deciding what kind of nitrogen fertilizer to buy, the main thing to keep in mind is the cost per pound of actual nitrogen, including the costs of transportation, handling and application.

That's the conclusion of A. S. Hunter, USDA soil scientist at Oregon State college, and T. L. Jackson, OSC soils specialist, after a study of 65 fertilizer trials carried out by the college's agricultural experiment station. These experiments show little difference in the effect of nitrogen from different commercial fertilizers on crop growth, if the fertilizers are properly applied at the right time.

This means, they say, there is little basis for claiming superiority of one kind of nitrogen fertilizer over another. While the researchers found some experiments where one source of nitrogen gave better results than other sources, in every case there were other ex-

periments where this source of nitrogen wasn't superior. On the basis of their study, the two men came to this conclusion—the nitrogen fertilizer that costs the least for each pound of actual nitrogen applied to the soil is usually the best.

Of course, there are other things than cost to keep in mind, Hunter and Jackson point out, that the value of other plant nutrients in some nitrogen fertilizers—such as sulphur in ammonium sulfate—should be recognized. But only if the plant nutrient is needed in the soil on which the fertilizer is to be applied.

Differences in the amount of acidity formed from different nitrogen fertilizers may also be important, they explain. It's often useful to apply nitrogen fertilizers with a maximum acidifying effect on alkali soils, while nitrogen fertilizers with a minimum acidifying effect have an advantage on acid soils.

Where the fertilizer can be placed is important under some conditions. Putting the nitrogen below the soil surface with placement equipment or by cultivation can be very desirable for spring applications in non-irrigated sections of both Eastern and Western Oregon.

Farm Page

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HAMMACK RE-ELECTED

Lyle Hammack was re-elected chairman of the state department of agriculture's Dairy Relations Advisory committee at its first 1956 meeting held recently in Salem. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the foods and dairies division of which O. K. Beals is chief.

Members are appointed to the committee by three dairy organizations, Oregon Dairymen's Assn., Oregon Dairy Industries and the Northwest Assn. of Retail Ice Cream Manufacturers.

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FREE PARKING AT THE FARM BUREAU

Mon. June 25, 1956—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 9

Fescue Seed Tax Slated To Take Effect July 1

The Oregon Chewings and Creeping Red Fescue commission will start collection of a commodity tax on all cleaned seed sales effective July 1. Chairman J. Dale Standley, LaGrande, announced following the commission's recent meeting in Salem.

He called attention to the fact that the tax will apply to sales of holdover stocks as well as the 1956 crop. The tax will be .04 of a cent a pound and will be collected by dealers. The commission will distribute dealers' report forms to all seed dealers.

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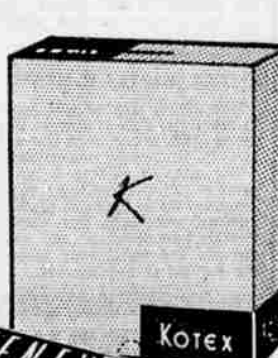
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