



MRS. BRUCE ELLIOTT inspects a favorite rose bush for signs of aphids and other pests as she prepares to dust with her favorite-all-purpose rose dust. Control of aphids, mildew and black spot is accomplished by regular use of one of the many dusts or sprays available. Rose care is easy, Mrs. Elliott says, if a regular routine of protection is followed. The reward is evident in the many beautiful shrubs and plants noted in the Elliotts' yard in Laurelwood. (News-Review photo)

## Turf Seed Market Reported Promising By OSU Experts

The prospect of smaller carryovers coupled with good foreign and domestic demand during the current marketing year are causes for optimism in the turf seed market situation for 1963, reports Ray Teal, Oregon State University extension seed and grain marketing specialist.

**Carryover Small**  
Prices for fine fescue seed are already reflecting prospects for a smaller carryover this year than in 1962. Teal points out in the new Oregon Farm and Market Outlook circular now available from county extension offices.

Canadian imports, a bugaboo for the Oregon industry, may be expected to decline sharply this year because Canada's 1962 crop was only 9.3 million pounds, compared to 21 million pounds in 1961, Teal notes.

Supplies of bentgrass seed for use would indicate a smaller carryover on July 1 than last year, provided use remains at last season's level, he adds. Prices have already strengthened for the bentgrasses and new plantings, particularly of Astoria, are being planned.

Growers should consult their seed dealer and county extension agent before making new plantings, Teal urges.

U.S. supplies of common bluegrass seed, including estimated imports, are smaller this season than last year with prices holding steady at last fall's levels so far this year. Acreage of Merion bluegrass for seed appear to be increasing about as fast as use increases at present prices, Teal observes.

There is evidence that more "private" bluegrass selections, introduced by seed companies, will be grown in the future and Teal suggests that growers planning to expand their acreage or plant bluegrass for the first time might investigate these new varieties. Developing and planting new varieties for special areas and uses can be to the Northwest's advantage, he adds.

Supplies of Alta fescue seed this season are a fourth smaller than the amount used last year, with prices reflecting this situation by reaching the highest level in several years, the specialist said. There is need for some new acreage where good quality seed can be grown with above average yields, Teal believes.

Orchardgrass acreage, particularly of the new improved varieties, is expanding in Oregon. The quality of western-grown orchardgrass seed is being recognized, Teal notes, giving seed growers an opportunity for further diversification of their operations. Penn-late, Potomac and Latar are varieties growers should consider, he adds.

Prospects are good that carryover of alfalfa seed this summer

will be smaller than last year, especially of improved varieties such as Vernal. The use of new improved varieties, produced in the Northwest, has been increasing rapidly.

Alkali and leaf cutter bees have made Eastern Oregon and the Columbia Basin area of Oregon and Washington high-yielding alfalfa seed areas with increasing acreage. By contrast, California acreage is declining, he said.

Lied clover seed supplies are currently near the recent use level and a moderate seed acreage increase is justified in the Northwest where good yields can be obtained. Prices for improved varieties may be expected to remain strong in the near future, Teal believes.

**Garden-Break Pup By Use Of Spray**  
Ending dog nuisance and mess in both the house and yard need not be difficult if you follow these easy tips.

If you have a new puppy, keep him in a rugless room or in the kitchen until he is housebroken. When the puppy makes a mistake, wipe it up with a rag and take the rag to a spot you have selected in the garden. Place the cloth there. Each time the puppy repeats a mistake, scold him and take him to the spot you have selected. Take him to this same spot in the morning, before each play period and after each meal. The odor of the rag there will give him the idea of using this same spot. Stay with him until he relieves himself, then compliment him and take him back to the house.

Dogs tend to return to a spot they have used before because of the odor. Therefore, it is important that you discourage them from using shrubs, trees, flowers or building corners.

Just as odors tend to attract animals, so do, can odors be used to repel. The odor of nicotine sulphate will keep your dog, neighbor's pets, rabbits and cats away from your precious plants.

Mix two tablespoons of nicotine sulphate solution in a gallon of water and apply every two weeks to possible pet targets. Be sure to renew applications of the spray after every rain.

Evergreens and shrubs can be protected by dipping three or four pipe cleaners in nicotine sulphate solution, embedding the tops of the cleaners cane-fashion, then hook them over low branches at the nose level of the average dog.

Tree trunks can be protected by wrapping a one-inch strip of cloth saturated with the same solution around the trunk at the height of a dog's nose.

Once nicotine sulphate is applied, nature takes its course by utilizing the animal's keen sense of smell, making dogs, cats and rabbits detour to more attractive playgrounds.

**Arrangers Adopt Ornamental Kale**  
The most exquisite coloring you can imagine in such a utilitarian plant as kale is present in the type known as "ornamental" or "flowering" kale. In a single plant leaves may be colored various shades of green shading to pale pink then to deeper pink, often with white or cream color in addition.

Or, the leaves may grade from dark to light green, to yellow to cream to white in another head. Do you wonder that this plant is beloved of flower arrangers?

As the weather grows colder in autumn, the colors of the leaves deepen — one reason why arrangements for the fall holidays, Halloween and Thanksgiving, which use leaves of ornamental kale will be particularly beautiful.

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# The News-Review Garden SECTION

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**'GET THOSE BUGS'** — That's probably what Bruce Elliott is saying to himself as he sprays shrubbery outside the Elliott home in Laurelwood. In approved fashion, Elliott wears gloves while handling insecticides and tries to pick a windless day for spraying. Scenes like the one pictured are being observed all over the area as residents attack the hosts of insects and other pests which crop up along with late spring growth of plants. Regular spraying and dusting do much toward promoting a healthy, pest-free yard, the experts say. (News-Review photo)

## Geranium Plants Are Host To Dreaded Wilt Disease

Better take a close look at that geranium in your garden. Recent research at Oregon State University shows that the bane of mint and potato growers — verticillium wilt — may be fairly common in geranium plantings.

Frank P. McWhorter, OSU plant pathologist, has recently pinpointed the disease in geraniums and has alerted florists and home gardeners that verticillium infection can be confused with a common bacterial infection found in these usually dependable plants.

Typical symptoms of geraniums infected with verticillium are the same as those for geraniums suffering from the bacterial disease. One prime difference exists between the two. Bacterial infection — still now thought to be the only serious disease of geraniums — does little or no harm to other plants in the home garden and does not infest the soil.

**Infests Soil**  
Verticillium does infest the soil and can damage and eventually destroy other plantings later placed in the same location. Verticillium is a soil fungus which enters plants through their roots, and is widely known as the cause of wilt in potato, tomato, cotton, mint and berry crops. Trees, many kinds of nursery stock, herbaceous and especially ornamental composites — especially dahlias — are also hosts for verticillium.

McWhorter points out that the fungus disease is hard to spot in the early stages because it has a long incubation period and definite symptoms may now show up for several months. Nurserymen often do not know that geraniums are infected until the plant is sold and planted in the home garden.

Young geraniums started in OSU greenhouses the previous September were thriving and healthy till early May last year when they developed typical verticillium symptoms.

Home gardeners should watch for:

**Dwarfing.** This is the most likely symptom to look for before buying plants. Nurserymen and buyers should be wary of plants which are slow growth and which have smaller than normal leaves.

**Yellow spotting and yellow leaves.** Plants with yellow leaves on mid and upper stems may have verticillium. Yellow leaves on bottom stems of geranium plants are usual. If leaves develop bright yellow spots before they yellow all over, McWhorter says verticillium is most probable. These yellow leaves will drop prematurely and the affected branches will become short, pointed stubs.

**Dieback.** If yellow spotting of leaves is followed by gradual wilting and disintegration 3 to 6 inches down the stem, the plant may be infected with verticillium. Infected stems will be killed and form no more foliage. (In geraniums infected with bacterial blight, stems frequently recover and continue to grow.)

**Wilt.** Wilting generally is a prominent symptom in plants infected with verticillium. Leaves fold down during the warmer part of the day and plants grow slowly. McWhorter's research shows, however, that the other symptoms described are more common in Oregon geranium plantings.

**Advice Given**  
McWhorter has this advice for the home gardener. Always buy healthy looking plants and beware of those with short internodes and with yellow leaves on middle or upper stems.

Pull out geraniums which may be infected — being sure to get all roots — and let the soil rest a year or so before replanting.

Avoid using soil from potato fields, or other fields in which a verticillium host has been growing, for geranium beds.

Future research is aimed at discovering as much as possible about the way verticillium affects geraniums. Some evidence exists which leads McWhorter to suspect that geraniums may be one of the few plants where verticillium is seed borne. If additional study shows this to be so, propagation and cultivation of verticillium-free plants will be additionally difficult and complicated for both the nurseryman and the home gardener.

**FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS**  
While a floral arrangement for a table setting is still called a centerpiece, it does not have to be confined to the center of a table. The number of guests expected, and the type of setting selected, should determine where flower arrangements are to be placed, the Society of American Florists advises.

## Bugs Baffle Gardeners In Endless Warfare Despite Numerous 'Miracle' Chemicals

The home gardener's problem of insect control might seem to be simple as a result of the many chemicals and so-called "super" sprays on the market.

Almost the reverse is true. The increasing stream of insecticides, fungicides and miticides introduced over the past few years has only confused the gardener. He still cannot find the single weapon he seeks for eradicating all the pests (and diseases) attacking his plants. There is no universal product.

**Over 300,000 Enemies**  
Confused? No wonder! There are over 300,000 types of insect invading gardens. Myriads of them are found only in certain climates. Many attack only during favorable weather conditions, others prefer certain types of foliage. The complexities are staggering.

What is the gardener to do? Unless he is familiar with plant life, has extensive knowledge of insects... their life cycle and habits, he is often unaware that some of them are attacking his plants until it is too late.

Even if he were familiar with many pests, and knew specific chemicals to combat them, he would find these same chemicals of little value against other garden pests.

**Ask The Man Who Knows**  
To solve this problem, we suggest that the gardener ask the

## 80-Year-Old Insecticide Reported Still A Modern-Age Miracle

In this age of so-called "miracle" chemicals it is important that the gardener does not overlook many of the older and wider used chemicals available. In many cases these established, tried and proved preparations provide the best answer to the gardener's specific problems.

**Time Tested**  
Nicotine sulphate is an excellent example of a chemical preparation that has been used for over 80 years and is still one of the most effective insecticides available for the control of aphids and similar sucking insects.

The history of nicotine sulphate as a garden spray can be traced back to 1879. A company producing wrappers for plug tobacco used the process which involved soaking the tobacco leaf in an alcohol solution. During this soaking, the alcohol absorbed a volatile alkaloid from the tobacco, commonly known as nicotine. For years this solution had been discarded but through experiments the tobacco company found that it effectively killed lice and mites. After this discovery the solution was bottled and sold to farmers and gardeners for insect control. It was one of the first commercially prepared insecticides ever sold.

After extensive research, it was found that nicotine could be much more effectively used as an insecticide in a 40 per cent nicotine sulphate solution. This type of solution kills aphids, thrips, leafhoppers and similar sucking insects with a two-way action. By contact and by "gassing" them with fumes.

**No Immunity Buildup**  
Research on the use of nicotine sulphate has been continuous. The results of this scientific investigation are important to gardeners and indicate that 40 per cent nicotine sulphate offers qualities which are superior to many of the newer chemicals.

For example, there is no insect build-up to immunity from 40 per cent nicotine sulphate spray.

Through all of its years of use insects have not been able to develop strains resistant to nicotine sulphate. Insects have been able to build-up immunity to many of the newer, so-called "miracle" chemicals. The development of resistant insect strains has been most disconcerting to gardeners who might find that last year's "miracle" turns out to be this year's "disappointment."

Although 40 per cent nicotine sulphate is a highly effective killer of harmful insects, it does not destroy beneficial predatory insects or pollinators. These beneficial insects actually aid the gardener by helping to destroy harmful insects. Of course the pollinators, such as bees, play an important role in the plant reproductive cycle.

**TIPS ON CENTERPIECES**  
The old-fashioned rigidity of table settings has given way to modern adaptability and versatility by the advent of buffets and informal sit-down dinners, and the use of brightly colored linens and dining accessories of contemporary design.

Placement of centerpieces according to the number of anticipated guests and the type of setting selected, permits the use of a wide range of both locations and of types of flower arrangements.

man who knows... his garden supply dealer. His garden supply dealer generally has a wide range of knowledge that is specifically related to the insect problems in his area. He is kept fully informed by extensive informational programs conducted by the chemical manufacturers.

**Don't Overlook Older Products**  
Most garden supply dealers agree that in this age of "miracle" chemicals it is important that we don't overlook many of the older, tried and tested chemicals. In many cases these proved preparations provide the best answer to a gardener's specific problems.

For example, aphids, thrips, leafhoppers and similar sucking insects are killed instantly by nicotine sulphate, a chemical that has been used effectively since 1879. (Nicotine sulphate is widely known as Black Leaf 4.)

**Insect Immunity**  
The effect of nicotine sulphate on insects is two-fold... it "gasses" them and also destroys them on contact. No strains of insects have developed immunity against nicotine sulphate in over 80 years of use. This remarkable fact is in striking contrast to many of the newer, so-called "miracle" chemicals.

The problem of insect immunity against newer chemicals has been a source of discouragement and despair to many gardeners. Last year's answer to garden insect infestation often proves no answer at all to the havoc of insects this year!

**Other Considerations**  
Related to the problem of insect eradication is the protection

## Garden Chemicals: Boon Or Doom — Article Reports On Controversy

The best-selling "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson has caused anything but a "silent" reaction. The book tells a fearful story of poisoning of wildlife by the misuse of chemical pesticides and describes the dire effects of careless mass spraying and dustings.

**Gardeners Fearful**  
Although Miss Carson has stated "It is not my contention that chemical insecticides must never be used," and does not claim in her book that home garden use of pesticides cause vast destruction, her book has created widespread fear among many home gardeners regarding the use of insecticides.

To help clear up some of this confusion and fear, Frank Sweet, director of research for a garden products company, reported on the steps taken to bring the home gardener the safest, most effective chemical products possible.

Sweet stated, "Concern about safety and protection of wildlife is not the result of 'Silent Spring' since chemical producers and governmental agencies have been vitally concerned for many, many years."

A nicotine sulphate formulation, has been in use for over 80 years. The formula has been developed so that it spares birds and beneficial predatory insects and pollinators.

Sweet pointed out that nicotine sulphate is widely used and recommended by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to humanely repel dogs, cats and rabbits in the garden. He further explained "The greatest care is taken to give the gardener exact instructions and precautions to be followed in the use of products. All packaging and instruction materials are carefully scrutinized by the government before they are made available to the home gardener."

**Use Is Vital**  
Chemical insecticides play a vital role in feeding and protecting the health of 10 million Americans and peoples throughout the world. The great strides made in chemical research have directly contributed to our agricultural abundance, so essential in eliminating the world's hunger and answering the problems created by today's population explosion.

In the area of health, the U. S. Public Health Service estimates that no less than 100 million illnesses and countless deaths have been prevented by insecticides controlling insect carried diseases.

Certainly, careless use of chemicals can be dangerous. So too is careless driving, careless use of electricity or careless use of medicines. This does not mean that we would be better off to give up their use.

**10 Safety Commandments**  
Here are 10 commandments for safe and effective use of your garden chemicals:

1. Read all labels, instructions and precautions carefully and follow them exactly.
2. Keep chemicals out of the

reach of children and away from pets, clothing or feedstuffs... a locked cabinet is best.

3. Always use only the recommended rates of application. Chemicals will be more effective if you use more than the recommended amount and could possibly be injurious.

4. Use your chemicals as a preventive measure... start spraying and dusting before insect damage occurs.

5. Delay spraying or dusting if the day is windy.

6. Be sure to apply sprays and dusts uniformly, covering undersides as well as topsides of foliage.

7. Don't apply chemicals to vegetables or fruits immediately before picking. Follow instructions on the minimum interval for use before harvest.

8. Avoid inhalation of sprays or dusts and do not get on hands or clothing. Wash hands immediately after spraying being careful not to touch your face or eating before hands are thoroughly cleaned.

9. Be sure that labels and instructions remain on chemical packages and are not mutilated. If chemicals are marked "Poison" be certain that instructions for anti-dotes remain on package or are readily available before use.

10. Clean spraying and dusting equipment immediately after use. By following these simple, common sense rules you'll have a more beautiful garden while protecting against a "silent spring."

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