

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

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Probable Answer To Local Problem!

Elsewhere in this issue appears an article written by E. P. Breakey, of State College of Washington experiment station, in which he set out reasons for the low bud count complained of in forcing of Croft lilies by florists over the country.

Mr. Breakey places the blame where it belongs—upon the shoulders of the distributors, who didn't properly care for the bulbs from the time these left the fields until they were put in the pots.

Lily bulbs from this section of Oregon surpass those grown in all other sections of the country because of the peculiar climatic conditions. Here, lilies grow "more naturally" and thereby are more desirable for forcing for Easter. Certainly Mr. Breakey minces no words in this article when he stated that distributors did not heed recommendations made by several experiments.

Published in the Pilot to inform local growers of this condition as practiced by many distributors, this article is suggested as solution to many local problems, if lily men will heed and thoroughly organize to meet the situation.

Crescent City Election Was "Watched"

It is certain that the sheriff's race of Del Norte county, Calif., attracted almost as much attention over the nation as did the national election that day.

If radio time may be judged as an index, then the Blackerby-Glover race meant more than any gubernatorial race. The close vote indicated the tension, probably brought about by the feud propagated by the Del Norte Triplicate which certainly was "out to get Blackerby."

Residents of Crescent City, especially those who have visited Brookings during the past week and talked to the Pilot, do not like this sort of publicity. They claim Crescent City had a "quiet" election, and did not have the armed feud, told by the radio.

VETERANS and Dependents

To United Veterans you owe all your past, present and future service benefits. Join and work with some veterans' group.

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Edith Ott
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OREGON

NOW! AT LAST!!

We have a good line of ornamental shrubs, and expect to have fruit trees before Christmas time.

ALSO, we have hyacines bulbs, See them at our greenhouse—come any time!

Hendry's Greenhouse
At the Winchuck Bridge

Suggestions For Croft Lily Growing

E. P. BREAKEY
State College of Washington
Western Washington
Experiment Station
Puyallup, Wash.

Continued from last week

Dieback Disease Control

Unfortunately, many stocks of Croft Easter Lilies carry an infection of the bud and leaf nematode. This nematode causes a disease known as "dieback" disease of Easter lilies. During the spring months the lower leaves, particularly of infected plants, become bronzed in appearance and tend to curl under. Later, these may develop brown streaks or a mottled brownish appearance, becoming completely brown and dead. If one of these leaves in the early stage of browning is macerated (torn or shredded) in a watch-glass or water and allowed to stand a short while, with the aid of a lens many minute worms can be observed, swimming in the water. These worms migrate from one part of the plant to another when the surface of the plant is covered with a film of water, such as it often is during wet weather in the spring. It is doubtless in this manner that they spread from one plant to another. These worms have the ability to penetrate the leaf tissue and the injury resulting from their activities brings on condition known as "dieback."

Hot Water-Formalin

Fortunately, we are able to eliminate nematodes from the bulbs of our planting stock. This can be done by employing the hot-water-formalin treatment.

This treatment consists in immersing the bulbs in a water bath, which is held at a temperature of 110 degrees Fahr., for one hour. Commercial formaldehyde (U. S. P.) should be added to the vat at the rate of one pint to 25 gallons. The treating vat should be provided with an automatic heat control, circulation for the bath, and should be well insulated. Such portable vats or tanks have been designed and constructed. One of these tanks was manufactured for the use of the experiment station and several have been built for bulb growers. It is understood the company will build others on order. (National Blower and Sheet Metal Co., 1129 St. Paul, Tacoma, Wash.). It will be noted that as soon as the bulbs are placed in the bath the temperature usually drops several degrees. The thermostatically controlled heaters will bring this temperature back up to 110 degrees, usually in a few minutes, but the one hour exposure should be counted from the time the temperature has been restored to 110 degrees.

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Bulb Mites

There is increasing evidence that bulb mites should be credited with being more of a factor in the production of lily bulbs than they have been. Certain types of root disintegration or decay have been traced to no other possible cause than the destructive activities of these mites. In turn, this seems to bring on a sort of premature ripening of the bulb. Heavy infestations seem to result in injury to the basal plate and scales. Fortunately, the hot-water-formalin treatment will destroy these mites; so will methyl-bromide fumigation (Breakey, E. P. *The Effect of Methyl-Bromide Fu-*

migation on the Subsequent development of the Croft Lily Journal of Economic Entomology 37:377-279, 1944). Use a concentration of two pounds per cubic feet of fumigator for an exposure of 2 1/2 hours at 70 degrees Fahr. Fumigate bulbs within two or three days after digging.

Records

It is advisable for the grower to maintain a record book in which he records such items as planting dates, periods of mulching, date of spring cleaning, date of side dressing with fertilizers, date of full bloom, and harvest date, etc.



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for YOUR home

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