

CUT FLOWERS ARE JOY TO HOUSEHOLD

Should be Clipped Early in
Morning to Preserve
Their Freshness

By NETTIE REEVES
JEFFERSON, July 9. Cut-flowers are a joy, a joy that is indeed many times multiplied if they are cut from your own garden. There is nothing that can surpass the happy atmosphere of cheerfulness that fresh flowers, attractively arranged, bring into the home. A simple bouquet on the breakfast table may change the whole tenor of the day's routine. Who could continue being cross and irritable, when a cheery bouquet of nasturtiums and a gay good morning? Cutflowers may be enjoyed for a longer period of time if you will observe a few of the following rules which I will mention.

Cut Flowers In the Morning

Flowers should be cut early in the morning. The reason for this is that evaporation takes place then at a less rapid rate than during the day, when the air is warmer. A cutflower is still a living organism and contains a great amount of water which is constantly being evaporated. Evaporation continues even after the water supply has been cut off below. Flowers left out of the water soon give off much of the water contained in their stems, leaves and flowers, so that they wilt or collapse. Never is the garden more beautiful than when the dew is on the plants and they wake, like children, freshened for the day.

In most cases a knife is the most desirable instrument for cutting flowers. Scissors are good for cutting sweet peas and a few other flowers, but for large stems a knife is best. Through the stem of the plant runs a water supply which carries a moisture from the roots to all parts of the plant. If a knife is used, making a slant cut which allows this tube to remain open, it will function naturally in carrying water from the container to the cutflower as it is needed. When scissors are used, or blooms are picked off, there is danger of crushing and closing the opening so that it can not carry on its normal action.

Give Flowers A Long Drink

Flowers should be placed in water immediately after cutting. Now that flowers have been properly cut and placed in water, they are well on the way to attractive and lasting bouquets. Then too, there is the hardening process, which is nothing more or less than filling the cutflower to capacity with fresh water. Leave the flowers in a pail of water and set them in a cool place. From 6 to 12 hours is usually sufficient for the plant to drink itself full of water. In a cool place, water evaporates slowly, and the plant has a chance to retain much of the water. Water keeps the plant turgid in the same way that air keeps the tire inflated.

Since the cutflower lasts only so long as it can overcome the ravages of evaporation, the advantage of the flower which has been through the hardening process can readily be seen.

Cutflowers need fresh air and fresh water. Use a clean container and fresh, clean water. It is a good thing to place them in a cool place for the night. The water should be changed once a day. Wash the stems and remove all bruised and decayed foliage. Then hold the stems under water and cut the ends slantwise with a knife, to insure an open waterway, for the original cut may be clogged or closed. Do not sight because cutflowers do not last longer, however real blossoms have fleeting charms.

POULTRYMEN WILL MEET AUGUST 11-12

Poultrymen of Oregon will gather for a convention August 11 and 12 on the campus of Oregon State college, the gathering being sponsored by the college and open to every poultryman of the state.

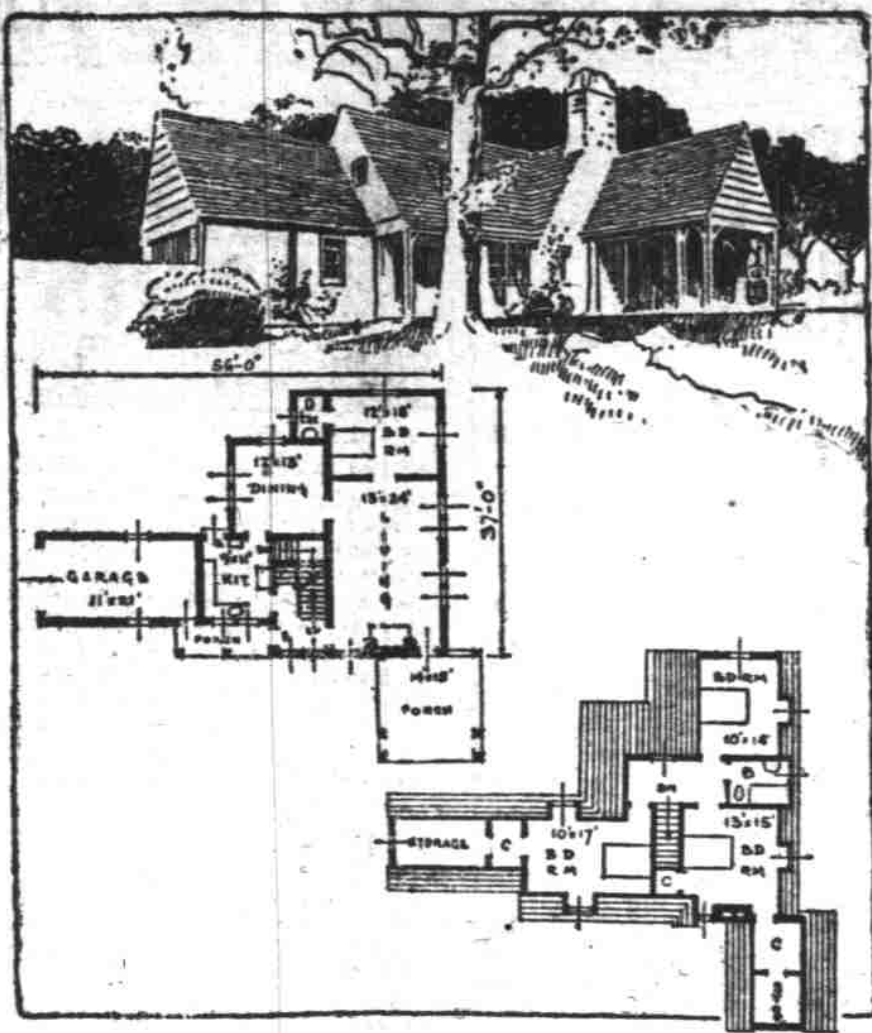
A comprehensive program is being prepared which will include discussions of much of the experimental work that has been carried on at the college poultry plant in the last two years. This will include feeding experiments, to be reported on by A. G. Luna, head of the department, and F. E. Fox, associate professor, and a case control work by Dr. W. T. Johnson, marketing by E. J. Dixon, manager of the Pacific Cooperative Poultry producers; and poultry building construction by F. E. Price, agricultural engineer. A number of other speakers are listed.

The annual meeting of the Oregon Poultrymen's association will be held in connection with the convention in the afternoon of the first day's session, with a final session at the close of the second day.

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KITCHEN TAKES THE LEAD



There is usually so much dependent upon the placing of rooms around the kitchen that something has to be sacrificed, but in this house the kitchen is convenient to the back door, front door, door to the cellar, to the dining room and living room, for service at meals of for guests.

Another feature of the house is that when located on lot as small as 60 feet, if the living room is placed so as to face the garden, one may drive into the garage. This makes the cost of construction of a road very reasonable.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

By LILLIE L. MADSEN
Recently I have had considerable requests for information on pool fish. One reader complained that some parasite evidently fed on the fish leaving the beautiful tail of the veil-like calico and fan-tails in tatters. Others have complained that the fish in the pools "just die" while still others said their fish "just disappeared."

These requests call to my mind, an interview I once enjoyed with Ben Bartcher, gold fish fancier of Albany. At that time Mr. Bartcher had 15 ponds at his goldfish farm on the Albany-Lebanon highway. The ponds varied in size from 25 by 25 feet to a quarter of an acre. There were 40 acres in the farm and he was having it landscaped. At that time he also had eight varieties of gold fish and was planning on adding more. Those he had were the wakens, comets, nympha, Shubunkins, American and Japanese fantails, telescopes and lion heads.

The waken, he said, was his "best seller." This he explained, was probably because it was inexpensive and also very handy. Fantails closely followed the waken in popularity.

Crane and Snake Hard on Fish

In speaking of the loss of fish from the pond, Mr. Bartcher said that the crane and the garter snake were his worst enemies. The crane became so persistent that he had to set traps for the birds. Dissection disclosed seven gold fish, and a trout in one bird. The snake, Mr. Bartcher informed me, was almost as persistent as the crane. He would eat several at a time—and he can handle a fish twice his own diameter—then he would crawl into the bank of the pond and remain until these fish were digested. Usually, according to Mr. Bartcher, this took from three to four days. Then he would return to the pond for another party. Smaller birds would also occasionally swoop down and catch a fish, but those lost this way were negligible, Mr. Bartcher added.

Quackless Duck Is Cozy Creature

Perhaps a garter snake makes his home about your lawn. I have heard gardeners say that there are an unusual amount of snakes about this season. Many gardeners seem to approve of this, as they say, it lessens the earwigs and slugs. Personally, I believe that I would rather cultivate a Bantam hen or a quackless duck to rid my garden of the insect pests. I find the quackless duck a very cozy creature and quite persistent in her hunt for insects. But if you have a pool, I imagine that the duck would be as disastrous as the snake.

"As to disease," Mr. Bartcher told me—to go back to the goldfish story—"there is the white fungus, something present in all water. This develops in the fish when they are handled, crowded or overfed. Goldfish should never be touched unless absolutely unavoidable. Their bodies are covered with a film; handling breaks this and makes them more susceptible to the disease."

Mr. Bartcher gave more advice in caring for goldfish: "So often," he said, "folks wonder why their fish in globes do not thrive. But they give these fish no variety in food. In pools the fish manage to get a little natural food even if it is not fed to them. In globes they are absolutely dependent upon their owners. All pools, ponds or globes should have some plants. Anacharis is the best water plant. Ludwigia is next. Parrot feather, a floating plant, is also good, and it is very pretty. In globes where there are green plants the water need not be changed more than once a week. Otherwise it must be changed every day."

"While the goldfish," Mr. Bartcher continued, "are quite vegetarian in tastes, still they thrive better if given a little meat once a week." He added the delectable bit of information that "they greatly relish a little finely chopped earthworm."

Salt Baths Good for Fish

Seemingly even a life in water does not exonerate one from the habitual bath: "All pools," according to Mr. Bartcher, "should be drained and the fish given a salt bath once a month. This is done by adding three-fourths of a teaspoonful of ocean salt and one-fourth of a teaspoonful of epsom salt to each gallon of water and leaving the fish in this solution for from eight to 10 hours. Fish in globes should be treated in the same manner. It keeps them healthy and rid them of parasites which may attack them. The bath water should be the same temperature as that to which they are accustomed."

Snails, the African and the Japanese trapdoor, are very beneficial in pools and aquariums. Mr. Bartcher informed me. They are very good scavengers, he explained, and the young of the prolific African snail make good fish food.

Another "fancy fish fancier" gives us the information that from one-quarter to one-third of your pool should contain a thickly planted forest of water plants. This is the spawning bed upon which the parent fish deposits the eggs. After spawning the fish will work their way out of this mass of plant to clear water. The thick plants afford protection to the eggs. The young fish hatch in from two to five days, according to the weather conditions. For some weeks they are very tiny and stay among the plants for protection and do not venture forth until they are able to shift for themselves.

When the fish are hatched they are of an olive green color and do not attain their brilliant hues until after their second month. Some do not become colored until they are eight months old; a few never do. The fish begin to spawn when they are a year old. A comet or a waken will often live to be 20 years old if kept in a bowl. In the open pool they live but a few years. The life of a fantail is said to be much shorter, usually but four or five years.

A pool five feet wide by 10 or 12 feet long will accommodate 500 fish from 2 1/4 inches to 3 1/4 inches in length. If only jumbo goldfish are desired, a pool of this size will accommodate two or three dozen. Fish of six to eight inches only around 75 should be used in a pool of that size.

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Henry H. Johnson sell an eight acre tract of land on Park street to R. A. Elliott.

Lawrence C. Maves buys a residence at 1866 North Fifth street from R. Kennedy.

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