

Farm, Home and Garden

By Lillie L. Madsen

Rose-Buying Guide Available To Help Select Right Variety

By LILLIE L. MADSEN, Garden Editor, The Statesman

Rose shopping time is at hand and many first-time rose growers—as well as experienced ones—have difficulty in selecting the particular varieties best adapted to their locality and to their individual needs. Some may want low-growing plants for foundation plantings, while others may desire tall ones for screening or hedge purposes.

In color, too, desires vary with requirements. Perhaps you like yellow roses, or red roses or white roses, or want colors that will blend harmoniously with the other plants in your garden.

To add gardeners to choose the roses best suited to their purpose, the American Rose Society each year prints a "Guide for Buying Roses" containing a comprehensive list of the popular varieties in commerce today. This guide is compiled from reports received from all sections of the country indicating vigor, blooming qualities and so on. Copies of the 1953 guide are available without charge of the society. Gardeners desiring a copy of the guide may obtain the society's address from the garden editor.

The clear pink Eden rose, one of the new ones, seems to give promise of being a very popular one. It is a seedling of the famous Peace rose and bears considerable resemblance (see picture on this page) in size and form of bloom and foliage. From Peace it has also inherited great plant vigor, I'm told, with heavy canes and strong flower stems. As with Peace, the full blooms are especially handsome, very large and firm with 40 to 50 big, lightly ruffled petals.

William Cuthbertson wrote a book in 1910 on Pansies and Violas, naming 50 of the best var-

ieties. Today, it would be difficult to find 50 named pansies in all the catalogues put together. I wonder why we seldom ask for pansies by name—merely calling them "Blue" pansies, "White" pansies, "Red" shades, and so on. But there are definite strains and perhaps we should become accustomed to the names.

One new strain out this year, is called "Felix" because some one said that the markings were "the Cat's whiskers." Clear pencil markings, radiate from the center. In this strain all the flowers have yellow, penciled centers, and broad borders of red, blue, brown, or violet shades. The strain is developed from a Swiss variety. (See picture on this page).

We turned out on Arbor Day to view the planting on the Southern Pacific grounds and were surprised at the number of others, including a large number of school children who also turned out.

This was the first Arbor observance in Salem for some years, it was mentioned at the planting.

We noted, too, with what care the planters set the trees—seven of them. One, a large fir (see accompanying picture) was placed carefully in a hole already prepared, and plenty large enough to hold the roots without crowding. These, of course, were balled. The tree was set just about the same depth (perhaps an inch or more) as it had been growing in the nursery row from where it was procured. Peat moss, mixed with fertilizer, was used partially to fill the hole.

This particular tree is a lovely shape and is to be lighted so that passengers who alight or who pass through Salem, will be reminded even in winter that Salem is a city of trees.

Most failures to germinate seeds are due to planting too deeply or

Eden Rose



Eden Rose, one of the new Hybrid Teas, which gives promise of great popularity.

letting seed bed dry out. Most seeds, except the finest, may be planted at a depth two or three times their size. Fine seeds, like petunias, should be merely pressed into the soil surface and fine earth sifted lightly over them. Covered with glass or newspaper, they may be kept in the dark until they germinate and then placed in a sunny window. Transplanting should be done with great care to prevent breaking the delicate roots.

One of the most important factors is humidity—and that can sometimes be a tough problem to solve in this day when new housing rarely have radiators on which to place a pan of water.

Seeds, too, require enough moisture to keep them damp, not so much that they become waterlogged, develop disease and die.

Warm Winter Weather Ends Late Spraying

The mild winter may have made it impossible for some cane berry growers to apply a dormant strength lime-sulfur spray this year, D. L. Rasmussen, Marion County extension agent said Wednesday. The 10 per cent liquid lime-sulfur spray for leaf and cane spot disease control should be applied after the canes have been trapped on the wires but are still dormant.

An even greater problem is to finish training without tearing off too many buds from the canes, Rasmussen continued. When the buds break open, burning of the young growth will result if dormant strength spray is used. In this case, the grower should either eliminate the dormant spray; use a weaker lime sulfur spray such as five gallons in 100 gallons of water, or use another material.

Some growers use Bordeaux mixture as a late winter spray for trailing berries. The usual strength is about 8-8-100 which means 8 pounds copper sulphate mixed with 8 pounds of hydrated lime in 100 gallons of water. Some growers are using materials sold as calcium polysulphides. These should be used according to manufacturer's instructions.

Lime sulfur is used to control anthracnose disease in red and black raspberries. The usual program for black raspberries consists of a 10-12 per cent dormant lime sulfur spray, followed by a 2 1/2 per cent spray when the new canes are about 10-12 inches tall. For control of yellow rust in the Washington variety of red raspberry, a spray containing 4 gallons of liquid lime sulphur in 100 gallons of spray is applied in the green tip stage. At this point, the new growth from the one year old canes is about one inch long.

Yellow rust disease is not a problem in Willamette, Newburgh, and other local commercial red raspberry varieties.

Questions---Answers

Question—I'm getting interested in African Violets and would like a little information. Can you tell me how many varieties there are? About what price range they come in? Someone said there were special potting soil and special fertilizer for these, too. Where can I get them? Does one have to buy them from easterners or are there some sold here? R. Q.

Answer—Your initials are the same as one of the new violets—Ruffled Queen. This is a dark burgundy and the petals are ruffled somewhat after the style of some pansies. It is reported to be a good bloomer, too. As to your question: I have no idea how many varieties there are. One little catalog before me lists thirty-some. I note in another catalog about the same number but mostly with different names. I imagine some of these are very closely related in appearance, however.

As to price range: everywhere from 50 cents up to three and four

dollars. Depending how new the varieties are and from whom you buy.

I note, too, that the catalogs list "African Violet potting soil" and "African Violet fertilizer." You can make your own soil, however, with well-decayed barnyard fertilizer, a little sharp sand, a little good garden loam and a little leaf-mold or peat moss. Mix and sieve the soil well. I do not know if any of the local garden stores carry the African violet soil. I do know that several call the African violet "fertilizers." You do not have to send East for the plants. There are a number of growers in this area.

Question—Two different years my sweet peas seemed to get a blight. The leaves turn white and a large per cent of my seedlings die. What should be done? G. M.

Answer—This is anthracnose. To control use only plump, sound seed from healthy pods; treat seed with Arasan before planting. Rake up and burn all plant parts at the end of the season.

This is one of the most destructive sweet pea diseases and it is often more serious near apple orchards where the fungus winters on cankered apple limbs and in bitter rot apple mummies. It also winters over in sweet pea refuse and on seed from infected pods.

Question—Enclosed leaf from camellia. Please tell me what is eating the leaves and what to do about it? The camellia is about 10 feet tall, many buds are falling. Hundreds of them are under the camellia plant. C. P. C.

Answer—There isn't anything eating your camellia foliage—at least not the samples you sent me. They are badly affected by leaf spot. Usually this isn't serious but in very wet years, it seems to become more so. The control listed for this includes sanitation: Gathering and burning all fallen leaves, and then spraying with Bordeaux mixture. You must not have the latter too strong or you will burn your foliage. In most cases spring weather and sunshine will take care of this disease—particularly if you keep fallen leaves picked up. The loss of buds is not caused at all by the disease but by too great variations in soil moisture. Moisture should be sufficient and uniform. If the soil gets water-logged buds are apt to drop. This occurs where the drainage is poor. Then, in late summer and fall, after the buds are set, if the water is insufficient, the buds will also drop toward spring. We are having a lot of bud drop this spring because early fall rains were not sufficient to reach the roots of the camellias. The water went down three or four inches—enough to green the grass, but not enough to help the camellias. Gardeners, seeing the grass green put away their watering apparatus—and the camellias suffered.

Question—Our lawn soil is rather heavy and there are some bumps in it. We want to roll it to smoothen it down. When should this be done?—C.R.D.

Answer—You don't really roll your lawn to take out bumps. These should be taken out prior to rolling. The real purpose may be to smoothen out a few little irregularities but chiefly to push



Greatly increased regional activity is planned by the Pacific Northwest division of the Men's Garden Clubs of America as a result of a recent meeting in the offices of the Portland Convention Bureau. Officers and delegates from 14 clubs in Oregon and Washington, representing a membership of approximately 1,000, discussed plans for the group's first regional convention, date to be named. Among those attending were (from left) George Candaux, Salem; Dr. Ralph Storey, McMinnville, and W. J. Tohl, Albany.

Garden . . . Calendar . . .

Feb. 26—Mill City Garden Club, Mrs. Harold Pound, president.
Feb. 26—Home Garden Hour, KOAC Garden Companion: Mrs. George H. Morency, 2 p.m.
Feb. 26—Little Garden Club of Salem Heights host to Friendly Neighbors Garden Club, 8 p.m. in home of Mrs. Virgil Sexton, Waldo Road. Dr. Krause, of the OSC experiment station, to show studies of new Chrysanthemums.
Feb. 28—March 1—Pacific Camellia Show, Glendale, Calif.
Feb. 28—March 1—Camellia show, Greenwood, S. C.
March 1—Camellia show, San Jose, Calif.
March 2—Salem Garden Club. Speaker: P. H. Brydon, Tea chairman, Mrs. W. J. Braun.
March 5—Willamina Garden Club, home of Mrs. Nina Heider.
March 6-8—Portland Spring Planting Fair, Oregon Journal Building.

March 8-14—New York City Garden Show.
March 12-22—International Flower Show, Hollywood Park, Inglewood, Calif.
March 14-15—Camellia Show, Berkeley, Calif.
March 15-21—New England Spring Flower Show of Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Mechanics Building, Boston. Theme: "Golden Gardens."
March 20-29—Camellia Show, Dallas, Texas.
March 21-22—Camellia Show, Norfolk, Va.
April 6-12—Puyallup Valley Daffodil Festival, Wash.
April 9-12—Multnomah County Spring Garden Show, Gresham.
April 25-26—Oregon Primrose Society Show, April 23 at Women's Club building, Portland; April 26, open primrose gardens in Portland vicinity.
May 1-8—Oakland, Calif. Spring Flower Show.

Normal Bulb Supply Due From Holland

That the Dutch bulb district escaped the floods and a normal supply of bulbs may be expected next summer, subjected to crops turning out well, was word the D. A. White & Sons, Salem, received this week from the Boot & Company Bulb Corporation at Sassenheim, Holland.

The letter, too, gave a brief description of the flood, reading in part: "Undoubtedly you will have heard and read in the newspapers about the terrible floods in Holland, in the night of Sunday, Feb. 1. For people in the flooded areas it must have looked as if doomsday had come. Thousands of our country men, women and children, spent two or three days and nights on the roof of their homes or in the tops of trees, under the most miserable conditions and bitterly cold weather."

"This terrible disaster, of course, made a deep impression on all of us. Our nation as one man did what was humanly possible, to help those who suffered.

"In days of need it is a very great pleasure to meet friends who are willing to help. The fellowship and spontaneous assistance from foreign countries, particularly from the American Army, is highly appreciated by the Dutch people. We are very grateful indeed, that our Allies showed to be good friends in need.

"Since the liberation of our country from the Germans, our nation worked hard to get back to its former wealth. As soon as we had conquered our difficulties, your people were told that we did not need the Marshal help any further, we being able to stand again on our own feet, of which we were proud. At the moment our industrial works are still 100 per cent intact, our farmings 75 per cent, and if no further disasters will occur, the damage done will be altered within a couple of years."

Soils Head Named To National Office

Dr. H. B. Cheney, head of Oregon State College's soils department has been named for a three-year appointment as representative of 11 western states on a national soils and fertilizer research planning program.

Dr. Cheney was recommended for the key post by experiment station directors of the 11 states. He will serve as regional collaborator at the sixth annual meeting of the bureau of plant industry, soils and agricultural engineering at Beltsville, Md., Mar. 2 to 4, to review present soils and fertilizer programs and recommend future research.

Dr. Cheney came to OSC last September from Iowa State College where he was in charge of extension agronomy. He is a graduate of Iowa State and Ohio State Universities.



This new strain of pansies was named "Felix" because the markings resembled a cat's whiskers.

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