

Lawn-Garden

By Marguerite Rieder

Zinnias Are Popular Members Of Annual Garden Family

One of the most colorful and easiest grown flowers in the annual garden is the popular zinnia, which is grown as easily as any of the garden annuals. In the past several years, the flower has changed from the brilliant, large flowered manner in which it formerly grew to a refined annual with a large range of colors and a fascinating variety of shapes and sizes.

Zinnias are found in a wide variety of classes, the best known of which are the Dahlia Zinnias. If well grown these produce flowers that are four inches across and are on plants which reach a height of four feet. The blossom has a tendency to incurve and resemble the formal decorative dahlia.

California Giant or Mammoth type will produce flowers equal in size to the dahlia zinnias but have a far better range of colors. Pompon or Lilliput zinnia produces small blooms on a normal size plant. The blooms are compact and symmetrical, and make an excellent cut flower.

Fantasy or Cactus zinnias are named thusly because of the twisted and curled petals in their symmetrical arranged flowers. The flowers are of medium size and may be found in several lovely colors.

One of the newer strains is the Zinnia Early Wonder, which bloom 45 days from the date of seeding. The flowers are two and one-half inches in diameter, and excellent for cutting. Cut and come again is a dwarf variety of zinnia, which produces a flower that when it is fully open resembles a modified cone. It is equally valuable for cutting and bedding.

Crested zinnias are unusual and a popular member of the zinnia tribe. These do not always come true, so they must be rogued out to keep the true blooms. The Cupid zinnia is a miniature with tiny blossoms and short stems. Goblin is the best of these babies.

Zinnias can be seeded outdoors between April 15 and May 1, although later sowings are also practical. Sow two to three seeds to a hill. The plant should be pinched off once after the second set of leaves have formed. The strongest of the three sprouts should be left as the plant in the hill.

Zinnias are fond of plenty of food, and organic matter will do much to provide husky growth. A liquid fertilizer applied every fortnight will give good results, and the plants should be watered every two weeks during the growing season.

The blossoms for maximum flower beauty should be cut only when fully mature. When cut in the mature stage, the blooms are prettier and last considerably longer.

Pheasants continue to be a difficult pest in many victory gardens. Scarecrows, bits of cloth tied to string and inflated paper bags are all being used to aid in scaring these vegetarians. Another method that has proved satisfactory in the prevention of destruction by these birds is the tying of lids from tin cans on horizontal strings placed across the garden. The light will glint from these lids, and the birds will fear a trap.

A little color may be introduced into the garden by placing a bright colored flower at the end of each row. Perhaps one of the most showy would be gladiolus, which will stand as erect as a soldier and have a fairly long blooming season. Before the plant blossoms, the tall blade leaves would distinctly mark the end of the row.

Seed for the late cabbage, savoy, kale, brussels sprouts, cauliflower and late broccoli should be sown outdoors during the early part of May. Seed sown now will make sturdy plants to be transplanted during the latter part of June.

It is advised that the seed be sown thinly in a wide row, and will be perfectly safe in the open garden.

Fall gardens are practicable. Begin planning yours now. They should be planted by mid-summer.

Beans are best planted as a succession crop at 10-day intervals. For dry beans, plant the white pea bean or navy bean.

Gardens should be cultivated as soon as the surface dries off after a rain. Do not cultivate more than an inch deep.

Keep out of the garden when the ground is soggy, it will pack down the soil and form a crust.

Night Time Garden Robbers

The fifth column in the victory garden is found among the night time robbers, which particularly dole on young tender stems and leaves. Classed among these pests are cutworms and slugs, and they require a great deal of attention from the gardener.

During the daytime, the cutworms curl up about an inch under the surface of the soil, close to their intended victims. The slug hides under damp old boards, pieces of sacking, trash piles, clods and rocks.

A little digging with the trowel will reveal the cutworms and thorough garden clean-up will go a great deal to uncover both the slugs and their eggs. As many as 800 eggs may be laid in the two-year life span of the common garden slug, which is known to all Willamette valley gardeners.

These pests are partially controlled by an insect ally, the large black or brown ground beetle, that is found hiding under objects moved in the garden during the daytime.

The most satisfactory garden control measure is the use of calcium arsenate-metaldesin, which is sold under various trade names. It is equally effective against slugs, cutworms, sowbugs and earwigs.

Since the bait is poisonous, care must be taken in its use, to prevent chickens, birds or children from eating it. It should be placed in small piles upon pieces of shingles, boards or tin, and covered with a box or a large board. These precautions, not only serve as a protective measure, but increase its efficiency for the pests are more apt to find it when they crawl under the box or board for protection.

Trellises Save Garden Space

To save space and to produce cleaner fruit, the suggestion has been made that eight-foot trellises should be made to support tomato vines. Although eight feet may cause a gasp, three of those eight feet are buried in the ground to give support.

Placed horizontally across the five feet of the trellis, which extends above the soil, should be four or five cross bars to which the tomato vines may be fastened.

While the trellises are more costly than other methods, they may be taken up and used year after year.

Replanting Vegetables Increases Activity

Increasing the May activity in the victory garden, is the necessity of replanting of many of the vegetable plants and seeds that were put into the ground too early and were damaged or destroyed by the weather.

The majority of the crops for the garden should be planted now, and the gamblers who planted with the hope that the weather would favor them, should replant now.



Some said all freshness was gauged by a daisy. That was before Master Bread proved them all crazy.



Cantaloupes For Breakfast

For the garden where space is not at a premium, the family diet will be aided by the addition of cantaloupes and other melons. The trade name of cantaloupes is commonly applied to the smaller nearly round or oblong heavily netted types of muskmelons of both green and salmon fleshed varieties. The term muskmelon is more often applied to the larger types of melons such as Spear, a widely grown variety.

They require a moderately long growing season with plenty of heat and sunshine, a dry atmosphere and ample soil moisture. The soils most widely used for the growth of cantaloupes are the warm sand or silt loam types which are well drained, easily prepared and adaptable for irrigation. The Spear melon is the best for the western portion of the state.

Rotted manure, with or without commercial fertilizer is useful in providing organic matter and plant food for the melons. In some cases it is applied to the hill, a forkful to each. Most seed is planted directly into the field when the danger of frost is past.

Several seeds should be placed in each hill and later thinned until only the strongest are left. The cucumber beetles are most destructive to the young plants, and these may be repelled by a mixture of one part of calcium arsenate powder to 20 parts of landplaster. This should be dusted on the plants as soon as they appear above the ground, and should be repeated every few days during fair weather and after each rain.

The cantaloupes are picked when the stem is on a "full slip." The "full slip" is distinguished by the stem separating itself completely from the melon, leaving a clean stem cavity.

Booster Gives Good Start

A mild starter solution will do much to give transplants the right start when they are set out. When used the plants begin growing right away, and develop faster. The starter solutions are made by mixing one and one-half ounces of commercial fertilizer with one gallon of water, when poured from one-half to one pint of this mixture about the plant when it is set into the garden.

The mild strength will do no harm to the plants, yet if too much fertilizer is mixed with the water, damage may result. Several gardeners had this problem last year, when they felt if a little was a good thing, more was better, and promptly added too much.

Liquid fertilizers made from one to one and one-half ounces of commercial fertilizer in one gallon of water can be used every seven or eight days on leafy crops such as lettuce, cabbage and chard, forcing them to grow more rapidly and keep them growing. One gallon will be enough for six or eight feet of row, pouring one-half to one pint to each plant. These booster solutions may also be made of barnyard manures soaked in water.

Weed often, a half hour of cultivation before the weeds are half an inch tall does more good than two hours work a few days later.

New Garden Book Tells Proper Trees and Shrubs for Gardens

One of the most popular books in the northwest today is the book, "Trees and Shrubs for Pacific Northwest Gardens," by John A. Grant and Carol L. Grant. This entertaining work, which is receiving the plaudits of book critics and the gratitude of the purchasers, is written in a style at once spontaneous and invigorating. Mr. Grant, native of Britain (Wales), now an American citizen living in Seattle, is a famous landscape designer, lecturer, teacher, and garden advisor, and has spent many years studying garden conditions in the Pacific northwest. This knowledge, added to a lifetime's study of horticulture, he imparts in "Trees and Shrubs for Pacific Northwest Gardens," which is now on sale at the Arboretum Foundation, Henry building, Seattle, the proceeds going to the University of Washington Arboretum for its maintenance and development.

The book has the beauty of simple descriptions readily understood by beginners as well as advanced landscape architects. Whether you have a small plot of ground or a vast estate, this book tells how to make the most of it; tells you "What to Grow and How to Grow Them"; describes design effects you may achieve; deals with this region's rain and wind; teaches pruning, spraying, and propagation, soils and fertilizers. It tells, in the 335 pages illustrated by beautiful close-up pictures, the fascinating things which can be done with a bog, with deep shade, or the plant-pictures which may be created in full sun under hot and dry conditions. It is a book to hold your attention to the end and it is the only gardening book written for the area west of the Cascade mountains (and also the great valley of the Columbia) from the tip of the Alaska Panhandle southward to the California coast just north of San Francisco, a region never covered by eastern authors on gardening.

The "West" is justly proud of "Trees and Shrubs for Pacific Northwest Gardens, What to Grow and How to Grow Them," by John A. Grant and Carol L. Grant. Small wonder that, just off the press March 9, it is fast becoming the most popular book of today in the Pacific Northwest.

A number of important vegetables arrive at the peak of their development during the fall months. These include cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and curly kale. Other crops are Swiss chard, mustard, late corn and beans. Many of these reach their finest stage at that time.

The mistaken idea of the fall garden is that the plants are put in in the late summer or early fall, but contrary to this, the seed must be planted now and transplanted in the middle of the summer. Several of the fall and early winter vegetables can take the place in the garden of those early maturing crops such as peas, early lettuce and spinach.

The first group mentioned, which includes the many members of the cabbage family, are grown for fall and early winter by sowing seed in an outdoor seed bed in a handy place where the plants may be given attention. The seed should be dropped so that the young plants will stand half an inch apart.

The cauliflower heads must be kept white by tying the large leaves together over the heads when the latter are forming. Cabbages should be left standing in the field until the heads are thoroughly firm before cutting. Brussels sprouts should be allowed to become solid. The sprouts and curly kale are especially resistant to frost.

Lettuce is an important fall vegetable and can be grown from seed in 75 to 90 days, depending upon the type of lettuce grown and the seed temperatures prevailing. Fall lettuce should be started in mid-summer. Spinach is a hardy and quick-growing crop and will be ready to cut in six to seven weeks.

Several varieties of winter radishes are found on the market, which can be planted in mid-summer to produce a winter crop. The varieties vary in color and shape from the black radishes to pale pink ones. Fall crops of turnips are usually far more productive than the early spring crop, for they usually escape maggot injury.

When the plants start to produce vine, they will be benefited by a side dressing of fertilizer, which should be applied in a broad circular band six inches away from the plants. If the soil is dry, a thorough watering is desirable.

Cook Crops Carefully

The best vegetables your Victory garden can produce may be spoiled before they reach the table if they are not carefully prepared. Choose the method of cooking these vegetables according to color and flavor, if you wish them to be most appetizing, is the advice of Miss Frances Clinton, home demonstration agent.

Green vegetables like spinach, asparagus, peas, chard or green broccoli retain their color best if cooked in a kettle without a cover. In cooking certain acids are sent off in the steam which react with the coloring matter in green leaves to dark-

en and dull the color. An uncovered kettle permits the steam to escape so the acid action on the vegetable is reduced. Avoid adding vinegar when cooking green vegetables. Never use soda on vegetables; it destroys the vitamins even though it may brighten the green color.

Red vegetables like beets and red cabbage lose their color if alkali is present in the cooking water. Adding a little lemon juice or vinegar causes the color to return. Sweet sour sauces are often served with these vegetables to improve their color. Tomatoes have an entirely different coloring substance than do beets or cabbage. Tomato color is not affected by heat but the vitamin C in tomatoes may be destroyed by heat and air. Cook tomatoes as short a time as possible in a covered kettle, with little stirring.

Yellow vegetables — carrots, squash, sweet potatoes — rich in the coloring matter that carries vitamin A have a mild flavor. The color is not affected by cooking unless it is prolonged, nor is the flavor exaggerated. Strong flavored vegetables — cabbage, onions, turnips, cauliflower, broccoli — owe their flavor to certain sulphur compounds. These break down during cooking to give off offensive odors and make the vegetable slow to digest, unless the cover is removed from the kettle, cooking is rapid, and enough water to float the vegetable is used. The rapid cook also saves vitamins and minerals.

FARMERS—HOPMEN—ATTENTION!

IT'S HALF GONE
BETTER GET YOUR ORDER IN

2 CAR LOAD SHIPMENT of WIRE

9, 10, 11, 12, 14-gauge Smooth Wire — 32-inch high Stock Fence, 8-line with 12" stays—14-gauge Barbed Wire.

FARM STORE

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

OPEN SATURDAY NITE UNTIL 9 O'CLOCK

Tonight... LISTEN TO "Gardening for Food" WITH Cecil Solly

KGW — 620 KC — 10:30 p.m. to 10:45, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, until February, 1944.

THREE NIGHTS WEEKLY
there's invaluable help in store for you and every Victory Gardener in the Pacific Northwest...

Cecil Solly, the Northwest's own garden authority, talks to you on the air... about your food gardening problems. Mr. Solly is brought to you as a wartime public service, by the Olympia Brewing Company.

Locked in a subterranean water course... the secret of Olympia's rare flavor.

"It's the Water" (from our own subterranean wells) that performs these additional functions in perfecting Olympia Beer...

- Extracts hidden flavors from the hops and grains.
- Promotes purity and clean taste throughout all processes, including fermentation and aging.
- Preserves Olympia's character and flavor when the beer is bottled.



OLYMPIA BEER
"It's the Water"

Visitors welcome at "One of America's Exceptional Breweries"
OLYMPIA BREWING COMPANY
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, U.S.A.

BUY WAR BONDS... BE CAREFUL AND SAVE MAN HOURS

For a BETTER CROP

Finest Quality

VICTORY GARDEN FERTILIZER

Buy the Quantity You Need

100 lb. bag	4.00
50 lb. bag	2.50
25 lb. bag	1.50
10 lb. box	.80
5 lb. box	.50

Sold for Food Production Only. in These Handy Sizes to Eliminate Waste.

Montgomery Ward