

Capital Journal HOME PAGE

Fall Best Time to Establish New Lawn; Prepare Land Now

By MARK M. TAYLOR

Are you planning on putting in a new lawn this fall, or rejuvenating the old one? Then, it is time to start preparation and plans now!

Good grass formed a living rug for the Nomads who always made their camps in grassy areas. Today grass forms the setting for the home. I do not believe I have ever seen homes more effectively set off by professional landscaping than those surrounding Atlanta, Georgia, where a beautiful rolling lawn from the roadway to the house is as much a custom as the beautiful styling of the Southern Colonial homes. Perhaps it is the lawn that makes those homes the beautiful pictures that they are, symbols of gracious living.

Rome wasn't built in a day—and neither was a good lawn, so don't skimp on the ingredients. The first requirement, naturally, is a good soil, although some grasses will grow in practically any soil. Grass grows best in a good surface loam. The topsoil, or its equivalent in good garden loam, should be six to eight inches deep. Soil should be prepared now before the fall rains start that would cause puddling. If the existing soil is clay and level, the provision must be made to cope with the drainage problem, which will mean laying drain tile through the area. Soil structure can be improved by adding gypsum or ground limestone at the rate of 100 pounds per 1000 square feet of lawn area.

Mid-September Best

Mid-September seems to be the best time for seeding in this area according to a majority of the experts. The soil is then dry enough to handle. It should be pulverized to a depth of eight inches. This tilling, or pulverizing can well be done in August or about September 1 when the soil is dry. After this is done, it is a good idea to sprinkle it lightly to permit settling and to encourage germination of any dormant weed seed. When the weeds sprout they can be killed by any of the popular weed killing chemicals and then turned under in the final till-

ing before sowing the seed. I do not believe I have ever seen a more attractive lawn than one of Kentucky Blue Grass, but you should know available grasses and select those for your mixture that are suitable for your purpose. Here are a few commonly used grasses:

Astoria Bent—It is tolerant of soils but does not do well in very hot weather. Widely used for golf greens and polo fields. It can take much wear.

Bermuda Grass stands hot weather, good for clay loam soils well drained. Used for athletic field turfs as it is a tough grass.

Chewing Fescue—Useful for lawns as it is a quick growing grass to shade other grasses during their germination. Useful for moist soils.

Creeping Red Fescue — As above except useful for only average soil moisture.

Domestic Rye—Useful for temporary lawns.

Highland Bent — A tough grass used for play areas.

Redtop—A tough grass, tolerant of soils.

A good seed mixture for a velvet lawn is one half Kentucky Blue Grass, one-fourth Seaside Bent and one-fourth Chewing Fescue. Seed at rate of 4 pounds per 1000 square feet. Substitute Redtop if Bent grass is objectionable.

Don't Skimp Seed

In seeding, be sure not to "skimp." The ground should look well "salt and pepper." After seed is sown a very light raking or dragging will be sufficient to cover the seed. Rolling, while commonly practiced, is not necessary nor is it advisable unless the soil is quite dry. It is useless to try to roll out structural defects in a lawn. Rain will cause a settling later, anyway.

After you are satisfied that your lawn is started correctly, then you should sprinkle lightly. Use only a light mist spray and avoid washing or flooding of any parts because then you will wash seed into the low places, much of which will rot and your money and work would be wasted!

By planting in the Fall your irrigation problems, at first, will be taken care of by the Fall rains. So, begin preparation for that lawn planting now, remembering that a beautiful lawn is the carpet for your outdoor living room and the bottom part of the framework of your home's picture!

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Hibiscus Found In Many Forms

Following our recent article on the subject of Hibiscus, my friend, David O. Garrett, who spent a number of years in Hawaii, explained that there are more than 500 varieties of Hibiscus in cultivation in Hawaii, many, of course, also growing wild. Some, he pointed out, had been taken into home gardens and hybridized so that there was a great range of color and flower form. Those growing wild, he recalled, were usually of single bloom form, large petalage and being large shrubs or small trees bloomed on the previous season's wood.

It is interesting to note that of the various Hibiscus species there are annuals, perennials and shrubs. The Hibiscus group belongs to the Malva or Mallow genus, which includes such as Musk Mallow and Marshmallow. Hibiscus are sometimes referred to as Rose Mallow. The annual species of Hibiscus is the Musk Mallow, a tropical plant grown principally for its musk-scented seeds. Hibiscus Trionum (Flower of an Hour) grows to 2 feet and has sulphur-yellow flowers with dark centers.

Hibiscus Coccineus is a native of southern swamps and has large rose-red or crimson flowers. Hibiscus Rosa Sinensis is the specie common to Hawaii and may reach 30 feet in favorable conditions. The varieties are numerous, as Garrett said, probably exceeding 500. He also described an unusual variety seen in Hawaii, that is pure white, fully double, looking like a huge gardenia but, of course, without the gardenia fragrance. This is a cultivated variety the name of which he could not recall.

There is also Mallow Rotundifolia, the common hollyhock sometimes botanically referred to as Althea Rosea. These are tall semi-perennials that make a stately tall growth 7 to 9 feet. This specie has been expanded through hybridization to include double and semi-double blooms in a variety of colors.

Nut Growers Tour Dated August 20-21

The annual summer tour sponsored by the Nut Growers Society of Oregon and Washington is scheduled for August 20-21, according to C. O. Rawlings, secretary-treasurer. Tour stops on Thursday will be of primary interest to filbert growers. Friday, August 21, has been scheduled as "Walnut Day."

Details will be available in a few days through the offices of county extension agents.

Brown Rot in Late Peaches

Maintain a brown rot control program in late maturing peach trees, reminds County Extension Agent D. L. Rasmussen. Improved Elberta and other varieties become more susceptible to brown rot at attack as they approach maturity.

Sulfur dust or wettable sulfur sprays are recommended materials for brown rot control in peaches. In mature orchards, 50 pounds of dusting sulfur per acre or a spray containing 6 pounds of wettable sulfur in 100 gallons of water should be used.

In the future, farmers may use electric lights directly in crop production, according to studies now underway by plant scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The scientists now have information on the response of different plants to a wide range of dark treatments and to various kinds of artificial light.

Coming Events

Aug. 12—Annual Vegetable Crops field day, Oregon State college vegetable crops farm, Corvallis, 10 a.m.

Aug. 12—Annual Hop Growers field day, East Farm, Oregon State college, Corvallis, 1:30 p.m.

Aug. 14—Peach field day, Oregon State college fruit experiment farm, Oregon State college, 1:30 p.m.

Aug. 16—Oregon State Farmers Union picnic, Chappin.

Aug. 17-22—Yamhill County fair, McMinnville.

Aug. 20 — Production tested livestock auction, Oregon State college, Corvallis.

Aug. 20-21 — Nut Growers Society of Oregon and Washington annual tour, filbert day, Aug. 20; walnut day, Aug. 21.

Aug. 21-26—Linn County fair, Albany.

Aug. 24-26—Marion County and City of Salem Fall show, state fairgrounds, Salem.

Aug. 26-29 — Clackamas County fair, Canby.

Aug. 28-30—Polk County fair, Rickreall.

Sept. 8-13—Oregon State fair, Salem.

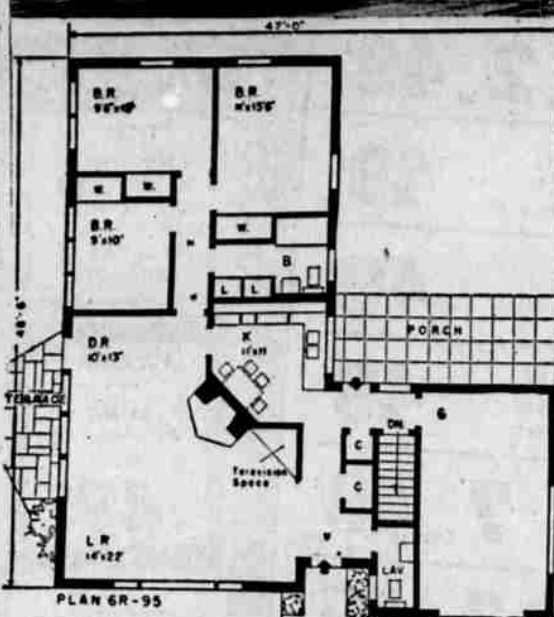
Sept. 11—Oregon Turkey Improvement annual meeting, Withershall hall, Corvallis.

Sept. 31—Your Opportunity Jersey sale, state fairgrounds, Salem.

Sept. 24-26 — North Marion County fair, Woodburn.

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HOMES FOR AMERICANS



Different with a modern air, this unusual design offers free circulation throughout the house. Kitchen is convenient to both front and rear doors. Large front living room is well-planned for furniture placement in relation to fireplace and television space. The house covers 1,413 square feet. If built without basement, it accommodates a good sized utility room in place of stairs and adjoining closets. This is plan 6R-95 by Elmer Gilleck, architect, 191 South Grove Ave., Elgin, Ill. Brick veneer is suggested.

Garden Notebook

By MARK M. TAYLOR

DO YOU KNOW?

That the word Wort in a plant's name is from the Greek, meaning plant? Hence horwort would be Horn plant—and so on.

The Joshua tree is a specie of Yucca (Yucca filifera) found in the Southwest desert sections.

The Judas tree is one we commonly know as Redbud but was so named because tradition says Judas hanged himself on this tree.

The word "Juniper" is an ancient one meaning "forever young" as they are very slow growing.

Kumquat, a favorite Chinese fruit is an evergreen shrub grown in parts of Florida for their citrus-like fruits.

The Legume family includes all forms of pea, lentils, vetch, trefoil, lotus, alfalfa, clover, lupinus, locust, watermelon tree, broome, and the tree Albizzia (Silk tree), Acacia, Mimosa and Cassia (Senna).

That raspberry, pear and peach chlorosis can be controlled by applying a solution of iron sulphate (1 lb. to 2 gallons of water each spring).

Cotton is a member of the Mallow family and includes varieties grown for decorative effect with yellow and purple flowers.

That Cottonwood is sometimes the same genus as Poplar trees.

A plant's hardiness is in relation to temperature, rainfall and soil.

That of these factors, man can change local conditions to suit a particular plant by watering, fertilizing and through greenhouse or hothouse culture.

Fall foliage coloring of shrubs and trees should be considered in a landscaping plan as well as the flowering period and color then.

The Hedges Maple (Acer Capreastrum), of dense growth, is often used in Europe for unclipped hedges, making a desirable screening plant to 20 feet tall.

Prinosed Sarsaparilla (Artemisia Frigidula) is a handsome plant for rock gardens.

There are approximately 70 species and varieties of Deutzia growing in the U. S. at present!

ORGANIC HUMUS

I watched my neighbor this spring as she raked up leaves, weeds and garden rubbish and spread them in layers. Then she came out with a bag of something, and sprinkled some of this stuff over the rubbish. Later I saw her putting in the clippings from the lawn and repeat this process.

Curiosity got me. I went over to see what she was doing. The bag of stuff was a product called COMPOST MAKER and she was making what she called organic humus, or compost, which next spring she would add to her garden soil.

Now our soil is rather sandy and this humus made with the COMPOST MAKER, which she pointed out to me would make the humus very rich in minerals, would be just the thing to loosen up any type of soil. I wondered whether I could start a pile now, and she assured me that by adding COMPOST MAKER and keeping the pile real wet I'd have some good compost to add to my garden next spring.

She showed me the label and pointed out how Miller's COMPOST MAKER could be used over the mulch in the garden, too.

Well, I'm sure going to get some of that Miller's COMPOST maker down at ...

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Daisy Popular Garden Flower

By MARK M. TAYLOR

Many flowers in popular use in the home garden today go by the name of "Daisy," yet their forms and culture are as varied as their names.

The earliest "Daisy" was probably the Daisy of poetry and literature commonly known now as the English Daisy, whereas, perhaps, the most popular daisy today for the perennial border is the Shasta Daisy, known botanically as Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum, which, itself, comes in various flower forms—single, semi double, double or frilled but usually of white bloom to about two feet tall. These are sun-loving and may be propagated by division.

Other flowers bearing "Daisy" as a name include: Paris Daisy or Marguerite (Chrysanthemum Frutescens); African Daisy (Athanasia Anna) a popular florist's flower; Blue Daisy (Felicis Ameloides); Transvaal Daisy (Gerbera Jamesoni); Michaelmas Daisy (Aster Tradescanti); Crown Daisy (Chrysanthemum Curonianum); Grant Daisy (Chrysanthemum Nipponicum); Painted Daisy (Pyrethrum Chrysanthemum Cocciduum); Easter Daisy (Townsendia Exscapa) and English Daisy (Bellis Perennis).

The Shasta Daisies, one of our most used perennials, are in reality Summer blooming chrysanthemums that have been developed into a number of decorative forms. They will do well in full sun or partial shade, have large pure white, gold centered flowers blooming from April to September and will grow in any moderately rich soil. Propagation is by division of the clumps. In fact they prosper when lifted and divided every few years.

August 14 Important To Wheat Growers

August 14 is an important date for Marion county wheat growers. That's the day eligible wheat growers throughout the United States will vote for or against marketing quotas for next year's wheat crop.

County Agent Ben A. Newell says every wheat farmer in the county should make an effort to know exactly what is involved in the referendum before August 14 and every eligible farmer should be sure to vote.

Growers in Marion county planting 15 or more acres of wheat, and with a normal production of 200 bushels or more, are subject to the quotas and are eligible to vote.

The voting will be on whether or not the growers will accept marketing quotas on next year's crop. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of the marketing quotas, they will be put into effect.

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