

Planting Suggestions for GARDEN LOVERS

All the family can join in the delight of growing a garden . . . and certainly all the family will profit by its completion, and revel in its beauty. For the children there will be outdoor play and sunshine, and the most beautiful way to learn of the wonders of nature. For the grown folks there will be exhilarating exercise and the delight of creating growing things. Make yours a gardening family, and you will have a healthier, happier family than ever!



A Perennial Garden From Seed

The competent perennial border is a work of art which many a garden lover strives to achieve. This may be hard work or a pleasant pastime, costly or inexpensive, depending upon how he goes about it, but in any case the job needs much careful study.

Without it the hardy border is likely to be a better-keeper arrangement with little sequence in height, color or season of bloom.

It is possible to get data on the way flowers grow before beginning operations. It is found for the most part in seed catalogs, and usually a gardening neighbor will have valuable information about local conditions and what will grow best in the community. When the choice of flowers is made, a scale plan on paper should be drawn and each subject located on it according to its height and color.

Most perennials have a shorter blooming period than annuals. The real skill in arranging perennials is in assembling combinations that will give a consecutive show through the season without leaving wide bare stretches at any time. Knowledge of the blooming habits of plants is indispensable in achieving this effect. Annuals can be used to fill in during the dull periods, and furnish color foil.



Such a Perennial Border Can Form a Part of Any Garden With a Little Thoughtful Planning

Plants which range from a few inches to several feet in height must be fitted into the picture so that all can be seen to advantage. It is manifestly foolish to plant a tall delphinium in front of some small plant, and the general rule is a gentle graduation from the low-growing types in front to the taller ones in the background. Without, however, presenting a monotonous sky-line. There must be an interesting pattern of peaks and valleys against the background. Many perennials can be grown from seed. This is the economical way to do it, as for the cost of a single plant seed for several dozen can be purchased. Sow perennials early. Seed sown in the warm days of spring will make a sturdy growth by fall, when plants may be transplanted to their permanent quarters. Sow in a protected part of the garden, where there is little likelihood of disturbance. Be sure to label each row. A moderately rich loam with a good quantity of humus is best.

Fragrance Adds Charm To Garden Picture

Fragrance in gardens is a charming attribute we often talk about, but too seldom find. Just why this should be true is one of those mysteries of current fashion, which is hard to explain. We find the modern gardener in a frenzied effort to create the perfect color setting, and in his haste forgetting to include those sweet-scented subjects which give such a delightful perfume to summer evenings.

Some of this neglect may be due to the homely dress of some of the old-fashioned fragrant flowers. For example the evening-scented stocks, (*Matthiola bicornis*), which give such an abundance of perfume they may well be grown for that alone. But many fragrant flowers have been highly developed by modern plant breeding and may be planted for color and beauty as well. *Mignonette* (*Reseda odorata*) is one of these, and has no superior for its delicate scent. It makes excellent cutting material to combine with other flowers.

There are many fragrant blooms that can be grown from spring-sown seeds. The ten-week stocks which come in a long color range, *Nicotiana*, the sweet-scented tobacco plants, should have a place in every garden. Their long tubular flowers close in midday, but open as evening approaches and give forth a rich perfume. The sweet sultans and sweet scabiosa have a soft fragrance and add beauty to the garden picture. They are fast growing annuals. Sow seeds of the sweet sultan (*Centaura*)



One of the Best Fragrant Annuals

broadcast where they are to grow. The datura (*angel's trumpet*) is another fragrant annual which is beautiful. It must be started early in the house, or a hotbed.

The evening primrose is noted for its heavy scent, given off during the evening hours. Its yellow and white blooms, attractive during the daytime, seem to reflect the moon at night. The bellflower is another universal favorite.

Gardeners who will take the time to search the seed catalogs will be able to find numerous fragrant subjects to fit into their summer picture.

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CHATS WITH THE Master Gardener



1. Planning Your Garden
Probably the most important step in making a garden is planning it. Of course, people who garden in a bit-or-miss way sometimes come out all right, but it's been my experience that sound planning pays real dividends in extra beauty. One friend of mine—a man who's famous in his community for the wonderful effects he gets in just a small space—told me he always knows exactly what he's going to do with every square foot of his garden before he turns the first forkful of earth.

If I were you, the first thing I'd do in planning a garden would be to make a map of it on a big sheet of paper. And I'd make it pretty carefully to scale, so as not to overlook any space that could contribute to the beauty of my garden. On this map I'd locate the permanent things, such as trees, shrubbery, and the house. If you have a pool or a rock garden, put them into the map too. Then, around these, plan the sizes and shapes of the flower beds.

One of the best ways I know to get gardening ideas is to read seed catalogs. They'll not only give you a wonderful selection of flowers and plants to choose from, but they'll give you a very good idea as to which are best suited for the climate you live in, which will grow best in your kind of soil, when you should plant each variety, and when you can expect each one to blossom.

When I read seed catalogs I keep a list of the flowers and other plants that appeal to me. And I'm always careful to include some new flowers that I haven't grown before. I've found that one of the most delightful experiences in gardening is in finding new faces in my flower beds each year. It's just like making new friends!

When you have decided on the flowers you're going to grow, the next thing to do is to plot on that map of yours where you're going to put each variety and how much space you can budget for each. There are a number of things to keep in mind. Some flowers grow a lot better than others, and the shorter ones have to be out in front where they can be seen. And since flowers don't all blossom at the same season, each flower bed should be planned so that it will have a pleasing variety of flowers in bloom at all times through the summer. Color combinations have to be considered, too.

Annuals-For Gardens This Year

While trees and shrubs form the background for every garden, we usually wait on their development over a period of years. Right now the immediate problem of home gardeners is—"What shall I plant to have a beautiful garden in May, June and July?" This means annuals—and there are many, many lovely things that can be planted now from seed.

Let's imagine that you have a bright sunny border in your yard where you need something for a background, something else to grow profusely in front, masses of color, and then a low blooming border to complete the picture.

For a tall picture, the new Mexican Marigold, the *Tithonia*, is very suitable. It will grow 8 to 10 feet tall if you let it, but you can control its height by pinching it back and making each plant more sturdy. And what a thrill you will get from some of the tall pink mallows.

For your mass of color—plants that grow from one and a half to two feet tall—there is nothing more pleasing than the African Marigolds, with petals just like a choice Carnation. If you decide on these, try the Guinea Gold or the Yellow Supreme.

Then there are the tall sinias and the charming Sunshine Asters with which we are all familiar—which are always very satisfactory. Many of us like to try something new—we enjoy seeing a new blossom unfold with which we are not acquainted. Two new blue flowers both excellent for cutting, are available this year in the Seed Displays. First is the *Kaufmannia*, just imported from South Africa; the other is Chinese Delphinium which blossoms profusely with won-

derful clear blue spikes. It does not grow very tall and the more you cut the more it will bloom. You will find all these at the seed displays at local dealers. As a precaution against stale seed, it's always well to make sure of the date on each package.

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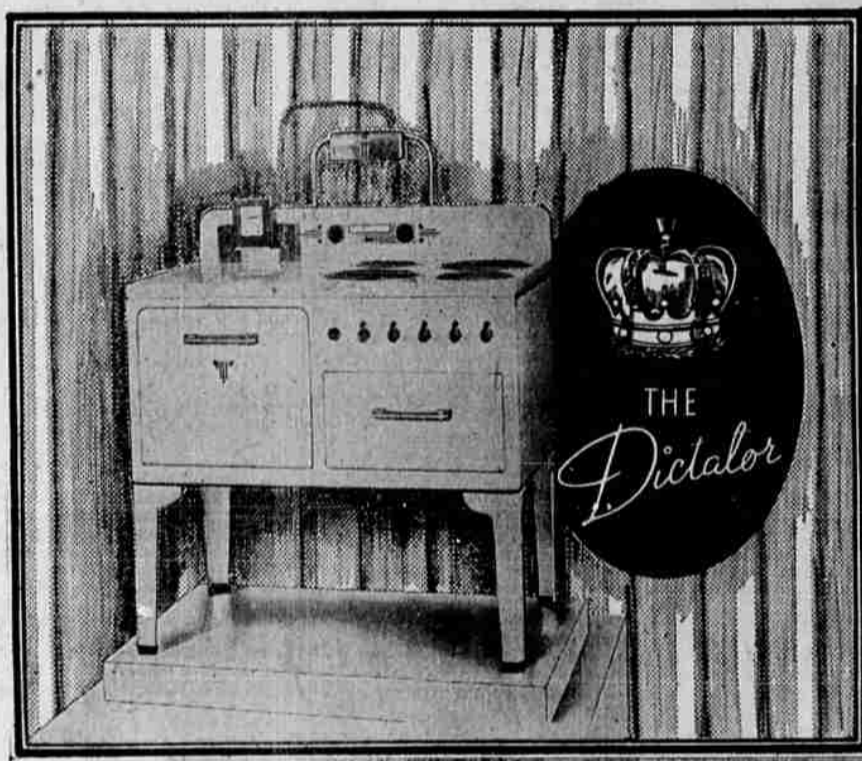
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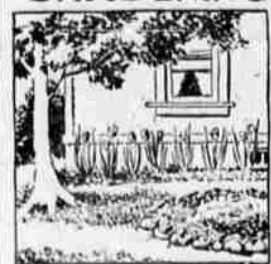
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GOOD GARDENING



Even if your garden has a north exposure and restricted sunlight—as many in the city do—you can do well with flowers if you select the right kind. Always bearing in mind that the time for planting follows the average date of the last killing frost—a date available from your local weather bureau—here are some of the types of flowers that will bloom in partial or heavy shade: tuberous begonias, coral-bells, violets, basketflower, forget-me-nots. If the garden has a hot and dry southern exposure, such plants as petunias and cacti are indicated.

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