

Spring Planting Time Nears

STAKES OR OLD COAT HANGER SUPPORT PLASTIC BAG. RUBBER BAND HOLDS IN PLACE.

CUT BELOW NODE AND REMOVE LOWER LEAVES

SEEDLING ROOTS ARE KEPT MOIST FROM WATER SEEPING THROUGH CENTER POROUS POT

6" BULB PAN

SAND, VERMICULITE OR OTHER MEDIUM

3" CLAY POT FILLED WITH WATER

PLUG HOLES

AIR-LAYERING

1. REMOVE BARK RING OR MAKE SLIT WITH KNIFE.
2. DUST WITH HORMONE
3. PACK MOIST SPHAGNUM MOSS AROUND WOUND.
4. WRAP WITH CLEAR POLY-ETHYLENE PLASTIC AND BIND ENDS.

CUT OFF WHEN ROOTS HAVE FORMED.

THE COVER

These three lambs were enjoying the "early spring" a week or so ago when photographer Wes Guderian dropped out to Charlie Read's place on Crystal Springs Road. The triplets were born to a Hampshire ewe this year. Last year the same ewe had twins.

Snake River Fishing Rules Pointed Out

Oregon anglers are advised that they must comply with the Oregon angling regulations and bag limits while fishing for any game fish in the Snake River where it forms the boundary line between Oregon and Idaho. The two states of Idaho and Oregon have concurrent jurisdiction over this stretch of river, and anglers are governed by the rules from their respective states. The same holds true for Oregon anglers fishing the Columbia River where it forms the boundary between Oregon and Washington.

Phil Schneider, state game director, said that although the specific boundary lines follow the center lines of these two streams, under the law each state has jurisdiction over its own citizens when they are on these rivers for angling purposes, even when on the other side of the center line.

Schneider said that according to an attorney general's opinion of long standing, Oregon residents, by virtue of their citizenship, are required to have an Oregon angling license to angle on the Snake and Columbia rivers. A resident or Oregon angler in the Snake River who holds only an Idaho non-resident license would be angling in violation of the Oregon law. The same is true for Oregon residents angling in the Columbia with only a nonresident Washington license or no license at all in the case of salmon.

By virtue of their Oregon residency, Schneider said, all Oregon anglers must have an Oregon angling license and punch card to angle for salmon or steelhead at any point in the Columbia and Snake rivers where it forms the boundary and must comply with the Oregon bag limits. The fact that Oregon anglers also hold Idaho or Washington licenses does not entitle them to violate the Oregon bag limits while on these rivers, Schneider said.

ROILING SOIL MIXTURE (2 PARTS LOAM, 1 PART SAND - IF NEEDED, 1 PART HUMUS OR PEAT MOSS, AND SMALL AMOUNTS OF CHARCOAL AND BONE MEAL)

SELF-WATERING WITH SAUCER ATTACHMENT (PREVENTS SOGGY ROOTS)

SAND OR CLAY POT FRAGMENTS

KEEP BUGS DOWN WITH REGULAR PREVENTIVE INSECT SPRAYS

DOUBLE POTTING AVOIDS EXCESS WATER THAT ROTTS ROOTS

FERTILIZE MONTHLY WITH GRANULAR OR LIQUID PLANT FOOD

Window Gardens Will Find A Place In Every Home

By ALLAN SWENSON
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Versatility is the most important advantage house plants offer. You can choose easily grown plants like ivy or geraniums or seek more challenge from delicate ones like orchids.

Whether you have a sunny southern window on the ground floor, or a northern view from an apartment in the clouds, you can exercise your green thumb with house plants. Even basements can become delightful indoor garden areas with simple and inexpensive artificial lighting.

For flowers, begonias, African violets, geraniums, and hundreds of other plants offer color and variety. For foliage, pick caladiums, oxalis, ferns, philodendrons and miniature fruiting bushes. Cacti, succulents, bromeliads and similar hardy plants thrive even with minimum care.

Your local florist or garden shop can suggest dozens of different plants for sunlight or shade. Many plants can be moved outdoors as highlights on a patio or terrace in the summer.

Most-house plants enjoy an even, moderate temperature range between 60 and 70 degrees F. Flowering plants hold blooms longer at about 50 to 55 degrees.

Whatever your choice for a window garden, certain basic planting and culture requirements should be observed. Here's the inside gardening story:

Choose containers to harmonize with surroundings. Consider also the needs of your plants for light and drainage. Porous containers are best. Glazed or plastic pots and planters can water-log roots and cause rotting. Metal may be harmful to roots too. A coating of

sealer or waterproof varnish will prevent this problem.

Self-watering pots let plants select their individual moisture needs. A reservoir at the bottom prevents overwatering, yet water is available when plants demand it.

Double potting with a clay pot inside a more attractive container provides this self-watering feature. Fill the space between with pebbles and peat moss around the sides.

Plants have varying water needs. Here's a general green thumb guide. Stick a toothpick into the soil. If it comes out clean, the plants are usually ready for water.

In their confined space, house plants need good soil. Again, this depends on the type of plant. A good mixture is made of about two or three parts of good garden loam and one part organic matter. This can be well-rotted manure, leafmold, humus or peat moss. Sand and bone meal can improve soil texture. For ferns, gloxinias and similar plants, add more humus.

When starting new plants or re-potting, put gravel or clay pot shards in the bottom for drainage. Then position your plant. Allow room for roots to expand.

House plants generally need fertilizer about once monthly. Liquid or granular plant food is good. Liquid feeds faster, especially when sprayed on foliage too.

For displays, give plants their individual soil needs by separate potting. A flat container filled with pebbles or vermiculite will conceal these pots and also provide a reservoir.

House plants let everyone exercise his green thumb.

Produce New Plants With Easy Methods At Home

By ALLAN SWENSON
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You can multiply your garden pleasure many times by propagating plants yourself. It's an easy skill to learn and rewards you with duplicates of your favorite flowers and shrubs.

Hundreds of different plants can be propagated readily. The two easiest methods are by rooting cuttings and air-layering established plants. Both ways will produce new plants within a few weeks.

Softwood plants and flowers are easier to reproduce. However, even during winter and early spring you can root cuttings taken from evergreens, flowering shrubs and bushes.

The equipment can be simple. An old aquarium or a large bulb pan are perfect for cuttings. Sharp sand, some clear plastic and a bit of patience completes your basic propagating kit.

Clean sand is one of the best materials for rooting new plants. It handles well and assures good drainage. Mixing equal parts of sand and peat moss will hold moisture longer. Vermiculite or ground sphagnum moss also work well.

For only a few cuttings, use a 6- or 8-inch bulb pan. Plug the hole and fill the pan with sand or other material. Also cork a 3-inch clay pot and place it in the center of the pan to serve as a reservoir. Water from the small pot will seep slowly through the porous side and keep your rooting medium moist.

For larger groups of cuttings, an old aquarium or large nursery flats will do well.

Take slips or cuttings three to four inches long from young growth of your healthiest plants. Cut below a node or leaf. Even

during winter you can get good cuttings from yew, boxwood, fire-thorn and other evergreens.

Remove leaves or side branches from the lower inch or two that will go into the sand. Dipping the cutting into a hormone like Rootone will stimulate faster root growth. Then, thrust the stems into the propagating medium. Keep cuttings moist. A polyethylene plastic sheet or bag will retain the high humidity essential for successful propagation.

The best rooting temperatures range from 65 to 70 degrees F. If sand can be kept about 10 degrees warmer, by placing on a heated surface, this will often stimulate root growth, too. Locate your propagation unit where it gets sunlight. However, with plastic covers, avoid direct hot sun which may dry the tender cuttings. A weak fertilizer solution provides nourishment as roots develop. When the roots are about an inch long, transplant to soil and water well.

Air-layering is another excellent and reliable way to create new plants. Make a shallow slit in the stem. Insert a small wooden peg or pebble. Another way is to remove a one-inch ring of bark on a sturdy branch.

Next, pack moist sphagnum moss around the wound. Dust the area with hormone if you wish, to speed rooting. Then wrap the area with clear plastic to hold high humidity. As roots are forming, the parent plant supplies the food.

When roots are plainly visible inside the plastic, within three to six weeks, cut the new plant off. Keep it moist for a few weeks in a shady location until the new roots take hold well in the soil.

Add to your garden's beauty this year through propagation.



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