Carolina Camellias

TOP GRAFTING

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Carolina Camellias

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In This Issue

About the Cover

This issue's cover features Mr. W. R. Morris of Vidalia, Georgia with a large plant that produces several varieties. See Mr. Morris' account of this on Pages 19 and 20.

S. C. CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Page

Dear Fellow Members:

Now that the hurry and bustle of the Holidays are over and you have taken down your christmas trees and decorations, children back in school, take a walk around your garden and the quiet of your greenhouse and offer a silent prayer to God for your many blessings.

Look forward to 1965 with eagerness and anticipation. If Beauty were an investment you would have a fortune in your Camellia blooms. You will find never shifting values, eternal laws of the Universe in intangible form. Camellias absorb colors and size from within a dimension beyond my imagination, and they increase and satisfies my hunger for spiritual beauty and creation.

In 1965 your Board of Directors hope to organize a committees to help the publication of the South Carolina Camelia Bulletin, to keep work involved from being such a heavy burden on the Bulletin Committee.

The Months ahead will be filled with week-end Shows from Texas to Virginia. Nothing but beautiful camellia blooms could sustain interest and for such a long period of time, from September to May. If you are sad, eyes dull, body tired and aching, go out into your garden, look into the heart of a beautiful camellia bloom for a feeting of satisfaction that can be found only in Natures' handiwork.

Will be seeing you all at the Shows!

Russell Mellette

PAST PRESIDENTS—Carroll Moon, Columbia, John D. Carroll, Lexington; Cecil Morris, Greenville; Mansfield Latimer, Rock Hill; H. E. Ashby, Charleston; R. Frank Brownlee, Anderson; L. C. Wannamaker, Cheraw; Wendell M. Levi, Sumter; Thomas B. Butler, Spartanburg; Calder W. Seibels (deceased), Columbia; Joe G. Holland (deceased), Edgefield; Judge Marvin M. Mann, St. Matthews.

FLOWERWOOD IS BEST IN SHOW AT COLUMBIA

FALL SHOW IN COLUMBIA IS TRIBUTE TO "GIB"

The Fall Camellia Show sponsored by the Men's Camellia Club of Columbia in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Camellia Society last November was outstanding.

In fact, it was probably the greatest collection of Camellias—in size, in variety, in quality and quantity—ever assembled in this area in the early fall.

Only one word can describe the sizes of the flowers exhibited. Tremendous. The number of different varieties would have rivalled and possibly outnumbered a mid-season show with excellent blooms of early, mid and late season varieties. The substance was par and it was by far the largest Fall Show in the history of Camellias along the East Coast.

The winning bloom was a Flowerwood that measured about 7½ inches across and 3½ inches thick. The edges were perfectly fimbratedand it was just about as perfect

(Continued on Page 4)

S. C. Camellia Society Officers at annual meeting. L-R (seated) H. L. Benson; F. S. Key, Florence; Russell Mellette; P. D. Rush, Lexington; Carroll Moon, Columbia; (standing) — C. A. Sherrill, Spartanburg; John Tyler, Wagener; George Poe, Cheraw; H. G. Dregnall, Charleston.

S. C. SOCIETY REELECTS OFFICERS

Members of the S. C. Camellia Society elected C. A. Sherrill of Spartanburg as Director from District 4, succeeding Haskell Gray, Jr., and re-elected all other officers for the coming year at the annual membership meeting held in Columbia in November.

Russell H. Melette of Aiken was installed to his 2nd term as President of the S. C. Society, with W. R. Merritt of Greenville, and John A. Tyler of Wagner as Vice-Presidents. P. D. Rush of Lexington was named Secretary-Treasurer for his 3rd term.

H. L. Benson of Columbia was re-elected Director from District 2 and F. F. Key of Florence was re-elected Director from District 6.

MORE ABOUT FALL SHOW IN COLUMBIA

(Continued from Page 3)

a bloom as you hope to see. It was entered by Arthur Beaty of Charlotte who grew the bloom outdoors.

The Columbia Show was an outstanding example of what Gibberellic Acid can mean to a fall show. Not only were there hundreds of large beautiful flowers of practically every variety, but the blooms grown outdoors not only held their own with the greenhouse counterparts, but in many cases outdid them. Such was the case of the winning Flowerwood of Charlotte.

So, it would appear that Gib is equally—if not more—effective on Camellias grown outdoors than on those grown in greenhouses and will assure growers of outside specimen blooms before cold weather.

In due time, the really big shows will be staged in the fall with outdoor blooms competing in equal footing with greenhouse blooms.

GEORGIA NO. ONE CAMELLIA STATE

For the third consecutive year, Georgia is the number one Camellia State.

The three-time winner outdistanced determined bids from Louisiana, South Carolina and Mississippi to win the honors by over 260 points. The champs from the Peach State built a substantial lead over rival states by securing over 400 more ACS memberships than its nearest rival and then hung on desperately as Louisiana moved up into challenging position with South Carolina less than 100 points behind. Mississippi moved up from 9 to 4th.

From a standpoint of ACS memberships Georgia lead the field with 1126; South Carolina was second with 717 and Louisiana third with 667. However, it should be noted South Carolina lead all States in increase in memberships with 45. Florida showed a gain of 42 and North Carolina 37. Georgia showed a loss of one.

Texas lead all states with the number of shows with 11; Louisina was second with 10; California, Florida and Georgia were third with nine shows each. However, it was Florida that showed the largest increase in the nember of shows in 1964 with an increase of seven. Georgia and Mississippi were next with gains of six shows.

Louisiana led allstates in the number of blooms entered with a total of 29,304 blooms entered in 10 shows. North Carolina was second in this division with 21,471 blooms entered in seven shows. California was third.

In attendance California set the pace with 98,142 reported at nine shows. Louisiana was second with 81,973 and Alabama third with 70,200 attending 4 shows.

Texas, who made quite a splurge in 1963 fell off the pace in 1964 and suffered 86 penalty points when its ACS membership fell off. Other States with penalty points for loss of memberships were Alabama 38; Louisiana 38 and Virginia 4.

The points were awarded on the following basis: One point for each ACS membership; two points for each increased membership with penalty points for decrease in this area. A state is awarded 10 points for each show and 10 points for each increase in shows. One point for each 100 blooms entered in shows and one point for 1,000 in attendance.

1964 State Scoreboard

62	63	64	State	Points
1	1	1	Georgia	1468
7	3	2	Louisiana	1203
3	5	3	S. Carolina	1115
9	9	4	Mississippi	1080
6	8	5	Florida	1057
4	6	6	N. Carolina	1049
2	2	7	California	965
5	7	8	Alabama	747
8	4	9	Texas	609
10	10	10	Virginia	333
11	11	11	Tennessee	160
13	13	12	D. C.	98.4
12	12	13	Maryland	98.2

SEARCH FOR YELLOW CAMELLIA GOES INTO REMOTE AREAS

We see where they are trying to find a yellow camellia. This will be of special interest to the many camellia fanciers in Southeast Mississippi.

Scientists believe they may be able to develop a yellow camellia before they find a wild yellow variety.

This is not beyond hope. It has been known for years that a yellowish or golden azalea abounds in the wild state in the Great Smoky mountains but it is difficult to get it to grow elsewhere. Some where in the world a yellow camellia may also blossom.

The Associated Press informs us hybridists hope that when the factor for yellow is introduced into camellia species japonica and reticulate, with their spectacular size and form, many shades of yellow, peach, orange, scarlet and gold also may be bred into camellias.

One thing that has spurred the hybridists is the fact that roses once were considered to have only the basic colors of red and white. But the French rose breeder Pernet-Ducher crossed the hybrid perpetual Antoine-Ducher with pollen of a wild Persian rose and got the delightful (gold) Soleil d'Or.

Rumors of yellow camellias lured the late Ralph S. Peer of Los Angeles to Southeast Asia and North Viet Nam.

But before anything developed, the bamboo curtain of Communist China dropped across that area of Indochina.

Nature may produce a yellow camellia in this country. There is evidence, scientists report, that some seedlings and mutations of the japonica species (the most common in this country) contain traces of yellow pigment. They theorize that some new recombination of genes might intensify the yellow color.

Dr. Clifford R. Parks, a geneticist with the camellia advisory group, is working to produce a yellow flower within the species japonica and by crossing japonica with other species. Parks is an expert in separation in flowers.

Working with Parks are Dr. James Bonner, A Nobel Prize-winning plant physiologist, Dr. David L. Armstrong, Dr. Walter Lammerts, Howard Asper and other prominent botanists and horticulturalists.

Yellow is not their only camellia goal. They are striving to develop more camellia fragrance, greater weather hardiness and earlier-flowering hybrids.

One recent milestone they reported was the successful pollination by Asper of the camellia species pitardii with pollen from Tutcheria spectabilis, a flower of the Theaceae family which has yellow petals.

Reprinted from Editorial Page of Laurel (Miss) Leader Call

AT ANNUAL MEETING:

CECIL MORRIS GOES TO BAT FOR MORE OUT DOOR CAMELLIAS

By Cecil Morris

This month's magazine "Horticulture" had an article entitled "Camellias, — Outdoors in the North" written by David Gurin of Long Island City, New York, and in this article Mr. Gurin goes on to state the success that he has had growing Camellias in his yard in Long Island, and after reading the article I began to realize that many Camellia lovers in the Camellia belt, both the lower part of South Carolina and the upper part of it, have been letting our favorite flowering shrub down by not continuing to plant the number of outdoor varieties that we should.

It is true that the winters in the last several years have been exceedingly cold and there has been considerable damage done to outdoor Camellias, but never-the-less we still get many fine blooms from the outdoor Camellias, both early and late varieties, and in most cases the plant is a very lovely foliage plant for our landscape use.

Maybe we should learn to give our outdoor Camellias a little protection in the form of a lathe house with windbreaks to the North and West, as you can get a lot of Camellias in a small space under lathe and there will be very few years when you will have a complete loss in blooms, and there will be very little damage to the plants if grown in shade either under trees or lathe provided they are protected from the North and West winds.

Cecil Morris

Japonioa Under Stock Is Harder, Says Writer

After the bad freeze of 1950 the writer realized that Japonica understock was the hardier of the two understocks we use, which are Sasanqua and Japonica, and altho the writer still grafts about a hundred Camellias a year on both Sasanqua and Japonica understock, he finds that the Japonica understock heals better, and I believe with more takes than the Sasanqua, and Mr. Gurin in his article on Camellias in the North, states that he has found that Sasanqua understock is not as hardy as the Japoni-

caunderstock. However, at the Columbia meeting it was brought out by Mr. Pregnal that Sasanqua understock could take more punishment from wet feet than the Japonica understock. This I am not familiar with, as wet feet in our end of the State is not one of our problems, as most of the land is well drained. However, this is important to those living in the lower part of the State and should be taken in consideration, but my statement and Mr. Gurin's was that Sasanqua understock does not seem to be able to take the severe winters as well as Japonica understock.

Container Grown Plants Have Problem Outdoors

One of the problems that has been worrying me for about ten years has been the fact that once Camellias have been grown in containers for a long time that they do not seem to do any good when planted outdoors in the yard of garden. In 1950 I lost sixty-five specimen plants that had been removed from the greenhouse and planted in the yard in the Spring, and that winter the cold killed everyone of them. I took up many of these plants in an effort to find out, if I could, what caused them to die, and in every case I found that the roots when the dirt was washed away were growing around and around like a corkscrew and no side roots had developed.

Since that time when I have a Camellia in a container that I want to put in the yard, I wash all of the dirt off, and do a severe job of root pruning, and then do a severe job of top pruning, and I have found that these plants seem to snap out of it and within one to two years are back about the normal size that they were when I root pruned and cut the top back. After you root prune and cut the top back it is a good idea to paint the root tips where cut and the top where cut with emulsified asphalt paint so that it will seal these cuts against water or disease.

Rhododendrons Willl Extend Bloom Season

To those of us who are growing Camellias it might be well to consider some other plants that would go very well with Camellias that would give us a bloom season different from the Camellias and create not only a lot of interest, but would lend themselves to landscape use as well as a wonderful display of blooms, and I am talking at this time about Rhododendron. I have at this time about sixty varieties of Rhodendron, some of them six or eight foot tall, and the bloom crop that comes in the Spring generally after the Camellias have finished blooming is to say the least breath-taking. Rhododenron can be grown in any section of the State, but some varieties are subject to burn if grown in the open Sun, particular in the lower part of the State, but I am sure most Rhododendron with a cold rating of 4 or 5, and possibly many of the number 3, would do well in the Southern part of our State; cold ratings of 1, 2 or 3 for upper part of State. I saw one of the finest specimen Rhodendrons growing in a nursery down at Georgetown that has been my privilege to see anywhere.

Orchids Gaining In South Carolina

Another flower that is growing very fast in the favor of flower lovers in our State is the Orchid. We now have a South Carolina Orchid Society with over one hundred and twenty-five members. We are having our first Orchid Show in Charleston on Sunday, December 12th. Orchids to be grown properly need a greenhouse, but many of our members have greenhouses and many of them

(Continued Page 20)

JOHN TYLER TELLS MEMBERSHIP ABOUT HUMIDITY

HUMIDITY IS 'THE THING' IN RAISING CAMELLIAS

By

John A. Tyler

Vice President

S. C. Camellia Society

Wagner, S. C.

In a talk about greenhouses before the membership at the Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Camellia Society in Columbia, John A. Tyler of Wagner, vice president of the Society concluded: "Temperatures never seem to wilt my flowers if the doors and win-

dows are left closed and the humidity is kept high.'

There was a lot of head nodding in agreement with John as he continued:

"First let me say that each greenhouse seems to have its own personality — partially a reflection of its owner, and partially due to its location, type of construction, amount of sun or shade, and partially due to who knows . . .

"I haven't seen another greenhouse built just as mine is . . . . It is built of cement block walls with awning type windows on both sides and two in each end with a door in each end. The roof is almost flat and is of milk white fiberglass.

"The biggest change I have had to make between the theories and ideas I had at the time I built the house and the actual practice as I presently do it is in the amount of ventilation necessary. Most articles on Greenhouses stress the need of ventilation in order to keep a cool house".

"While I still do not feel that heat is necessary in greenhouses, I also find that temperatures in the high 90's never seem to wilt my flowers if the windows and doors are kept closed and the humidity remains high.

"This time of the year, if I go into the greenhouse during the middle of the day I have to wait until my glasses quit fogging in order to see. However, if I open it up and let it cool off, the temperture may drop 20 degrees, but in doing so, the air dries out and so do the flowers and they wilt.

"If I had to rebuild I could save quite a bit by not providing for so much ventilation that I never use, even in the summer.

"Last summer I left all my plants in the greenhouse all summer with only the front door and the two front windows open and an exhaust fan in one rear window.

"If the air was exceptionally dry or hot I ran a line of five mist nozzles across the front. The temperature usually got over 100 every day and many times over 110, not a leaf burned and my plants look much better than they did when I lugged outside in the spring and back in the fall.

"There was not quite so heavy a bud set and there was exceptionally rampant growth. Of course the proof of the pudding will be when the blooms get to the show table.

"I do not mulch my greenhouse floor, but I mulch outside to keep the moisture in the ground. I do not mulch in the greenhouse because I want the moisture to rise and pump up my flowers. I also feel that the mulch would keep the warmth from the ground from rising at night and thereby making it harder to heat.

"The biggest disadvantage to not mulching is all the weeds and grass that comes up — they like greenhouse conditions just as the flowers do.

"If you don't have a greenhouse you should start planning one. It will give you more pleasure per dollar invested than anything I know.

"It take time of course, but not so much as you might think and most work on Camellias is a pleasure... A few hours work in the garden or greenhouse can do more to rest a tired mind that almost anything else. With a greenhouse, you can also enjoy your Camellias at night if you have to work during the day, and when the cold has put a stop to outside blooms it certainly is nice to be able to go out and look at the untouched beauties in the greenhouse."

— AT ANNUAL MEETING —

CHARLESTON DIRECTOR FINDS SASANQUAS BEST UNDERSTOCK

By H. G. Pregnall
District 1, Director
Charleston, S. C.

At the request of our President, I shall try to give you a few of my experiences with the camellias, grown outside, in the Charleston area.

First, I find that the sasanqua is by far the best understock for us to use, as it can stand much more water than the camellia understock. Mr. W. R. Marvin, of Wildwood Nursery in Walterboro, shares my opinion, as do many other camellia growers in the low-country. This was definitely proven to a number of people around Charleston this past summer, as we had a recordbreaking period of rain, and a large number of own root camellias, camellia understock, azaleas, and ornamental trees, drowned from too much water. The camellias, grafted on sasanquas, came through fairly well but will need a good feeding as soon as possible due to the leaching of the soil by the water.

H. G. Pregnall

I personally shall give my plants a heavy mulch of cow manure as soon as it is feasable.

Secondly, there is nothing better for camellias, in my opioion, than planting them in raised beds under heavy pine protection. By using the raised beds (about the height of a concrete block, which makes a fine retaining wall) you are sure that the drainage is correct, and it is easy to water with a skrinkler in dry weather. The pine will give enough light for plants to set buds, and is the perfect protection against frost, pine needles create perfect mulch, and retain the needed moisture for lovier blooms.

A fine example of this type planting, is Dr. Earl Klines' garden, where you will find blooms which look as though they have come out of a greenhouse.

I sincerely hope that you will find my experiences in this matter to be beneficial.

POWELL ELECTED HEAD

N. C. CAMELLIA SOCIETY

AT MEETING IN NEW BERN

The annual Fall Meeting of the N. C. Camellia Society was held in historic New Bern on October 31 at the Governor Tryon Motor Inn-Hotel with over 135 members in attendence.

President Dr. E. W. Vaughan presided over the meeting which included a business session, election of officers, a program and an informal fall show. (Ed. Note: The grapevine has it that the informal show was such a success that it may eventually lead to full scale, ACS sponsored Fall Show.)

Junius K. Powell of Whiteville was elected President of the Tar Heel Society for 1965 along with J. R. Hooks of Fayetteville as Vice President. Mrs. Maragret Woltz of Whiteville was elected Secretary and Mrs. J. F. MacGill of Fayetteville, treasurer.

Directors for 1965 are: Irvin Nixon, Elizabeth City; W. H. Robbins, Burgaw; Henry Rehder, Wilmington; Harry Pearsall, Rocky Mount; Joe Austin, Four Oaks; Larry Trammell, Raleigh; Dr. Ed Wannamaker, Charlotte; Wells Cranford, Salisbury; and Tom Clark, Winston Salem.

A most interesting program was given by three members of the Piedmont Camellia Club of Greensboro. Dr. Vaughan spoke on the history and advance of the Camellia. Dr. Jack L. Clark discussed the Propagation and Maintenance of Camellias and Tom Clark spoke on Spraying and Preventative Care of Camellias.

The meeting adjourned after a testy luncheon of Eastern North Carolina Shrimp, Crabmeat and ham.

AT ANNUAL MEETING:

KEY SAYS 'GIB' EFFECTIVE IN GRAFTING EXPERIMENT

According to an experiment conducted last spring in Florence, S. C. it appears that the use of Gibberellic Acid on the grafting of Camellias may produce even more miracleous results that it does on the blooms.

In a talk before the South Carolina Camellia Society's Annual Meeting, Frank Key, Director from District Six, told of an experiment on his grafting during the winter and Spring of 1964.

Mr. Key's report follows:

"First I took 54 jars that I had used several times and washed them thoroughly with a strong powered soap and scalding hot water. I had planted in 5 gallon cans 54 Sarah Frost plants which I used for understock.

"I mixed up a solution of 155 mg 'Gib acid'—to this I added 6-8 drops of household ammonia to dissolve crystals—then added 6cc of distilled water.

"After preparing each scion I placed it into bottle of 'Gib' and allowed it to remain there while I cut the understock. When it was ready I took scion from 'Gib' and placed it into cut understock-wrapped the usual way with rubber band to hold scion in place. I then put two drops in cut understock.

"I did 24 grafts in this manner-the 25th, instead of dipping in 'Gib' I put two drops on leaf buds. The 'Gib' burnt the buds to the extent that they failed to grow.

"I took an artist brush and coated complete around edges of

Frank Key

understock with 'Gib'.

"These grafts were done on the 24th of Feb. On June 2nd I removed the jars-first and last time-the scions never did wilt. As of this date the growths range from 13" to 35" from top of understock-all healthy plants.

"The other 29 grafts were done in the usual way as above without any 'Gib' at all- Bad as I hate to admit the take was about 50%. Putting the jars on and off was a tiresome with these 29 grafts. None of them have reached the 35" in height.

"In passing I would like to say that I am experimenting with Cycocel and B-995—which does exactly the opposite of 'Gib'. So far I can say that it will stunt zinnias and poinsettas. I am rooting Camellias to test them with the above. I understand they will stop die-back. Altho Villes and Doncks are slow growers if this will stop die-back more power to it.

READERS OFFER SOLUTIONS TO CAMELLIA MYSTERY

In the fall issue of Carolina Camellias we asked our readers for help in answering the question about the cause of damage to the trunk of camellia plants as shown in the above photograph.

We received a number of Replys. Some offered the suggestion that rabbits were the guilty ones. Others thought it might be squirrels. Still others thought it was caused by some kind of bug.

Mr. J. Russell Cross of Cross, S. C. wrote as follows: "I noticed a similar type of semi-girdling on a loquat in my yard. There were no marks on the nearby Sasanquas. I was away from home for several months due to illness. When I was again able to get into the yard, I noticed that the same eating had continued a couple of feet up the plant. The neighboring plants were still untouched.

I later discovered two large sasanquas on the other side of the yard. They had been worked on in the same manner as the loquat.

When I noticed the first bark injury, I attributed it to a rabbit, but when the eating was continued up to two and three feet above ground I became doubtful. We have rabbits and squirrels in the woods around us, but we have never had such to take place before, and only on three plants out of a large number.

If you determine what is doing the damage, I would certainly like to know."

Who Dunnit?

We have now received two letters which, along with some further research which we have done, seems to identify the cause of this trouble as being of our feathered friends.

Mr. Robert O. Matthews, Supt. of the Norfolk Botanical Garden, writes as follows:

"The damage done to the Camellia is caused by the yellow bellied Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus Varius). They drill sap wells in the living trees or shrubs. These holes are as regular as corn on the cob and in time the bark between the holes rots away, giving the impression that the plant has been girdled."

A letter from Mrs. Brown Hamer of Hamer, S. C. furnishes additional evidence that the damage is

being done by birds. She writes as follows:

"The picture of bark injury to the camellias of Mr. Ernest Burwell is the same trouble I have had for several years with my camellias and hollies. At first I too thought it was some insect or disease. Much to my surprise I found birds, especially Blue Jays, stripping the tender bark. I tried painting the strips but the birds only make new places. I do think the paint kept the plant from bleeding. As you see from the pieces of limbs which I am enclosing these are old wounds. So far I have not seen any fresh places. (Ed. Note. From other information we have we believe that most damage is done in the spring and summer)

The remedy I use is a suggestion from my yard help. Birds are afraid of snakes; so I cut short lengths of garden hose and wound them around the limbs to look like snakes. I don't know it this will work but try it."

After receiving these letters we did some research on the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and found the following interesting information in the book "Birds Of America:"

"The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is the most migratory of all the Woodpeckers. At this period the Sapsucker apparently cares little for insects and he shows that trait of his character which has given him his name by boring numerous rows of roles through the bark of sap trees. Sometimes these holes are merely single punctures but more often a number of punctures are made close together. Frequently these are placed so near together that their area is greater than that of the remaining bark. Trees thus attacked often die.

Dr. Marrim calls the Sapsuckers "noisy, rollicking fellows". He was speaking of them in the spring of the year when it is more than probable that they have become over stimulated from the sap which the heat of the sun had fermented. (Ed. Note. That's a real polite way of saying that he's a drunk Sapsucker) In the fall of the year they are quite and reserved.

The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is one of the few Woodpeckers that have more vegetable matter than animal matter in their diet; the vegetable matter is about 51% of the total food. While the animal food of this bird should be reckoned in its favor, it must be remembered that the damage it inflicts on trees in eating the sap and the cambium is very serious and is often so extensive that it cannot be balanced by the good that the bird does in other directions. Investigation by the Biological Survey show that the damage to timber, especially in the Southern States, is extensive and serious."

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Pink Fluff (Sas.)
Pink Superlative
Pink Velvet Var.
Pop Corn
Red Anniversary
Red Bugle
Red Elephant Var.
Roy Whitehead
Satellite
Satellite Var.
Red Imura
Red Rogue
Red Rogue Var.
Rena Swick Var.
Rosemary Elsom
Rose Mary Williams
Shocking Pink
Silver Chalice
Solomon No. 10 Var.
Stewart's White Supreme
Susie Q. Var.
Tickled Pink Var.
Tom Herrin Red
Touchdown
Velma Grantham Blush
Ville De Nantes (Burris)
Virginia Parrish
Wart
W. H. Barnsley
Wheel of Fortune (Pink)
White Velvet
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Mathotiana (Special)
Mathotiana Supreme S. & Var.
Max Goodley
Mercury S. & Var.

IF YOU BUY SCIONS YOU
SHOULD BE ON OUR MAILING LIST

GROUP 1 $

Alba Jean
Allie Blue
Amabel K. Lansdell
Astronaut
Beatrice Michael
Cajun Queen
Callie
Calling Card
Cecil Rogers
Charlean Var.
Cover Girl
Delta King
Drama Girl Dream
Dr. Burnside Var.
Dr. George A. Bunch
Easter Parade
Fashionata
Floradora Girl
Francis Hicks
Full House
Gorgeous
Georgia Rouse
Good News
Grandeur
Grand Slam Var.
Griffin's Pink Tomorrow Var.
Guilio Nuccio Fimbriated
Gunsmoke Var.

GROUP 4 $

Adolphe Audusson (Special)
Agnes Rowell
Angel
Ann Fowler
Ann Griffin
Ann Miller
Ann Smith
Ann Shackelford
Arlene Marshall
Aristocrat
Augusto Pinto
Babe Harrison
Baby Sargent
Baby Sis
Barbara Woodroff
Beauvoir
Beckett Red
Bell Rankin
Ben Parker S. & Var.
Bernice Boddy S. & Var.
Betty Sheffield
Black Betty
Bride's Boquet
Brooksie Suprise

MARK S.

300 MONTE
DOTHAN,

ONS

ATOR of the Business"

I CUT EACH ONE MYSELF

WELCOME TO OUR GREENHOUSE & GARDENS ANYTIME

5.00 EACH

Helen Bower
Howard Asper
Judge Thomas Porter
Judge W. T. Ragland
Kathryn Marbury
Kings Ruby
Kubul Kain
Lellah Callison
Lillie S. Adams
Lily Brewster
Margaret Pond
Margaret Pond Var.
Marguerite Potts
Muriel Nathan
Margret Price
Park Hill Tomorrow
Pink Tomorrow Var.
Rebel Yell Pink
Rebel Yell Pink Var.
Rowena Hocks
Sherrie Hollis
Star Ruby
Susann
Skip
Tomorrow Park Hill
Tomorrow Pink Var.
Tom Cat
Twilight
Viroinia Griffin

1.00 EACH

Cardinal
Caroline Browne
Cecile Brunazzi
Charlotte Bradford
Cherrio
Christine Lee S. & Var.
Christmas Beauty
Colonial Dame
Conquistador
Dark Secret
Destiny
Diddy Mealing
Dixie Knight
Donation S. & Var.
Donckelari (Special)
Don-Mac
Dorothy Rose
Dr. W. M. McIntosh
Dutchess of Covington
Early Edison
Eclantante S. & Var.
Edna Campbell
Edna Earl
Elizabeth Le Bey
Ella Wood

GROUP 3 $2.00 EACH

Ace of Hearts
Adel Clairmont
Agnes Rowell Var.
Alexis Smith
Alice Morrison
Alice Wood
Anna Jane
Ann Smith Var.
Annette Gehry
Apollo
Arabian Nights Var.
Arthur Weisner
Aubrey Harris
Avalon
Bali Ha'I
Ballet Dancer S. & Var.
Barney Diamond Var.
Berta Hamilton
Bessie Boman
Betsy Boulware
Betty Sheffield (Charming)
Betty Sheffield Light Pink & Var.
Betty Sheffield Silver (No Stripes)
Betty Sheffield Special (Lots White)
Betty Sheffield (Funny Face)
Betty Sheffield Supreme
Blanche Graham
Blush Supreme (Betty)
Buccaneer Var.
Buddie Billups
Cabcose
Candlelight
Cardinal's Cap
Carter's Sunburst
Celebrity
Charlie Bettes
China Doll
Cindy Ann
Clarise Carlton Var.
Clark Hubbs (Rowell No. 585)
Clown
Ccuntry Doctor Var.
Creation
Diakagura Supreme
Dainty Maiden
Daisy Eagleson
Dimple Darling Var.
Dixie Knight Supreme
Drama Girl S. & Var.
Dr. Gehry Var.
Dr. Quattlebaum Var.
Ecclefield
Eighteen Scholars
Eleanor Grant S. & Var.
Elizabeth Dowd
Ellen Goff S. & Var.
Ethel Davis Blush
Evelina
Extravaganza Pink & Var.
Flying Saucer
Fortune Teller
Frances Garoni Supreme
Fran Mathis
Georgia Bell
Gipsy
Goldtone
Guest of Honor Var.
Guilio Nuccio S. & Var.
Hawaii
High Wide'N Handsome
Hit Parade
Jack's
Jane Moon
Judge Marvin Mann S. & Var.
Julia France
Kick-Off
King Size S. & Var.
Lady in Red S. & Var.
Lady Macon S. & Var.
Lady Velma S. & Var.
Lovelight
Lucky Thirteen
Magic Moments
Marie Bracy S. & Var.
Mark Alan S. & Var.
Mark Culver-S. & Var.
Mary Ann Houser Var.
Mary Christian
Maverick
Miss Anaheim
Miss Charleston S. & Var.
Mississippi Beauty Pink
Monticello
Mrs. Bennie Feray
Mrs. D. W. Davis Reg. & Peony
Mrs. Jimmie Davis
Mrs. Jimmie Davis Pink & Var.
Mrs. Marshall Fields
Mrs. R. L. Wheeler
Nez Smithwick
Norfolk Red
Nadine Eshelman
Native Dancer
One-A-Lone
Pink Diddy
Pink Velvet
Red Elephant
Royal Lady
Sadie Mancill Pink
Sarah R. S. & Var.
Reg. Ragland S. & Var.
Richard Nixon Pink & Var
Richfield
Silver Anniversary
Silver Plume
Son Hackney
Tick Tock Blush-Red & Va
Tomorrow 65% White
Tomorrow Dawn
Tomorrow Supreme
Velma Grantham
Vulcan S. & Var.
War Eagle
Wildwood (Peony)
Woodville Red Blush

Monte Carlo
Mrs. Freeman Weiss S. & Var.
Mrs. LeRoy Epps
Nick Adams
North Augusta
Nell Ashby
Oneita Holland
Oniji
Pearl Maxwell
Pink Clouds
Pink Ice
Pink Surprise (Sas.)
Queen Escort
Queen of the South
Ruffled Princess S. & Var.
Rosea Superbe S. & Var.
Rosemary Kinzer
Red Wonder S. & Var.
Sally Harrell
Seventh Heaven S. & Var.
Showa Supreme (Sas.)
Snow Princess
Spring Sonnet
Stella Sewell
Sun Up
Susan Stone
Tick Tock
Tomorrow S. & Var.
Ville De Nantes
Ville De Nantes (Special)
White Fairy
White Finlandia
Wildwood
Willie Hite
Yvonne Tyson S. & Var.

CANNON

ZUMA AVE.
ALABAMA

A POST CARD WILL PUT YOU IN OUR FILES FOR BROCHURE

THE SILLY THINGS:

CAMELLIAS HOOK EDITOR

It is a little colder today, and a good thing, too, as the city's amateur camellia growers surely will agree. It the unseasonable balminess of recent days were to keep up much longer, there would be heartbreak out in the garden.

Funny thing about flowers: They have personalities all their own. Chrysanthemums were made to be Executive Vice Presidents; roses at their best are royalty; most of the dahlias we have known were strictly Madam Chairman types. Marigolds are little girls, all in uniform, marching home from private school; lilies are the bride's attendants; azaleas are gypsies dancing; zinnias are papal guards; gardenias are a choir of angels, and geraniums are young mothers coffee-klatching in the suburbs.

But camellias? You might elect a dahlia to be head of the D.A.R., but you never will elect a camellia to anything. Camellias are a man's flower, which is to say, they are all woman. Feminine. Female. Camellias are debutantes, sweethearts, center-f o l d playmates; the are Miss Teen-aged America, Hedy Lamarr and Helen of Troy. They are as Mr. Keats observed in another context, their own excuse for being. Their loveliness increases.

Alas, they do not have much sense. One cannot ask for everything. Given a week of soft rain and lingerie sun, the silly things lift up their heads. They look around, like the girl who wants a Tiparillo. It's not even Christmas, but they somehow imagine it's spring. Last week a Pink Perfection couldn't stand it any longer. She blossomed! On December 10! Did you ever hear of such a thing?

There is, we suppose, no possible good purpose to be served by worrying about all this. There are some things, mainly women, beyond a man's control anyhow. The camellias will flirt with the winter sun, tease with the shadaws, show a tantalizing slip of color. They will do os they durn well please. They're not supposed to blossom till March in these latitudes, but women have a poor sense of time and a fine flair for getting attention.

Every morning as we walk through the garden, heading for the office, we see the buds whispering and giggling in each other's ears. Camellias know when they have a man hooked, and poor miserable creatures that we amateur growers are, how we love it!

Reprinted from the editorial page s of Richmond New Leader, Dec. 14, 1964.

GRAFTING LARGE PLANTS

WITH SEVERAL VARIETIES

Mr. W. R. Morris

Route 2

Vadalia, Ga.

The idea of grafting several scions on large plants is not new. However, it might be interesting to go over the several steps required. Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Morris of Route 2 Vidalia, Georgia, tell of the way they do this type of grafting.

The time to do this type of grafting is March. The first operation, of course, is to pick a plant that is vigorous and healthy, but one that you do not care for the bloom or that is usually killed by the early cold. Now, begin to cut the limbs so as to have a nice well-shaped plant. This will take some imagination. Remember that these stubs after they are grafted will probably grow three of four feet the first year. Now, it is time to split the first stub for the sicion or scions. After this scion is grafted perfectly, proceed to graft the balance of the scions on the stubs. It is a matter of choice as to whether you graft two scions to a stub or just one, Mr. and Mrs. Morris use both one and two scions to a stub.

After the grafting is completed, you should use a piece of metal band ½" wide and about 16" to 18" long. Tie the two ends of the metal band securely to the understock (as illustrated on front cover). At this point, prepare some Sphagnum moss by wetting it thoroughly and then squeeze out the excess water. Take a wad of the Sphagnum moss and form it around the end of stub near the metal mand. On completion of this step, take a plastic bag large enough to go over the metal band, tying it securely at the base. The metal band will protect the scion from the bag. Finally, cover the plastic bag with a brown kraft bag. The brown bag serves the

Cover Graft with Sphagummoss, then cover with Plastic Bag.

same purpose as it does when placed over a jar when doing regular grafting. To harden off the scion after it has calloused, just tear a small hole in the top of the plastic bag. It can be enlarger until the scion is completely on its own. If it turns warm and dry and the scion begins to wilt, close up the bag with a paper clip. The picture on the cover illustrates the method described as it is done by Mr. Morris. The black and white picture shows the results of this type of grafting. There were 28 stubs grafted on this plant and 25 of them grew. Mr. and Mrs. Morris grafted all early bloomers on the plant Diakagura (Red, Var. and Wards'; Arajiski; High Hat, and Conrad Hilton. Many of the grafts grew three or four feet.

THE COVER ON THIS ISSUE SHOWS AUTHOR WITH PRIZE PLANT

Successful Grafts

Variety Plant

(Continued from page 8)

MORE ABOUT OUTDOOR CAMELLIAS

could add additional length to their greenhouse or a lean-to it to accomodate some Orchid plants, which would give them a new challenge in horticulture, and the results would, I am sure, surprise most everyone that got interested in growing a few Orchids for their own pleasure. I am sure the ladies would approve of any of the men putting in a few Orchid plants to experiment with.

It is my belief that any man that can grow Camellias successfully has a heart big enough to include Rhododendron, Orchids and many other of our fine flowering plants, and it would give year-round pleasure and satisfaction to those that want to expand their interest and knowledge.

If you can grow Camellias, you can grow Rhododendron, as the requirements are almost identical as the Rhododendron requires an acid loamy soil with good drainage and they can be grafted, air-layered, or you can root cuttings under mist propagation without any trouble.

MOON SIGN

DATES FOR

GRAFTING

By

Joseph G. Carter

Rock Hill, S. C.

There is no middle of the road when you discuss the pros and cons of grafting by the moon. You are either for it—or against it.

Those who believe in it will quote you numerous instances in support of the practice. The others— they just chuckle politely and graft when they feel like it.

Since Carolina Camellias started carring the Moon Sign six years ago, we have received numerous testimonials of successful experiments of grafting by the moon. They came from every section of the Camellia belt and from people in all walks of life.

Each year we receive more mail about the list than any other single feature published during the six year span. So—by an ever-encreasing popular demand, Carolina Camellias is printing for the seventh consecutive year: MOON SIGN DATES FOR GRAFTING as prepared by Joseph G. Carter of Rock Hill, S. C.

Date	Best Sign	Good Sign
Jan.		
15	After 1:35 P.M.	
16	All day	
17	Until 8:38 A.M.	
Feb.		
2	after 9:56 P.M.	
	all day	
4	all day	
5	Until 7:43 A.M.	
7		After 3:25 P.M.
8		all day
9		until 8:36 P.M.
11	after 11:14 P.M.	
12	all day	
13	until 11:54 P.M.	
Mar.		
3	After 4:56 P.M.	
4	until 1:45 P.M.	
6		After 8:50 P.M.
7		All day
8		All day
9		Until 2:14 A.M.
11	After 6:03 A.M.	
12	All Day	
13	Until 8:23 A.M.	
April		
3		after 3:29 A.M.
4		all day
5		until 7:55 A.M.
7	After 11:24 A.M.	
8	all day	
9	until 2:24 P.M.	
13		After 8:38 P.M.
14		All day
15		until 6:03 P.M.
May		
1		After 6:56 P.M.
2		until 3:27 P.M.
4	After 5:39 P.M.	
5	all day	
6	until 7:50 P.M.	
11		after 3:04 A.M.
12		All day
13		until 9:10 A.M.
14	After 9:10 A.M.	
15	Until 8:53 A.M.	

All dates and times are Eastern Standard.

NEW APPROACH TO INSECT CONTROL

By Rachel Snyder

Some new insecticides on the market this spring show enormous promise. Known as systemics, they represent a new approach to insect control. A few experts think they are as exciting as DDT and 2,4-D were in their early days.

What makes these new insecticides different from most is the fact that they completely reverse the usual process of killing harmful insects. They work from inside the plant. They are based on a concept new to the home garden field—systemic action.

Systemic means, literally, pertaining to the the plant or body system as a whole, and implies internal as opposed to external application.

One dry or granular formulation to be launched this year is called Scope Systemic Insecticide. It is to be placed directly in the soil with seeds or transplants, or it can be worked in at the base of established flowers or shrubs. Then when the soil is wet down with the garden hose, the chemical is released gradually and carried down to the root zone.

One to four days later, the plant root picks up the chemical and carries it through its sap stream to all parts. As new parts grow, the chemical moves into them, protecting sprout, leaf or flower mainly from sucking insects (a few chewing kinds are also controlled). Moreover, because they are systemic, they do not harm beneficial insects such as lady bugs.

Here are the principal insects this systemic controls: Aphids, thrips, lace bugs, leaf hoppers, whiteflies, spidermites, leaf miners, minosa webworms, pipe tip moths. This particular systemic is even registered for use on tomatoes, where it will control aphids, flea bettles, leafhoppers, leaf miners and mites, without endangering the edibility of the fruit.

The Scope Systemic Insecticide (manufactured by Chemagro Crop.) claims an effective period of six weeks or longer following an application. After that another dose should be given. In certain soil types, or in places with short growing seasons, or used against insects which produce only one generation a year, there have been reports of season-long protection. GOES INSIDE THE PLANT. The active ingredient of this systemic belongs to the phosophate group (O, O-Diethyl S-2 (ethyl-thio) ethyl phosphorodithioate). Applied to soil as directed it cannot harm birds, pets or children; it breaks down completely in a few months, and does not accumulate in soil. But there is a residue inside the plant, which kills the pests. The amount is so minute that although it kills tiny insects, a child would have to eat many entire rose plants (for instance) to obtain any harmful amount.

CLEMSON TEST GARDEN

PUSHES ORNAMENTAL STUDY

The Camellia Test Garden is a vital part of the Ornamental Research Program at Clemson University. The two main objectives of this research program involve: (1) Evaluation and improvement of ornamentals and flowering plants, (2) Determining the mineral nutrition and management practices best suited for ornamentals.

In addition to the numerous named camellia varieties, approximately 100 Camelia sasanquas have been planted for understock. Some of these were grafted this year and others will be grafted to add new and promising varieties to the collection. Varieties for grafting were chosen at random from plants suitable for growing outdoors in the Clemson area. In addition several questionable varieties from a cold hardy standpoint were grafted for testing purposes. Many varieties and species have been received through a plant introduction program.

A renewed effort is being made to collect as many of the old standard types as possible. Information related to time of bloom and general performance as related to adaptability is being recorded.

The Ornamental Area is being continually enlarged and improved. This year approximately a hundred rhododendron plants were planted adjacent to the Camellia Test Garden. An Azalea Test Garden has been established across the lake from the Camellia Test Garden.

A Graduate Research Assistant, Mr. John Curnow of Louisiana, was assigned to the Camellia Test Garden area as of February 1, 1964. Mr. Curnow has been assigned responsibility for the camellia test area with respect to fertilization, pruning, and routine production practices. A research problem involving the "Physiological effects of a residue from irrigation water on the leaves of **Camellia sasanqua**" has been assigned to this student.

Twenty-eight 2-year old Camellia sasanquas have been planted in a partially shaded area. Various water treatments will be applied to determine the effect of elements in the water which create unsightly residues.

Seniors in our Advanced Landscape classes are using the ornamental grounds as a class problem. They are doing an overall plan for the entire area that will give us a definite plan to follow and an overall program for the future.

Old Favorite

ELEGANS

Regular Feature

By Albert Fendig

Brunswick, Ga.

This fine old favorite has been praised for more than a century. As Vershaffelt wrote in 1850, "There are few camellias that can compare with this one for variegated richness of coloring." The intense bright red, marbled with pure white, backgrounded by its deep green foliage stands out in every garden where it grows. It varies in form from an informal-double to peoniform and in size from three to four inches. Large outer guard petals surround a compact center of smaller petals from which a few stamens peep when the flower is fully opened. The shrub is low and flat, slow in growth and bushy. It tends to bloom profusely. The dark green foliage is round with sharp serrations.

The Abbe Berlese wrote in 1843 that this variety was obtained by Jacob-Makoy Company, horticulturists, of Liege, from a grower in Italy. The name was published by Van Houtte in 1841. The spelling of the name has varied over the years, some writers dropping one of the "t's" "l's" or "i's". It also has gone under the names, COLETTI MACULATTA, GIRARD DEBAILLON, COETTI, PURPLIANA, and GENEVIEVE de BARBIER.

COLLETTII is certainly one of the oldest of the old favorites which proudly maintains its place in fine gardens.

GEORGIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Page

Dear Fellow Members:

On November 6, we held our first meeting of the season at the Idle Hour Country Club and had a fine attendance. Mr. Joe Pyron, Executive Secretary of the American Camellia Society, showed slides of Camellias and of European Gardens which he had recently visited. These were enjoyed by every one present.

The next day we held our first show. This show was the first fall show to be held in this section of the state.

We were all very pleasantly surprised to have a large number of blooms of exceptionally good quality. The good attendance at the show was gratifying. Everybody is happily anticipating next year's show.

Our last meeting of the year will be in Atlanta February 26, the night before the Atlanta show.

I am looking forward to seeing you at both meetings.

Sincerely,

N. Terrell Weaver

President

THE RESULTS OF YOUR USE OF 'GIB' IS NEEDED

As a regular reader of Carolina Camellias you know that we have tried to furnish you with all the latest information with reference to the use of Gib. We need your help now in sharing with us the results of your use of Gib during this camellia season. Your information will be combined with that of other growers and as a result of this free exchange of information we will all be able to do a better job of Gibbing next season.

Col. Frank F. Reed of Pasadena, Calif. was one of the first, if not the first, grower to use Gib on camellias and he has freely shared this information with all camellia growers. We are now working with him in an effort not only to get more information on this subject but to correlate information from various sections of the camellia belt.

Col. Reed is particularly interested in determining the lead time necessary to produce blooms on certain desired dates. He already has a lot of information on this which we expect to publish in the Spring issue of Carolina Camellias but he needs more information to correlate with that which he already has.

In view of this he would like to have the following help:

1. Lists of varieties that were gibbed on a day in Mid-September giving number of days to bloom and whether bloom was good, average, or poor.

2. List of varieties gibbed in Mid-October with same information as above.

3. Any data you may have on the following varieties gibbed about Sept. 1st or before: Betty Sheffield tribe, Guilio Nuccio, Mrs. D. W. Davis, Reg Ragland, R. L. Wheeler, Tomorrow, White Nun, Carter's Sunburst, Herme (Spring Sonnet), Te Deum (Jack McCaskill), Glen 40, Margaret Short and Finlandia.

4. There were shows held on Nov. 7th and 14th in 1964. If you exhibited at these shows how many days before the show did you gib your blooms that were entered? Also **now** how many days before Nov. 7th do you think a bud should be gibbed to hit a show on Nov. 7th?

If you will send this information to Mansfield Latimer, P. O. Box 2661, Rock Hill, S. C. we will study it and pass it along to Col. Reed and in turn will publish the results of these studies so that all growers will be able to get better results from their use of Gib.

Thanks for your help. Send in your information now.

Flower Arrangement

Regular Feature

EARLY AMERICAN—FRENCH—GEORGIAN—VICTORIAN

Camellias, beautiful in any type of arrangement, are especially adapted to the traditional styles. Since most of the classes in our interesting Schedule for the 1964-65 Arrangement Contest call for Period Arrangements let us make a brief review of the qualities that characterize some of these.

In the Pre-Revolutionary or **Early American** era arrangements were casual mixed bouquets denoted by simplicity and charm. Bright complementary colors were used and favorites were Chinese red, vermilion, Delft blue, lavendar, purple, orange, saffron yellow, apple green, and brown. Containers were pewter bowls, cannisters, mugs; copper kettles, bowls, pitchers; others of brass, salt glaze, Chinese porcelain and earthenware pottery. Flowers were of the old fashioned garden varieties, herbs, and dried materials as bittersweet, honesty, cattails, and everlastings.

In France during the 17th and 18th centuries all cultural life was focused on the court. The arts were expressive first of the Baroque magnificence, and later of the less weighty and fashionable Rococo taste of the aristocracy. In prints and tapestries of the period flowers are accurately shown from a horticultural point of view, but displayed so gracefully that we learn from these that the French had a very light touch in combining flowers. Their bouquets gave the effect of mass arrangements yet were never massive. Classic elegance, formal balance, airiness, soft and exquisite color harmony, gracefully curving stems and vines, with height greater than width, and individual beauty of the flowers stressed, were all characteristic. Containers included silver baskets and epergnes, alabaster and crystal vases and urns, Dresden and Meissen compotes urns and bowls. The French especially liked fragrant flowers, and among their favorites were roses and lilacs. It is interesting to note the introduction during this period of the gladiolus and snapdragon. We find also the use of stock, narcissus, iris, lily, violets, tulip, carnation, and quite a list of others.

The Georgian Period covers roughly the 18th century. Paintings of the time show considerable elegance in the use of tulips, lilacs, lilies, narcissus, fruits and roses. Containers also were of great beauty. Epergnes were used, Chinese and Lowestoft china, Waterford glass, silver, and urn and shell-type containers. The arrangements were less delicate than the French type, with formal balance, triangular in form with perfect symmentry. Color harmony was often monochromatic.

(Continued Page 32)

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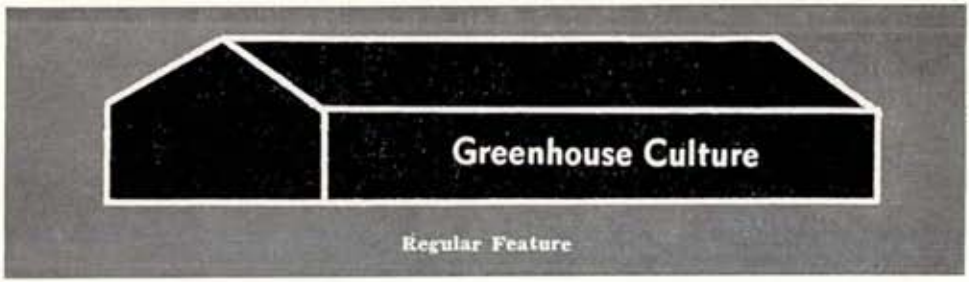

JAMES U. SMITH
1603 Kathwood Dr
Columbia, S. C.

Camellias were found growing in Japan much the same as we see mountain laurel and rhododendron growing beneath tall trees in the mountains of North Carolina. The nearer you can simulate conditions of the plants native habitat, the more healthier plant you will have.

Nature provides an acid soil continually enriched by leaves, straw and twigs which drop from the larger trees. There is ample humus to keep the soil light and well drained. The tall trees provide shelter from frost and supply filtered sunlight. They take up excess moisture and provide a wind break.

Plants growing in partial shade will not be as dense. There are fewer branches than would be found on a yard grown plant and large tree limbs fall frequently, breaking off part of the plants below. Thus, nature has cared for pruning too.

This brings us to three issues foremost in greenhouse culture.

1. Soil mix and maintaining containers. Try to simulate the forest top layer of soil. Use plenty of humus, well rotted. Whatever it is, or peat moss, an ample portion of coarse sand to prevent packing and organic fertilizer or camellis fertilizer with trace elements, phisphate and potash and mix at least three months before using. The phosphate and trace elements are hard to get into the soil late so put it in when preparing. You should have a PH of 5½ to 6 but much more important is a soil that will drain well and promptly. Never use soil freshly mixed in which you have used cotton seed meal or other fertilizers which will go through a heating process; too you may have enough to burn plants at first but after setting for several months before use this usually won't occur.

Humus will rot down and if there isn't enough sand or other course material for drainage the soil will become like a swamp muck and then if your plants are watered regularly you can begin looking for replacements.

Use drainage material in the bottom of can and cut holes large enough that they don't become plugged by rust or otherwise.

Fast growing plants will need repotting much more often than slow growing plants. Their roots grow faster and will become pot bound in one season sometimes. This is especially true of Tomorrow, Masterpiece, etc.

Metal containers rust out near the surface of the dirt frequently and you loose the fertilizer and water put in the container. The only way the soil will get wet through in that case is to have a lengthy soaking rain or to run sprinklers for several hours. Then you may have other plants in good firm containers that will be overwatered. Repot as often as neces-

sary but please don't overpot. A small plant in a large container is bad. There are no roots in the biggest portion of the earth—thus the dirt will stay wet arount it, too wet usually to induce good root growth. Don't put a gallon roots in 15 gallons of dirt.

Roots grow most when the plant is not in the process of putting on top growth and the earth is not to cold. The roots are the most important part of the plant and with healthy roots, the remainder of the plant will come along. The period of root formation or growth is August to November. They may grow some in early spring before top growth starts or about the same time.

I prefer repotting in early spring or very early fall. Repotting in the fall may effect the buds to some degree. If it isn't done before November, then the earth is too cold for root growth, so then I'd prefer not disturbing the plant until late February.

2. Pruning is a must to maintain healthy plants. If there is time to do only one, pruning or fertilizing, then leave off the fertilizing. Use sharp tools. Remove all inner limbs non-flower bearing branches and then cut away about a third of the producing branches. Cut flush with trunk or main branch. When cutting blooms or scions, cut to just above (about 1/8") the next leaf and leaf node so as not to have a dead stem. Don't mind cutting long stems with blooms. This will help to cut down on your work later. Shape plants as desired. This is one thing that makes camellias popular as shrubs.

Thin the plant as nature would do in the forest and do so before the new growth starts in the spring—otherwise you may weaken the plant and get the top off balance with the roots. If you overprune while the plant is dormant, nature will take care of balancing things up in the spring.

De-budding is an important phase of pruning too. Too many buds will cut down on the size and number of blooms. A few may open early and then the remainder will bull nose and drop off. A two year graft about three feet tall shouldn't have more than three or four buds left on it. A plant producing buds in clusters is usually sick and probably will die in a year of two if the trouble is not corrected.

3. Feeding is next in order for producing attactive healthy plants and good blooms. It is not first as so many may think, nor it it more important than pruning but may take less time. Maybe that's why it is used as an effort to substitute for the first and second steps and that is why a lot of plants are killed. Too little feeding is far better than too much. Little and often is a good motto. Start with dry feeding the last of February or the middle of March. About a teaspoon to two gallon containers and a tablespoon to five gallon containers. Use a good liquid fertilizer as foliar spray to supplement dry feeding. Use dry feed each month to July and again in late September or early October. Foliar feed every two or three weeks or as often as you like year round, except I think you waste your time when the temperature is below 50 degrees but preferably when temperature is above 67 degrees. Don't spray on open blooms. Spray in late afternoon so as to prevent rapid drying or burning from sunlight. Water after applying dry fertilizer. Plants require more water during growing season than any other time.

Pine straw mulch will prevent packing of surface soil from watering and help to prevent drying

out. will induce root growth near surface.

Editor's Note: To supplement our guest writer we ask three other growers in the Columbia area to give us brief resumes of their views on the same subjects.

By CARROLL T. MOON
Columbia, S. C.

(1) Soil for potting mixture is a mixture of three shovels of good topsoil, two shovels of peat moss and one shovel of compost. I found this was too heavy, so before potting I mixed three shovels of the above mixture and one shovel of sand. This gave a good, friable soil that has good drainage. All containers that have rusted should be replaced and the size stepped up if necessary.

(2) While repotting plants, all twiggy growth is cut out and plants are pruned to fit into the greenhouse space. For cleaning up my plants I used a line sulphur last year and plan to use it again this year.

(3) For spring fertilizing I will use a commercial camellia fertilizer mixed with cotton seed meal and a small amount of basic slag. The proportions are about 5-5-1. As the flower buds begin to form I will use a foliar feed every thirty days and hope I will have some flowers in the fall with the help of "Gib"

JIM PINKERTON
Columbia, S. C.
Soil Mixture and container maintaince

So much has been written about this problem, and the only things I think are very important are proper drainage and enough peat or like material to keep the soil from drying out too fast. The best mixture that I have yet come up with is, ½ sandy top soil, ¼ very rotten saw dust, and a ¼ mixture of dead chopped oak leaves and peat moss. The leaves must be very small pieces or they will prevent the water from passing freely. This mixture seems to encourage a great root system, but you must remember that regardless of the amount of roots a plant can only take so much fertilizer before it begins to "smoke".

Containers have now become my No. 1 problem and it is due entirely to the amount of commercial acid fertilizer I have been using. It just eats up the cans at the soil line. We have been led to believe that camellias have to have a good acid soil but I think they do much better around 6.0 to6.5 The majority of mine are too acid. Egg Cans are still one of our best containers, if you give them the right kind of protection. All my containers are given at least two dippings in the thickest tar and gasoline mixture I can get. Plants should never be left in containers that have holes near the soil line because if a plant dries out you can never get it wet again without submerging it. The month of October is the best time to repot because roots grow in the winter and if you are careful the blooms won't be hurt.

This should always be done in the spring, just before the sap begins to rise. Cut out all growth that is not strong and all from the interior of the plant on which a good bloom would not have room to open. Fine looking, bushy plants make poor greenhouse plants because of too much foilage and not enough room for a fine bloom to open. One of the most important things is to paint all cut places of any size with a tree paint and make sure your pruning is smooth. I find that most of the die back I get comes from just under a limb where a leaf has dropped and left a small hole through the bark and cambium layer.

Fertilizer Spraying

One of the most important phases of camellia culture. It gives the plant a boost between regular feedings. Ortho-Gro is used about every two weeks during the growing season. This is the only fertilizer I use after the plants have been put in the greenhouse. Durind this period I try to spray them about once a month mixed with Isotox to control any aphids.

By P. J. Horne
Columbia, S. C.

1. In my soil preparation I use ⅓ course sand, ⅓ black dirt and ⅓ peat or good pliable mixture. I usually prefer to pot in early fall when the sap is down, because the sap starts up early in spring especially in the Green Houses. I usually mulch with pine needle straw after potting, using some kind of liquid fertilizer to get to the root system as quickly as possible after potting to give the plant added vigor.

2. Pruning & Cleaning Up Plants: I try to prune in early spring and clean plants up. But to keep your Camellia plants clean year round it is a daily chore that requires your time each and every day. After taking plants out of Green House in early spring, I spray with Lime Sulphur twice, and when plants are put back into the green house in fall, I spray with Destruxl which gives the plants a sheen.

3. Spring Fertilizer: First I make sure that I have good mulch around my plants before I start my Fertilizer Program for spring and summer. I use a commercial fertilizer about fifteen days after my first application. I check the P. H. in the soil to see if I need lime; then I know the exact amount and kind of fertilizer which I need to use in my particular case.

Continued from page 27

ARRANGEMENTS

Victorian bouquets were the most compact of all mass arrangements, globular or circular in form, and usually wider than tall. Contrast in color was the style rather than harmony, with bold rich colors predominating. All white arrangements were also very popular. Arrangements, opulent and somewhat heavy, were massed so that the individual beauty of the flowers was lost. Favored colors were pink, sapphire blue, ochre yellow, lavender, violet and purple, magenta, Claret red, emerald green, rose, deep blue and brown. Flowers and plant material included camellias, bleeding heart, carnations, cockscomb, dahlia, daisy, lilies, gardenias, geranium, jasmine, magnolia, roses and stock. Often stiff, striped grasses, grains, and dusty miller, ivy and ferns were used as edgings for bouquets and vasee.

For further study of the above Period Arrangements and other Periods I would suggest OUTLINES OF PERIOD FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS by Hannay, and A HISTORY OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT by Berrall.

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