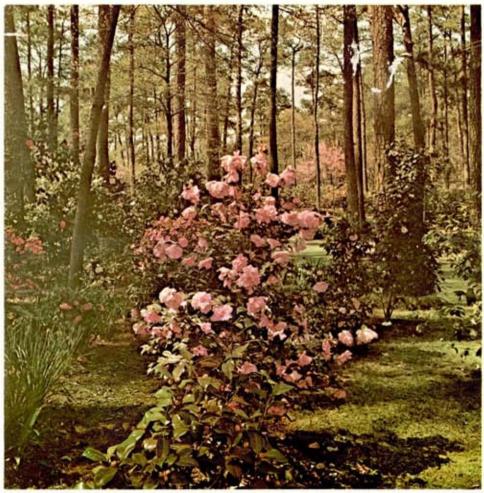
# Carolina Camellias



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## Carolina W Camellias

Published three times annually—Winter, Spring and Fall—for the members of the North and South Carolina, Georgia and Virginia Camellia Societies by the South Carolina Camellia Society, Inc. Carroll T. Moon, Chairman of Publications Committee, 421 Arrowwood Rd., Columbia, S. C. 29210, H. L. Benson, Chairman of Advertising Committee, 2425 Heyward St., Columbia, S. C., P. L. Horne, Chairman of Articles Committee, 1722 Glenwood Rd., Columbia, S. C.

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### About the Cover

In the foreground is David Feather's seedling 'Wishuwell,', a specimen in Wendell Levi's garden in Sumter, S. C. (Photo by W. E. Brunson, Sr.)

### SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

### President's Message



H. D. PREGNALL

### Dear Members:

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your new president and will do my utmost to carry out the duties of this office for the coming year.

Our annual fall meeting was held in Columbia on November 1st, at which time Dr. Luther Baxter of Clemson University, gave an extremely fine talk concerning plant pathology. Following the meeting every one enjoyed a lovely show sponsored by the Mid-Carolina Camellia Society.

As you know, our Carolina Camellias booklet is published by Carroll Moon, who would appreciate your sending any news items or articles to him, especially show information and local club functions.

It is my wish that all members work to obtain new members during the coming year so that this fine and worthy organization will continue to grow.

Sincerely,

H. D. Pregnall, President.

### NORTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

### President's Message

#### DEAR MEMBERS:

Our 19th Annual Fall Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Motel in Washington, N. C. on November 8.

This meeting was a first for Washington as a hostess. The Garden Club Council and a number of enthusiastic Camellia supporters did a wonderful job making preparation for a most successful Camellia reunion. The location was good. The luncheon was beautiful and delicious, Mr. Edwin Hardin was an outstanding speaker. The flowers in the show were exquisite. The hospitality was wonderful.

May I take advantage of this opportunity to solicit your active participation in the North Carolina Camellia Society through your attendance at the shows this season and at our spring meeting (the announcement of location is forthcoming). I hope you will accept the challenge of bringing at least one new member into our organization during the coming year who can share with us this most beautiful creation—the Camellia.

Sincerely,

Tom C. Clark, President.

### GEORGIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

### President's Message



W. L. McCoacii

Dear Members:

Plan to attend the A. C. S. Annual Meeting, January 8-10, in Orlando, Florida. I talked with Orlando's Jim English at the Valdosta Show and he told me that plans have been made to cover every detail. Exhibitors will be interested in knowing that they have arranged for a "cold room" for the storage of show blooms. Attend the meeting and the show, you'll have a grand time. This letter has to be written in November, so I hope you get it in time to remind you of Orlando.

Seven Camellia shows are scheduled in Georgia, January 24 through February 21, and they will all be beautiful, as were the Macon and Valdosta shows I attended in November. Many new varieties will be in shows this year for the first time, and you won't want to miss seeing them. Plan to attend and exhibit in as many shows as you can.

Please mail a check for the 1970 dues to:

Mr. I. Harvey 2311 Venetian Drive, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30311

Sincerely,

W. J. McCoach, President.

### VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

### President's Message



SAMUEL F. THOBNTON

DEAR MEMBERS:

As predicted in my message in the fall edition of Carolina Camellias, the meetings of The American Camellia Society in Norfolk did prove to be highlights of our fall season. To our many visitors I would like to say, "Thank you for coming to see us and hurry back."

Those of you who were so unfortunate as not to attend our first accredited fall show held on November 15 and 16 missed what many found to be a real and novel treat. Attendance was most gratifying and many compliments were received. Especially numerous were expressions of surprise and almost of unbelief that so many fine blooms could be produced in this area during the fall months. This was possible, of course, only because of the widespread practice of "gibbing" which has recently come into vogue.

As a matter of fact, due to promotional efforts sponsored by your Society, many people practiced "gibbing" for the first time this fall and were so delighted with the results that they could scracely control their enthusiasm. At least one person "gibbed" a rather large number of buds on a friendly neighbor's plants while she was temporarily away from home just to watch her surprise when all her camellias began to bloom "out of season."

The next big event on our schedule is our Twenty-ninth Annual Show scheduled for late March, 1970. Plans already are under way, but we are going to need lots of help from all of you. A full discussion of this event is scheduled for the regular February meeting.

Each year it gets more difficult to finance a really good show and to find qualified volunteers who are willing and able to devote to it the many hours of time and effort required to make it a success. If you have any suggestions that you think would be helpful, please get in touch with me at your earliest convenience.

In the meantime, do not forget our monthly meetings. As I said in my previous message, "Your attendance at the regular monthly programs is especially important."

Sincerely yours,

SAMUEL F. THORNTON.

### Annual Meeting in Orlando

### JANUARY 8-9-10, 1970

Headquarters at the Statler Hilton Motel, 3200 West Colonial Drive Telephone 295-5270

THURSDAY—REGISTRATION, First Floor Lobby Statler Hilton

2:00 P. M. MEETING of the GOVERNING BOARD

7:00 P. M. DINNER on Your Own

8:30 P. M. Dr. Mathis and Joe Pyron will show slides and give an informative talk.

### FRIDAY—REGISTRATION All Day if You Are Late (First Floor Lobby)

CAPE TOUR all day, buses will pick you up at the Motel, drive to the Cape where air conditioned buses will take you through the Cape, a guide on each bus and also a host or hostess.

After the tour a box luncheon will be provided, we go to river to eat, then back to the Motel. Should be back by 4:00 P. M.

6:30 P. M. SOCIAL HOUR

7:30 P. M. BUFFET at the Statler Hilton

## SATURDAY—TOUR OF THE GARDENS AND SCENIC TOUR OF THE CITY BEAUTIFUL. Buses will pick you up at the Motel. First see the city, the lovely Harry Leu Gardens. Come back to the Gurney and Robert Anderson Garden, where coffee will be served.

A special bus will take the men and wives who are serving as judges on the first tour and back to The Citizens Bank, where luncheon will be served compliments of the bank.

SHOW will open at 3:00 P. M.

SATURDAY P. M. IS FREE

7:00 P. M. SOCIAL HOUR at the Orlando Country Club.

8:00 P. M. BANQUET

SUNDAY—No plans have been made, but many will want to visit Sunday night—Farewell.

Doris E. Freeman, Jim English

## The American Camellia Society 1969-1970 Arrangement Contest

By Mrs. Paul Kincaid, Chairman Gastonia, North Carolina

"Camellias in Today's Moods" will be the theme for the 1969-70 Artistic Arrangement Division in ACS Camellia Shows throughout the country.

This theme was chosen after considerable deliberation. Many of today's moods are disturbing and we don't like to be reminded of them, however, our gardens and greenhouses provide havens where we can forget our frustrations and the ugliness of the world. We often use the beauty of our camellias as an antidote for today's ills, and our camellia gardens give us a place for recreation and recreation.

We hope that in using "Camellias in Today's Moods" for our arrangement contest we will be inspired to show that life can be beautiful and there is truth and beauty in the world today if we reach for it.

#### "CAMELLIAS IN TODAY'S MOODS"

Section I-Tri-color Classes

- Class 1. "Forward Together", President Nixon's slogan—Mass arrangement in contemporary style emphasizing color harmony.
- Class 2. "Prayer for Peace"—Symbolic arrangement with white camellias predominating.
- Class 3. "Law and Order"—This we must restore — Contemporary arrangement with emphasis on bold forms and strong structural outline.
- Class 4. "Today's Oriental Mood"—Japanese flower arrangement for the

American home in a classical manner. Suggest it be displayed in a tokonoma, against a shoji screen or in a tall niche with a scroll or kokemono.

Class 5. "Jet Age—Down Under"—Salute to our camellia friends in New Zealand and Australia. An arrangement combining Camellias with other foliages and flowers in a manner showing eightenth century English influence. This is the way camellias grow in their gardens.

(All fresh plant material must be used in Tri-Color classes. Camellias or a camellia must be featured in all arrangements.)

### Suggested Point Scoring:

Design	30
Interpretation of Class	20
Distinction and Aesthetic Appeal (con-	
dition to be considered here, also).	20
Freshness of Concept	15
Relationship of All Elements (color,	
texture, fitness, etc.)	15
	100

#### "CAMELLIAS IN TODAY'S MOODS"

Section II—Award of Creativity Classes

- Class 1. "Lunar Orbit" An avant-garde arrangement. Go as far out as you like but make it a beautiful trip!
- Class 2. "Psychedelic Experience"—An abstract happening staged on a pedestal with special lighting.
- Class 3. "Do Your Own Thing"—A freeform arrangement in exhibitors own style, State purpose or use of arrangement.
- Class 4. "Today's Art and Camellias" Interpretation of a work of art by an artist of today. The picture is

to be incorporated into exhibit. The interpretation can be suggestive rather than literal. It is suggested that, if possible, a generous wall space be provided for the picture with a chest or table under it on which to place arrangement. Class 5. "Flower Power with Winter's Treasures" - A dramatic, sculptured arrangement using camellias with dried branches, root, or drift-(Some fresh plant material must be used in all Award of Creativity Classes, Remember this is a Camellia Show! At least one camellia must be used in all entries.)

Suggested Point Scoring:

Design 35
Interpretation and Personal Expression
(freshness of concept, color, aesthetic appeal also to be considered here) 35
Distinction (condition and craftsmanship) 30

"CAMELLIAS IN TODAY'S MOODS" SECTION III—Tables Today

Class 1, "My Favorite Things" — A functional capsule table containing a favorite container with camellias and set with appointments for a favorite dish. Please include recipe!

Class 2. "Work of Art on the Table"—An exhibition type capsule table for a luncheon with a sculpture centerpiece. Art has its place on a table, too! Integrate a piece of sculpture into the floral decorations. Art treasures taken from their usual display area and placed in a table setting assume a fresh dimension and interest for today's tables.

Class 3. "Winter Wedding" — An elegant formal exhibition table suitable for a wedding reception or other very special occasion.

Class 4. "Punch with Camellias" — You name the occasion to celebrate with a special functional punch table.

(Fresh plant materials are required with camellias or a camellia featured. Exhibitor please refer to National Council's "Handbook for Flower Shows", pages 104-106.)

Suggested Point Scoring for Tables:

Overall Design (harmony and attractiveness of overall setting) \_\_\_\_\_ 25
Compatibility of All Materials (appointments, accessories, decorative unit, in color, texture, spirit) \_\_\_\_ 20
Perfection of Decorative Unit (design, color harmony, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ 20
Distinction and Originality (condition and fastidiousness also considered here) \_\_\_\_\_\_ 20
Interpretation, Conformity to Schedule and Functionalism \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 15

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

North Carolina Camellia Society Fall Meeting

North Carolina Camellia Society met in Washington, N. C. on November 8. The Board of Directors met at 10:30 a.m., in the Masonic Temple Building. All districts were represented. At 12:30 p. m., the membership met at the Holiday Inn for the luncheon. The meal was served buffet style. It was a most beautiful display of food and was delicious. The invocation was given by Mr. David Oats of Favetteville, and following the meal a welcome was extended to the Society by the mayor of Washington, Mr. Stewart, Mr. George Ross, retiring President, expressed the Society's appreciation to the people who had done such a wonderful job in making preparation for this meeting. Following the business of the Society, we were honored to have a nationally known speaker and humorist, Mr. Edwin H. Hardin. who made a very outstanding talk on Camellias. He prefaced this talk by a brief history of Camellias, and then using his names for some-Love, Patience—elaborated on each of these words in a most humorous fashion. provided sidesplitting many stories.

The Society, in honor of Mr. Hardin, presented to him a flower which is registered in the name of Edwin H. Hardin and developed by our past president of the American Camellia Society, Mr. Marbury in Wilmington. Our meeting lasted pleasurably to a point where it was necessary for us to apologize for not being able to attend the Texas Gulf Sulfur Mining Plant Tour which had been planned because of the time

involved in getting from Washington to the plant site. Therefore, we called and canceled this tour.

Many attended the 10-acre Camellia Garden of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McLaurin on the Pamlico River. Invitations were extended to the Society to visit Bath and the historical site there. All in all, it was a very wonderful experience. The only regret was that time did not permit that we could participate in each of the activities available. The show which was open at 3:00 p.m., and had an excellent cross section of very good flowers, especially those grown out of doors. Size and flower quality was outstanding for this early in the season. Washington, N. C. is most enthusiastic about the prospect of having a fall show next year as their second entry into the Camellia Shows.

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'MARC II' 'MARGUERITE SEARS' 'VALENTINE'S DAY' 'MELINDA HACKETT'
'MISS MANDEE SUP.' 'LUBLENE WALLACE'

'MORGAN WHITNEY' 'MISS MANDEE 'Miss LuAnn' 'Miss LuAnn Van.'

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### **Show Dates**

Place, Location and Sponsor	Date
Orlando, Florida, Camellia Society of Central Florida in connection with the ACS Annual Meeting, ACS Annual	
Meeting Headquarters, Sheraton-Hilton InnJanuary	
Cairo, GaJanuary	24-25, 1970
Charleston, S. C., National Guard Armory, Coastal Carolina Camellia Society	24-25, 1970
Waycross, Ga., First National Bank, Waycross, Federated Garden Clubs of Waycross and First National Bank January	
Aiken, S. C., Aiken Camellia ClubJanuary 31-Febru	
Georgetown, S. C., Georgetown Council of	
Garden Clubs January 31-Febru	ary 1, 1970
Walterboro, S. C., Bank of Walterboro, Branch,	F 10F0
Walterboro Council of Garden Clubs	
Savannah, Ga., The Men's Garden Club of Savannah Februa	ry 7-8, 1970
Columbia, S. C., A. C. Flora Gymnasium on Falcon Dr., Mid-Carolina Camellia Society	14-15, 1970
Beaufort, S. C., Beaufort High School, Mossy Oaks Road, Men's Horticulture Society and Beaufort Garden Club. February	
Statesboro, Ga., High School Cafeteria, Ogeechee Camellia Society February	
Swainsboro, Ga., Swainsboro Beautification Committee February	
Atlanta, Ga., Lennox Square Auditorium, North Georgia Camellia Society, Buckhead Lions Club and Atlanta Camellia Society February	
Augusta, Ga., Georgia R. R. Bank & Trust Co. February	
Whiteville, N. C., Whiteville Camellia Society February	
Charlotte, N. C., Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte	
Wilmington, N. C., Tidewater Camellia Club February 28-Ma	
Fayetteville, N. C., Fayetteville Camellia Club Marc	
Greenville, S. C., Men's Garden Club of Greenville and	1-0, 1010
Sunrisers Sertoma Club	ch 7-8, 1970
Wallace, N. C., Wallace Council of Garden Clubs	ch 7-8, 1970
Greensboro, N. C., Greensboro National Armory, Men's Piedmont Camellia Club March	14-15, 1970

### Share, to Get the Most Out of Camellias

By George W. Ross Wilmington, N. C.

Dr. and Mrs. R. P. Huffman have lived at 2322 Meets Ave., Wilmington, N. C. for 20 years with a nice collection of handsome camellia plants.

Fifteen years ago my wife and I moved into the yard and house on his right, bringing with us a small collection of camellia plants and a small greenhouse.

Ten years ago Ernest and Dorothy Beal moved in on Doc's left, bringing with them plants, energy, and a determination to make their yard just as attractive and interesting as Doc's.

If you can't beat 'em Join em, so the three families and yards were merged into one (that is the yards were).

We rooted, planted, bought, grafted, and air-layered camellias until we put together a right nice collection.

Our yards are narrow but go back about 700 feet with large trees, stream, spring and an interesting terrain.

We knew we had to have a larger greenhouse and a camellia house so we were continually collecting windows, bricks, lumber, etc. In 1963, We enjoy sharing it with others, too. Quite a few groups have used it for get-togethers. The Tidewater Camellia show uses it for most of their committee meetings. We have enjoyed entertaining the Tidewater Camellia Club at a cook out at their October meeting for the past several years. During the camellia season there is on week-ends, Sat. and Sun., coffee and cake or cookies for all.

"Doc's" camellia house was not large enough so we collected another bunch of windows, etc. and built "Ernest Camellia House" about 20 feet by 30 feet and in season it is a sight to behold, with every plant arranged for maximum show.

A couple of years later we decided we needed a "work shop and storage greenhouse" to store Hybiscus and other plants that grace the yards during the Spring and Summer.

summer, we (all working people) put our collections together. Result, a Greenhouse about 15 feet by 50 feet split level. The lower level "Doc's Camellia House" was dedicated on his birthday. The upper level with an assortment of house plants, hanging baskets, fruit trees, Hybiscus, fountain, gas cook stove, automatic gas heat, etc. We use just about any occasion we can think of to have a cookout or get together.

<sup>\*</sup> Free except the week-end of the Azalea festival, we turn it over to the Garden Club Council, and they put it on the Garden tour as a night garden. They charge a nominal fee. However, we have never sold a plant or scion.

So, again we collected windows, etc. and built No. 4 about 15 feet x 25 feet. During the Summer, we use it for repotting, propagating, etc. During the Winter, it is full, and I do mean full, of hanging baskets, house plants, Hybiscus, and you name it.

Since we are working people, we had very little time to enjoy the yard (daylight hours), so we began putting up lights. We could work with and enjoy the camellias at night. Well, we kept on until just about all the three acres were lighted with special lighting on certain spots, trees, and plants. This has resulted in "The Plantation" (a name given to the combination of the three yards) being referred to as a night garden.

For the last several years, we have enjoyed opening it to the public free ° at night during the camellia and azalea seasons. On week-ends, we furnished guided tours and served coffee and cookies in the main greenhouse.

We have enjoyed guests from most every state in the nation and many foreign countries. Our blooms have also graced a variety of occasions.

We have received many plants, scions, and cuttings from friends, and we share ours with friends. Sharing is what makes it all worth while.

Friends cooperating and sharing has made the "Plantation", the love of camellias and work has helped, too.

Come by and visit with us in the "Plantation" greenhouse.



# Try The Rest Then Buy The Best

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### Dieback in Azaleas

By Sharon B. Miller and L. W. Banter, Jr.2

In most camellia gardens one will find several azalea plants. Azaleas grow well under the same cultural conditions as camellias and their flowering season begins as that of the camellias is ending, thus supplementing the camellia garden. Azaleas come in many forms and colors and anyone, particularly in the Eastern half of the United States, can usually select hardy azaleas for outdoor use that will suit any landscape design.

Azaleas are normally long-lived plants and their beauty increases with size and age; consequently any disorder which seriously affects either the appearance or the longevity of these plants is important. The azalea, when compared to the majority of garden ornamentals, has been considered by some to be relatively free from pests and diseases. However, several either widespread or serious diseases do occur on members of the genus Rhododendron, which includes the azaleas. Exobasidium leaf gall, azaleas petal blight, Phytophthora root rot and dieback are examples of these diseases. Dieback is a general term used to designate the progressive death of stems and twigs from the tip down. Much confusion exists in diagnosing this disease since several factors such as winter injury, drought, poor drainage, excessive shade, old age, excessive fertilization, and chemical damage may cause dieback symptoms. In addition certain insects, nematodes, and fugi have been suggested as contributing to a dieback syndrome.

A fungus belonging to the form genus Phomopsis has been associated with dieback in azaleas since 1933, although the pathogenicity of the organism has only recently been established. Phomopsis is known to cause dieback in cultivated azaleas and rhododendrons in South Carolina. The fungus has been consistently isolated from a large number of diseased azalea stems collected over the state. The probability is very high that it causes much of the dieback observed in cultivated azaleas. Although the disease seems to appear more frequently in the coastal regions, it is widespread over the state, indicating that no region is protected from the fungus because of climate or geographical location.

The disease usually appears on larger branches of established plants of the Indica type. Infected twigs typically show no external symptoms of the disease before wilting and dieback (Fig. 1) occur. However, internal symptoms are present and after the bark is removed one can observe symptoms consisting of a brown streak which is usually confined to one side of the branch (Figure 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Published with the permission of the Director, S. C. Agricultural Experiment Station.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NDEA Fellow and Associate Professor of Plant Pathology, respectively.

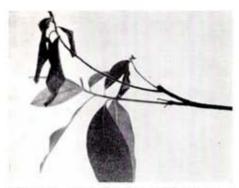


FIGURE 1. Typical wilting of leaves on a stem of the azalea cultivar 'Mrs. G. G. Germang' infected with *Phomopsis*.

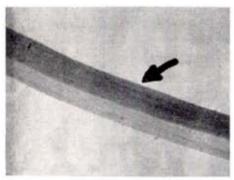


FIGURE 2. Lifected stem of the azalea cultivar 'President Clay' which has had the bark removed. Arrow denotes diseased tissue which is discolored.

This discoloration may extend from several inches to several feet along the stem, depending on the extent of infection, the size of the stem, and the period of time since infection occurred. In general, the longer the period of time, the greater the invasion.

All of the azalea and rhododendron cultivars that have been tested at Clemson University (Table 1) are susceptible to the fungus. Although the isolate of this fungus from azalea appears to be most harmful to culTable 1. Azalea and rhododendron cultivars used for testing the pathogenicity of a fungus belonging to the form genus Phomopsis. Inoculations were made on wounded stems.

#### Azaleas:

'AMOENA'
'FASHION'
'HINO CRIMSON'
'JUDGE SOLOMON'
'KAEPFERI'
'MAGIC LILY'
'MRS. G. G. GERBING'
'MRS. L. C. FISHER'
'PINK RUFFLES'
'PRESIDENT CLAY'
'SWEETHEART SUPREME'
'TREASURE'

#### Rhododendrons:

'English Roseum' 'Jean Marie de Montague'

tivated azaleas, it has been found capable of living in stem tissue of related plants, such as Rhododendron maximum, R. minus, Kalmia latifolia (Mountain Laurel), Leucothoe axillaris, and Vaccinium arboreum (Sparkleberry). This suggests that, given enough time under favorable conditions, either the fungus may cause dieback in these plants or these plants may actually act as reservoirs for the fungus causing the disease.

The pathogen usually gets into the host plant by way of a stem wound, although both wounded and very young leaves, flowers, and even leaf scars may occasionally serve as portals of entry. Stem wounds up to 8 days old were found to be susceptible to invasion by the pathogen, but non-wounded stems are resistant. Actually, wounds older than 8 days were not tested; therefore, wounds over 8 days

of age may be susceptible also. After infection takes place, the time required for dieback to occur depends on such factors as the size and age of the infected stem, the variety of plant, and the ambient air temperature at the time of and after infection takes place. Living tissue is progressively killed, and whole branches or even entire plants may be affected.

The fungus has been observed to form spores (structures which are similar in function to the seeds of higher plants) on certain azalea twigs and flowers. These spores are produced in fruiting bodies which develop in that host's tissue. The spores are probably released and spread by rain or overhead irrigation during the spring months of the year. Since

azaleas set flower buds in late June or early July, most pruning is usually done between the period of blooming and that of bud formation. This period could easily coincide with the period of spore formation by the fungus. During this period, wounded stems should be provided with some type of protection for at least one week after the wound is contracted.

Control measures which can be recommended at present include pruning diseased branches back to sound wood (no discoloration) and destroying diseased branches (the fungus can live for a time on dead wood). Always follow recommended cultural practices and sanitation in planting, caring for, and propagating your azaleas.

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Tearle Cooper'
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"CORNELIAN"
"MANDALAY QUEEN"
"MOUCHANG"
"MOUTANCHA"
"NOBLE PEARL"
"WILLIAM HERTBICH"

Miniatures:

'Black Tie'
'Fincone' & Var.
'Half Pint'
'Little Red Riding Hood'
Pink Smoke'
'Runt'
'Tinne'
'Tinne'

### Old Camellias That Have Been Overlooked

By John A. Tyleb, Jr., Wagener, S. C.

'Margaret Ratcliffe' introduced in 1956 by Charles S. Tate, Sr., Brunswick, Ga. Blush Pink, Large, semidouble. Vigorous, open upright growth. (Camellia Nomenclature.)

This has been a very overlooked flower, probably because it is not the type that ends up on the Court of Honor in every show. In fact, the only time you will find it on the Court of Honor will be in an outside show after extremely cold weather. That is when this flower really shows off. Rarely is the weather so bad that 'MARGARET RATCLIFFE' buds are damaged. As soon as the weather warms the latest bit it is ready to bloom again. 'Margaret Ratcliffe' normally starts blooming in late November or early December and continues on thru to late March. Gib will give you a little earlier bloom but does little for size. Cibbed the color is not as good, it beaches the blush pink. 'Margaret Ratcliffe' performs so well later on that it seems a shame to waste its blooms early. It roots easily, grafts easily. The plant tends to be upright but willowly. The leaves are a dark green.

This is not a flower for the greenhouse. It is not the flower for the person who wants only show winners. It is the flower for the person who wants a good, dependable garden variety that will bloom every year. It is the flower for the arranger, its smaller, blush blooms, from a fast growing plant, that can be cut with long stems are just what is needed.



### Men and Camellias

By Mrs. J. Edward Bennett Cammelia Society of The Potomac Valley Alexandria, Va.

Why are men so interested in camellia culture as a hobby?

Men prefer hobbies that present a challenge, especially one which may result in a worthwhile accomplishment. Camellias provide that challenge. To those in the northern fringe areas there is a challenge to develop varieties which will withstand wintry blasts. To those without greenhouses there is a challenge to have dependable blooms. To those with greenhouses, there is a challenge for bigger and better blooms. To camellia growers everywhere there is a challenge for new varieties with improved forms and colors. And there is the supreme challenge to bring fragrance to the Japonicas.

Men admire beauty! What other plant can offer more beauty than a camellia? With everygreen foliage the year-round, the blooming season finds flowers in a wide variety of form, texture, ararngements and color. Yes, men admire beauty, but each one has his own idea of beauty (the reason we wives were able to outwit our more glamorous competitors when we chased the man of our dreams until we let him catch us). Flowers on the same bush may vary from limb to limb and season to season, It is the anticipation and suspense that keeps men so interested. The same can be said for wives. What husband will know what his wife will be like from year to year? Don't we vary like camellias?

A business or professional man needs a hobby which provides opportunities for solitude, to be his own boss, and to get his body and soul in tune. He needs a place where he can be alone and commune with nature and the Lord Almighty. Where is there a better place than in a camelia garden? Fishing you say? Yes, but apparently some men prefer to look into the face of a flower than the face of a fish.

Men are born story tellers and what better opportunity is afforded a man than to join a Camellia Society and swap experiences with others, not only locally but nationally. National organizations mean meetings in other cities and here is where we wives reap fringe benefits. "Take me along with you!"

Finally, men love to bring happiness to others—especially women. Any man who has plucked and handed a camellia to a girl, be she 6 or 106, has seen her face light up with joy. In giving we receive, and what better opportunity to share this joy than with camellias.

Challenge, Beauty, Solitude, Friendship, Travel, Happiness! Camellia culture can be a most worthwhile hobby. God Bless Us Everyone!

### Hower Arrangement

By Coneen B. Bryant, Orangeburg, S. C.

The 1969-70 American Camellia Society Arrangement Contest theme, "Camellias in Today's Moods," is being well received by Schedule Chairmen throughout the Camellia belt, as attested from listing of fall and spring shows. However the deadline for this material for mid-season issue precedes the first "Show-Date," consequently the entry appearing in this issue will not have appeared in Fall Show competition, but has been judged on merit by a secret panel of qualified Judges,



This entry classified in Section 1— Tri-Color Classes under Class 2— "Prayer for Peace"—Symbolic arrangement with white camellias predominating. The Point Scoring, as set up by the National Chairman, Mrs. Paul Kincaid, for this section of the ACS 69-70 Camellia Show Arrangement Division allows: Design—3 points, Interpretation of Class—20 points, Distinction and Asthetic Appeal—20 points, Freshness of Concept—15 points, Relationship of all Elements—15 points.

The Design, as pictured, was created through placement of branches of Sasanqua 'MINE-NO-YUKI' in a shallow container, which encircled in part a mat-finish pale ivory figure in prayer pose. The Design is balanced at base by placement of white mat-finished doves, symbol of peace, placed upon a tiered white marble base, partially hidden with crushed pale grey foil, giving stability to figurine.

In scoring this entry for Design, two points were taken off because the camellia blossoms seemed to slightly overbalance the weight of the statuette, adding more weight by size form. No points were deducted under "Interpretation of Class," for one would understand the intent and message "Prayer for Peace" by pose of figure, purity of blossom and placement of doves, symbol of peace, in a relaxed position. One point was deducted under freshness of concept. however no points deducted under relationship of all Elements, since the color, texture and fitness of combination of materials was most pleasing. This gives the total score as 96, so that this entry qualifies for American Camellia Society Arrangement Contest Entry, and should be mailed by May 1st, 1970. However, this Entry does not qualify for tri-color due to use of figurine.

### Camellia Seedling Culture

(The most exciting hobby)

By James McCoy Fayetteville, N. C.

Hardly any camellia publication is complete without an article on seedlings, but I have had a feeling for some time that they do not go far enough. Most articles cover sprouting them very well but in many cases, the subject is dropped right there. What do you do after that. Perhaps if the culture of seedlings were covered step by step from sprouting to blooming, more people would participate. This would be good, for with few exceptions, from seedlings come our great camellias. Anyway, for what it might be worth, this is the way we grow our seedlings.

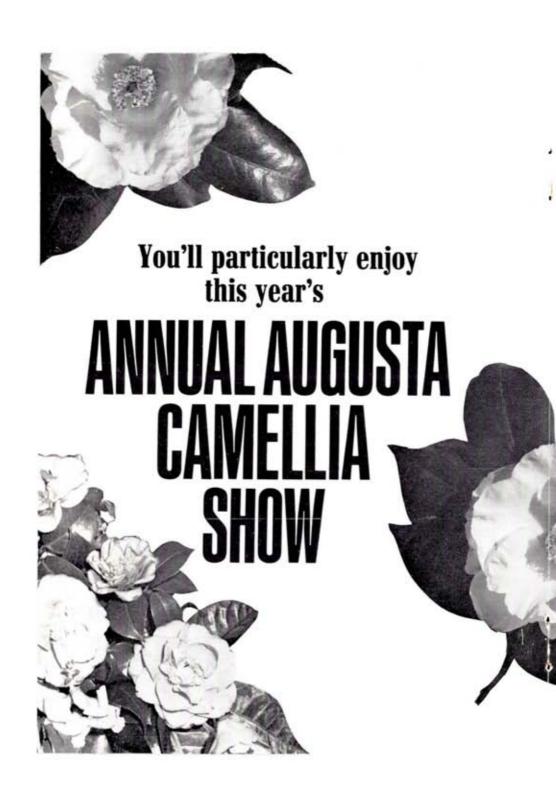
Pick seeds about 15 September whether they appear mature or not. Leave them in the container for about a week until the hull dries out a little. Then remove the dark shiny seeds from the pods. Crack the shell slightly and carefully with a hammer. Do not crush the seed.

Seeds are sprouted by placing them in a plastic bag with damp peat. Put about a gallon of water in a pail with about 2 tablespoons of Captan. Wet the peat thoroughly. Squeeze out as much of the water as possible. Seal the bag with a rubber band and place it in a dark, warm place like a closet or under the bed. Check them every two weeks to see if they have sprouted. Those that have sprouted

and the radicle (root) has reached a length of at least an inch, may be removed.

For their next stage of growth, prepare a miniature greenhouse as follows: Take a shallow box such as a soft drink box crate. Cover the bottom and sides with an unbroken sheet of polyethylene, preferably a construction grade, to prevent the passage of water. Set the crate on the plastic, pull it up on all sides and fasten it with staples, thumb tacks or masking tape. Fill it with a half and half mixture of sand and peat. Wet the mixture thoroughly. Cut off the tip of the radicle, make a hole in the sand-peat with a large nail and insert the radicle. Leave the seed sitting on top of the sand-peat. They may be placed close together, almost touching. Cover the box with polyethylene, the type clothes come back from the dry cleaners in. Use a frame work of coat hangers to keep the plastic 8 to 12 inches above the seeds. Fasten the plastic with thumb tacks or tape to the crate, creating a small greenhouse. Place the box near a window where it can get plenty of light but You may apply a light no sun. sprinkling of water every time you open the plastic to insert more sprouted seeds.

When the seedlings have begun to



The Main Banking Room of the Georgia Railroad Bank Building is a spacious and delightful setting for the thousands of blooms that make up the Augusta Camellia Show. Georgia Railroad Bank & Trust is very pleased to cooperate in this beautiful event, cosponsored by The Augusta Council of Garden Clubs. Inc., and The American Camellia Society.

You are cordially invited to attend and participate. Information on entries may be obtained from Mrs. T. W. Seibert, Chairman of the Show: 2303 Laurel Lane, Augusta, Georgia 30904. Or phone (404) 736-5821.

LOCAL ENTRIES: Saturday, February 21, 8:30-10:00 a.m.
OUT OF TOWN ENTRIES: Saturday, February 21, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
SHOW TIMES: Saturday, February 21, 3:30-9:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 22, 12:00-6:00 p.m.



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grow and have developed at least two well defined leaves, they may be moved to individual containers. We use 3-inch plastic cups with two cigarette holes burned in the bottoms. Use the same half and half mixture. We do not sterilize potting soil as we haven't found that we needed to. We

lose a few but not enough to justify the extra work of sterilizing. They may now be placed in the greenhouse. We have a 24- by 36-inch slatted frame in our greenhouse which will hold more than 200 cups, which is about all we can handle at a time. Do not fertilize. Water them about once a week and do nothing else, They do not grow much but the roots develop nicely. Move them outside in the spring along with your other plants. I move frame and all. Keep them watered and sprayed (once or twice with Cygon), nothing else until about the first of July. They will have used up the food stored in the seed and application of fertilizer will be necessary. Use Ortho Camellia-Azalea fertilizer in liquid form, mixed 1 tablespoon per gallon of water. Apply this fertilizer liberally every other week until 15 October. Of course keep them watered as necessary, about twice a week or whenever they seem dry.

By 15 October, most of them will have grown to from 8 inches to a foot in height with stems about half as big as a pencil.

They may now be potted in your regular potting soil. We use half gallon containers for this move. Here you have to make a decision: Are you going to keep them all or only the biggest? If you are like we are, you cannot throw any of them away. We always wonder if the puny little plant might not turn out to be another 'Tomorrow'. Those that we don't have cans for or room for, we plant in the ground. This is alright but it



delays blooming several years. We continue the same fertilizing program (liquid fertilizer every other week) until they bloom. This is a little expensive but there is no danger of damaging your little plants.

The next October they may be moved to gallon containers and kept in this container until they bloom. When will they bloom? About half of them will bloom after they've been in the gallon can for a year; about three years after sprouting. The other half will bloom the next year.

If you think it's exciting to watch your brand new, show winning variety develop buds and finally open, you should try seedlings. Most buds on seedlings are long and narrow, obviously singles long before they open, but occasionally one will set big, fat, peony type buds. Here's where the excitement comes in. Is it going to be a full peony type? Is it going to be very large? Is it going to win the seedling class wherever it's shown? It is going to be—yellow?

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS

### Fall Meeting of S.C.C.S.

The South Carolina Camellia Society held their fall meeting on November 1, 1969, at the Capitol Cabana Motel in Columbia, S. C. P. L. "Pete" Horne, president presided. Following the luncheon P. D. Rush, secretary-treasurer gave a report on the membership.

Mr. Horne, the outgoing president thanked all for their cooperation. The Nominating Committee, Herbert Benson, chairman, nominated the following for officers for the coming year: H. D. Pregnall, President; Tom Evans, First Vice-President; Neal Cox, Second Vice-President; B. E. Stockman, Third Vice-President; P. D. Rush, Secretary-Treasurer; Frank Brownlee, Chairman Test Garden.

All were elected by acclamation.

H. D. "Buddy" Pregnall, the new president, pledged his best effort and asked for cooperation to make for S.C.C.S. a successful year.

New directors were named for District 1, M. F. Miller, Ridgeland; District 3, Paul Dahlen, Aiken; District 5, J. Howard Knox, Lancaster.

Dr. Luther Baxter gave an interesting talk on Camellias.

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

### Time For Everything

Take time to WORK—it is the price of success.

Take time to THINK—it is the source of power.

Take time to PLAY—it is the secret of perpetual youth.

Take time to READ—it is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to be FRIENDLY—it is the road to happines.

Take time to DREAM—it is hitching your wagon to a star.

Take time to LOVE—it is the privilege of the gods.

Take time to LOOK AROUND— it is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to LAUGH—it is the music of the soul.

—Old English Prayer.

### Moon Signs for Grafting

By Joe Carter, Rock Hill, S. C.

Date	e Best Sign Ge	ood Sign   Dat	te	Best Sign	Good Sign
Janu	nary, 1970	Ma	rel	i	
10	after 11:38 a. m.	10			after 12:44 p.m.
11	all day	11			all day
12	until 11:49 p. m.	12			until 6:37 p.m.
14	after 7:5	21 p.m. 15	a	fter 3:31 a.m.	×
15	all day	16	a	ll day	
16	all day	17	u	ntil 4:40 p. m.	ē
17	until 4:0				
19	after 3:14 p.m.	Apr	ril		
20	all day	6			after 9:43 p.m.
21	all day	7			all day
22	until 10:19 a.m.	8			all day
		9			until 4:02 a, m.
Feb	ruary	11	a	fter 12:33 p. n	n.
6	after 10:38 p.m.	12	a	ll day	
7	all day	13	a	ll day	
8	until 11:18 p.m.	14	u	ntil 12:16 a.n	n.
11	after 2	:59 a.m. 19			after 12:35 a.m.
12	all day	20			all day
13	until 10	:30 a. m. 21			until 3:16 a.m.
15	after 9:16 p.m.				
16	all day				Eastern Standard.
17	all day	1000			me zone East and h time zone West.
18	until 9:54 a.m.				The second of the second

### **Beginner's Corner**

By BOB BAILEY

Conditions will occur in most camellias and other plantings when the systematic use of sod, green manure, and winter cover crops will not be sufficient to maintain proper fertility of the soil. Under such conditions the use of commercial fertilizers or farm manures will be necessary.

Fertilization is more than simply putting fertilizer over or in the soil, With the exception of nitrate, most of the other essential nutrient elements such as phosphorous, potassium, calcium and magnesium are not really mobile within the soil. They are absorbed in the surface of the soil particles. The plant roots must come in contact with these particles in order for the nutrients to become available to the plant. This means that the plant must have a well developed root system for maximum utilization of plant nutrients and subsequent maximum growth. Thus, a plant grows only as it develops a good root system. Adequate soil aeration, moisture, temperature and nutrients assure this development.

### Essential Nutrient Elements

The essential elements for rapid plant growth are taken up by root hairs from the reservoir of available nutrients held on the surface of the finer soil particles or in the soil solution film about these particles. The actual mechanism of transfer of the essential elements from the soil particles to the plant root is by base exchange This base exchange can be explained by the fact that certain bases such as calcium, magnesium and potassium are carrying positive charges and are attracted to the negatively charged soil particles. Some of the elements are held much more tightly by the soil particles than the other; and consequently, one element may be capable of replacing another.

### Nitrogen

The four most common forms of nitrogen are (1) nitrates, (2) ammoniacal compounds, (3) water insoluble organic carriers such the seed meals, and (4) the soluble organic non-proteid forms such as evanamid, urea and the formaldehydeurea compounds. The nitrate forms are held loosely by the soil particles and are consequently readily available and are subject to leaching from the soil. They tend to reduce soil acidity. The ammoniacal forms such as ammonium sulphate are held by the soil particles more tightly and are not easily leached from the soil. They are readily available to plants and increase soil acidity. The potential organic nitrogen fertilizers are slow in becoming available and expensive on the basis of the cost of the amount of available nitrogen contained. They have little influence on soil acidity. The non-proteid organic nitrogen compounds are for the most part readily available—resistant to leaching, have little effect in acidity, and show only a slight tendency to increase it.

The choice of these nitrogen fertilizers will depend upon the plant, the soil condition and the time of the year the fertilizer is applied. For camellias the ammoniacal compounds may be considered to be the most efficient in view of the usual application methods, but the combination of the various forms in complete fertilizers is suggested.

Phosphorous is largely non-mobile in the soil, being tightly held by the soil particles. High acidity or alkalinity retards its availability. It is highly resistant to leaching and exerts little change on soil reaction. High organic matter content is an aid to its availability and it is best applied by localized applications.

Potash is available in acid soils, but less so in those of a neutral or alkaline reaction. The mobility of potassium in the soil is intermediate between phosphorous and nitrogen. Potash fertilizers cause little change in soil reaction. Applications below the surface layers is recommended since alternate wetting and drying of the surface soil inches tends to bring about fixation of the potash.

#### Calcium and Trace Elements

Calcium is essential to plant growth and should be added as tests show it is needed. Additions of magnesium, iron, and manganese, boron and other trace elements may be and is usually required in most areas for the production of quality plants. Where soil and plant tests show their needs, they should be added.

### Soil Tests

It is always wise to base fertilizer applications on soil, and in many cases foliar tests. Frequent testing of the soil is necessary and records must be kept if these tests are interpreted correctly.

In taking soil samples be sure to obtain a uniform sample since only a small quantity is used to make the test.

Take the sample where the soil is of such moisture content that it is workable or let it dry to this stage before mixing thoroughly. A uniform half-pound sample is a sufficient amount for analysis. All samples, if they go to Clemson University for analysis, must go through the County Agent's office. The information such as (a) previous fertilizer and lime applications, (b) other information as to soil treatment or pertinent information as to the condition of plants growing in soil.

### Soil Reaction

The soil reaction influences plant growth by its influence on the availability of the essential nutrients. Camellias do well in ranges of phosphorous from 6.0–7.0.

### Liming Practices

In our section, periodic attention must be given to the correction of soil acidity since camellias do best on slightly acid and neutral soils. It can be corrected only when liming materials come in close contact with soil particles. The finer the liming material is the more contacts it will make with the soil particles and the more rapidly will the soil acidity be corrected. Heavier applications of coarser materials is, therefore, required as compared with finer materials.

Now let us consider the functions of plant nutrients and how plants tell us of its needs.

As I have already pointed out, nitrogen, phosphorous and potash are the essential nutrient elements. Nitrogen encourages the production of vegetative parts of your plant rather than the reproductive portion. Although it is necessary for the development of all parts of the plant, it functions especially to produce foliage rather than the flower. Nitrogen is recognized as being the first limiting element in our soils.

Our soils are also deficient in phosphorous. This element is essential for the full development of all parts of the plant, but its special function is to develop the flower, tending to hasten maturity and produce good quality. The presence in the soil of an ample supply of phosphorous in forms available to plants also favors the development of a good root system.

Potassium is important in the nor-

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mal development of all parts of the plant, but has a decided influence on the production of quality flowers and in the formation and transfer of starches and sugars in plants. If your plant does not find sufficient available potassium in the soil, its growth will be retarded because the leaves will not be able to produce starch in the chlorophyll grains of green parts of the leaves. A deficiency of potash decreases yield and lowers the resistance of plants to disease attack.

### Hunger Signs

Many elements are essential for optimum plant growth, but only nitrogen, phosphorous, and potash are applied to the soil in any quantity because these three are most deficient. We now recognize characteristic plant symptoms resulting from deficiencies of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potash.

We realize more and more that other essential elements and rare of "minor" elements play a vital and important part in plant growth. When a plant is suffering from lack of a certain nutrient element, the resulting deficiency symptoms can be interpreted readily by one who has learned to read the signs. I shall list some of the hunger signs. When a plant is hungry for nitrogen, the leaves are light green and the lower leaves show a sign of firing.

Symptoms of phosphorous deficiency have abnormally dark green color leaves that stand most erect. Some purpling.

The leaves of a plant in need of potash lose their color at the tips and margin of the leaf. The leaf, too, shows spots of dead tissue associated with cupping under the leaves.

A plant deficient in magnesium has leaves losing their color—veining is green other portion yellow.

Calcium shortage plants show young leaves distorted while the older, lower leaves look normal.

If a plant needs Boron, the terminal bud usually dies and upper leaves are distorted.

Dwarfing leaves with light green color and dead tissue is a sure sign of manganese deficiency.

If the plants lacks sulfur, there is a reduced growth and there is a crumpling down of leaves at the tip.

If a plant shows upper leaves with a loss of color the soil is deficient in iron.

There will be a loss of color and spotting of leaf tissue if zinc is needed.

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

### Spring Meeting of SCCS At the Clemson House

President H. B. "Buddy" Pregnall announces plans are being made for a spring meeting of the South Carolina Society at the Clemson House, Clemson, S. C., on Saturday, March 21, 1970.

Mr. Frank Brownlee, chairman of the Test Garden Committee, will be in charge of the arrangements for the day.

Everyone who has attended one of these spring meetings will look forward with much pleasure to March 21, 1970 at the Clemson House.

The Spring issue of Carolina Camellias will carry more details,

### The Camellia . . . in a nutshell

By Wendell M. Levi,† Sumter, S. C.

### Places of Origin

The camellia is a native of eastern Asia, and covers a much wider territory than one would imagine. It ranges from Bhufan, Assaw and Burma on the west, then eastward over Southern China, southward into Indo-China (now including North and South Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia) and westward to include the southern part of Honshu Island and all of Kyushu Island in Japan, the Liu Kiu Islands and Taiwan. It also is indigenous to the Philippines, Celebes, Borneo, Java and Sumatra. In all of these countries, some of which are only names to many of us, the camellia grows wild. In Japan and China it is especially appreciated, Choka Adachi's "Camellia: Its Appreciation and Artistic Arrangement," a particularly beautiful book with magnificent pictures, most of which are in color, well illustrates the love of the Japanese for this flower.

### Genus and Species

The genus Camellia includes over 80 separate and distinct species, the best known of which are C. sasanqua from Japan, C. japonica from Japan and Southern China, and C. reticulata from Yunnan province in Southern China, adjoining Burma and former

Indo-China, Many of the species have been imported to the United States. "Camellia Nomenclature," by William E. Woodroof, lists not only the japonica, the sasangua. and reticulata, but other interesting species, such as: Species Heterophylla (one variety); Species Hiemalis (27 varieties); Species Oleifera (three varieties); Species Rusticana—Snow Camellia (17 varieties); Species Saluenensis (11 varieties); Species Vernalis (12 varieties); Species Wabisuke (17 varieties), and then to cap all this, many new specimens are being produced as hybrids from crosses of these species. Some of these hybrids are particularly beautiful and add much in the way of new shades of color to the camellia plants now being raised in this country.

### Commercial Usages

In Japan and over much of China the japonica is grown for the oil from its seeds, which is used in many ways.

In a number of adjoining countries the leaves are also used—not for beverage, but for food, known as "leppett" in Burma and "mieng" in Thailand and Southern China. This food is made by boiling or steaming the leaves and then packing them in a hole in the ground for a period of time under pressure. The resulting "pickle" forms a traditional food in these areas.

One special camellia should be mentioned. This is *Camellia sinensis* which is the commercial tea plant. It

<sup>\* © 1969,</sup> Sandlapper—The Magazine of South Carolina.

f Wendell Levi, of Sumter, is a frequent contributor to "The American Camellia Yearbook" and Past President of the South Carolina Camellia Society.

was classified originally as *Thea Sinensis*, but the taxonomists changed the classification to genus *Camellia*, to which it now belongs.

### Physical Characteristics

Camellia japonica, especially, is a broadleaf evergreen which lives 400 or 500 years and longer under favorable conditions. It sometimes reaches a height of 40 to 50 feet. It is, therefore, not a bush, but a tree—which should be remembered when planting, and spaced accordingly.

Contrary to the opinion once held by many, the camellia can be clipped and pruned into a variety of shapes.

Some species naturally grow into tall narrow trees like Lombardy poplar (Spring Sonnet is a good example), or they can be grown in hanging urns with the limbs draping downward. There are also some species that can be espaliered on walls or trained to run along the ground.

If left unpruned, in the matter of 15 to 20 years most plants will grow tree-like with trunk and limbs prominent and unattractive. Any plant may be trimmed at any time of year. Ungainly and unattractive bushes 20 to 25 years of age can be cut back around 2 feet from the ground, with every remaining limb cut off two or three inches from the main stem, with not a single leaf left on the stump. Even in the very first year of growth it will form a beautiful, symmetrical, shapely plant. A plant will continue to grow bushy and symmetrical if certain leaders which occur at the top are cut back.

During World War II many of the trees and shrubbery of the Japanese Islands were destroyed. By good fortune, and by the order of the United States government, Kyoto, the old capital of Japan with its temples and ancient camellia trees, was not bombed but spared. Some of these trees are portrayed in Adachi's book.

### Shapes of Flowers

The blossoms of the various species of camellias vary greatly, from the tiny "Tinsie"—about an inch in diameter—to the giant japonicas, such as 'Drama Girl, 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' and many others. The reticulatas are usually very large but cold tender. The blooms are officially classified by form in "Camellia Nomenclature" as follows:

Singles (Example: 'AMABILIS' and 'KIMBERLEY').

Semidoubles (Example: 'FINLANDIA', 'HERME' and 'FRIZZLE WHITE').

Anemone form (Example: 'Elegans' [Chandler]).

Peony, loose form (Example: 'Vedrine').

Peony, full form (Example: Debutante' and 'Professor Charles S. Sargent').

Rose form double (Example; 'Purity' and 'Mathotiana').

Formal double (Example: 'Alba Plena').

### You Can Grow Camellias

Many people have a mistaken idea that camellias are very difficult to raise and will not attempt to raise them although they admire the blooms. In actuality, in its native countries the camellia grows wild, and it lives on and on.

Everything that lives has its minimum and its optimum requirements. The camellia does best on a welldrained surface which does not become sloppy and muddy. In its natural habitat there is usually plenty of woods' earth. (Thus, woods' earth will do fine if one has it convenient and prefers for economic reasons to use it rather than peat moss.)

For best results filtered sunlight, as through pine trees, is highly desirable. Longleaf and slash pines are best. If one has no shade, the fast growing slash pine can be planted and, in the meantime, temporary shade can be provided by planting a nandina (which grows very fast) east and west of the plant. The camellia should never be flooded with water; it's not a swamp plant. Neither should it be left unwatered in times of drought; it's not a desert plant. Give it a happy medium—some shade and sufficient water so that the ground never becomes parched. It should grow well for anyone starting with the proper variety, well-cared-for in the nursery and well planted at its final resting place.

If you wish real success with your camellias please, please do not plant them anywhere near magnolia or pecan trees. They are anathema to a camellia bush.

#### Selection of Varieties

For the beginner there is a galaxy of species and varieties from which

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to select. Much depends upon the novice's personal taste for color and form. The beginner can scan books on camellias and then visit nurseries and private gardens to better decide the varieties desired.

#### Color

There are numerous colors from which to select: white, white variegated with pink or red, pink, rose and red, as well as a few purples and lavenders.

### Time of Blooming

The time of blooming should be considered because there are camellias that, untreated, sometimes will bloom in August and September while others will not bloom as a rule until late March, with hundreds and hundreds varying from early through mid-to-late season.

### Toughness

Some varieties are very delicate while others are "tough as nails." The best bet is to see the various plants blooming and decide which are most appealing.

### Shape of Bush

The purchaser might desire to choose varieties for the beauty of their foliage, their shape, the size to which they grow or the speed of growth. These are details which no one can learn in a season, but which, with the years, the ardent camellia grower should learn from experience.

### Easy-to-grow Varieties for the Beginner

For the beginner who would like a pink bloom, shaped like a tight peony (on an erect-growing bush), 'Debutante' is highly recommended for one of the first varieties to acquire. This variety is not too cold hardy, but usually blooms before the deep freezes.

Two other varieties recommended for the beginner which are tough and can stand considerable neglect are 'Lady Clare' (Pink Empress') and 'Governor Mouton'. 'Lady Clare' is a large deep pink semidouble. 'Governor Mouton' is a medium size red or red splotched white semidouble to loose peony form.

All three of these are autumn bloomers and provide the beginner with very safe and inexpensive varieties with which to begin. They should also be found for sale on their own roots, which makes them lower in price than grafted plants. All gib beautifully.

### Cold Resistance of Buds

To insure blooms on camellias planted out side, even on the coldest winters in central South Carolina, varieties whose buds are cold resistant should be selected.

The writer, in an article printed in the 1967 edition of "American Camellia Yearbook," divides over 600 varieties into four classes according to each variety's ability to resist cold.

The 27 most cold-resistant varieties in the author's garden and their color as given by *Camellia Nomenclature*, published by The Southern California Camellia Society, Inc., follow:

'Berenice Boddy'++++ (Light pink with deep pink under petals) 'Cheerio'+++ (White striped or flecked with red to solid pink, and occasionally half red and half white)

'Willie Hite'+++ (Light pink shading to deeper pink at petal edges)

'Dr. Tinsley'++ (Very pale pink at base shading to deeper pink at edge with reverse side flesh pink)

'Frances McLanahan'++ (Light pink sport of 'Lady Vansittart')

'J. J. Princle Smith'++ (Bright red to rose pink)

'Lady Vansittart'++ (White striped rose pink)

'LADY VANSITTART RED'++ (Deep pink to red form of 'LADY VANSITTART')

'Princess Lavender'++ (Lavender pink)

'Shin-Shioκo'++ (Clear pink shaded deeper pink)

T. K. Variegated'++ (Light pink edged darker pink)

Yours Truly' (Lady Vansittart Shell')++ (Pink streaked deep pink and bordered pink)

'Christine Lee'+ (Rose pink)

'Christmas Beauty'+ (Bright red)

'Finlandia Var.' ('Margaret Jack')+
(White streaked crimson)

'Flame'+ (Deep flame red)

'H. A. Downing'+ (Rose red veined blood red)

'H. A. Downing Var.'+ (Rose red marbled white)

'IDA WEISNER'+ (White)

'Leucantha'+ (White form of 'Trucolor' (Siebold)

'Magnoliaefloba'+ (Blush pink)

'Margaret Ratcliffe'+ (Blush pink)

'Monte Carlo'+ (Light pink sport of 'Finlandia') 'Monte Carlo Supreme'+ (Light pink and white)

'Queen Bessie'+ (White flushed pink at center)

'Tricolor' (Siebold)+ (Waxy white streaked carmine)

'WINIFRED WOMACK'+ (Blush pink)

### Purchasing

There are many good well-established nurseries in South Carolina and the novice should buy from them. As a rule it is not advantageous to purchase from a travelling vehicle which offers plants at more attractive prices. If anything happens the itinerant party may be difficult to find.

In purchasing any variety, the nursery will usually have a number of plants of that variety for sale, and all at similar price. The plants should be selected for their dark shiny leaves, Examine last year's growth. It's easily recognized because it is much lighter in color than the previous year's growth. Select only plants that show a generous amount of new growth. If it only grew an inch or so in the nursery, where presumably it had the finest growing conditions, there is probably something faulty with the root structure.

Look at the stock of the plant and see that there is no scar upon it. Any scar will most likely turn into what's commonly called "dieback," and as the plant grows older will likely, though gradually, encircle the stock of the plant and kill it. Look at the underside of the leaves to see that there are no parasites (scale).

The best time to purchase is in August and September, if there has been rain, but actually a plant can be planted any time of year if when planted it is well watered and kept watered until it is thoroughly established. This can easily be told by whether the leaves continue to look healthy and stand up stiff or whether they have a tendency to show wilt or fading.

Plants are sold by nurseries either in containers or "B & B"—that is with the base (ball) tightly enclosed in burlap by nails or cord.

If balled and burlapped plants are purchased, one should verify that the nursery has been moving its plants at least once every two years, and preferably annually. This latter will insure against any main roots being recently cut. This is always very dangerous, since there's a balance between what's above the ground and what's below the ground. To keep the plant healthy, if 20 per cent of the roots are cut away, the balance should be maintained by cutting away at least 20 per cent of the limbs and foliage.

As a rule, 18 to 24 inch plants are preferable.

### Planting

A number of books on planting recommend digging a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the ball, and then planting. Personally, I find the following system for planting much safer for balled and burlapped specimens: Select the spot where the plant is to be located and place the plant on the ground. With a sharp stick or other instrument draw a circle

Marvin Rogerson

Mildred Rogerson

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'EASTER MORN'	'KUBAL KAIN SUPREME'	"TOMORROW-
FRANCIE L. VAR.	'MILO ROWELL'	TROPIC DAWN'
'FASHIONATA'	'PINK ELEPHANT'	'TOMORROW-
'GRAND PRIX'	'PATSY RISH'	PARK HILL
'HOWARD ASPER'	"RENA SWICK"	'PEARLE COOPER'

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in the ground marking where the ball sits. Move the plant aside. Carefully dig out a hole with the same diameter, but one to two inches shallower than the ball is deep. Then place the ball in the hole. Use a yardstick or other straight instrument to be sure that the ball is at least a couple of inches above the general surface of the ground. Move the plant so that it's erect and not leaning in any direction from any angle. If the soil in the ball or the soil of the garden is dry, both should be well watered at this point. Cut the twine or remove the nails that are holding the sack together at the top. Run your index finger around the stock and see how deep the first roots are. There should not be over one inch of soil before the junction of the roots should be felt. If there is

more, then before planting it should be gently removed. The camellia roots should be always near the surface.

Take a straight edge spade and dig a moat around the ball at least the width of the spade, or a half again as wide, if the soil is not rich. Take three bucketfuls of the top soil and place either in a metal wheelbarrow or a mixing box. Add a soup can full of camellia fertilizer, three buckets of peat moss, and thoroughly mix the soil and peat moss with water until it's wet and well soaked. Place the mixture in the circular moat, packing it against the sides of the ball, being careful to let no part of the mixture get on the top of the ball, and slope it down from the ball to the outside circle. The mixture should be very moist, like the dirt pancakes we used

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to make as children. Cover with pine straw.

### Summary

In the foregoing thumbnail sketch on the camellia a sincere effort has been made to mention its place of origin, its taxonomy and physical characters, and suggestions to a would-be grower on how to go about raising it.

Many important features are not even mentioned. For example: greenhouse culture, propagation by seeds, by cuttings, by air layering, by grafting; its genetics, inheritance of color, of form, of fragrance, and other genetic characters; flower arrangements and corsages. Also, its troubles and problems (every living thing has them), its ailments and its external parasites.

It is such a glorious shrub for the garden and its superlative blooms occur during the winter when there are little, if any, other trees or shrubs blooming. These attributes should make it worth while for anyone with a garden or yard to give the camellia, especially the japonica, a trial. Many a wife and husband have tried one or two plants and found a wonderful joint hobby for life.

There are thousands of people today raising camellias successfully outdoors, not only in the southern states but as far north as on Long Island, New York. They form a fraternity of friendly competitors at shows and expositions of state and county societies. The mother of all societies is the American Camellia Society, Joseph H. Pyron, Executive Secretary, P. O. Box 212, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030. Dues are \$7.50 a year. Each member gets an annual 300-page yearbook and five issues of its magazine as well as benefits derived from its meetings.

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

### Augusta Camellia Show

You are cordially invited to exhibit your prize blooms at our show to be held on February 21 and 22 at the Georgia Railroad Bank and Trust Company, Broad at Seventh Streets, Co-sponsors of this show are the "Georgia Railroad Bank and Trust Co.," the Augusta Council of Garden Clubs and the American Camellia Society. Trophies and ACS bloom certificates to be awarded. Admission is free.

In addition to the horticulture section, there will be two classes in Artistic Design, with the Tri-Color to be awarded in one and the Creativity Award in the other.

Entry tags for horticulture may be secured in advance from the Chairman. Please indicate type of tag you need, "Protected" or "Unprotected" and if they are "gibbed" or not.

The 1970 Chairman is Mrs. Thomas W. Seibert, 2303 Laurel Lane, Augusta, Georgia 30904. Telephone number (404) 736-5821.

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

### Men's Garden Club of Greenville Camellia Show

The Men's Garden Club of Greenville and the Sunrisers Sertoma Club will sponsor their Nineteenth Annual Camellia Show to be held March 7 and 8, 1970 at League Junior High School on Twin Lake Road. After a one year leave of absence from the show the people of Greenville will be looking forward to extend a welcome back to exhibitors and enthusiasts. There will be an outstanding array of silver awards to be presented to the winners.

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

### Payne H. Midyette ACS President

Payne Midyette assumed the office of president of the American Camellia Society at the Fall Meeting in Norfolk, Va., on November 15th. In his acceptance speech he said. "The future is before us, The accomplish-



Payne H. Midyette ACS President

ments rest with you. I have asked members of the governing board to carry the message of ACS. Its accomplishments, its hopes and why every lover of the flower Camellia should be a member." He promised his time and resources to promote the American Camellia Society.

Mr. Midyette will be the speaker for the February meeting of the Mid-Carolina Camellia Society in Columbia on February 19, 1970. Visitors are invited.

-- CAROLINA CAMELLIAS--

### Attention!

Members of the SOUTH CARO-LINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY please send your 1970 dues to:

> P. D. Rush, Secretary-Treasurer Box 177

Lexington, S. C. 29072

Members of the NORTH CARO-LINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY please send your 1970 dues to:

> M. Y. Schnibben 617 Pine Valley Dr. Wilmington, N. C. 28401

Members of the VIRGINIA CA-MELLIA SOCIETY please send your 1970 dues to:

> Mrs. E. M. Worrell, Secretary-Treasurer 1341 Harmott Ave. Norfolk, Va. 23509

Members of the GEORGIA CA-MELLIA SOCIETY please send your 1970 dues to:

> lke Harvey, Secretary-Treasurer 2311 Venetian Dr., S. W. Atlanta, Ga. 30311

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The South Carolina Camellia Society is one of the largest, most active, horticultural and hobby state organizations in America. The Society is a non-profit organization.

The purpose of the Society is to:

1. Stimulate and extend appreciation of Camellias.

Encourage and promote the science and art of Camellia culture.
 Develop, acquire, and disseminate information concerning the

Camellia and its origins, history and culture.

4. Seek the aid and cooperation of and to work with Clemson University, the American Camellia Society, the State of S. C., the S. C. Association of Nurserymen and Municipal authorities in the promotion of the purposes of the Society.

 Promote, sponsor, and supervise state-wide Camellia shows in cooperation with the American Camellia Society, with amateurs, professionals, and nurseries participation with emphasis

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6. Publish and distribute a magazine to its members.

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