Carolina Camellias



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Vol. XXVIII

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Carolina W Camellias

Published three times annually—Winter, Spring, Fall—for the members of the South Carolina, North Carolina and the Virginia Camellia Societies.

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SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



P. A. Dahlen

With the approach of the fall season, thoughts of our camellia hobby come into sharper focus. I hope none of us neglected the camellia plants during the summer, but the cooler weather should stir up our enthusiasm to work more with our camellias and to look forward to seeing our camellia friends. Plan to visit the fall camellia shows and to attend the Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Camellia Society in Charleston on November 27. Additional information about this meeting may be found in a separate article in this issue. This is your Society. Attend the Annual Meeting, participate in the business of the Society, and learn more about camellias.

Your Board of Directors has launched a new project to raise additional money for our Society. Automobile front license plates with a beautiful, colored reproduction of the 'VILLE DE NANTES' camellia are being offered for sale. These are very attractive and I'm sure most of us will be eager to have these adorn the front of our automobiles. Information on these license plates is given on another page in this issue. Look for it.

I hope to see you at the meeting in Charleston and at the camellia shows this season.

PAUL A. DAHLEN

NORTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



BILL HOWELL

DEAR FRIENDS,

The North Carolina Camellia Society will hold its fall meeting November 13 and 14, 1976 at the Sandhills Community College located at Pinehurst, N. C. The luncheon will be held at the Whispering Pines Country Club with guest speaker Dr. W. L. Ackerman, research horticulturist of the U. S. National Arboretum, Washington, D. C. Ed Tolson, Jr. of Whispering Pines is show chairman. The show will be open to the public Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14. For any information on entering blooms, as well as a place to stay in Whispering Pines or vicinity, contact Ed Tolson, Jr., 13-A Pine Lake Dr., Whispering Pines, N. C., phone (919) 949-2523.

This is the first time a camellia show has been held in this area of N. C. and the Horticulture Department at the college has gone all out to make this an outstanding event. Let's do our part to make this show a success by gibbing your camellias early enough this fall to have some fine blooms to carry to the NCCS Fall Meeting in November.

BILL HOWELL

VIRGINIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

President's Message



WILLIAM G. REDWOOD

DEAR MEMBERS:

As I write this, my first message as your new president for the coming 1976-77 camellia season, I look back on a most successful year under the capable guidance of your past president, Mr. Ernest Wooden, Jr., and your hard working show chairman, Admiral Lester Wood, and only hope that the new season will be as productive as the last.

We are now planning for our Fall show which is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 13 and 14, 1976, and I wish to urge all of our membership, but particularly our many new members, to begin the use of gibberellic acid as soon as practical so that we may have not only a good showing of blooms, but also greater participation of the membership.

As you read this, the Men's Garden Club Flower Show in Virginia Beach has become history, but we are planning to man a booth at the show over the Labor Day weekend, and will sell the finest selection of camellia plants that I have ever seen offered in this area. Along with the sale of gibberellic acid and a demonstration of its use, we hope to not only create an interest in camellias where it has not existed before, but also to attract new members to join our Society.

In order to achieve our goal of the best season ever, it will take the cooperation and all out effort of us all. I look forward with utmost confidence in receiving that cooperation.

WILLIAM G. REDWOOD

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Show Dates

Columbia, S. C. Mid-Carolina Camellia Society, State Fair Grounds . October 16-17, 1976
Washington, D. C., U. S. National Arboretum, Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley
Savannah, Ga., Men's Garden Club of Savannah, Savannah Bank and Trust Co. November 6-7, 1976
Ft. Valley, Ga., Mid-Georgia Camellia Society, Massee Lane November 13-14, 1976
Pinchurst, N. C., Sandhills Community College, in Conjunction with N.C.C.S. Annual Fall Meeting November 13-14, 1976
Gulfport, Miss., Gulfport Men's Camellia Society, ACS 27th Annual Fall Meeting November 20-21, 1976
Charleston, S. C., First Fed. Savings & Loan Assc., Coastal Carolina Camellia Society, in Conjunction with S.C.C.S. Annual Fall Meeting November 27-28, 1976
Beaufort, S. C., Beaufort Academy on Lady's Island, Beaufort Council of Garden Clubs
Mobile, Ala., Camellia Club of Mobile, Civic Center January 15-16, 1977
Aiken, S. C., Aiken Camellia Club, Kennedy Jr. High School January 22-23, 1977
Augusta, Ga., Augusta Camellia Society, Augusta Garden Center January 29-30, 1977
Charleston, S. C., Costal Carolina Society, Northwoods Mall January 29-30, 1977
Savannah, Ga., Men's Garden Club of Savannah, Citizens & Southern Bank
Birmingham, Ala., Men's Camellia Society, Civic Auditorium February 12-13, 1977
Columbia, S. C., Mid-Carolina Camellia Society, Bankers Trust Tower February 12-13, 1977
Whiteville, N. C., Whiteville Camellia Society, Waccamaw Academy 19-20, 1977
Charlotte, N. C., Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte, Inc., South Park Mall February 26-27, 1977
Wilmington, N. C., Tidewater Camellia Club, Blockade Runner Hotel in Wrightsville Beach February 26-27, 1977
Fayetteville, N. C., Fayetteville Camellia Club
Greensboro, N. C., Men's Piedmont Camellia Club
Washington, D. G., U. S. National Arboretum, Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley

S. C. Camellia Society Annual Meeting Charleston, S. C., Nov. 27

The annual meeting of the S. C. Camellia Society will be held 12:00 Noon, Saturday, November 27, 1976 at the Colony House, 35 Prioleau St., Charleston, S. C.

The program theme will be "Camellia Nostalgia" and an interesting
program on the old camellia varieties
is being prepared. In keeping with
the program theme, a special invitation is extended to all our members
who have been members for over 20
years to be present at this meeting
and be recognized.

A buffet luncheon will be served

at a cost of \$6.00 each. Reservations should be sent to James J. Seelig, 651 Seewee Circle, Mt. Pleasant, S. C., 29464 not later than November 23, 1976. Due to the increase in postal rates, no mail notice of this meeting will be sent out, this will be the only notice of the meeting, so mark your calendar and send your check and reservation to Jim.

The meeting location is within walking distance from the Charleston Show.

There will be several door prizes awarded at the luncheon.

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Carolinians Attend Gulf Coast Society Meeting

On Friday and Saturday, August 13th and 14th, the Gulf Coast Camellia Society met in Mobile, Alabama at the Admiral Semms Hotel. As usual, the Carolinas were well represented at this increasingly popular meeting in the city of camellias and azaleas. Several Carolinians arrived in station wagons bent on depleting the current supply of rare camellias from Belle Fontaine nursery and others. Bea Rogers reported that they tried, but she was prepared for them and has good plants left.

The program included a talk on dieback by ACS Director-at-Large, "Hody" Wilson, and a panel on "Getting Blooms to Camellia Shows". Members of the panel were, Mr. Marshall Rhyne, Belmont, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Cooper, Nashville, Tenn., Mr. and Mrs. Dave Elliott, Wilson, N. C., and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Larose, New Orleans, La.

Carolinians attending were Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Hackney, Charlotte, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Rhyne, Belmont, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Elliott, Wilson, N. C., Mr. Ed Ryan, Greenville, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mayo, Fayetteville, N. C., and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Robertson, Aiken, S. C.

New officers elected for the coming year are: President: Mrs. Henry S. Stone, Baton Rouge, La.

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The Indestructible LVS

By James H. McCoy Fayetteville, N. C.

LVS stands for 'LADY VANSITTART'. It all started with my attempts to root cuttings for grafting stock. I prepared the rooting medium as precisely as I could and wetted it down with Captan to inhibit fungus infection. After inserting the scions, on a 45 degree angle of course, I covered the whole thing with plastic. Most of the summer passed before they started dying. By late fall, almost all were dead. I salvaged the few which were left and potted them up in quart size containers: three each of 'Tomorrow Dawn' and 'Allie Habel' and one 'Lady Vansittart'. I marked LVS on the little aluminum tag.

LVS grew beautifully and it wasn't long before I had to move it up to a gallon can. Shortly after this move it went into decline from which I could not save it, despite all my ministrations. Finally, after it had reached a state which would be considered death by anyone in his right mind, I pulled it out of it's container and flung it over the fence, into the swamp area which borders the back of my yard. This was in late March or April. About a year later I happened to notice a touch of color down in the woods. Upon investigation, I found a camellia with two open blooms, a 'LADY VANSITTART'. Could it be-ves, it was! The little tag LVS was still attached. It had landed with the roots partially under a log, and nature, the best doctor, did what I could not do, nursed it back to health. I brought it back to the greenhouse where it thrived.

Last year, early in the season, I found myself responsible for providing a program for the next meeting of our club. Casting about for a good idea, it occurred to me that I might prepare a program using our own members, demonstrating various uses for camellias other than just displaying them as cut flowers. Such uses needlepoint, paintings, waxed flowers, paperweights, napkin tablecloth embroidery, jelly, ceramics, wood carving, cake decoradecoupage, lapel and coat pocket decorations, houseplants, bonsai, etc., ad infinitum. I got someone to cover all features except bonsai. I had to do that myself. I had an unglazed clay pot without any drainage hole, that looked somewhat like a cantaloupe with the top third sliced off. It even looked a little Japanese, I then went down to the greenhouse looking for a small, tortured-looking camellia that I could use. You guessed it. LVS seemed to fit the bill. I barerooted it and trimmed away enough

of the roots to get it in the pot. I packed soil in around the roots and trimmed it so one large branch reached up and northward and a smaller branch reached down and southward. It looked windswept. The trouble was, it wouldn't stand up in it's container. I finally disassembled the whole thing, put it bare-rooted in the container and forced four eggsize stones down inside and under the incurving rim of the container. It stood! I was able to add a small amount of soil, some moss on top and voila! instant bonsai! After the meeting. I brought LVS back and put her in the greenhouse, I forgot about her for several months. One day I noticed that this plant had completely defoliated. I remembered the stones in the container. I took it out to find the roots almost all dead. As the terminal buds were still green and as 'Lapy Vansittart' is such a good seed setter, I decided to repot it and see if it would recover. This I did and this incredible LVS has put out new leaves and again looks the very picture of health, It cringes whenever I pass, however. But this plant is safe with me. I'll treat her as tenderly as I do my newest acquisitions. I would not be surprised if she set buds this summer and I would not be surprised if every bloom set a seed. In fact, this plant could not surprise me, no matter what it did. For after all, had it not survived treatment that not even a iimson weed would tolerate. Hasn't it proved that camellias are hardy. Hasn't it proved that it is-indestructible!

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Tidewater Camellia Club Greenhouse Tour

By BILL NECKER

In the Carolinas, greenhouses and camellias go together like grits and eggs, Wilmington, N. C., the home of the Tidewater Camellia Club has its share of greenhouses (and camellias, and grits, and eggs). Many of Tidewater's members, like camellia enthusiasts everywhere, have a greenhouse of one sort or another in their backyard. Many of those who don't would like one, and those who do have greenhouses use them for other things along with their camellias.

Bill Howell, Tidewater's president, looked for a cross section of the greenhouses available when he planned the tour, and found a simple backyard affair; a glass enclosed patio, a more elaborate type and one just short of commercial capability. Some 50 members and their guests made the tour on Sunday afternoon, March 14, 1976, spending about one half hour at each, and finishing with light refreshments at the last and largest greenhouse.

March is not a good time for camellias, you spray for scale, prune, fertilize, and graft but don't see many blooms. But in the greenhouses are hanging baskets, bedding plants, and cuttings being started, and only occasionally a plant in spectacular bloom. It was how the greenhouse is used and how it can be built that we went to see.

There are many more greenhouses in Wilmington, all different both in construction and use. So the greenhouse tour could well become an annual affair.

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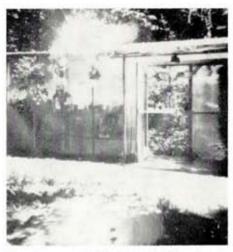
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Greenhouses on Tidewater Camellia Club Tour



Greenhouse at "Plantation" belonging to Geo. Ross and Dr. Huffman.



Another "Plantation" greenhouse belonging to Mrs. Ernest Beale.



Owners of this greenhouse are Becky and Harris Newber,



Belongs to John Clayton.

The Effect of 6-Furfurylaminopurine (Kinetin) in Conjunction with Naphthaleneacetic Acid on the Healing of Newly Grafted Camellias

By A. G. Stanley (Reprinted from The Camellia Review, May, 1976)

Now with the coming of the new Japonica-Reticulata hybrid camellias, the propagation of these are becoming increasingly difficult by either grafting or direct rooting of cuttings. In a few cases, such as C. 'Kohinor', the commercial propagation is not feasible at this time.

The intention of this study is to produce a substance that would fulfill some necessary provisions; 1. To improve the percentage of grafts healing. 2. To speed up the healing process of a grafted camellia. 3. To be able to affect the healing of the scion without prematurely breaking dormancy of the growth bud, and 4. Not affect the later growth and development of the plant, and/or, if so only in a desirable manner.

Gibberellic acid was not considered because it would immediately break dormancy of the growth bud causing it to 'shoot' prematurely and then collapse due to insufficient healing of the graft union. Also in regards to cell growth the gibberellins stimulate the plant cells to grow through almost an exclusive effect on cell enlargement. Even though they have been reported to suppress auxin inhibitors, merely enlarging the cells, the callus formation would not be encouraged.

The application of auxin did not

seem to have much effect on the formation of callus tissue in the new hybrids. (Note: The callus formation is a preliminary step in the rooting of cuttings and the healing of grafted scions.) What was needed was something to cause rapid cell division to 'glue' together the scion with the rootstock, Kinetin (6-Furfurvlaminopurine) possesses the needed characteristics that were sought after. Kinetins have been noted for greatly inducing differentiation of callus tissue. and also to increase mitosis in plant roots. In addition they have shown, in past works by others, that by external application they induce a mobilization of nutrients into the treated area. This aspect of the chemical implicated that kinetins have a substantial role in the healing process of damaged tissues. An important property in this application, the increased cell division as well as the mobilization of nutrients gave kinetins the characteristics needed for the aforementioned purposes.

A few important facts were shown in some earlier experiments with kinetin. The first is the fact that the addition of auxin to the kinetin solution greatly increases the activity of the kinetin. In fact, without the auxin the effects of the kinetin are quite negligible. In the experiments that followed synthetic auxin was used in an excess of three parts auxin (NAA) with one part kinetin to attempt to prevent the loss of auxin effect due to the breakdown of the auxin by light. It was learned the hard way what the effect of acidity had on the growth stimulants. The exact concentrations were made with the final solution having a slightly acidic pH. Upon application to the scions, no growth was observed after seven days. A later experiment was done to observe this phenomena, Several grafts of 'Kohinon' were made using acidic solutions. After seven days they were observed and no cambial outgrowth was noticed. At day seven the same solution (also freshly made) was applied to one set of grafts, with a slightly basic pH (pH 7.6 adjusted with sodium bicarbonate). At this time some new grafts were made using the same solution. After seven more days the grafts were observed. The grafts which were not retreated showed no cambial growth, even with the aid of a fieldglass. The grafts which were retreated with the basic solution and the seven day old "new" grafts showed approximately 0.2-0.3mm, outgrowth at day seven, a ballooning of cambial tissue on all cut surfaces.

In another experiment ten grafts of Nuccio's Gem were grafted to four year old *C. japonica* rootstock. All scions and rootstock were selected to be as nearly identical as possible. Also eleven scions of *C. reticulata* 'Butterfly Wings' were selected to be grafted to *C. japonica* rootstock as with Nuccio's Gem. The concentra-

tions of 1 ppm kinetin with 3 ppm NAA (which will be referred to as solution A) and another consisting of 10 ppm kinetin with 30 ppm NAA (which will be referred to as solution B) were used. The use of solution A had been previously found to be far superior to the lower concentrations of 0.1 ppm kinetin with 0.3 ppm NAA and even with 1.0 ppm NAA. Due to this the lower concentrations were not used in this experiment. During this experiment the greenhouse was not heated and the temperatures ranged from a low of approximately 50°F to 80 or 85°F. The scions were trimmed for grafting, then dipped in the appropriate solution immediately prior to joining the graft. From then on the grafted camellia was treated as any other graft, For example, I use a dusting of fungicide over the finished graft to inhibt fungus growth. This treatment does not seem to affect the graft in any other respect. The grafts were inspected at seven day intervals and observed for growth. At day seven one of the C. retic. BUTTERFLY WINGS' treated with solution A had approximately 1.0mm. growth of callus tissue from cambium on cut surface of scion. The grafts treated with solution A showed a greater overall growth on the average than any of the other treatments. Those treated with solution B showed a little growth, but those untreated showed no signs of growth.

At day fourteen those treated with solution B appeared to have greater growth with the greatest growth being about 1-2mm., to completely covering the cut surface on one side of the scion. The untreated control showed some outgrowth or cambial swelling on this date.

On the third inspection (day 21) two of the *C. retic*. Butterfly Wings have complete overgrowth of the cambium and appear totally healed. The grafts treated with solution A have caught up with those treated with solution B.

On day 28 all treated grafts showed at least 2mm, growth from the cambium. Nine were almost totally healed (greater than 95%), eight of these were treated with solution A. The callus tissue appears markedly ballooned out and a light green color. The untreated control grafts showed between 1mm, and 2mm, cambial growth. Two of five controls are showing good healing but not as ballooned as the treated grafts appear.

At day 35 (5 weeks) all treated grafts are totally healed. The untreated controls are approximately 1/2 to a healed with callus tissue appearing flatter than the callus growth in the treated plants. At this date none of the scion growth buds have begun to grow, definitely showing that the treatment with kinetin-NAA mixture does not prematurely break dormancy. At day 28, theoretically, the growth buds could have been "gibbed" to break dormancy with no ill effects to the resultant plant. The reason I would say this is the quicker the graft grows the sooner the top will begin to balance out the root system which should result in a healthier plant.

The results of these experiments seem to show that the use of a solution containing 1 ppm kinetin and 3 ppm NAA at a pH of 7.6 buffered with sodium bicarbonate shows a marked rapid increase in the speed of healing of grafted scions without any deleterious effects on the resultant plant.

At this time these solutions are being tested for rooting cuttings, and for commercially propagating camellias by grafting, by Nuccio's Nursery, Altadena, California.

I wish to thank Mrs. Monique Peer Nash, and Mr. James Tuliano of Park Hill for the supply of rootstock, scions, and for providing greenhouse facilities during this experiment.

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N.A.A. Catalog No. 4773, 100 g.—\$4.50, MIXING—1 qt. tap water

½ teas, baking soda

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3 milligrams N.A.A.

Dip the prepared scion in the solution and graft.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Kinetin and N.A.A. may be obtained at CALBIOCHEM, 10933 N. Torrey Pines Rd., LaJolla. Calif. 92037. Kinetin Catalogue No. 4226, 250mg— \$9,00.

COLUMBIA, S. C., SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1950

The State: South Carolina's Largest Newspaper

State Camellia Society Organized; 3rd in Nation

EDITOR'S NOTE: A member of the S. C. Camellia Society sent us this clipping on the founding of their society. We thought it would be interesting to many of our readers. If anyone from the N. C. or Va. Societies have any articles of this kind, we would be happy to include them in a future issue of Carolina Camellias.

A new state-wide organization, the South Carolina Camellia Society, was established here last Wednesday at an organizational meeting attended by over 100 delegates.

The State Camellia Society, the third to be organized in the nation, has the approval of the American Camellia Society. Other societies exist in the states of Louisiana and Oregon.

Wendell M. Levi of Sumter presided at the first meeting and Frank Griffin of Columbia, a prime mover in the organization, presented Judge Marvin M. Mann of St. Matthews, first president, with 200 paid-up charter memberships.

Serving with Judge Mann during the first year of the Society will be Joseph G. Holland of Edgefield, executive vice-president; Mr. Griffin, secretary and treasurer and the following as directors: C. Norwood Hastie of Charleston, J. R. Cantalou of Edgefield, Wendell M. Levi of Sumter, Mrs. Frank Barnwell of Florence, Miss Helen Harman of Camden and Cecil Morris of Greenville.

The following committees, appointed by President Mann, were announced: Fall flower show: Margaret Higdon and Norwood Hastie, Jr. Committee on Preparation of constitution and by-laws: W. C. Boyd, Wendell M. Levi and Cecil Morris. Nomenclature: C. Norwood Hastie, Jr., Margaret Higdon, J. R. Cantalou, H. G. Mealing, Tad A. Bowdoin and Mrs. Christie Benet.

The Society set early June for the time of the next meeting, which will be held for the adoption of by-laws.

Charter members of the South Carolina Camellia Society are as follows:

Adams Run: W. I. McGill.

Anderson: Albert W. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Stephens, Mrs. Rufus Fant.

Abbeville: Z. D. Robertson.

Aiken: Mr. and Mrs. John M. Gaver, Mrs. Eulalie Salley. Batesburg: Mr. and Mrs. Callie Dreher.

Beaufort: Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Mc-Daniel.

Bath: E. P. Henderson.

Belton: Mr. and Mrs. Max W. Grubbs.

Conway: Mr. and Mrs. Craig Wall. Camden: Miss Helen Harman.

Charleston: W. O. Hardee, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Prevatt, Mrs. Anita Slocum, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Long, Mr and Mrs. D. T. Elliman, Dr. and Mrs. G. C. Bolin, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Rustin, J. Campbell Ashley, C. Norwood Hastie, Jr., Mrs. Margaret F. Higdon, Dr. and Mrs. Paul Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Rustin, Sr., Mrs. J. L. Waring.

Cameron; Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Bull, Mrs. J. N. Moss, Harry Schumacher.

Columbia: Mr. and Mrs. Tad Bowdoin, T. J. Harrelson, W. C. Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Edens, T. A. Waites, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Duke, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Minson, M. Corrine Aiken, A. F. Burnside, Mr. and Mrs. T. Smyth Flinn, Mr. and Mrs. Jules Bank, Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Milling, Mr. and Mrs. Calder W. Scibels, W. B. Summersett, Jr., W. L. Monts, Clifford R. Raysor, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Boyle, James A. Vaughan, Mr. and Mrs. Orval Jones, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Hicklin, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Judy, Mrs. Christie Benet, Mr. and Mrs. Lee C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Black, Jr., Fred H. Sease, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Seibels, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth H. Monteith, Dr. E. G. Bumgardner, Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Wise, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs.

Thomas B. Boyle, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Heslep, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Duncan, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. James U. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel A. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. James T. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Mace.

Cheraw: Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Wannamaker, Mrs. Ethel Wannamaker,

Cottageville: Mr. and Mrs. John Turner.

Clemson: Thomas Bowen Fogler.

Denmark: Dr. and Mrs. William C. Frierson.

Darlington: Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Privette, Mrs. C. W. Hyman, Mrs. G. B. Edwards, Mrs. H. W. Weaver.

Dillon: Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Mc-Laurin, Mrs. Henry Lucius.

Edgefield: Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Greneker, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Holland, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Slade, Mrs. H. M. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Greneker, Sr., J. R. Cantalou.

Estill: Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Rhodes, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Wertz.

Florence: Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Hall, Mrs. Simons R. Lucas, Dr. and Mrs. John F. C. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Howard, Mrs. Darby Cusack, J. L. Flowers, Mrs. I. S. Rainwater, Mrs. Frank H. Barnwell.

Fairfax: Mrs. Bruce Harter.

Fort Motte: Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Fairey.

Greenwood: Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Graham E. Hawkins, Mrs. Arch L. Milling.

Gifford: Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hanna. Gaffney: Mrs. B. W. Middleton, Dr. and Mrs. T. E. Rivers. Greenville: Mr. and Mrs. John W. Arrington, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Beattie, Mrs. W. T. Henderson, Cecil Morris, Dr. George R. Wilkinson, Mrs. S. James McKinney.

Georgetown: Mr. and Mrs. George Vanderbilt, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mayer, Mrs. Joseph Kaminski.

Hampton: Mrs. L. D. Schley.

Hartsville: Mrs. F. W. Denny, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. McKinnon, Velma D. Matthews, Ben H. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore L. Maxwell.

Johnston: Mr. and Mrs. J. Reese Herlong, Mr. and Mrs. Mark T. Boatwright.

Jonesville: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mazyck,

Kingstree: Mrs. L. C. Montgomery. Leesville: J. Henry Bodie.

Moncks Corner: E. Miller Boykin, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Markham, Jr.

Mount Pleasant: Mr. and Mrs. L. H. King, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Chieco, Mr. and Mrs. Dana Osgood.

Marion: Mrs. J. Carlisle Moore.

Manning: Mr. and Mrs. Charlton DuRant, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Lesesne, Mrs. Ralph King.

North Augusta: Dr. and Mrs. H. G. Mealing, R. B. Mealing. Newberry: Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Senn, Mr. and Mrs. James C. Kinard.

Rock Hill: Mrs. L. R. Whitner, W. B. Dempsey, Dr. and Mrs. David R. Bigger, Mrs. B. B. Aycock, Sr.

Orangeburg: Col. Russell S. Wolfe, St. Stephen: Dr. and Mrs. T. B. Harper.

Sheldon: Mrs. W. A. Campbell.

Summerville: Mr. and Mrs. George Segelkin, C. F. Prettyman.

St. Matthews: Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Wannamaker, Dr. and Mrs. T. H. Symmes, Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Wienges, Judge M. M. Mann, Mrs. J. A. Merritt.

Sumter: Mr. and Mrs. William M. Reynolds, Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Lemmon, Mrs. Edwin Boyle, E. R. Crow, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Brice, Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. McLeod, Wendell M. Levi, Mrs. Alene H. Moore.

Spartanburg: Mrs. Jene Cleveland, Mrs. Marshall C. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Butler, Mrs. McFarlane Cates.

Society Hill: Anne T. Rogers, Mrs. A. M. Coker.

Walterboro: C. G. Padgett.

Yemassee: M. L. Lane, Jr., Mrs. John Wilcox, Mr, and Mrs. Louis R. Gregorie.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Show Results

CHABLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, February 28-29, 1976

Sponsor: Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte Number Blooms Displayed: 1,250.

Attendance: 12,000.

Japonica in open over 4½ inches 'Ville de Nantes' won by Jean and John Graham Bunner-up 'Miss Charleston Var.' won by Jean

and John Graham

Protected 2 ½-1½ inches 'Grace Albritton' won by Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Hahn Bunner-up 'Mrs. R. L. Wheeler won by Mr. and

Mrs. Stanley Holzelaw

Under glass over 4½ inches 'Elegans Supreme' won by Osborne Oakley, Jr.
Runner-up 'Helen Bowen' won by Doris and

Robert Fowler

Under glass miniature 'Tammra' won by Mr. and Mrc. F. N. Bush

Runner-up 'Man Size' won by Dr. Olin Owen Beticulata (Includes Hybrids with Reticulata Parentasel

Under glass over 5 inches 'Francie L' won by Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Hahn Bunner-np 'Howard Asper Var.' won by

Susan Royal

Under glass 2 ½-5 inches 'Black Laue' won by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Holderby Hyland (with other than Reticulata parentage) Under glass 'Charlean Var.' won by Lester M. Allen

ROBERT CHARLEAN' WOR by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Holderby
Best white over 2½ inches 'Swan Lake' won by Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Hahn

ACS Gold Certificate: Under glass won by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Holderby

ACS Silver Certificate:

Under glass won by Lester M. Allen Number of ACS memberships sold: None AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, January 31, 1976 (18th Annual)

Sponsor: Augusta Council of Garden Clubs, Augusta Camellia Society and Georgia Railroad Bank & Trust

Number Blooms Displayed: 2,273.

Attendance: 2,500.

Most Outstanding Bloom (Best-In-Show or Queen of Show) 'Pharaon' won by Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Elliott

Japonica in open 'VILLE DE NANTES' won by Mr.

and Mrs. John Graham Under glass "Томовном Равк Нил. Рікк' won by Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Bush

Under glass chem. treated 'HELEN BOWER' won by G. M. Serpos

Reticulata (Includes Hybrids with Reticulata Parentage)

Under glass chem. treated 'Mandalay Queen' won by M. F. Miller

Hybrid (With other than Reticulata parentage) Under glass chem, treated 'Charlean by Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Elliott

ACS Gold Certificates:

In open won by Mr. and Mrs. John Graham Under glass won by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Teague Under glass chem. treated won by Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Elliott

ACS Silver Certificates: In open won by Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Dubus Under glass won by Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Bush Under glass chem. treated won by Mrs. William K. Laughlin

ACS Outstanding Arrangement Certificate won by Mrs. H. M. Henry for Creativity and for Tri-Color Mrs. John Harlan and Mrs. Thomas Hanson Number of ACS memberships sold: 4

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-

Stewart and Mary Howard Honored

Piedmont Men's Camellia Club dedicated its eighteenth annual show, held March 13, 14, 1976, in honor of J. S. (Stewart) and Mary Howard of Laurel Hill Nursery, Salemburg, North Carolina, From our beginning they have been of continuing invaluable service to us, with Stewart an

honorary member, and since Mary is not a man but a lovely lady we consider her a de facto honorary member. At our club's dinner for judges on March 13, we presented them with our honoring plaque and our show had prominent signs designating them as our honorees. Though local weather conditions caused our show to be seasonally late we surprisingly had a large and varied entry of quality outside and protected blooms.

We were very proud of our eighteenth annual show and think that it was the most beautifully arranged, staged and exhibited in the history of our club. We believe that it was one of the most beautiful anywhere. It most certainly was presented in one of the most spectacular indoor camellia show locations or environment possible. The locale is known as Center Stage of Four Seasons Mall, Greensboro, This is one of the largest malls in North Carolina with eighty-

nine stores, including six of this area's largest department stores. Thus the interest in our show was intensified, and there was an estimated 20,000 persons in attendance.

Our 1977 show will be held on March 12 and 13 at the Four Seasons Mall. The management was so impressed with our 1976 show that it immediately invited us to hold our 1977 show in the same location. The Mall is likewise preparing to exhibit with us a number of specimen potted and blooming camellia plants. We look forward with great anticipation to our 1977 show.

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Studies on Camellia Root Rot

LUTHER W. BAXTER, JR., SUSAN G. FAGAN, and MARY G. OWEN

A serious disease attacks and destroys roots of Camellia japonica. The cause of camellia root rot is a fungus Phytophthora cinnamomi Rands, a pathogen belonging to the fungal group Phycomycetes which includes the water molds. Late blight of tomatoes and potatoes, downy mildew of grapes and blue mold of tobacco are examples of other plant diseases caused by this group of fungal pathogens.

These fungi produce asexual spores (seed) called zoospores which swim freely in water and are dependent upon the presence of water for their survival and spread. Hence these fungi are favored by an abundance of soil moisture. One of the factors which contributes to the severity of root rot is a soil that stays wet or one that is poorly drained. Examples of wet or poorly drained sites are (1) areas below downspouts, (2) areas where terraces tend to retain water, (3) clay soils, particularly mineral soils with a hard pan and having very little, if any, organic matter, (4) low areas, and (5) sandy soils with a hard pan. The camellia root rot pathogen, Phytophthora cinnamomi, is widespread in soils of South Carolina and will cause damage when soil conditions are favorable for its development.

Phytophthora cinnamomi attacks a wide variety of plants, on many of which it may be even more serious than a camellia. Examples of other plants attacked are rhododendron, avocado, short leaf pine, pineapple, cinnamon, and forsythia. It is noteworthy that short leaf pine is affected, since this tree often is used to provide the canopy of shade desired for providing the proper amount of filtered light for successful camellia production.

In Hawaii it has been shown that root rot of certain plants is caused by multiple species of Phytophthora. Just as there are multiple species of camellias such as C. japonica, C. sasanqua, C. reticulata, C. vernalis, etc., so it is that there are many species of Phytophthora and it is possible that several attack C. japonica. It is the purpose of this report to compare the relative growth of Camellia japonica with that of C, sasangua in soils that favor the growth of Phutophthora cinnamomi and to discuss some of the implications of commonly used control procedures.

A site was selected where root rot was known to be a serious problem and the following study initiated. The C. japonica cultivar Professor Sargent was used as an understock because it is resistant to the stem disease, dieback and canker, caused by the fungal pathogen Glomerella cingulata. It seemed important to have vigorous understocks that were free of eankers since this disease is one of the causes of poor graft unions. These Professor Sargent understocks were planted in the selected site and several other cultivars were grafted onto them. These were grown after graft-

ing for 3 years and then interplanted with 2-year-old seedlings of C. sasanqua and with C. japonica plants grafted onto C. sasanqua understocks. Three years later the plants were all measured. The C. sasanaua seedlings and the C. japonica grafts on C. sasanqua understocks showed vigorous growth. The height of these grafts was more than twice that of plants on C. japonica understock and furthermore the stem diameter was greater. The foliage was greener and fuller, and the plants were unmistakenly better in overall appearance (Figure 1), The C. japonica grafts onto understocks of C. japonica cultivar Professor Sargent were characterized by extremely poor growth and by a dving back of the tops in some cases (Figure 1). This dving back is different from the regular dieback and canker caused by Glomerella cingulata since the dying back caused by root rot (Phytophthora cinnamomi) is a gradual decline, while Glomerella cingulata results in abrupt death, particularly on otherwise vigorous plants. Small branches in the latter case may be killed or, if infection occurs on the main stem, the whole plant suddenly collapses and dies. Usually plants with root rot linger on in an unthrifty manner, accompanied by sparse foliage for years.

A second study involved a comparison of seedlings of *C. japonica* and *C. sasanqua* planted in the same container in the greenhouse. The soil mixture was composed of 1 part sand, 1 part Piedmont soil, 1 part bark, and 1 part peat by volume. After a period of one year the roots were

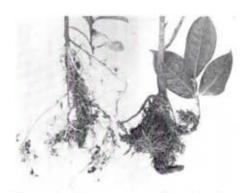


FIGURE 1. Root rot of camellia. The plant on the left shows healthy roots of Camellia sasanqua which had grown in the same pot with the roots of C. japonica shown on the right. Note the mass of dark, rotted roots on the C. japonica.

washed free and note (Figure 1). The root systems of the C. japonica plants were characterized by many dead roots while the roots of C. sasanqua plants were vigorous, white, and thrifty in appearance. Since the plants had been grown in the greenhouse and watered as needed, no great stress was put on them. The soil mixture should have provided the best drainage conditions possible since the soil was placed in 2-gallon Lerio cans (there are 4 holes in the bottom). This fact places some doubt on the advisability of growing C. japonica on its own root system even when the best of drainage is provided.

It should be kept in mind that in order to have a disease four things are necessary: (1) a susceptible host, (2) a pathogen, (3) a vector, and (4) the proper environment. Unfortunately *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is a permanent soil inhabitor, not a temporary soil invader. This means that once *Phytophthora* has been introduced into the soil and, if the soil

environment is satisfactory, it can survive almost indefinitely. However some people grow camellias without root rot problems. Why? Because they either do not have the pathogen present or else the soil environment is unsatisfactory for its persistence.

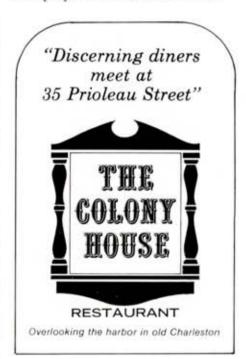
One related problem should be emphasized and that is that most *C. sasanqua* cultivars are extremely sensitive to dieback and canker. We therefore suggest that 2- to 3-year-old seedlings of *C. sasanqua* be used for grafting stock since neither the pathogen nor the disease is transmitted through the seed.

It is commonly concluded that C. sasanqua plants are more vigorous than C. japonica plants since after 3 to 5 years the C. sasangua plants are much larger. This was successfully demonstrated by growing one plant of each together in the same container. However, an alternate explanation of why C. sasanqua plants grow faster than C. japonica plants may be that roots of C. japonica cultivars are sensitive to the root rot pathogen, Phytophthora cinnamomi, while the C. sasanaua roots are not sensitive to this pathogen and therefore the difference in growth may be attributed to relative severity of root rot.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY

We recommend that the camellia enthusiast consider grafting the desired varieties of either *C. japonica* or *C. reticulata* onto seedlings of *C. sasanqua*. If this is not possible, then the site for the *Camellia japonica* plants should be free of excessive water and high mineral soils should be avoided.

If the soil is a mineral soil then it should be amended with organic matter such as bark or sawdust. In all cases the plants should be planted to the correct depth to help avoid too much moisture in the root zone. Too much moisture can cause poor growth even for C. sasanqua plants. Soils must be pervious enough to provide oxygen (in the soil) to the root system. Roots respire (or breathe) and therefore need air. Too much water excludes the air and the roots therefore drown or suffocate, Remember, growing C. sasanqua seedlings is fun, and it is easy and exciting to graft (See winter edition, 1975). If you don't need the grafted plants yourself, give some to your favorite school, hospital, or church—this will help to promote camellias. And besides, you will meet new people and make new friends.



The Story of the Importation of C. Reticulata from China

J. Howard Aspen Escondido, Calif.

(Reprinted from the Camellia Review, Vol. 24, No. 4, Feb., 1963)

During the year of 1945 arrangements were made for Dr. Walter E. Lammerts to begin a term of employment as Rancho del Descanso, now known as Descanso Gardens. The sustaining business of the Rancho at that time was the sale of camellia plants. flowers and foliage. Public interest in camellias was growing rapidly and camellia japonica varieties were in great demand, especially those varieties which were new and of recent introduction. Camellia sasangua varieties were propagated in limited number but other species were practically unknown. The one exception was Camellia reticulata, variety 'CAPT. RAWES', While a plant of this mysterious and fabulous variety had been growing for many years in Strawberry Canyon on the University of California campus at Berkeley, it was only then that grafts were being made and offered for sale by a few nurseries. As manager of the Rancho I was offered twelve inch grafts on four inch pot understock at a price of thirty-five dollars each and a minimum of ten plants. When we had finally purchased some plants for

scion wood, the man who did my grafting told me that he had been offered ten dollars per scion for any he could manage to slip out in his lunch bucket. He never told me who made the offer and I am glad that he did not.

One of Dr. Lammert's first tasks was to find out all he could about camellias and he did the job in his usual masterful style. Sure enough in a French botanical work published about 1850, he discovered reference to varieties of Camellia reticulata which the author had seen blooming in Yunnan Province high in the mountains of China. The beauty of the flowers of these varieties, the author declared, was greater than any he had even seen and truly beggared description.

This intelligence, coming at a time when demand and price for Camellia reticulata 'CAPT. RAWES' was so great, really fired our imaginations and steeled our determination to obtain these fabulous varieties, if indeed they did exist. Letters were sent to various people who might be able to

supply information and finally from one Dr. Hu, who was then doing some work at the Arnold Arboretum at Boston, Mass., came a letter confirming both the fact of their existence and their great beauty. He suggested a letter be sent to one Prof. Tsai at the Kunming Horticultural College requesting further information.

The letter was, of course, promptly dispatched but alas no word of reply for a period of about six months. Then a very modest letter stating that the varieties did exist and that they were indeed beautiful. Another letter was sent requesting information as to price, shipping methods, etc., but Prof. Tsai was evidently not very much interested in foreign trade for we waited another long period for an answer.

Time slipped by and it was not until March of 1948 that arrangements were finally completed and we were informed that our precious plants, 20 in number, were on their way via Chinese National Airways to Shanghai and then by Pan American to San Francisco. They were scheduled to arrive on the evening of March 18th.

Much excitement was engendered at the Rancho by the arrival of this news and it was decided that Dr. Lammerts should journey to San Francisco to greet the plants upon their arrival and supervise their transfer to the Rancho. This proved to be a fortunate decision since Prof. Tsai had shipped the plants in clay pots, unaware that this practice was strictly forbidden by the United States

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Hwy. 17 & 17 By-pass Phone 884-9738 Mt. Pleasant, S. C. Plant Quarantine officials. In fact the Quarantine officials could only think of one solution to this infraction of their rules and that was to dump the whole shipment in the bay. But in response to the earnest pleading of Dr. Lammerts they settled for washing all the soil off the roots and dumping that in the bay, while putting the plants through methal bromide fumigation.

The plants arrived at the Rancho amid loud shouts of joy as we eagerly inspected them and tenderly planted them in our most intelligent manner. However, the plants were slow to respond to our kind treatment and five plants out of the twenty slowly died. It was apparent that they had been grafted by the approach method and the union had been weakened by their long journey. No doubt some of the fumigation gas had been able to penetrate and thus contribute to the death of the plants. Several attempts were made to replace the dead plants but with absolutely no success.

About two months later we learned that Ralph Peer had imported one plant each of the same varieties from the same source. However his plants had been shipped bare root and his rate of loss had been extremely high, in fact he had been able to save only three plants. Upon comparing notes we made the incredible discovery that the three varieties he saved were of the five which we had lost. So that between us we were both able to have eighteen varieties of the original twenty.

Later, in the fall of 1948, we had a letter from Prof. Tsai stating that a friend of his had crossed the C. species Pitardii x 'BUTTERFLY WINGS' and two of the resultant seedlings were beautiful beyond description. Furthermore he was willing to part with these two seedlings for a sum of eight hundred dollars. He evidently liked the feel of our money and while this did seem a pretty high price we decided to buy them. Again a long delay before we finally received word in May of 1949 that the plants were being shipped.

This time things did not go so well. Some mistake was made at Shanghai and our plants were put on a plane bound for Vancouver, B. C. In order to correct the mistake the package was put off at Honolulu and here they fell into the hands of some inspector who opened the package and discovered that the plants were more than 36 inches in height and that was beyond the legal limit, so he kept the plants in order to await further instructions. It took us ten days to finally get an order to him to release the plants. While I cannot remember his name I do remember some names he was called!

When the plants finally arrived at the Rancho they were in terrible condition. The inspector had dutifully cut off the tops in order to comply with the 36 inch height limit and from the dried appearance of the plants he must have stored them on a shelf above the cook stove.

We soaked the plants in warm water for several hours and then planted them in boxes over which we built pliofilm covers which we called oxygen tents. After several weeks one little green shoot appeared and grew to be about an inch long. Suddenly it wilted and we reasoned this was our only chance to save it, so a graft was made of the very green wood. After months of care it started to grow and that is how nearly we lost the variety 'BUDDHA'. The other was easier to save and it was named 'CONFUCIUS'.

Much more could be written about the performance of these wonderful plants in our gardens but this article must limit itself to the story of their importation. But I do want to say that all of us who worried and worked for their importation feel amply rewarded just to have had a part in bringing them here. Truly their beauty does beggar description.

In Memorium

DAVID OATES

-CAROLINA CAMELLIAS-



At the show of the Middle Tennessee Camellia Society held in conjunction with the annual ACS meeting among the top trophy winners are George Griffin of Nashville, Marilyn (Mrs. Doug) Batt of Windsor, Calif., A. B. Cooper of Nashville holding the sweepstakes trophy, a Charleston camellia tray, Rosemary (Mrs. David) Elliott of Wilson, N. C. and Bill Robertson of Aiken, S. C. Note the red, white and blue Music City convention badges decorated with a red, white and blue camellia, stick-on.

Top Grafting Gets Large Plants Quickly

By C. W. HIERS

Top grafting can give you five to six foot plants in two years. Scions are inserted in the normal manner and a wire is suspended around the scion and attached to the stock with freezer tape. Place a plastic bag over the wire and secure to the stock with string or freezer tape. (See picture 1) Next. put a brown paper bag over the top with a 3 inch hole cut on the north side of the bag. Tie this bag with a string. The brown bag may be lifted periodically to inspect the graft. When it begins to grow, the plastic bag may be torn slightly to begin hardening of the graft, After a few days, enlarge the tear in the plastic bag. A couple of days later, remove the plastic bag,

but leave the brown bag on a little longer, or otherwise protect the tender graft from direct sunlight.



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Questions and Answers

Question: Are Sasanquas hardy?

Answer: While the blooms on sasanquas are not as cold hardy as some of the Japonicas the plant is very cold hardy and most varieties, when well established, can almost be forgotten. It will probably stand more adverse conditions such as dry weather or wet weather than the Japonica.

Question: How should fertilizer be applied if a mulch is used?

Answer: Some growers rake the mulch back, apply the fertilizer and then replace the mulch. This is satisfactory but is a lot of work and probably not as satisfactory, or any more satisfactory, than spreading the fertilizer on top of the mulch. When the fertilizer is spread on top of the mulch it gradually filters down through the mulch each time it is watered or it rains and so the plant is not receiving all the fertilizer at once, but in small amounts over a longer period of time, and this is more desirable.

Question: Can camellias be fertilized by spraying?

Answer: Yes, There are many brands of commercials on the market that can be mixed with water and sprayed on the foliage of camellias, and are very good if used according to directions. Question: Can cuttings be made anytime of the year?

Answer: Yes. It is possible to make cuttings anytime that the wood has hardened off. Some varieties even seem to root easier if taken in the late winter or early spring just before the new growth starts. Cuttings should not be taken while the growth buds are making active growth.

Question: How old should a plant be before pruning is done?

Answer: That depends on the variety and the particular plant. Some varieties tend to have a long leggy growth and it might be necessary to start prunning them at a very early age in order to shape and control them. Other varieties, that grow slowly or have a compact growth, might not need any pruning for years and even then might require only a small amount of pruning.

Question: What spray should be used for black aphis?

Answer: There are a number of sprays that can be used on black aphis. Probably the most popular for this purpose is a nicotine spray such as Black Leaf 40, Isotox can also be used as well as Malathion although the latter has a most disagreeable odor that tends to linger for a long time. Naturally you should be careful with any spray you use.

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Notes From The Editor

Dave and I have just gotten back from Mobile attending the Gulf Coast meeting as this magazine is about to go to press. The Carolinas were well represented, as usual, and it was nice to see our old friends from other sections and of course meet new ones. Those of you who did not go this year should try to go next time. Mobile is great for seafood, camellias and good camellia people. Take your station wagon so you can bring back lots of plants! . . . I certainly appreciate you folks who send articles and pictures for our magazine (please keep them coming) but when you send those pictures, would you send only black and white-as we absolutely cannot use color . . . Aiken Camellia Club reports that a camellia auction was held with Lee Poe as auctioneer, everyone had lots of fun while making money for the club . . . I would like for the president of each club to remind your show chairman to send me the show results and also your show dates as soon as you get them . . . Don't forget to write to me at my new address—906 Tremont Rd., Wilson, N. C. 27893 . . . I hope many of you are planning to attend the ACS Fall Meeting in Gulfport, Miss., November 18-19-20, 1976. Headquarters will be at the Biloxi Hilton Hotel . . . Also, ACS Spring Meeting in Modesto, Calif., March 19-20, 1977 . . . Wishes for a speedy recovery to Dotty Evans, Buddy Pregnall and Joe Pyron, Looking forward to seeing all of you at the shows and meetings!

Sincerely,

ROSEMARY

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