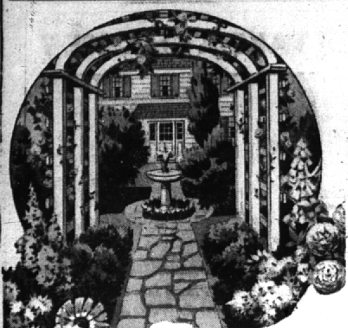


Birmingham It's Annual Garden Law and Landscaping Time

Now is the time when everyone of us can know the thrill of making something grow! It may be a flower pot geranium. It may be a sloping little rock garden at the side of the house. It may be a big, rambling garden of an acre or more. To guide you in your Spring gardening plans—we've planned this Special Page . . . chock full of news, facts and figures about growing gardens most successfully.



Gardeners' Corner

(This column is conducted for The Eccentric's readers by Mrs. Marc T. Patten, Box 146, Bloomfield Hills. Questions on gardening matters may be addressed to Mrs. Patten and they will be answered in the Gardeners' Corner or directly by mail.)

RAIN

Rain for the gardener is not an altogether unadmitted blessing. Unless one is wary it may bring on mildew, rust and other fungus diseases. The cure is, fortunately, simple. Dust with sulphur, or lime-sulphur or spray with Bordeaux mixture. This remedy is to be used on roses, phlox, delphiniums, carnations, hollyhocks and foxgloves. Don't wait for symptoms to appear. Use these dusts regularly and especially after a rain.

Excessive rain shows spots where there is bad drainage and also washes away poorly planted hillsides or badly graded beds. One is frequently asked for types of plants that will help hold the sides of a ravine or the steep hill near a roadway. Creeping Juniper like the Savin, Horizontalis or the Bar Harbor can be used. Vinca minor and English Ivy are popular too. In larger areas use the Honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica Halliana). Flowering ground covers are usually a species of 11 sought for. Cerastium tomentosum (Snow-in-summer), Arabis Alpina Phlox subulata, and Thymus Serpyllum do well in a sunny exposure. Ajacagretans (Bugle) will do in sun or shade. While deep shade may need something like Lily-of-the-valley. Have you noticed any planing of myrtle (Vine) with daffodils coming up after it? It's worth trying.

ANNUAL VINES

Often there is a need for an annual vine. In other words a

vine that will grow up quickly and cover some fence or trellis. Heavenly Blue Morning Glory is more popular each year. An amusing pastime is to keep count of the number of blooms from one vine—There was even an up in a horticultural journal for models to shape gourds! Did you know that if you get a gourd grow into a mold, face or lantern, for example—it will take that shape and stay that way when it ripens. One vine that is actually perennial but that grows so quickly in a single season that it can be used in place of an annual vine is the Silver Lace Vine (Poligonum Auberti). It is most satisfactory, being practically free from disease and insects. The blooms are white, coming from July through September. None of these vines will climb without trellis or some other support.

DAHLIAS

We did see a very expert local gardener planting dahlias several weeks ago. He explained that the chances of the young shoots avoiding or withstanding a frost were very good and the bloom will come well before the first frosts come to destroy them. However most gardeners put off planting dahlias until about now. The tuber is laid flat in a hole dug deep enough so that the top of the tuber is still six inches from ground level. Fill in earth enough to cover. As the dahlia grows fill more dirt. Where bushy plants are desired the tubers should be cut back to four or five leaves (counting up from the ground) about the Fourth of July.

SPRING ROCK PLANTS

As soon as Arabis, Alyssum, Phlox (Creeping) and the like have finished blooming, cut them back severely. It looks heartless at the time but it is the only way

MORE VEGETABLES EARLIER THIS WAY

Game area managers, fisheries field men, forest superintendents, conservation officers and other officers traveling the streams and lakes during fishing season are in report on other conditions, to determine the extent of the reduction in the other population.

Game Specialist Against Burning

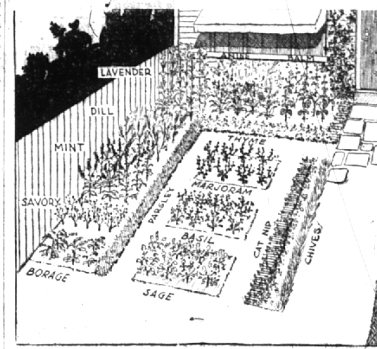
"Spare the torch and save the wildlife," paraphrases R. G. Hill, Michigan State College game conservation specialist. He cautions farmers interested in the welfare of ground nesting birds to use discretion in annual burning operations. Pheasants, quail, and Hungarian partridge are now incubating their clutches of eggs in grassy fence rows, meadows, woodlot edges and similar areas offering protection. Young rabbits also may be found in similar places as well as in clover and alfalfa fields.

Even though game birds resent if their first effort is broken up, succeeding nesting may be successful. Hill explains. That is especially true if the re-nesting occurs in hay or grain fields in which mowing operations are necessary. Late-brooded pheasants may not have adult plumage by fall, making it difficult for hunters to distinguish sexes during the hunting season.

200 Otters Trapped After 15-Year Ban

LANSING—More than 200 otters were taken by trappers in Michigan during the first season on these fur-bearing in 15 years, conservation department officials report. Trappers were disappointed by prices of \$10 to \$15 paid for otter pelts, while beaver pelts averaged more than \$20 each.

Layout for Herb Garden



Layout Your Herb Garden as You Would a Flower Garden by Considering Heights and Growing Habits.

Herb gardens are in fashion. Not only do they have definite decorative value, but they will do a great deal for the cuisine where the cook can be interested in using the herbs to flavor dishes.

How to Use Plant Food

Plants grown in boxes and pots obtain their nourishment from relatively small amounts of soil. Naturally they soon exhaust the soil of plant food and water. In order to take care of this need, soils used in pots and boxes should be in good physical condition and hold large quantities of water.

A soil of good physical condition may be made by mixing three parts of loam, one part of decomposed organic matter such as peat moss, composted material, or leaf mold, and one part of sand or sifted coal ashes. If one prefers, good potting soil may usually be obtained from a florist.

Physical condition of the soil has little to do with plant food content, except that a friable soil is necessary for proper root growth, and such root growth makes possible the absorption of plant food. But a friable soil may still be useful.

To assure an adequate supply of food in the soil, a complete plant food should be mixed with the soil before it is placed in the pot at the rate of one heaping tablespoon per gallon of soil.

The following table will be helpful:

4-inch pot requires 1/2 teaspoon

6-inch pot requires 1 teaspoon

8-inch pot requires 1 1/2 teaspoons

10-inch pot requires 2 teaspoons

Porch boxes require plant food as follows:

12x24 inches require 2 1/2 tbsp.

12x36 inches require 4 tbsp.

15x48 inches require 6 tbsp.

24x60 inches require 13 tbsp.

Application should be made approximately every six weeks during the growing season.

Remember to refer to the highly soluble commercial plant foods of balanced content and does not apply to slow acting organic materials.

Seed Not Always Sown Correctly

When a gardener buys a package of seed, usually it bears the directions, such as "Sow in the open ground when the weather is warm," "Sow in heat," etc. They sound simple enough, but one accustomed to sowing seed would hardly agree that it is as simple as it sounds. Seed sowing is quite an art in itself, easily learned, but details must be observed for success. Fortunately, seed is the cheapest commodity on the market and probably more seed is wasted through poor methods or careless work in sowing than from any other source. Knowledge of correct methods of seed sowing undoubtedly would increase the good reputation of seedmen, who are all too often blamed for ill success.

Venison and Goat Must Taste Same

BALDWIN, Mich.—Investigating a report from a nearby town that venison had been sold illegally, C. W. Bonney, conservation department district supervisor here, soon caught up with the man who was alleged to have made the sale. The suspect took Bonney into his confidence, asked him to guard a profitable business secret.

Evilive whi-perines, the suspect said, enabled him to get a good price for goat's meat.

General Rod License Covers All Fishing

Trout fishing regulations are unchanged this year except for the license. No special license is needed this year to take trout, the \$1 general rod license which includes the wife being good for all kinds of fishing for all year. (Crest and possession limits are 12 brook, brown and rainbow trout, in the aggregate or for any one kind. Minimum length is seven inches.

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