

dry afterwards. Caladiums like equal parts of sand, leaf soil and loam, and plenty of drainage in the pot. Tuberous begonias succeed very well in ordinary potting soil, enriched sandy loam.

Cuttings of allamandas can be taken now with every prospect of their striking root easily.

There is still time for cuttings of coleus and similar plants for bedding purposes.

Chrysanthemum cuttings started now will often do better than if taken earlier, especially if grown steadily on all summer. If the plants are to be grown on benches in the greenhouse all the summer—which seems to be the popular and most successful method of growing them now—the cuttings can be taken as late as May and will give good flowering results. In fact bench grown plants seems to be the only method of growing them, to successfully avoid the destructive fungous disease (*Puccinia Hieracii*) commonly called “rust,” that has played such havoc of recent years amongst these popular autumn flowers. Spraying the young plants with a solution of sulphide of potassium, made by mixing one-half ounce of sulphide with a gallon of water, seems the best remedy at present known for checking this destructive disease. Picking off and burning the leaves on the first appearance of the minute rusty-brown spots on them, will also help to check its ravages. The introduction of new seedling varieties, the use of preventives, and careful culture may perhaps be successful in eradicating what promises to banish chrysanthemums from our greenhouses as pot plants, unless some remedy can be found that is more effectual than any known to plant-growers at present.

Carnations and violets suffered very badly a few years since from a similar disease; although not quite eradicated it is not as destructive as it was.

The many new and really grand varieties

of carnations recently introduced have brought these ever-popular flowers into even greater prominence than at any time before in their history. The immense and sweetly perfumed flowers of these new varieties cannot help but make them acceptable to all flower-lovers. Any of the following standard and well tested varieties would be suitable for the amateur grower, viz.: Mrs. Lawson and Mrs. J. Dean, pink; Flora Hill or White Cloud, white; Gen. Maceo, crimson; Gold Nugget, yellow; and Mrs. Bradt, red and white striped.

Cuttings of carnations should be potted into $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch pots as soon as rooted.

Sow a packet of primula obconica grandiflora seed, and grow the plants on in the house all the summer; they are easy to grow, and one of the most remunerative of all the primula family.

Seeds of annuals required for early flowering should be sown now. Cosmos seeds are best sown early to ensure getting full returns from them before frost sets in.

Ventilators at the top of greenhouse or conservatory should be opened as often as the weather will permit, so as not to allow the temperature to get too high. A temperature of 75° to 80° in the day time, and 50° to 60° at night, is suitable for a mixed collection of plants. A higher temperature than this is not only injurious to many plants but it induces a rapid increase of insect pests.

A slight shading may be necessary for palms, ferns, etc., on hot sunny days, to prevent scalding.

Keep the floors well dampened, syringe and water the plants early in the day.

If you have room in the greenhouse, sow some mustard seed, pressed slightly into the top of some soil in a shallow box. Water the seed and not cover it with earth, it will give you a nice salad early in the season.