

herbaceous perennials tested at the Central Experimental Farm, of which over 2,000 species and varieties have been grown. These have been obtained from the wild, from nurserymen, and from many persons who have collections of herbaceous perennials. A large number of species have been grown from seeds which were donated by botanical gardens and private individuals in many parts of the world; among these being the botanic gardens at Kew, Dublin, Copenhagen, Upsala, Lausanne, Nancy, Lyons, Tabor, Jurjew, St. Petersburg, Odessa, Tiflis, Siena, St. Louis, Tokio. Miss Willmott, of Warley, England, has been very generous in supplying seeds. Most of the plants are raised from the seeds in beds outside, a lath screen being used to shade the beds, making conditions better for the young plants.

It has been noted that annuals are most abundant in climates where there is a wet and a dry season, the reason apparently, being that seeds are able to withstand extremes of drought and heat better than roots. Seeds also appear to withstand extremes of cold better than roots. There are comparatively few annuals which are natives of Canada, and most of these are found in the dry districts. Most biennials appear to be natives of temperate climates where there are no very low temperatures and where there is an abundance of moisture. There are few biennials native to the colder parts of Canada. There are few troublesome biennial weeds in Canada. The sappy shallow roots do not seem to stand the sudden changes of temperature. Herbaceous perennials are most abundant where there is a good distribution of rainfall, and where the cool weather of autumn favors the development of roots. The deep-rooted perennials are, many of them, natives of the coldest and also of the drier climates where their deep roots are able to withstand extreme conditions. The shallow rooted perennials spread much more rapidly, as a rule, than the deeper rooted ones. Most of the shallow fibrous rooted species do best in moist ground; but those which bloom in the spring when the ground is moist are, for the most part, natives of rocky or mountain regions. The shallow rooted perennials with fleshy roots, such as *Aquilegia*, are not long lived as, like biennials, fleshy roots are exposed to sudden changes of temperature. They do best in well drained ground.

There was considerable discussion in regard to the observations which had been made as to the habitats of herbaceous plants, the members present agreeing on the whole with the conclusions drawn. It was thought that if gardeners studied more the habitats of the plants they cultivated better success would be obtained.

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