

PREPARATION FOR WINTER GARDENING.



Let us say that winter-gardening begins with autumn, but summer, or even the month of May, is none too soon to begin planning for our winter gardens, if we wish to make sure of all the beauty and all the pleasure that may be derived from them. One of the very first points requiring attention is to provide suitable plant-stock between this month and the time of frosts. Here let the inexperienced be on their guard; not all pot-plants are alike suitable for cultivation in dwellings. Let the list be confined to such plants as are known beyond doubt to be well adapted to this purpose, and do not invite failure and disappointment by attempting to grow others. The list of good winter-flowering plants is so long and so varied that any taste may be satisfied with a choice of thoroughly tested sorts.

A list of fifty distinct kinds of plants specially adapted to window-culture is given below:

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| 4 <i>Abelia rupestris</i> . | 4 Lantana. |
| 5 Abutilon, bush and trailing. | 1 Madeira-vine. |
| 3 Achania. | 2 Maurandia. |
| 4 Agapanthus. | 5 Moneywort. |
| Agave. | 4 Myrtle (myrtus). |
| 3 Aspidistras. | 3 Neprolepis (fern). |
| 4 Amaryllis. | 3 Orange. |
| 3 <i>Aralia Sieboldii</i> . | 5 <i>Othonna sedifolia</i> . |
| 3 Begonias. | <i>Oxalis rosea</i> . |
| 4 Cactuses. | 2 Petunia. |
| 5 Calla. | 5 <i>Plumbago Capensis</i> , |
| 4 Chrysanthemums. | 2 Primulas. |
| 3 <i>Corypha australis</i> (palm). | 3 <i>Pteris tremuloides</i> (fern). |
| 1 Crocuses. | 3 <i>P. argyrea lanceolata</i> . |
| 3 <i>Cyclamen persicum</i> . | 5 Passiflora. |
| 3 <i>Cyperus alternifolius</i> . | 4 Roses, Monthly Bengal. |
| 3 Date-palm. | 3 Sago-palm. |
| 4 <i>Euonymus Japonica</i> . | 4 <i>Saxifraga sarmentosa</i> . |
| 4 <i>Farfugium grande</i> . | 4 <i>Senecio scandens</i> . |
| 3 <i>Ficus elastica</i> (India-rubber). | 1 Snowdrops. |
| 3 <i>Ficus elastica variegata</i> . | 4 Tradescantia, trailing. |
| 5 Geraniums. | 1 Tulips. |
| 5 Heliotrope. | 4 Vallota. |
| 1 Hyacinth. | 5 Vinca (periwinkle). |
| 4 <i>Hydrangea hortensis</i> . | 2 Wax-plant. |
| 5 Ivies. | |

To have a good stock of these plants by fall, the following course should be pursued: Order from the greenhouse ordinary sizes of all the plants wanted except those preceded by (1), which are bulbous, and (2) which are to be seed-grown. Seeds of the latter should be sown early in summer. The bulbous sorts are to be procured in September, and started then in pots.