

they are rapid growers and early bloomers. Give the dwarf kinds plenty of room and don't overfeed them. If in very rich soil the growth of foliage is so rank as to hide the flowers.

Scabiosa. Few annuals are more graceful in habit of growth than the charming Sweet Scabious or Mourning Bride of old gardens, that name appropriate enough to the old dark maroon flower to which it was given, is not at all suitable to the varied and beautiful colors of the modern Sweet Scabious, ranging as they do from white to pale yellow, lavender to dark purple, crushed raspberry and many shades of red to a deep maroon, so dark that it appears black at a little distance. The large double flowers are nearly two and a half inches across, and borne on long thin stems wave gracefully in every passing breeze. Nothing could be better for cutting purposes, not only is the habit of growth suitable, but they can easily be kept fresh for eight or ten days in the house. The plant grows about two feet high, comes into bloom early in August and is covered with flowers till hard frost in the fall. There is a dwarf form about one foot high, that is much inferior in size and doubleness of flower and length of stalk to the tall growing kinds.

Asters. This is the great autumn flower so wonderfully varied in color and form that if we wished to grow all the shades of all the different kinds, we would have to plant over eight hundred packages of seed. Of the Chrysanthemum flowered variety alone some of the German seedsmen offer 214 different shades of color. When all are so beautiful it is very difficult to make a selection and say "these are the best." However, you won't go far astray if you try the "Giant Comet," particularly the white; the pinks and lavenders are rather harsh in shade and don't compare at all in beauty with the white, though there is a pale pink that is fine. The new "Japanese Tassel" is a quilled Aster with long wavy petals, not very double, but the pink and lavender are very beautiful shades. Another good quilled one is the "Washington," with shorter petals but more variety of color; the silver grey and pink of this variety are charming shades. The "Peony flowered" is a large fine flower in many colors. The "Jewel," or ball Aster, is smaller than some of the others but a very handsome sort; the petals are incurved just like some of the finest Chrysanthemums. If you want to grow very large flowers try the "Emperor," "Vick" and "Semple's branching" belong to the late flowering section, lengthening the season till frost comes; they are taller growing plants than the others and much more branched, the flowers borne on long stems. The white, pale pink and lavender are very beautiful shades; they are at their best if cut when fully open; if left on the plant, in two or three days they show a yellow centre, which detracts very much from the beauty of the flower. All Asters require very rich soil to do their best. Give them a liberal allowance of well decomposed stable manure, an abundance of water and plenty of room if you want fine flowers for exhibition time. Seeds of the varieties recommended, if planted in the open air in end of April, will give you flowers continuously from early in August till end of October.

Pansies. Though not properly annuals, do best if treated as such and grown from seed every year, if planted early in the spring and well cared for, they will be in good condition in September to give those large beautiful blooms that are so highly prized by all flower lovers. To have flowering plants in spring and early summer, it is necessary either to grow them in a greenhouse, or to plant the seed outdoors the previous August and protect the young plants with straw during the winter. To grow the best flowers, the soil must be rich and moist, the plants kept stocky and compact by pinching back all long straggling shoots, as the blooms are never so good when at the ends of long branches. It is also very important to buy only the best seed, "Cassier" and "Bugnot" are good sorts, "Imperial German" is a very fine strain, "Lord Beaconsfield," lavender and purple is much admired, "Gold Margined," brown and maroon with yellow edge, and "Silver Margined," lighter shades with a white edge are beautiful varieties, all these have the thick velvety petals that are so essential in a good pansy. The "Giant Trimardeau," so much grown, is one of the poorest varieties in substance and color.

Time will not permit of any more than a brief mention of a few of the other desirable flowers. As color factors in the garden a prominent place must be given to the

Calendula
beautiful
if you do

Thou
entitle it

The
white and

Calli-
varieties
the base of

As a
and seed

Some
flowers, be
to get them

Nigella
the garden
pretty effect

The
plant. Ga
appearance

The B
Lastly

"Globosus"
Among the
three to four

In con
besides bein
you should
science of b
between th
and do thei
a knowledge

This sub
not propose
points of int
this most be
tion from gro

Aquatic
season this b
throughout t
these ponds.