

But there are other points of difference between annuals and the hardy vines than this one, although this being far the most important. There must be considered soil exposure as well as the purpose for which the vine is chosen, and the support which can be readily given for it.

Every vine has a special and beautiful characteristic of its own, either for purely ornamental purposes, or for the purpose of making a thick and effective protection, or for the two purposes combined. But it is quite possible to procure utility and beauty and profusion of bloom from one well-chosen variety if one possesses a certain amount of knowledge and uses it in making the selection.

With regard to soil, perfect growth requires much. A deep rich fertile soil with plenty of moisture, the ground well trenched and quantities of well-rotted manure thoroughly dug in, are absolutely necessary. When one considers the amount of vegetation borne by a single specimen, it is easy to understand the great amount of food necessary for the perfect nourishment of it. Only too often this point is not attended to, with the result that a poor, spindly, half-grown, wholly-starved vine is obtained. Give your vines plenty of good rich food (you can scarcely overfeed them), and they will give you good measure in return.

Now let us turn to the question of exposure. While individuality of vine must of course be considered, there are some general rules one may follow. For instance, most evergreen vines, such as the true ivies, and the euonymus, thrive best when they are given cool or shady positions; therefore, they should be planted on the northerly sides of trellises, arbors, walls or whatever structures they are destined to cover or decorate. On the other hand, deciduous vines, that is those which shed their leaves, but whose main stalk and branches live and sleep through the winter,—these flourish in sunny places; the clematis for example. But in every case, the special requirements of each vine must be allowed for, and proper provision made.

Lastly, in preparing the support for your vine, you must absolutely have some idea of the possibilities of your vine. Compare, for instance, the requirements and possibilities of the ordinary Boston ivy with, say the wistaria vine. Can you imagine

anyone planting a Boston Ivy, with the idea in his mind that it will cover successfully a wire screen or something of the kind; or expect a wistaria to climb up a wall as the Boston Ivy does. If one has to depend on a catalogue for information, that is about the amount of help he will receive on the subject. And so, let me repeat, one must know what his vine can accomplish.

But let me encourage the amateur gardener by assuring him that he can turn a sickly, poorly-nourished, unsatisfied vine into such a strong, healthy, luxuriant climber, by a little thoughtful and judicious attention, that he will have difficulty in recognizing the starveling he started with.

Some Reliable and Tried Varieties from Which to Choose.

The following well-known vines give great satisfaction in producing a cool, thick shade in a remarkably short time:

Dense Shade.

The Wild Grape
The Virginia Creeper.
The Kudzu Vine.
The Boston Ivy.
The Honeysuckle Vines.
The Matrimony Vines.
The Wood Vine.
The Japanese Hop Vine.
The Celastrus Vine.
The Aristolochia.
The Jassimines.
The Ivies.

Partial Shade.

The Wistaria Vine.
The Clematis Vine—Virgin's Bower.
The Matrimony Vine.
The Passiflora Vine.
The Trumpet Creeper.
The Akebia Vine.
The Actinidia Vine.

This may seem rather an alarming list to place before the amateur; but notice, several vines are mentioned in both columns, which means that these varieties require a season or two in order to produce their best results. For example, nothing can exceed the thick shade produced by the Matrimony Vine; it will not accomplish the same result in one season that the Kudzu Vine will.

At the risk of making this article appear like a page from the ordinary flower