

# THE SIMPLE LIFE



## THE HOME GARDEN

### GARDEN CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

Order Bulbs now, and full list of Hardy Plants, Fruits, etc.  
Plant: Many Hardy Border Plants in suitable weather. Bulbs, and especially: Phloxes, Pyrethrums, Delphiniums, Gaillardias, Lilies, Crown Imperials, Strawberries, Primroses, Polyanthus, Broccoli, Salad Plants, Coleworts.  
Pot. Narcissi, Scillas, Chionodoxa, Friesias.  
Sow: Prickly Spinach, Cabbage, Red Cabbage, Colewort, Cauliflower, Tripoli Onion, Lettuce, Cos, and Cabbage, Endive, Turnips for winter, Horn Canned, Mustard and Cress Radish, Cucumber in heat, Melons in heat, Primula, Calceolaria, Hardy Annuals for spring, Mignonette, Forget-me-Not, Grass Seeds, Parsley, Tomato.

### PRACTICAL ADDRESS ON FRUIT CULTURE.



A meeting recently held in Vernon, before the Farmers' Institute, Professor Thornber, horticulturist of the Washington Agricultural College, of Pullman, gave an interesting lecture on the subject of orchard care and fruit pests.

A well attended meeting of the Farmers' Institute was held on Saturday afternoon in the Court House, when Prof. W. S. Thornber, Horticulturist of the Washington Agricultural College, of Pullman, who spoke very entertainingly on the subjects of orchard care and fruit pests, addressed the meeting. Prof. Thornber is one of the most pleasing speakers that has ever appeared in this city, and his remarks were listened to with great attention, and numerous questions were asked him at short intervals during his address.

He spent a good deal of time in giving his ideas as to the best manner of pruning fruit trees, illustrating his points by chalk drawings on a blackboard. He was very decidedly in favor of low-headed trees, as much more profitable than tall trees; and gave instances where it had been ascertained by experience that it costs nearly double as much to pick apples from tall trees as from low-headed ones. Apple trees, he said, should in no case be planted closer than 27½ feet apart, and he favored 30 feet, on the triangular plan as the best rule to adopt in planting. He showed by illustrations on the blackboard, that trees planted on the square system 30x30 feet gave only 46 to the acre, while if put in on the triangular plan 55 trees to the acre was the result. With peach tree fillers the distance between the apple trees should be 35 feet, and if the peach trees were properly placed the distance all round, would then be 16½ feet.

Regarding cultivation in the orchard, Prof. Thornber was strongly in favor of potatoes or some such crop, as the orchard then got lots of cultivation at the right time. He did not favor strawberry culture in the orchard, as they were generally planted too close to the trees. He did not believe, either, in growing grass crops in the orchard, under ordinary conditions, as it detracted from the growth and nourishment of the trees. In response to a question, he said that heavy winter pruning was productive of wood growth, and summer pruning of fruit buds. Regarding cultivation he advised that work be started early in the spring, just as soon as the land can be worked. Deep, thorough, spring tillage should be followed by frequent shallow cultivation through the summer up to the middle of August. On irrigated land, if the tillage is not good and deep the result will be that the tree roots will remain close to the surface. He gave an illustration of a disc machine, which allowed of close cultivation under the trees, and which he said was the best machine of the kind he knew of. His advice was to quit cultivation about the middle of August, as further cultivation keeps the growth up too late, and fall cold then is liable to injure the trees, killing the new growth. He urged his hearers to sow a cover crop in August, especially where the land was lacking in humus. The best way to put humus in the soil is to grow it in the orchard, and some green crop—such as winter wheat or rye—was about the best for this purpose. It should be drilled in between the trees about the 15th of August, and plowed under in the spring. Peas or vetches made an excellent cover crop, and added nitrogen to the soil where trees were not making enough growth.

Alfalfa or clover could only be recommended as a grass mulch when there is plenty of water available, and a porous sub-soil exists. Otherwise it robbed the trees of too much strength. He instanced a man in Washington who took three excellent crops from his orchard last year, namely honey, alfalfa and apples. But he had plenty of irrigation, and a porous soil, while a neighbor a short distance away, who followed the same plan, got smaller crops of alfalfa and honey, but hardly any apples on account of lack of these conditions in his orchard.

The professor, speaking of the most suitable varieties of apples for this district, said that where the altitude did not exceed 1,400 ft., he would recommend planting Spitzenburg, Newton Pippin and Winesap. The Winesap needs plenty of moisture. The next three varieties that he would name would be Rome Beauty, Wagner and Jonathan. "Keep your list down to three or four of the best commercial varieties" was his advice. He said that he had noticed that there were not a great many sweet cherries in this country, and he considered this a mistake, as sweet varieties were more in demand on the market than the sour kinds. The varieties he recommended were: Lambert, Bing and Royal Anne.

In planting apple trees he recommended that they be set out in the fall, provided the soil is in good condition; but all other fruits

should be planted in the spring. An apple tree should be cut off eighteen inches above the ground, one-sixteenth of an inch above a bud. Peaches should be cut from 12 to 14 inches, cherries and pears from 24 to 30 inches.

Going on to orchard pests, Prof. Thornber said that he was glad to know that we had no coding moth north of the international boundary line, but if it ever arrived it could easily be fought with arsenate of lead spray, under high pressure, when the apple petals are falling. Apple scab is a bad pest in eastern Washington and he saw several traces of it in this country. It is easy to keep down the scab; but there is a danger of "russetting" or scalding the apples when applying the spray. The proper method to follow is to spray with the Bordeaux Mixture, just when the blossoms are showing pink—an application of the spray later on will probably scorch the fruit. As for lime and sulphur applications for this, he had been experimenting with it, but was not yet prepared to say that it would give satisfactory results.

Peach leaf curl was common wherever peaches are grown. Spray early for this trouble, just before the buds open, with either Bordeaux Mixture or lime and sulphur.

Peach mildew was a trouble that was frequently met with, and for this Bordeaux Mixture should be used, just before the buds expand. Another very effective mildew remedy is the "Cupram Spray," which is made as follows:

Five oz. copperas, 3 pints water; mix and add with 3 pints strong ammonia. Dilute this with from 45 to 60 gallons of water. This is the first time this formula has been given out. This will not stain the fruit—or even roses—and has been thoroughly tested for mildew, and always proved effective. It can be used effectively on gooseberries; but the best spray for that fruit was to use lime sulphur early in spring before the buds start to expand. Do this, and there will be no difficulty with mildew on gooseberries. If this was not done, and it became necessary to spray gooseberries for mildew later in the season, "Liver of Sulphur," 1 oz. to 2 gals. water, could be used.

The best means he knew to eradicate leaf blight, rust and mildew from a strawberry patch was to mow the leaves as soon as the crop is off, let them dry and then burn them on the ground. Then spray whole patch, ground and all, with Bordeaux mixture, and the plants next year will be clean.

The pear leaf blight or mite is a common pest, and to combat it successfully the trees must be sprayed with lime and sulphur early in the spring, when the buds are expanding. This will catch another pest, the bud moth, at the same time.

The pear or cherry slug should be treated with an application of dust—ashes, earth dust or lime—if the slugs were on the fruit. Then, as soon as the fruit is off, spray with arsenate of lead.

Pear blight is a difficult problem to handle, and can't be reached by sprays. The only thing to do is to cut it out. The saw or knife should be sterilized in carbolic acid after each application.

A common disease in old orchards is the apple canker or sun scald. For this trouble spray with Bordeaux Mixture of double the ordinary strength, between the 1st and 15th of October.

Apple spot, or punk, or brown knot should be treated by a thorough application of Bordeaux Mixture in winter.

The kerosene emulsion is the best remedy for green aphids and is made as follows: ½ lb. whale oil soap, 1 gallon water, 2 gallons kerosene, diluted 8 or 10 times with water. It must be thoroughly emulsified before using, or it will burn the trees.

Don't irrigate too much, was the advice given by Prof. Thornber. Less water and more cultivation was the keynote of his address on this point. In Washington they were now using one-fourth as much water and five times as much cultivation as was the case five years ago, and much better results were being obtained. They found that under this system they got better color, flavor and uniformity of size in their fruit.

Establish and maintain a reputation for honest packing, was another piece of advice

upon which he dwelt very emphatically. By these methods such results would certainly be obtained as those which made the Washington fruit famous. He knew that this could be done here, because it had been followed out in the shipment sent to the International Exhibition last year when Okanagan fruit from Kelowna captured the \$100 gold medal in competition with Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

### FOR TOWN GARDENS

Despite the many difficulties to be contended with, there is no reason why, with good cultivation and a selection of suitable plants, town gardens should not be kept bright and interesting through the greater part of the year. Even in the heart of large towns and in the most smoky atmosphere and confined position there is a fair number of plants which may be depended upon to thrive and bloom freely, while under the improved conditions and comparatively pure air to be found in the outskirts a great variety of hardy shrubs, perennials, bulbs and annual flowers may be grown.

One great difficulty to be encountered in the cultivation of town gardens is the poor nature of the soil, and before commencing to plant such a garden, it would certainly be good policy to lay in a quantity of short stable ma-

pink flowers, usually blooms in February and will succeed in fairly open situations; it is a slender-growing dwarf shrub and should be planted in small groups to produce the best effect. Pyrus (Cydonia) japonica bears crimson flowers in April, and may be used either for training on a wall or grown as a bush in the open; the white variety should also, be grown. P. Maulei is a dwarf variety with brick-red flowers. Prunus pissardi is very effective with its white flowers and deep maroon-purple leaves, as is also P. triloba fl-pl. with double rose pink flowers. A succession of bloom may be maintained by growing, besides the ordinary lilacs, the Persian Lilac, a small-growing shrub very suitable for town gardens, the Diervillas or Weigelas, with crimson, rose or white flowers, and the Mock Oranges (Philadelphus). Other valuable shrubs for town gardens are the white Portugal Bloom (Cytisus albus), Cytisus scoparius andreanus, with crimson and yellow flowers, and the double variety of the Jew's Mallow (Kerria japonica fl. pl.). Azaleas of the mollis type will succeed if grown in peat or a mixture of peat and loam free from lime. To enumerate the many plants other than shrubs which may be successfully grown in towns would occupy so much space that I must content myself with mentioning a few which will grow and flower well in almost any situation, provided they are given good soil and cultivation.

For spring flowering there is a large choice of bulbous plants. Snowdrops, Scillas and Crocuses should be massed in clumps towards the front of borders or used as edgings for beds of other bulbs. Narcissi in great variety may be planted between shrubs or hardy perennials; Hyacinths and early Tulips are useful for beds, while the tall late flowering cottage and Darwin Tulips produce a brilliant effect in herbaceous borders, and are valued as cut flowers. Of other plants Wall flowers are indispensable, mauve and purple Arabis and yellow Alyssum can be used for edgings and the double Arabis will produce sheets of white Stock-like flowers in April and May. The Doronicums are vigorous growing perennials, with large yellow flowers, and are useful for planting between shrubs. In shaded positions Primroses, alpine Auriculas and Polyanthus may be planted in light soil composed of loam and leaf-mould.

Summer and Autumn flowering perennials—From May to the end of October the garden may be kept bright with many hardy perennials. Irises, more particularly those known as German Irises, are very valuable town plants, and for planting in narrow borders or between shrubs are perhaps the most useful of any. Good varieties of Iris are: Queen of May, rose white, margined blue; an variegata aurea yellow. Iris ochroleuca is a tall-growing species with cream and yellow flowers, and I. aurea is of similar growth, the flowers being golden yellow.

For the back row of borders the herbaceous Lupines are valuable, and should be planted in well-manured soil; and between them may be placed some of the Day Lilies, such as Hemerocallis flava, H. fulva and H. aurantiaca. Other early summer flowering plants are the Paeonies, both the old double red and the double and single Chinese varieties; Campanulas, such as C. pyramidalis, C. persicifolia and C. latifolia; Delphiniums, Oriental Poppies and such Lilies as L. croceum, L. candidum, L. umbellatum and L. testaceum.

For edgings in town gardens there are no better plants than Pinks, good varieties being Mrs. Sinkins, Albino, Her Majesty and Paddington. Carnations are also excellent town plants, more especially if raised from seed in preference to growing named varieties. Both the biennial and the perennial Evening Primroses (Etonera) succeed well in town gardens, while for shady borders the Funkias are useful for their handsome foliage and lilac flowers. F. sieboldiana major produces the largest and handsomest leaves, while some of the varieties of F. lancifolia have foliage margined or variegated with gold, white or silver.

Suitable plants for late summer and autumn blooming include Hollyhocks, Chrysanthemum maximum, with large white flowers; perennial Sunflowers; Erigeron speciosus, with mauve Daisy-like flowers; Coreopsis grandiflora;

Pyrethrum (Chrysanthemum) uliginosum, a tall growing plant with large white flowers; Rudbeckia Newmanni, which grows about 2 feet high and bears yellow flowers with dark brown cone-like centres; Phloxes in many shades of crimson, pink, purple and pure white; these require plenty of moisture in summer, and should be mulched with half decayed manure to keep the roots cool and moist; Sedum spectabile, a handsome plant with glaucous leaves and large heads of rosy pink flowers; and Michaelmas Daisies in many varieties; these comprise flowers in shades of purple, lilac, rosy mauve and pure white, the plants varying from 2 to 5 feet or 6 feet in height, and by a careful selection of varieties, a succession of bloom may be maintained from August to the end of October. Room must, of course, be found for some of the border Chrysanthemums, which are among the best of town plants, and will help to keep the garden bright during September and October; also in shady borders for Anemone japonica.

Annuals and Bedding Plants—Space will only permit of a brief reference to these. Of half-hardy annuals Stocks and Asters may be raised from seed in spring and used for filling beds which have contained spring-flowering plants. Zinnias, Balsams, Salpiglossis and Nicotiana affinis may also be employed for this purpose. The soil for all these should be of a rich nature, and a dressing of decayed manure may be given before planting. Bedding plants such as Zonal and Ivy-leaf Pelargoniums, Calceolarias and Petunias flower best if the soil is not too rich. Cannas will succeed if planted in rich soil and kept well supplied with water and good-sized beds of these plants are very effective. Nearly all the hardy annuals will grow well in towns. These should be sown thinly in good soil, and thinned out to 6 inches or 8 inches apart when large enough to handle. Those of medium height comprise annual Chrysanthemums, Shirley Poppies, Clarkias, annual Larkspurs, Godetias, annual Lupines and Malope grandiflora, while a few dwarf-er growth are Indian Pinks (Dianthus), Viscaria, Linum grandiflorum, Limnanthes Douglasi, Candytuft, Dwarf Nasturtiums and Virginian Stock.

### TIMELY GARDEN HINTS

The garden hose, or other means of watering is likely to be called into frequent use this month. All amateur gardeners do not understand how to apply water to flowerbeds. Do not stand to one side and throw the water at the plants. If you are using a hose, sprinkle with care, and do not allow the water to fall with force enough to wash away the soil. If you have to bring water from a well or pump use a watering can and apply carefully. The best time to water at this season is in the evening after the sun has set. Give a good soaking while you are about it.

If you want the season of bloom of your flowers prolonged, carefully nip all seed pods and leaves that are drying up. This is especially true of nasturtiums, sweet peas, gaillardias and larkspurs.

Maintain some kind of mulch on the soil. It may be of grass, leaves or other litter, or a dust mulch made by stirring the soil. Roses and the general run of perennial plants are especially helped by a mulch at this season.

To secure pansies that will produce flowers very early the following spring the seed should be sown about the third week in August. The plants will winter well in a cold frame. Old pansy beds may be renewed by cutting off the young shoots around the base, many of which will already be supplied with roots. Plant them in rather sandy soil in a shady place. Keep them well sprinkled, and they will soon root and make vigorous plants to put in winter quarters ready for next spring.

Plant lily bulbs for next summer. Hardy lilies may be removed or transplanted if necessary. Lily of the valley also can be transplanted late in August or early in September.

Buy some raffia for tying plants to stakes. It is worth more than string and rope for tying things in a hurry, and making them stay tied.

Gladioli should be staked if they are liable to be broken down by wind storms or rains. Better do this now.

Flowering asters should be well watered. Should rust attack the plants badly, spray with ammoniacal carbonate of copper.

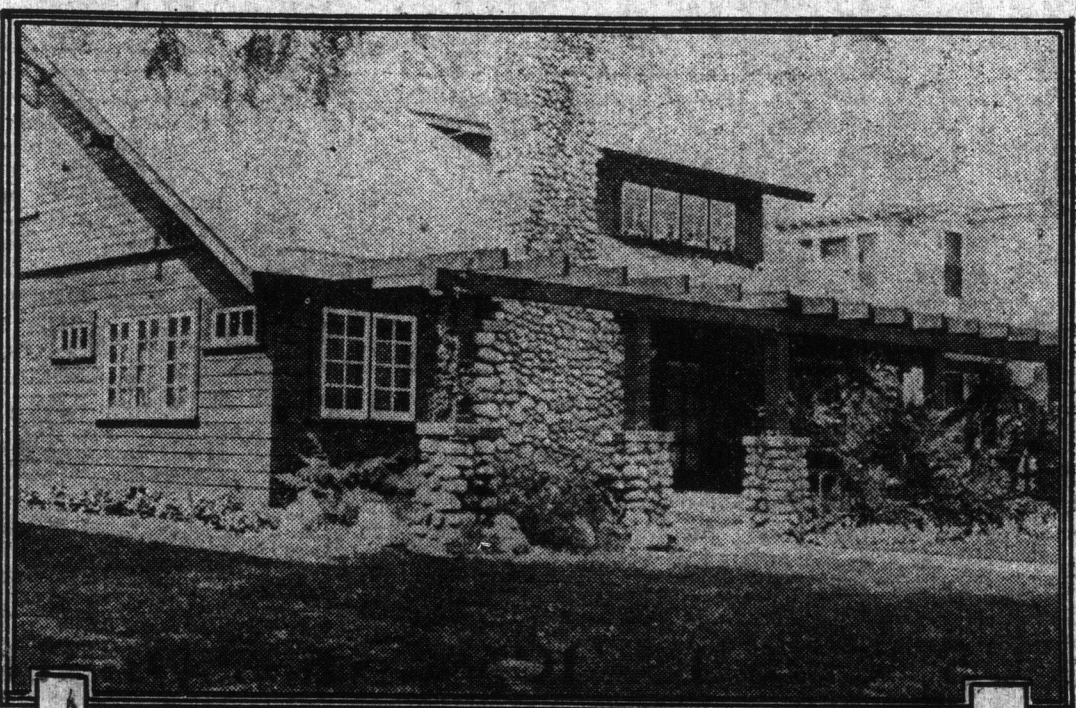
To revive cut flowers, put them in warm salt water to which has been added a few drops of sulphate of ammonia.

Flowers for exhibition purposes should be cut early in the morning on the day of the show. Place them in a pail or jug of water immediately and put in a cool place until time of exhibiting.

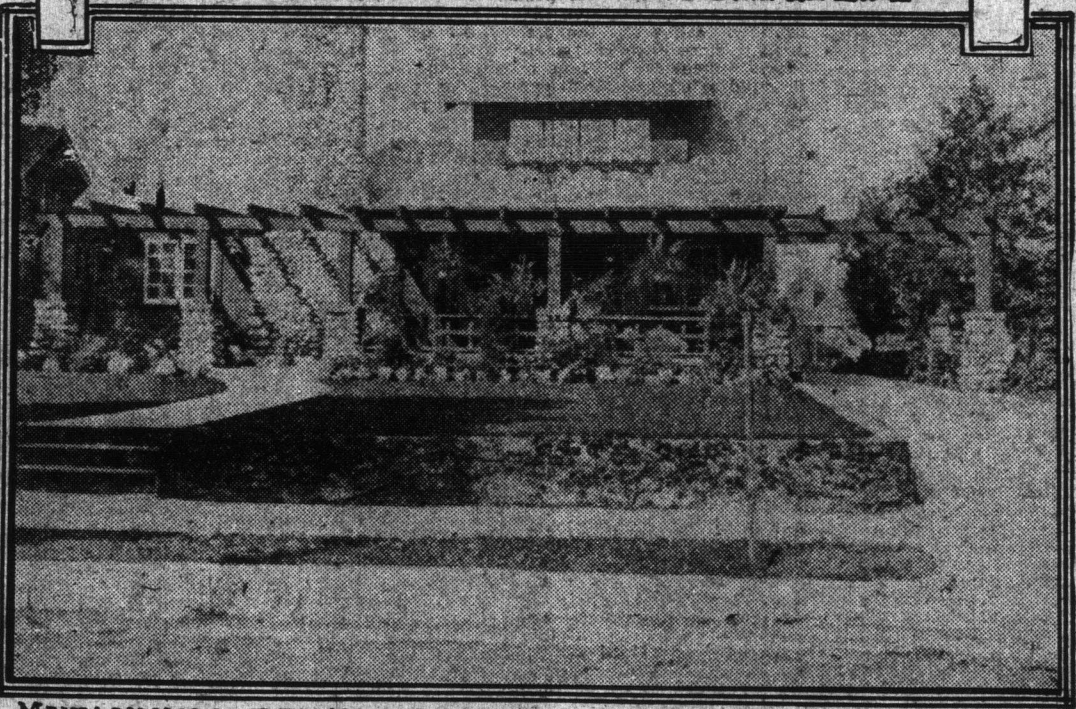
The following annuals produce their flowers quickly after sowing and probably might give some flowers before frost if sown in August and the weather conditions are favorable: Nasturtium, balsam, marigold, Shirley poppy, gypsophila, mignonette, larkspur, calliopsis, candytuft, calendula, sweet alyssum and for climbers, scarlet runners or convolvulus.

Among the perennials that may be sown this month, and transplanted to the border late in the fall or early next spring to furnish bloom for next season, are hollyhock, delphinium, aquilegia, campanula, coreopsis, gaillardia and papaver. If transplanted in fall, protect against severe freezing winter.

Dahlias are heavy feeders. Fertilize the soil once a week while the buds are swelling. For insect pests, there is nothing better than a solution of Paris green, sprayed upon the under side of the leaves. For cut-worms use a tablespoonful of air-slacked lime spread about the stalk of each plant.



THE BUNGALOW GIVES INSPIRATION FOR THE 'SIMPLE LIFE'



MANY HANGING BASKETS FILLED WITH TRAILING VINES MAKE A HAPPY PORCH TRIM