

flower to the stem. This is the largest Dahlia grown, I believe, and strange to say it flowered very early, about the 4th or 5th of July, too early for last year's show, and sad to relate died young, and I think from too rich feeding or too strong manure at the root.

This short paper has been prepared more for the purpose of starting a discussion on the subject from which we may have benefit, than for any practical information it may give, as a person with only two years' experience can hardly be called an authority on Dahlias.

DISCUSSION.

Question. Do you advise keeping the roots in the cellar?

MR. ANGUS. I have succeeded best when I kept them in the cellar without heat. They must be absolutely dry. Dry them in the garden in the sun or in a shed well ventilated.

PROF. BAIRD. My difficulty in the matter of growing Dahlias has been in the winter time when they do not grow at all. The only place I have which is at all suitable is a cellar in which there is a furnace. I have no trouble with dampness, but it is too warm. Perhaps the mistake has been in putting them away in the autumn. Is it not advisable to look after them three or four times in the course of the winter and moisten them in the box in which they are packed?

MR. ALSTON. I find it better not to pack them. Packing heats them and they are apt to be shrivelled up in the Spring. Take them out of the garden in the fall and put them in a box and keep them in a shed from fifty to sixty degrees and they will be all right—neither too dry nor too wet.

MR. WHELLAMS. We put away about half a bushel; took them up, shook off the earth and put them in the root house. About two months afterwards they were the consistency of thick porridge. The reason probably was that they were not dry enough. Temperature does not seem to make as much difference as the condition in which they are put away. Recently we manage better; we put them in a roothouse with a lot of potatoes. The conditions that are suitable for potatoes seem to suit the dahlias.

MR. ANGUS. A good deal depends upon whether they are ripe enough when they are taken up. If a potato is not thoroughly ripe it is not fit to keep. It is better to leave the dahlias in the ground from the time when they freeze down in September or the beginning of

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