

Transplanting Herbaceous Plants in the Fall

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TO have herbaceous plants in the best possible flowering condition, it is necessary to transplant them frequently; that is every three or four years. Being rank growers and strong feeders, they soon exhaust the soil unless they get an annual top dressing of rich manure, which should be thoroughly forked in in the spring. This operation permits the checking of strong growers, such as rudbeckias and other kinds that multiply by rhizomes and layers. It is easy to dig them under which practice keeps your plants within bounds when you do not sell them or give them away. When borders become congested with growths of this kind, it is a good plan to make an entire new border, and plant the varieties in clumps of each kind, massing them, as it were, which makes a much finer effect.

All herbaceous plants are the better for such dividing, with the exception of pæonias, which are better if left undisturbed for many years, so long as you keep them manured. Phloxes have to be divided and replanted every three years, if you wish to have fine flowers. Any variety may be divided and replanted after its flowering season is over. September is a good time to do this work. Gardeners find this a busy month. There is so much to do with transplanting perennials that have been grown from seed, also biennials such as hollyhocks, foxgloves, pansies, daisies, and so forth.

To have the best possible success with perennials, the bed or border in which they are to grow must be thoroughly drained, and even with good drainage, it is well to make the bed good and high above the surrounding ground, so as to insure good surface drainage. The best results are obtained by subsoiling the bed; that is, to dig in a good coating of manure, and to dig the bed as well two spades deep. This may mean a little extra labor, but by so doing you provide deep loose soil for the roots to go down in, which means larger and richer growth of foliage and flower, besides enabling the plants to withstand dry spells when and where it might not be convenient to water.

When your bed or border is ready for planting, cut off this season's tops. Dig up the plants and divide them into three or more plants as you desire, or if anxious to have as many as possible you can divide them into smaller sizes. Dig the hole plenty large enough. Place in your plants, fill in the soil and tramp firmly. Finish by watering liberally and leveling the surface soil evenly and neatly.

Any of the following plants may thus be treated during the month: Phloxes,

summer and autumn flowering; pæonias, if you desire to propagate; *Diletea spectabilis*; achillea, in variety, campanulas, delphiniums, aconitum, rudbeckias, heleniums, heliopsis, lily of the valley, pyrethrum, potentiallas, tradescantias, lilies, pulmonias, physostegias, boltonias, lychnis, armerias, iris, spireas, hemerocallis, *Papaver orientalis*, and veronicas. In short, nearly all our hardy garden favorites, bear transplanting well at this season.

As this season's observations of the habits of each plant, their height, space required, and so forth, are fresh in the grower's memory, you can better arrange the massing and order of the plants in your bed, than by putting it off to the following spring. You can also arrange your beds for bulbs at the same time and plan floral effects for other seasons better when you have specimens in full growth before your eyes.

When planting, the stereotyped advice is to put the tallest growing at the back, the medium in the centre, and low growing in the front, or to serve as edging. Anyway, avoid straight lines. Vary the arrangement as much as you please but keep the various sorts in masses or clumps, allowing for contrasts and a continuity of bloom.

The majority of perennials bloom in the spring. This being so, it is well to have clumps of phloxes at different parts of your border so as to give abundance of bloom, as it were, all over your beds. A useful and showy flower for this purpose is the tiger lily. This in strong

the too promiscuous use of the rudbeckia almost make this plant tiresome, if not kept well to the back. It should be but sparingly planted as it is apt to overshadow and over-balance your other flowers. For late summer blooming we cannot recommend the phloxes too much. Good vigorous plants of this useful flower make the garden radiant. The physostegias and bocconias are valuable for their late summer blooming habit, likewise the heleniums.

The great interest taken in herbaceous plants of late, shows that the public are beginning to appreciate them, not only for their beautiful flowers and foliage, and hardiness, but for their practical and economic value and permanence. They are always on hand to do with as you wish. You can purchase them as cheaply as geraniums but, unlike bedding plants that only get to their best when they are destroyed by frost, the perennials are always on hand to grow again with but little care. They reward the grower by their permanence. You may admire the bedding plants, but it is always with a certain sympathy and regret for their certain doom, but the hardy delphinium and phlox yields to the flower lover a certain satisfaction in their possession not given by the geranium, aster or coleus. Newly planted herbaceous beds should be well mulched with strawy manure as a winter protection.

Roses in Saskatchewan

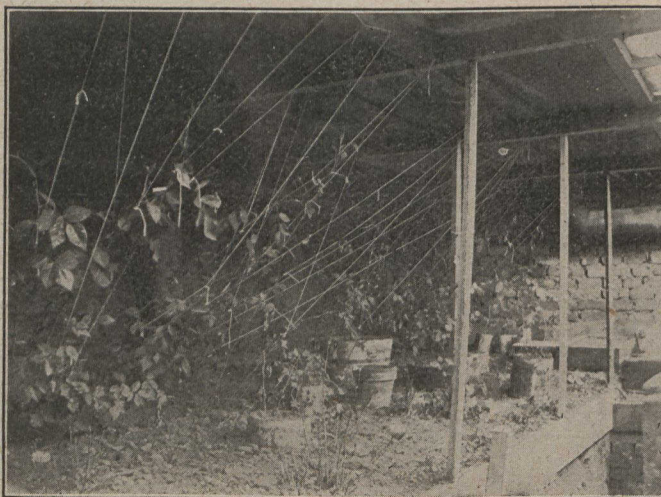
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In preparing for a group of roses and shrubs, I planted the bed in the open ground. For the summer, I left it open;

or the winter I built a frame around it, about three feet high, and banked with soil and manure, and used some stove heat. The top was covered with boards and sawdust on one side, and a row of glass on the other, with an extra covering of cotton frames for nights, and very cold weather.

By digging a path three feet deep, and a door in one end, the plants could be easily seen at any time. I kept the frost out until the first of the year, and then, for two months, allowed a little frost in, in order to en-

sure that everything was dormant. This is only one evidence of what may be done along horticultural lines in Saskatchewan. Many others might be cited. I shall contribute another article soon.



Growing Roses in Saskatchewan

In February with thermometer outside registering at times thirty to fifty degrees below zero.

clumps at effective points of garden, lights up the whole place. Judicious grouping of gladiolus with a few masses of *Hydrangea paniculata*, makes a showy sight of color. The vigorous habit, and