

Japanese Lilies

MANY bulbous plants can be used to advantage in winter, while others should be started in the early winter months to present the most pleasing appearance in the beginning of summer. Amateur flower growers can frequently obtain surplus stock of Japanese lilies as late as January, but it was advisable to obtain them earlier. As a rule the experienced grower of bulbs purchases his Japanese lilies late in November or in December.

In every case good, sound, solid bulbs must be procured. Some interesting information concerning their growth was furnished THE HORTICULTURIST recently by Mr. Wm. Hunt, of Guelph. They should be set singly in six or seven inch pots as soon as they arrive. A light and fairly rich loam potting soil is recommended. Perfect drainage is essential. After being potted, a liberal watering should be given, and the pots set in a room with a temperature of 55 to 65 degrees. Success is common in ordinary window conditions. For the next two or three weeks scanty watering is all that is required. It is well, however, to keep the soil moist.

When top growth is well commenced the supply of water should be increased, and under no conditions should the pots be allowed to become dry. The leaf growth should be well sprinkled at least once or twice every week. When a height of ten or twelve inches is reached the plants will grow to one side or break off at the base if they are not carefully staked. If the soil is in right condition no liquid fertilizer is required. The addition of fertilizers causes too rank growth and often induces disease. Sufficient extra nourishment is obtained from the bulb.

When warm weather comes the beauty of the garden can be greatly increased by setting these Japanese lilies outside. About June 1 they can be taken out of the pots and put in some well-protected place, where the wind will not have a chance to destroy the plants. Special care must be given to the staking after they are set out. In many cases they are not taken from the pots. The pots are plunged to the rim. When handled in this way bloom will come by July or August. If started before January the plants will flower earlier in the summer.

The three best varieties for ordinary culture are *Lilium speciosum rubrum*, red; *Lilium speciosum album*, white; and *Lilium speciosum auratum*, golden banded lily. The *rubrum* is hardy and most easily grown. With most growers it gives better satisfaction than the other varieties.

This plant is not without its enemies. The most common insect pests are green fly and red spider. The plants can be

protected from injury by the green fly by frequent dusting with finely powdered cigar. The red spider is easily kept in check by liberal sprinklings of clear water.

Three Crops of Roses

W. Hunt, O.A.C., Guelph

I was pleased to read in the September HORTICULTURIST the interesting notes on the rose bush owned by Mrs. A. Thompson, of Erin, Ont., and of its producing the two crops of blossoms in one season. The rose bush mentioned is in all probability an old-fashioned rose known as "Setina," supposed to be a sport from the well-known old Bourbon rose "Hermosa." The rose Setina is known in and around Toronto as Mansfield's Seedling or, at least, the two were con-



A Sample of the Bloom

sidered to be identical about 30 years ago, when it was very commonly grown as a greenhouse trellis rose, being under greenhouse treatment, of a semi-climbing habit. In color it is more of a rose pink, a shade darker than *Hermosa*, and has a delicious perfume that *Hermosa* has not.

I have a small bush of the Setina rose growing in my flower border at Guelph, that at the time of writing, September 10, has a few buds on it. The parent plant of this one was taken to Hamilton by me from Toronto in 1880, and planted in a warm border facing the south. It flowered, as stated, in June and again in the fall, and I remember one particularly mild winter, picking a fairly good rosebud from it on Christmas day. The plant was never artificially protected in winter

and, although the tips of growth were killed back, it sprang up strong every spring from down near the ground. The bush in Guelph was struck from a small branch accidentally broken from the parent plant in early summer, and stuck in the ground in the open border. This plant has had no protection given it, except by the snow, for the past three years.

I am almost certain the rose mentioned as growing at Erin is the variety known as Setina, and I am pleased to find it is hardy so far north. I should like at some time to see a few leaves or a bloom from the bush in question, as I consider it a very valuable rose for outdoor cultivation, being a fairly good flower in substance, size, and color, and deliciously perfumed, as well as an ever-blooming and hardy nature; a very useful, pretty, free-blooming summer rose.

NOTE—Since the article on the rose that bloomed twice appeared in the September issue of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, a third blossoming took place, a bloom of which was received at our office. A cut illustrating it is published on this page. Besides the foregoing remarks by Mr. Hunt, THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST received the following letter from Mr. Francis Wayland Glen, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a gentleman who at one time was closely allied with horticultural interests in Canada. He is a life member of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association.

"When I resided in Oshawa," he writes, "I always had three crops of General Jacqueminots, Crested Moss and White Moss. The plants were upon their own roots.

"As soon as the June roses were past their prime, I cut the plants down to the ground and grew new wood. When that wood was 2½ feet high, I pinched the top off, and that forced the canes to send out new branches, upon which I got fine clusters of roses in August. Then I repeated the process and had a third crop. This crop I had to protect against early frosts.

"In the fall, I again cut the bushes down to the ground. I gave them a coat of compost from spent hotbeds; then covered them with leaves.

"My roses were superior in size, in beauty of color and in foliage. I never lost a plant."

A popular and satisfactory plant for the house is the Rubber Plant, *Ficus elastica*. It is tough and thrifty, yet there is a limit to its endurance; it does not like gas. The Rubber Plant will stand a fairly low temperature where the air is pure. Do not give too much water, and keep the plant in the light. Keep the leaves free from dust and insects by sponging with soapy water.