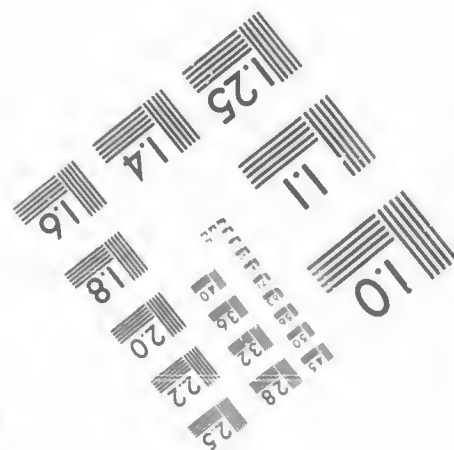
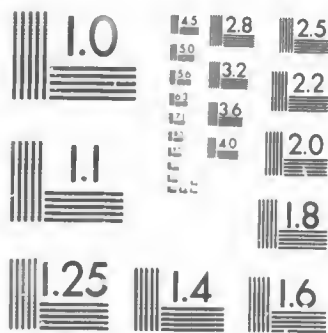


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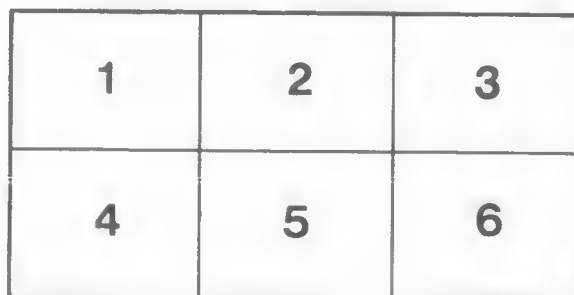
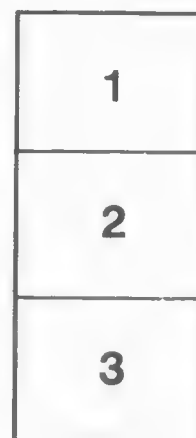
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The
Flower
Garden
And
Window
Gardening.

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How to make Flowers grow

THE "EUREKA" PLANT FOOD makes it a pleasure to grow flowers, and is recommended by both amateurs and professionals. This preparation is carefully and honestly prepared by the Pidgeon Fertilizer Co., Windsor, Nova Scotia, and has been successfully used. It contains all the important elements for promoting the growth of plants.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

— AND —

WINDOW GARDENING.

“Consider the Lilies how they grow,” has soothed many a care-worn brain and heart for ages.

Yet how often the sentiment seems paradoxical in life; for the average man and woman must toil and spin for the necessities of life.

But who can consider the real growing Lilies of the garden without having some of the cares of actual life charmed away for awhile, and learning some lesson of helpfulness.

THE PIDGEON FERTILIZER COMPANY, Ltd.

Windsor, Nova Scotia.

A
SB406
P5

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

“ Let flowers look up in every place
Through this beautiful world of ours,
For dear as the smile of an old friend's face
Is the smile of bright, sweet flowers.”

THERE were flowers in the Garden of Eden, planted by the Creator for mankind to care for and keep. Men and women may have homes without flowers and still be refined and happy, but the lesson Eden teaches is against this.

The flowerless home is not the ideal home designed by the Creator—and is not the happiest home.

It is found to be healthy to have flowers in a room. They are your summer and winter friends, alive and laughing. A flower never saddens; even when in tears of dew it will smile through them. A single vase, well cared for, will be a treasure. A few plants, neatly arranged, impart an air of refinement to a room that nothing else can, and the conditions they require are beneficial to our health.

Plants need cleanliness, pure air, moisture and sunshine, and these are necessary to the enjoyment of vigorous health by human beings. Science teaches that plants during the day absorb the poisonous principle of the air and give out oxygen, the vital principle of air, and are therefore useful in a sanitary point of view.

WATERING PLANTS.

When the soil becomes dry, which may be known by the appearance of the surface of the soil and the sides of the pot, water should be applied until it begins to run into the saucer. *No more water should be given until the soil again becomes dry, or nearly so,*—which will depend upon the dryness of the atmosphere, the amount of soil in the pots, and the foliage upon the plant, —when water should be used as before, the true principle being to keep the soil as nearly as possible in the same condition as for the best growth in the outdoor garden. More plants are injured by *overwatering* than by underwatering ; yet they should not be allowed to get so dry as to wilt. When plants are growing rapidly, they should be watered more freely than when at rest.

Pots should be washed as often as mould or fungus growth appears, to allow evaporation and a free access of air.

PREPARATION OF THE EARTH.

The best soil for house plants is that which contains some undecayed organic matter, like leaf-mould or partly decayed sods, with a small admixture of sand. In potting, the soil must be pressed firmly around the roots of the plant, and the pot filled to within half an inch of the top. Then apply a dressing of some kind, or the Plant Food for Flowers, described elsewhere in this book,—about a teaspoonful (not heaping) for a two-quart pot, and at the same rate for larger or smaller sizes. It should be *thoroughly* mixed with the soil, or it can be used in liquid form by dissolving one teaspoonful in two quarts of water.

PLANTING ROOTS AND BULBS.

Bulbs of Hyacinths, Tulips, Crocuses, Lilies, etc., which naturally grow at some distance below the surface of the soil, should be planted in pots, and kept in a cool, dark place until the roots are developed, the darkness having the effect of keeping back the growth of the top until the roots have made a good growth. Oxalis, Begonias, Gloxinias, Caladiums, and other bulbous or bulbous-rooted plants, while at rest, must be kept in a warm, dry place, in the soil in which they grew, and not watered until growth commences, when they should be potted in fresh soil; and, as soon as they begin to grow vigorously, they should be watered as directed above.

TO SLIP AND ROOT PLANTS.

Nearly all kinds of plants may be easily rooted in bottles of water, or in saucers or other earthen dishes in which is placed sand that is kept very moist, so that water will stand upon the surface. These must be kept in a warm place, and occasionally in the full sunshine, but not long enough to cause them to wilt. When fully rooted, put in good soil in small pots. Cuttings should generally be made of the soft growth, about two or three inches in length, cut with a sharp knife at any convenient point.

CUTTING BACK PLANTS.

Plants grown in the house are best kept in good shape by pinching the end buds of those shoots that grow too vigorously. This is much better than allowing a few shoots to grow until they need support, and then cutting them back.

In taking up plants from the garden for house culture, it is best to cut back at least one-half, and, after potting in good soil, water at once, and put in a cool, shaded place.

TEMPERATURE.

The plants which do best in a rather cool room, never below 35° or above 70°, but averaging about 55°, are Azaleas, Daisies, Carnations, Candytuft, Sweet Alyssum, Centaurea, or Dusty Miller, Chrysanthe-

mums, Cinerarias, Camellias, *Daphne odora*, Feverfews, Geraniums, Petunias, Primroses, Sweet-scented Violets, Verbenas, and Vincas.

Plants requiring more heat, never below 50° or above 90°, but an average of about 70°, are Abutilons, Achyranthes, Begonias, Bouvardias, Caladiums, Cannas, Cape Jessamine, Coleus, Eupatoriums, Fuchsias, Gloxinias, Heliotropes, Lantanas, Lobelias, Mahernias, Othonnas, Roses, Smilax, etc.

Plants that succeed well in the shade are Begonias, Camellias, Ferns, German and English Ivies, etc.

Those that require a very rich soil or a more liberal use of the Plant Food are the Calla, Rose, and Smilax.

Plants grown in small pots bloom more freely than those grown in larger ones, but are more liable to injury from drying of the earth.

WINTERING PLANTS.

Many plants not wanted for blooming may be easily preserved during the winter in a partial state of rest, in a light cellar, where there is no danger of frost. The best method of doing this is to take up such plants as Roses, Geraniums, Lantanas, Lemon Verbenas, etc., with a good quantity of soil about the roots, and place them in boxes, packing the soil closely about the roots. Place the boxes in the cellar, and do not water unless the soil becomes nearly *dust dry*, when they must be

watered a very little. Should the cellar be very warm, the plants must be less freely watered than in a cool cellar.

When the plants are desired for growth, cut back closely, give them a thorough watering, and bring into the full light in a warm room. Roses are particularly successful when brought from the cellar in January or February, after a season of two or three months' rest. In this case, the soil used at the time of taking them from the ground should be rich. Cannas, Caladiums, etc., may be successfully wintered, if the cellar be warm and dry.

FROZEN PLANTS.

Should one be so unfortunate as to have plants slightly frozen, the proper thing to be done is to get the frost out as quickly as possible; for many plants that would not be injured by freezing for a short time would be destroyed if they were kept in a frozen condition for several hours. To remove the frost most quickly, if the plant be small, dip it into a pail of cold water, or, if large, place it in the sink and give it a good showering.

PROTECTION FROM FROSTS.

No material is better or more convenient for this purpose than ordinary newspapers. A plant wrapped in three or four thicknesses of paper may be kept in a

room with a temperature down to 20° above zero all night, and not be injured.

CHANGE OF TEMPERATURE.

It is necessary to follow natural changes of temperature. Out of doors, we find the temperature varying some 10° to 20° from night to day, and even more when the sun shines brightly. So in the house we must have these changes for the best growth. Plants must have pure air, also, as well as animals; and every day, when the temperature outside is above freezing, the windows must be raised, or ventilation given in such a way as to avoid a direct draught of cold air upon the plant. Sunlight is also indispensable; and, if plants cannot be placed where the sunlight will reach them some part of the day, they should be put where the sun will strike them once or twice each week for an hour or two.

TO DESTROY INSECTS AND VERMIN.

If the plants have been properly watered and enriched so as to grow healthy and strong, they will probably not be infested to any great extent with these pests. In case they are, they can only be kept down by close attention while there are but few. The best way to get rid of them is to brush them off into a basin of water with a soft, dry brush. A small paint brush is the best for this purpose. The above remedy is by far

the safest and causes the least trouble, and, if taken in season, is effectual. Should the red spider get upon the leaves, sponge them with hot water. Plants will not be injured by water as hot as can be borne by the hand, and both this insect and the green fly may be destroyed in this manner.

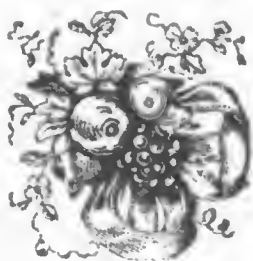
WASHING.

It is well to wash all plants occasionally with soap-suds or whale-oil soap, particularly ivies, which to do well need washing every few weeks; but in all cases the plants should be rinsed in clear water if much soap is used.

REPOTTING AND TRANSPLANTING.

Plants that have grown too large for the pots, so that the roots almost literally fill the earth, should be put into a pot of a larger size, and fresh soil added. The old soil should be picked out from the outer edges of the roots, care being taken not to break the roots too much, the object being, in repotting, not only to give a larger-sized pot and renew the soil, but to make the soil lighter and more porous about the roots,—the same as is done in cultivating land. When the plants do not respond to watering or enriching, it may be due to one of two causes, —either the soil has become sour and unhealthy or they need repotting. Plants should be taken up in the fall, before the severe frosts, and

placed in pots, with as much earth as possible clinging to the roots. Crowd the earth about the roots so that the plant will stand up, and water as usual. In repotting or taking up plants, the soil should be enriched; and this is best done by adding a teaspoonful (not heaping), *and no more*, of Eureka Plant Food for Flowers to a two-quart pot, thoroughly mixing it with the soil, and at the same rate for larger or smaller pots.



THE PIDGEON FERTILIZER CO., Ltd.,
WINDSOR, NOVA SCOTIA.

Eureka Plant Food for Flowers.

“Where grows? Where grows it not? If vain our toil,
We ought to blame the culture, not the soil.”—*Pope.*

A dressing made expressly for plants grown in the house, garden, or conservatory; clean, odorless, and producing early and abundant blossoms of rich and brilliant color, and healthy, luxuriant plants, free from vermin.

The Eureka Plant Food is made expressly for flowers grown in the house, garden, or conservatory, and contains the same plant food as stable dressing, but in a cleaner and more soluble form. The stable dressing is disagreeable to handle, slow in its effects, oftentimes breeding vermin about the roots of plants, and, when applied in a warm room, frequently gives off an offensive and unhealthy odor, especially to be avoided if the plants are grown in the “living-room.” The same is true of rank-smelling guano, which is by some recommended for indoor plants.

We have read of feeding plants with raw beefsteak chopped up ; but this practice seems barbarous. Who would think of planting a dead dog under one's sleeping-room windows? Rotting meat or rotting manure in a flower-pot in the "living-room" is a worse practice still ; for both must decay before they can nourish.

NOT A STIMULANT.

It is not a stimulant for plants any more than beef-tea is a stimulant for man ; but it is a true plant food, in a form easily and quickly assimilated, the same as beef-tea is a concentrated form of nourishment, more quickly and easily digested than raw beef.

RICHER AND BRIGHTER COLORS.

Ladies and florists who have used this dressing speak not only of the healthy growth and the early and abundant blossoms which it produces, but also of the deeper and richer or brighter and more beautiful color it imparts to them.

PROLONGS THE PERIOD OF BLOOMING.

This dressing also prolongs the period of blooming, many varieties of plants, like the geranium, blossoming almost continuously if properly fed with it. It is therefore not always necessary to set plants away for a season of rest, though this practice is usually advisable, as plants, like animals, need rest.

PROTECTION FROM INSECTS.

Will this Food destroy insects and vermin on plants? No; but it will protect them from these pests by giving a more vigorous growth; and insects and vermin rarely attack strong, healthy, growing plants.

DIRECTIONS.

It is dissolved at the rate of two tablespoonfuls in a gallon of water, which is a sufficient quantity *at one time* for twenty ordinary house plants, like geraniums; and the plants are watered with this solution, the same as if it were clear water, applying a small quantity to the smaller and more tender plants like heliotropes, and a larger quantity to the larger and more hardy plants, like roses and fuchsias. *The solution should be stirred while applying it*, as not all of it is immediately soluble in water, but becomes so after remaining in the soil for a little time. The particles which are deposited on the surface should be dug a little way into the earth after the solution is applied. The powder originally is made very fine; but it will lump to some extent, like sugar. The lumps should be made fine before dissolving in water. For roses it should be used in larger quantity, say at the rate of four tablespoonfuls to a gallon of water.

HOW OFTEN TO USE IT.

It is applied (at the rate of two tablespoonfuls for

twenty plants, dissolved in a gallon of water) *once a week* for three or four weeks, or *until the plants begin to start*, which will be noticed in a greener growth; *after that, not oftener than once in four or six weeks.* The solution should not be poured over the leaves, but directly on the earth, and should not be used in any larger quantity at a time or oftener than above directed. The package contains all the plant food twenty house plants should receive in one year, and will give a healthy growth and abundant flowering, and never harm them, except by a more liberal use,—the same as food is essential and beneficial, but, if eaten to excess, is liable to do injury.

It may be thought the quantity is small; but it is large enough, as will be seen after applying it for a little while. It will keep any length of time.

FOR ROSE BORDERS.

Apply at the rate of five pounds for one hundred square feet, worked a little way into the soil. If it is desired to force the growth, a second application of the same quantity may be made a month or six weeks later.

WHEN THE EFFECTS WILL BE NOTICED.

The effects of this Food will be seen in a week or ten days on tender, succulent plants, but on hardy plants, like roses or plants with woody stems, not under several weeks. The first effects will be to produce

a greener and more healthy growth, after that more generous flowering.

FOR OUT-DOOR USE.

Apply at the rate of five pounds to one hundred square feet, *thoroughly* worked into the soil to the depth of two or three inches. This quantity is recommended when no manure at all is used; but, if a liberal dressing of manure is applied, then a smaller quantity of the fertilizer should be used.

FOR CUT FLOWERS.

As soon as possible after flowers are cut put them in cold water, --not so cold, however, as to be unpleasant to the hand. For an ordinary vase, holding about a tumblerful of water, add a small pinch of the Plant Food, or as much as can be put on the point of a penknife, and stir it thoroughly before putting in the flowers. For a larger vase the quantity of the Plant Food may be increased, the largest vases taking a teaspoonful or more. This will keep the flowers in a fresh condition, and preserve the color for at least twenty-four hours longer than if none of the food were used. Neither will it be necessary to change the water while the flowers last, for it will preserve it in a wholesome condition, free from any unpleasant odor.





