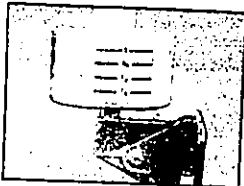
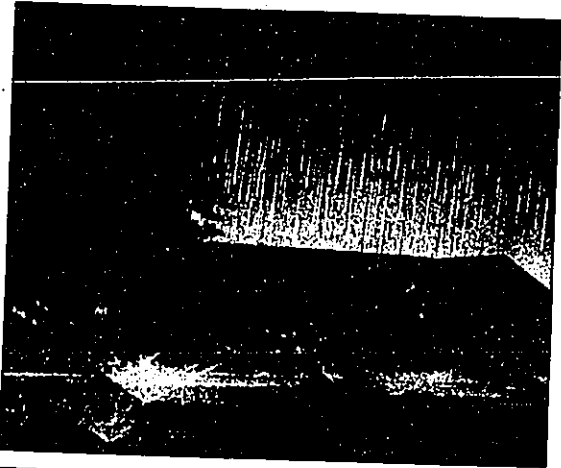


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Gardening chores

Continued from Page 3

against high winds for a few days. Placing cutworm collars around plants — particularly peppers — is also a good idea.

- Fertilize spring-flowering bulbs before or during bloom and remove flowers as they fade so plants concentrate on building up the bulbs for next year's flowers rather than maturing seed.

- Fertilize roses when they begin to grow. And begin spraying regularly to protect roses against insects and diseases.

- After the average date of the last spring frost in your area, plant tuberous begonias, impatiens, wax begonias, caladiums and coleus in shaded areas, and light-loving annuals such as petunia, geranium, Alyssum and portulaca in sunny spots.

- Divide old mums and plant new ones. Pinch about one-half inch from each growing tip to encourage plants to send out side shoots.

- Plant gladioli, dahlias, cannas and other summer-flowering bulbs through the end of the month.

- Set potted amaryllis and Easter lilies outdoors or plant them in a shady spot

in the garden. Remember to repot them and take them indoors again before frost in the fall.

- Water new or renovated lawns during dry weather to help young grass plants get well established before the heat of midsummer.

- In late May or early June, fertilize established bluegrass lawns with 1 to 1½ pounds of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. Applying nitrogen before mid-May can increase the likelihood that susceptible bluegrass varieties will develop Fusarium blight, a serious turf disease. It also necessitates extra mowing.

- Mow established lawns regularly so that no one mowing removes more than one-third of the length of the leaf blades. Set your mower to cut no shorter than 1½ inches.

- Move house plants outdoors for the summer after all danger of frost is past. Place them in a lightly shaded spot where they'll be sheltered against the wind. Plants tend to dry out much faster outdoors, especially those in clay pots, so check soil moisture regularly and water as needed. Watch for insect problems and control them as soon as you see them.

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