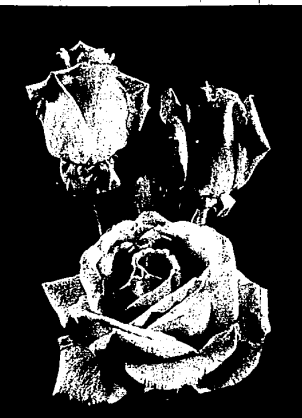


# 3 Winners Available For Spring Gardens



MEDALLION

Seldom have three new roses received more favorable comment than the trio of tea roses which swept the All-America Rose Selection awards this year.

Medallion (Plant Patent 2997) has by far the largest individual blooms of the three, reaching in some areas the diameter of seven to eight inches. The very broad, heavy, 35 petals making up the bloom are a distinct, soft apricot pink, varying in intensity with the weather.

As many as 45 roses actually have been counted at one time on one of the four to six-foot plants.

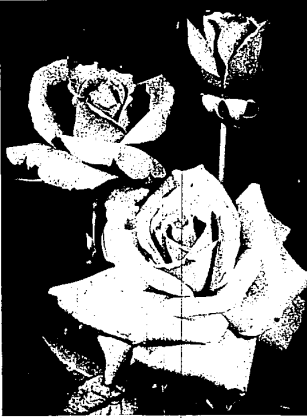
Gypsy (plant patent applied for) has brilliant scarlet blooms on long stems. Their color is retained throughout the life of the bloom, regardless of weather.

The blooms have a light spicy fragrance, over 36 petals, and are usually borne one bloom to a stem.

Gypsy's father is Comanche and the mother a mixed breed of Happiness, Chrysler Imperial and El Capitán.

Electron (plant patent applied for) entered the trials already having won a long string of victories on the European continent.

It has large, bright, rose-pink blooms that on a dull day seem to have a neon glow of their own. The bushes are vigorous, bushy and broad.



ELECTRON



GYPSY

## Pot Of Herbs Hangs Outside Kitchen Door

**EAST LANSING** A selection of herbs in a hanging pot by the kitchen door is a convenience to any cook.

Now, even apartment dwellers and gardeners with limited space can bring the fun of growing herbs into their homes, according to Michigan State University Extension Horticulturist Douglas Jones.

Herbs are easy to grow and can be used for cooking or as a fragrant addition to any room. Long, wooden boxes are attractive for herbs. For plants of varying growth habits or watering needs, divide boxes into sections or plant individually in pots.

A large strawberry jar has many planting pockets for different kinds of herbs.

**ANISE** (*Pimpinella anisum*) is an annual that prefers a fertile, well-drained soil. It is easily grown in the home garden as well as indoors. Stalks should be cut as soon as the seed head starts to ripen, but before they begin to shatter. Dry thoroughly and rub seeds out of clusters. Separate seeds and store in a cloth bag where air can circulate about them.

**BASIL** is an annual grown primarily for seasoning soups, stews, meats and salads. It is also used in vinegar and as a houseplant

for fine edging, according to Jones. Basil prefers a fertile, well-drained, sunny site but also does well in most good garden soils. Bush basil is considered the best variety for cooking. Purple bush basil is best for vinegars.

Sweet basil is used for seasoning tomatoes, salads, stews, soups, and in medicinal teas. Outdoor plants can be potted and grown indoors for winter use.

A biennial that favors dry, sunny weather is **CARAWAY**. Well-drained soil that is not too rich is recommended. Seeds should be sown in early spring. In the first year, a low-growing plant is produced. The seed stalks

developed in the second year should be handled similar to the seed heads of anise.

The plants and fresh seed of **CORIANDER** have an unpleasant scent, but ripe seed is very fragrant. The seed is used for flavoring bread and other food, Jones states. Sow coriander in early spring. As seeds begin to ripen, dry and store them in much the same as anise.

One of the easiest herbs to grow is **DILL**, used primarily in making dill pickles. Seed should be sown in early spring on a well-prepared soil. Dill sometimes produces seed in its first year, but more often seed forms early in the spring of the second

year. The seed heads, along with a small stem portion, are cut when the seed umbels begin to develop.

**SWEET MARJORAM** (*Marjorana hortensis*) is a tender perennial grown for its aromatic leaves which are used for seasoning soups, egg dishes, salads and meats. It is sometimes used as an ornamental in rock gardens. Marjoram is propagated by seeds, cuttings and by root division. Sow seed in nonacid soil in prepared flats early in spring.

Jones recommends rows spaced 1½ to two feet apart with plants spaced 10 to 12 inches apart in a row. The plant is grown largely as an

annual in gardens, greenhouses, window boxes or in pots during the winter.

Two species of **MINT** are commonly grown — **peppermint** (*Mentha piperita*) and **spearmint** (*Mentha spicata*). Both can be propagated by seeds, cuttings and division. Mint prefers a deep, rich, open, well-drained humus soil and will grow in full or partial shade. The oil of peppermint is used in flavoring chewing gum, candy, liqueurs, salads, cold drinks, cough medicine and toothpaste.

Spearmint is used in flavoring chewing gum, jellies, juleps, candy and tea. Mint can be grown indoors in

flower pots during the winter.

**ROSEMARY** is a tender perennial shrub that grows to six feet in height and is used as a houseplant and for seasoning roast, chicken, pork and biscuits. Jones advises potting rosemary in a well-drained soil to which a sprinkling of lime has been added.

Place the plant outdoors in a sunny, sheltered location during the summer and carry over the winter in a cool, light room. New plants can be started from cuttings which root readily in moist sand.

**SAGE** prefers a fertile, well-drained soil and full sun, according to Jones. It is used in

seasoning stuffing, cheese, sausage and other meats. Sow seeds very early in the spring or early fall. Be careful not to overwater. Cut back established plants in spring to induce new growth.

Harvest sage late in the summer by stripping the leaves or cutting the shoots before they bloom. Tie shoots in bunches and hang to dry, out of direct sunlight.

Many species of **THYME** are grown for seasoning and as ornamentals. The French and English types are most common and are used for seasoning fish, stews, pork and for cooking. It prefers full sun and a light, well-drained soil.



ONE MOMENT it's a crow's nest of a ship, the next it's a fortress lookout. Patterns for the climbing pole and a sandbox can be obtained by sending a check or money order for \$1 to PO Box 215, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. 10510. Ask for climbing pole pattern No. 154 and sandbox pattern No. 20.

## Prune Bush Roses Now Begonias, Impatiens Prefer Shady Spots

**EAST LANSING** Annual pruning can help you produce better-looking roses, and now is the time to do it, according to Michigan State University horticulturist.

They claim that rose pruning isn't a difficult job, especially if you use sharp tools. Cut dead canes or branches with a fine-toothed saw, and use pruning shears for the rest of the job.

Remove all the dead wood first. Make all your cuts to a cane, to the spot where the branch originated, or to a strong bud. Cut about an inch or two below dark-colored areas. Remove any branches that have no live buds.

The next step is to remove weak growth and branches that are growing towards the center of the plant.

If two branches are crossed, get rid of the weaker one.

Shape the plant by cutting the strong, live canes to a

height of about 24 to 30 inches.

If you have tree roses, prune them heavily, removing all dead wood. Trim the live canes to a height of eight to 12 inches.

Wait to prune shrub roses until after they bloom. These plants don't need shaping, so just thin them out and remove dead or unsightly wood.



**RULE OF THUMB** in pruning rose bushes is remove all dead wood and weak growth, then cut back all remaining canes to a uniform height of about two feet.

One of the most often-asked questions among home gardeners is: "What can I grow in the shade?"

Most annual flowers grown from seed do prefer full sun, but there is a small group which will tolerate light shade, and a smaller group which even prefers shade.

**Coleus**, foxgloves, nicotiana, French marigolds, pansies, violas, vinca, petunias and ageratum all will tolerate light shade.

By far the best two kinds for shaded areas are the small-flowered fibrous-rooted begonias and impatiens.

Should you choose the first of these two — the begonia — it is best to grow the hybrids. These have larger flowers, sturdier plants, and a greater

tolerance for shady conditions.

The seed is tiny, and a packet will grow hundreds of plants.

Seed is best sown indoors as early in the spring as possible so that good-size plants can be transplanted to the garden after danger of frost.

The bright pink, red and white blooms soon appear and continue all summer right into fall.

Before frost hits them, they can be transferred to a pot to continue blooming indoors during winter months. There are both single-flowered and double-flowered forms.

Impatiens have been improved tremendously by hybridizers in recent years. Modern varieties are now

much more free-flowering, and more compact in their growth habit, especially the hybrids.

Best of the hybrids are the dwarf *Elfin* series, and the semi-dwarf *Imp* series. Both make excellent bedding plants, and come in a good range of colors including white, pink and red.

Seed is best started indoors early in the spring so that good-size plants are ready for transplanting to the garden after danger of frost. They will bloom all summer right into fall.

Like begonias, impatiens make excellent pot plants. Before they are filled off by frost, root them in a jar of water, and transfer them to a pot for blooms indoors all through the winter.

## Lawns Bolstered By New Cultivars

Exciting days lie ahead for America's lawns and lawnsmen.

It's excitement bred of spring enthusiasm combining with as comely an array of new lawngrass cultivars as has ever come to market. Incidentally, "cultivar" is the horticulturist's word for an improved variety or unusual strain of plants.

There are the bluegrasses such as Adelphi, Baron, Bonnieblue, Fyking, Nugget, Merion, Penstar, Sodo and Windsor; fescues the likes of

Dawson, Highlight, Jamestown, Pennlawn and Ruby. Colonial bentgrasses include Exeter, Highland and Hoffer and creeping ones like Penncross and Seaside.

New perennial ryegrasses are Compas, Manjula, NK-100, Polo and Penfine. By whatever designation, the cultivars will spark more attractive lawns than ever throughout America.

Naturally, one can't remember more than a handful of names in so lengthy a

listing. But a handful of new cultivars is all that is needed to start a fine lawn along the road to success.

In addition to these dandies being offered individually, seed houses mix appropriate combinations of them to provide the turf blends that are so widely recommended

for lawns that must receive less than expert attention.

You'll find *Arboretum*, *Arista*, *Prato* and *Sydspout* bluegrasses and *Ilahaee* fescue among varieties doing a bang up job in supporting roles or for special circumstances.

As a rule, one or two bluegrasses blended with a slightly lesser quantity of fine fescue (and perhaps a touch of perennial ryegrass) make an excellent "all-purpose" mixture both for new lawns and bolster seeding.

For unusually shady locations, cultivars tolerant of shade should predominate. Several of the new bluegrasses work out well in moderate shade, but most of the time the burden falls mainly upon fine fescues.

Fescues are noteworthy for enduring well on dry, impoverished soils such as frequently occur under trees. For humid climates with

rainy seasons and abundant drizzles, bentgrasses have no peer.

Bentgrasses typically require a bit more attention than do bluegrasses, fescues and perennial ryegrasses, but they stand closer mowing to ½ inch mowing height is usual.)

The ryegrasses are great for quick cover, such as when seeding slopes, or where repeated scuffing may occur as with an athletic turf.

In most metropolitan areas, leading grass cultivars can be purchased as sod for "instant" lawns.

Don't be misled, however, into believing that a sodded lawn can get by with any less soiled preparation than is needed for seeding. Unless the soil is well loosened, fertilized, leveled, and watering is made ready, neither a seeding nor a sodding is likely to be assuredly successful.

## Wood Deck Plus Trees: Cool Patio

Patio enjoyment blooms in the shade when a western wood deck is added to a yard with established trees.

Air and moisture needed for healthy roots are not cut off by spaced boards so chief concern is to fit trunks closely without chafing.

At ground level, small clearance is needed but a raised deck requires leeway for swinging trunks.

Wrap-around benches or a floating collar of deck boards are effective and attractive safety measures to block a sizable opening.



**VERSATILE HUNT TABLE** by A. Brandt Company has convenient drawers that accent its use as a library, dining or hall table. Here the table, along with the lamp and chair, provide an area for reading, studying or writing. Solid oak construction, combined with a warm, handrubbed oak finish and simplistic styling, will blend with contemporary, casual or colonial designs.