

Now is the Time To Plant a Full Grown Tree

Falls, I have specialized in Shade Trees and have supplied thousands for street plantings, industrial schools, churches and residential. I feel that the right selection of a shade tree is perhaps the most important decision that a home owner is faced with in landscape planning.

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Here are some QUESTIONS You should be asking:

What space do I have? What about patio privacy? What is the ultimate height of the tree? What is the proper location for shade of home? Do storms affect limb damage? How about insects? When is best planting time? How fast will it grow?

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The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

HOME GROWN TOMATOES: Every year about this time home gardeners ask me for the name of the "best" tomato for the home garden. There is no one best tomato that will perform best in everybody's garden.

For that reason, we recommend trying two or three varieties, and after you find one that does best for your area, stick to them. If frost comes early, better steer clear of late ones. Use early varieties such as Fireball or New Yorker, if frost is a problem, as these bear fruit two weeks or so ahead of the regular types.

We suggest you also use potted tomatoes if you want to get a quicker start. These are in peat pots and are probably in blossom or in fruit by the time you get around to setting them out. Plant one and all. Moreton Hybrid is a fine all purpose tomato for the home gardener. It makes bushy growth and we've had vines so heavy that they actually protected the fruit against frosts.

Where space is a problem you might better try growing tomatoes on a wire fence or around a wire corral. Vines are trained on the wires, (and this makes picking, spraying, much easier.)

FREE: Want to have some real good tomatoes this year? Send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope and ask for my guide, How To Grow Tomatoes On A Corral. My guide tells how to have early tomatoes and every gardener should have a copy.

A GOOD FLOWER: If you want something a bit unusual, try the Four O'Clock or Marvel of Peru. They come in mixed colors and get their name ("Four O'Clocks") from the fact they open in afternoon.

These plants thrive even in poor soil and grow fast. Ideal for hedges or for fast plantings. Save seed from your own plants and sow them. Colors come in pink, salmon, red, yellow and white.

A GOOD BEAN: If you're looking for a good snap bean, try the Tendercrop, a great variety. I don't know of a bean with quality any better. It's highly productive, delicious, and disease resistant. Pods are brittle, tender, stringless, and have high quality for a long time on the vines. You won't find a better one for freezing.

GREEN THUMB CLINIC: A reader writes: "About four years ago we built a new home as soon as we put in a lawn, we were plagued by tiny red clover mites. Is there a control for this pest?"

Answer: Clover mites are a nuisance only, and will not injure your plants or furniture. Try spraying the basement or foundation of your home with a miticide such as Kelthane, found in farm supply stores.

Or you might try dusting with sulfur. You find clover mites invading homes owned by goodhousekeepers and where lawns are better kept.

FREE: Send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a copy of my bulletin Timely Tips. It's full of good hints on having a good lawn.

DAZZLERS FOR SHADY SPOTS: If you have a shady spot and want to grow flowers for color, try some of these: begonias, coleus, Impatiens (Sultanas) and if the shade isn't too dense, try geraniums and petunias. Alyssum, lily, nicotiana, pansy, lobelia, forget-me-not are other possibilities.

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Suburban Gardener

Perennial Borders Can Define Yard, Drive, Patio

By BETTY FRANKEL
Special Writer

Perennial borders are a popular feature in suburban gardens. Strip plantings of various leaved and waxy can edge a walk or drive, define a patio, or partially enclose the back yard.

These perennial borders are composed of "herbaceous perennials" whose tops die back each winter but whose roots live for many years, sending up new shoots each spring.

A successful perennial border is an intricate pattern whose success depends on the repetition of numerous clumps of a relatively few kinds of plants.

A well designed border gives a maximum of gardening pleasure with a minimum of effort and expense. Furthermore, a perennial border gives the gardener a unique opportunity for artistic creative expression, more than any other phase of gardening.

NEW FESCUE Is Answer For Lawns

A velvety green lawn is the carpet that frames your exterior decoration and a scruffy lawn will mar the appearance of your home just as a threadbare rug in your living room does.

Having the best looking lawn on the block is easy—good seed and good maintenance practices provide most of the answers, says R.C. Kushner, manager of Oregon Fine Leaf Fescue Commission.

The use of Oregon fescue mixtures is an investment which pays dividends in easy maintenance and green beauty. A pound of fine leaf fescue provides 600,000 tiny seeds all bursting with energy and ready to crowd out the coarse hay grasses which detract from the velvety look.

FINE LEAF FESCUES require less mowing and watering than other types of grass, say the lawn experts at the commission. Fescue lawns should be maintained at heights of 1-1/2 to 2 inches. Be sure the mower is sharp and in good operating condition.

Frequent watering is a common mistake which encourages shallow root systems and stimulates weed growth. Fescues are drought-resistant and should not be watered until they begin to wilt slightly. Then let the water run early in the day until the soil is wet to a depth of six to eight inches.

Look for the words Oregon Chewings Fescue, Fine Leaf Fescue or Creeping Red Fescue on the lawn mix you buy—plant, fertilize, and irrigate, and you will have won the green lawn battle without firing a shot.

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