

New accents

sure each petal is supported by enough of the mix so it will look natural. The flower will dry exactly as you have positioned it in the mix, so be careful and don't rush.

In order to have your flowers dry more quickly and evenly, place them in a single layer and allow enough space between each to avoid over-crowding. Flowers cured by this method take from one to three weeks. To test for dryness, rub the petal between your thumb and finger, if the petal feels dry and crisp, it is ready to be removed. Shake the flowers gently. Then with a fine artist's brush, brush off any remaining mix from the petals.

SILICA GEL is a chemical compound that can be purchased in hobby shops and garden centers. It also can be used over and over again by placing it in the oven at 150 degrees until the crystals have regained their original-bright blue color.

A plastic shoebox is just about the right size to hold five pounds of Silica Gel. It should have a tight-fitting lid.

Most flowers can be successfully dried in Silica Gel. Blue blossoms become brighter as they dry. Yellow and orange keep their true color but orange-reds and shell-pinks darken. Bluish-reds and rosy-pinks turn maroon or lavender. Mostly white petals turn creamy or pink but dogwood, candytuft and spirea stay snowy-white.

The same procedure as the corn-meal-borax mix is used for Silica



A charming setting in the Rutyna home is this simple arrangement of dried ginger pods and eucalyptus.

Gel. Once the flowers are in position, cover the container with a tight-fitting lid and set aside for three days. Single roses, dogwood, daisies, larkspur and other thin-petaled blooms will be completed dried.

HOWEVER, HEAVIER blooms or those with thicker petals such as peonies, zinnias, marigold and

double roses dry more slowly and may take from five to seven days. Extra drying time will not injure any blossom. Flowers removed before they are completely dry will when exposed to the air.

From these methods you can make pictures, stationery, beautiful lasting arrangements and an endless assortment of gift items.

FROM JOHN DEERE



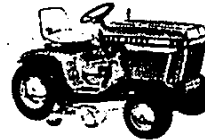
New John Deere 21-Inch Self-Propelled Mower



New self-propelled mower features rear-wheel gear drive for excellent traction in all mowing conditions. It has a powerful 4-hp engine, 21-inch cutting width, and single levers that adjust cutting height from 1 to 3 inches. This new mower also has an aluminum deck, and a hinged rear guard for protection. The 2.6-bushel rear bagger is optional.

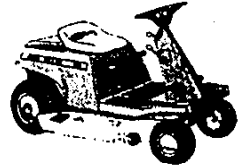
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