



THE CLOSE-UP TEST — Paint applied with the paint glider flat applicator produces no streaks or texture. A four-by-seven-inch nylon fiber pad permits a do-it-yourselfer to apply paint far thicker than with a roller or brush, making a true one-coat finish possible with most paints. For both interior and exterior painting, the paint glider performs equally well with latex or oil-base paints.

Gardening Course Set At UM-D

A practical course in the growing and care of home garden plants is being offered by the University Center for Adult Education on the U-M Dearborn campus beginning March 28 and running for eight weeks.

The campus laboratories and greenhouse will be used for demonstrations, and participants will be able to start seedlings in the greenhouse for later transplanting to home gardens.

The course covers the propagation, planting and culture of fruits, vegetables, flowers and other ornamental plants. Topics include soil variations, transplanting, fertilizing, pest control, canning, freezing and garden clean-up.

The instructor, Robert Paulson, teaches agri-business at Washtenaw Community College and is engaged in research and teaching about gardening at the U-M Botanical Gardens. Previously, he was an agricultural agent for the State of Maine.

Registration information can be obtained from the UCAE at 271-2300, ext. 271.

It Cools It

Because it resists high-temperature combustion gases, 700,000 pounds of nickel will be used in alloy form for the fabrication of 102 gas turbines that will provide 20 per cent of New York's electricity requirements.



TWO-WAY STORAGE DIVIDER -- Used to divide a family or living room from a kitchen, for example, the divider helps to reduce kitchen clutter and the noise from appliances in operation while giving privacy to both areas. Plans may be obtained from The American Plywood Association, 1119 A St., Tacoma, Wash. 98401. Request handy plan No. 59-660 and enclose 25 cents.



Salvia for color: One of the flashiest annuals we have is the fiery red salvia, sometimes called scarlet sage. Start your seed now in a loose mixture. Simply sprinkle the seed on top and press

it into the mixture lightly, without covering.

A plastic sheet over the top will help hold moisture and prevent drying out. Keep in a temperature of 75 to 80 degrees. Less than this will cause seed to rot. When seedlings are 1/4 inch or so high, they can be transplanted into small pots or into small boxes. Grow in temperature of 60 degrees. Salvia will not do well in a 50-degree temperature, and when warm weather rolls around you can transplant them outdoors. They prefer full sun, but we've seen them grow well in some shade.

NOTE: If your complaint has been "all bush and no flower spikes" then perhaps it's the variety. The taller the variety the later it blooms. For example, Bonfire or Splendens Tall, will not start to show color until August which means that frost might come around in about three or four weeks after color shows. Fireball grows about 10 inches high, blooms around June 20. St. John's Fire blooms around July 1, and grows 12 inches high. Blaze of Fire, Red Pillar and Cardinal bloom around July 10, and grow 14 to 16 inches high.

COPING WITH problem soils: The soil around your home is full of life, even if you can't see it. If you went out and scooped up a teaspoonful of it, you'd have as many as five billion living organisms in your hand. Keep these helpful workers happy through sound soil management. If your soil is clay, don't be discouraged. Use a homemade soil conditioner such as lawn clippings, corn cobs, leaves, garbage, compost, coal and wood ashes, sawdust, peat moss, wood chips, mulch and any other form of organic matter.

Humus opens the clay, encourages earthworms to be more active helpers. Earthworms enrich the earth by passing more than 10 tons of dry earth through their bodies annually in one acre alone.

Adding sand to a clay-like soil will not loosen it, and may result in a concrete-like mixture harder than the original clay. Limestone has a loosening effect on clay, coagulating the fine particles into larger ones, allowing air and water to pass freely. Never work a clay soil when it's wet. One day's work in a wet clay soil can make it hard the rest of the year.

FREE: If your soil seems heavy, drains poorly, bakes

in summer or seems just plain fagged out, better send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope for my bulletin, "Good Luck from Poor Soils." Our guide tells how to build up the home garden soil.

GREEN THUMB CLINIC: "Please tell us when's the best time to plant roses — spring or fall?"

Answer: I favor spring planting. Dormant bare root stock comes through better from spring planting. Plant roses in a loose, well-drained soil. Holes should be large enough so that roots can be spread out and the plant placed so that the "bad mark" is at least two inches below ground level. Never let bare roots be exposed to drying winds or sunlight.

Roses will grow in almost any soil that's fairly well drained. If yours is a clay type, use one bushel of peat to three bushels of soil.

Quake May Effect Code Enforcement

Earthquakes, such as the one which shook the Los Angeles area recently, are likely to force local officials to take a closer look at enforcement of building codes and other laws regulating building construction, according to a University of Michigan engineering expert.

Glen V. Berg, chairman of the U-M civil engineering department, noted that building codes are usually evaluated regularly to guard against loss of life and property during a disaster. But a major question, he said, is how rigorously the laws are enforced.

Enforcement is particularly troublesome in the case of buildings which were constructed before the new laws were put into effect, he said. Berg has been conducting research here since 1956 on seismic effects on buildings and is a leading expert in the field.

In California, he said, one change in building codes involved limitations on parapets, cornices and other parts of buildings which could drop off during a quake.

More than 20 years ago, he noted, California passed its uniform building code requiring that features be incorporated in a building's construction to better withstand vertical and horizontal seismic forces.

Berg observed that these and other building laws are enforced to varying degrees in different municipalities.

According to California scientists, last Tuesday's quake registered between six and seven on the Richter scale. Berg called the earthquake "moderate," noting that a quake registering six occurs on the average of once every two or three weeks somewhere in the world. A quake registering seven occurs only a few times a year, he said.

The engineer said the California earthquake was "not surprising" for a seismically active area. "People there should expect to have quakes from time to time," he said.

Fescue Has Fortitude

Fescues are the lawn-grasses most apt to hang on in dry shade, revive after disease onslaught, colonize exhausted soil. Fine fescues in a lawnseed mixture give assurance that candidate grass is at hand for all of the tougher growing sites.

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