

Catalogs fertile ground for garden ideas

By MARGE ALPERN
Special Writer

Our local nurseries will soon be bursting with shrubs, perennials, bulbs and all the reminders of how much I love gardening. Meantime, the catalogs provide great pleasure as I leisurely study the tempting photographs and learn from the informative cultural texts that are often well written. I also do a lot of dreaming as I design and redesign my garden. It all helps to satisfy the desire to get out there.

My sun garden is composed primarily of perennials chosen for their value as cut flowers. Although I keep an eye on design, color and plant relationship, mine is essentially a cutting garden. Also as a horticulturist, I'm always interested in experimenting with new varieties.

Colorful

The "hot" colors — the yellows, golds and orange-reds — are on one side of the pathway and the "cool" colors — the pinks, blues and purples — are on the other. White is the great unifier, and the more white I use on both sides the more harmony and unity is achieved in the whole.

White alums provides a fluffy fringe all around the edges. Reseeding itself year after year and blooming until frost, alysium is a most valued and welcome little plant. Nicotiana, impatiens and cushion mums provide more white accents throughout the color beds.

Dazzling daisy

White shasta daisies have been growing in my garden for many

years. However, each summer I wonder why I allow these floppy long-stemmed, somewhat weedy plants that I never seem to be able to stake very gracefully to enjoy so much space. Well, this is the end. Out they go!

"Becky's Daisy" as seen in the catalog from Niche Garden may be the perfect replacement. It is said to be "smothered with large white flowers that are sturdy and refuse to flop, even after a hard rain." This new variety is definitely worth a try. I have ordered three plants.

Incidentally, the catalog from Niche Gardens is informally presented and contains excellent garden advice, which more than compensates for the lack of colored photographs.

Lily flocks

"Casa Blanca" is by far the

most exciting lily I have ever grown. Four-foot-tall plants yield five or six huge white out-facing lilies, which are noticeably "flocked" in a way that adds richness and texture to the marvelously shaped flowers.

Blooming in early August, the stems of the Casa Blanca are very strong and when cut, the flowers have a striking fragrance in the house. It may be hard to resist, but no more than a third of the stem should be removed in order to prevent weakening the bulb for future years. I have no reservations about recommending Casa Blanca.

Marge Alpern is a Birmingham-based freelance writer and avid gardener.

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15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
ADVANCE MORTGAGE CORP. 932-6800			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
ATLAS MORTGAGE CORP. 1-800-365-2200			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
CHARTER FINANCIAL CORP. 261-0150			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
DETROIT SAVINGS BANK 961-7600			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
FIRST ALLIANCE MORTGAGE CO. 433-9626			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
FIRST CHOICE MORTGAGE CORP.			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
FLEET MORTGAGE 462-4041			
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
GEHRKE MORTGAGE CORP. 778-9500			
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
GROUP ONE MORTGAGE CORP. 953-4000			
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
THE MORTGAGE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN 375-9626			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
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MORTGAGE SPECIALISTS INC. 280-9636			
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15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
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NATIONWIDE MORTGAGE CORP. 335-0900			
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
PACIFIC WORLD MORTGAGES 642-1030			
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
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PARK AVENUE MORTGAGE 253-0300			
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
PILLAR MORTGAGE 674-8171			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
PRUDENTIAL MORTGAGE INC. 851-5410			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
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1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
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15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
TROY BRANCH			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
WORLD WIDE FINANCIAL 647-1199			
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
1 yr. ARM	4.25	1 yr. ARM	4.25
15 yr. Fm	7.25	30 yr. Fm	7.75
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Furniture from page 1D

Many of the titles of Anderson's works come from their components. "Erector" features pieces of an erector set. "Camera" includes a camera, "Sugar" a jar of sugar, "World" a small globe.

Among the elements of "Bomb" is a small bomb with a star for a base. "Trophies" is an arrangement of silver bowling figures and antlers. Another work includes blades of a fan, a figurine and Christmas tree lights above a silver orb. "X-Man" looks like a robot, with a conical "head" and cylindrical lights crossed like arms.

Whittlesley's furniture is meant to be touched. The pieces feature easy to hold knobs, and cupboard doors that swing easily.

The works are friendly in another way. They are made up of found elements —

pieces of textured, battered wood from old buildings and pieces from vehicles. "Affordable Cabinet" (with the emphasis on "ford," perhaps?) has the hood from a pickup truck for a frame.

When assembled into a cabinet, dresser or stool, the elements evoke tender memories for the viewer. They may also bring to mind images of a simple house, built with care. Just as wrinkles in a person's face could speak of character, each knick in the wood could suggest special warm moments in the life of the family who lived there.

The artist uses deep colors in his furniture. A rich green or cranberry hue on an inside shelf adds dignity like a ribbon on a uniform without being ostentatious.

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