## Shade gardens provide opportunity

ardening in the shade can be a challenge but beautiful gardens can be the result if the gardener knows the soil, the the soil of the shade present, and which plants to use. The best approach is not to feel it is an insurmountable problem, the soil of the shade problem, the shade propertunity to grow different plants and a challenge that can be overcome.

While the weather is too cold to go outside and work, this is the perfect time to study what to do when we can be in the garden. Learn what kind of soil you have, acid, alkaline, the pH, how to amend the soil if you wish, limb-up trees, make raised beds, and suitable paths.

There are different kinds of shade. 1. Partial shade receives three to six hours of sun a day, or the area is dappled sunlight (found under branches of slender trees, or mature trees with a high leave approach 2. Light shade

(found under branches of stender trees, or mature trees with a high, lacy canopy). 2. Light shade may have full sun for an hour or two a day but the area is still bright the rest of the day. 3. Medium shade or half shade is found under trees with branches found under trees with branches 20 feet off the ground, where shade is cast by a north-facing wall, when there is reflected sun-

Hern



GARDEN

SPOT

Ight, or when the shady for lower signed is the hardest for plants to survive, because of the deep, cod shadow cast all the time by mature evergreen tress, or shade from the north side of a nearby building.

Take a good look at the shady areas on your property and decide which kind of shade you have, then the selection of what to grow can be made more easily. Keep in mind that as the season progresses, shade conditions will also change. Rather than list suitable plants, a good book will help, as each garden is different. You will find a plethpra of plants.

on TV in the UK. Her presentation: Light Touches - Cottage Gardening in the Shade, promises to enlighten all participants.

Darrell Probst, owner of Gardening Irobst, owner of Gardening and other shade plants, has traveled extensively collecting these plants. He is also a plant breeder. He will share New Stars for the Shade - Epidmediums and other trensures as he introduces a great runge of these flowers.

Deborah Swanson, extension educator for Plymouth County Extension and the University of Massachusetts Extension Landscape and Nursery Program, trains landscape and nursery professionals and writes for several publications. She will present Shade Mechanics - the Real Know How of Gardening in Less Than Perfect Light. She teaches the correct methods to be successful in shade gardening.

All registrations must be received by Feb. 12. The fee: S99 for Horticulture subscribers, S95 members of Cranbrook Gardens Auxiliary and \$109 for all others. Registration includes all hand-outs and refreshments, as well

as a boxed lunch. A refund will given to participants (les

be given to participants (less a \$10 processing fee) who withdraw by Feb. 5. No refunds will be issued after this deadline. Please call 1-800-395-1901 to receive a brochure and/or to register (with a credit card), or fax (517)367-6394.

Good Garden Tip Job's fertilizer spikes for

houseplants are very easy to use and do the job.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birm-ingham. You can leave her a mes-sage by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

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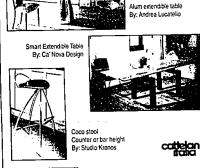




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