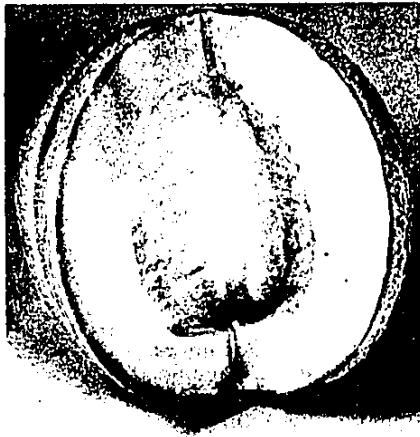


Luscious cantalopes can be grown in area gardens. Start the seeds indoors in peat-pots and transfer to the garden in late May.



Shrubs: Building Blocks Of Your Yard

Flowers on shrubs are like the frosting on cake -- an extra bonus that adds to our enjoyment. However, just as there is more to the cake than the frosting, there is more to a shrub than its flowers.

Let's not overlook the other benefits. Shrubs are dependable and durable. They demand little care but live on and on.

They come in all shapes and sizes from little low mounds a few inches low to large masses over ten feet high. They are the real building blocks used to shape the spaces in the landscaping around your home.

LITTLE SHRUBS can be used in the rock garden, in front of the house under a low picture window, as a mini-hedge to edge a flower bed, or as a ground cover beneath other shrubs.

Here are some shrubs for a sequence of bloom all season:

FORSYTHIA, a medium to tall shrub has bright yellow blossoms in mid-April that really proclaim Spring.

FLOWERING QUINCE has equally early blossoms of coral or rose on either low spreaders or medium upright shrubs.

FLOWERING ALMOND, Purple Leaf Plum, and Nankin Cherry - all large shrubs with small delicate pale blossoms.

SPIREAS are old fashioned shrubs that are still popular. Forms with delicate white flowers are called bridal wreath. Sizes range from rather small to quite large. Bloom season varies, too.

LIACS are all-time favorites. Persian lilacs, with smaller leaves on a more compact medium-size shrub, is a better landscape choice than the common lilac or the French hybrids.

DEUTZIA is a dainty little shrub with white or pink blossoms. It combines well with lilacs.

MOCK ORANGE has fra-

grant white flowers in June on medium to tall plants.

WEIGELA has rose pink flowers in May and June, but the shrubs are rather stiff and coarse.

There are many kinds of **HONEYSUCKLE**. Most have rose or white flowers in May or June on tall, bushy plants with small, fine-textured leaves. They thrive in poor soil.

PONTENTILLA and **HYPERICUM** are little summer-blooming shrubs with charming yellow flowers. Both need a sunny spot.

TAMARIX is one of the few shrubs blooming in late summer. It has feathery foliage and flowers like pink plumes.

The **P.G. HYDRANGEA** rounds out the season of bloom with cones of white flowers that turn bronzy pink as autumn progresses.

Which Seeds Can You Plant Early?

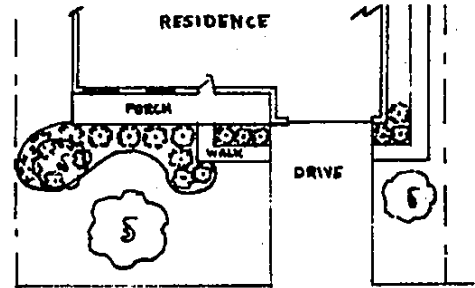
Seed packets displayed in local stores, and pictures in catalogs look so tempting. Although many flowers must wait to be planted until the weather is warmer, there are some hardy ones that can be planted right now:

Alyssum
Calendula
California poppies
Poppies
Candytuft
Clarkia
Bachelor Button
Bache
Larkspur
phlox (annual)
Scabiosa
Sweet peas

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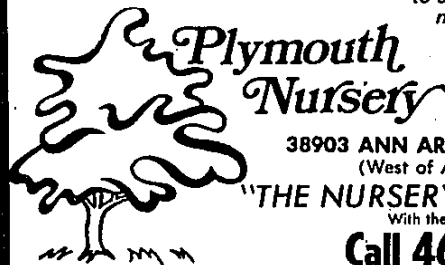


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