

Timely Tips On Outdoor Lighting

Ever go on a midnight ham-burger spree? Well, you can, right in your own back yard if you light up your barbecue. Simplest way is to attach weather-proof floodlights high (about 15 feet) above ground and aim them on the barbecue. To soften shadows, have the light coming from two or more directions.

When lighting your flowers for summer beauty, G-E lighting specialists remind you, that white flowers and gardens with mixed and highly saturated colored blooms usually look best when lighted with white light. If you want to brighten the colors of blossoms, or objects, use bulbs of the same hue.

When the summer months are over, don't forget to store your outdoor lighting units where they can be conveniently reached for the Christmas holidays.



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Homes and Gardening



Seed Sown Right Depth, Width Apart Will Yield

When sowing seeds directly in the garden, the amateur should keep in mind two points: how deep to sow, and how far apart. Modern practice favors shallow sowing, the depth being determined by the size in most cases. Small seeds are barely covered, and larger seeds placed at a depth about four times their diameter.

How far apart is not so easy to determine. If sown too thickly, the hazards of garden life may cause vacant spaces to be left in the row. If sown too thickly there will be extra work thinning out plants, so those which remain have room to develop.

Larger seeds, like peas and beans, can be accurately spaced. Dwarf peas one inch apart will develop sturdy plants without thinning, and some seeds fall apart. Seldom will too seeds in a pair fail to grow. If both grow one can easily be pulled up, or let both develop since twin plants will do as well as singles.

Peas and beans are large enough to be spaced precisely, and may be planted an inch or two apart, and thinned out. Every best seed will produce a group of plants. If you thin them just as the root is beginning to take its globular form, the tops and tiny roots cooked together will make a delicious dish.

Avoid sowing any seeds so thickly that they touch each other. Their roots will entangle and it will be difficult to thin them properly. It may help to mix small seeds with dry sand before you begin to sow, using two or three times as much sand as seeds. This spreads the seed out better.

If seed is of sub-standard germination, or known to be old, sow twice as much. Carrot seedlings are feeble and often have difficulty breaking through the soil if it is as fat as butter. Sow twice as much carrot seed if you have doubts about your soil being porous enough.

The surest way to sow small seeds is to take a few in the hand, and let them fall through the fingers into the drill which has been prepared. Get close to the ground, and with a little practice you can quickly acquire control so that the seeds will be evenly distributed, each sufficiently distant from the next to prevent entanglement.

Keep the seeds in line as well as you can. It helps to let the garden line which was used in making the drill remain in place until the seeds have been dropped.

While the ideal soil is said to be a mixture of sand and clay with organic matter, it is a mistake to mix sand with clay or clay with sand in improving garden soil. Mix organic matter with either for best results. Mixtures of sand and clay are usually very hard when they dry out.

John Clappison Retts Insurance

Beauty Of Modern House Can Be Enhanced With Frame Of Flowers

Landscape planting about a house should be a decoration, carefully planned to enhance the beauty of the building, completing an attractive picture as it is viewed from the street.

When tall trees dwarf the house and over-large shrubs and evergreens hide it, and prevent the occupants from seeing out of the windows, the planting has not achieved its purpose.

Examples of such failures are frequently given by modern one-story homes planted with tall shrubs and evergreens.

Only low growing plants should be planted in front of low homes; and the brightly colored annuals of dwarf habit are widely accepted as the most suitable plants for this purpose.

Their color gives a welcome touch, and they leave the view from windows unobstructed. Seed may be started early in seed-boxes indoors, and grown to a size suitable for transplanting by the time the soil can be prepared.


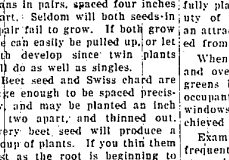
There are many varieties which will grow quickly from seed, sown directly in the border where the plants are to grow, and they will bloom until freezing weather comes in the fall. Besides providing a decoration for the house, many annuals are suitable for cutting to be used in the home.

Dwarf double French marigolds, for planting as shown in the illustration, come in tones of orange, yellow and maroon, with

HOME QUIZ

Question: What are the advantages of staining the exterior wood walls of a home?

Answer: Stains are inexpensive. They preserve the wood and prolong its life by deep penetration of the chemicals. They will not peel, crack or blister and there is no scraping when a new coat is applied. Best of all, stains preserve the natural and beautiful grain, texture and colorings of sidings like red cedar, west coast hemlock and Douglas fir. Stains can be obtained which run the complete gamut of colors, and will work equally well inside or outside the home. They help exploit the lovely texture of wood, especially where rough lumber and beams are used.



Slight Rise Shown In Plant Food Cost

Things have changed a great deal in the fertilizer business, but one thing that hasn't changed much is the low price of plant food to the farmer or gardener.

Back in 1930, about five and a half million tons were used. Now a total of 21 million tons a year is being used, and the cost is only 13 per cent above that of 25 years ago. This is a pretty good deal, according to R. L. Carolus, Michigan State College horticulturist, who adds that cost of other farm and garden supplies is up 125 per cent.

One big advantage growers have now is the larger amount of plant food in the fertilizers. Nitrogen, phosphorus, potash analyses like 5-20-20 and 12-12-12 have increased of over 100 per cent in plant food content over older, low grade fertilizers.

Carolus says that years ago the low analysis fertilizers had to be applied in large quantities to supply needed nutrients. This year, with the high analysis fertilizers, the amount applied can be cut at most to half and still furnish the crop with the same quantity of plant nutrients.

The high analysis fertilizers contain little in the way of plant food in addition to the analysis on the bag. That's a good thing in these days of precision planting, comments Carolus, because it makes it possible to spot troubles immediately and correct them by adding the necessary quantity of the minor nutrients to the mixture.

Ninety-five per cent of the world's supply of living maple comes from the forests of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

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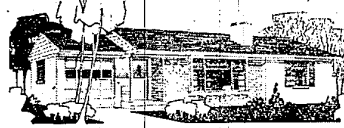
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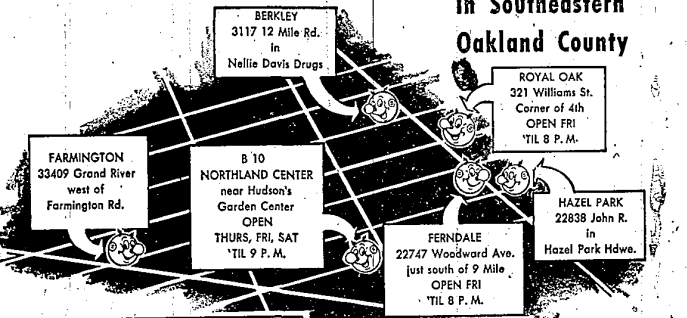
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