

Finish Is Dependent on Good Sanding Job
Property owners should insist on their hardwood floors. The finest floor finish cannot look well.

Learn Secrets of Flower Arrangements
Knowing how to make attractive floral arrangements is not a secret belonging to florists only. But to have well-proportioned arrangements, it is important to know and follow correct procedures.

To aid you in developing the art of flower arranging, The Pennsylvania State University has a correspondence course on "Flower Arrangement." Besides giving directions for assembling attractive arrangements, the course describes methods used for drying flowers and for making corsages from your own garden flowers. It also has a section on containers and holders.

To get the complete course, send your name and address with \$2.00 to FLOWERS ARRANGEMENT, Box 5000, University Park, Pa., 16802. Make your check or money order payable to The Pennsylvania State University. The material will be mailed promptly.

Remember to Change Filters for Furnace
With forced warm-air furnaces, most filters should be changed twice a year. However, electronic air filters can be cleaned and reused, in line with the manufacturer's instructions.

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A Shot in the Trunk
Chemical Vaccinations to Help Elms

A powerful chemical "vaccination" is expected to help protect elm trees from the beetle that spreads the ravaging Dutch Elm disease.

The federal government has authorized Shell Chemical Co. to market Bldrin for use on elm trees.

The systemic is injected into the tree trunk in specified doses.

The manufacturer reports that correctly applied it kills the elm bark beetle with little or no danger to humans, domestic animals, birds or other wildlife.

The federal government has helped spread the disease that has killed millions of the nation's beautiful shade elms. Buffalo, N.Y., alone, ("the city of trees") has removed more than 20,000 elms since 1921.

Bldrin is not available to the general public. Distribution will be limited to foresters, arborists, horticulturists and tree training groups.

Dutch Elm disease arrived in the United States in 1930 in cinnabar logs imported for veneer from Europe, where the disease was first defined in Holland in 1921.

The fungus infection is carried mainly by the European spruce bark beetle, a dark brown, hard-shelled insect 1-1 1/2 inch long.

The fungus spreads rapidly through the water-producing tubes of the elm, giving off a toxin that causes the tree to manufacture gums that plug the tubes. Leaves suddenly wilt and the tree dies.

Bldrin, the producer says, does not cure, but it repels or kills the fungus-carrying beetle when it emerges from its winter breeding sites in dead or dying trees and arrives to feed on healthy trees.

Birds injected into healthy trunks in early spring flows through the tree's circulatory system to the outermost twigs where most of the bark beetles feed. It stays toxic for about a month.

Lethal fungus infections of American elms due to feeding by the smaller European bark beetle occur for about 20 days in April, May or June, depending on tree, weather and geography.

Summer H. McAllister of Shell said Bldrin has been used for five years under severe disease and insect conditions and has given nearly complete protection.

Unprotected trees had casualty rates up to 40 per cent.

Heretofore, tree experts have advised destruction of infected trees. Spraying with huge doses of DDT or other insecticides plus strict sanitation often has been effective.

Elaborate precautions must be taken to safeguard personnel and trees, so toxic is Bldrin.

The injection involves tampering with the tree's natural defenses. It is injected through metal tubes at intervals of five to six inches around the trunk.

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Observer GARDEN PAGE
Wednesday, June 30, 1965 Page 15-A

Sow Vegetables Late; Harvest Winter Treat

Many gardeners don't realize how hardy some of our better known vegetables are and how easy it is to grow them so they can be harvested right up to the early winter months.

One of the most important factors in late fall and winter vegetable gardening never is proper timing of sowing. Most late vegetables should be sown in late June and July, some in August.

There are two main late garden vegetable groups . . . Root crops and greens. Listed below are the best fall and winter prospects with information as to when they are best planted.

Parsnips are sown up to about June 15th. Parsnips are so hardy they can stand almost any amount of cold and they are simply delicious when harvested in the winter.

Turnips and rutabagas are old standby winter vegetables.

Rutabagas are more cold-resistant than turnips. You sow them about the first week of August and the turnips about the last week in August for best results.

Beets and carrots will usually last well into November, even without covering. Sow both beets and carrots during the first half of July.

Winter radishes are a standard item in many parts of the world. They can be sown about the first week of August and should last until the end of November.

Kale and collards are splendid leafy vegetables for the winter garden. All can stand short periods of cold, as low as 10 degrees above zero, and can often be harvested up until the end of the year. Kale and collards can be seeded about July 20.

The red and cavity varieties of cabbage are best for winter use. Sow about the last week in June.

Broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi and Chinese cabbage are less hardy members of the cabbage family, but will usually yield into late November.

Sow in early to late June.

Though freezing is the gardener's biggest enemy in late fall and winter months, if he narrows his choice of crops the gardener will find he has delicious and tasty crops to reward his efforts.

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Miniature Snaps Gain In Popularity

Dwarfest and freest blooming in rounded bush form, this eye-catching bright rose-pink cushion of flower spikes leads an increasing number of the class of the increasingly popular snapdragons.

A true hybrid, everblooming in habit, it can produce three or more flowers on a stem without cutting back the older spikes.

About five normal sized flower spikes three inches on as many as 25 spikes in bloom at a time per plant should give you an idea of the hybrid vigor and value of this colorful new edging, low bedding and pot-plant item. It is a honey, only six or seven inches high with its spreading cushion of bloom over rich green foliage.

For small modern gardens and patio plantings, the new miniature flowers are especially popular. "Floral Carpet Rose" snapdragon's rich color as edging or in a ribbon bed makes a glorious showing.

Use Azaleas For Accents In Colors

From the large-flowered Indian azaleas of the deep south to the swamp azaleas of the north, these plants provide a wealth of unusual colors on the home property.

Some of their common names gives a clue to their properties such as "Sweet" or "Flame," "Glossy," "Snowy," "Royal," "Roseshell," "Western," "Pinksell," etc.

Not all the azaleas can be grown in all our climates but one or more can be found to fit the soil and climate conditions for practically every home property.

Colors range from white through deep purple and red.

Azaleas are exciting when in flower, either when used as specimen plants or as borders for walks, or in the foreground of taller shrubs and trees.

Some are native to this country, but others have come originally from many parts of the world, largely from the exotic east.

Your local nurseryman can advise you of the best for your particular requirements.

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Pinch Plant For More Blossoms

Pinch out the terminal tips of zinnias to grow more flowers. The plant will put out branches below the pruned tip, become bushy and start more flower buds.

According to a Pennsylvania State University correspondence many kinds of plants have more flowers when terminal tips are removed. Pinching is a method you use to change plant growth.

A soil mulch is important in the summer care of your annuals. Any loose material, such as wood shavings or peanut hulls, spread two inches deep on the ground around plants works well. Weeds don't come through; soil dryness is reduced and the ground stays cooler.

Your garden soil in mid-summer sun may go over 100 degrees. That's much too hot for shallow rooted plants like zinnias, marigolds and a host of other plants. Growth of flower buds comes to a halt with roots in hot, dry soil.

To produce more flowers, pinch out growing tips on your fall growing annuals. And keep your plants in better growth by covering the soil with mulch.

To learn more about growing plants around your home, study the Penn State correspondence course. Enroll simply by sending your name and address with \$2.50 to Home Floriculture, Box 5000, University Park, Pa., 16802. A course copy will be sent you by return mail.

DiDriin Controls Insects

In recent year lawn-conscious homeowners have become increasingly aware of the great variety of insects which attack lawns.

Sod webworms, chinch bugs, grubs and other insect pests can wipe out a lawn almost overnight—at least before the cause can be identified. Unlike mosquitoes and gnats, these destructive pests don't show.

They work either in the grass or just beneath the surface and unfortunately, once their symptoms are readily seen, extensive damage has been done.

Controlling lawn insects has not always been easy. Since they work in different times of the year, a "sure cure" for all insect pests has been difficult.

The key to control is to watch for the first signs of damage and then apply an effective insecticide.

One new insecticide being introduced which spring kills a broad spectrum of lawn insects. It contains diDriin, a highly effective chemical that kills over 20 of the most damaging lawn insects.

One insecticide also controls surface pests such as chinch bugs and sod webworms that attack the blades of grass. For these insects the product should be applied at the first signs of either the insect or damage.

Indian Name

The lodgepole pine was so named because Indians used the small-sized trees for the pole supports of their tepees.

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