

More than 13,800,000 acres of privately owned western timberlands are in tree farms, dedicated to growing successive crops of wood.

Look at Back Yards Proves This

U.S. Rates Best Landscaped of All Nations

A quick look at America's back yards proves that ours is the best landscaped nation in the world. From California to the Carolinas a conscious effort reigns to create more beautiful grounds—to control and to maintain previously untamed land. According to a manufacturing company, which produces power mowers, this landscaping consciousness is pointed up dramatically in

the power lawn equipment industry with a record shattering 4.7 million new mowers being sold in 1966—creating a mechanized lawn legion of more than 26-million machines.

Developing almost as rapidly as the annual sales have been two distinct trends in the manufacture of power lawn mowers—safety and convenience. Designing conveniences with the safety of the operator and the convenience of the mower in mind, each manufacturer is attempting to produce a mower that will give him a greater share of the total sales.

Safety will be sold on the 1966 models by all of the manufacturers who display the triangular Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) Safety Seal on their mowers.

This will be indicating that they have taken special care to design their mowers to reduce the chances of injuries resulting from contact with

moving parts of the machine or from any lurid objects. Taking the lead on safety design, many manufacturers are including a grass catcher, which can contain many fast moving objects as well as grass, as standard equipment on their 1966 models.

Some feature a "stop go" control switch which stops or starts the machine with a flick of the operator's hand.

Already standard features on most mowers are safely located devices for adjusting the height of cutting blades. Instead of using the bar type cutting blade on its rotary models, one manufacturer employs four separate blades, each retractable when striking a solid object.

Another safety convenience is a hole in the

deck which allows the operator to safely wash out the mower underside with a garden hose while it is still running.

Although many of the safety features can also be considered convenience features, there are some unique features the consumer should look for in 1966. Many models will eliminate a lot of guessing with a gas gauge.

Most of the machines on the market this year have their controls within easy reach of the operator. One manufacturer has developed a fold-down handle that permits the mower to be stored in one-third the space it used to occupy.

Another rapidly growing trend in the power equipment industry is seen in the increased number of powered

yard vehicles (tractors and riding mowers). Sales of tractors alone have increased 30 per cent over last year with a total of 180,000 units sold.

In 1966, industry wide sales of tractors will climb to 225,000 units, practically five times as many as were sold in 1961.

Although 83 per cent of all tractors are sold for rotary lawn mowing, one out of every three is sold with a snow thrower attachment.

The snow thrower, while being one of the more popular attachments, is only one of many cultivators, harrows, reel mowers, sickle bars, etc. that will transform the basic tractor into an all purpose piece of equipment.

Color Wood Floors Here's a new idea for a color-stains especially made old wood floor; give it a wash for flooring. They add color of color, using one of the without hiding the grain.



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Most Popular Garden Plant

Roses Brighten Landscape

Few shrubs brighten up the home landscape with flowers for so long a period as the rose.

Whether used in a formal rose garden, as a climber on a trellis, or in containers, roses add a rich, bright and colorful look to the property.

According to the American Association of Nurserymen, the rose can be grown in all 50 states.

Moreover, it is the most

popular garden plant in the world. More roses are estimated to be in American gardens than any other single plant.

The new roses on the American scene are brighter and warmer in color than many of their forebearers.

The tropical orange colors of recent years are more vivid, with their aromas as enticing as ever.

Although there are a few old-fashioned roses which have survived to the present day, Grandmother's roses cannot compare in size or aroma with the brilliant blooms of today.

Over the years, poor roses have been so weeded out until today anyone can enter a nursery with his eyes closed and select fine varieties, because they all are excellent.

It is said that more than 100 new hybrid roses appear in the United States each year.

Of these, the All-America Selections are tested most

and often are considered the best although there are many other excellent roses.

Garden roses will produce many more blooms and better foliage if they are mulched with several inches of organic material and are regularly watered and in a sunny location.

Cut blooms for the home will last longer if cut in the early morning; the ends of the stems are cut cleanly on a slant, and placed in water in a cool location.

The water should be changed each day. Prepared compounds available at any nursery will make the blooms last longer when added to the water.

Paneling, Lights Improve Hall

Here's an idea for dressing up a boxy entrance hall. Panel the ceiling, bringing the paneling down the walls one foot. Then add a soffit for indirect lighting, matching lumber for the soffit to the ceiling panel boards.

Suggested paneling species are western red cedar, western hemlock, incense cedar, and ponderosa pine. The pine looks especially elegant with a platinum rez finish.

Additional lighting, if required, can be furnished by hung sconces or a swag light hung over a console table.

Clinging Vine May Solve Landscaping

Vines may help solve some of your landscaping problems. They may be used to advantage in areas difficult to tend, corners or slopes.

In your selection, be careful to choose those best suited for a particular area.

For instance, honeysuckle will spread widely unless it is planted where it will be confined by natural barriers, such as walls.

Vines have many uses. They often grow where grass will not flourish. Or they may be used as screening along fences or on lattices.

They help prevent soil erosion on slopes. Or a few vines may be planted in attractive containers to decorate a bare corner of a patio or porch.

Suggestions for planting in the south are bougainvillea, jasmine trumpet flower, mignonette vine, sassafras carnation, jewelvine and Bignonia.

Suited for a wider climate range are wisteria, bittersweet, clematis, winter creeper and honeysuckle.

English ivy will grow almost anywhere in the United States.

Climbing hydrangea will do well in many parts of this country as well as will climbing roses.

Some vines are selected for their flowers; others for colorful berries, such as pyracantha and hollies, or for foliage.

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