cylindricus in lobulos rotundatos 0·5 mm. longos bifidus; lobi laterales semilunati, 5–6 mm. longi, basi late rotundati sed superne in cornua 2–2·5 mm. lata acuta sursum curvati; calcar in calcare sepalino inclusum apicem versus sensim attenuatum, rectum sed ad apicem paulo deorsum curvatum. *Stamina* inaequalia; filamenta leviter pubescentia, superne angustata et inferne dilatata; antherae purpureo-fuscae. *Carpellum* unicum, erectum; ovarium 2·5–3 × 1·5 mm., dense et longe pubescens; stylus 1·5–2 mm. longus. *Folliculus* longissime pedicellatus, erectus, dense et adpresse pubescens, subcompressus, semiovato-oblongus, 9–10 × 3·5–4 mm. (rostro excluso), ad apicem rotundatus et ± abrupte rostratus; rostrum c. 2 mm. longum.

TURKEY. Armenia, *Calvert & Zohrab* (holo. E, as "*Delphinium* near *Ajacis*"). Circa Erzeroum, inter segetes, 1800–1900 m., Jun. 1853, *Huet du Pavillon* (K, as *D. ramosissimum* Boiss. & Huet, ms.).

The new species from Turkish Armenia differs from all other members of Subgenus *Consolida* in the horn-like, upwardly curved lateral lobes of the "petal". It is allied both to the West Mediterranean *D. pubescens* and to the Turkish *D. glandulosum* Boiss., approaching the former in its small flowers and even shorter spur, and the latter in its densely hairy follicle (the vestiture of the carpel being sparse in *D. pubescens*) and geographical distribution. Apart from its very distinctive "petal" shape, it differs from both in its shorter spur with the tip curved slightly downwards, and apparently in the bluer colour of its sepals.

It has not been generally recognized that *D. pubescens* and *D. glandulosum* are extremely closely related. The latter is distinguished only by its longer, more flexuous spur, more densely hairy follicle and constantly undivided bracts. The last character, however, is an unreliable diagnostic, because the lower bracts of individual racemes are sometimes entire in *D. pubescens*. A Cappadocian specimen referred by us to *D. glandulosum* (*Bornmüller* 1724; BM) approaches *D. pubescens* in its short spur and in having partite as well as simple lower bracts.

Background to Gardening (review)*.—This book, by a noted plant physiologist and Fellow of the Royal Society, is another attempt to relate science to gardening practice. It differs from many, however, in being an eminently satisfactory attempt. It is reminiscent of Salisbury's *The Living Garden*, but whereas Salisbury's work is more ecological in approach, James' is more physiological. However, the scope of the present book is nevertheless very wide and a great variety of gardening matters are discussed with authority and clarity. Included are chapters on such subjects as—Seeds;

* Background to Gardening, by W. O. James. London, George Allen & Unwin, 1956. Price eighteen shillings.

Debatable Operations; Living Together; Inside the Soil. The book will undoubtedly have a great appeal to gardeners, amateur and professional, and its value in this respect has very obviously been enhanced by the author's own long experience as an amateur gardener. He is thus familiar with the aspects of gardening which require to be discussed and he views scientific and practical matters in perspective. For instance, in assessing the practical value of colour reaction germination tests, he goes on to say:

> "But they are not the sort of thing to try in the potting shed, and in point of fact they take just about as many hours of actual work to carry out as a full scale germination test, though you may have to wait much longer for the results of the latter. The colour tests have proved most valuable when a quick answer was wanted from slow germinators."

The book is lightened by many humorous asides and illustrated with delightful line drawings and reproductions from other sources.

E. E. KEMP.

Fruit Growing (review)*.—This is a highly priced, handsomely produced book, but works on commercial fruit production are likely to be valued for the information they contain and not for their appearance. Information of a most authoritative kind there is here in plenty, and no doubt the institution library and those who can afford the high price will find convenience in having all this matter contained within the compass of a single volume. Those who find the price too high, however, will naturally be tempted to ask whether the information could be obtained more cheaply elsewhere. A good deal of it is undoubtedly so available, most of it in fact the work of some contributors to the book under review. On the other hand, a substantial body of the information is not available elsewhere and this comprises the most interesting material.

The weakest section in the book is the part which deals with climate and site. Reference is made to single rows of trees as " shelter belts ". Workers in this field nowadays refer to these single rows as " windbreaks " and use the term " shelter belt " when several rows are planted. Spruce is recommended as a windbreak. Presumably it is " Norway Spruce " to which the writer refers and it is regrettable that this species should continue to be recommended for this purpose. No mention is made of the very important matter of protected area in relation to height of windbreak and in addition some very ordinary information is proffered that:

> "West winds are cool winds; north-westerly winds bring frost and dry weather in winter. . . . Gales are frequent in the west-coast districts, and are much less frequent in the east. . . . A wind above 75 miles an hour is defined as a hurricane on the Beaufort Scale of Wind Force."

However, this matter occupies but little space in an otherwise valuable work.

E. E. KEMP.

* Modern Commercial Fruit Growing: edited by T. Wallace and R. G. W. Bush. London, Country Life Limited, 1956. Price 105 shillings.