

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



MISS LIBERTY—California Novelty Bi-color, scarlet, tipped white I. D., will bid for Show honors—1947. Introduction of Comstock Dahlia Gardens

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BULLETIN

of the
American Dahlia Society

Contents for May, 1947

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Editor	- - - - -	GORDON F. WAASER
		378 Pennsylvania Ave., Stearns Park, Freeport, L.I., N.Y.
Associate Editor, "Personals"	- -	OLIVER SHURTLEFF
		1264 Bryant Street, Fairmount, West Virginia
Associate Editor	- - - - -	GEORGENA HUMBLE
		232 Ridge Road, Douglaston, L. I., N. Y.
Associate Editor	- - - - -	F. V. VEIRS
		718 Linwood Avenue, S. W., Canton, Ohio
Associate Editor	- - - - -	LYNN B. DUDLEY
		25 Irving Place, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Associate Editor	- - - - -	GEORGE R. CURRIE
		Sheboygan, Wisc.

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RUSCHMOHR PRESENTS...

The Big Achievement Medal Winners of the Year and The All Honor Roll Dahlias in

SKYROCKET (R.C.)—Originator, Lew Sarett

A clear vermillion straight cactus. Diameter 10 to 12 inches; depth 5 to 6 inches. A striking scarlet bloom with a gold sheen; of remarkable substance; holds its color in the sun. The formation of the bloom is uniformly immaculate. Young blooms, especially in summer, tend to be semi-cactus; mature blooms in September at show time are straight cactus. The stems are 12 to 16 inches, straight, slender and strong. The bush is 5 to 6 ft. in height, a rugged grower, a good root maker and an early and continuous bloomer. The foliage is dark, tough and insect resistant. The uniformly flawless beauty of this dahlia in its color and formation, makes it a contender in "perfect bloom" competition. Winner of 4 American Home Achievement Medals in New York, Chicago, Milwaukee and Irvington, N. J. On the Eastern, Mid-Western and Pacific Coast Honor Rolls. We predict that its performance on the show table will be similar to the originator's previous successful introduction, "Sarett's Pink Flamingo."

PLANTS \$7.50—3 FOR \$20 NET

DEEP VELVET (F.D.)—Originator, Geo. C. Baker—Derrill Hart Medal Winner

A formal decorative of dark deep carmine with an overlay of ox-blood red. Diameter 8 to 10 inches; depth 4½ to 5½. Stems are 10 to 14 inches, straight and stiff. Bush 4½ to 5 feet. Excellent dark green leathery foliage. The color of the bloom is magnificent and causes exclamations from all those who have seen it in the garden or the show table. A sure winner in the maroon formal decorative class. Winner of 2 American Home Achievement Medals, the Mid-West Conference Show in St. Louis and the Tri-City Show in Moline, Ill. Winner as best formal decorative, seedling class in A.D.S. Show. On the Eastern, Mid-Western and Pacific Coast Honor Rolls. Certificate of Merit in the A.D.S. Trial Grounds in Storrs, Conn. Also in the Mid-West Trial Grounds in East Lansing, Mich., and The Ohio Valley Trial Grounds, in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1946.

ROOTS \$15 NET. PLANTS \$7.50—3 FOR \$20 NET

CALIFORNIA FINEST DAHLIA SEED

Some of the leading Honor Roll, Certificate of Merit and Achievement Medal dahlias have been produced from our seed. We can supply seed from named varieties.

CATALOG NOW AVAILABLE

RUSCHMOHR DAHLIA GARDENS

38 Vincent Street

Rockville Centre, L. I., N. Y.

Send Your Seedlings To A.D.S. Trial Grounds

There Are Now Six Official Gardens—New A.D.S. Trial Grounds at Rutgers

As announced in the BULLETIN in February, the A.D.S. Trial Ground at Storrs, Connecticut, had been discontinued. We also announced the establishment of a new trial ground at Experiment, Ga., the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, under the auspices of the Dahlia Society of Georgia, a branch society of the A.D.S.

We are now pleased to announce that a new Eastern A.D.S. Official Trial Grounds is being established at Rutgers University, College of Agriculture. It will be under the direction of Dr. Charles H. Connors, Research Specialist in Ornamental Horticulture, and Chairman of the nomenclature committee of the A.D.S.

A suitable place is being prepared in the department of horticulture for the garden and the judging will be done by A.D.S. judges. Many years ago a trial garden was located at Rutgers under the auspices of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey, so this is not a new venture. It is also expected that similar trial gardens will be established there for gladiolas, chrysanthemums and other flowers.

This new Eastern Trial Ground with the one being located near Atlanta, called the South Atlantic Trial Garden, will make six official A.D.S. Trial Gardens with the others at East Lansing, Mich., Fairmont, W. Va., Ault Park, Cincinnati and University of Maryland.

DERRILL HART AWARD ENTRIES

Those originators who wish to qualify their varieties to compete for the Derrill Hart Medal Awards should send them to all six or at least three of these Trial Grounds. Three medals are awarded each year for the highest (85 points or over) average score for each of the Small, Medium and Large varieties in at least three Trial Grounds. If a variety scores 85 points or more at one or two Trial Grounds one year, it may be sent to other Trial Grounds the second year, where, if it scores 85 or better and the combined average of three gardens in one or two years tops other varieties in each of these three size classes, it will win the coveted Derrill Hart Medal. But the award may be won in one year if the variety scores highest of all at three gardens in that year.

In previous years, one stipulation for eligibility for this award was that one of the three gardens be Storrs. In 1947 Rutgers University Trial Grounds will be required for at least one garden score to compete for the Derrill Hart Medals. Originators may choose the other two if only sending to three gardens.

The Trial Grounds Fee, at the request of the superintendents has been advanced to \$5.00 per variety, due to rising costs for labor and materials. This fee has not been changed, but remained at \$3.00 since the first A.D.S. Trial Grounds were established over 25 years ago. It has long been inadequate to cover cultural costs. (The only instances where the old fee of \$3.00 will be accepted is

in cases where this fee has been quoted to originators before this change to \$5.00 became effective.) This is to play entirely fair with growers.

When you ship roots or plants for trial send them to the superintendent of trial garden at addresses listed below and forward entry blank with check or money order at \$5.00 per variety. Send 3 roots or plants of each. If you do not have entry blanks, write at once for them to the superintendent.

A.D.S. TRIAL GROUND ADDRESSES

Eastern Dahlia Trial Grounds

Rutgers University, College of Agriculture, New Brunswick, N. J. Attention of Dr. C. H. Connors.

South Atlantic Dahlia Trial Grounds

Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, Experiment, Ga. Attention of F. F. Cowart.

Midwest Trial Grounds

Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich. Attention of Prof. C. E. Wildon.

Mid-Atlantic Trial Grounds

University of Maryland, College Park, Md. Attention of Prof. Wm. Wood.

Ohio Valley Trial Grounds

Ault Park, Heekin and Principer Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio. Attention of Robert Seibel.

Mid-South Trial Grounds

Fairmont College, Fairmont, W. Va. Attention of Dean Oliver Shurtleff.

NOTE TO TRIAL GROUND SUPERINTENDENTS

The Derrill-Hart Awards are made on the basis of the highest average score in at least three trial gardens, including Rutgers over a period of not more than 2 years. Provided, of course, that the variety competing over the two-year period is not disseminated commercially.

R. W. Webb of Scranton is Chairman of the A.D.S. Derrill Hart Awards and he has earnestly requested that when the average scores of the different judges are tabulated by the superintendent that the decimal points or fractions be included in the reports to the committee and also in the A.D.S. BULLETIN Report.

This between point score, decimal or fraction is all that Mr. Webb's committee has in many instances to decide the winners of the Derrill Hart Medals. Please advise your judges of this important matter. Even the judges may help in the matter by making a decimal point addition in their total variety scores.

LYNN B. DUDLEY,
Chairman Trial Ground Committee.

Highlights—Past and Present

A.D.S. Show Plans Completed

Business conventions will be numerous in September in New York. We are therefore particularly fortunate in being able again to stage our A.D.S. Show at Penn Top, Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City, on September 23 and 24 next.

Show manager Henry Olsen has prepared the blue prints for the arrangement of classes to best display the large number of blooms anticipated. The Show was well filled last year and many more blooms are expected as the doors open for our 33rd Annual Exhibition.

Schedules and classification lists will be mailed shortly. Exhibitors will want to study carefully a few changes. Most notable are the breakdowns of the former red classes into two divisions—red and dark red. Many varieties of the deeper colors will be grown this year to compete in the new class.

We heard many favorable comments last year regarding the quality of the prizes offered—that standard will be maintained.

While late comers always have a problem of obtaining sufficient containers as they unpack their cases, surpluses from early exhibitors are always returned in time to meet requirements. We have purchased several hundred new containers and hope to add even to this before show time. It does pay, however, to get to the show as early as you can.

Exhibitors should cooperate better with the Secretary in sending entry blanks in advance. Most every exhibitor knows at least a week ahead approximately what blooms he will have. It would help greatly if you would send in your entry blanks—last minute changes may be made for your convenience. Judging will be in charge of a competent committee—Dr. Ward Cook and Conrad Frey are co-chairmen.

The Garden Club Section, always one of the most interesting at an A.D.S. show, will be handled by Mrs. Georgena Humble, whose competent management is well known.

Seedlings will compete for the American Home Achievement Medal, the Leonard Barron Memorial Award, offered by *Flower Grower Magazine*, and the A.D.S. Medal. A fine group of seedlings is anticipated.

Plan now to exhibit and to make up a party of friends to attend this great New York show.

1947 COMMITTEES

Executive Committee—Otto Aumuller, Ernest Link, John Metzger, Emil Berzau, Mrs. C. V. Smith.

Show Committee—Henry Olsen, Chairman.

Membership Committee—Andrew J. Mulcahy, Chairman and each member of Executive Committee.

Nomenclature Committee—Dr. C. H. Connors, Chairman, Registration; Dr. Ward H. Cook, Chairman, Classification.

Editorial Committee—Gordon F. Waaser, Ch. Bull. Ed.; L. B. Dudley, F. V. R. Veirs, J. Louis Roberts, Mrs. Georgena Humble, Oliver Shurtleff and George R. Currie.

Trial Gardens Committee—Lynn B. Dudley, Chairman, all A.D.S. Trial Gardens; Raymond Moffett, Robt. Seibel,

Prof. C. E. Wildon, J. Louis Roberts, Prof. William Woods, Henry Cory, Oliver Shurtleff, Dr. Charles Connors, Henry A. Olsen, Leo Pollak, B. E. Phillips, Dr. Parker and John Allen.

Committee on Education—Prof. C. Merrill Brown, Chairman; E. J. Wind, Dr. Bruce Preas, Dr. C. H. Connors, Prof. C. E. Wildon, and Paul Frese.

Finance Committee—H. Dewey Mohr, Chairman; Leo Pollock, and Mrs. S. Van Hoesen.

Derrill W. Hart Memorial Medal Committee—Roy Webb, Chairman; Prof. C. E. Wildon, Prof. Oliver Shurtleff, Henry Cory, Raymond Moffett, Dr. Charles Connors, and B. E. Phillips.

Publicity Committee—Dr. F. J. Knocke, Chairman; Paul Frese, Edward B. Lloyd, George Currie, F. V. R. Veirs, John Allen and Dr. Edward McDade.

Highlights of the Dahlia News 20 Years Ago, Taken from a Review of the April, 1927 BULLETIN

By H. Dewey Mohr

On the front cover of THE BULLETIN appears a photo in color of the dahlia *Alice Whittier*, introduced by the late Chas. G. Reed, proprietor of the Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence, Mass. This dahlia received a top score of 90 at the trials in 1926 and was awarded two certificates at the trial gardens in 1925. It was known as the wonder dahlia. It was a hybrid cactus, now called semi-cactus of primrose yellow, with silvery tints.

Membership Contest has resulted in over 200 new members, up to the time of publication of BULLETIN and still had another month to run.

A very interesting article on the newly elected president of the A.D.S., Mr. James Duthie of Oyster Bay, L. I. He was known as the gardener who bossed Pres. Theo. Roosevelt. At a luncheon at the White House, the question of Masonry happened to be brought up and it was found that every man present was a Mason. Pres. Roosevelt declared he liked the idea of Masonry, in that it brought all men to a common level or made them feel the equal of everyone. "Do you know," said the President, "that the Master of my Lodge is just a working man, a gardener for one of my neighbors in Oyster Bay, but when I visit my Lodge he is my boss and I must stand up and sit down as he orders me."

Quite a few articles in the BULLETIN regarding "Stunts." Mr. Robert Legleiter of Cincinnati, Ohio, mentions that from his own observations, he is convinced that there are a number of factors that cause a plant to stunt, among them being:

- (a) Lack of an aerated soil combined with a high moisture content.
- (b) Attacks of root aphid.
- (c) Attacks of white grub.
- (d) An acid soil condition.

Any one or all, singly or combined, may be the cause of the stunt.

Well, What Color Is It? Pink, Mauve, Light Red or Rose?

By M. I. Fitzgerald, 85 Nicholson St.,
Coburg, N. 13, Victoria, Australia

Last week we saw the Americans take the Davis Cup from Australia at the Kooyong Tennis Courts near Melbourne. But we'll be after that Cup again this coming year . . . so Jack Kramer and Ted Schroeder . . . two wonderful players will need to keep on their toes. And what has all this to do with the problem of describing the colors of dahlias.

Well, it was like this . . . when we looked round amongst the 10,000 ladies looking at the tennis, we saw every color of the rainbow in the lovely summery dresses . . . remember our hot weather comes in December and January. During intervals we tried to label the various shades and hues, and it proved a terrific problem.

The problem of accurately but clearly describing dahlia colors is one of the most difficult confronting the raiser or hybridist.

Art of Description

Dress designers and fashion leaders are wonderfully able and incredibly imaginative in their ability to place exotic labels to each new shade of color which comes into fashion. Look at "Pacific blue," "Misty purple," "powder pink" for example. Alluring and fanciful names these and the designer knows just what shade they represent. But how can the reader do more than guess roughly at the shade described? No matter how romantic a shade (for example "forbidden fruit") this does not help the reader to understand what is the exact color in question.

The Human Element

Not only is it hard to label the colors but what is more, each person who sees a flower . . . or a new dress . . . is likely to regard it as a different color. Blue, blue green, light green, bottle green . . . these are shades which cause plenty of argument. What is clearly a blue to one man is definitely a green to another. The reason for this is, that each individual varies in his visual perception as in other physical characteristics.

Some eyes are efficient, others are not . . . one man's meat is another man's poison. It may be said that the meal you just had will cause you to see a shade quite differently from that seen by another man in the same flower. As if all this were not enough, old Mother Nature comes in to make confusion more confounded. A dahlia grown in California will vary enormously in shade if grown in say, New York or Melbourne. The variations in soil and climate account for this. Look how hydrangeas vary greatly in shade as soon as the chemical composition of the soil is altered.

But not only this, but a dahlia which looks light mauve in the morning sun may be a bluish color in the afternoon shade and may then look quite pink under the evening electric light.

Talking of the sun, a pillar box red flower may be bleached to a pink by hot weather, and an orange may become a light gold under the same conditions.

Again, the color of surrounding flowers will make a great apparent difference to the color of a particular dahlia, at least as seen by the eye of the beholder.

And as if all this were not enough, each particular bloom is often a subtle blend of two, three or even four

shades . . . all merging to confuse the critical examiner.

So having all this in mind, what use is it to call a dahlia "a red," "a yellow" or "a pink"? Such a description means nothing.

Unfamiliar Names

And so in the quest for accuracy, the introducer or originator is confronted by many problems, not the least being his desire to achieve accuracy on the one hand but clear description on the other. It is no use being clear but wide of the mark, and it is no use applying a technically correct title to a color if that title is not known to the reader of the description.

Over the past 30 or 40 years we have named several hundred really fine dahlias . . . please pardon this short personal digression . . . and the big problem has always been to get the right color description. We are lucky in having the use of that rare and wonderful set of color charts issued by the French chrysanthemum society back in 1905. Only a few copies of this great work are known in Australia though we assume there are quite a few copies in the U. S. A.

The chart consists of 400 numbered loose sheets. Each sheet consists of four shades, from light to dark, of a particular color. The chart follows the color spectrum and covers the whole range from red to orange to yellow through the greens and blues and finally mauves and purples. Over 1,600 shades are listed in all, including 50 different reds or 200 of them taking into account the four tones in each.

With such a tremendous help, the job of color description is not simplified . . . it is only made more complex.

Practical Problems

Take the color called "Indian lake" or "Corinthian red" shown on page 105 of the color chart. This is a sort of dull vinous or pale purple red . . . it is also called "porphyry red" . . . their being a rock of a purply color known as porphyry.

So what will we say . . . which of the above colors will we use?

Then look at the "Ox blood" red. Everyone can guess that this is used for a rich deep dark red. But what is "dragon blood" red? Unless you have killed a dragon and bottled his blood, you would never guess it was a sort of dull orange red.

Well, that is just a brief mention of a problem, a most interesting one, which we have never seen discussed before. We hope you will start now to critically and closely examine all the dahlia blooms of the next season . . . you will be fascinated by the marvelous and beautiful range of shades in your garden . . . a range more wonderful than even the greatest masters of color could ever achieve on such a small canvas.

And whenever you read a smooth description of a dahlia in a carefully worded catalogue, just offer the hand of sympathy to whoever had the job of describing the great range of colors which is found in every collection of dahlias . . . king of Autumn colors. Among the many good Australian dahlias are a number of new color breaks . . . every true hybridist seeks new color breaks.

Firstly, there is *Gala Chief*. This is a giant cactus, shaded vermillion to lincoln red, with an overlay of gold dust—a real beauty. *Brazil* is even more bizarre and spectacular. It is a cochineal carmine to claret red. It is a real gem of refined appearance and ideal symmetry.

(Continued on page 11)

Red Spider Control: Is This It?

By Prof. C. Merrill Brown, University of Buffalo

New insecticides bring new problems. Sometimes we are warned that complications may arise with their use and are told to be ready for an increase in other pests. Sometimes other pests develop as a result of the use of the new insecticide for which no preparation has been made. Such was the situation with DDT this past summer. We were told that red spider might be much worse than usual if we didn't take precautions to check it. The heavy infestation of black aphids came much in the nature of a surprise.

There is not the slightest doubt but what the use of DDT improved the dahlia planting for everyone up to a certain period of the year. Most went to the middle of September before the ravages of the red spider mites got under way, though many plantings were infected earlier than this. Some of the blooms at the fall shows brought in an abundant crop of red spiders with them. We have been told that in one of the trial grounds red spider was so bad it made the judging most difficult. The peculiar part of this red spider infestation is that we were warned it might happen, yet it happened just the same. All of which would indicate that we were more or less powerless to stop it and much invective has been heaped on DDT because of its after effects. But why blame DDT?

There is still considerable difficulty in getting the old time spray materials which worked out so well in pre-war days. Many that are available are so reduced in potency that their effectiveness is questioned. The *Dowspray 17* which was suggested as a good countering agent for red spider was either impossible to obtain or was used with varying degrees of success by those who did succeed in getting it. It is our opinion that when properly applied, *Dowspray 17* DOES control red spider. However, proper application implies using a spray pressure of 250 pounds or better so that the material goes on as a mist or a fog. If it goes on too heavy the run down on the leaves and stems to the nodes is very apt to burn the tender young growth. We also found that if the spray hit any parts of the open buds or flowers, both would show discoloration within a short period and ruin the blooms. All of which meant that *Dowspray 17* could be used only while the plant was in the green stage with no color showing.

The heavy infestation of red spider this past season was ascribed to the extended use of DDT. To this idea the writer does not fully subscribe. There is no question but what DDT brought on the red spider earlier and more abundantly than they would have been, had it not been used. Yet there was plenty of red spider in plantings where DDT was not used as an insecticide, and there were other instances of NO red spider where DDT had been used regularly. It was observed that red spider infestations were more severe in those cases where the garden was started mostly from green plants. Those who grew from roots suffered less, though they did not escape by any means. The condition of the soil had much to do with the degree of red spider infestation. As a general rule, the more moist the soil, the less the red spider damage. We visited Mrs. Baker's garden in Toronto right after Labor Day and didn't see the slight-

est trace of red spider on any of her plants, though she had been using DDT all season and was most enthusiastic about it. Her garden is mostly on the side of a hill and is terraced so that the water can start at the top and gently work its way to the bottom. The natural drainage of the location keeps it on the moist side and this helps to keep down the spider attack. Two other gardens where heavy mulches were applied showed not the least sign of spider at any time of the year and the plants all had a nice lush green growth due to the DDT taking care of the hoppers, thrip, tarnish plant bugs and the like. In still another garden where plenty of water was used but no mulch applied, we observed just a trace of red spider damage. DDT was used regularly as the spray material to control insects. And in a garden in Rochester where no DDT was used as an insecticide there was hardly a green leaf left on the plants by the end of September because of the heavy attacks of red spider mites. This garden was located on a knoll with just the south side of the slope planted to dahlias. The land was stony and decidedly dry. It is this hot dry soil condition which is so much to the liking of this pest. When one considers that a new generation appears every five or six days, it isn't hard to understand how the spread can be so rapid. In my own garden I observed that that part which had had a generous application of cow manure the previous spring, had far less spider damage than did the rest of the planting which got no manure. And in the seedling patch, the lowest and wettest part showed not the slightest trace of trouble while the upper and drier parts showed considerable infestation after the spraying program stopped in September. All of which would indicate that one of the ways to control red spider is to keep the soil on the moist side and work into it plenty of humus to hold the moisture.

However, plenty of moisture is no assurance that red spider will be avoided and an adequate spray or dusting program is the best assurance for combatting this pest. The cry along this line has surely been loud enough ever since last fall's experience. *The Dahlia*, in their April issue of this year, has a symposium on the subject of insect control but no unanimity of opinion was shown on the part of those whose opinions were asked. The writer was one of those asked to contribute his views on the subject and so we will enlarge here on the material called HEXCIDE, which is recommended as being specific for red spider and all forms of aphids.

Just after the close of the 1946 dahlia season and while the subject was still fresh in our minds, there came to our attention a small paragraph in one of the chemical journals to the effect that hexaethyl tetraphosphate had been tried out this past season to combat the red spider mites with excellent results and that the material was being made commercially by the Monsanto Chemical Company of St. Louis, Mo. A letter was immediately dispatched to Monsanto asking for further information. Their reply brought word that they were manufacturers only, not compounders of the material, and a list of those compounding the hexaethyl tetraphosphate was enclosed. The Niagara Sprayer and Chemical Company, Division of Food Machinery Corporation of Middleport, N. Y., was

the nearest of these to me. Through a fellow chemist, an appointment was made with their Dr. C. O. Eddy, Director of Research, for a conference with him and Dr. H. W. Dye, formerly of Cornell University, and now plant pathologist for the company, to talk the matter over and get the latest information on the subject. So, on a nice snowy winter's day between Christmas and New Year's, we drove the thirty odd miles to the plant and had our conference. Both Drs. Eddy and Nye were most generous with their time and with the completeness of their answers and it is a pleasure to pass on to all dahlia growers the information which they gave me that day.

Hexaethyl tetraphosphate is a synthetic chemical compound made from alcohol and phosphoric acid. It was developed in Germany and its method of manufacture was one of the chemical procedures brought over here at the close of the war. The material will appear on the market under various trade names. Niagara Sprayer will call their product HEXCIDE and, as far as the writer knows, they are the only ones who will market the 100 per cent product. Two others with which we are acquainted—VAPOTONE of the California Spray Chemical Company of Elizabeth, New Jersey, and KILLEX-50, a product of the Sherwin-Williams Company of Cleveland, Ohio, are 50 per cent solutions and their dilutions should be scaled accordingly if either of these should be used.

The material itself is a light straw to amber colored liquid, approximately 30 per cent heavier than water, and miscible (soluble) in water in all proportions. The pure material is hygroscopic and absorbs moisture from the air so the container should be kept well corked at all times when not in use. Hexaethyl tetraphosphate hydrolyzes after a few hours' contact with water and then loses its effectiveness as an insecticide. It is recommended that the solution be used within four hours after its preparation. It has not been found injurious to spray equipment at the dilutions used and, in the concentration recommended, has not been found to have any bad effects on human beings. However, it is suggested that should the pure material be spilled on the hands or body, it should be washed off immediately with plenty of soap and water. Because of its water absorbing powers and subsequent decomposition, it is difficult to see how it can be compounded as a dust. This appears to be its chief drawback as far as its general application to dahlias are concerned. Many prefer to dust rather than spray. Either they will have to change their ways or go back to the old procedures. The newer developments are not for them at this time.

The recommended dilution for HEXCIDE (the 100 per cent tetraethyl tetraphosphate) is 1:1600 or better. This means not more than a half a pint to 100 gallons of water, or in terms of the common sized tank sprayer used by many of us, a third of a teaspoonful to the gallon. No spreader is needed. The material should be added directly to the water, stirred in well and then applied as a fine mist, if one is to get the best of coverage. Even if applied at too heavy a rate there will be no burning caused by the excess gathering on any part of the plant, nor will any damage result if the spray is directed on the flowers. The time of day when the spray should be applied is immaterial. The more active the spiders the more likely they are to be hit with the insecticide. Hardness of the water is of no consequence

either as the material cannot be precipitated by the minerals in the water. The red spider mites and the aphids have to be hit by the spray to be effectively killed. There is no effect on the eggs of the red spider mites, so further applications are in order at weekly intervals until all the eggs have been taken care of. The kill is excellent. Of course, both top and bottom of all foliage should be contacted with the material. Rain immediately after spraying does no damage as the insecticide has already done its part.

The writer was given a sample of HEXCIDE to use on some carnations at the greenhouse where he does his propagating. These were badly infested and red spider was still rampant after several sprayings with the usual greenhouse red spider controls. Two applications a week apart cleaned up every sign of spider. These took place in early January prior to the annual meeting of the American Dahlia Society in New York and there has been no re-infestation of the planting since. The action of hexaethyl tetraphosphate is described as being very much like that of nicotine and that the precautions one would take with the latter should be taken with this new material. There is no indication that it will harm the blooms in any way. In the carnation case the spray was soaked right into the very centers of the flowers and not a single bloom was spoiled by the treatment. It *positively* will not burn either bloom or foliage. And, for those who have been looking for a fool-proof insecticide to combat red spider, hexaethyl tetraphosphate gives every indication of being the answer to this request.

The availability of the material this summer will be limited. As far as we have been able to ascertain, gallon lots will be the order of the day. HEXCIDE will cost \$23 a gallon in glass bottles, with the 50 per cent solutions priced proportionally. While the price may appear prohibitive, the cost is actually about a cent and a half per gallon of spray when used at the minimum dilution of 1:1600.

It is suggested that for those who want to try it this year, a group might get together and buy a gallon and then redistribute it among those participating. Certain dahlia growers are planning on carrying a stock of it on hand to take care of their customers. A four-ounce bottle should be sufficient for the average dahlia garden for a season, as it will make from 50 to 75 gallons of spray. As there is no residual effect and as the spiders have to be hit to be killed, there is no object in mixing the new insecticide in with the DDT until the red spider mites are observed to be present. This new material is perfectly compatible with DDT so one spray mixture can be made which will take care of all the insects which are now believed to be most injurious to dahlias and most detrimental to their growth. These include thrips, leaf hoppers, tarnish plant bugs, corn borers, Japanese beetles, earwigs, red spiders and all forms of aphids.

And so we enter into a new season with a new hope. Last year we looked forward to the wonders of DDT. It didn't let us down. It did all that was promised of it—even to the infestation with red spider mites. The aphids were an unseen complication. Now, we have the advent of hexaethyl tetraphosphate to take care of the red spider mites and the aphids. Under such circumstances it would seem that we have at last found the perfect combination—DDT and hexaethyl tetraphosphate—which should endear itself to all dahlia growers.

May the season of 1947 prove us to be a good prophet!

Outstanding Show Winners of 1946

By A. DOERMANN

Each year many new varieties are introduced, but after the judges get finished comparing them with the old standards, very few survive. Last year five came through with flying colors; three of these placed on the "Top Dozen" which even for an older variety is a feat in itself. It seems like each year that I have compiled these show winners a new record is established. I thought that *Pink Flamingo* had established a record when it broke into the "Top Dozen" the year it was introduced, but now we have three! Its these little surprises that makes compiling this list so interesting.

First position has been heavily challenged this year and many old champions fell. *Southern Thorobred* pushed *Bette Davis* out of first which I never thought would happen. *Clariam Kelton* went ahead of *Freda George*. *Ronnie Lee* replaced *Evelyn Chandler*. *All American* did not even place on the list this year. *Haslerova* relinquished its claim to *Golden City*. Only four are left that have been first in their classes for the past six years. They are *Nancy Mitchell*, *Madame Jussiant*,

Jean Trimbee and *Lois Walcher*.

For the first time top honor is tied. *Pink Flamingo* and *The Real Glory* hold the coveted position together with 66 points each. Till the last report was recorded, *Michigan White* was pressing the leaders hard. It also may be noticed that the colors are fairly well distributed though white and pink have a slight edge, but in type the cactus takes the lion's share.

Continuing my custom of using the last column for a list of suggestions that can be used in the class, I am listing those varieties that I saw and liked that have not made the regular list. I tried to stress newness though if an old one that looked good to me failed to make the list, I have included it also. I did not try to fill all classes as these are suggestions and if the best are already on the list why suggest something not as good.

If you think these compiled lists are worth continuing, then kindly send me the report of your show as soon after it has been held as you can. Only first and second winners of the specimen classes are needed. Thank you.

CACTUS

White Snowball (15-9)
Yellow Favorita (8-5)
Orange Golden Standard (6-7)
Red Nancy Mitchell (15-10)
Pink Pink Flamingo (24-18)
Lavender Mad. Jussiant (10-8)
Purple Zenith (15-8)
Maroon Yowa Matsuoka (2-2)
Blend Miss San Diego (15-5)
Bicolor Mrs. E. J. (11-8)

Jersey Dainty (9-7)
Hillside Gold (5-2)
Pygmalion (5-6)
Lucky (11-14)
Bedford Beauty (15-6)
Terry (4-5)
Ella May (4-4)
Eemland (1-0)
Crowning Glory (7-6)
Farncot (3-1)

Snowcrest (5-4)
Frau. Mansfield (4-4)
Capt. Cedarquist (5-0)
Son of Satan (4-5)
*Dominant & Pink Mum
Irene Dunn (2-0)
Regalia (2-0)
Angelus (7-2)
Showa (3-1)

SUGGESTIONS

Conqueror
Orange Princess
Mother Ballego
Lady Valerie
Black Magic
Mrs. Minnie Ring

SEMI-CACTUS

White Michigan White (23-14)
Yellow Yellow Glory (8-3)
Orange Ronnie Lee (7-4)
Red Bataan (14-4)
Pink Hilda Fioretti (8-8)
Lavender Southern Thorobred (7-4)
Purple Jean Trimbee (10-10)
Maroon Virginia Rute (6-5)
Blend Rhythm (11-3)
Bicolor Jane Lausche (22-12)
Variegated General Pershing (10-4)

Ballegos Surprise (2-3)
Punctuell (4-4)
Evelyn Chandler (6-3)
Maffie (9-9)
Josephine G (5-1)
Essie Smith (4-5)
Kard. Rossum (1-2)
Black Monarch (6-5)
Greater Glory (9-2)
Flash (9-3)
Figaro (2-1)

American Purity (3-1)
Ivory Princess (3-1)
Enchantress (2-1)
Lynn Fontaine (5-4)
Pink Amelia (2-0)
Bette Davis (5-2)
Mary Dudley (1-2)
Roselyn Straight (4-2)
Koki (3-4)

Hoosier Marvel
Top Flight
Magic Prince
Valour
Hurricane
Enkhart's Prima
Brioso

INFORMAL

White Alice May (12-3)
Yellow Edgar Guest (12-3)
Orange Axford Triumph (8-9)
Red Red Giant (4-3)
Pink P. Winsome (5-5)
Lavender Blue Horizon (2-2)
Purple Mrs. Hester Pape (19-5)
Maroon Cherokee Brave (14-12)
Blend Clariam Kelton (12-7)
Bicolor Cornell (3-5)
Variegated Dixie Wine Dot (14-8)

Bess Smith (5-3)
California Idol (7-11)
Carl Dahl (9-4)
Dean Shurtleff (3-2)
Pink Giant (6-2)
Mary Noble (2-1)
Glamour (11-7)
Col. Rudd (2-1)
Freda George (6-4)
Ky. Sportsman (4-2)
Pearl Harbor (1-0)

Straight's White (3-1)
Tops (8-4)
Sunrays (7-2)
Tuxedo (2-1)
*World Event & Katie K
100% (2-1)
Eventide (3-5)
Stellaette (2-1)
Silver Lady (4-1)
Santa Claus (2-3)

Nobby's Light
Wm. Shinkfield
Pop Harris
Freda Gaylord
John Sherwood
Joan Philips

FORMAL

White	The Real Glory (24-18)	Darcy Sainsbury (6-6)	Mayor Ring (4-2)	
Yellow	The Governor (9-6)	Kentucky Sun (7-5)	Class (7-2)	Xantine
Orange	Orange Flame (6-3)	Volcano (3-4)	Monarch of East (3-0)	
Red	Oakleigh Monarch (6-2)	Fireball (4-1)	Queen City (1-4)	DeMolay
Pink	Victory (23-8)	Ogden Reid (10-4)	Kelvin (8-4)	Beau Lois
Lavender	Commando (10-6)	Croydon Acme (5-6)	Mrs. I. de Ver Warner (3-2)	Blue Rose
Purple	King David (6-4)	King Kong (3-2)	Purple Mist (2-2)	
Maroon	James Ross (6-1)	Negus (1-1)	Ruby Taylor (1-0)	
Blend	Five Star General (17-9)	Leah Pearl (3-3)	King Peter (3-2)	Cliff's Choice
Bicolor	Lois Walcher (10-3)	Town Topic (3-0)	*John Kernochan & Florist's Beauty	
Variegated	Golden City (3-2)	Haslerova (1-4)		

*Dominant (3-1), Pink Mum (2-3), World Event (4-1), Katie K (3-3), John Kernochan (2-1), Florist's Beauty (2-1).

A FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE "TOP DOZEN"

1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
*Nancy Mitchell	Darcy Sainsbury	Michigan White	Pink Flamingo	Pink Flamingo
*Darcy Sainsbury	Nancy Mitchell	Snowball	Michigan White	The Real Glory
Jersey Dainty	*Maffie	Mad. Jussiant	The Real Glory	Michigan White
Crowning Glory	Flash	Jean Trimbee	Dixie Wine Dot	Jane Lausche
*Greater Glory	All-American	The Real Glory	Nancy Mitchell	Victory
*Flash	Stephen Foster	Darcy Sainsbury	Mad. Jussiant	Mrs. Hester Pape
*California Idol	Evelyn Chandler	Glamour	Class	Five Star General
*Golden Standard	Julius Bunge	Lois Walcher	Cherokee Brave	Nancy Mitchell
*Mad. Jussiant	*Cherokee Brave	Crowning Glory	Jean Trimbee	Cherokee Brave
Cornell	Crowning Glory	Pink Flamingo	Jane Lausche	Snowball
Evelyn Chandler	Jersey Dainty	Pink Giant	Lois Walcher	Zenith
*Carl Dahl	Alice May	Victory	Snowball	Bedford Beauty
Lord of Autumn	Mad. Jussiant		Virginia Rute	Dixie Wine Dot
Virginia Rute	Mary Taylor			Lucky

**Means that these varieties were on the 1941 list of "Top Dozen".

Ohio Valley News

Hey, folks, they're twins—oh, I forgot to tell you that the twins are twin dahlia seedlings. Elmer Shepard planted some seeds of *Francis Dewey* and to his surprise found that quite a few developed two plants to a seed. The first plant came up normal and then shortly after a second plant came up. Having planted his seeds singly at uniform distances, he was able to determine that it was not just a case of two seeds side by side. Also he has many more plants than he had seeds sown. These twin plants will be carefully watched. Perhaps next year we may be able to tell more. Has any one else ever had twins?

As I had predicted in the last BULLETIN, the show committee went into action long before you read your BULLETIN. Instructions to each sub-chairman were read. Mr. Heitzman had several show locations to report. The lobbies of the Paramount Theatre were chosen because of their central location and their artistic background.

At another meeting of the show committee the Seedling Division of the Show Schedule was radically revised. We eliminated classes entirely. We feel that since a seedling is judged by comparison with the existing varieties and not with each other, that there is no need for classes, so we shall have only one large section for the seedlings and the entrant can place his entries anywhere on the table he chooses. Blue ribbons only will be given. In the Undisseminated Section there will be three groups

divided according to size. Besides the blue ribbons the most outstanding blue ribbon winner in each group will receive an O.V.D.A. Meritorious Medal.

Not alone are we following Mr. Currie's fine suggestion in his editorial in "The Dahlia" on the choosing of judges for the A.H.A.M., but will choose the judges for the rest of the seedlings in the same manner. There will be no voting for the A.H.A.M. in Cincinnati. We are going one step further in choosing the A.H.A.M. There will be no award the first day; only candidates will be chosen and from these candidates the A.H.A.M. will be awarded late the second morning of the show. This is to eliminate those varieties that hold up just long enough to be judged and then fold up. We want the A.H.A.M. winner to be worthy of the medal, not just some big bloom with no other commendable qualities. We feel that by this radical departure from the usual method of judging the A.H.A.M., a better choice can be made.

The pictures that Bro. Albert Harris showed at his Christmas party were so well enjoyed that he was requested to show them again for the February meeting. John Schaeffer showed movies on the propagation of dahlias that will be part of a series on dahlia culture. John is one of our new members who will bear watching by the older ones if they intend to retain their laurels. He is a camera enthusiast that got bit by the dahlia bug while photographing some of our local gardens. Given a little time, his sunken garden will be another dahlia

(Continued on page 10)

The American DAHLIA SOCIETY, Inc.

ORGANIZED MAY 10, 1915



"The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting the culture and development of the Dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test out new varieties and give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the diseases of the Dahlia and find remedies for same, and to disseminate information relating to this flower; to secure uniformity in awarding prizes at flower shows, and to give exhibitions when deemed advisable."

GORDON F. WAASER, *President-Editor*

378 Pennsylvania Ave., Stearns Pk., Freeport, L.I., N.Y.

DR. WARD H. COOK

34 Puritan Ave., Tuckahoe, N. Y.

Editorial

We hope to announce in the May issue a Field Day Program at our new A.D.S. Eastern Trial Garden at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Situated only thirty miles from New York City, and easily accessible by rail or car, we anticipate many visitors this fall.

Dr. Charles H. Connors, Superintendent, has had the experience of successfully directing a trial garden at Rutgers in years gone by. That garden was sponsored by the Dahlia Society of New Jersey. Its greatest influence was stress on good stems on dahlias. The A.D.S. increased the number of points on the score card for stems and a new era in dahlias got under way.

One important advantage over Storrs is its nearness to New York and to our many judges. Heretofore, it has been very difficult to plan pilgrimages to Storrs to include any number of judges and this created a major problem.

Peculiarly, while perhaps there are more dahlia growers on Long Island than in any comparable area, there is only one Trial Garden judge who consistently scores the dahlias at Storrs. Most of our judges have traveled from Westchester, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Hence the dahlias at Rutgers will be judged more often, increasing our service to growers of seedlings.

Dr. Connors promises that even though we swamp him with entries, he has the facilities to grow the dahlias well.

A.D.S. SHOW — Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City, September 23 and 24.

Notice to Publicity Chairmen

Our printing costs have advanced to such an extent we must ask that all reports be edited carefully to conserve space.

We are reluctant to delete reports but must request your careful attention in their preparation.

We want to publish as many show reports as we can, and we rely upon your cooperation to tell your story with as little superfluous language as possible.

OHIO VALLEY

(Continued from page 9)

patch to add to the growing list of "must see" dahlia gardens around Cincinnati.

Dr. Harry Muegel, professor of botany at University of Cincinnati, was our speaker for March. Dr. Muegel told us some of the reasons why a white dahlia crossed on a white dahlia can give us a red dahlia. He spoke on the "Laws of Heredity as Applied to Plant Breeding," carrying the principles of the Mendelian Law to the second generation. For many this was their first introduction to Genes and Chromosomes and after an hour's discourse they were very reluctant in leaving and continued to ply Dr. Muegel with many questions. I learned two things: that the dahlia flower cannot be selfed and that the chromosomes have been twice doubled in the dahlia. What interesting breaks we should get by crossing our present day varieties back on some of the older ones or some species.

We hope Dr. Muegel may find time in the near future to tell us more about the interesting subject of heredity and how we can use it to advance the dahlia. The interest shown at this meeting may lead to the forming of an evening class in Genetics next fall at U.C.

Besides our own members we had many visitors, including a delegation from the Cincinnati Men's Horticultural Society. We are indebted to their secretary, Charles A. Weddigen, for the printed invitations that we used for this meeting. Charlie is one of those kind of men who is willing to do anything he can to advance the cause of horticulture. Thanks, Charlie, for the favor. We hope that we may some day be able to return it.

At our April meeting we had two guest speakers. E. J. Wind discussed DDT, Dowspray 17 and DN 269. E. J. advised against using full strength as it sometimes brought bad effects while weaker solutions were just as effective. Again he believes less frequent applications are better for the plants than regular applications like used for the older sprays. It seems that DDT is accumulative and if used too often it may effect the plant. E. J. also theorized that the DDT effect might be carried over through the roots to the next season. Dowspray 17 is to be used exactly as instructed or not be used at all, as it is very powerful. Measure each amount very carefully; never guess as to the amount unless you want disaster to befall your planting. A discussion on different fillers for reducing DDT dust and DN 269 brought out one fact: use only that filler that is recommended by the manufacturer as the others, though similar chemically, may produce a chemical reaction that would cause ill effects on the plants. Thanks a lot for the tips, E. J., and Red Spider, you better duck or Dowspray 17 or DN 269 may get you.

Did you know that the hyacinth industry owes much

to the lowly rat? Mr. Edward Schilfzand of Sassenheim, Holland, our second guest speaker, told us that the methods of propagating by cutting out the base of the bulb was learned from the rats, who had eaten the bases out of some discarded bulbs. These bulbs produced many bulblets around this eaten part. Doing the same to other bulbs, the Dutch nurserymen found that they could get a fast increase. Previously they had to depend upon natural division, which is a very slow process. The hyacinth when first introduced to Holland from Turkey, had only a few flowers to a spike. The hyacinth of today is a very beautiful flower of around 50 flowers to a spike in almost every color.

The ingenuity of the Hollanders was shown when they had tulips blooming for their Queen's 40th anniversary of her coronation. This occurring in August, 1938, was an off season for tulips, so two years before they shipped to Argentina, the bulbs they needed to make the plantings they wanted. In the spring of '38 these bulbs were shipped back; grown in greenhouses and when the anniversary came, tulips decorated the palace and palace grounds.

Mr. Schilfzand told us many more interesting things about Holland, their bulb industry and their flowers. He told us a little about the time of enemy occupation and the help they were able to give many of our downed aviators. Mr. Schilfzand came to Cincinnati knowing no one, but he did have a post card in his pocket with Elmer Shepard's name on it requesting his firm's catalog. A phone call by Mr. Schilfzand to Elmer started the chain of events that makes Mr. Schilfzand just Edward to the dahlia nuts of Cincy and gives Holland another dahlia grower. Incidentally, Edward knows personally the outstanding European dahlia growers like Ballego, Nagel, Pezant, etc. We hope that our little visit with Edward will bring us a little closer to our dahlia friends across the Atlantic. Bon voyage home, Edward, and a good dahlia season.

ANDREW F. DOERMANN,
Publicity Chairman.

Orange County Dahlia Society

The Orange County Dahlia Society has not rested on its laurels the past few months. The monthly meetings have been well attended and plans for future activities have been formulated.

Election of officers was held, with Dr. L. N. Sherrard being elected president, succeeding Dr. G. E. Raitt, who has headed the Society for the past six years. Dr. Raitt was later presented with an engraved life membership in the Society in appreciation of his hard work for the Society. The new president appointed the various committees for the coming year, and they have been exceedingly busy. The show dates have been set and the show schedule drawn up and adopted. E. A. B. Smith was appointed show manager for this year and he in turn appointed his assistants. The show will be held in the Santa Ana, Calif. Y.M.C.A., Friday, August 29, and Saturday, August 30.

The exhibition garden of the Society, located on city land loaned for the purpose, was voted continued for this year. It was a very successful project and created much interest in dahlia culture among the many visitors during the past summer. The ground has been plowed and disseminated, and stakes for the new planting placed so far.

The Society at the last two meetings has held plant

and tuber auctions, with the show fund benefiting from the proceeds. The plants and tubers are donated by the members. Planting is well along in the members' gardens, although many of their tubers failed to carry over the winter, due to rot. This was extremely bad here this past winter, but we are in hopes of having good success this summer with the large amount of new stock obtained by many of the members. Do not forget the dates of our show, the 29th and 30th of August, and any dahlia fancies who might be visiting our locality at that time are cordially invited to attend our show.

ELDEN MCNEIL, Corresponding Sec.,
Orange County Dahlia Society.

WHAT COLOR IS IT?

(Continued from page 5)

Elegante is a full bodied lemon cactus sulphur to lemon yellow shaded sulphury white.

Hydrophone is a brilliant contrast—coppery orange on the front of petals with a clearly visible reverse of orange red. A beauty! *Kelvin* is one you may have seen . . . it has won many many prizes. It is a vast decorative of shrimp to peach pink. You may also have seen the clear pure yellow, *Nobby's Light*, which is also a great prize taker.

Apart from the above six, there are new color breaks in the following:

Madam Lotti—champagne and pink decorative. *Mrs. Gordon Jackson*—lilac rose to yellowish lilac cactus. *Naivette*—great orange red and orange cadmium cactus. *Excelsior*—light chrome cactus. *High Caste*—crushed strawberry decorative. *Magnum Opus*—very rich shade of canary yellow.

The above twelve brief descriptions are just to give a practical idea of the newest and best color breaks developed in Australia in the last few years. They represent the acme of perfection in the hybridists' art . . . an art of the highest order.

Well, cheerio till next time!

Dahlia Culture ABC's

Prepare soil by digging deeply and mixing with it well-rotted cow manure, peat moss or driconure. Drive six-foot stakes, about three to four feet apart.

PLANT ROOTS FLAT . . . five to six inches deep. Green plants at least four inches from top of ball of earth to the soil surface. Attach name label to stake.

Start to spray immediately . . . see article on page six for directions . . . spray once a week if possible . . . continue throughout the growing season.

Keep ground cultivated until plants come to blossoming. Tie plants securely to stake as they grow.

When plant has three sets of leaves, pinch out the top, to encourage growth of four to six lateral branches. When buds form, retain the large center bud. Remove the side buds and one or two pairs of side sprouts directly beneath to produce large blooms and long stems. This should not be done with miniatures and pompons.

Scatter a handful of balanced fertilizer around each plant every six weeks and rake it lightly into the soil.

Water about a week after each rainfall . . . soak the soil thoroughly.

Using these simple directions, maximum results may be obtained . . . neglect of any one task invites difficulty!

Quiz Corner

By J. LOUIS ROBERTS
A.D.S. Vice-President

Question: I notice some of my dahlias stop growing for a period of ten days or more when I pinch them back. This was noticeable with *James Ross* and *Ginger Rogers*. On the other hand the pinching back of some varieties eventually improved the compactness of the plant. Should the pinching back of plants be followed? Does this injure the root in any way?

Answer: Pinching back is purely a matter of preference. Eddie O'Keefe of Cold Springs, N. Y., has told me that from his experience some dahlias should not be pinched back because they "cannot take it." Eddie is one of the best growers around New York. "Pinching back" is done for the purpose of having two, four or six canes grow in the place of one. A grower can use any one of canes to grow a show bloom. By pinching back he can control the development of his blooms for a particular show. Pinching back, as you say, will give a more bushy growth. It does delay flowering about two weeks. It does not injure the roots.

Question: Should shoots at the base of the plant be removed? Will removing these shoots make for better flowers?

Answer: Your question is not clear. From the wording one would think a clump of roots was planted. It is best, of course, to plant roots with not more than two eyes. If more grow from the old root, carefully take off the soil back to where the sprouts start and remove all but one or two. It will make better flowers. I believe though that your question has reference to the type of growth that some dahlias make. This sometimes indicates virus disease. The plants start sending out laterals all the way up from the base. The plant is so busy that it has not time to set flowers. If the season were long enough, it would all flower. Removal of some of these laterals will cause the others to bloom. Its nature's way to send out flowers as soon as the plant is damaged. Perry Wilson, who showed plenty of *Madam C. Jussiant* at the Midwest Show at St. Louis, told me he thinks the way to grow that variety is to remove a good portion of the laterals. Enough are removed to keep the bush open.

Question: How long are dahlia seeds good?

Answer: I don't know how long one may keep dahlia seed before they lose their vitality. I have just planted some seed grown in 1943 and found they germinated as well as some 1946 seed. Col. Sowton, who lived in Australia, wrote me before he died that he had germinated seed up to seven years old. Personally, I have an idea that seed two seasons old germinates better than new seeds. No, I have no proof and have made no such tests as I do not know of a positive check. Its just observation.

Question: Why is it I have so much trouble getting roots to sprout that come from California?

Answer: I do not find that this is always so. Some are a little slow for the reason that California roots are left in the ground longer than we in the middle west and east do. They mature better, but it takes just so much time for the root to start growing after its rest. I plant mine in the bench rather high out of the dirt and cover with sphagnum moss. Warren Maytrott was in Chicago a month or so ago, and he told me if any clump is backward in making eyes, he wraps a handful of damp sphagnum around the stem. Eyes will appear very soon thereafter, he says.

Fertilizers are still a bit scarce, so get yours early. I have just received a sample of bone meal ground so fine that it looks like a Portland cement. If any one is interested, I will forward address of the manufacturer if you will write me.

J. LOUIS ROBERTS,
12147 Harvard Ave., Chicago 28, Ill.

Scranton, Pa. Selects the Dahlia

At a recent meeting of The City Beautiful Organization, the Dahlia was selected as the city flower. Discussions with this organization concerning the cultural possibilities of the dahlia were arranged by a committee headed by Dr. Edward McDade. The fact that this city happens to be the headquarters of N. E. P. D. S., and that this branch society sponsors a yearly display at Nay Aug Park, were contributing factors in this eventful and historic decision. Its civic record helped. Assisting in the sale of War Bonds during the war, and, turning in advance ticket sale funds to a local Musical Education Fund, afforded further claim to a non-profit bearing organization. This fund proffers musical education for worthy students, who otherwise could not afford higher musical education. The City Beautiful Organization decided that a local society of good standing in the community would help to perpetuate their decision.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Dahlia Society rejoices in the above designation, especially when selected by the preeminent membership of City Beautiful. It is mindful of the splendid support of its members, its commercial friends, and the support of the executive officers of the A.D.S. over a period of years. President Charles Heuser graciously accepted this signal honor in the name of the local branch. The selection of the Dahlia by The City Beautiful Organization constitutes one of the highest honors ever granted to any one single flower in this locality.

If you are looking for . . .

BALL, CACTUS

and

COLLARETTE DAHLIAS

send for my price list

ANDREW F. DOERMANN

Cheviot

(Cincinnati 11)

Ohio

Ohio Dahlia Society

We have been very fortunate recently in having well-known and talented men for our guest speakers. At the February meeting Mr. Louis West of the Central States Society honored us with a description of the new dahlias he had seen at the various gardens he had visited. He had colored pictures of most of them. The talk and the pictures were interesting to all of us. Mr. West traveled to several states gathering material. He is a great fellow in every way and naturally a real dahlia fan.

For the March meeting the speaker was Prof. T. H. Parks, Extension Entomologist from Ohio University. Prof. Parks knows his insects and knows the cure for them probably as well as any man in the country. The information he gave us was the result of exhaustive study and actual experiments over a long period of years.

At our April meeting we had our annual sale of dahlia roots. I do not know the amount derived from this sale, but it was very satisfactory. President Edward Papish auctioned the roots. The Show dates are September 13th and 14th at the Masonic Hall, 36th and Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. A lot of preparation has already been made for the September show. It will be free to the public. A great many new sources have been contacted for prizes, thanks to Mr. Papish and others.

The following is a complete list of officers and committees:

President, Mr. Edward A. Papish; 1st Vice-President, Mr. Joe Kern; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. August Lackamp; 3rd Vice-President, Mr. Joe Pesek; 4th Vice-President, Mr. John Brack; Treasurer, Mr. John A. Burt; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Loretta Lackamp; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Berry.

Committee Chairmen: Show, Mr. Alfred Srail; Program, Mr. J. Ralph Berry; Membership, Mr. George Andrews; Publicity, Mrs. C. M. Patch; Historian, Mrs. Chris Wind; A.D.S. Editor, Mr. F. V. R. Veirs.

Advisory Board Members: Mr. James Cowie, Mr. E. J. Wind, Mr. Charles Lasch.

Mr. Srail, Show Chairman, has made the following appointments:

Premiums, Mr. Arth, Chairman; Mrs. Chris Wind, Mrs. Lasch.

Schedule (Dahlias only): Mr. Kern, Chairman; Mr. DeVeny, Mrs. MacDowell.

Schedule (Arrangements): Mrs. Papish, Chairman; Mrs. Eiche, Mrs. Srail.

Chairman of Judges: Mr. Cowie assisted by Mr. Lasch and Mr. Parenica.

Showroom Layout: Mr. Kaniecki, Chairman; Mr. Schaefer, Mr. Sadauskas; Mr. Joe Pesek.

Schedule Ads: Mr. Papish, Chairman; Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Lackamp.

Sub-Chairmen of Show: Novice Division, Mr. Berry; Amateur Division, Mr. Srail; Open for All, Mr. Wind.

Portland Dahlia Society

The Portland Dahlia Society will stage the 1947 Dahlia Show in the Sunken Ballroom of the Masonic Temple on Saturday and Sunday, October 4 and 5. Mr. J. H. De Volder will act as show chairman.

MADGE B. KERSHISNIK, Secretary.

LATE PLANTS...

Plants for late planting in Southern states and for fill-ins in Northern gardens may be ordered until July 1st. We keep a fairly complete line of the varieties listed in our DAHLIA BLUE BOOK until that date. These are the same sturdy, high quality plants that have made ROCKY RIVER plants the favorites of discriminating growers. They are grown to withstand heat of mid-summer. No roots after May 20th.

Dahlia Blue Book

If you are not already on our mailing list, send a card with your name and address for your *free* copy of the DAHLIA BLUE BOOK. Besides listing the finest modern exhibition dahlias, it contains full cultural instructions, illustrations, the latest approved insect control measures, and much of interest to the dahlia grower. It's truly a useful handbook on dahlias that you'll want to keep for reference purposes.

VISITORS

Visitors to Northern Ohio are urged to visit our farm, located ten miles west of downtown Cleveland. Transportation will be furnished from the car line for those who are not driving.

ROCKY RIVER DAHLIA GARDENS

E. J. Wind

19111 Story Rd., Rocky River 16, O.

Dahlia Society of New Jersey

At the annual meeting of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey, held at Parish House, Trinity Church, Newark, the following were elected officers and directors for 1947:

President, Mrs. C. V. Smith, Far Hills, N. J.; 1st vice president, Mr. John C. Metzger, Irvington; 2nd vice president, Mr. J. A. Kemp, Little Silver; 3rd vice president, Mr. Frank Marker, Upper Montclair; 4th vice president, Mr. W. Ethrington, Hillsdale; 5th vice president, Mr. Dewey Mohr, Rockville Centre, L. I.; 6th vice president, Mr. George Swezey, Columbia. Secretary, Mrs. H. D. Thomas, Paterson; Treasurer, Mrs. Frieda S. Fisher, Trenton; Financial Secretary, Mrs. C. Ward Parkhurst, Hillside.

Executive Board: Miss Frances Hornfeck, Mrs. C. Ward Parkhurst, Mrs. Ray Smith, Miss Virginia Stout, Mr. Otto Heinz, Mr. Harvard Revel, Mr. Frank Wein-garth, and past presidents Dr. C. H. Connors, E. B. Lloyd, J. W. Johnston, Conrad Frey, W. W. Maytrott, Leo Pollak, Mrs. S. G. Van Hoesen and Mrs. W. W. Maas.

After discussion of the date for the Fall flower show, it was voted to hold it at Kearny on September 20, with Mr. John Metzger as show manager. Mr. Pollak to be schedule chairman and Mr. Frey, chairman of judges.

It was decided to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Society with a dinner to be held in the Fall, Mr. Frey and Mrs. Maas to have charge of the arrangements.

Mr. Frey, Mr. Albert W. Egan, Mr. Max O. Scheffel and Mr. Herbert Green were appointed to a committee to arrange for programs for the meetings of the Society. A discussion of treatments for pests of the dahlia followed, with many of the members participating. There are many new preparations coming into the market, some of which are effective and many are not so good. It was suggested that the next meeting be devoted to insecticides and left to the new committee to get a speaker on the subject.

Mr. Henry Ohlsen showed a fine collection of slides of dahlias and dahlia gardens, and people interested in dahlia growing. After the pictures, refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed by the large number present.

San Leandro, Calif.

The San Leandro Dahlia Society are holding their annual show, Saturday and Sunday, August 30 and 31.

This year we are trying out some new classes to tempt the youngsters to get interested in the growing of dahlias. We are having four classes, two for girls under 15 years; two for boys under 15. Classes are best decorative and best cactus in each section. It is the hope of the Society members that this will encourage the youngsters to go in for dahlias as a hobby. There are three prizes in each class. Mr. J. Groves had to resign his position as a director on the board after 16 years of service. Mr. John Sparre was appointed to succeed him. The Society is looking forward to a most successful season.

CHAS. GARRITY, Secretary.

Camden Dahlia and Horticultural Society News

The plans for the twenty-third annual flower show of the Camden (N. J.) Dahlia & Horticultural Society are moving forward with high hopes for a bigger and better show in 1947. The 1946 show was very worthwhile and created a real interest in flower growing. Since the last show date the Society has taken in many new and enthusiastic members, who are proving to be willing workers. As many hands make light work, the prospects for a successful show grows brighter as the time moves on. At a recent meeting of the board of managers, committees were named to take care of the various phases of the preliminary work in contemplation of being ready. September 26 and 27 have been selected as the dates for the show.

The officers for 1947 are: Charles D. Taylor, president; A. E. Long, vice-president; George C. Rogers, treasurer; Watson Conover, secretary. Board of managers: Prof. Harry O. Yates, J. B. Davis, Samuel Rodman, Clarence A. Green, and Anna G. Conover.

Mr. A. E. Long, who successfully managed the show in 1946, has been unanimously chosen to act in the same capacity in 1947.

At the February meeting of the Camden Dahlia & Horticultural Society, it was decided to hold the twenty-third annual flower show on Friday and Saturday, September 26 and 27, 1947. As heretofore, the show will be held at the Camden County Vocational School, Browning Road, Merchantville, N. J.

WATSON CONOVER, Secretary.

Tennessee Dahlia Society

The Tennessee Dahlia Society held its monthly meeting at the Hotel Patten, March 18, 1947.

Mrs. Oscar L. Mitchell, our charming and so efficient show chairman of the 1946 show, was selected by our president, Mr. Clarence R. Kallquist, to be the show chairman again for the 1947 show. Mrs. Mitchell will appoint her committees—committees which she is so able to keep working—during the next few weeks.

The annual show is scheduled for September 27-28, 1947, in the Grand Ballroom, Hotel Patten, Chattanooga, Tennessee. This is the first time that we have scheduled a two-day show but we are confident, and justly so, that it will be more successful than any previous show that has been held. Arrangements were made for our first "Plant and Tuber Sale." Our chief objective in this "sale" is not for profit but to induce more flower lovers to grow dahlias.

Mr. Earl Miller, Hilltop Dahlia Farm, Chattanooga, Tenn., brought a clump of *Bataan*. He divided this clump into tubers, 9 tubers, explaining each step as he went along, thus giving our new members, and old members, an insight as to the correct procedure for division of clumps. We find that this demonstration always brings a few visitors to the meeting—more visitors means more members.

CLARENCE R. KALLQUIST.

GOLDEN RULE DAHLIAS

SINCE 1924

Due to more adequate greenhouse space and completed research in the best methods of packing and shipping, our customers are getting better plants and quicker service than ever before.

Here are two of many satisfied April 1947 customers. Quote:

"I appreciate very much indeed your extreme promptness in sending my mail order of Chrysanthemums and in addition, even more important the fine condition of plants upon arrival, and the thoughtful care taken in packing them."

"Received the dahlia cuttings yesterday in A-1 condition. They are the best cuttings I ever received from any grower. Thanks for your prompt attention."

Free Dahlia Book listing leading dahlias and Hardy Mums

Plant our Hardy Mum collection B., as a border for your dahlia garden. Eighteen large flowered mums, nine English and nine standard, for \$3.25 postpaid.

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Commissioner George Warren

A Giant Bright Yellow, I.D.

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A Beautiful Clean White, I.D.

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Columbia (Warren Co.), N. J.

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Special Collection Offer

12 large type roots, all named and labeled—\$4.50

15 large type roots for \$10.00

This Collection Includes Some of the Latest Introductions

6 roots of lovely Pom. or Miniatures for only \$2.00

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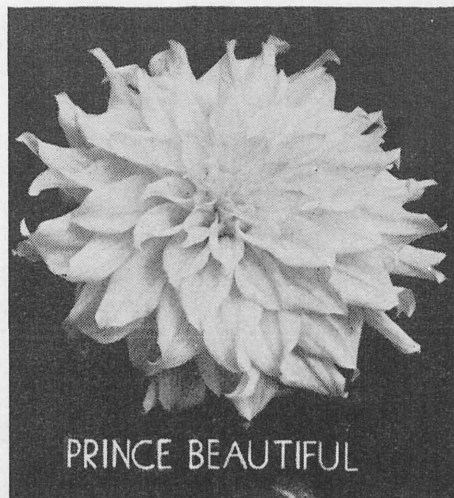
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MODERN DAHLIAS and HARDY CHRYS-
ANTHEMUMS are fine for cutting and
have almost unlimited possibilities for ar-
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HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS. We list 400 varieties of
the best in DAHLIAS, reasonably priced. Send for your
FREE copy.

Novelties Are Always Interesting

PRINCE BEAUTIFUL (Johnson-Dahliadel). A sport
of Golden Prince developed by use of chemicals, which is
a soft rose pink shading to cream at the center with dis-
tinct golden yellow stripes. Should go places as an In-
formal variegated on the show table. A whole bush may
decide to be just Golden Prince this year, then Prince
Beautiful next. Prince Beautiful is suitable for landscap-
ing, use as a cut flower or on the show table. Won the
American Home Achievement Medal at Burholme. We
are introducing this novelty only in lots of three so you
may be assured of having Prince Beautiful. Sold out of Plants of Prince Beautiful for the season.



Roots, 3 for \$5.00 Net

4 EXHIBITION DAHLIAS—Roots Value \$4.00 \$3

All Informal Decoratives that can easily be grown over 10 inches across. Fine for exhibiting or cut-
ting. **ALICE MAY**—A fine pure white. . . **DAHLIAMUM**—Buff, amber and gold combination.
GLAMOUR—Rich purple veined violet rose. . . **JEANETTE**—Beautiful deep purplish red tipped
white. . . 1 root of each labeled, guaranteed, and shipped postpaid at planting time.

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Popular Decorative Varieties

Start blooming Sept. 25 to Oct. 10

- CHIPPEWA.** 2½"—2'. An aster purple. One
of the earliest.
GLITTERING HILLS. 2½"—2'. Golden yellow. Fine for cutting.
MAGNOLIA. 2½"—1½'. Cream with buff
shadings.
NORMANDIE. 2½"—1½'. Pure white which
yellows Avalanche.
PINK RADIANCE. 3"—2½'. Soft luminous
pink. Beautiful.
RED VELVET. 2½"—2½'. Rich crimson.
Pot Plant each .50 3 of a kind \$1.35
Rooted Cutting .35 3 of a kind .95
AVALANCHE. 3"—1½'. Large popular early
white.
HARBOR LIGHTS. 2"—2½'. An early
creamy yellow.
RUTH CUMMING. ½"—1½'. Bronze red.
SYMPHONY. 3"—2½'. Showy coppery pink.
Pot Plant each .35 3 of a kind .95
Rooted Cutting .25 3 of a kind .68

6 Outstanding English Varieties

Start blooming between Oct. 10-25

- CONQUEROR.** 3"—3'. Rich amaranth red.
COPELIA. 3"—1½'. Popular bright reddish
orange.
GOLD STANDARD. 4"—3½'. Largest deep
yellow. A great favorite.
LEDA. 3"—2½'. Beautiful violet rose.
SALMON FRED. 2½"—3'. Salmon pink.
TRIXIE. 5"—2'. Orange, apricot reverse.
Pot Plant each .50 3 of a kind \$1.35
Rooted Cutting .35 3 of a kind .95

Rooted Cuttings are very satisfactory, as they
stand shipment wonderfully well wrapped in
sphagnum moss. They can be planted direct in
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