

American Horticulturist

AHS Meetings and Awards Programs



Photograph by Robin Williams

AHS President Edward N. Dane presents the Society's First National Achievement Award to Lady Bird Johnson.

Over 300 AHS members enjoyed our 1984 San Antonio Annual Meeting. Participants explored the potential uses and cultivation of our country's native plants, and toured San Antonio-area public and private gardens. Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, noted for her conservation work and for her founding role in the new National Wildflower Research Center, addressed AHS meet-

ing registrants at the LBJ Ranch.

This year's annual meeting will take place in Chicago, September 11-15. Focusing on the many aspects of the relationship between plants and people, the meeting will include educational sessions on horticultural therapy and the benefits of gardening. AHS meeting participants will have not only special access to public and private gardens, but also the opportunity to share their experiences with a congenial group of fellow horticulture enthusiasts. Plan to be a part of this special gathering at our Chicago 1985 Annual Meeting! Watch for details and registration information in your May *American Horticulturist* News Edition, or write Robin Williams, AHS, P.O. Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121 for special advance information.

Each year the Society presents awards to outstanding horticulturists at its annual meeting. The presentation of the awards, given for excellence in many aspects of horticulture, caps the exciting exchange of information and ideas the meetings have come to represent. Society members are encouraged to nominate candidates for awards. See your November 1984 *American Horticulturist* News Edition for more information on the awards program, or write to the Awards Committee at the address given above. The deadline for nominating candidates for the 1985 awards is May 1. Let us hear from you!

AHS Travel Program

Belgium and Holland by Road and Waterway (April 21-May 4)

Join AHS members for a tour of historic Brussels, the Royal Botanical Gardens and greenhouses, Amsterdam, the tulip festival in Haarlem and Keukenhof Gardens. Also scheduled are a visit to the famed Florales, held every five years, as well as a barge trip on the canals of Holland during tulip time. Tour leader is Richard Hutton, AHS Board Member and President of Conard-Pyle/Star Roses.

England and the Chelsea Flower Show (May 16-30)

Join John Clayton, Retired Curator of Horticulture, Royal Horticultural Society, and tour public and private gardens in England during the spring blooming season. A visit to the famed Chelsea Flower Show is also scheduled. Plan to join AHS members for one of our most popular tours.

Waterways of Western Europe (May 26-June 11)

Join White House Floral Designer Dorothy Temple for a tour of France, Portugal, Spain and England aboard the yacht *Argonaut*. From Lisbon, participants will cruise along the coast of the Galicia region in northern Spain and through the Bay of Biscay to Bordeaux. Other stops include Guernsey, Sark, Giverny, Rouen, Southampton, Brighton and London.

Romantic France (June 7-20)

Visit the romantic gardens of France, including the gardens of Princess Sturza and the Comte de Vogue's chateau in Normandy. After touring Monet's garden and house in Giverny, participants will spend four days exploring Paris.

YES! Please send me more information on the tours I have checked below:

- ☐ Belgium and Holland by Road and Waterway
- ☐ England and the Chelsea Flower Show
- ☐ Waterways of Western Europe
- ☐ Romantic France

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: Robin Williams, American Horticultural Society, PO Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121.

Cycad Report Available

TRAFFIC (U.S.A.), a program of World Wildlife Fund-U.S., has published a new report that will be of interest to cycad enthusiasts as well as individuals with an interest in endangered plants. *Cycads: Status, Trade, Exploitation, and Protection, 1977-1982* deals with members of the three closely related families in the order Cycadales, all of which are commonly referred to as cycads. The three families are Cycadaceae, which contains a single genus, *Cycas*; Stangeriaceae, which includes only one genus, *Stangeria*; and Zamiaceae, which has eight genera—*Bouenia*, *Ceratozamia*, *Dioon*, *Encephalartos*, *Lepidozamia*, *Macrozamia*, *Microcycas* and *Zamia*.

This new report provides a fascinating account of how these "living fossils" became one of the most threatened botanical groups in the world. Cycads were one of the dominant plant groups on earth during the dinosaur era, between 150 and 200 million years ago.

Botanists recognize 168 taxa (species, varieties and sub-species) of cycads. One species is "extinct"; it no longer exists in the wild. Although male plants are growing in several botanical gardens, no female plants are known to exist. Ten species are classified as endangered, and 33 taxa are considered vulnerable. Unless something is done to alleviate current threats to these vulnerable species, they will probably need to be

reclassified to the endangered category.

According to the report, cycads have been collected and used for "wood, for making products such as laundry starch, alcohol, fertilizer, and various medicines, and for food. ... Cycads have been steamed, boiled, baked, or fermented to produce everything from curry to beer. The tubers, seeds, and stems all are rich in starch, which is the most commonly extracted element of the plant." Interestingly, cycads all contain toxic chemicals that make all parts of the plants (if left untreated) poisonous to man and animals. Until recently, wholesale cycad eradication campaigns were a major threat to the survival of cycads in many parts of the world; cycads were uprooted and/or poisoned by ranchers in an attempt to protect their livestock. Apparently, despite the endangered status of many of these plants, widespread destruction continues.

Today, collection for horticultural use is a very serious threat, especially since there is great demand for the rarest species of cycads. The legal and illegal collecting that continues can have a devastating effect on rare species.

In addition to world import and export statistics on cycad trade, the TRAFFIC (U.S.A.) report includes several black and white photographs, a status report on all of the known species of cycads, a history of exploitation, and information on protective measures that have been or should be taken to protect these species.

Cycads: Status, Trade, Exploitation, and Protection, 1977-1982 is available for \$8.50 per copy. To order, write TRAFFIC (U.S.A.), 1601 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20009. (Make checks payable to World Wildlife Fund-U.S.)

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AHS Welcomes First Sponsoring Member

The American Horticultural Society is pleased to welcome the Massachusetts Horticultural Society as its first sponsoring member. Sponsoring memberships, a new category of membership in the Society, are available to non-profit organizations such

as garden clubs, public gardens, plant societies and student horticultural clubs. Through this new program, the Society hopes to link organizations involved in all phases of American horticulture, and thus to improve communication among horticulturists and gardeners throughout the country.

Individual members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society will be given the opportunity to join the American Horticultural Society as associate members. A portion of the dues MHS members pay to the American Horticultural Society will be returned to the Massachusetts organization as a sponsoring institution.

For more information on sponsoring memberships in the American Horticultural Society, write Charles Huckins, Executive Director, American Horticultural Society, PO Box 0105, Mount Vernon, VA 22121.

Plants Wanted

Members who are growing or who have access to any of the plants in this month's column are invited to help their fellow members locate seed, plants or cuttings of their "Plants Wanted" by writing directly to the addresses listed below.

Please send your "Plants Wanted" lists, including genus, species, common name and a brief description, to Ray Rogers in care of the Society. Please type or print neatly. We will publish "Plants Wanted" requests on a space-available basis after checking for sources in the Society's mail-order catalogue file.

• ***Aristolochia tomentosa***, woody pipevine, a deciduous climber that reaches 30 feet in height. Solitary flowers are about 1½ inches long and have a greenish-yellow, V-shaped calyx tube. ***Schisandra coccinea***, bay star vine or wild sarsaparilla, a high-climbing vine with fleshy, ovate to elliptic, five-inch leaves. Bears clusters of crimson flowers followed by red berries. Both species are natives of the southeastern United States. Roy C. Brewer, 2791 Fort Scott Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

• ***Eucomis pallidiflora***, pineapple lily, a species closely related to the more common *E. comosa* and *E. bicolor*, but bears its pinkish-brown flowers in late summer or early fall.

R. H. Uhlmann, PO Box 410, Kansas City, MO 64141.

• ***Thalictrum dipterocarpum*** 'Hewitt's Double', a double form of Chinese meadow rue that grows to five feet in height. Ms. Mary Winters, 8800 Fernwood Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

• **Variegated forms of *Ginkgo biloba*** (maidenhair tree) and ***Acer negundo*** (box elder). Would like cuttings of any variegated sports for grafting purposes. James L. Murrain, 3233 McGee, Kansas City, MO 64111.

Memorial Fund Established

The American Horticultural Society is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$25,000 grant from the Helen Clay Frick Foundation. The grant will be used to establish a permanent endowment fund in honor of the late Alfred M. Hunt, a trustee of the Helen Clay Frick Foundation and a long-time supporter of the American Horticultural Society. Mr. Hunt, who passed away on November 1, 1984, was a director of the Society from 1972 to 1980.

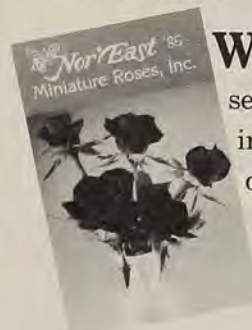
The income from the Alfred M. Hunt Memorial Fund will be used for projects that encourage cooperation among horticultural organizations in the United States.

Newsletter Wins Award

American Horticulturist News Edition was given an Award of Merit by the Garden Writers Association of America at their 1984 Annual Convention. The GWAA Quill and Trowel Award was given in recognition of the newsletter's significant achievements and high standards of excellence.

Two *American Horticulturist* contributors also won awards for articles that appeared in the magazine. Frederick McGourty won a certificate for "Improving American Gardens," which appeared in the December 1983 issue. Pamela Harper won a certificate for "A Garden Work of Art," which appeared in the April 1983 issue.

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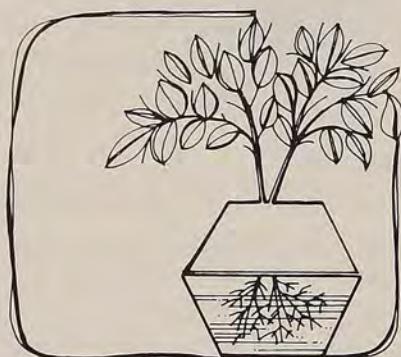
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Phalaenopsis 'Toyland'

Easy-to-Grow Orchid Developed

In years to come, house plant enthusiasts may be lining their windowsills with a new, easy-to-grow orchid cultivar, *Phalaenopsis* 'Toyland'. According to the plant's developer, Robert J. Griesbach, a geneticist at the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, 'Toyland' is a dwarf plant that grows in regular potting soil and is easier to grow than African violets. It does not require greenhouse culture, and is an ideal plant for an east- or west-facing windowsill.

'Toyland' bears silver-dollar-size flowers that are nearly white in color. The flowers appear on short, six-inch stems, a feature that makes the plants perfect for windowsill culture. In addition, the foliage is variegated with white, and the plants never outgrow a four-inch pot.

Although 'Toyland' is not yet available for sale (it should be available to the public in one or two years), blooming-size plants should retail for about \$4.00 or \$5.00 in a four-inch pot.

Griesbach, who works at the Florist and Nursery Crops Laboratory at Beltsville, Maryland, is currently working on the details for releasing the plant to the public. Since 'Toyland' flowers as quickly from seed as it does when produced from tissue

culture, and since seed-produced plants would be less expensive, plans are being made for several major companies to produce seedlings, which will be sold to commercial growers across the country.

Although 'Toyland' is the product of a 12-year breeding program (its parents are *P.* 'Hummingbird' and *P.* × *leucorrhoda*), Griesbach plans to develop other dwarf hybrids by using gene transfer technology. This way, he will be able to transfer desirable characteristics from plant to plant and even from species to species. Griesbach would like to use these techniques to develop plants with showier blooms and flowers in various colors. The dwarfing characteristic can only be inherited through a breeding program that involves crossing and back-crossing a variety of plants. However, with gene transfer it is possible to incorporate traits into a plant that are not obtainable through a classical breeding program.

'Toyland' is not yet available for sale. Once a commercial production and distribution plan is developed, this exciting new hybrid will be available from florists, nurseries, garden centers and plant dealers across the country.

Photograph by Agricultural Research Service, USDA

Endangered Plant Update

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed *Solidago shortii*, Short's goldenrod, for listing as an Endangered species. A member of the daisy family, Short's goldenrod bears yellow flowers between mid-August and early November. It grows in cedar glades, openings in oak-hickory forests and pastures, and along roadsides.

Today, only about 2,000 to 4,000 plants remain, and these are distributed in only five populations located in three counties in Kentucky. Approximately 50 to 60 percent of the plants are found in one population located in Blue Licks Battlefield State Park. A large number of plants were destroyed during construction of a campground in 1970. Most of the remaining plants in this population are located within a 1½-acre area that has been declared a nature preserve. The four other sites where Short's goldenrod is still found are located within private property or state highway rights of way. Although there are no plans to develop these sites, dramatic changes in land use and possible roadside fires are potential threats to these populations. Because of the small number of remaining plants, *S. shortii* is also threatened by unauthorized collection, as well as development of the plant's habitat and potential recreational activities.

—Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, November 1984

Lists Available

Your Society is pleased to offer two valuable lists of national horticultural organizations and plant societies: "National Horticultural Organizations and Associations," which includes 70 important institutions of regional and national scope; and "Plant Societies," an extensive list of approximately 100 specialist groups, alphabetically arranged by plant name for quick reference. Both lists have been recently updated and give names, addresses, contact persons and telephone numbers.

The lists are available for \$2 each; both lists may be sent to the same address for \$3. Send your order and check to the Education Department, American Horticultural Society, PO Box 0105, Mt. Vernon, VA 22121.



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Lawn Disease Pathogens Identified

A plant pathologist and turfgrass disease specialist at Cornell University has discovered that *Fusarium* blight, a disease that causes ugly patches of dead grass to appear on lawns throughout much of the United States and southern Canada, is not actually caused by the fungus *Fusarium*.

According to Richard W. Smiley, an associate professor of plant pathology at the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell, "*Fusarium* has little to do with the initiation of this disease." Over the past four years, laboratory work and greenhouse field tests have led Smiley to identify two species of fungus that are capable of causing *Fusarium* blight independently: *Leptosphaeria korrae*, a fungus that has recently been found to cause a disease called "spring dead spot" in Bermuda grass in Australia, and *Phialophora graminicola*, a species that until now was thought to be innocuous. Smiley notes that "neither of these species was previously thought to have existed widely in North America." The Cornell scientist has proposed that the scientific community rename the newly distinguished diseases "summer patch" and "necrotic ring spot" because the current name, *Fusarium* blight, is a misnomer.

Although two species have been isolated and identified in the Cornell laboratory, Smiley suspects that a few other closely related fungi that are yet to be identified may cause similar ailments. Each of the pathogens is likely to have slightly different responses to temperature, water, fungicides and other aspects of the lawn environment, and therefore must be considered to cause different diseases.

Smiley's finding clears the way for scientists to devise new, more effective ways to control *Fusarium* blight, which is considered one of the most serious lawn diseases known in North America. Cornell researchers are already working to develop effective countermeasures involving cultural practices and chemical controls.

Fusarium blight afflicts lawns

mainly during the hottest periods of July and August, causing large patches of grasses to die. Kentucky bluegrass, used widely in home lawns, is most vulnerable. Sometimes an island of unaffected grasses is surrounded by a ring of diseased grasses, thus creating the typical "frog eye" appearance. Turfgrasses along walkways and driveways often come under attack first.

The most economic way to control *Fusarium* blight is to mix disease-tolerant grasses into the turf stand. Smiley has found that some cultivars of Kentucky bluegrass—such as 'Adelphi', 'Enmundi', 'Sydsport' and 'Touchdown'—are more tolerant of the diseases than others. Perennial ryegrasses and tall fescues are even more resistant than bluegrass.

Lawn care that reduces summer stresses on the grass is also helpful in combating the problem. Smiley recommends adequate watering and fertilization before the disease attacks the lawn in summer. In addition, the lawn should not be cut too short.

Smiley also found that each of the fungal species responsible for the disease is controllable with fungicides containing benomyl, methyl thiophanate, ethyl thiophanate, propiconazole or fenarimol.

Although *Fusarium* has proven, in this case, to be a relatively innocent bystander, this fungus remains one of the most pervasive disease-causing organisms known. It causes other turf diseases, such as *Fusarium* patch (also called Gerlachia patch or pink snow mold), *Fusarium* crown and root rot, *Fusarium* leaf spot and *Fusarium* seedling diseases (also called *Fusarium* damping-off). *Fusarium* also attacks a wide range of economically important agricultural and ornamental crops throughout the world.



Gardener's Dateline

MARCH 3-10

Philadelphia Flower Show

Philadelphia Civic Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Information: Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 325 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19106, (215) 625-8253.

MARCH 6-10

Nashville Lawn and Garden Fair

Tennessee State Fairgrounds, Nashville, Tennessee. Information: Richard C. Page, Director, Botanical Gardens, Cheekwood, Nashville, TN 37205.

MARCH 7-10

Metropolitan Louisville Home, Garden and Flower Show

Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center, Louisville, Kentucky. Information: Tony Short, Home Builders Association, 1800 Arthur St., Louisville, KY 40217, (502) 637-9737.

MARCH 9

5th Annual Vegetable Garden Symposium

Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia. Information: Education Department, Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA 31822, (404) 663-2281, ext. 153.

MARCH 9-17

New England Spring Flower Show

Bayside Exposition Center, Boston, Massachusetts. Hours: Sundays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission: General, \$6.00; Senior Citizens, \$5.00. Information: Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Horticultural Hall, 300 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, MA 02115, (617) 536-9280.

MARCH 10-31

Rhododendron Species Foundation Early Blooming Species Walks

Federal Way, Washington. Hours: Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$2; Children under 12 free. Information: Rhododendron Species Foundation, PO Box 3798, Federal Way, WA 98003, (206) 927-6960 or 838-4646.

MARCH 13-17

Washington Flower and Garden Show

Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C. Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Information: TJS Productions, Show Promotions, 7668-B Fullerton Rd., Springfield, VA 22153, (703) 569-7141.

MARCH 16-24

Buffalo Home and Garden Show

Buffalo Convention Center, Buffalo, New York. Hours: Saturdays, Sunday (March 17), Monday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,

4 to 10 p.m.; Sunday (March 24), 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Information: Buffalo Home and Garden Show, Suite 527, Statler Building, 107 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14202, (716) 852-2006.

MARCH 16-24

Indiana Flower and Patio Show

Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis, Indiana. Hours: Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Information: Indiana Flower & Patio Show, PO Box 20189, Indianapolis, IN 46220, (317) 255-4151.

MARCH 20

National Agriculture Day

Information: Larry Marton, Special Programs Division, OPGA, Room 536-A, Administration Building, Washington, D.C. 20250, (202) 447-2058.

MARCH 20-23

International Centenary Orchid Conference

Royal Horticultural Society, London, England. Information: Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square and Greycoat Street, London, SW 1P 2PE, England.

MARCH 20-23

American Horticultural Society Spring Symposium: "Horticultural Diversity"

Los Angeles, California. Information: American Horticultural Society, Education Department, PO Box 0105, Mount Ver-

non, VA 22121, (703) 768-5700.

MARCH 20-24

New York Flower Show

50th Street Hudson River Exhibition Pier, New York, New York. Information: David J. Jacobson, Marketing Services, 811 The Parkway, Mamaroneck, NY 10543, (914) 698-1417.

MARCH 21-24

Central Missouri Home, Lawn, Garden and Recreational Show

Hearnes Multipurpose Building, Columbia, Missouri. Information: Page Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 12, Rt. 3, Gravois Mills, MO 65037, (314) 372-2277.

MARCH 22-24

Old Home and Garden Fair

Strong Museum, Rochester, New York. Information: Strong Museum, One Manhattan Square, Rochester, NY 14607, (716) 263-2700, ext. 257.

MARCH 23 and 29

50th Annual House and Garden Tours

The Garden Club of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina. Hours: 2 to 5 p.m. Admission: \$12 per tour. Information: M. M. Blalock, 137 Broad St., Charleston, SC 29401, (803) 722-0026.

MARCH 23-31

Portland Home and Garden Show

Exposition Center, Portland, Oregon. Hours: Friday and Saturdays, noon to

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MARCH 28-31
3rd Annual Westchester Spring Garden and Flower Show

Westchester County Center, White Plains, New York. Hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$5; Senior citizens and children under 12, \$3.50. Information: Frank B. Hall & Company, 549 Pleasantville Rd., Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510, (914) 769-9200.

MARCH 29-31
Ark-La-Miss Home, Lawn, Garden and Recreational Show

Civic Center, Monroe, Louisiana. Information: Page Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 12, Rte. 3, Gravois Mills, MO 65037, (314) 372-2277.

MARCH 30
New England Wild Flower Society All-Day Symposium: "Wildflowers in Your Garden"

Framingham, Massachusetts. Pre-registration required. Fee: Members, \$45; Non-members, \$50. Information: Symposium, New England Wild Flower Society, Inc., Garden in the Woods, Hemenway Rd., Framingham, MA 01701, (617) 877-7630 or 237-4924.

MARCH 31-APRIL 3
Williamsburg Garden Symposium

Williamsburg, Virginia. Information: Trudy S. Moyles, Registrar, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, PO Box C, Williamsburg, VA 23187, (804) 229-1000.

APRIL 3-7
International Bonsai Congress

New Orleans, Louisiana. Information: Henry Denoux, IBC '85 Registration Chairman, PO Box 750135, New Orleans, LA 70175, (504) 833-6754.

APRIL 3-7
9th Annual Edmonton Home and Garden Show

Northlands Agricom, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Hours: Weekdays, 5:30 to 10:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Information: Southex Exhibitions, 4019 4th Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3C 0B7, Canada, (403) 249-4050.

APRIL 3-28
Rhododendron Species Foundation Primary Blooming Season Walks

Information: See March 10-31.

APRIL 15
Wilmington Garden Center Rare Plant Auction

Wilmington, Delaware. Information: Karen H. Bidus, Wilmington Garden Center, 503 Market Street Mall, Wilmington, DE 19801, (302) 658-1913.

APRIL 18-21
Suburban New York Home and Garden Show

Rockland Community College Field House, Suffern, New York. Hours: Thursday and Friday, 1 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: \$4; Children under 12 free; Senior citizens (on April 18 & 19 only), free. Information: Rose Mary Ficarra, Southex Exhibitions, 900 Kings Highway North, Suite 301, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034, (609) 667-4021.

APRIL 20-28
Floralies of Ghent, Belgium

Information: Floralies Gantoises, Congres Centrum, Citadelpark, B-9,000 Ghent, Belgium.

APRIL 20-28
Historic Garden Week in Virginia Tours

Information: Historic Garden Week Headquarters, The Kent-Valentine House, 12 East Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23219, (804) 644-7776.

APRIL 26-28
American Magnolia Society Annual International Meeting

Tarrytown, New York. Information: Lola Koerting, BBGRC, 712 Kitchawan Rd., Ossining, NY 10562, (914) 941-8886.

APRIL 27-MAY 5
48th Annual Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage

Information: Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, 1105-A Providence Rd., Towson, MD 21204, (301) 821-6933.

APRIL 28-MAY 2
National Council of State Garden Clubs National Convention

Nashville, Tennessee. Information: Mrs. R. D. Wagner, National Chair, NCSTC, Inc., 4401 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110, (203) 658-7489.

APRIL 29-30
International Rhododendron Species Symposium

Executive Inn, Tacoma, Washington. Information: Rhododendron Species Foundation, PO Box 3798, Federal Way, WA 98003, (206) 927-6960 or 838-4646.

MAY 2-5
American Rhododendron Society Annual Convention

Seattle, Washington. Information: Fran Egan, Executive Secretary, 14635 SW Bull Mt. Rd., Tigard, OR 97223, (503) 639-5922.

MAY 3-4
American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta Western Regional Meeting

Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, California. Information: Mary Sheldon, Administrative Assistant, (805) 682-4726.

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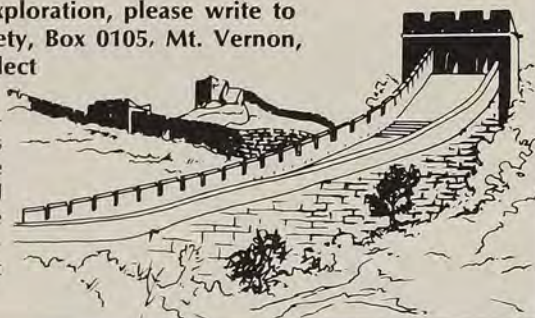
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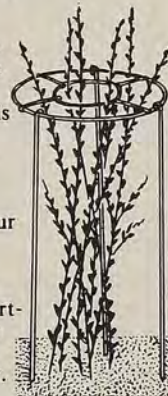
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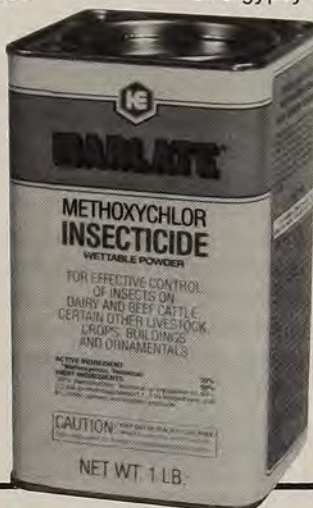
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New Publications



• **Ohio Endangered Plants.** The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, has published a book of abstracts on endangered and threatened plants of Ohio. This 635-page book, entitled *Ohio Endangered and Threatened Vascular Plants: Abstracts of State-Listed Taxa*, contains one- to three-page abstracts on 367 species. Each abstract includes information on the plant's federal and Ohio legal status, habitat, ecology, taxonomy, nomenclature, and global and state range. The book also includes information on the Ohio Endangered Plant Law, as well as an overview of rare plant distribution and research in Ohio.

The book sells for \$17.25 per copy, which includes shipping and handling. (Ohio residents, please add 83¢ Ohio sales tax.) To order a copy, send a check or money order to Publications Center, *Ohio Endangered and Threatened Vascular Plants*, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Fountain Square, Columbus, OH 43224. (Make checks payable to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.)

• **Dwarf Conifer History.** Dwarf conifer enthusiasts will be interested in *St. George and the Pygmies: The Story of Tsuga Canadensis 'Minuta'*, a new booklet written by Peter Del Tredici of the Arnold Arboretum. The entire 48-page booklet is devoted to the history of a very dwarf cultivar of Canada hemlock, *T. canadensis* 'Minuta', from the time of its discovery to the present.

St. George and the Pygmies is available for \$4.75 per copy from Theophrastus Books, PO Box 458, Little Compton, RI 02837.

• **Rose Handbook.** The 1985 edi-

tion of the American Rose Society's popular booklet, *Handbook for Selecting Roses*, is now available. This useful booklet lists over 1,000 commercially available rose cultivars, classifies them by color, and rates their garden performance. The booklet also contains lists of highly rated cultivars for easy reference. To order a copy, send 50¢ and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to The American Rose Society, Department US, PO Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130.

• **Nursery Stock Standards.** Although not a new publication, *American Standard for Nursery Stock* (published in 1980) is a useful reference for anyone who is buying or selling nursery stock. This 30-page booklet provides the standard specifications for the various woody plant groups that are available, including shade and flowering trees; coniferous evergreens; broadleaf evergreens; vines and ground covers; roses; fruit trees; and bulbs, corms and tubers. General height, branching and caliper specifications are provided for each group, as well as bare root and balled and burlapped specifications. Although designed for professional use, the booklet contains a great deal of useful information that would help gardeners judge the quality of nursery stock that they are considering purchasing. The specifications in the booklet would also help gardeners determine if they received stock of the grade for which they paid.

The blue-covered 1980 edition of *American Standard for Nursery Stock* (yellow- tan- or green-covered versions are out-of-date) is available for \$4.00 per copy. To order, write the American Association of Nurserymen, 1250 I Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

• **Daffodil Handbook.** Daffodil fanciers will want to own a copy of the American Daffodil Society's newest edition of *Daffodils to Show and Grow*, 1985. This new pocket-sized list classifies and describes over 5,000 daffodil cultivars, and is available for \$4.00 per copy. To order, write Miss Leslie Anderson, Executive Director, American Daffodil Society, Rt. 3, 2302 Byhalia Road, Hernando, MS 38632.

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Gardens of a Golden Afternoon. Jane Brown. 208 pages. Story of the collaboration between Gertrude Jekyll and Edwin Lutyens. Color photographs and design details. Hardcover, \$31.95. AHS member price \$24.70.

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Compendium of Rose Diseases. American Phytopathological Society. 50 pages. Excellent reference on rose diseases caused by fungi, bacteria, viruses and nematodes, as well as other environmental factors. Softcover, \$17.00. AHS member price \$15.30.

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Plant Propagation for the Amateur Gardener. John I. Wright. 176 pages. Useful beginner's guide to plant propagation. Includes many useful line drawings. Hardcover, \$16.95. AHS member price \$13.05.

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Suggestions for Mail-Order Gardeners

The Mailorder Association of Nurserymen has the following suggestions for gardeners planning to order seeds or other gardening supplies by mail:

1. Buy from a reputable firm; ask gardening friends for recommendations or look for the Mailorder Association of Nurserymen's (MAN's) logo if you're not certain.

2. Don't be misled by fantastic claims, promises of miracle growth or unbelievably low prices. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

3. Read catalogue descriptions carefully before ordering. Look at hardiness, height, flower color, texture, time to harvest and other plant characteristics.

4. Fill out the order blank clearly and completely, including item numbers, price, shipping charges and tax. A street address is needed for most deliveries.

5. If you do not want a substitute should an item be sold out, state so clearly.

6. Order early to avoid a disappointing "sold out" notice.

7. If you require a specific delivery date, state so clearly.

8. Keep a record or copy of your order.

9. Pay by check or credit card; never send cash through the mail.

10. Look for and understand the guarantee policy before you buy.

11. When your order is delivered, make sure it is complete; if not, contact the nursery as soon as possible.

12. Plant your new purchases as soon as possible; store them in a cool, dry, dark spot until planting.

For more information on the Mailorder Association of Nurserymen, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to MAN, 210 Cartwright Boulevard, Massapequa Park, NY 11762.

New Heather Society Name

Heath and heather enthusiasts should note that the Pacific Northwest Heather Society has a new name—North American Heather Society. This organization, founded in 1977, is the only plant society in North America devoted to heathers, and the new name more accurately reflects the group's membership. Currently, the group has members in 18 states, Canada and several foreign countries. The Society is made up of gardeners, nurserymen and experts interested in discussing the uses for and problems related to heaths and heathers.

Annual memberships in the North

American Heather Society are available for \$5.00 per calendar year. Members receive a subscription to *Heather News*, the Society's quarterly publication. For more information on the North American Heather Society, write Alice E. Knight, Secretary-Treasurer, North American Heather Society, 62 Elma-Monte Road, Elma, WA 98541.

Begonia Group Formed

Begonia enthusiasts will want to join the new Eastern Regional group of the American Begonia Society. Organizers hope that this new group will not only increase communication among begonia enthusiasts along the East Coast, but also help stimulate interest in local branches of the American Begonia Society as well as in begonia growing in general. The group hopes to have a semi-annual or annual convention, including a begonia show and seminars, as well as a quarterly newsletter. In addition to individual members, the group hopes to have the endorsement and support of the various branches of the American Begonia Society.

Individuals interested in joining the Eastern Region should write to Millie Thompson, PO Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968.

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