JULY SCHEDULE

JULY 10, Sunday, Wildflower trip to Freeland Gulch, above Idaho Springs. Selma G. Bussell, Leader. Leave Horticulture House 8 A.M.

JULY 22, Friday, 7:45 P.M. Kodachromes of Alpine Wildflowers. Shown by Mr. and Mrs. C. Earl Davis.

JULY 24, Sunday, Alpine Wildflower Trip to Loveland Pass country. Led by Mr. and Mrs. C. Earl Davis.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN NURSERIES

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CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

An Extract from talk given at the Inter-American Conference on Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources, Denver, Sept. 7-20, 1948.

GEORGE E. BREWER, JR.
The Conservation Foundation, New York 16, New York

Our objective must be to bring young citizens to a realization of the vital necessity for living in harmony with nature, to teach them how to do so, and to inspire them with the conviction that it is a moral and patriotic duty.

We must recognize that the vast majority of the population are out of touch with natural relationships, ignorant of conservation principles, and prejudiced against change. This is reflected in the fact that less than one percent of the expenditures of the United States Government is directed toward conservation of natural resources. Other impediments to conservation are pressure groups interested in exploitation, outmoded thinking and practice in academic institutions, over-specialization of knowledge, and failure to relate one field of inquiry to another.

An education plan is needed which will lead not to restrictive legislation but to the appreciation by an individual of his duty to his neighbor. The landowner must be taught to regard himself as a trustee with a responsibility to future generations. Our children need to realize that the earth is the mother of us all and that an injury to her by one is the concern of others.

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FORT COLLINS, COLORADO
PROLONGING THE LIFE OF CUT FLOWERS

By Myrtle R. Davis

How to keep flowers fresh longer after they have been gathered and brought into our homes to be used for floral decoration is of general interest to all gardeners.

If we know when to cut them, how to cut them, and how to treat them after they are cut, they will last a great deal longer. Some will even last longer cut than they would if left in the garden.

The first and most important thing to remember is to cut them either in the early morning before the sun is on them or in the evening after they have cooled off from the heat of the day. Flowers picked in the heat of the day will not stand up in water for they cannot take up enough water to keep up with the evaporation from their flowers and leaves.

All cut flowers should be placed in a deep pan filled with cool water in a cool room for at least two hours before they are ready to arrange. Those picked in the evening should stand in the deep water all night. By doing this their stems, leaves, and flowers are full of water and they can better keep up with the evaporation after they are arranged in bouquets.

Cut flowers should never be placed in a draft. This changes the air around the flowers rapidly and evaporation is excessive. When the evaporation exceeds the intake of water through the stems the flower wilts.

All blossoming shrubs such as lilacs, mock orange, flowering crabs and all flowers with woody stems keep longer if the stems are split or crushed to increase the absorbing area and let more water into the stems. They should all be placed in deep water immediately.

Some of the excess foliage should be removed so that it will not transpire more water than is necessary.

Roses should be picked when they are still in a loose bud stage. They should have the bottom leaves removed and the lower inch of the stem held in boiling water for about a minute. One tablespoons of powdered alum to the quart of water is recommended for roses. "Floralife," and other preparations for preserving cut flowers work very well.

Poppies should be cut the night before they open and the ends of the stems singed in a hot flame. This increases the ability of the stems to take up water, as carbon is porous and does not decay. Stems of the Dahlias, Poinsettias, Iris, and Heliotrope should all be singed.

Hollyhocks make excellent cut flowers if their stems are dipped in nitric acid.

Chrysanthemums, Nasturtiums, and Asters keep better if a little sugar is added to the water.

Delphinium, Larkspur, Gladioli, Sweet Peas, Sweet William, and Zinnias are said to keep better if from one to two tablespoons of alcohol is added to a quart of the water in which they are placed.

Water lilies should be cut in a tight bud with long stems and kept in a pail of water in a dark place until needed. They are to be used, the stems should be cut off leaving an inch or two. If they are arranged in a shallow bowl and placed in the sunlight they will open soon. To keep them from closing in the evening, drop a little candle wax in the heart of each blossom.

Wilted flowers may be revived by placing them in warm water to which a little vinegar has been added and giving them a fine spray on the tops until they revive.

Wilted flowers may be revived by placing them in warm water to which a little vinegar has been added and giving them a fine spray on the tops until they revive.

The use of other chemicals, such as oil of peppermint, is recommended, but this use is not nearly as important as cutting the flowers in the cool of the day, soaking the stems full of water, and keeping them away from drafts.

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A TRIP TO SEE COLORADO'S WILD FLOWERS IN JULY
WITH GEORGE KELLY

During July more kinds of wild flowers can be seen in Colorado than at any other season. A few of the very early ones in the lower altitudes may be gone, but it is not until this time that the really attractive flowers of the Alpine regions are in bloom. A variation of 10,000 feet in altitude can be found within the state. This allows for a great variation in variety of flowers and in season of bloom. The plains flowers must come out early to be able to ripen their seeds before the hot, dry weather of summer, and the alpine flowers are not free of snow until almost summer, when they must hurry up to do their work before the fall snows begin.

To see the greatest variety of flowers in a one day trip from Denver we might go west on highway 6 through Idaho Springs, over Loveland Pass then south through Dillon and Fairplay, then turn back through South Park and go back down Turley Creek.

Will you go with me?
As we drive west from Denver the first flower that we will see will be the Annual Sunflower. This may be the state flower of Kansas but it is equally plentiful and beautiful here. Then the Prickly Poppy with its large, delicate, white flowers will be occasionally seen. The small Golden Aster may be noticed lining the roadside with its masses of little sunflower-like flowers. Occasional Prickly Pear Cactus and Yuccas will give accent to the plants of dry slopes. In moister spots there will be occasional plants of the beautiful, tall lavender Penstemon, the Horsemint with its purple head of hair and fragrant leaves, and the Abriopia or Prairie Snowball with its fragrant white flowers. A purple Thistle, Rocky Mountain Beeplant or Goldweed may now be occasionally seen from the road.

As we approach the Hogback, that first wrinkle of the mountainous coun-

In this article we have attempted to give you a brief outline of the outstanding things in bloom at this time, and to show with them pictures of the type of country in which they will be discovered. We suggest taking with you Clements, "Rocky Mountain Flowers", or Pesman's "Meet the Natives".
try, we will find a wealth of flowers, and will be struck by the predominance of the blues—Larkspur, Lupine, Harebell, Spiderwort and Flax. Some yellows will also be making a good showing, with the Perennial Sunflower, Coneflower, Gaillardia, Goldenrod and Sulphur Flowers very prominent. Here we will begin to see bright splashes of red from the Paintbrushes, some pink from the Geraniums and occasional white spots which turn out to be Mariposa Lilies.

On the slopes, as we drive on up the road, there will be masses of Purple and White Loco Flowers and large patches of dark blue from the low blue Penstemon. White and Red Trumpet Gilias will accent the landscape along the hills, and in the moister places by a little trickle of water we will see the large rhubarb-like leaves of the Cow Parsnip with its tall stem and large flat head of tiny white flowers. As we look closer we may see carpets of White Violets or masses of the small white flower of the Bedstraw. Some of the tall yellow Goldenglow may be coming into bloom. On up the slope we would see

plants of the Scorpion Weed with its dirty white fiddleneck head of flowers, the Miner’s Candle with its frosty white spike, or the Green Gentian with its tall stem of interesting greenish flowers.

Along the steep road grades we will see masses of Wild Pink Roses and Red Raspberry bushes. Rocky slopes will be covered with the tiny fleshy-leaved Sedum with its yellow, star-like flowers held on short straight stems.

Now we will begin to see quantities of the various herbaceous Cinquefoils and Senecios with their numerous small yellow flowers. Open slopes and roadsides may give glimpses of the conspicuous “purple” bloom of the fireweed. Some of the large yellow, pea-like flowers of the Golden Banner may still be seen in protected places,
IVIile Ulolet, J'iola Canadensis

As we begin to climb more steeply, we will begin to see, in moist places, the delicate pink bells of the Twin flowers, Baneberries and some of the dainty Pyrolas with their little leathery leaves. In open, almost swampy places there will be carpets of Pink Pussy-toes and Wild Strawberries, and on shady ledges masses of the tiny Dotted Saxifrage with its moss-like foliage. In moist, shady places under trees we will see the sunflower-like bloom of the Mountain Arnica on straight stems above their heart-shaped leaves.

As we begin to climb more steeply, we will begin to see, in moist places, the delicate pink bells of the Twin flowers, Baneberries and some of the dainty Pyrolas with their little leathery leaves. In open, almost swampy places there will be patches of tall blue Delphnium or Aconitum. Along the roadside we will begin to see the Yellow or White Alpine Paintbrushes, mats of the Golden Smoke with their tiny little canaries roosting all through it, plants of the Purple Fringe with its pincushion-like heads of purple flowers, and the stems of yellow Wallflowers might be found on open slopes.

As we approach timberline we may notice the pale blue flowers of the Jacob's Ladder Polemonium showing under the willow shrubs and we may be lucky enough to see a few of the small purple Alpine Wallflowers. There will be many of the small yellow Drabas, occasional plants of the tall white Valerian or scattered spikes of the yellowish-white flowers of the Wand Lily. Scattered patches of the fendler's Sandwort should be seen here.

As we get up above Idaho Springs, we will see, in very wet places, the white flowers of the Marsh Marigold mixed with those of the slightly yellowish Globeflowers, some yellow Buttercups and Purple Shooting Stars. Along the road will be occasional bushes of the Red-berried Elder, and in rocky places the Jamesia shrubs with their orange-like blossoms. On sunny slopes there will be carpets of Pink Pussy-toes and Wild Strawberries, and on shady ledges masses of the tiny Dotted Saxifrage with its moss-like foliage. In moist, shady places under trees we will see the sunflower-like bloom of the Mountain Arnica on straight stems above their heart-shaped leaves.

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As we get up above timberline we will be impressed with the masses of yellow from the various forms of Cinquefoil, and sticking up through this carpet will be the tall white plumes of the Bistort. Almost moss-like masses of Alpine Clover and Sibbaldia cover the ground and as we get out of the car and walk up the hillside we will see, close-up, the true dwarf alpines—Phlox, Pinks, Sandwort, Rock Jasmine, Fairy Primrose, Dwarf Skyrocket and the unforgettable blue of the Forget-me-not. Among the rocks or standing alone among the other plants may be seen a few specimens of the large Fuzzy Thistle looking as though it was always frosty. Covering the ground in places will be the small white flowers of the Chickweed or tiny Stellaria. These will be distinguished from all the other small white flowers by their deeply notched five petals. Among the masses of other flowers we may look for occasional specimens of the small Alpine Lily.

We will drive on over the pass and turn off the road to the west until we come to the group of alpine lakes, where we may find the rare multiple-flowered Alpine Anemone, the Snow Buttercup at the edge of melting snowbanks or the Mountain Laurel in mats along the little waterways. High up in the almost inaccessible places among the rocks we may find the rare and beautiful Alpine Columbine.

As we begin to drop down into the valley on the other side of the divide we will again see many of the same flowers as we saw coming up, but may catch glimpses of a few new and different varieties. We will take time to notice the Spruce, the Firs and the Pines as well as some of the common shrubs. Groseltries, Bush Cinquefoil, Native Honeysuckle and Willows will be along the way. We will stop at a small stream that tumbles across the
review all the plants that we have seen going up and add a few more that have hidden from us before. Along the lower foothills there may now be some of the Purple Asters coming into bloom, and just as we come through the last Hogback we may see some of the tall yellow plumes of the Stanleya. If we look closely we may even catch a glimpse of a Wood-lily or two back under the Aspen trees. Clematis may be seen climbing over the Hawthorn trees and covering them with a blanket of misty white.

All the flowers of this season or these altitudes could not be seen from the car in one short day, but these will be the most common and conspicuous. Do you realize that we have listed well over a hundred. If you really remember a half dozen of these the trip will be well worthwhile. Come again next week and we will learn another half dozen and find many new ones. Don’t you think that it has been a lot of fun?

road, quench our thirst with the finest water in the world and hunt for rare things like, Green Orchids and Blue Gentians as well as the ever-present Dwarf Willowherb and Trailing Veronica.

We will then drive over the high country past Breckenridge and Fairplay until we are stopped a while by the great fields of Blue Gentian, Iris, Shooting Star or Little Red Elephants near Jefferson.

Down the eastern slope into Turkey
WILD FLOWERS HAVE DECIDED PREFERENCES

BY FREDERICA LE F. BELLAMY

COLORADO wild flowers are unhappy with people who pick too many blossoms and crowd them together, who fail to shelter them from the sun on the way home, and then forget they need twelve hours in deep cold water before they are arranged for a decoration. They do their grateful best for people who remember that all their species, except the lilies, need Flora-life when they are brought indoors—and who arrange them as they grew, not crowding them together but perhaps adding a few congelial, friendly varieties to keep them company. They appreciate people who put them outdoors at night. They look their loveliest for people who put them in clear glass or plain white, green, or black vases or bowls.

Many mountain and foothills varieties are ready now for flower lovers to enjoy. To be sure, the cuddly, furry early Anemones (Pasque flowers) that came away so willingly from the snow banks’ edges to bloom cheerfully for days in shallow bowls, are gone, but their lovely color is repeated in later flowers that follow.

The indescribable blue-lavender comes again in wild iris. These fragile beauties resent crowding. They fear wind and sun once they leave their homes. Their deep cold water receptacle for hardening off must be where it catches the first dawn light or no new buds will open. Their own slender leaves are the most becoming green for them but they tolerate just a few stalks of Golden Banner if they are arranged in a low, wide bowl.

Friendly flowers come in June. They really try to repay even moderate care. Golden Banner is plentiful, a gay companion for many shier comrades. The short, early Chiming Bells from the hillsides; the dark blue annual Larkspur, the short mountain Penstemons, all and the sunny cheerfulness of Golden Banner blossoms and the sturdily foliage, too. The blues and lavenders of the hillside flowers can readily assimilate a few heads of Painter’s Brush and their familiar neighbors, the Wallflowers.

Silvery Lupin with its grey-green foliage somewhat thinned out makes the most of being paired with velvety, wine-colored Loco. Odd companions these! One is so benign, one so dangerous for grazing stock.

When late June brings out the glory of the Columbines in the Aspens’ shelter, Golden Banner grows nearby with taller and more delicate stalks than the earlier hillside blooms, setting off the Columbine color. The blue-lavender of the Columbine is the rarest of the variations of that unbelievably lovely shade. It is best shown in wide bowls, used sparingly together with Meadow Rue, its close companion of the aspen groves. No offense is given the proud blossoms by the addition of a few stalks of honey-scented, wild Valerian. If the Columbines are to be in a dark room, two or three Red Lilies draw proper attention their way. The diminutive snapdragons aptly nicknamed Butter and Eggs are so dainty that the Columbines accept their companionship graciously.

When the rains are exactly timed to suit them the Mariposa Lilies make a lavish showing of their butterfly loveliness. The rare tinted ones echo faintly the lavender of earlier flowers, but the purple of their hearts denses the color so they rival the beauty of all their predecessors. They are serenest with just Meadow Rue, some Blue Bells, and perhaps a few heads of the earliest Horse Mint.

From midsummer through September there are gay combinations of bright colors in field and wood. Clustered Purple Daisies; Gaillardias; tall, delicately branching Golden Rod; gold-centered Bur Marigold and Sunspots vie with Delphinium, Monkshood, deep crimson-velvet Strawberry Blite, and intensely blue high-altitude Penstemon. Ripening mountain grasses create the atmosphere that blends them all harmoniously and makes them feel at home.

On the other hand, Wild Roses are insensible if brought indoors. Their blossoms pine and die and later on their lovely autumn foliage shrivels and loses its rich glow. Autumn Asters that spread amethyst splendor on the hills are simply so bored indoors that they go to sleep permanently. Leave them to sun worshippers to open their blossoms to the sky! To brighten September days indoors gather the clean yellow Ninebark twigs and red velvet foliage of Jamesia. Combine them with berry-heavy Juniper branches to tide over until the aspens are right for cutting and keeping through the winter.

ATTRACTIVE ASSOCIATIONS

By HELEN FOWLER

Flowering Almonds are lovely for facing lilacs. I have used the much-maligned majenta coloring with Lythrum salicaria, white Boltonia and pale yellow Gladiolus. It wasn’t bad.

Plant white Columbine with Hemerocallis flava and see if the old Lemon Day-lily is common!

Add bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis) to your grape hyacinths.

Intimate flower friends are seldom called by long, formal names. All the same they may be formally introduced at times. An alphabetical list follows that translates the cozy nicknames into stately scientific designations.

Bluebells—Campanula rotundifolia
Bur Marigold—Bidens levis
Butter and Eggs—Linaria vulgaris
Gaillardia—Gaillardia aristata
Horse Mint—Monarda fistulosa
Loco—Aragalus lamberti
Mariposa Lily—Calochortus gunnisonii
Monkshood—Aconitum columbianum
Painter’s Brush—Castilleja miniata
Pasque Flower—Pulsatilla hirsuta
Purple Daisy—Erigeron macranthus
Silvery Lupin—Lupinus argenteus
Strawberry Blite—Chenopodium capitatum
Sunspot—Gymnolomia multiflora
Wall Flower—Erysimum asperum
Yellow Lady Slipper—Cypripedium pubescens

This author apologizes to all the other friendly mountain flowers—Blue Eyed Grass; Wand Lilies; Shooting Stars; Forget-me-nots, tall and short; Sedums, and such—and hopes they never, never, learn that space would not permit enumerating them.
Thrips

Thrips are tiny black insects which most seriously damage gladiolus, onions, privet and a few other plants. They are seldom seen as they move very fast and hide much of the time in the spaces between leaves. Evidence of their damage is faded areas on leaves and faded or distorted blooms. They are difficult to control when they become numerous. Prevention is usually more effective. Gladiolus bulbs should be treated with DDT or naphthalene flakes when in storage, and they should be planted in ground where no glads or onions have previously been grown.

A spray of two teaspoons tartar emetic, four teaspoons brown sugar in one gallon of water has been effectively used. It should be applied in early morning, late afternoon or cloudy days when the insects are out in the open feeding.

Lilac Leaf Miner

The larvae of these insects develop as a small white worm between the upper and lower surface of the leaves. When numerous enough they may almost defoliate the plants. They may be controlled with applications of nicotine sulphate at double the usual strength when they first appear, or by one of the new insecticides such as DDT or Chlordane which have a residual effect.

Leafhoppers

Leafhoppers are most destructive to rose, grape or ivy plants but may attack many others. They cause a fading and lifeless appearance to leaves when they are numerous. The young are soft-bodied and may be controlled much like aphids, but the adult are winged insects and may be controlled with a coverage of some such stomach poison as arsenate of lead. Repeated applications of either insecticide is necessary to control those that hatch later.

Aphids

The aphids or plant lice are soft-bodied insects which live by inserting their sharp beaks into a plant and sucking its sap. They multiply very rapidly when conditions are favorable. They may attack almost any growing plant at certain times. The activities of ants often indicate the presence of aphids, as ants enjoy the sweet “honey-dew” given off by aphids. As they do not chew and as they are soft-bodied, the control for them is a contact spray or dust. This may be nicotine sulphate (Blackleaf 40) Pyrethrum, Rotenone or some of the new, more powerful insecticides. Addition of soap will usually increase the effectiveness of sprays. It is important to repeat the treatment in a week or ten days to catch those which may have hatched from eggs after the first spray.

Grasshoppers

Grasshoppers may feed when hungry on almost any plant, but when there is plenty of food they may develop definite preferences; for instance, they may almost destroy iris without seriously damaging other plants. They are more abundant in some years than others and seem to prefer dry, hot weather. Insecticides containing chlordane have recently been found to be very effective in their control. The usual treatment has been a poisoned bait scattered at sunrise when the first small hoppers appear. A recommended bait consists of bran, 1 1/2 pounds; molasses 1/4 pint; sodium fluosilicate or Paris green, one ounce; water, 1 pint. In most counties, grasshopper bait, ready-mixed is available through the County Agent’s office.
These small shellless snails are most destructive to the leaves of Cherry, Pear, Plum, Hawthorn, Cotoneaster, Roses and similar plants. The Adult lays tiny eggs on leaves, which develop rapidly and may do a great deal of damage. They eat the green from between the veins of leaves, sometimes almost defoliating the trees.

The control is easy but the treatment must be done promptly when the slugs first appear. As they are soft-bodied they may be killed with a contact spray, as they also chew they may be controlled with application of a stomach poison and as they are slimy creatures they may be destroyed by throwing ashes or dust on them.

Snout Beetles or Rose Curculio

These are beetles with a snout much like an elephant’s trunk with which they bore holes in rose buds and do other damage. They are very destructive, but are hard to find as they work mostly early or late. No completely effective control has been developed but spraying periodically with the all-purpose sprays or dusts may help to keep them under control. As they insert their snout into the plant to feed they are seldom affected by stomach poisons applied to the surface, and as they are not soft-bodied they are not affected by contact sprays. Hand picking in the early morning and a careful sanitation program have been found to be most effective.

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When you are faced with the problem of the disposition of the stumps, after cutting down trees, you might try this method. Use large carpenter’s augur, making holes in sides and top of the trunk. Fill with kerosene from can with spout. Plug each hole with common cork. Repeat process several times in spaces of several weeks. It will saturate wood and make burning very easy on day when there is no wind. Will burn down into roots and leave no ugly mound of stump. The depression left may then be filled with soil and planted with grass—Mrs. M. E. PLUMMER.
Red Spiders and Aphids on Cedars

Robert E. More

The two pictures shown here tell their own story. On one tree foliage is thick and full; the tree is healthy and beautiful. The other is mangy and anemic looking. When these trees were planted, they were equally beautiful. Lack of care made the difference. Unfortunately, most Denver Cedars (properly, they should be called "Upright Junipers") are of the pest ridden type. From June first on, aphids and red spiders are rampant. If ignored, one or the other will permanently ruin 80% of our Cedars.

Since each of these pests works with inconceivable speed, it is poor policy, indeed, to withhold prophylactic measures until one or both pests are definitely present. Red Spiders can make the whole inside of a Cedar drop to the ground in the space of a few days only. Aphids can destroy whole branches (particularly at the bottom of the tree) almost as quickly. In addition, the spider mites are so minute they can’t be seen with the naked eye un-
A program that is followed successfully by several experienced nurserymen is to spray with lime-sulphur before growth starts in the spring, and then apply a sulphur-nicotine-pyrethrum dust monthly from June 1 to September 1. Lime-sulphur is known as a “dormant” spray. That means it is so strong it is likely to burn new foliage. So it is applied while the tree is dormant, before the new growth has started. (Late March or early April.)

The dust just mentioned was used successfully for many years by “Big Bill” Lucking, now in charge of the City Nursery. The sulphur is bad for spider mites, the nicotine for aphis and the pyrethrum for both. Although no reports of foliage burn from this dust have been made, it is suggested that its use be restricted to days when the temperature is below 85° Fahrenheit. Since you will be using your dusting machine for many years, buy a good one. Be sure to hit both the under and upper sides of the branches.

Washing out your Cedar with the hose will not control either pest. It will help, of course, but countless Denver trees have been ruined because the owners had been led to believe that regular washing with the hose would protect Cedars. It won’t.

Recent tests at the Ohio Experiment Station (Wooster, Ohio) indicate that Dowspray 17 is a most satisfactory treatment for spider mites on evergreens. (Journal of Economic Entomology 40: (3): 419.)

Although certain low growing Junipers, such as the Pfitzer, the Savin, and the Tamarix are not ordinarily susceptible to these two pests, be sure of your variety before omitting prophylaxis. Most of our “Cedars” are Juniperus scopulorum or Juniperus virginiana. There are low growing types of these species and trimmed specimens, as well. These are just as susceptible to aphis and spider mites as the erect growing types. It is safer, therefore, to dust all Junipers and Cedars.

Less shaken on to a white sheet of paper. So act before they hit your tree.

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PLANTING COMPOSITION
EDMUND WALLACE, Landscape Architect

The subject of planting composition is quite as indeterminate as the general subject of art. To arrange the masses and create the combinations that carry the qualities of form, color, texture and habit needed to transfer the plan into living scenery—that is the function of planting composition.

Probably the character of the ground, as much as any other one factor, should influence the character of the plant growth. The greater mass of the plant forms will repeat the character of the landscape. The rounded forms of the dogwood, bush honeysuckles and viburnums; and the horizontal effect of the cotoneaster, prairie rose and pfitzer juniper, together with a few upright groups to relieve the monotony of the skyline, would best exemplify the horizontal lines, characteristic of the plains.

More variety is expected here in the Rocky Mountain region wherever rock outcrop and jagged skyline is visible. The accent type of growth becomes a much larger part of the planting mass. The irregularity of the sumacs and the vertical forms of the Bolleana poplar and silver cedar will be preferred to the dense rounded kind.

Full advantage should be taken of this view of the mountains and rugged country with which so many here in the mountain region are blessed. However small that glimpse may be, framed by foliage, it can be the feature of the garden. Regardless of the plan, the carrying out of the elevation, whether it be an avenue of stately poplars or points of interest along a garden path, one’s eye can be directed to our mountain vista from any point in the garden. The tracery of willows or a white birch group against the purple hills or the color of a western sunset, the majestic spruce or the informal branching pine serve well as framing.

True, the open country of the west and the ruggedness of our mountains call for a planting outline in keeping with such grandeur—and yet, what a pleasing contrast is provided by a little formal garden on the axis of our view to the valley and the mountains beyond. A pool, placed at a lower level, reflects the loveliness. When such a garden is seen from a higher terrace, the plan design shows to advantage. Low hedges are effective in outlining such a design. Almost any flower bed or border in a garden design benefits by such a definite edging. Where a less formal hedge is used, it can be colorful as well as trim if care is exercised in trimming at the proper time. The flower buds of the spring-blooming plants are formed during the latter part of the growing season, or the food storage period. Such a hedge should be sheared after flowering until about the middle of July. Flowering shrubs, such as the Reeves and V.H. spireas, dogwoods, beautybush, Persian lilac and the hybrid mock-oranges, when not pruned after the middle of July, can be depended upon to set sufficient flower buds to present the effect of full bloom the following spring and yet preserve the partial neatness of hedging.

Shrubs that bloom on new wood as the rose-of-sharon, snowberry, and summer spireas should be trimmed to hedge form before growth starts in early spring or at any time after the summer flowering.

Whatever be the character of the ground and surrounding landscape that influences the bulk of the planting, such planting may, as it approaches the house, transfer of necessity into a style befitting the architecture. Here, a similarity in texture and massing, and even in form, is important. Shape of plants to be used may...
Low hedges bring out the plan design when the garden is seen from a higher level.

A garden as seen from the terrace or from within, is much more intriguing if not entirely within view. Even on a 60 x 125 foot lot, the planting masses may be so arranged as to provide secluded areas. A site, where the rear of the lot is at a higher level than that of the house, lends itself especially well to this type of treatment.

Thoughtful plant selection will afford these ties between buildings and planting—but so often the effect originally desired by the landscape architect will be lost through the lack of proper maintenance. Maintenance, however, can be kept to a minimum if plantings are kept simple, trim, and selections made for good branching and compact form.

We have mentioned the mountain vistas which should be a focal point in our Colorado gardens. Unfortunately these are not always present. Colorado’s blue skies, however, serve well as a backdrop for iris, daylilies, delphinium and phlox planted on a slope or above a low wall. Here, where the garden lies above the viewpoint, variation in vertical composition is more important than intricacy of plan. The soft pink of the flowering crab and the redbud or the shell-like white petals of the plum against the deep blue of an early spring sky provide an attraction for any garden.

Planting masses arranged to provide secluded areas make a garden more intriguing.

Colorado’s blue skies serve well as a backdrop for planting on a slope or above a low wall.

Massing of plants to be used may be suggested by the massing of the entire building.

be suggested by the massing of the entire building or by the shape of architectural features such as doors and windows.

Coarse textured construction calls for the use of coarse-textured plants such as the wayfaring tree, late lilac, Manchu cherry and some of the sumacs; smooth surfaces take dense, fine-textured plants like the spireas, euonymous, snowberries and desmodium; and the general design of the architecture may suggest vertical forms or the rounded outline.

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Such a garden is inviting, and encourages one to go out into it and explore every corner for a hidden pool, a colorful rose garden, or some rare plant.

Likewise, much more pleasure can be derived from outdoor living areas that are not in full view of the house. Where gardens have become outdoor rooms, actual extensions of the house itself, we must consider winter effect. The use of low hedges has been mentioned for edging flower beds that are part of a design. Lodense privet retains many of its leaves until the new ones begin to appear in the spring, thus carrying the design of the garden in winter. The colorful bark of the Colorado dogwood and the mountain ash or the fruit of the barberry, red-leaf rose, and the haw, add winter color. Evergreens, of course, lend a touch of green and their branches when covered with new fallen snow provide a pattern of beauty that cannot be overlooked.

In conclusion, it should be pointed out that the best designed plan does not guarantee a beautiful garden unless it was conceived with the elevation well in mind. The cozy nooks, the pleasing composition of plant masses, and the attractive color combinations are the results of the correct use of proper plant materials.

Again, let us bear in mind that after the general plan, the planting is the art part—the living part of landscape architecture.
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Iron deficiency Chlorosis, a disease causing the yellowing of the leaves of oak, maple, birch and cottonwood trees can be successfully treated. Once this trouble appears, its severity increases from year to year unless treatment is given. Many trees die each year from this disease. DAVEY TREE MEN have treated thousands of chlorotic trees in the past 25 years with excellent results. Leaves turn green in two weeks or less when proper treatment is given.

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GARDENING REMINDERS FOR JULY

Frequent inspections must now be made to detect the first signs of damage by insects. As most insects multiply very rapidly an ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure. Learn to know the different types of insects and the damage that each does, also the control.

Begin your hedge trimming program early. The beauty of a hedge depends very much on the frequency which it is trimmed. If you are starting a small hedge, cut it back quite severely at first and shear it every time there are two or three inches of new growth.

Watch for the first formation of the disfiguring galls on the tips of spruce limbs. Pick these off and burn them as soon as they are noticed. After they have turned brown is too late to do more than improve the looks of the trees.

Turkey and chicken manure is very rich and should be used very sparingly. If this is mixed with peat it makes a very good fertilizer, supplying both humus and necessary chemicals.

Some of your plants may now be showing signs of chlorosis. This is a deficiency disease which affects the green coloring matter in the leaves causing them to become pale or yellowish. Barberry, Ninebark, Flowering quince and Soft Maples are most subject to this disease. Excess alkali, gypsum, plaster or lime in the soil might cause this, or even overwatering can produce much the same effect. Treatment with manure, iron sulphate, aluminum sulphate or sulphur might correct the soil condition.

Proper watering at this time of year is most important. In general we usually water more often than necessary and not thoroughly enough. Learn that the soil for grass should be soaked to a depth of at least six inches, for perennials and annuals at least a foot, for most shrubs at least two feet and trees three or four feet. The only way that you can know when the soil is sufficiently wet is to dig in and see. Sandy soils would require more frequent waterings than heavy clay soils. Be careful about watering roses late in the evening. Water standing on rose leaves overnight might cause mildew.

We are learning to do more mulching. This may be peatmoss, vermiculite, leafmold or even sawdust. If sawdust is used some additional nitrogen must be given the soil to replace that taken up by the sawdust. A good mulch will help to keep in the moisture, keep the soil cool and supply some nourishment for the soil. Later, as it is cultivated in, it will improve the physical character of the soil.

Cut off faded blooms and keep the garden looking neat. Some emergency trimming may now be done to shrubs which have bloomed.

If the bugs are bad, we have just the thing you need in the way of Sprayers, Dusters, and Insecticides.

If you would have nice, dense hedges you must trim them frequently. If some trees, shrubs or perennials are slowing up too much, try giving them a little help with an application of dry or liquid fertilizer. Most of these concentrated fertilizers should be applied sparingly but frequently.
Outdoor Living in the Rocky Mountain Area

July, 1949

The Green Thumb

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