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To all fellow growers and lovers of the Primula who have helped in the founding of the American Primrose Society and have stood loyally with the organization in the difficult and uncertain first years, I wish to give my thanks and my greeting — and to ask them to continue to stand with us as firmly as they have stood in the past.

In this small publication that now comes to the hands of the members, after delays and difficulties, we are endeavoring, and shall continue to endeavor, to keep our membership and others who are interested in the Primula — and therefore potential members — through the difficult "holding" years that are before us.

When the American Primrose Society was formed, the auspices were all most favorable. Interest was shown by Primula lovers all over North America. Plans were made for a Quarterly and a Year Book — and promises were made by friends of the organization that would have fully underwritten the cost of all publications for at least two years while the Society was getting on its feet.

Then in swift steps, the war closed in and completely changed the picture. Those whose support was offered, were in the main obliged to withdraw it because of other urgent demands on their funds in different phases of the war effort. The rapidly changing picture as to costs of printing, even materials, several times compelled changes of plan. The resources based on dues alone were not sufficient to carry the weight of a Quarterly.

At last, after many delays and disappointments, we have worked out a way by which we can, in a certain measure, set up and maintain among our membership the publication necessary to the interchange of ideas and interests. It is not
as elaborate and impressive a publication as we would like to give you—or as we expect to give you in the future. But with your cooperation and continued support, it will, I believe, carry us through the war emergency.

The American Primrose Society cannot hope to grow mightily while the war emergency is on. It is compelled to assume the role of a holding organization to keep Primula growers and lovers in contact with each other for the duration. Through it and them we can continue to lay the foundation and hold the basic organization for swift growth after the war.

In the United States and Canada the culture of Primulas has already advanced further than most gardeners realize. The losses and changes due to the war have vitally affected the European and Asiatic sources of plant material of this sort. They have also curtailed tremendously the research, hybridization and propagation upon which the expanding interest in Primulas must thrive.

By the very nature of things the task and the responsibility of carrying on falls upon the gardeners in America, and naturally upon those whose interest most directly centers on the Primula.

Although the American Primrose Society is only three seasons old and has lived its infant years in a wartime world, we have already held two successful shows and have brought into contact Primula "fans" from Alaska, Canada, the United States, Mexico and south to Panama.

The society hopes and expects to develop a greater and greater coordination of interest and effort among growers, hybridizers and lovers of Primulas. We hope and expect to carry steadily forward the research already begun on nomenclature, classification and on the culture and showing of Primulas.

The society is still so young that the development of affiliated groups has not yet become a reality. We hope however that our members in various parts of the country will give much energy and effort to bringing into existence Primrose Societies that can affiliate with the American Primrose Society, and in turn become the centers of a steadily growing interest in the Primula family, one of the loveliest, most useful and versatile of the instruments for creating beauty that can come to the hand of any gardener.

ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting of the American Primrose Society held April 20, 1943, in the Men's Lounge of the Public Service Building, Mr. Dean Collins, head of the aptly termed "The Suicide Squad", otherwise known as the Nominating Committee, bravely plunged into his report of the results of their efforts to secure a ticket to present to the members. Only one nominee for each office was named as follows:

- President: Capt. E. S. Bradford
- Vice President: Capt. R. W. Ewall
- Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. S. R. Smith
- Recording Secretary: Mrs. Ivy Spencer
- Treasurer: Mrs. C. F. Lincke

Mr. Ewall requested that nominations be made from the floor for his office and Mrs. Levy nominated Mr. Paul Van Allen. There were no other nominations and balloting proceeded on Mr. Ewall and Mr. Van Allen with the result that Mr. Van Allen received the nomination and his name was written into the ticket in place of Mr. Ewall's.

The only new nominee for Director was Mr. C. H. Ferris. Other Directors whose terms have not expired are Mr. Dean Collins, Mrs. Walter J. Schibig (Seattle), Mrs. Ernest L. Scott (Eastern States), Mr. Paul Van Allen and Mr. A. E. Brooke. After Mr. Van Allen's nomination as Vice President, Miss Ivy Spencer's name was substituted as Director in place of Mr. Van Allen.

A motion was then made and duly seconded that a unanimous vote be cast for the nominees as corrected, which motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. R. E. Pearson, and duly seconded, that some report of each meeting be sent to out-of-town members. This motion carried unanimously and Mrs. Pearson volunteered to be responsible for making such reports.

A good number of interesting entries were made in the regular informal monthly show for which Mrs. Staton was named judge. Mrs. Young received first in arrangements and Mrs. House second. Captain Bradford received first in
horticulture.

In anticipation of the Second Annual Primrose Show Mrs. Lou Roberts talked on what made good exhibition material and what did not, illustrating her points with specimens. Mrs. Florence Levy and Mrs. Marguerite Clarke also made valuable suggestions.

Mr. Ferris, Staging Committee of the Show, appointed as his assistants President Bradford, Mr. Van Allen, Mr. Brooke, Mr. Pugh, Mr. Ewall and Mr. Kershisnik. Others who volunteered their services were Miss Jacobson, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Staton and Mrs. Kanny.

Mr. Kershisnik's report on his audit of the Treasurer's books was read in which Mrs. Lincke (Treasurer) was commended for her competent work.

... Ivie Spencer, Recording Sec'y

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Dues of $1.50 are payable on or before April 16th of each year. There is still need to pamper the budget so no notices are mailed.

... The Treasurer

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There will be a Question Box in the Quarterly where the answers to your questions will be found as soon as inquiries come in. Whatever information you wish, kindly write to the Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. S. R. Smith, Rt. 16, Box 102, Portland, Oregon, and she will present your request at the next monthly meeting for discussion, the consensus of opinion being relayed in the Quarterly.

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TRIBUTE

There is usually one behind every organization. One with vision, zeal and conviction that the cause is good. One whose enthusiasm inspires and fires an interested nucleus into action. So it was with our beginning. He sensed the need and desire of gardeners, both east and west, and sounded the call for Primrose lovers to band together in the service of Primroses, the pleasures and benefits accruing from such a cooperative being the dividends. In his own generous way he went beyond this, beyond the confines of this Society, so that all who wished might see, hear and read of Primroses and thus share in the profits.

He visualized a working organization for the purpose of increasing the general interest in the cultivation of Primroses and the improving of the standard of excellence; he foresaw the enjoyment that the study of the many types and species would bring; he saw the wisdom of encouraging the use of proper nomenclature and cooperating with other organizations in establishing standardized names; the need also to cooperate with colleges, agricultural organizations and growers to improve Primroses and Primrose culture; he undoubtedly knew in advance with what great interest and appreciation the public would receive the Society's exhibitions — that the variety and beauty of such displays would carry not only pictorial but educational value as well. And in two short years his vision has materialized to the flowering stage.

It is difficult to be restrained in an appreciation of Jean Collins. There is hardly a gardener who has not felt the warmth of his kindness, his enthusiastic interest, his generosity in whatever way help was needed. A true patron of gardening and gardeners, a horticultural godfather many times, father of the American Primrose Society, let his name head the Life Membership scroll when those who have performed signal service in the interest of the Society are being considered.

................ F.L.
Once again Portland became the Mecca for Primrose lovers from the entire Northwest when the American Primrose Society staged its Second Annual Primrose Show in the Auditorium of the Public Service Building, April 30th and May 1st. This show — like the first one — was an outstanding success both from the standpoint of attendance and the quality and variety of types and species shown. Owing to the fact that this show was staged at a later date than last year, Asiatic Primulas predominated, the tall and stately candelabras catching every eye and fancy with the Sieboldii a close second. Apparently these were new to most of the visitors and members of the Floor Committee, headed by Captain Bradford — President of the Society — were kept busy answering questions and giving information about these varieties. Northwest gardens will undoubtedly show a large planting of these types next year.

As the visitors entered the Auditorium, Mrs. A. C. U. Berry's non-competitive exhibit caught their attention. Mrs. Berry has the largest privately-owned collection of Primula species in the United States, quite possibly the world. This year her complimentary exhibit occupied the entire platform and was specially lighted. It ranged from the handsome pink variety of _P. pulverulent a_ of western China down to the minute _P. scotica_, the smallest Primula in the Show and one of the tiniest in the entire family, a native of Scotland. Occupying the place of honor in the center were seedlings of the famous green-flowering _Arucula_, all showing the curious green tendency. Her exhibit contained species from China, India, Tibet and other parts of Asia as well as miniature gels from the European and Balkan Alps. A large crowd was in front of her exhibit from the opening of the show to its close.

Around two sides of the Auditorium were arranged the exhibits of the Commercial growers. This year a much larger number entered, enthusiasm evidently being more than a match for present-day handicaps. The Clarkes' mass of beautiful wine-colored _Polyanthus_ known as _Cowichan_, (originating near Lake Cowichan in British Columbia) were shown against a background of white _Spirea_ and a lovely foreground of _Epimedium_ and _Pansies_. _Wm. Borsch & Sons_ showed a large and especially choice collection of _P. Sieboldii_ in shades of pink and lavender highlighted by exquisite whites against a background of cedar boughs. Miss Dora Brostje of the Redwoods Gardens set up a beautiful display of _Polyanthus_ with pastel colored _Scillases_ while Pepper's Perennial Gardens used _Puschia_ as an effective background complimenting their outstanding _Polyanthuss_. Mr. Donald Junior showed his imported English _Polyanthus_ of classic lines in a massed bedding display. Mr. Carl Starker used a rockery that was a model of good taste and perfection for an unusual pastel arrangement of Sieboldii and _Hericula_ that began with white deepening to flesh and shell pink as the plants swept over and around the rocks.

In last year's Show, Mr. Starker illustrated how effectively some of the _Primulas_ can be used in rockeries by featuring _Juliae_ hybrids, but these little fellows had spent most of their beauty before this year's Show so a new treat was provided. Mrs. Lois Land of Land's Nursery edged her formal arrangement of fine _Polyanthus_ with a prim-looking boxwood-edging which displayed the beauty of the blooms to excellent advantage. And then came one of the surprises of the Show — a miniature Victory Garden well grown and cleverly designed. This was surrounded by _Polyanthus_ and _Hericula_ in a beautiful setting of _Iris_ and _Azaleas_, the handiwork of Mrs. Helen Jones of Helen's Primrose Gardens. Barnhaven Gardens of Gresham showed a mass planting of Bartley pink _P. pulverulent a_, the tall silvered stalks of the candelabras accenting a foreground of white _Sieboldii_ and contrasted by a background of _Ivy_ and _Maidenhair Ferns_. Miss Linda Dickman, an enthusiastic grower thirty miles from the scene of the Show, defied the current transportation problem by boarding a bus with a _great, ivy-wreathed market basket_ filled with some of her choicest _Polyanthus_ — destination, Primrose Fairyland.

Following the Commercial exhibits, the Garden Clubs filled the fourth side of the Auditorium. The Multnomah Garden Club exhibit was a rock garden and pool with honest-to-goodness fish in it, fish, pool and garden banked by
A very unique arrangement in white was the Gen- 

gesian Garden Club's exhibit, white Primroses being the pre-

dominant note. Beaverton Garden Club brought in a mossy log

with Polyanthus of many colors growing along its length.

Woodstock used a terrarium on a glass plate with white broom

and Polyanthus. Hoodview, which won first prize in specimen

plants, showed a large assortment of brick-colored Japonicas

and pink pulverulentas. It was an exhibit that evoked much

comment. Little Gardens Club took first prize in arrange-

ments with Polyanthus in company with Verbois and Phalaen-

a in a beautiful container in front of Chinese bamboo. Arden-

wald showed excellently grown Polyanthus potted and placed

to form a V. Oak Grove displayed a large brass container

of Polyanthus approached by four primrose-laden swans, a

large mirror in the background duplicating the lovely scene.

Down the center of the Auditorium were a series of

tables holding individual exhibits. Mr. Henry Wessinger,

one of the leading amateur growers, lead off with a large

complimentary exhibit. Mr. Wessinger brought in a huge brass

bowl filled with Polyanthus blooms from a collection of plants

grown from seed imported from Europe. Many of these were ex-
ceedingly beautiful showing colors and markings never before

seen here. A large number of plants from the same garden

were shown and many an exclamation fell from visitors' lips

as they passed in front of it. Mr. Wessinger's garden is

open to Primrose lovers once a year and is a perfect blend-

ing of color and arrangement in the just-right setting of

Portland's wooded hills.

Following this complimentary display were arrangements

of primroses for kitchen windows, coffee tables, dinner

tables and other occasions. Then came a table for miniatures. 

Mrs. J. M. Young won first in this with an inch-and-a-half

vase offering tiny Primroses and leaves of grass (not by Walt

Whitman). Next to Mrs. Young's infinitesimal picture was 

Mrs. Carl Lincke's Primrose-filled sea shell. It was her

lunchen table nosogay that delighted many and took another

first.

A table filled with P. acaulis (those deliberately de-

laying action until this late date) was followed by a truly

outstanding display of Auriculas by Mrs. A. W. House, prize

winner in this division. P. Juliae and some of the Juliae

hybrids filled another table, Mrs. J. L. Karnopp winning in

this class. Mrs. Karnopp was also the exhibitor of a fine

Oxlip. Much comment went on about Capt. Bradford's ability

to delay the bloom on his prize-winning blue Primroses and

Poliyanthus until such a late date. The blues, of course, are

among the first to bloom here in the very early spring being

planted in happy companionship with yellow crocus in at least

one gardener's border.

Others winning first prizes were Mrs. G. F. Goldthwaite

with a collection of red Polyanthus; Mrs. Mary Zach, yellow;

Mrs. P. F. Kershansik, orange; Mrs. Kay Pugh, pastels and

gold and silver lacod; and Mrs. A. E. Christensen, in the bi-

zarre section. Mrs. R. E. L. Holt won top honors for best

display of Polyanthus. In the division for seedlings Mrs.

Christensen, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Lincke and Mrs. Lou Roberts

took firsts. Outstanding was Mrs. Roberts' Juliae hybrid.

Some of her creations have won a place for themselves in the

catalogs of Primula growers. This small, dainty and color-

ful Primula is rapidly coming to the fore for use in rock-

ceries and partially shaded gardens. In this respect, the

two Shows staged by the Society have had a great educational

value in illustrating the varied uses of the Primula family

in landscape architecture.

And speaking of things educational, the 'Educational

Table' was an innovation this year for the special delight of

Primula students. On this were placed unusual specimen plants

with cards carrying history, nativity and other interesting

data. Two very old forms of the English Polyanthus were pre-

sent: Hose-in-hose bearing one flower within another and

Jack-in-the-green whose calyx has expanded into an Elis-

abethan ruff to hold the flower, in this case, yellow. A

charming Oxlip and one of the European alpines, P. glauco-

conis from the Alps of Lombardy in northern Italy happened

into its purple bloom at the right time as did Primula's

hyacinthina and involucrata. The former dispensed its frag-

rance of hyacinths far and wide, its silver-powdered, pale

blue bells clustered in a cone that topped an equally silver

stem of about ten inches. This is a very recent find from

Western China. P. involucrata from India was also sweet-

scented, holding its white frosty stars about a foot from

the very small clump of dark green foliage.

A final feature of the Show, a picture that visitors

took with them as they left the Auditorium, was a compli-
mentary exhibit by the Mon's Garden Club of Portland (a very husky infant of four years with nearly 400 plain dirt gardeners). From a mossy, hollow stump grew Cape Primroses (Streptocarpus and not of the Primula family) in delicate shades of rose and violet — the whole in a gorgeous setting of Polyanthus and other spring flowers. Thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lawrence (she, not of the Men's Club, being allowed to help by special dispensation).

The Show Committee this year was: Chairman, Robert W. Dewall; Co-chairman, Mrs. J. M. Young. Chairman of Committees: Finance, Mrs. H. Templeton; Staging and Floor, Mr. C. M. Farris; Hospitality, Capt. E. S. Bradford; Telephone, Mrs. G. F. Goldthwaite; Classification, Mrs. Lou Roberts; Placement, Mrs. Carl Lincke; Cleanup, Mr. Ray Pugh; Publicity, Mrs. Dean Collins; Registration, Mrs. R. M. McClary. Judges were: Mrs. Florence Levy, Mrs. Marguerite Clarke and Miss Dora Brodie. Commercials were non-competitive and provided most of the plants given to prize-winning amateurs.

It is through the interchange of ideas and experience that the greatest pleasure and benefit is drawn. Here on the West Coast we are anxious to know about Primrose growing in other parts of the country — when they bloom, what situations you give them, how you treat them, your special delights, your troubles. Write them in letter form or article, indicate that it is for the Quarterly and send to the Corresponding Secretary. They will be most eagerly accepted.

Comments on published articles and letters, based on experience and observation, will also be keenly appreciated and will make the Quarterly the mouthpiece of all members wherever they grow their Primroses.

Suggestions as to the type of article you wish will guide the material published.
magenta blossoms.

A quaint, old-fashioned nosegay of lilac-colored Primroses and Forget-me-nots nestled against a lace paper ruff and tied with a violet ribbon was Mrs. Anna Berkey's first prize winning corsage.

The McHenry's second prize winner in the informal arrangement division was assembled in a flat white rectangular bowl with soft yellow and red Primroses and accents of white candytuft.

A putty-green square bowl with a weathered spike of driftwood was the setting for Mrs. H. G. Staton's first prize winner in the arrangements. Wild lily-of-the-valley and white and yellow Primroses were combined delicately to complete it.

Yellow Primroses grouped about a small Hummel figurine in a lime green bowl was red ribbon winner for the Chrysanthemum Club. First prize winner in this division was the Little Gardens Club entry of an irregular white container filled with yellow and bronze Primroses and spring foliage.

The hooked rug patterns with their bright mosaic of individual blossoms laid out in designs were works of art. The Commercial exhibitors were represented with beautifully arranged beds of many different kinds of Primroses. Barnhaven Gardens of Gresham were awarded, best general display for masses of colored blossoms shown. Also in this exhibit were Primulas from Turkey, the Himalayas, Japan, the Balkans and the East Carpathians.

The Swiss Floral Company presented a double P. obconica, world's first known double of this species. Carl Starkel set his Primroses in a rockery and grouped many unusual species around a charming little pool. The Burkhart's made up many different color combinations to show how adaptable Primroses are for commercial use in corsages.

Capt. E. S. Bradford, as President of the Society, was active in helping all the committees. Mrs. Livette Bellah and Mr. C. M. Forris were the hard working committee chairman in charge of the Show. In charge of staging was Mrs. R. M. McClary. The large number of people who visited the Show during the two days it was presented was proof of the success of this venture. "Judges were: Mrs. Walter Schibig, Seattle; Mrs. Mary Brown Stewart, Bow, Washington; Mrs. I. V. R. Turner, Waldport, Oregon; Mrs. Wm. Berkey, Mrs. M.W. Lynch, Mrs. A. Lawrence, Mrs. Mattie quartier, Mrs. Doris Simonds, Mrs. Jennie Johnson and Dean Collins, all of Portland, and Mrs. Florence Levy of Gresham."

Following are the prize winners and the awards taken by each:

- Berkey, Mrs. Anna C. -- First, Corsages. First, Juliae hybrids, blue and purple. Second, Polyanthus, yellow.
- Johnson, Mrs. J. C. -- First, double Polyanthus.
- Brooke, Mrs. E. E. -- First, Polyanthus, blue. Second, Polyanthus, orange.
- Engberg, R. -- Second, Polyanthus, pastels.
- Gill, Raymond -- Second, Polyanthus, white.
- Greshner, Mrs. E. W. -- First, Polyanthus, Gold and Silver Lace.
- Hart, Mrs. Phillip -- Best display in Show, Polyanthus. First, Polyanthus, best display.
- House, Mrs. A. W. -- Second, Polyanthus, Best Species, Cowslip. First, cut flowers, Auriculas, five in vase.
- Jackson, Mrs. P. L. -- First, best display, Species. Cowslip.
- Knowles, Mrs. Elizabeth -- Second, Juliae hybrid, blue and purple.
- Land, Mrs. Lois -- First, Polyanthus, orange.
- Link, Mrs. Audra, Milwaukee, Ors. -- First, Seedlings Linke, Mrs. C. F. -- First, arrangement, hooked rug McHenry, R. P. & C. -- Second, informal arrangement.
Pearson, Margaret — Second, corsages.
Robertson, S. P. — Burlington, Wash, Second, Seedlings.
Smith, Mrs. Ben F. — First, cut flowers, Polyanthus, one in vase. First, Polyanthus, yellow.
Smith, Mrs. S. R. — First, Polyanthus, novelties. Second, Polyanthus, double.
Staton, Mrs. H. G. — First, Julie hybrid, yellow. First, Acaulis, white. First, informal arrangement. First, informal arrangement, miniature three inches over all. First, Acaulis, red. Second, Polyanthus species, Orip. Templeton, Mrs. Herbert — First, Polyanthus, white. Willis, Mrs. Howard — Second, Polyanthus, bizarre. Young, Mrs. John M. — First, Acaulis, white. Second, hooked rug design. Second, Acaulis, blue. Second, Acaulis, white.
Zach, Mary — First, Polyanthus, bizarre. Second, Polyanthus, Gold and Silver Lace.

Garden Clubs

Congenial Gardeners — Honorable mention, horticultural display.
Chrysanthemum Society — Second, arrangement.
Lady Slipper Clinic — Second, hooked rug design, 3' x 5'.
Little Gardens Club — First, arrangement.
Portland Garden Club — First, horticultural display.
Tabor Rose — Second, Horticultural display.
Vancouver Garden Club — First, hooked rug design, 3' x 5'.

THEY-ARE ASIA’S WILD FLOWERS

Florence Levy

The splash of the creek and the wistfulness that is the call of the hermit thrush are the only sounds falling on this serene June morning. Looking at the flowers before me touched by tree-filtered sunlight and a gentle breeze, I visualize them in great drifts as they grow wild in the mountain meadows of Asia. This colony of Primulas — so beautiful, so contented with this year’s heavy rains that remind them of the summer monsoon of their homeland — is truly lovely. But magnify the scene almost beyond the realm of imagination and you skirt only the outer fringe of their native beauty.

But to return to rural America. This particular piece of the garden that tapers off gently from a wooded hill to the stream bank contains many types of Asiatic primulas, colors and patterns left to arrange themselves at will in a kaleidoscopic sequence of bloom. June, in the Oregon country, is the signal for the balled Primulas to join company with the late blooming candelabras, and at this time the garden’s immediate foreground is bright canary-yellow with the bells of the so-called false Cowslip of India, P. pseudosikimensis. Sturdy, rugged, with stalks almost a foot and a half tall and a quarter of an inch thick, the plants carry great clusters of large, flared bells that are dusted with silver meal within.

Close by and to the right is another Primula of the same group. It is of a color somewhat more pink than loganberry wine but as sparkling, with purple ribbon-stripes decorating the interior of the bell. From this characteristic it takes its name, P. vittata. One noble plant bears two stalks in bud and three more in flower with twelve to eighteen pendant bells swinging at the top of each scape. Almost two feet in height, with the silver striped calyces holding the delicious flowers that smell of honey-in-the-corn, I could have touched the ruby-throated humming bird that pollinated the plants as I watched.

Editor’s Note: Credit for laying out the exhibits and presenting them in their natural charm goes to Mrs. McClary and the members who worked with her.
To the lofty and chaste, powder-blue balls of \textit{P. nutans}. Certainly it is floral perfection — form, carriage, color, fragrance — the gods were in excellent practice when they fashioned this Primula. These plants are flowering on fifteen-inch, heavily silvered stems topped by eighteen wide bells and balloon-like buds that glister with frosty meal. The hairy foliage is proportionately small and stands in an upright rosette completely decorative and somewhat detached. The fragrance is typically Asiatic Primula — a blend of accidental flowers — in this case gardenia and heliotrope seeming to suggest themselves most persistently.

powder-blue, bright yellow, loganberry-pink and yet there is more! The pure gold of \textit{P. holodoxa} and the sky-blue poppy of Tibet make up the background. The latter, being not of the tribe of Primula, should receive no notice but who could see those great colossean butterflies hovering over and around their four-foot stalks and accord Macnopsis Bailoyi no space on the page? In their homeland, too, they neighbor amably with all these Primulas — nutans, pseudosikkimensis, vittata, and holodoxa — growing and blooming together in the mountain meadows and marshes that make up the borderland of Tibet and Yunnan, China.

\textit{P. holodoxa}, brilliant and golden on three-foot scapes, is a stately splendour that carries the fresh fragrance of clover fields in its superposed whorls of bloom. The individual blooms are large, many being an inch and a quarter across, with the petals so wide they wave and flut as they try to arrange themselves into the flat, round blooms of the candelabra.

There are a half dozen or more Primulas that are blooming in the immediate vicinity and it is a temptation not to describe in detail the lovely citron yellow bells of the true \textit{P. sikkimensis}, Cowalip of India, with its delicate scent; or the tall, apricot candelabra, \textit{P. Bulleyana} from Yunnan and its tiny but belligerent fiery, burnt-orange cousin from the province to the north; or the Bulleyana hybrids with their suffused copper and old rose. So many fine species have passed from bloom into seed, but some of the Asiatic woodlanders are still nice even if beyond their prime as are the pink and red \textit{Pulverulentas} and their hybrids. The \textit{Japonicas} are still in unrestrained abandon and four of the balled Primulas that ordinarily bloom in July and August are exhibiting an urge to flower ahead of schedule. Was there ever a more lavish or extravagant family?

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**LARGE, CROWDED PLANTS NEED DIVIDING**

Although some favor fall dividing to take advantage of the seasonal rains, the majority like to divide in summer after the seed harvest, if seeds are desired. This insures the longest possible undisturbed growing season, making for winter safety and early healthy bloom. With rare exception, as with those few types that lose their leaves after blooming, Primulas of all kinds want ample summer moisture inasmuch as at this time they send down new roots from the crown, growing, storing energy and anchoring. They can do it only with a bight of water.

For those who can water artificially in the summer — and in most cases and places it is a necessity — and who wish to divide at this time, lift the plants, shake the dirt from the roots — better yet, hose it off — and most of the divisions will fall free. If all the crowns do not come apart, take a sharp knife and cut each rosette with its complement of roots from the parent plant. Cut the roots back to about four inches, or the width of the hand as the plant is held, and all the old leaves, leaving only the latest growth. Pruning the roots encourages many new feeder rootlets and the leaves are taken off to retard evaporation. If the number of roots on a division is very limited, or the time of dividing very hot, take off more leaves than otherwise.

Toss the trimmmed up divisions in a pail of water containing any vitamin or hormone powder, or just plain H2O, allowing them to remain several hours to absorb all the moisture they can before planting. If soil beds cannot be readied for them in half a day, take the divisions out of the pail and throw moist sacking over them in a shaded place and they will take no harm for a day, even two. The above for English types and the more common Asiatic species.
ROOT WEEVIL DAMAGE TO PRIMROSES

Howard J. Grady

Many Primrose lovers have quit growing their favorite flower due to the damage caused by the larvae or grubs, of root weevils. The damage reaches its peak in the spring of the year during the height of the blossoming period when flowers of the attacked plants will begin to fade and the plants themselves take on a stunted appearance. If these plants are examined all or most of all of the roots will show that the fine rootlets have been eaten off entirely and any remaining roots will show bare spiral rings where the bark has been eaten away. The roots will also show longitudinal splits. When the weevils are numerous the crowns of the plants will also have been eaten.

These weevils are gregarious, liking company and living in groups. One part of a Primrose bed may show many stunted and dying plants and the remainder relatively free from attack. However, the adult weevils will not deposit their eggs around stunted plants but will seek out healthy ones.

Although these pests are commonly known as Strawberry Root Weevils, there are in reality two different groups and several different species in each group. The main classification or groups are the Black Weevils belonging to the genus Brachyrinus and the Gray Weevils belonging to the genus Dyslobus. The Gray Weevils are the ones we notice early in the spring since these weevils winter over in the adult stage and come out to feed on the larvae in March. They lay their eggs in April and May and the grubs feed on the roots of Primroses, Strawberries and other plants until late in the summer when they pupate and change to adults. Although the Gray Weevils often cause serious damage to Strawberry plantings, they are not as serious a pest on Primroses as the other groups.

The Black Weevils are the ones most commonly found on Primroses and appear to do the most damage. In the Black Weevil group are to be found three species that attack Primroses and Strawberries but since the damage they do and their life histories are so similar we will consider them all by their common name "Strawberry Root Weevil". These weevils overwinter in a half-grown larva or grub stage in the spring of the year when it begins to get warm these grubs resume their feeding and along in April and May begin to form earthen cells in which to pupate. They remain in the Pupa stage about three weeks before emerging as adult weevils. These adult weevils begin to make their appearance in May, this year it was the latter part of May before any adults of these Black Weevil appeared. Those adult weevils only feed at night and remain hidden during the day. They feed for approximately two weeks before they lay any eggs, but egg-laying can occur throughout the summer.

These Strawberry Root Weevils are parthenogenetic, that is to say, there are no males and each adult weevil deposits on the average of 150 eggs. These eggs are deposited near the crown and the eggs start to hatch in three weeks. The young larvae hatching from these eggs work their way down into the soil to a depth of from 5 to 10 inches to reach the young rootlets. These larvae will continue to feed on the roots until October or November at which time they are half-grown and pass the winter in this stage. They are more injurious in light soils since it is easier for the grubs to move about.

Control

The principal method of control is by baiting with poison baits. The time of application is important since it is necessary to bait before the adults have deposited any eggs. In the case of the Strawberry Root Weevils -- Black and Gray -- it is not necessary to bait before the end of May or first of June. However, if the Gray Weevils are also present, it is necessary to start baiting early in April and continue to do so every two or three weeks until late in the summer when the Black Weevil group will have ceased emerging. A teaspoonful of bait should be placed as near the crown of each plant as possible but not in the crown as in the case of Strawberry plants.

Cultivating the soil at the time of egg laying and during the period of hatching will destroy many eggs and young larvae. In the case of the common Strawberry Root Weevil, cultivation should be started in June and carried on throughout July.
Many materials have been tested in the hopes of finding a suitable repellent for the adults or larvae, and the most promising of these materials have been highly refined summer oil emulsions either alone or in combination with one of the new Hormone materials.

Plants that show signs of being attacked can be immediately dug up and the transplanted plants treated with a solution of diluted summer oil emulsion made by mixing one pint of the emulsion in three gallons of water. One cupful of the diluted material is then used to "puddle in" the soil around the plant. To offset any stunting of freshly divided plants, the addition of a teaspoonful of one of the Hormone Sprays in the three gallons of diluted oil emulsion is of value.

Working Arsenate of Lead Powder around the plants when setting them out has also been found to be of value.

To satisfactorily control the Weevil on Primroses in areas where this pest has become established, both cultural and chemical practices should be employed. We are dealing with a pest that lays a great many eggs over a long period of time, has the habit of keeping in groups, thereby concentrating its attacks, and are also faced with two different groups — the adults of one appearing at different times than the adults of the other.

More work should be done to determine whether or not Primroses might not be divided and transplanted at times when the maximum number of eggs and grubs could be destroyed. In the meantime, baiting regularly and diligently with one of the recommended baits should be the first step for every Primrose grower.

Editor's Note: Mr. Grady, besides being Branch Manager for the California Spray-Chemical Corporation, is outstanding in chemical and entomological research.
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