PRIMULA ABSCHASICA — By Doretta Klaber
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QUARTERLY

Florence Bellis — Editor Emeritus

Editor — Mrs. Lucien Alexander 11848 S. E. Rhone St., Portland, Oregon 97266

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All material for the Quarterly should be sent direct to the Editor's Office,
11848 S. E. Rhone Street, Portland, Oregon 97266

Foreign (except Canada) subscription price (including membership): 1 pound per year
All dues are payable each November 15 and should be sent to the treasurer:
MRS. LAWRENCE G. TAIT, 14015 84th Ave. N. E., Bothell, Washington
Notes from the Treasurer

We are getting many new members abroad and in the States, who write about their experiences with primroses, their hopes, and their difficulties with weather conditions. Many express their appreciation for the seed from the Seed Exchange, so "many thanks" to Mr. Baldwin for his never ending hours spent writing letters, collecting, storing, sorting, and mailing seed. I have some wonderful species blooming this year from last year's seed exchange. It is fun to try several primulas new to one's own garden each year. So, a big thanks to Mr. Baldwin, and to the members who work with him in contributing to the Seed Exchange.

Members not paid for 1966 have their names removed from the membership and mailing lists June 1. We give every opportunity with a general fall billing to everyone, and individual billing winter and spring. Many receipts of third list have been returned. Many members included with their dues, dues, 1966 and future... 1886.95

Library sales... 13.00
Sustaining... 39.20
Affiliated... 120.00
Family... 70.00
Memberships from Seed Exchange... 13.00

Total 2187.15

Plant Sales, etc.
Washington State Primrose Soc... 72.94
Oregon Primrose Soc... 13.00
Old Quarterly sales... 35.00
Peritorgon sales... 42.75
Donations to Dictionary Fund... 45.75
Commercial Advertising... 413.50
Interest on Bank Savings... 61.80

Total 684.94

Total Receipts... 2872.09

Expenses
Quarterly expenses... 2179.20
Culture chart reprints... 54.18
Society stationery and membership blanks... 55.00
Treasurer's Bond... 10.00
Treasurer's Postage, cards, etc... 68.28
Portable File Cabinet... 16.28
A. P. S. 3-yr. Insurance... 6.90
Advertising... 14.00

Life membership Plaques... 8.00

Total Expenses... 2427.36

Balance on hand January 1, 1966... $2093.72

Respectfully submitted by
BETH TAIT, Treasurer, American Primrose Society

Approved by
MR. GEORGE LONG, President, Washington State Primrose Society

TREASURER'S CASH REPORT January 1, 1966

Cash on hand... $1648.99

Receipts
Dues, 1965 and future... 1886.95
Commercial... 13.00
Libraries... 39.20
Sustaining... 120.00
Affiliated... 70.00
Family... 13.00
Memberships from Seed Exchange... 45.00

Total 2187.15

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE SEED EXCHANGE . . .

Our sincerest thanks to all the members who contributed seed for the 1966 list, and particularly to those who sent in 30, 50, yes, even 70 varieties of seed for the exchange, for making such a listing available to our members. Our appreciation is also expressed to the members who found the list sufficiently attractive to request some 200 and 300 varieties each, from the combined lists. It will be remembered that mention was made that a second list might be had, when printed, on receipt of request. Our second and last lists contained an additional 500 varieties, the last of which was received in May! 1966, our biggest year volume-wise, has closed and it is time to give thought to the present seed harvest. Seeds of many of the early spring flowers have already matured and have been lost unless we have been extra watchful and have collected them before they fell to the ground or were blown away. It is best to clean seeds as gathered and before storing. In this way, much of the insect infestation which is inherent in many types and kinds of seed may be eliminated and the seed saved. Seeds should be received before November first to be included in the Quarterly listing. It is anticipated that a special list will be issued in April and present plans indicate it will be available on request, accompanied by a postage stamp. Final information will be given in the Winter issue of the Quarterly.

Be sure to notify us of your change of address at least a month before the change is made, including an address label clipped from your latest copy. Give both your old and new address and include your zip code. The Editor has to drive (it is not near-by) to the central post office, borrow a directory, and look up zip code numbers for the members who pay dues with an insufficient address. We have a second class permit and are sorting the U.S. mail by zip code.

It has been increasingly difficult and expensive to keep the inside cover page up to date. We simplified this issue, and will include the list of regional vice presidents in the yearbook issue. It will be just as accurate as the information supplied the editor by the affiliated clubs before press time.

Last year adverse weather made seed collection difficult in many areas. That may have been part of the reason Mr. Baldwin had about as much seed sent in after the list was published in the Quarterly as was sent in time to publicize in the first issue; to Cyrus Happy for his auricula articles in Parks Floral Magazine; to the English Auricula & Primula Society, Oregon Section, Yearbook; to Mrs. Esther Hasko for her "Primulas" article in the May Horticulture.

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Notes from Rhone Street

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"Ned Happy" Auricula

"NED HAPPY" – Newly Named Green Edge Show Auricula. Grown and photographed by Cyrus Happy III.

Cyrus Happy III is the grower of the grey edged auricula "Karin" that was described and pictured on page 78 in the spring issue of the Quarterly. Due to an oversight, his name was not given. He has also been honored by having another of his edged auriculas deemed of sufficient merit to warrant naming. Subsequently it was judged and officially given the name of "Ned Happy" in honor of his son. It is a cross between Peter Klein x Poulner, first bloomed in 1962, and is a green edge, sometimes a silver edged green. "Ned Happy" won the Bamford Trophy in 1964, the Best of Show in 1965 National A.P.S. Show, and was pictured in color in the cover of the Quarterly, Summer, '65.

Description of plant:
Tube: Round, yellow. Early truss may produce pips with tube too open. Slight notching sometimes occurs.
Anthers: Good, could fill the tube a little more.
Paste: Very heavy white, circular.
Body color: Very black. Makes a good circle without splashing.
Pipe: Very large. Frequently over 1½" across. Very heavy substance, very refined and in good proportion.
Leaves: Large, edges entire, some-times a trace of meal near the base.
Defects: Specks of meal on the green, slight notching on tube, pips slow to flatten; faults more noticeable because of large size.


"Primula Abschasica Again"

By DORETTA KLABER

As I write these notes re my experience with Primula abschasica, I do not know whether the drawing of it appearing on the cover will be in color or not. I tried to get its elusive and changing color but our editor tells me that full color is prohibitive. The tone should look a great deal like the lovely "City of Tacoma" on the 1955 Year Book.

When Lincoln Foster, in reply to my urgent request after reading his description of it in the Summer 1965, V. 23 #3 issue of the Quarterly, sent me a few plants last year, they made themselves right at home on the Primrose Path but did not (unsurprisingly) put on their fall bloom as advertised.

I watched eagerly this spring and the first primroses to start to bud in mid-March were those of P. abschasica, thrilling me with deep violet buds on delicate but firm maroon, hairy stems with hairy calyces. It bloomed on March 19th, way ahead of every other early primrose, and now at the end of April the flowers are just beginning to fade. The glowing reddish color is lighter than Juliae or that group of wine-colored Julianas, and seems different every time I look at it, changing with the amount of light or shade in which it happens to be.

One might indeed mistake it for one of the Julianae tribe in its early growth, with its small leaves and prolific flowering. But now as the flowers fade the leaves begin to lengthen and show their true character. They all curl back at the edges and are of a thin texture that almost tempts you to pick them for a bowl of salad.

As Lincoln Foster said last year, it multiplies rapidly and I should be able to divide it soon to brighten the early plantings in other sections of the Primrose Path. Fortunately I placed it where hepaticas are spreading and when the blue and white and pinkish and purple hepaticas, the white bloodroots, the strong wines of Juliae and the whites and pale yellows of early acaulis were all in bloom, the abschasica, already there, enhanced the planting greatly. It has continued to bloom for six weeks, early anemones replacing hepaticas, and with promise of a second blooming in fall, what more could you ask of any plant?

Book Review

PRIMROSES AND SPRING
by Doretta Klaber

"Primroses and Spring," by Doretta Klaber, published by M. Barrows & Co., is now available and, if anything can, will enhance the popularity of these flowers.

It is a book long overdue, for Americans have needed a popular book on primroses written by an American with wide experience in growing this beloved plant family. It will satisfy the needs of the novice gardener, the experienced gardener, the specialists as well as the grower. The clarity of text, the accurateness of the original drawings, the enthusiasm with which she portrays the charm of primroses, and the cultural directions should give this book a place in all garden libraries.

— Continued on page 102
Crossword Puzzle #2

By RALPH BALCOM

This puzzle is not as difficult as the first one, and we should get more contestants with correct solutions.

RULES FOR CONTEST ENTRY

1. Open to all members of A. P. S.
2. Solutions must be mailed to Ralph Balcom not later than August 15, 1966.
3. Names of all members who submit a correct solution will be published in the next Quarterly.
4. Names of those who submit a correct solution will be thrown into a hat and a drawing will be made the last week of August, supervised by Nancy Ford.
5. First Prize: Five Exhibition Alpine Auricula plants including the named Joy and Argus.
6. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th prizes: Each will receive a packet of Exhibition Alpine Auricula seed from hand pollinated plants, including the named Argus, Joy, Lady Daresbury, Gordon Douglas and Searchlight.

Ralph Balcom will furnish the plants and seed again "just this one more time."

HORIZONTAL

1. Plant juice
2. Section of wall
3. Greenhouse Primula species
4. Take notice
5. Rummage
6. Roman household god
7. Fruit of the oak
8. Wet earth
9. Blade
10. "Bear's ears"
11. Jargon
12. Thing (in law)
13. Weird
14. Vegetable
15. Sphere
16. Candelabrum species
17. Melody
18. Name of anecdotes
19. Common name for Primulas
20. Collection of anecdotes
21. In gay
22. Size of type
23. Boy
24. Steep rock
25. Captive whale
26. Jewish month
27. Spartan queen
28. Highly spiced stew
29. Champion prizefighter
30. Steep rock
31. Islands near Australia
32. Trash
33. Style of jazz
34. Goddess of the rainbow
35. Striped game
36. Captive whale
37. Stand up
38. Recedes
39. Style of jazz
40. Sheet music
41. Social climber
42. Hybrid rose
43. Royal Velvets
44. "Jay-Jay"
45. "Buttercup"

VERTICAL

1. Dragon
2. Feminine name
3. Fruit
4. Variety of P. sikkimensis
5. Do wrong
6. Son of Gad
7. Lady
8. Ancient Greek market (Pl.)
9. French article
10. Western State (Abbr.)
11. Letters
12. Knock
13. Self
14. Size of type
15. Boy
16. Captive whale
17. Jewish month
18. Spartan queen
19. Highly spiced stew
20. Champion prizefighter
21. Steep rock
22. Islands near Australia
23. Tie game (2 words)
As there were seven winners and only six prizes, one lonely contestant would have been left without an award. Consequently, our generous and erudite Mr. Balcom donated still another prize. The names were all thrown into a hat, and Mrs. Agee drew the name of Anton J. Schwarz, to determine the first award. To each successful contestant, our congratulations and best wishes for continued pleasure with their plants and seedlings.

1st Prize — Anton J. Schwarz, Seattle, Wn. — 5 Double Auricula plants.

The following all submitted correct solutions and each will receive a packet of Double Auricula seed: Mrs. Hugh Peavey, Darrington, Wn.; Mrs. Doretta Kiaber, Quakertown, Pa.; Mrs. Rosina Laughlin, Everett, Wn.; Mrs. Wallace J. Balla, Greenwich, Conn.; Mrs. C. C. Chambers, Seattle, Wn.; Mrs. Mary Ann Heacock, Denver, Colo.
National Primrose Show Reports . . . 1966

By ANNE SIEPMAN
Recording Secretary

The Vernales Section was at its best for this show, but there were entries in every division of the schedule so the public saw a wide variety of Primroses.

The Awards dinner was well attended with a capacity crowd at the Surf Restaurant. Among the out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gilman, from Los Gatos, Calif. This year Kirkland had its own Primrose Queen, who presented the Past Presidents with corsages and boutonnieres. Honored were Ralph Balcom, Herbert Dickson, Mary Zach, Anne Siepman, and Cyrus Happy. President Ivanel Agee presented the A.P.S. Awards to the winners, as listed in the National Trophies Report. Mr. Frank Michaud was given a special honor from the Society in the form of a fine original painting of an Auricula as well as a citation from the Society for his outstanding work in introducing the Auricula to America. Mr. Balcom reported the winners of the crossword puzzle contest. The names were listed on slips of paper, mixed up in a hat, and drawn by Mrs. Agee to determine the over-all winner. The featured speaker was Mary Zach, who gave a most interesting talk on "Twenty-five Years With the A. P. S."

The following officers were elected:

President - Mrs. Grace M. Conboy
Vice-Pres. - Mr. Herbert Dickson
Rec. Sec. - Anne Siepman
Corr. Secy. - Mrs. Alice Hills Baylor
Treasurer - Mrs. Lawrence Tait
Directors - Mr. Ray Bernhardt and Mr. Ralph Balcom

Replacing Cyrus Happy - Albert Funkner

Primrose Show April 22, 1966

TROPHY WINNERS

Horticulture Sweepstakes, Amateur
Mrs. William Dines
Runner-up
Mrs. Orval Agee
Hort. Sweepstakes, Professional
Dicksons Gardens
Runner-up
Dicksons Gardens
Sweepstakes, Artistic
Mrs. Don Flage
Tri-Color Award
Mrs. Don Flage
Best Novice Arrangement
Mrs. George Elies
Sweepstakes, Junior Division
Candy Clark
Sherri Higginbotham
Runner-up
Betty Dines
Award of merit Hort.
Mrs. Robert Putnam
Best Show Auricula, Amateur
Orval Agee
Best Show Auricula, Professional
Nancy Ford
Best Show Alpine, Amateur
Mrs. William Dines
Best Show Alpine, Professional
Nancy Ford
Best Border Alpine, Amateur
Dr. Winter
Best Border Alpine, Professional
Dickson's Gardens
Best Double Auricula, Amateur
Mrs. Orval Agee
Best Double Auricula, Professional
Mr. Ralph Balcom
Best Garden Auricula, Amateur
Mrs. Orval Agee
Best Garden Auricula, Professional
Dickson's Gardens
Best Gold Lace
Mrs. C. C. Chambers
Best Hose-in-Hose
Primrose Acres

Best Juliana, Amateur
Anne Siepman
Best Juliana, Professional
Kit's Gardens
Best Polyanthus, Amateur
Anne Siepman
Best Polyanthus, Professional
none given
Best Forced Division
Primrose Acres
Best Garryarde
Primrose Acres
Best Denticula, Professional
Mr. Ralph Balcom

Floor Plots:
Garden Clubs — Redmond House & Garden Nurseries — Jerry Monro
Growers — Primrose Acres

1966 Bamford Trophy Winner, grown by Nancy Ford.
— Photo by Orval Agee
A.P.S. National Trophies

The Bamford Trophy was given to the Society in 1953 to be awarded at National Shows for the Best Show Auricula Seedling. It was won in:
- 1960 — Cyrus Happy
- 1962 — John Shuman
- 1963 — John Shuman
- 1964 — Cyrus Happy
- 1965 — Cyrus Happy
- 1966 — Orval Agee

The Frank Michaud Perpetual Trophy given for Best Show Auricula:
- 1960 — Cyrus Happy
- 1962 — John Shuman
- 1963 — John Shuman
- 1964 — Cyrus Happy
- 1965 — Cyrus Happy
- 1966 — Orval Agee

The Shuman Perpetual Trophy was given to the Society in 1960 for the Best Alpine. It was won in:
- 1960 — Cyrus Happy
- 1961 — John Shuman
- 1962 — John Shuman
- 1963 — John Shuman
- 1964 — Herbert Dickson
- 1965 — Cyrus Happy
- 1966 — Nancy Ford

The Haddock Trophy is given for Best Alpine Seedling. Given by Mr. and Mrs. John Haddock of Seattle in 1960:
- 1960 — Cyrus Happy
- 1963 — John Shuman
- 1964 — Herbert Dickson
- 1965 — Herbert Dickson
- 1966 — Nancy Ford

The Ellen Page Haydon Trophy for Best Double Auricula, first given this year:
- 1966 — Mr. Ralph Balcom

The Captain Comely Hawkes Trophy is given for best Gold Laced Polyanthus, in memory of Captain Hawkes of England:
- 1964 — Agnes Lindsay
- 1966 — Mrs. C. C. Chambers

The Bamford Trophy was given to (Mrs. Baylor) and hope you enjoy every success, good health, and a long life.

I hope the Society will always flourish. I do and rejoice in their success. I can only admire what others are doing and rejoice in their success. I am 90 years old and a bit feeble, and raised from Barnhaven seed. Now I and the primula particularly. I had 918 plants entered in competition and judged; not counting all others that were arranged in floor displays. Divisions V through VII, the Auricula, due to our early show date were in poor supply. However, all the early primula were very well represented to a show crowd of 27,000 people. (This attendance was computed by the regular Mall electric eye tabulator.)

An added show feature was the original primula hand-paintings of Karin Morris — and a sellout it was.

Very sincerely,
Ellen Page Haydon
Riderwood, Maryland

Quarterly Mail

I am glad Mr. Balcom won the silver bowl I sent, which has been named the Hayden Trophy. All my life I have loved plants and flowers, and the primula particularly. I had some lovely ones, large plantings raised from Barnhaven seed. Now I am 90 years old and a bit feeble, and can only admire what others are doing and rejoice in their success. I hope the Society will always flourish.

I have read many of your writings (Mrs. Baylor) and hope you enjoy every success, good health, and a long life.

— Continued on page 102

Local Show Reports

The Alpine Garden Club of British Columbia

Thanks are due to all those members who worked so hard to make this year’s spring show a success. It was most pleasing to look at, and among so many well-grown plants it was interesting to see several which are less common and not easy to grow. Mr. Darts will report further to the meeting.

Pot Show. Another pot show is to be held at the next meeting. Two prizes will be awarded: one for the best entry in the show and one for the most courageous entry.

Field Trips. The first trip of the year to Vancouver Island was a great success. Members visited two park areas and then Mill Hill where they were able to dig a few plants. Most people then went on to see the Victoria show which is always a pleasure to visit. Mr. Reith is to be thanked for his excellent guided tour in the morning, and Mr. Guppy for having arranged such a successful day — weather specially planned!

Tacoma Primrose Society

From all reports the April 2-3, 1966 Primrose Show at the new Tacoma Mall was the beginning of a new era of great Primula shows here in Tacoma.

As best we could count there were 918 plants entered in competition and judged; not counting all others that were arranged in floor displays. Divisions V through VII, the Auricula, due to our early show date were in poor supply. However, all the early primula were very well represented to a show crowd of 27,000 people. (This attendance was computed by the regular Mall electric eye tabulator.)

An added show feature was the original primula hand-paintings of Karin Morris — and a sellout it was.
Local Shows (Cont.)

DIV. XIII — Decorative
Mrs. Polly Westwood, Spanaway
Best arrangement
Silver tray
Sweepstakes Award
Mrs. Helen Clarke, Lakewood
Silver tray

Oregon Primrose Society
Best Polyanthus, Amateur
Mr. Ernest Gates
Best Polyanthus, Gold Laced
Cyrus Happy III
Best Acaulis
Mrs. Ernest Gates
Best Juliana
Dicksons Gardens
Best Novice
R. Charlton
Best Garden Auricula
Mrs. Orval Agee
Best Species
Mrs. William Tate
Best Seedling
Orval Agee
Best Plant in Show
Dicksons Gardens
Sweepstakes, Amateur
Mary Zach
Sweepstakes, Commercial
Dicksons Gardens
Best Seedling Polyanthus
Mary Zach
Best Junior, 13 - 18
Sharon Charlton
Best Junior, 6 yrs. and under
Channing Swetely

Washington State Primrose Society
The annual Auricula and Primula Show was held in Bellevue, Washington again this year. The show was beautiful, thanks to the abundance of help from our members and friends. The Horticulture exhibits were excellent... Double Auriculas and Garden Auriculas dominated the show and all were very well displayed. The Decorative arrangements showed much originality and this year we boasted four Auricula Theatre entries. Many viewers vowed to enter this division next year and many elaborate plans were discussed.

Sweepstakes — The Marion Hannah Trophy
Kitty Schwarz, Kits Garden
Runner-up
Beth Tait, Primrose Acres
Best Seedling Show Alpine — Grace T. Dowling Trophy
Beth Tait, Primrose Acres
Best Double Auricula — Janet Round
Ralph Balcom
Best Seedling Show Auricula — East Side Garden Club of Kirkland Trophy
Cyrus Happy III
Best Auricula Theatre — Nancy Ford Trophy
Patricia A. Winter
Best Border Alpine Auricula — Alice W arneck Trophy
Dicksons Gardens
Best Named Show Auricula—Primrose Acres Trophy
Beth Tait, Primrose Acres
Best Garden Auricula — Orrin Hale Trophy
Kitty Schwarz, Kit’s Garden
Best Species — Anne Siepman Trophy
Mary Baxter
Best Double Auricula — Janet Round Trophy
Beth Tait, Primrose Acres
Best Double Seedling Auricula
Nancy Ford
Best Exhibition Alpine
Beth Tait, Primrose Acres
Best Auricula Species
Anne Siepman
Best Gold Laced
Mrs. Paul Lange
Best Cortusoides
Beth Tait, Primrose Acres
Best Arrangement
Mrs. Don Flage
Decorative Sweepstakes
Mrs. Oran Stewart
Runner-up
Mrs. Don Flage

(Classified Ads)

BARNHAVEN DOUBLES

I wish to thank the members of the American Primrose Society for their appreciation of Barnhaven’s New Doubles these past two years when some 400 original plants, from two sowings, have been on display here at Barnhaven. And I particularly wish to thank the members in the Seattle, Tacoma and Portland areas who have been so unremitting in their acclaim and appreciation of this “first” in horticultural history.

Since Barnhaven has now retired after thirty years of pioneering primroses in America, I know the Seattle and Tacoma members will be especially happy to learn that these Doubles — sapphire, sky and sea blues, pinks, apricots, white, American Beauty, bronze, to name a few — can be seen next spring on display and color TV in their area, where they are now being propagated for release.

Florence Bells
“Barnhaven”
Gresham, Oregon, U. S. A.

(Paid Advertisement)

CY HAPPY offers seed from prize-winning show stock: Edged show auricula and selfs, 10c each or the equivalent in foreign paper currency. Alpine auricula 5c each. CY HAPPY offers seed from prize-winning show stock: Edged show auricula and selfs, 10c each or the equivalent in foreign paper currency. Alpine auricula 5c each. CY HAPPY offers seed from prize-winning show stock: Edged show auricula and selfs, 10c each or the equivalent in foreign paper currency. Alpine auricula 5c each. CY HAPPY offers seed from prize-winning show stock: Edged show auricula and selfs, 10c each or the equivalent in foreign paper currency. Alpine auricula 5c each.

VERMONT HARDY PRIMROSES:
Sky Hook Giant polyanthus, Acaulis, Denticulata: lavender, deep shades and white; Julianas, Candelabras, P. rubra, Boothman hybrid, Miniature polyanthus, Sieboldii: pink, white and Southern Cross, P. darialiaca (the robust Birds-eye) Pagodas: Oriental Sunshine and Sunset, Species. Seeds, double auriculas, 5c each. All others, 100/50. List on request.

HAND POLLINATED double auricula seed; 5¢ each, any size pkt. — NANCY FORD, 740 35th Ave., Seattle, Wn. 98122.

BERNHARDT’S STRAIN of hand-pollinated polyanthus seed. Generous pkts. of mixed seed, many colors. $3.00 each. — BERNHARDTS, Rt. 3, Boring, Oregon.

CHOICE CANDELABRA SEED, hand-pollinated. Pagoda Strain Hybrids: $1.00 Pkt. Mixed colors or opalescent, pastels, yellows, pinks and reds. — Anita Alexander, 11848 S.E. Rhone, Portland, Ore. 97266.

(Continued on page 98)
Summer Seeding

By RUBY WALKER — Gibsonville, North Carolina

When I received my polyanthus seed in August I planted it in eight-inch plastic bulb pots; in a mixture of woods dirt, sand, and vermiculite, with about two inches of vermiculite on top. I did not cover the seed, and used the Barnhaven hot water method. (Ed. Note: Water in with hot water, 110°, and a fine rose, once a day for two days after sowing.) For water and air drainage, I placed the pots on strips of wood under an oak tree, where they received some morning sun.

The plants remained there until October, just before our first frost. I then placed them in my lean-to greenhouse, which provides light from the east and south. As the plants grew, I transplanted into 2½ inch peat pots, in practically the same type of soil. I placed about 2 inches of vermiculite in my aluminum-lined bench, and placed the pots as close as I could get them until all the plants were cared for. The house runs about 40-65 degrees at night. Keeping the daytime temperatures down during sunny weather requires quick ventilation, a fan, and an all-weather air conditioner that heats and cools. The fan runs all the time it is on, and the compressor is controlled by an electric thermostat.

As far as drainage is concerned, I see that the pots are wet, but not dripping. The vermiculite provides good drainage and the root growth in it is excellent. I had absolutely no fungus, spot, or insects. When I saw the first bloom stalk the plants were crowded. I looked for more buds, and noticed the first and smallest leaves were yellow. Separation of the plants immediately provided more ventilation and put an end to yellowing. They are all fine now, in February.

I think they are blooming because they have grown continuously since they were sown. All of the specialty polyanthus will bloom by spring; the novelty are growing more slowly.

I did not fertilize very frequently, and must admit to no special schedule, just using about 1 tablespoon of "Rapid-Gro" per gallon of water to keep the leaf growth constant, dark green, but not lush. The plants were always watered thoroughly before fertilizing.

I hope this rambling explanation will help other amateur growers in some way. For my part, I have enjoyed the winter gardening and am anticipating an "early bird" start with blooming and budded plants to set into the garden as soon as the weather permits.

LOCAL SHOWS (Continued from page 96)

Mt. Angel Primrose Show

The 19th annual Primrose Show at Mt. Angel was very colorful and had the largest number of entries of any of the shows to date, but it was almost a solo for Polyanthus.

Mrs. Alan Obersinner, who won both the general sweepstakes trophy and custody of the Governor Hatfield Golden Bowl for the coming year, had many Polyanthus, beautiful in color and size.

The runner-up, Mrs. David Shepherd, was also largely represented. Mrs. Shepherd was sweepstakes winner several times, and her Polyanthus were also of excellent quality and colors, though she favored a different brand of seed. She also won the runner-up trophy for the best Poly-

Regional Planting Outline

By FLORENCE BELLIS

The following outline is based upon information collected from gardeners successfully growing primroses in these areas over a period of years and are meant not as set rules but as general recommendations influenced by local weather conditions.

Eastern, Mid-Western and Mountain States

Seed: October, November, December to freeze outdoors over winter. March and April using easy artificial freezing and hot water methods as outlined in seed pamphlet.

Plant Seedlings: April, May, June, September, early October.

Plants: March, April, May, June, July, September, early October.

Northern California and Bay Area

Seed: July, August (new harvest) and from September through fall, winter and spring using the quick and easy hot water or artificial freezing methods, or both.

Seedlings: From September through fall and winter depending upon locality and with possible exception of January.

Plants: The year around with possible exception of January.

Southern California and Southern States

Seed: July and August (new harvest) in cooler localities. From September throughout fall, winter and early spring in warmer areas, using easy germinating methods.

Seedlings: From October throughout fall and winter depending upon local weather conditions.

Plants: From October throughout fall, winter and spring months through June.

Pacific Northwest

Seed: July and August (new harvest.) November, December, January to freeze outdoors during winter; February, March and April using easy germinating methods.

Seedlings: July, August, September, October and spring.

Plants: From February through spring, summer and fall to November.

Cool Greenhouse Culture

Seed: Beginning September through fall and winter using quick and easy artificial freezing and hot water methods.

Seedlings: October, November, December for following spring bloom.

Suggested temperature range: Between 40-60 degrees.

LOCAL SHOWS (Cont.)

anthus seedling grown by a Garden Club member.

The Novice Sweepstakes award went to Mrs. William Stalp of Mt. Angel and the runner-up to Mrs. Leonard Fisher, also of Mt. Angel. Other types of primroses, exhibited in very limited numbers, were Auriculas — Garden and Alpine (a few Shows), Juliae, Cowichan, Sieboldi, Obconica, Gold Lace and Acaulis.

Mrs. Joseph Annen won the award for the Best Auricula Seedling. Mrs. Ken Fessler of Mt. Angel took the Best Polyanthus Seedling award with a nearly perfect plant with deep red flowers. In the Flower Arrangement section, Salem took most of the honors. Mary Arment was awarded the Amateur Sweepstakes, Carey Brown the Advanced Amateur, and Joan E. Shaw the Novice. The show was also honored by the presence of Governor Mark Hatfield and three of his children. The governor and his wife grow auriculas and polyanthus.
Nutrient Sprays

By DR. H. B. TUKEY — Cornell University

Foliar nutrient sprays are an efficient and rapid method of applying nutrients to plants. It has been known for 200 years that the above-ground parts of plants can absorb nutrients from sprays. "Foliar feeding," "foliar nutrition," or "non-root feeding" as the Russians call it, is utilized commercially to correct deficiencies of minor elements such as iron, manganese, zinc, copper, and boron. In addition, major nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus and calcium are also applied to plants by this method.

The advantages of foliar-applied nutrients are several. First, foliar-applied nutrients are absorbed and utilized by the plants at a much faster rate than soil-applied nutrients. Absorption begins within minutes after application, and with most nutrients is completed within 1 to 2 days. Second, foliar-applied nutrients are utilized much more efficiently by plants. Up to 80 per cent of the nutrients are utilized by plants. Third, because the foliar-applied nutrients are utilized faster and more efficiently, the effects of foliar nutrition are noted quickly, within a few hours or days.

Foliar nutrition is a supplement to soil nutrition, not a substitute. It is true that a plant can be grown to maturity on nutrients applied exclusively through the foliage, but for practical and economic reasons most of the nutrients applied to plants will come from soil-applied fertilizers. But for a supplement at a particular time which is critical for the plant, foliar feeding has its place. At transplanting time, an application of phosphorus will help in the establishment of the young plant. A nutrient spray at time of bloom will improve fruit set. In some soils, applications of superphosphate are ineffective because the phosphorus is immediately tied up in the soil. In such conditions, foliar sprays of phosphorus are quickly available to the plant and are not inactivated.

For ornamental plants, early spring growth is usually limited by cold soil temperatures. Under such conditions, soil microorganisms do not make nutrients in available forms, and roots do not absorb the nutrients. Yet, if the nutrients were available, the plant could grow as the air temperatures may be warm. A nutrient spray to the foliage will provide nutrients immediately to the plants, allowing them to begin growth before the roots are able to absorb nutrients from the soil.

Another way of getting early spring growth is to apply fertilizer materials during the late fall and winter. Woody stems and branches are capable of absorbing nutrients from sprays, even during the winter months. Thus, a nitrogen spray during the winter will provide a high nitrogen level within the plant when the spring air temperatures are conducive for growth. A little extra growth in the spring may be enough to put plants in the next higher grade in the fall.

Plant Associations & Alpines

Summer has come to the lowlands and spring is hurrying into the mountains. Readers who are blessed nearby mountains and the vigor to get into the "high country" should take particular note of plant associations. Next to altitude or latitude, the varying degrees of humidity are most influential in determining the characteristics of those plants which naturally grow together in groups. Mr. Robert Luscher was watching an Ontario snowstorm and thinking of spring when he sent this note on plant associations:

"The expression snow valley originated with Oswald Heer. He denotes by small hollows and northern slopes where the snow lasts for a long time and where the ground is saturated with the ice cold water; after the melting of the snow a blackish earth is left proceeding from the mineral dust and organic detritus which have collected on the snow.

"I have seen this, and presume it is an extremely slippery undertaking to walk without an alpenstock across this black, greasy soil. But behold, you find here the soldennellas, the spring crocuses and lesser herbs. Typical snow valley plants — better said — the pioneers in such locations — are, for instance, golden moss (Polytrichum sexangulare), the two flowered sandwort ( Arenaria Bi-flora), the three styled alpine chickweed (cerastium trinum); the alpine meadow cress, then the cudweed (ged-phalium supinum); also the dwarf willow (Salix herbacea), alpine plantain, the soldennellas, Ox-eye, Speedwell, also Gentiana barrassca var subcaulis, and Primula integrifolia.

"The word Alpine is losing its meaning from too general usage. The ordinary lay reader is not familiar with specific expression, few indeed care to know all the details. For my glossary of botanic terms, an Alpine denotes a plant belonging to the Alps, strictly applicable to plants growing above the limit of forest growth. A sub-alpine applies to vegetation above the general limit of vegetation, but below the uppermost series of alpines.

"The general meaning seems to be any plant growing on high elevations, especially above the timber line. That is not specific, because geographic location is important. There is a marked difference in growth conditions, for instance, for an alpine plant in the European Alps and an alpine plant in New Zealand in identical altitudes.

"One more bone I have to pick with various writers is their descriptions, growing on rocky soil, over rocky subsoil, and not giving a clear indication as to the type of rock, such as igneous or lime, sandstone, or any other combination of rocks. The exposure should be described, too."
Quarterly Mail — Continued from page 94

beavers are moving in again, despite trapping and baiting for them.

The primroses are keeping me busy. We hand pollinated quite a few plants and are hoping some good seedling will come of our crosses.

Thans again for an interesting Quarterly... Ruth Smith Kirkland, Wn.

—oo—

Our weather has been so bad it has been impossible to make any firm plan for our garden tour. We will need some sun and warmth to have much of a primrose display in early May. We do plan to go to the Root Gardens in Clinton, N.Y. May 28, and hope to see candelabras as well as earlier varieties.

Geraldine H. Gates
Onondage Primrose Soc.

Book Review — Continued from page 87

There is no need to be a botanist to understand the text as this is a handbook filled with practical information gleaned from years of experience. There are recommendations for the soil and moisture conditions needed by some of the less well known primroses, which will make these as easy to grow as the sturdy English primrose. It addition, a special chapter is devoted to those which might be raised in a sun-heated pit or frame.

Primroses needing the same growing conditions are grouped together rather than listed by botanical sections. This system makes selection simpler for those gardeners who have only one or two locations suitable for growing primroses.

I am an amateur grower, very familiar with the little yellow cowslip type, but the better variety was considered very hard to germinate. I like to try seed with a reputation like that, so I bought good seed, followed the instructions, and now I have the most beautiful colors I ever saw. Now I want more varieties and have started seed of asiatics and julianas.

We toured the West in 1958 but did not get to Oregon and Washington, and have regretted it. We hope to go there, and to Alaska... there is so much difference in growing conditions and vegetation across country; it is almost unbelievable.

Ruby Walker
Gibsonville, No. Carolina

Summer and Fall Care of Primulas

The summer and fall care of primroses consists of three or four tasks—divide, cultivate, fertilize, and water. Water is the most important. Many a primula has “winterkilled” because it became much too dry during the summer months. I want primula in variety in a dry site in front of my house, but move them to the damp creek before we leave for much of the summer. I quote from Dr. W.O. Hillery:

“As the primrose is a shade loving plant, we place it in the shade of shrubs, buildings, or more often, under trees. Shrubs and trees shed the rains like an umbrella, to drop off the outer extremity of their longest limbs to feed the water to their root systems. If you want to know how little such plants benefit from a good rain, dig up a primrose so planted immediately after a rain and you may find the root system perfectly dry. Wet foliage does the plant little good, except to check transpiration. It is the water taken up by the root system and fed to the plant circulation that makes sturdy and healthy foliage and choice bloom.”

I have often kept soil soakers and sprinklers running for hours during a slow steady rain. The requirements of a primrose are partial shade, good drainage, and more water than the average perennial. When we protect from the sun we are often protecting from the summer rains at the same time. Thrust the shovel into the ground to check the moisture depth.

Granted adequate water and reasonable control over predators — whether they be weeds, insects, or the trampling, obliterating feet of children or adults with children’s minds — the interesting primula family offers a tremendous variety for many types of garden situations. Many of the varnale section will thrive in the shaded border, others are happy and colorful in damp spots of the rock garden. The stream plants are best if their roots can reach water all the time, and can endure repeated flooding during the winter.

This is the backbone of primula color range and blooming season I would suggest — and will be happy to receive the additions and corrections available from many other gardeners.

Very early spring — Rosea, denticulata, Juliae hybrids
Spring — Polyanthus, Acaulis, Auriculas, Seiboldii, Polyneura, Farinos
Late spring — Auricula, Japonica, Pulverulenta
Early summer — Candelabra species and hybrids, Belled species and hybrids, Malacoides
Late fall, Early winter — Polyanthus, seedling candelabras
Year-Round foliage — Auriculas

— Photo by Orval Agee

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