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1970

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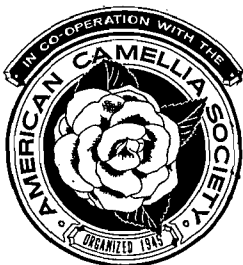
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*Welcome to the*  
*Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte*  
**1970 CAMELLIA SHOW**



*Welcome:—*

Our hope is to have the beauty and magnificence of the camellia captivate and charm you.

Blooms exhibited here come from several States. They will reflect the loving care and cultural competence of the exhibitor.

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DR. FRONTIS W. JOHNSTON

*President*

*Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte*

# THE MEN'S CAMELLIA CLUB OF CHARLOTTE

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Daytime and Night

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# AWARDS

<i>Best Bloom grown in open—2½" to 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Bloom grown in open 2½" to 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Best Bloom grown in open—over 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Bloom grown in open—over 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
Discretion of Judges	
<i>Best Bloom grown under glass—2½" to 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Bloom grown under glass—2½" to 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Best Bloom grown under glass—over 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Bloom grown under glass—over 4½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Best Miniature under 2½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Miniature under 2½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Best Reticulata</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Reticulata</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Best Hybrid</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Best Hybrid</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Sweepstakes Blooms grown under glass</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Runnerup Sweepstakes Blooms grown under glass</i> .....	Silver Trophy
<i>Best White Japonica over 2½"</i> .....	Silver Trophy

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## Division I—HORTICULTURE

Camellia Blooms in Classes A, B, C, D, and E will be judged in accordance with American Camellia Society Rules by variety and arranged alphabetically according to accepted nomenclature. These classes are open to amateurs only. All other species, will be judged together. Class F (seedlings) is open to amateurs and professionals alike.

CLASS A (*White Cards*)—Blooms grown in the open by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons for each variety.

Div. I—Best flower, Silver Trophy and Rosette.

Runner-up best flower, Silver Trophy and Rosette.

} Discretion  
of  
Judges

CLASS B (*Green Cards*)—Blooms grown under glass by amateurs. Awards: Same as Class A above.

Div. I—Best flower 2½" to 4½", Silver Trophy and Rosette.

Runner-up best flower 2½" to 4½", Silver Trophy and Rosette.

Div. II—Best flower 4½" and over, Silver Trophy and Rosette.

Runner-up best flower 4½" and over, Silver Trophy and Rosette.

CLASS C (*Yellow Cards*)—*Reticulatas*—Blooms grown in open or under glass by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons. Silver trophy will be awarded for best flower in class and runner-up in class, provided there are 25 or more blooms entered in this class.

CLASS D (*Blue Cards*)—(Miniature—2½" and under) Blooms grown in open or under glass by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons. Silver trophy (miniature) will be awarded for best flower provided there are 25 or more blooms entered in this class.

CLASS E (*Hybrids*)—(Mark Hybrids)—Blooms grown in open or under glass by amateurs. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons. Silver trophy will be awarded for best flower in class and runner-up in class, provided there are 25 or more blooms entered in this class.

CLASS F (*Blooms from Seedlings*)—Awards: American Camellia Society awards are available at the discretion of the judges. If plants from seedlings have been sold commercially, they are not eligible.

CLASS G (*Best white japonica in show over 2½ inches*). Trophy and Rosette. (can also be best flower in show)

CLASS H (*Collections or Trays Under Glass*)—Blooms grown by amateurs exhibited on moss covered tray or plate furnished by exhibitors. Awards: Blue, red and yellow ribbons, and rosette for the best collection in each group.

I. A. Collection consisting of 3 different varieties

B. Collection consisting of 3 of the same variety.

II. A. Collection consisting of 5 different varieties.

B. Collection consisting of 5 of the same variety.

\*Exhibitors shall be limited to one entry in each of the above 4 categories under Class H.

### American Camellia Society Awards

Gold Certificate for sweepstakes winner in each horticultural Class A, B, C, D, E, G, and H, awarded on blue ribbons won. In case of tie, red ribbons will decide.

Silver Certificate and trophy for runner-up. Counted on same basis as for Gold Certificate.

Highly Commended Certificate for Seedling when judges consider it clearly distinct from or notably superior to any variety now in commerce.

# Growing Outdoor Camellias

M. G. ISLEY

*(Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte)*

Camellias can be used for basic plantings in the shrubbery pattern for framing your house or for cluster plantings in your yard. Not only are these evergreen plants throughout the year but blooms will be available for many weeks during a time when little else will be blooming in the yard. Blooms can be had in many colors and descriptions.

These plants are so valuable for these uses because they come with various growing habits. If a tall growing plant is needed for framing near the corners of the house, there are varieties that have this growing habit or pattern. If global shapes are needed to fill between corners or for growing under windows there are varieties that grow naturally into this pattern.

These plants will also respond to the pruning shears. The gardener can have blooms and then shape his evergreen shrub.

Another desirable feature about camellias is that some varieties will grow in almost total shade while others will grow in almost total sun.

In the November, 1967 issue of the American Camellia Journal, the writer says on page 20 that planting too close to buildings, walls, or foundations should be avoided because of the leaching of lime from the mortar mix used in construction. If planting is desired in such locations, the soil should be tested for alkalinity and amended or replaced as necessary.

A rich loamy soil is ideal for camellias. They will respond in a wide range of soil, however a near neutral or slightly acid soil is preferred. A pH7 content may be tolerated but a slightly lower pH content is better.

In selecting and planting camellias outside I have hinted about growing habits because of where the plant is to be located. Next the grower needs to know something about selecting plants. Bill Wilson, Decatur, Georgia says in his article "Selecting and Locating Your Camellia Plants" in the November, 1968 American Camellia Journal:

1. "The largest plants are not always the best buy. The 2 to 3 foot size is very desirable.
2. Plants grown in containers have all their roots available at the time of sale.
3. You may think that you prefer formal double or imbricated flowers, but in general they do not perform best outdoors.
4. Do not choose plants with yellow leaves, dead wood, or blemishes on the bark. . . .
5. Look for healthy growth buds, and don't judge a plant by the number of bloom buds."

Now the decisions have been reached on location and selection of plants. Some cautions should be considered. Camellias are shallow-root plants. Possibly more plants are lost, or grow poorly, due to planting too deep than for any other single reason. During my first year of growing outside camellias I set twelve plants. After two years I decided they must be too deep so with a sharp shooter I lifted them in place and worked woods dirt under each plant to raise it at least two inches. All

*(Continued on page 12)*

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# Growing Outdoor Camellias

*(Continued from page 10)*

survived and have thrived since. Now I follow two rules. First, if I can tell how deep the plant has been, I plant one inch less deep so the plant can settle some and still be safe. Second, if I cannot tell for any reason how deep the plant has been, I plant so I can feel roots near the trunk of the plant that are less than an inch below the surface of the soil.

If there is a question about drainage, spade up the location and work in loamy soil and humus, raising the planting bed so the feeder roots will be above the level of the soil surrounding the planting bed or location of the plant. A camellia must have proper drainage.

Camellias live for many years under proper conditions. This says to either plant with room for growth or plan to move some out later as they grow too large and become crowded in the original planting. I have planted too close by error and had to move plants after ten years. I have been successful but it is hard work to move a large plant properly. It may be easier to plant with room for future growth.

Most growers do not fertilize at the time of planting. If this is done, be sure that fertilizer is not put in contact with roots that are bared when the plant is taken from the container.

As to a fertilizing program, many growers like to have a balanced fertilizer available throughout the growing season. I use an azalea-camellia fertilizer (granulated) at least four times during the growing season. I start when the plants are finishing blooming. Then I sprinkle enough around the plants three or four times during the remainder of the growing season so some food supplement is available to the feeder roots at all times. In this way a constant growth is encouraged rather than growth spurts. The amount of rainfall, the amount of mulch on the ground, the amount of shade, and other factors may influence how often each grower will fertilize.

Some growers have used a "Hardening-Off" feeding of outside camellias hoping to cause cold resistance. I have tried this also. It has been my experience that a healthy plant is more cold resistant and has less bud drop after freezes below 25 degrees. If a "Hardening-Off" fertilizer is used, apply it in September or early October and use one with ingredients that encourage root growth and less stimulant for the plant above the ground.

J. Carrol Reiners of Sacramento, California, says on page 21 of the January 1968 American Camellia Journal that "Heavy annual pruning has been observed to accomplish camellia perpetual youth better than any other horticultural practice. Removing camellia wood just before the first spring vegetative growth begins forces the plant into a normal rejuvenation by active vegetative replacement."

Some growers recommend an annual pruning up to 50%. Again, from my experience I have learned to consider three points in pruning. First, the shape and size of the shrub must be considered. Second, the health and vigor of the plant should give

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# Growing Outdoor Camellias

*(Continued from page 12)*

the pruner some indication of needs. Certainly all dead or sick wood needs to come off as soon as possible. If growth is too thick, if limbs are crossed and rubbing together, etc., corrections can be made. This will permit more sun to the center of the plant. Third, the pruner needs to learn as soon as possible the growth habits not only of each variety, but also of each plant in his plantings.

The outdoor grower as well as the inside grower needs to be able to recognize the various scales to which camellias are susceptible. It may be well to spray with a preventative treatment, especially if plants are in a lot of shade, or if limbs are allowed to grow down to the ground where they are in contact with a lot of moisture. Mr. John D. Marr of Houston, Texas, says in the 1968 American Camellia Yearbook that camellias are so susceptible to tea scale and other pests that he recommends, "The best pest control treatment is spraying with an oil spray (such as Oil-I-Cide or Volck) with malathion added. The oil is necessary to control the scale infection and the malathion will control the aphids and, when the bed in the vicinity of the plant is sprayed, it will help control the bugs and chewing insects. The spraying should be done in the spring after all damage of frost is past and before the weather gets too hot. It is usually necessary to spray twice in the spring. An oil spray should not be used when temperatures are getting up to 90 degrees." May I suggest spraying late in the afternoon in warm or hot weather. If tea scale is present in the fall, spray again when the weather gets cool in late September or the first few days of October.

Finally, treat your outdoor camellias as every living creature should be treated. Food must be provided. Water must be supplied in sufficient amounts (which implies some irrigation if rain does not come) to make food available to the roots. Pests must be controlled. Finally, the plants must be loved by the grower to the extent that they are treated as if they "belong" in his garden.



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# So You Want To Build A Greenhouse

*(From the September 1969 issue of the Camellia Journal)*

OSBORNE C. (Obie) OAKLEY, JR. CHARLOTTE, N. C.

As I looked about for this new hobby I tried the usual hobbies men tend to gravitate towards i.e., golf, sailing and even thought about fishing. While still searching, a series of events transpired after which I will never be the same. In a short period of time a hard freeze nipped most of the buds on the six camellia plants I had outdoors; I attended the outstanding show sponsored by the Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte, and had the privilege of meeting Son and Ann Hackney.

Well in all my innocence, my wife and I accepted an invitation to visit the Hackneys one Sunday afternoon and as I look back it was the "Spider luring the fly into his trap." After the fifty-cent tour of his greenhouse and as we were leaving, Son knowing full well what would happen gave me seven nice plants. Well sir, as you have guessed by now the bug bit and bit hard. It led me to the decisions that if I was going to care for something all year, I did not want one cold night to end it all; that I wanted to someday have blooms as beautiful as those show flowers; and that if Son and Ann were good examples of Camellia people, I wanted to meet more like them.

The answer was simple . . . I needed a greenhouse. It soon became apparent as the catalogs I sent for began coming in that I could not afford that kind of house. The only thing left to do was build my own. Here's where living in a city with such an active Camellia club gave me an advantage that is denied most people. So it is to those persons who cannot afford the factory made greenhouse and who do not have the reservoir of experts so willing to assist in every way, that I direct this article. I sincerely hope the information will be useful to the enthusiast who up to now has been undecided about building his own house.

I thought the best way to get ideas on greenhouses was to talk with those who had them and seek their advice. My first visit was with the "first lady of Camellias in Charlotte," Mrs. Frank Dowd, then across the river to Belmont to see Marshall Rhyne, numerous conversations with Banks McClintock who was going to build another house, then an afternoon with Fred Hahn, club president, and finally with Graem Yates, himself a relative newcomer in camellias.

The conclusion I reached was that I would build my own greenhouse; the size would be 12' by 20' with 7' walls. For framing I would use cedar lumber; cover it with Rigid PVC corrugated panels; and heat it with infrared heat lamps.

After preliminary planning the first step was of course to lay out and dig the foundation which was begun August the 4th. Working on weekends and after work.

*(Continued on page 17)*

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# So You Want To Build A Greenhouse

(Continued from page 15)

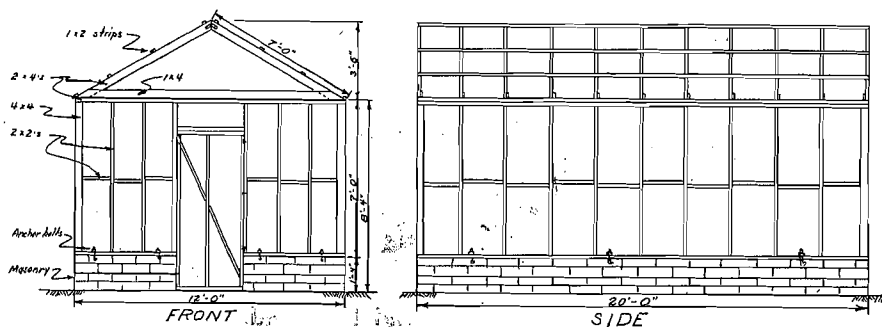
using a discarded trowel, masons level and Sakrete mortar mix, I learned to lay concrete block and brick. With anchor bolts in place I was now ready for the framing.

In framing, 4 x 4s were used in each corner; 2 x 4s at the center of the 20' sides, top and bottom runners, and to frame the door; and 2 x 2s for all studs, which were placed on 2 ft. centers. The wall framing was prefabricated then lifted into position over the anchor bolts. At this stage do not be concerned over the lack of rigidity, it will come later. The next step was to fabricate the eleven roof trusses using 2 x 4s for the inclined members and 1 x 4s as horizontal ties. These were then lifted into position directly over each stud and corner post (this was the only case where I needed additional help other than my wife Janie). Horizontal and vertical roof stringers from 1 x 2 treated strips were used for strength and to provide a surface to which the panels could be secured.

Now you are ready for the panels to go up. I chose a product called Takiron PVC Rigid Panels with 91% light transmission and 86% heat transmission. The cost was 13½¢ per sq. ft. Accessories such as closure strips, nails, ridge caps are available from Nationwide, a firm which has advertised in the *Journal*. You will note that seven feet is the dimension of both the wall height and the roof slop which allowed me maximum use of material. These panels go on easily and it is now that you will get the rigidity of the structure, so apparently missing before. With the construction of a simple door, the house is complete except for heat.

Since I intended to heat with electricity, I fed the house with 220v current through an underground cable laid in the same trench with the water line. A panel box steps it down to 110v and distributes it to two circuits for the heat lamps, one for lighting and one for a wall receptacle. The heat comes from eight, 250w infrared heat lamps which I can control from my back porch. On extremely cold nights I supplement these with a 1320 watt resistance heater plugged into the wall receptacle. By the first of October the house was complete.

As I look at what this "\$300 Wonder" (you were right Mrs. Dowd) has done I am truly amazed and gratified. Throughout a very severe January with high winds gusting to 42 mph and long periods of sub-twenty weather, I have had a constant supply of beautiful blooms. It has helped me develop a hobby which provides that thrill, excitement, pleasure and satisfaction I was seeking, not only for myself but for the entire family. But most importantly, I found the Camellia world to be full of Son and Ann Hackneys and that this common interest brings about a bond of friendship between two people no matter what their station in life might be.



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# Get Earlier And Larger Camellias With "Gib"

(Reprinted From Southern Living Magazine)

*Treating camellia buds with gibberellic acid is easy,  
inexpensive, and fascinating!*

By JOSEPH H. PYRON

Camellias, the South's favorite winter-blooming flowers, are often frozen during our unpredictable winters. Most camellia varieties come into flower during January and February, our coldest months. Farther north the more or less continuous cold retards flowering until late March and April.

Now you can make most varieties flower during October, November, and December before hard freezes. An abundance of superior camellias during Thanksgiving and Christmas, when there are few other outside flowers, is now possible by applying a chemical, gibberellic acid.

One gram of crystalline gibberellic acid dissolved in 75 cc. of distilled water (or rainwater) makes a solution of about 11,000 parts per million. The crystals will not dissolve in water until it is made slightly alkaline. To do this, mix  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of either nonsudsy household ammonia or bicarbonate of soda in 1 ounce (30 cc.) of distilled water. Add this one drop at a time to the acid and water. Shake well after each drop. Use just enough of the ammonia or soda solution to dissolve the acid and no more. (Solution will clear up and acid will no longer settle.)

Drawings on this page show how to apply gibberellic acid to camellia buds. Starting in September, select well developed, plump flowerbuds. A slender growth bud is always next to the flowerbud. Carefully twist out the tip of the growth bud, leaving a tiny bud scale cup. Do not cut the tip as this will not leave the necessary cup. Using a fine-pointed medicine dropper, place a small drop of the "gib" solution into this bud cup. Larger drops tend to spill out. Only one application per bud is needed.



*Smaller growth bud to be treated with gibberellic acid is in center between leaf and the fat flowerbud.*



*Tip of growth bud is broken out, leaving "cup" into which a single drop of gib acid solution is applied.*

(Continued on page 21)

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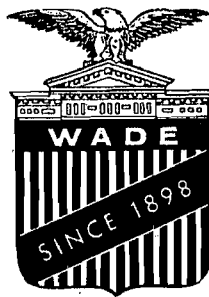
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# Get Earlier And Larger Camellias With "Gib"

(Continued from page 19)

Within 10 days or two weeks the adjacent flowerbud begins to enlarge. Within a month the buds of certain varieties will open into much larger, better textured, longer lasting flowers. The time lapse between applying the gib and the opening of the bud varies considerably with variety, maturity of the flowerbud, season, and other factors, so no exact schedule of bloom can be worked out. It is advisable to gib a few buds each 7 or 10 days to prolong flowering period.

Such varieties as Debutante, Daikagura, and Mathotiana are naturally early varieties which seem to respond exceptionally well to gib, causing them to open even earlier and produce much larger and finer textured flowers. Mathotiana, normally a rich red, sometimes produces purplish flowers, a result to

which some object. Tomorrow, Betty Sheffield, Elegans, C. M. Wilson, Ville de Nantes, *Rosea Surperba*, Guilio Nuccio, Sawada's Dream are some popular varieties which respond very well.

Spectacular results come from treating greenhouse camellias.

Use of gibberellic acid in no way is a substitute for good cultural practices. Only vigorous, disease-free, well fertilized and watered plants can be expected to give good results with gib treatment. Disbudding or thinning out the number of buds will tend to produce still larger, finer flowers. Again, only plump, well-developed flowerbuds will respond well. No injurious effects on the plant have been noted. Usually the growth bud or the two nearest the treated bud are retarded, but these are removed when cutting the part of stem attached to flower.

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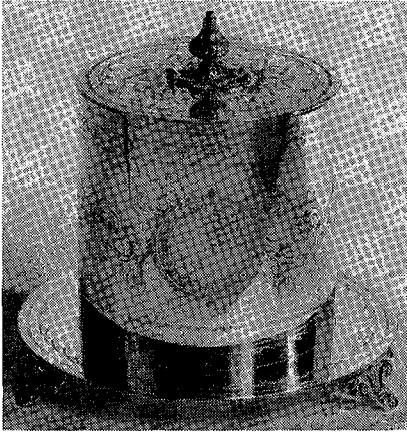
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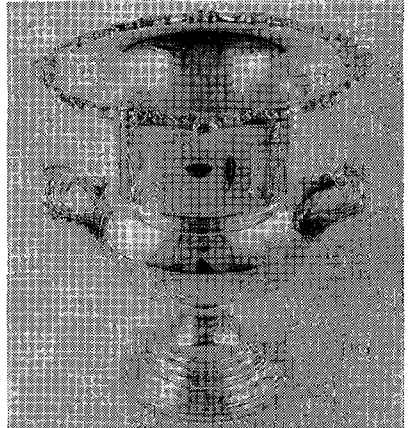
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## SPECIAL AWARDS



Everett C. Bierman (perpetual) Memorial Challenge Trophy — to member of Charlotte Men's Camellia Club, Inc., having best under glass bloom in show. The trophy to be retained by winning member for a period of one year. Each winner's name and year won to be engraved on trophy. Given to Club by Dr. and Mrs. Olin W. Owen in memory of their dear friend and fellow camellia enthusiast.

J. Parks McConnell (perpetual) Memorial Challenge Trophy — to member of Charlotte Men's Camellia Club, Inc., having best unprotected bloom in show. The trophy to be retained by winning member for a period of one year. Each winner's name and year won to be engraved on trophy. Given to club by Mr. & Mrs. R. Marret Wheeler in memory of their dear friend and fellow camellia enthusiast.



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# Rooting Camellia Cuttings

If you have never rooted camellia cuttings you are missing an interesting phase of camellia culture. Now is a good time, although cuttings may be rooted at any time the current year's growth is not too soft.

Many growers prefer own root plants to grafts. The British rarely graft, even with rare new varieties. The only advantage of grafts is to produce a flowering size plant of a rare variety in the shortest time possible. In propagating a variety such as 'VILLE DE NANTES' which does not grow well on its own roots, a graft is preferable. Some growers claim that grafts on sasanqua understock can withstand "wet feet" better than japonica roots.

Rooted cuttings are an excellent way to duplicate favorite varieties which are now becoming too large to produce good flowers. Even with drastic pruning of an old plant, better flowers are borne on a vigorous young plant. Rooted cuttings make highly acceptable gifts for friends, door prizes at meetings, for plant auctions or for exchange.

Rooting is simple and easy. Friends with large old plants probably will give you cuttings or you may reproduce some of your own varieties in this way.

First, prepare a rooting box. This may be a seed flat, a grape crate or a cold frame. A 24" by 18" box about 6 inches deep is ideal. Bend wires (coathangers work fine) in inverted U shape and tack to sides of the box. See illustration. Then fill box with a rooting medium of coarse builder's sand and vermiculite or peat. If sand alone is used it requires frequent watering. Wet down thoroughly then with a blade such as a kitchen knife cut trenches in medium so as to insert cuttings

*(Continued on page 27)*



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**PINEAPPLE POUND CAKE**

½ pound butter	1 teaspoon baking powder
½ cup shortening	1 teaspoon vanilla
2¾ cups sugar	¼ cup milk
6 eggs	¾ cup crushed pineapple, drained
3 cups flour	

Cream butter, sugar and shortening. Add eggs one at a time. Add flour mixed with baking powder alternately with milk mixed with vanilla. Add pineapple. Bake in prepared tube pan at 325 degrees for 1½ hours or until done.

**Topping**

1 cup pineapple and juice	¼ cup butter
1½ cups powdered sugar	

Heat for 10 minutes and pour over cake after it has been baked.

**From Betty Feezor Show, WBTV**

---



# Rooting Camellia Cuttings

(Continued from page 25)

without injury. After filling the box with cuttings cover the wire frames with polyethylene to hold moisture. Large plastic bags such as dry cleaning come in do fine, or a heavier quality may be used. This make a miniature greenhouse or cold frame.

## PREPARATION OF CUTTINGS

Cuttings 4 to 6 inches long should be taken only from healthy plants. Current year's growth is best. By cutting on a slant through a node (where a leaf emerges) more cambium is exposed, hence better rooting. Some also scrape the lower inch or two of the stem slightly so as to break through the bark. Remove all but the top two or three leaves. Dip cuttings in a rooting hormone such as Rootone, Hormodin #2 or Chloromone. Now insert the stem on a slant up to the leaves in the trench cut into the rooting medium. Water again so as to settle sand.

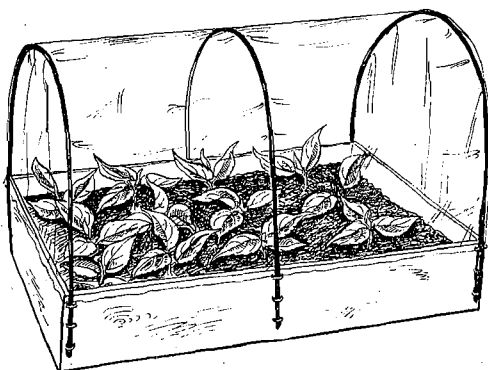
Place in a shady location where little or no direct sunlight hits the box. Water once a week or as necessary. Within 60 to 90 days good roots should have developed. Pull up a few to see whether ready to transplant or they may be left until spring. These rooted cuttings may be planted in a well drained bed, individual pots or cans. A rich soil mixture with well rotted manure, peat and garden soil is recommended.

## LEAF BUD CUTTINGS

A little used but often useful type of rooting is the leaf-bud cutting. As the term implies, this consists of a single leaf with its accompanying bud and a bit of stem.

The best time for taking such cuttings is in late July or August after the first flush of growth has matured but has not become woody. These cuttings are dipped in a hormone powder and rooted in sand and peat in exactly the same way as the usual cutting.

The advantage of this method is that a single cutting of a rare variety may be cut into 5 or 6 leaf-bud cuttings. In spring grafting we often use two or more scions. If these take, many growers then remove all but one so as to have a single stemmed plant. If this is a rare variety they can be rooted so as to propagate as many plants of the rare variety as possible in the least time possible.



*Rooting box covered with polyethylene suspended by coat hangers with arches.*

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# History Of Camellias

Camellias are native to the coast of China and offshore islands of Japan, Korea, and Indo-China. The climate of this belt is mostly temperate, cool in summer, cool to cold in winter but with limited variations in temperature. Rainfall is heavy, 70 to 80 inches annually, and humidity is high during the summers. Adequate drainage is provided by the hilly, mountainous or rolling terrain.

There was an early exchange of plants between China and Japan by Buddhist monks as early as 552 A.D. It is thus difficult to determine where species and varieties actually originated.

Camellias are common forest plants with some tree size, thirty to forty feet; however, most are understory shrubs protected by a canopy of taller trees. These natural conditions must be duplicated as nearly as possible for successful cultivation elsewhere. By far the most popular species of camellias is *C. japonica*. However, *Camellias sasanqua*, *C. reticulata*, *C. granthamiana*, *C. saluenensis* are other widely grown species. *Camellia sinensis*, the tea plant of commerce, is one of the world's most widely used and important plants. Hybrids between these species are becoming increasingly important.

The early European explorers and traders, particularly the English brought back many strange plants as well as goods from the Orient. Through James Cunningham, a physician stationed at Amoy, China, with the East India Company, the Camellia was introduced to England about 1700. However, there is some evidence that the oldest specimens of *Camellia japonica* in cultivation in Europe are three huge plants from Japan dating from about 1550 at Oporto, Portugal.

Carolus Linnaeus, the famous Swedish botanist (1707-1778) was the first to apply the name *Camellia* to the plant called "Tsubaki" by the Japanese. Linnaeus coined the name *Camellia* in honor of George Joseph Kamel (1661-1706), a Moravian missionary, who went to Ladrones and Manila. Through Kamel's interest in medicinal and other plants he carried on an extensive correspondence with John Ray in London, sending him dried specimens of plants and seed. Kamel died in Manila in 1706, a year before Linnaeus was born. Since camellias are not native to the Philippines, the legend that Kamel brought camellias to Europe and was a friend of Linnaeus is untrue. Linnaeus had examined the Kamel specimens in Ray's collection and to honor him he renamed "Tsubaki" the latinized form of Kamel—Camellus or *Camellia*.

In 1792 Captain Connor of the East India merchantman *Carnatio* brought two camellias to England from China. These still popular varieties were 'ALBA PLENA' and 'VARIEGATA'. 'RUBRA PLENA' was imported in 1794 and 'LADY HUMES BLUSH' in 1806. These early importations marked the beginning of camellia culture in Europe. Camellias became very popular in Italy, Belgium and France where many new varieties were developed as seedlings.

## FIRST CAMELLIAS IN AMERICA

John Stevens, a nurseryman of Hoboken, N. J., is thought to have imported the first camellias from England in 1797. Michael Floy, an English nurseryman, emigrated to New York in 1800. Among the plants he brought with him was 'ALBA PLENA'. By 1832, Floy offered forty-one varieties in his catalog. The Linnaean Botanic Garden (William Prince, Flushing, L. I.) listed eighteen varieties in its 1822 catalog. Marshall P. Wilder, a Boston merchant, assembled 150 varieties of camellias by 1837 in a large greenhouse. This was later expanded to 300 varieties and eventually 1,000 varieties. Many were his own seedlings. While president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the first camellia shows were sponsored which are continued to the present. Philadelphia also became an early camellia center.

Camellias were soon brought into the seaports of Charleston, Savannah, Jackson-

(Continued on page 29)

# History Of Camellias

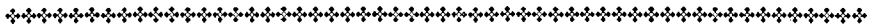
(Continued from page 28)

ville, Pensacola and Mobile. They were well known in Charleston in the 1830's. The first camellias were planted at Magnolia Gardens near Charleston in 1848. André Michaux, the French botanist and plant explorer, is said to have planted the first camellias at Middleton Gardens, but this has not been corroborated.

The affluent Southern planters purchased camellias for their extensive gardens on plantations and city homes. In Louisiana and Mississippi many of the old plantation sites still have fine old camellias—many still unidentified.

Following the War Between the States and the break-up of the plantation system and wanton destruction of property, camellia culture declined.

The present renaissance of camellia interest started in the 1930's but reached its present high level following World War II with the formation of the American Camellia Society in 1945. Now each season more than 100 camellia shows are held throughout the United States in cooperation with the American Camellia Society with its 7500 members in 40 states. There have been many superior varieties introduced within the last 25 years.



## 1969 Camellia Show Statistics

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, FEBRUARY 22-23, 1969 (13th Annual).

*Sponsor:* Men's Camellia Club of Charlotte.

*Number Blooms Displayed:* 2,293. *Attendance:* 8,875. *Admission:* Free.

*Awards:* ACS Outstanding Blcom Certificates:

Japonica over 4½" in open—'Fashionota' exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. John Farmer.

Japonica between 2½ to 4½" in open—'Betty Sheffield' exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. John Farmer.

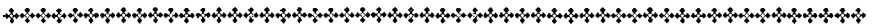
Japonica over 4½" under glass—'Mathotiana Supreme' exhibited by Marshall H. Rhyne.

Japonica between 2½ to 4½" under glass—'Sea Foam' exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hahn.

Reticulata under glass—'Mouchang' exhibited by John Tyler.

Hybrid under glass—'Francie L' exhibited by Marshall H. Rhyne.

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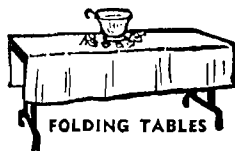
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McFall, Billie J.	6256 Sharon Hills Rd., Charlotte .....	366-3839
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Wheeler, R. Marret	1919 Cassamia Place, Charlotte.....	366-4009
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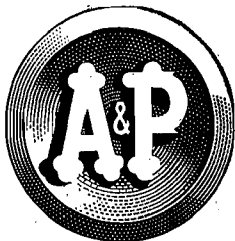
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