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1970 Camellia Show



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WELCOME TO GREENVILLE -

It is a pleasure to extend a most cordial greeting to all exhibitors and visitors attending the Camellia Show in Greenville. Our many citizens and I hope that your visit in our city may be enjoyable, and we assure you of our interest and cooperation in this show which is hosted by the Men's Garden Club and is sponsored by the Sertoma Sunrisers, with proceeds going to assist The Mentally Retarded Childrens Association.

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SERTOMA Sunrisers of Greenville are a group of young business professional men of your community who have banded together under the principles and code of ethics of SERTOMA to provide Service to Mankind to our community by attempting all ways possible to preserve our country's heritage of freedom which has been handed down to us through the work and sacrifices of others and to promote the interests of our community through various civic sponsorships.

All of our proceeds from this camellia show will go to SERTOMA Sunrisers charities. Chief among the current sponsorships of the SERTOMA Sunrisers Club is financial assistance to the Greenville County Association for Retarded Children.

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Welcome to the 1970 Camellia Show

The Men's Club of Greenville takes pleasure in having you at our Camellia Show this year. We hope that you will enjoy the display of magnificent Camellia blooms grown and exhibited by many of the outstanding amateur Camellia Hobbyists from all parts of the South.

Although most of the blooms on display have been grown under protection of glass, Camellias can be grown in the Greenville area when given the proper care and placed in a proper site. We have included in this program several articles which will be of great benefit to any camellia grower, whether a beginner or experienced. We encourage all growers to visit the local garden centers and nurseries to obtain further information on growing camellias. The Men's Garden Club extends an invitation to all men and their wives to attend any of the Club's monthly meetings.

We are happy to put on this show with the cooperation of the Sunrisers Sertoma Club which contributes greatly to the charities of Greenville.

We are proud to have you visit our show this year and hope that you will return next year to see an even bigger and better show.

JOE M. SMITH,
Show Chairman.

DIVISION OF ENTRIES

- A. Japonicas and Hybrids Grown in Open—White Card
- B. Japonicas Grown Under Glass—Green Card
- C. Reticulatas
- D. Hybrids
- E. Seedlings: Open to amateurs and professionals.
If plant of seedling has been sold commercially, it is ineligible for awards.
- F. Trays:
 - 1. Three blooms of same variety
 - 2. Five blooms of five different varieties

AWARDS

- A. *Best Bloom Outside*—Silver and Rosette
Runnerup Bloom Outside—Silver and Rosette
- B. *Best Bloom Under 4" Grown Under Glass*—Silver and Rosette
Runnerup Bloom Under 4" Grown Under Glass—Silver and Rosette
Best Bloom Over 4" Grown Under Glass—Silver and Rosette
Runnerup Bloom Over 4" Grown Under Glass—Silver and Rosette
Best Miniature—Silver and Rosette
- C. *Best Reticulata*—Silver and Rosette
- D. *Best Hybrid*—Silver and Rosette
- E. *Best Seedling*—Silver and Rosette
The American Camellia Society's Highly Commended Seedlings Certificate will be awarded at the discretion of the judges according to the rules of the American Camellia Society.
- F. *Best Tray*—Three of same variety—Silver and Rosette
Best Tray—Five of five different varieties—Silver and Rosette



SPECIAL AWARDS

1. *Sweepstakes Grown Under Glass*—Silver and Rosette
2. *Runnerup Sweepstakes Grown Under Glass*—Silver and Rosette
3. *Best Bloom Grown in Greenville County*
Bill Crawford Memorial Trophy and Rosette
4. *Court of Honor* (Will consist of 10 blooms) Silver and Rosette

GENERAL RULES

1. Entries will be received between 8:30 and 11:30 A. M., March 7, 1970. Local exhibitors are requested to enter blooms by 10:30 A. M.
2. Any amateur grower interested may exhibit.
3. All flowers must have been owned by the exhibitor for at least thirty days prior to the show.
4. Exhibitors are limited to three blooms of any one variety in Divisions A, B, C, and D.
5. More than one bloom to a single stem will disqualify the entry.
6. Wiring of blooms is permissible and advisable; wood must be from parent plant. Blooms in Classes C and E may be entered without wood of parent plant.
7. Blooms will be exhibited in cups. Blooms should not have more than 1½ inch stem.
8. Each specimen bloom should be named in accordance with the approved name by the American Camellia Society and as given in the latest edition of the "Camellia Nomenclature" published by the Southern California Camellia Society.
9. The Show Committee reserves the right to reject or discard flowers that are obviously inferior in quality.
10. Judging will be done variety against other flowers of the same variety. Decisions of the judges will be final. Judging will be by the Standards of the American Camellia Society.
11. Best bloom in the show will be a Camellia Japonica.
12. To help control petal blight, all blooms become the property of the show organization and will be destroyed at the end of the show.
13. No admission to the show except official personnel during staging and judging.
14. Entry cards may be obtained from:
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or use the standard ACS entry cards.

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Did the Cold Get Your Camellia Buds?

By HERBERT RACOFF, D.V.M., Columbia, S. C.

In the fall of 1962 and spring of 1963 a group of Columbia, South Carolina, camellia growers introduced to the Southeastern U. S. the techniques of getting camellia blooms early through the use of gibberellic acid. This article is intended primarily for the outside non sophisticated grower who desires to obtain some early blooms of camellias. By early blooms is meant flowers during Sept., Oct. and Nov., even of those varieties which normally bloom in Feb., March, and April.

About 150 years ago, a disease was known in Japan which caused some rice plants to grow much taller than normal. This was known as the "foolish seedling" disease. The causal agent was not found until 1926 when a Japanese pathologist in Formosa extracted a substance from a fungus that produced growth stimulation in rice seedlings without producing any accompanying infection. In 1935 the Japanese isolated a crystalline substance which would produce this stimulation. It was named gibberellin after the fungus which produced it. Today, gibberellic acid, the product most frequently used by camellia growers, is produced by an infusion process similar to that by which penicillin is made.

In the Columbia area gibberellic acid solution ready for use can be obtained from the Purity Drug Store, 3707 Main, St., Columbia, S. C. Fifteen cubic centimeters are sold for \$1.50. This should be sufficient to treat from 225 to 600 buds dependent

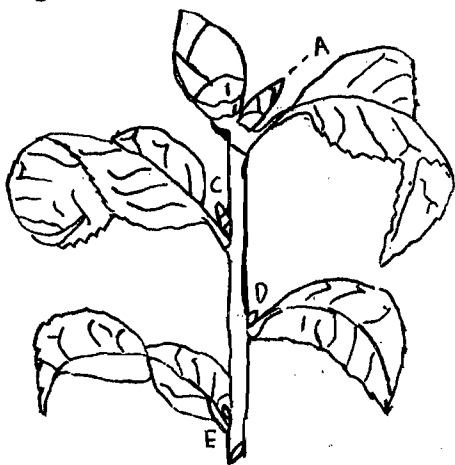
on the size medicine dropper used. Gibberellic acid solution ready for use is also available in a squeeze bottle, enough to treat about 150 buds for \$1.00. This is obtainable from the South Georgia Camellia Society, P. O. Box 429, Moultrie, Georgia. 31768 for \$1.00 postpaid. Fifteen bottles are sold for \$10.00 postpaid. This solution is of stronger concentration than that sold by the Purity Drug Store.

It is anticipated that ready mixed solutions will be more generally available next fall.

Use on Camellia Buds.

- (1) Treat buds each week starting the last week in August through the 3rd week in September.
- (2) Select well matured bloom buds. Break out tip of the growth bud which is adjacent to the flower bud.

Figure 1A. This will leave a cup, Figure 2B.





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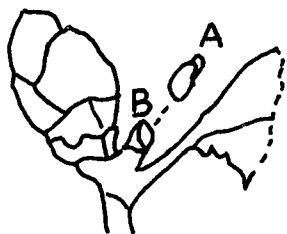
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If immature buds are selected for treatment they will develop into long elongated buds and most of the developing blossoms will be malformed or fail to open properly.



- (3) Use a medicine dropper and fill the cup, shown on Figure 2B with gibberellic acid solution. This will take one or more drops depending on the size tip opening of the dropper you use. Do not overfill the cup so that excess solution will run down the stem. If this happens you may destroy the growth bud at Figure C, D, E and the other growth buds down the stem which come in contact with the solution.
- (4) Buds will show an increase in size within 2 weeks after treatment.
- (5) Many blooms can be expected within 30-70 days after buds are treated. Some buds will take longer to bloom.

Results

Gibberellic acid is not the panacea for getting show winning blossoms. Gibberellic acid when properly applied to mature buds on well grown, well fed, healthy camellia plants will help to produce the finest flowers of which the variety is capable. It is not

a substitute for sound cultural practices. Many of the blooms are larger and prettier. Some will be changed in formation and there may be some color changes, for example, purplish 'Prof. Sargents' and members of the Mathotiana family. In many cases the texture of the flowers is improved, they stay on the plant better and stay fresher longer.

The last few years in this area have shown an increase in the fungus disease of camellia flowers occurring each spring. This disease is known as petal blight or flower rot and can be most devastating. It is not known to occur prior to mid January so fall blooms are one way to avoid petal blight.

For those who desire more information about the use and effects of gibberellic acid the following articles are listed for reference.

1. Some Effects of Gibberellic Acid on Camellias by C. P. North—American Camellia Society Yearbook 1959.
2. Gib for Early Bloom by Frank Reed—American Camellia Society Yearbook 1965.
3. Treatment of Camellia Buds with Gibberellic Acid by Herbert Raccoff, Carolina Camellias, Spring 1963, reprinted, American Camellia Society Yearbook 1964.

Why don't you gib a few buds this year? You'll really get to enjoy your own blooms before cold weather comes and if the winter has been so severe as this one, at least you will have had some good blooms. If the winter is moderate there will still be the spring crop of blooms to enjoy.

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January, 1970			March		
10	after 11:38 a. m.		10		after 12:44 p. m.
11	all day		11		all day
12	until 11:49 p. m.		12		until 6:37 p. m.
14		after 7:21 p. m.	15	after 3:31 a. m.	
15		all day	16	all day	
16		all day	17	until 4:40 p. m.	
17		until 4:08 a. m.	April		
19	after 3:14 p. m.		6		after 9:43 p. m.
20	all day		7		all day
21	all day		8		all day
22	until 10:19 a. m.		9		until 4:02 a. m.
February			11	after 12:33 p. m.	
6	after 10:38 p. m.		12	all day	
7	all day		13	all day	
8	until 11:18 p. m.		14	until 12:16 a. m.	
11		after 2:59 a. m.	19		after 12:35 a. m.
12		all day	20		all day
13		until 10:30 a. m.	21		until 3:16 a. m.
15	after 9:16 p. m.		All times listed are Eastern Standard. Add 1 hour each time zone East and subtract 1 hour each time zone West.		
16	all day				
17	all day				
18	until 9:54 a. m.				

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p. 23, Volume 21, No. 1, 1969.)

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A Friend of the Retarded Children

The Camellia . . . in a nutshell

By WENDELL M. LEVI,† Sumter, S. C.

Places of Origin

The camellia is a native of eastern Asia, and covers a much wider territory than one would imagine. It ranges from Bhufan, Assaw and Burma on the west, then eastward over Southern China, southward into Indo-China (now including North and South Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia) and westward to include the southern part of Honshu Island and all of Kyushu Island in Japan, the Liu Kiu Islands and Taiwan. It also is indigenous to the Philippines, Celebes, Borneo, Java and Sumatra. In all of these countries, some of which are only names to many of us, the camellia grows wild. In Japan and China it is especially appreciated. Choka Adachi's "Camellia: Its Appreciation and Artistic Arrangement," a particularly beautiful book with magnificent pictures, most of which are in color, well illustrates the love of the Japanese for this flower.

Genus and Species

The genus *Camellia* includes over 80 separate and distinct species, the best known of which are *C. sasanqua* from Japan, *C. japonica* from Japan and Southern China, and *C. reticulata* from Yunnan province in Southern China, adjoining Burma and former

Indo-China. Many of the species have been imported to the United States. "Camellia Nomenclature," by William E. Woodroof, lists not only the japonica, the sasanqua, and the reticulata, but other interesting species, such as: Species *Heterophylla* (one variety); Species *Hiemalis* (27 varieties); Species *Oleifera* (three varieties); Species *Rusticana*—Snow Camellia (17 varieties); Species *Saluenensis* (11 varieties); Species *Vernalis* (12 varieties); Species *Wabisuke* (17 varieties), and then to cap all this, many new specimens are being produced as hybrids from crosses of these species. Some of these hybrids are particularly beautiful and add much in the way of new shades of color to the camellia plants now being raised in this country.

Commercial Usages

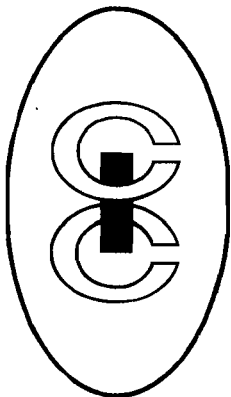
In Japan and over much of China the japonica is grown for the oil from its seeds, which is used in many ways.

In a number of adjoining countries the leaves are also used—not for beverage, but for food, known as "leppett" in Burma and "mieng" in Thailand and Southern China. This food is made by boiling or steaming the leaves and then packing them in a hole in the ground for a period of time under pressure. The resulting "pickle" forms a traditional food in these areas.

One special camellia should be mentioned. This is *Camellia sinensis* which is the commercial tea plant. It

(Reprinted by permission from: © Sandlapper—*The Magazine of South Carolina*, February, 1969.)

† Wendell Levi, of Sumter, is a frequent contributor to "The American Camellia Yearbook" and Past President of the South Carolina Camellia Society.



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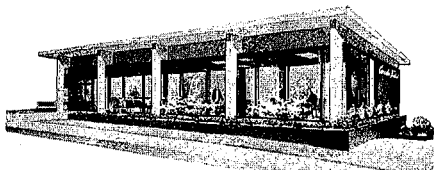
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was classified originally as *Thea Sinensis*, but the taxonomists changed the classification to genus *Camellia*, to which it now belongs.

Physical Characteristics

Camellia japonica, especially, is a broadleaf evergreen which lives 400 or 500 years and longer under favorable conditions. It sometimes reaches a height of 40 to 50 feet. It is, therefore, not a bush, but a tree—which should be remembered when planting, and spaced accordingly.

Contrary to the opinion once held by many, the camellia can be clipped and pruned into a variety of shapes.

Some species naturally grow into tall narrow trees like Lombardy poplar (Spring Sonnet is a good example), or they can be grown in hanging urns with the limbs draping downward. There are also some species that can be espaliered on walls or trained to run along the ground.

If left unpruned, in the matter of 15 to 20 years most plants will grow tree-like with trunk and limbs prominent and unattractive. Any plant may be trimmed at any time of year. Ungainly and unattractive bushes 20 to 25 years of age can be cut back around 2 feet from the ground, with every remaining limb cut off two or three inches from the main stem, with not a single leaf left on the stump. Even in the very first year of growth it will form a beautiful, symmetrical, shapely plant. A plant will continue to grow bushy and symmetrical if certain leaders which occur at the top are cut back.

During World War II many of the trees and shrubbery of the Japanese Islands were destroyed. By good fortune, and by the order of the United States government, Kyoto, the old capital of Japan with its temples and ancient camellia trees, was not bombed but spared. Some of these trees are portrayed in Adachi's book.

Shapes of Flowers

The blossoms of the various species of camellias vary greatly, from the tiny 'TINSIE'—about an inch in diameter—to the giant japonicas, such as 'DRAMA GIRL', 'MRS. D. W. DAVIS' and many others. The reticulatas are usually very large but cold tender. The blooms are officially classified by form in "Camellia Nomenclature" as follows:

Singles (Example: 'AMABILIS' and 'KIMBERLEY').

Semidoubles (Example: 'FINLANDIA', 'HERME' and 'FRIZZLE WHITE').

Anemone form (Example: 'ELEGANS' [Chandler]).

Peony, loose form (Example: 'VEDRINE').

Peony, full form (Example: 'DEBUTANTE' and 'PROFESSOR CHARLES S. SARGENT').

Rose form double (Example: 'PURITY' and 'MATHOTIANA').

Formal double (Example: 'ALBA PLENA').

You Can Grow Camellias

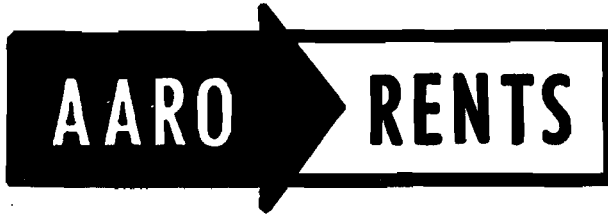
Many people have a mistaken idea that camellias are very difficult to raise and will not attempt to raise them although they admire the blooms. In actuality, in its native



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countries the camellia grows wild, and it lives on and on.

Everything that lives has its minimum and its optimum requirements. The camellia does best on a well-drained surface which does not become sloppy and muddy. In its natural habitat there is usually plenty of woods' earth. (Thus, woods' earth will do fine if one has it convenient and prefers for economic reasons to use it rather than peat moss.)

For best results filtered sunlight, as through pine trees, is highly desirable. Longleaf and slash pines are best. If one has no shade, the fast growing slash pine can be planted and, in the meantime, temporary shade can be provided by planting a nandina (which grows very fast) east and west of the plant.

The camellia should never be flooded with water; it's not a swamp plant. Neither should it be left unwatered in times of drought; it's not a desert plant. Give it a happy medium—some shade and sufficient water so that the ground never becomes parched. It should grow well for anyone starting with the proper variety, well-cared-for in the nursery and well planted at its final resting place.

If you wish real success with your camellias please, please do not plant them anywhere near magnolia or pecan trees. They are anathema to a camellia bush.

Selection of Varieties

For the beginner there is a galaxy of species and varieties from which

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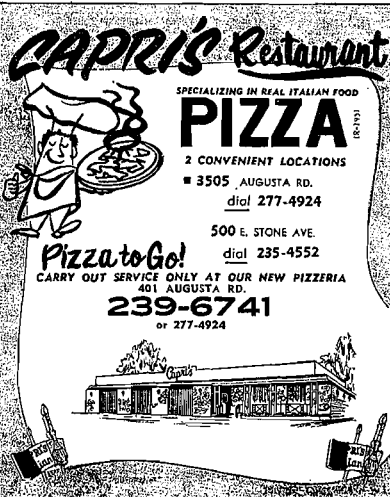
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to select. Much depends upon the novice's personal taste for color and form. The beginner can scan books on camellias and then visit nurseries and private gardens to better decide the varieties desired.

Color

There are numerous colors from which to select: white, white variegated with pink or red, pink, rose and red, as well as a few purples and lavenders.

Time of Blooming

The time of blooming should be considered because there are camellias that, untreated, sometimes will bloom in August and September while others will not bloom as a rule until late March, with hundreds and hundreds varying from early through mid-to-late season.

Toughness

Some varieties are very delicate while others are "tough as nails." The best bet is to see the various plants blooming and decide which are most appealing.

Shape of Bush

The purchaser might desire to choose varieties for the beauty of their foliage, their shape, the size to which they grow or the speed of growth. These are details which no one can learn in a season, but which, with the years, the ardent camellia grower should learn from experience.

Easy-to-grow Varieties for the Beginner

For the beginner who would like a pink bloom, shaped like a tight

peony (on an erect-growing bush), 'DEBUTANTE' is highly recommended for one of the first varieties to acquire. This variety is not too cold hardy, but usually blooms before the deep freezes.

Two other varieties recommended for the beginner which are tough and can stand considerable neglect are 'LADY CLARE' (PINK EMPRESS') and 'GOVERNOR MOUTON'. 'LADY CLARE' is a large deep pink semidouble. 'GOVERNOR MOUTON' is a medium size red or red spotted white semidouble to loose peony form.

All three of these are autumn bloomers and provide the beginner with very safe and inexpensive varieties with which to begin. They should also be found for sale on their own roots, which makes them lower in price than grafted plants. All gib beautifully.

Cold Resistance of Buds

To insure blooms on camellias planted out side, even on the coldest winters in central South Carolina, varieties whose buds are cold resistant should be selected.

The writer, in an article printed in the 1967 edition of "American Camellia Yearbook," divides over 600 varieties into four classes according to each variety's ability to resist cold.

The 27 most cold-resistant varieties in the author's garden and their color as given by *Camellia Nomenclature*, published by The Southern California Camellia Society, Inc., follow:

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'CHEERIO'+++ (White striped or flecked with red to solid pink, and occasionally half red and half white)
 'WILLIE HITE'+++ (Light pink shading to deeper pink at petal edges)
 'DR. TINSLEY'++ (Very pale pink at base shading to deeper pink at edge with reverse side flesh pink)
 'FRANCES McLANAHAN'++ (Light pink sport of 'LADY VANSITTART')
 'J. J. PRINGLE SMITH'++ (Bright red to rose pink)
 'LADY VANSITTART'++ (White striped rose pink)
 'LADY VANSITTART RED'++ (Deep pink to red form of 'LADY VANSITTART')
 'PRINCESS LAVENDER'++ (Lavender pink)
 'SHIN-SHIOKO'++ (Clear pink shaded deeper pink)
 'T. K. VARIEGATED'++ (Light pink edged darker pink)
 'YOURS TRULY' ('LADY VANSITTART SHELL')++ (Pink streaked deep pink and bordered pink)
 'CHRISTINE LEE'+ (Rose pink)
 'CHRISTMAS BEAUTY'+ (Bright red)
 'FINLANDIA VAR.' ('MARGARET JACK')+ (White streaked crimson)
 'FLAME'+ (Deep flame red)
 'H. A. DOWNING'+ (Rose red veined blood red)
 'H. A. DOWNING VAR.'+ (Rose red marbled white)
 'IDA WEISNER'+ (White)
 'LEUCANTHA'+ (White form of 'TRICOLOR' (Siebold)
 'MAGNOLIAEFLORA'+ (Blush pink)
 'MARGARET RATCLIFFE'+ (Blush pink)
 'MONTE CARLO'+ (Light pink sport of 'FINLANDIA')

'MONTE CARLO SUPREME'+ (Light pink and white)
 'QUEEN BESSIE'+ (White flushed pink at center)
 'TRICOLOR' (Siebold)+ (Waxy white streaked carmine)
 'WINIFRED WOMACK'+ (Blush pink)

Purchasing

There are many good well-established nurseries in South Carolina and the novice should buy from them. As a rule it is not advantageous to purchase from a travelling vehicle which offers plants at more attractive prices. If anything happens the itinerant party may be difficult to find.

In purchasing any variety, the nursery will usually have a number of plants of that variety for sale, and all at similar price. The plants should be selected for their dark shiny leaves. Examine last year's growth. It's easily recognized because it is much lighter in color than the previous year's growth. Select only plants that show a generous amount of new growth. If it only grew an inch or so in the nursery, where presumably it had the finest growing conditions, there is probably something faulty with the root structure.

Look at the stock of the plant and see that there is no scar upon it. Any scar will most likely turn into what's commonly called "dieback," and as the plant grows older will likely, though gradually, encircle the stock of the plant and kill it. Look at the underside of the leaves to see that there are no parasites (scale).

The best time to purchase is in August and September, if there has

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been rain, but actually a plant can be planted any time of year if when planted it is well watered and kept watered until it is thoroughly established. This can easily be told by whether the leaves continue to look healthy and stand up stiff or whether they have a tendency to show wilt or fading.

Plants are sold by nurseries either in containers or "B & B"—that is with the base (ball) tightly enclosed in burlap by nails or cord.

If balled and burlapped plants are purchased, one should verify that the nursery has been moving its plants at least once every two years, and preferably annually. This latter will insure against any main roots being recently cut. This is always very dangerous, since there's a balance between what's above the ground and what's below the ground. To keep the plant healthy, if 20 per cent of the roots are cut away, the balance should be maintained by cutting away at least 20 per cent of the limbs and foliage.

As a rule, 18 to 24 inch plants are preferable.

Planting

A number of books on planting recommend digging a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the ball, and then planting. Personally, I find the following system for planting much safer for balled and burlapped specimens: Select the spot where the plant is to be located and place the plant on the ground. With a sharp stick or other instrument draw a circle

in the ground marking where the ball sits. Move the plant aside. Carefully dig out a hole with the same diameter, but one to two inches shallower than the ball is deep. Then place the ball in the hole. Use a yardstick or other straight instrument to be sure that the ball is at least a couple of inches above the general surface of the ground. Move the plant so that it's erect and not leaning in any direction from any angle. If the soil in the ball or the soil of the garden is dry, both should be well watered at this point. Cut the twine or remove the nails that are holding the sack together at the top. Run your index finger around the stock and see how deep the first roots are. There should not be over one inch of soil before the junction of the roots should be felt. If there is more, then before planting it should be gently removed. The camellia roots should be always near the surface.

Take a straight edge spade and dig a moat around the ball at least the width of the spade, or a half again as wide, if the soil is not rich. Take three bucketfuls of the top soil and place either in a metal wheelbarrow or a mixing box. Add a soup can full of camellia fertilizer, three buckets of peat moss, and thoroughly mix the soil and peat moss with water until it's wet and well soaked. Place the mixture in the circular moat, packing it against the sides of the ball, being careful to let no part of the mixture get on the top of the ball, and slope it down from the ball to the outside circle. The mixture should be very moist, like the dirt pancakes we used

to make as children. Cover with pine straw.

Summary

In the foregoing thumbnail sketch on the camellia a sincere effort has been made to mention its place of origin, its taxonomy and physical characters, and suggestions to a would-be grower on how to go about raising it.

Many important features are not even mentioned. For example: greenhouse culture, propagation by seeds, by cuttings, by air layering, by grafting; its genetics, inheritance of color, of form, of fragrance, and other genetic characters; flower arrangements and corsages. Also, its troubles and problems (every living thing has them), its ailments and its external parasites.

It is such a glorious shrub for the garden and its superlative blooms occur during the winter when there are little, if any, other trees or shrubs blooming. These attributes should make it worth while for anyone with a garden or yard to give the camellia, especially the japonica, a trial. Many a wife and husband have tried one or two plants and found a wonderful joint hobby for life.

There are thousands of people today raising camellias successfully outdoors, not only in the southern states but as far north as on Long Island, New York. They form a fraternity of friendly competitors at shows and expositions of state and county societies. The mother of all societies is the American Camellia Society, Joseph H. Pyron, Executive Secretary, P. O. Box

212, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030. Dues are \$7.50 a year. Each member gets an annual 300-page yearbook and five issues of its magazine as well as benefits derived from its meetings.

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