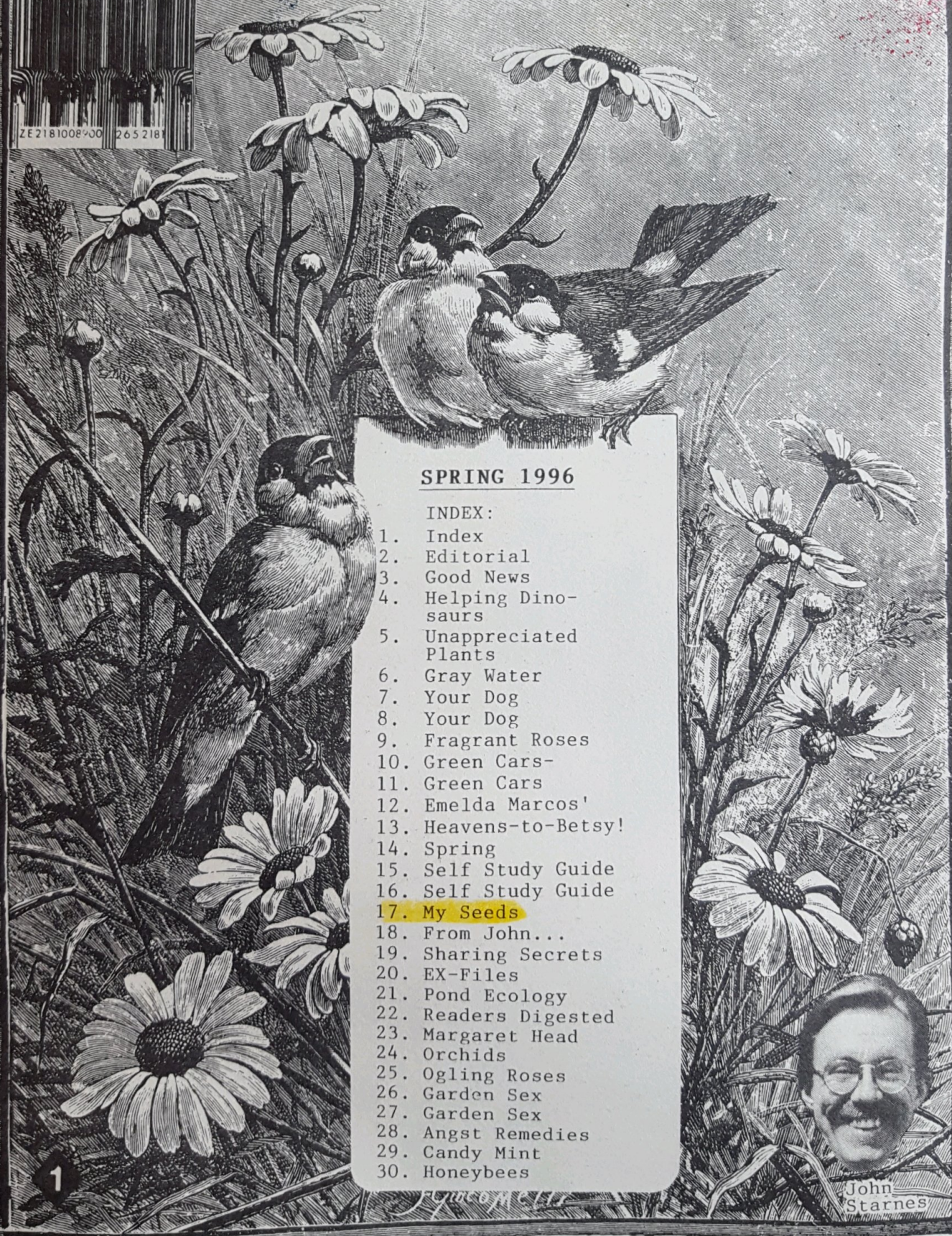
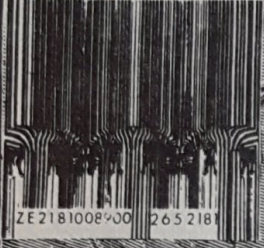


THE GARDEN DOCTOR



NATURE CAN'T BE RESTOCKED



SPRING 1996

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"In the time of your life, live--- so that in that wondrous time you shall not add to the misery and sorrow of the world, but shall smile to the infinite variety and mystery of it all."

William Saroyan 1908-1981



John Starnes

After receiving my first homeopathic treatments ever last winter, I noticed that I tend to see corollaries between various aspects of organic gardening and life itself: homeopathy reminded me of my basic urge as a gardener to encourage an underlying vitality in the community of plants I cultivate. And central to that vitality is diversity.

I've long seen diversity in the garden and landscape (polyculture) as crucial in establishing ecological balance between pest organisms, their predators, the plants themselves, and the allelopathic relationships between their inter-related root systems. A diverse population of microorganisms in and above the soil does wonders to keep fungal and bacterial problems from arising. Inviting birds into my gardens with water and various foods (recycled from favorite dumpsters) further adds to insect control AND soil fertility via their droppings.

But the use of pesticides drastically simplifies this marvelous, interdependent diversity, creating multiple imbalances and a subsequently high maintenance, problematic landscape or garden. For hundreds of millions of years, a planet-wide, diverse tapestry of hundreds of thousands of species of plants and animals has created and sustained the ecological health of rivers and seas, entire continents, keeping the atmosphere itself breathable. But now, due largely to one species, humans, dramatically increasing its numbers to about 6 BILLION, an obscene and tragic extinction rate robs the world daily of living treasures, rapidly simplifying the global ecology into an increasingly monocultural poverty of life forms deemed directly "useful" to humans. Any wonder that as the fabric of life unravels we find ourselves surrounded by expanding deserts, vanishing forests, thinning ozone, rising global temperatures, melting ice caps, new diseases, and a cornucopia of environmental toxins? As those THOUSANDS of species of animals and plants become extinct each year, forever, we are becoming increasingly alone on this tiny blue world.

I also suspect that diversity within each human society is crucial if we are to make responsible and effective new choices as the dominant species. We need the full spectrum of human capacities... dreamers, doers, right AND left brainers, men and women, valued children, all of

many persuasions, faiths and visions. In the bland cultural monoculture espoused by Rush and Newt and Buchanan and other nostalgists who seem hell bent on recreating the unquestioned theocratic patriarchy that once distilled power into a very few hands, the vast spiritual and intellectual and creative wealth collectively possessed by us all would be largely undiscovered and untapped. In those "good ole days" women, people of color, gay people and free-thinkers in general either "knew their place" or were effectively oppressed or kept out of view. The environment was freely plundered and polluted without thought of consequence, only short term gain. The romanticized package labelled "Family Values" can quickly become a cruel bulldozer scraping away an old growth forest of valuable human diversity, leaving a "clearcut" society capable only of supporting a false and frail monocultural "order". But women are far more than obedient, reproductive housekeepers living vicariously through their family members. And in a world so grossly over-populated by humans, the creative prowess of generally NON-reproductive Gay people, such as myself, is a vast asset to be tapped into, not shoved back into a sad and shameful dark closet. People of color are not a "problem" to be solved. Environmentalists are not owl-and-tree hugging "wackos" seeking to rob families of their logging jobs, but instead to preserve the continental and oceanic biosystems that form that BASIS of ongoing prosperity.

According to the Bible, God put humans here to tend a wondrous garden & to "multiply and subdue the earth." Since we have clearly done the latter, having put the cart before the horse, perhaps NOW we can subdue our NUMBERS, pollute MUCH less, preserve what biological diversity that remains, treasure our own human diversity, and commit further to healing this tiny, spherical watery garden once seen by Apollo astronauts as "the good earth."

John

2



GOOD NEWS

Judith Bender, a researcher at Clark Atlanta University in Georgia, has discovered that a community of certain bacteria floating in water will produce a thick tendrill of yellow slime, extend it down to a submerged glob of the toxic pesticide chlordane, surround it then slowly pull it up to the surface; within 3 weeks the bacteria consume and degrade the chlordane into harmless compounds. "It looked like science fiction" she says. The bio-film tendrils are so strong they can reach down,snare then pull up pebbles several thousand times their own weight. Bender and co-researcher Peter Phillips have also devised "microbial mats" that employ filamentous blue-green algae and grass clippings to create a living food source for use by rural Dominican fish farmers. Similar mats seeded with purple photosynthetic bacteria can also cleanse water of heavy metals and chlorinated organic pollutants. By colonizing 3 foot by 8 foot sheets of meshed coconut hull fibers with several species of bacteria, they have developed a portable "multispecies quilt" which can then be dried, rolled up, then delivered to a polluted site. Once unrolled and placed in the polluted water, the bacteria become active and go to work consuming the toxic materials. **SCIENCE NEWS**

The beneficial wasp "Catolaccus grandis" measures just 3/8 inch, but the females aggressively seek out, sting and paralyze young boll weevils; she then lays her eggs beside the weevil, which is eaten by the wasp larvae when they hatch. Insectaries have till now needed to raise both the wasps AND the weevils to produce the wasps for cotton farmers trying to eliminate their use of pesticides; this resulted in per acre costs of \$300 for the farmer. But Guadalupe Rojas and his team at the Agricultural Research Service subtropical laboratory in Weslaw, Texas, have developed a golden food gel composed of 57 different nutrients, including sugars, vitamins, fats, amino acids, salts, and cholesterol. It is readily eaten by the wasp larvae, and it somehow triggers mother wasps to primarily lay eggs that hatch into females, the only sex to eat the weevils. Per acre costs are expected to drop to just \$30, according to lab head Edgar G. King. The Energy Department's factory in Kansas City, Missouri, famous for having produced all non-nuclear components of U.S. nuclear weapons, is now instead designing 8 different machines that will automate production of the golden gel, the tiny plastic food cups, gently moving the wasp eggs, and surveying hatchlings.

SCIENCE NEWS

VOWEL MOVEMENTS

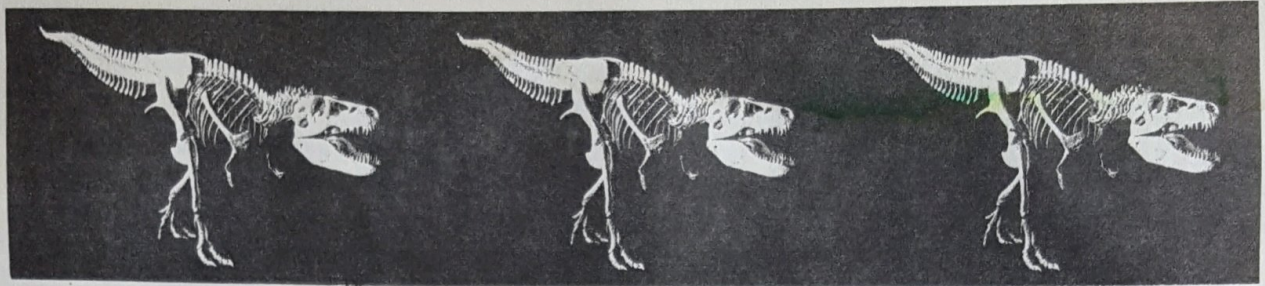
TO BOOST YOUR BOTANICAL VOCABULARY

- VULGARIS-** The most usual & common species of a genus i.e. "Syringa vulgaris (Lilac)
- GLAUCA-** A bluish-leaved species of a genus i.e. "Rosa glauca"
- GRANDIFLORA-** Meaning "large-flowered" i.e. "Stachys grandiflora"
- LEGUME-** A member of the Pea or Bean family

- STIPULE-** A wing-like appendage on either side of the base of the leaf of some plant species. Useful in helping to identify "mystery roses".
- COROLLA-** The petals of a flower as a collective whole i.e. the corolla of a petunia
- POME-** Enlarged ovarian fruit i.e. apple

3

"Bless you for your fear, It's a sign of wisdom (Transform the energy to flexibility and you will be free from what you fear). **Yoko Ono** in "Revelations"



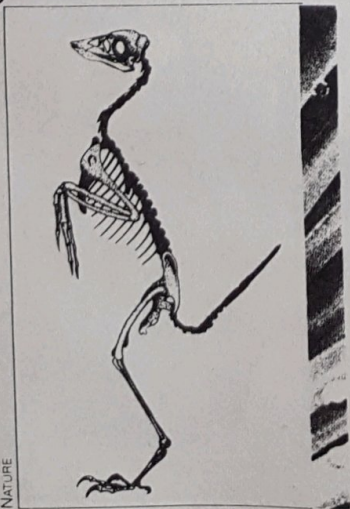
HELPING

DINOSAURS!

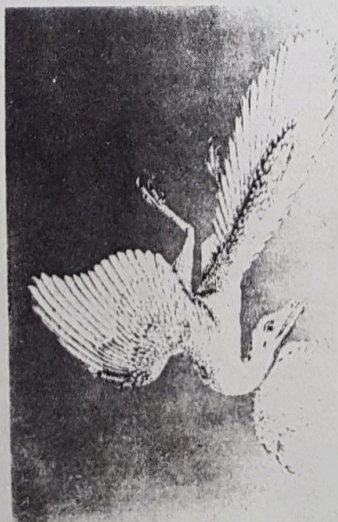
BUILD
THEIR
NESTS

Many paleontologists see so many similarities between the fossilized skeletons of prehistoric birds like the toothy-beaked, scaly and feathered Archaeopteryx (150 million years ago), the toothless-beaked, shorter-tailed more modern looking and newly discovered Confuciusornis sanctus (140 million years ago) the running theropod dinosaurs (see above in left margin) and the skeletons of modern birds (many of which have teeth while embryos!) that they see them all as members of a continuous evolutionary line. In short...birds **ARE** dinosaurs! And this once revolutionary view has been reinforced anew by the recently discovered fossil of a theropod dinosaur curled up on a nest in an incubatory position...the eggs contain the skeletons of unborn dinosaurs of her OWN SPECIES, indicating she was not a predator but a parent guarding its nest, as do modern dinosaur-birds. Within the sand nest the dinosaur eggs were also arranged in the same pattern as seen in modern nests (blunt end pointing towards the center of the nest). With all this in mind you may look at birds (dinosaurs) in a new light as everywhere they are in retreat from human encroachment and subsequent loss of habitat and food sources and nesting materials. In addition to making your yard a safe haven for feathered dinosaurs by providing clean water, a pesticide-free lawn and by planting trees and shrubs that provide shelter & food...(see past issues of **THE GARDEN DOCTOR**) each of us can save, then offer them the following materials usually discarded by draping them over clotheslines, tree crotches, and shrubs...all can be used by various species for vital nest building. Use only biodegradable recyclables, not artificial fibers. Scavenging nest materials is a great project for children AND adults. **YARN, PET HAIR, SPIDER WEBS, CLAY-MUD, LINT, TWIGS, EXCELSIOR, QUILT DOWN, STRING, THREAD, COTTON WADDING, FEATHERS, HAIR, OLD ROPE, COTTON RAG STRIPS.**

To learn how to participate in the National Wildlife Federation's Backyard Habitat Program call 1-800-432-6564. Ask for item 79919.

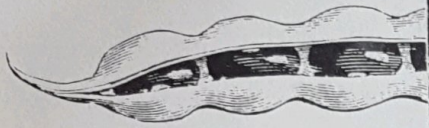


Confuciusornis sanctus



Archaeopteryx & fossilized skeleton (note faint feather imprints around tail).

Unappreciated



AND/OR UNDER-USED VEGETABLES & HERBS:

"Green Wave" mustard, German Chamomile, tomatillos, Waltham 29 Broccoli, Danvers Half Long Carrot, Tendergreen Mustard-Spinach, Florida Sta-Sweet Corn, cuccuzi edible gourd, Clemson Spineless Okra, Melody Hybrid Spinach, Lemon Grass, Orach, Candy Mint, Anise Hyssop, Daikon (pickle stems into a sweet-sour relish), immature milkweed pods (boiled and buttered), immature green cattail spikes (boiled and buttered), dried Gingko leaf (medicinal tea), Scarlet Runner Beans, Hawthorne berries (cardiac tonic tea), Angelica, Luffa gourd (eaten immature, cooked), NK 199 Sweet Corn, Arugula, Fava beans (edible vetch), Amaranth.

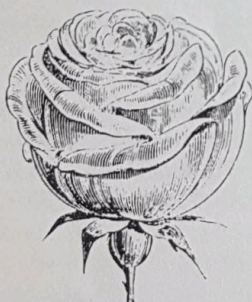
Unappreciated



AND/OR UNDER-USED LAWN SUBSTITUTES:

Woolly Thyme, Candy Mint, Ajuga, Dutch White Clover, Wedelia (sub-tropical & tropical only), Dragon's Blood Sedum, Devil Grass (sub-tropical & tropical only), Wandering Jew (Tradescantia & Zebrina spp.-sub-tropical & tropical only), Vinca minor, Lemon Balm, Sweet Woodruff, English Violets, Canada Violets, creeping buttercup (Ranunculus repens), Lemon thyme, Dichondra.

Unappreciated



AND/OR UNDER-USED ROSES:

Rosa glauca, Halloween (Hybrid Tea 1962), Rosa woodsii, General Washington (Hybrid Perpetual 1861), Comtesse Cecile de Chabrillant (Hybrid Perpetual 1858), Rosemary Rose (Floribunda 1954), Break o'Day (Hybrid Tea 1939), Alchemist (Shrub 1956), Old Blush (China 1752), Complicata (unknown ancient hybrid...Gallica? Macrantha?), Marchioness of Londonderry (Hybrid Perpetual 1893), Sir Thomas Lipton (Hybrid Rugosa 1900), Russelliana (Multiflora rambler, prior to 1837), Trier (Hybrid Multiflora/Noisette 1904), Charles Austin (English 1973), Rosa mulliganii, Rosa moschata, Rosa eglanteria, Rosa dupontii, Belle Amour (Alba, ancient), Fred Edmunds (Hybrid Tea 1943), Rosa soulieana, Rosa laevigata.

"Hi! I'm Marta Steward, **YOUR** lifestyle expert here to tell **YOU** that I can see myself and a **BRIGHT FUTURE** in my own pots and pans since I started using **AtomiClean!** Since President Buchanan eliminated those **SILLY** enviro-wacko regulations on cleaning products **YOU** can buy **AtomiClean** **TOO** instead of making it from scratch like I used to using nuclear waste the friendly local power plant would give me mayonnaise jars of! Made from recycled reactor core coolant, **AtomiClean** comes with a **FREE** pair of lead-lined kitchen gloves in a **FESTIVE** floral print to prevent those pesky but **HARMLESS** radiation burns. Best of all, **NO MORE SCRUBBING...** **AtomiClean** shatters the atomic structure of cooked-on grime into easy-to-rinse protons and neutrons. Kills germs too! And the kids **LOVE** to turn off the kitchen light at night and watch the clear plastic, shatter-proof bottle of **AtomiClean** emit that friendly blue glow! And **YOU'LL** glow with pride too, your dishes **RADIANTLY** clean with **AtomiClean!**"




GRAY-WATER RECOVERY MADE SIMPLE

by John Starnes

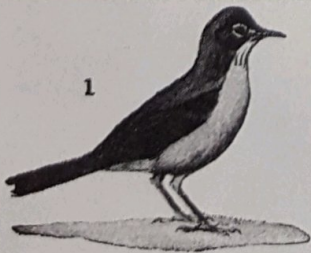


**"HEY! what a
hamburger!"**

Our new **TECHNO-BURGER** is made from a blend of Grade A meat surgically-excised from genetically-engineered, hormone-injected, in vitro-made hybrid cows (raised inside clean, fluorescent-lit factory farms), recycled newsprint (for extra fiber!), and finely chopped spent reactor core fuel rods (supplies essential heavy metals!) The spongy wholesome buns are baked **FRESH** from pure white starch solvent-extracted from bio-engineered hybrid wheat grown **ONLY** with the **FINEST** herbicides and chemical fertilizers! Come on down to those Molten Arches at Mac Dunno's and eat a **TASTY TECHNO-BURGER** today! It's all artificial, naturally, it helps the environment, boosts the U.S. economy **AND** your farts will **GLOW IN THE DARK!** Have it **OUR WAY** or no way at all.... **TODAY!!!**



During the summer of the Yellowstone fires (1989?) I disconnected the drain pipes from my double kitchen sink and put a plastic 5 gallon bucket (from a dumpster) beneath each drain. To prevent explosive "sewer gas" (methane), normally blocked by the sink trap, from seeping into my house, I simply stuffed the outflow pipe protruding out from the wall beneath the counter tightly with used plastic grocery bags. Capturing all my kitchen "gray water" in 2 **FINITE** buckets quickly revealed that I still, despite years of consciously attempting to conserve water, had wasteful water use habits, since I filled and/or overflowed both buckets 2 or 3 times daily! Soon I learned to take a quick peek into each bucket before doing dishes or rinsing vegetables to avoid another overflow, and to monitor my water use habits. Of course a few people thought I had once again "gone over the deep end" in my enthusiasm for a new project by actually **SAVING** my kitchen gray water and lugging it to dry spots in my landscape and gardens. But most friends, and students taking my organic gardening classes, saw the simple effectiveness of it, as opposed to multi-thousand dollar gray water recovery systems that often foster viral and bacterial growth, or offer limited ability to disperse the gray water where needed. But my 2 buckets were free, recycled from dumpsters, get dumped too often to become "pathogen farms", **AND** they give me a light workout as I carry them to where the water is needed. Since my kitchen gray water now goes into my soil instead of a treatment plant, food particles from dish washing feed my soil; plus I won't use caustic cleansers! I actually **LIKE** the fact that some element of work is associated with my waste water, as opposed to it vanishing effortlessly down the drain, out of sight, out of mind...now I fill those buckets only every day or two. In the years since, I've become a "Rose Nut", and roses **LOVE** water... my kitchen bucket system lets me meet their needs **WITHOUT** using obscene amounts of potable water. If you try it, your friends may think you're weird too, but if you subscribe to **THE GARDEN DOCTOR**, you probably **ARE!** But 2 buckets beneath your sink can be simple, cheap, effective and insightful tools in reducing your water bill **AND** your home's impact on our little world. Plus you can finally correct those chronic dry spots in your landscape while being reminded that in **MOST** of the world people have to carry **IN** their **USABLE** water!



6

Your DOG



As captured in the poem at the end of this article, the loyalty and love of a dog is unsurpassed, and is one of the happy constants in living a person may always rely on. In kind, we can do a number of simple things for our canine companion to make his or her life happier and healthier and longer... after all, a true best friend is a rare and precious gift.

Commercial pet food is often made with diseased and abcessed slaughterhouse meat and animal organs deemed unfit for human consumption, plus may contain many colorants and preservatives. But an inexpensive homemade "Pet Stew" is healthier and more flavorful, good enough for US to eat! In the wild, dogs are omnivores, and so naturally eat a fair amount of vegetable fiber (including that contained in the digestive tracts of their prey). This fiber decreases the transit time of digesting food & boosts stool diameter, helping to rid the body of wastes sooner and, in the case of male dogs, stimulates (during defecation) the anal glands prone to chronic infection in dogs with small loose stools as a result of being fed low fiber commercial pet food. Below is a basic high-fiber, high carbohydrate, low protein "Pet Stew" also rich in essential fatty acids (also often deficient in commercial pet food) crucial to healthy skin and fur. By using a different vegetable oil for each batch of stew, you can insure that all the fatty acids are provided your pal. Note* your vet may have free pamphlets with differing recipes based on your dog's health needs. The following recipe is a "basic" one that may be modified to meet specific requirements.

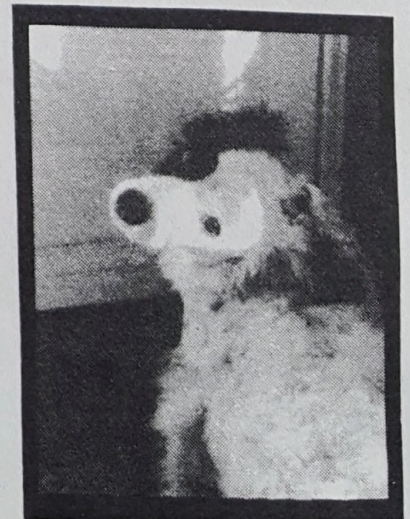
In a big pot blend the following:

1. 6 cups cooked rice or pasta (carbohydrate)
2. 2 cups cooked mixed vegetables (fiber, vitamins, minerals)
3. 2 cups chopped cooked meat (protein, flavor) or 1 can of your dog's favorite canned food.
4. 1 cup bran (oat or wheat) for fiber.
5. $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vegetable oil (flax, olive, canola, grape seed, walnut, corn, soybean, safflower) for essential fatty acids.
6. 1 scant teaspoon kelp meal (trace elements).

Starchy kitchen leftovers may be used in place of the rice or pasta, and the veggies may be frozen mixed vegetables or those from your own garden. If your dog at first turns up his or her nose at this new stew, try sprinkling in some garlic powder as many dogs LOVE garlic.

If you are simply too busy to make a batch of this stew once or twice a week, or if your dog is so used to commercial dog food that he or she just will NOT eat the healthy stew, try blending some flax seed oil and a bit of bran or leftover cooked mixed veggies (corn-carrots-peas-beans is a good one to try) into their current food. At least they'll be getting SOME vegetable fiber and fatty acid supplementation.

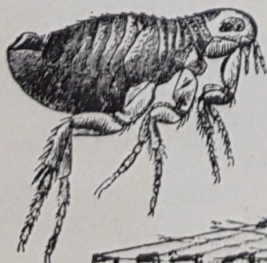
Another approach is to begin offering your best buddy a wide range of fruits and vegetables, raw and cooked, to see which ones they like. Sergeant, the World's Best Dog (see him at right) has made it clear over our 9 years together that he ADORES raw sweet potatoes above all other foods, rising from a sound sleep at the first plunge of the knife into the crunchy root. He will also scoff down raw carrots and snap peas, having actually snatched them out of my hand as I walked in from the garden! He relishes corn on the cob (raw or cooked), raw pole beans (I've also spied on him grazing on bean LEAVES in the garden, plus valerian leaves), the skins of cooked Buttercup squash, raw turnips, and daikon. He however, is NOT wild about the Stew, whereas my last dog, Captain, readily adapted to it, GREATLY alleviating the health afflictions of his sad final years.



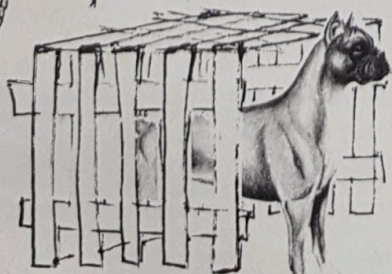
Sergeant, the World's Best Dog.

Controlling fleas will make life much more pleasant for you both, and can also reduce the the likelihood your buddy will get worms ... (fleas act as vectors for the transmission of worm larvae). Below are several tried and true flea nukers:

1. The 99% orthoboric acid powder sold in one pound bottles for roach control is also VERY good for eliminating fleas in carpets and the dog's bedding. Safe unless consumed in large amounts (it's also in eyewash!) boric acid is odorless and non-staining, and may be sprinkled all OVER the carpet, including beneath furniture, along baseboards and between your boxsprings and mattress. Do not vacuum for 2 weeks so that the fine powder can work down deep into the carpet and crevices. Repeat every 6-12 months or as needed; it's often effective for a year or more!
2. Vacuum weekly to suck up adult fleas, larval maggots and eggs.
3. A weekly shampoo using warm water and a mixture of human shampoo and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cheap pine oil cleaner (look for 19%-20% pine oil on the label) will kill most of the fleas, larvae and eggs, deodorize the dog's fur and sanitize the skin. ALWAYS lather up the head FIRST (use a tear-free baby shampoo) so the fleas can't escape into the ears or around the eyes. Leave the shampoo-pine oil mixture on for 5 minutes to kill the fleas and soothe the skin, then rinse well and towel dry.
4. Outdoors, fleas thrive best in a dry dusty dog run. Feed the soil with organic nutrients, then sprig with vigorous, tough xeriscapic groundcover plants that can stand dog foot traffic. In cold-winter areas try native prairie grasses, creeping thyme (*Thymus pulgioides* 'Alba' or 'Coccineus'), Persian catnip (*Nepeta mussinii*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), Crown Vetch, ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*), Sweet Woodruff (*Gallium odoratum*), Speedwell (*Veronica prostrata*) or *Thymus serpyllum*. In humid subtropical try Devilgrass (non-hybridized Bermuda grass), dwarf liriopse, wedelia, sweet potatoes, or pothos. Periodically feed and water for vigorous growth and hold down dust.



Flea.



Lastly, for the summer comfort of your canine companion AND for the increased productivity of your yard, just scrounge up 4 matching pallets, 8 wire clothes hangers (as seen in "Mommy Dearest") and some chicken wire and make a funky, recycled "Dog House Trellis". (See hopelessly crude drawing of said structure housing a not-so-crude image of a dog). Stand each pallet on it's side, using one for the back wall, one for each side and one for the roof. Lash them together TIGHTLY at each corner using unravelled wire clothes hangers ("Yes Mommy dearest!"). Then nail some chicken wire to the sides and roof. Apply generous amounts of organic soil nutrients to the soil around 3 sides of the dog house trellis (cottonseed meal, compost, alfalfa pellets, Ringer Lawn Restore, manure, etc.) turn it all under, then plant the seeds of annual food producing vines around those 3 sides...pole beans, snap peas, vining squashes, gourds and melons, Malabar spinach, Scarlet Runner Beans, plus some "Heavenly Blue" morning-glories for extra color. Fill the inside of the dog house trellis with a foot or so of soft new hay for him or her to lay on....change this every month to prevent a build up of fleas...compost the old hay. And as the vines grow and cover the trellis house with leaves, flowers and produce, your pal will have an increasingly shady, cool place to nap.

All these suggestions cost little or nothing, and give you many chances to pay back all that love with some of your own. The anonymously written poem below, submitted to THE GARDEN DOCTOR by Susan Wong of Denver, captures simply the devotion of our loving dogs.

A DOG'S SOUL

Every dog must have a soul
Somewhere deep inside,
Where all his hurts and grievances
Are buried with his pride.

Where he decides the good and bad
The wrong from the right,
And where his judgement carefully
Is hidden from our sight.

A dog must have a secret place
Where every thought abides,
A sort of close acquaintance
That he trusts in and confides.

And when accused unjustly
For himself he cannot speak,
Rebuked, he finds within his soul
The comfort he must seek.

He'll love though he is unloved,
He'll serve though badly used
And one kind word will wipe away
The times when he's abused.

Although his heart may break in two,
His love will still be whole.
Because God gave to every dog
An understanding soul.



RAGRANT

ROSES

by
Mrs.
Dudley
Cross



FOR SNOWY WINTER, TEMPERATE ZONES:

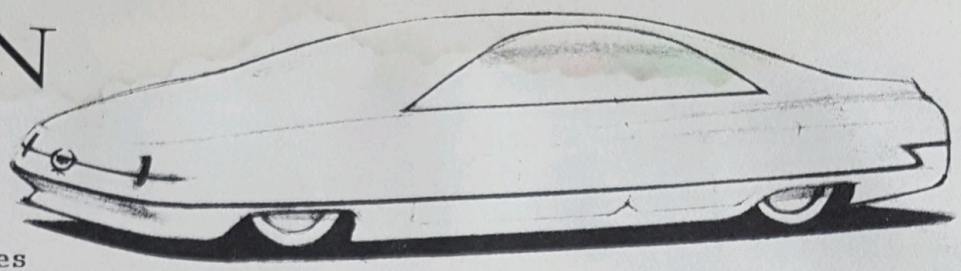
- Comte de Chambord- Portland 1860
- Eugene Furst- Hybrid Perpetual 1875
- Alfred Colomb- Hybrid Perpetual 1865
- Pink Peace-Hybrid Tea 1959
- Fisherman's Friend- English 1988
- Proud Titania- English 1983
- Gertrude Jekyll- English 1986
- Conrad Ferdinand Meyer-
Hybrid Rugosa 1899
- Francis E. Lester- Hybrid Musk 1946
- Halloween- Hybrid Tea 1962
- Great Western- Hybrid Bourbon 1840
- Margaret Anne Baxter- Hybrid Tea 1927
- Hansa- Hybrid Rugosa 1905
- Westerland- Shrub 1969
- Darlowe's Enigma (study name)
- Albertine- Wichuraiana 1921
- Ellen- English 1985
- Gruss an Coberg- Hybrid Tea 1927
- Chinatown- Floribunda 1963
- Mme. Isaac Pereire- Bourbon 1881
- Baronne Prevost- Hybrid Perpetual 1842
- La France- Hybrid Tea (Bourbon Hybrid?)
1867
- Will Rogers- Hybrid Tea 1936
- Felicia- Hybrid Musk 1928
- Gruss an Teplitz- Hybrid Tea(?) 1897
- Sutter's Gold- Hybrid Tea 1950
- Radiance- Hybrid Tea 1908
- Variegata di Bologna- Bourbon(?) 1909
- Good News- Hybrid Tea 1940
- Othello- English 1986
- Abraham Darby- English 1985
- Hadley- Hybrid Tea 1914
- Desiree Parmentier- Gallica
prior to 1848
- St. Cecelia- English 1987
- Eugene de Beauharnais- China/Bourbon
1838
- Ibiza- Hybrid Tea 1938
- Blush Noisette- Noisette 1817

FOR MILD, SUBTROPICAL ZONES:

- Mrs. B. R. Cant- Tea 1901
- Old Blush- China 1752
- Lady Hillingdon- Tea (Hybrid Tea?)
1910
- Louis Philippe- China 1834
- Marechal Niel- Noisette 1864
- Duchesse de Brabant- Tea 1857
- Rosa moschata-species, 1540
- Champney's Pink Cluster-Noisette, 1802
- Blush Noisette- Noisette 1817
- Souvenir de la Malmaison-
Bourbon 1843
- Ragged Robin- China/Bourbon 1825
- "Maggie" (study name) China/Bourbon
- Mlle. Cecile Brunner- Polyantha 1881
- Clotilde Soupert- Polyantha 1890
- Radiance- Hybrid Tea 1908
- Francis Dubreuil- Tea 1894
- Mrs. Dudley Cross- Tea 1907
- Rival de Paestum- China/Tea 1848
- Catherine Mermet- Tea 1869
- Nastarana- Noisette 1879
- Reve d'Or- Noisette 1869
- Ducher- China 1869
- Tipsy Imperial Concubine- Tea 1989
- Snowbird- Hybrid Tea 1936
- Synstylae species- (R. rubus. R. he-
lenae, mulliganii, gentiliana,
(may suffer in hot humid areas).
- Edith Schurr- Shrub 1976
- Puerto Rico (study name)- Tea?
- Gloire de Dijon- Cl Tea (Hybrid Tea)
1853
- Princesse de Sagan- China (China/Tea?)
1887
- Prosperity- Hybrid Musk 1919
- "Spice" (study name)- China/Tea?
- Rosa laevigata- species 1759
(Cherokee Rose)
- Mermaid- Hybrid Bracteata 1918
- Souvenir de St. Anne's- Bourbon 1950
(discovered prior to 1916)

Green Cars

by John Starnes



It can easily be argued that the car is the single biggest contributor of pollution and resource depletion in our society, yet personal transportation offers each of a freedom and ease very hard to abandon; even many dedicated environmentalists and permaculturists still own a car. Many self-employed people (landscapers, delivery persons, etc.) could NOT run their businesses from public transportation. So redefining the car & truck into more environmentally-benign machines is the task at hand.

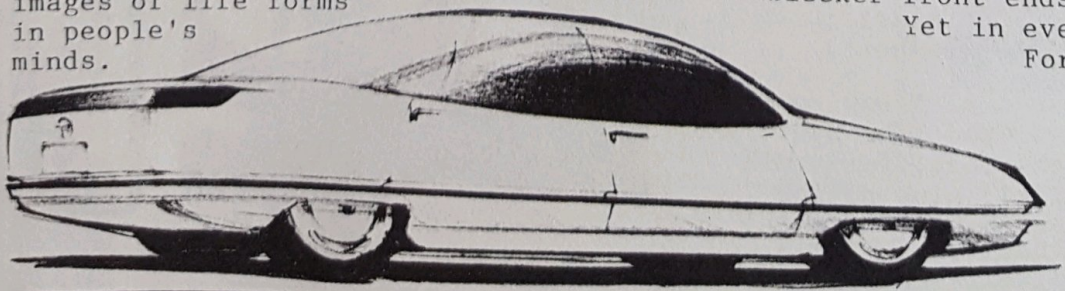
Sadly, however, the buying public often rejects the "Big Bad Car Maker" who attempts to DO the progressive and right thing if it is seen as too "weird". For example, for 10 years Ford has pursued streamlining its cars using aerodynamic body sculpting to lower the "cd" (co-efficient of drag). The LOWER the cd number (in the mid to upper 40's on the boxy cars of the 70's) the LESS gas burned and thus LESS POLLUTION produced per mile travelled. But sales of Ford's new highly aerodynamic Taurus and Sable (a "cd" of just .30!) have plunged 35% relative to the previous best-selling but LESS aerodynamic 1995 models even though these sleek beauties are MORE powerful, MORE crashworthy, MORE fuel efficient, roomier inside while polluting LESS! Why? People say they are freaked out by the ultra-sleek, "avant-garde" organic shape. (One of my friends, a true car nut, despises the new Taurus, saying it looks like a bottom-feeding fish... another friend who LIKES it says it looks like a lima bean!). It's interesting that a streamlined shaped evokes images of life forms in people's minds.

So Ford's reward for creating a progressive passenger car is a BIG drop in sales and subsequent pressure to make future models less "aerodynamic looking."

Looks are the thing, it seems...open wheel wells on a car create drag-producing turbulence, yet "consumer clinics" clearly show that most people think they look "sporty" while seeing partially covered wheel wells as "cetacean" (another life form reference!) or "fat" (cultural anorexia?). So the 1991 Chevy Caprice with its sleek shape and partially-covered rear wheel wells (you've seen the cop car version) won prestigious design awards but FLOPPED in the marketplace till Chevy opened up those wheel wells in future models, making it LESS aerodynamic but "thinner" looking and a good seller! The two cars on this page were design proposals for late 80's Cadillacs rejected largely due to all 4 aerodynamically efficient partially-covered wheel wells as being a "look" despised by the public. I LOVE futurism..it would have been neat to see Cadillacs like these two in a parking lot. Maybe people expect luxury cars to NOT be fuel efficient! Do these two cars look "fat" to you?

Saddest of all, Ford several years ago spent MILLIONS to acquire user rights to the amazing "Orbital" 2-stroke engine developed by an Australian entrepreneur-inventor. This small, lightweight engine has few moving parts, pollutes VERY little, gets outrageous mileage, has tremendous power (300 hp. from an engine a man can carry in his arms!) and its small size would allow designers to create cars with lower, sleeker front ends for better airflow. Yet in every "consumer clinic" Ford ran at shopping malls, auto shows, car dealers, etc.,

(continued)...

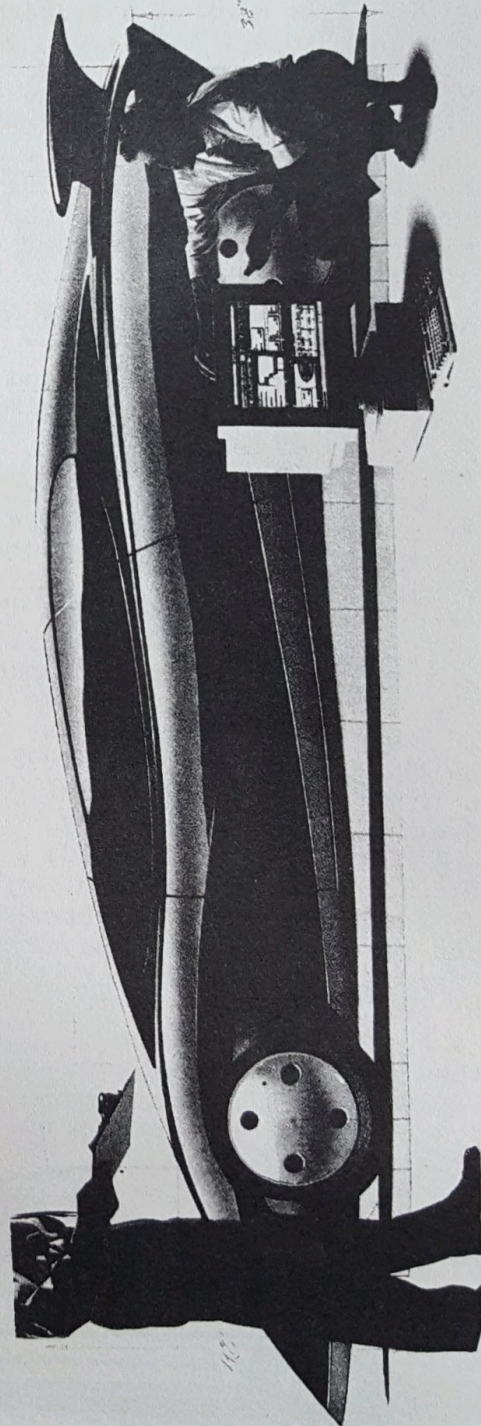


"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them." Albert Einstein

people said they would NOT buy a car with an Orbital engine because they associate 2-stroke engines with lawn mowers, chain saws and Harley Davidson choppers! So rather than build a car nobody would buy, Ford cancelled plans to feature the Orbital engine in the 1992 Escort, which COULD have ushered in a new era of low-pollution, high-powered passenger cars. Ford has a design center here in Denver, nestled in the vast industrial park my friends and I go "dumpster diving" in on Sundays, so I went there and spoke with the manager who was surprised I knew of the "Orbital" program but confirmed it has been "put on the back burner indefinitely" due to customer rejection. And you can't blame them...for a business to succeed and survive its product has to sell, be it a progressive car or a gardening newsletter! The buying public can help design ecologically benign cars by BUYING cars that exhibit certain characteristics:

1. Most cars are still very unaerodynamic, with a "cd" of .35 to .42 or even higher...ask the salesperson for the cd of the car (many won't know WHAT a "cd" IS, much less that of the car, but let him or her know that number is important in your purchasing decision, and that it can be found in manufacturer's literature, or even some magazine ads!). Target for Ford's benchmark cd of .30..a few cars from Europe and Japan have now reached .29 and .28! Look for these evidences of streamlining: a low pointy nose, a tall blunt trunk, partially covered rear wheel wells, an air intake slot in or below the bumper instead of a big open grille, and flush glass areas.
2. This fall GM will launch an ELECTRIC car in several high-pollution cities; call Chevy dealers in your town to encourage them to offer it too. It has GREAT pick-up to debunk the notion that electric cars are sluggish "golf cars". Let GM know there IS interest in production electric cars. (Remember Ford's sad lessons!)
3. Familiarize yourself with new power sources being developed like hydrogen, flywheel technology, fuel cell "batteries", Orbital, plus notice the new Taurus' aero-shape to get acquainted with that "look" (then imagine the wheel wells covered!)

We are fortunate that after nearly a century of un-aerodynamic cars powered by inefficient (the MOST efficient engine uses only 16% of the energy in each gallon of gas!) internal combustion engines, we are entering a "Golden Age" of streamlined vehicles powered by "greener" power sources being developed by creative souls in the auto industry...let's not punish them again by rejecting the progressive fruits of their idealism and imagination!



"Bless you for your anger, It's a sign of rising energy (Transform the energy to versatility) and it will bring you prosperity). excerpt from "Revelations" on Yoko Ono's CD "RISING"

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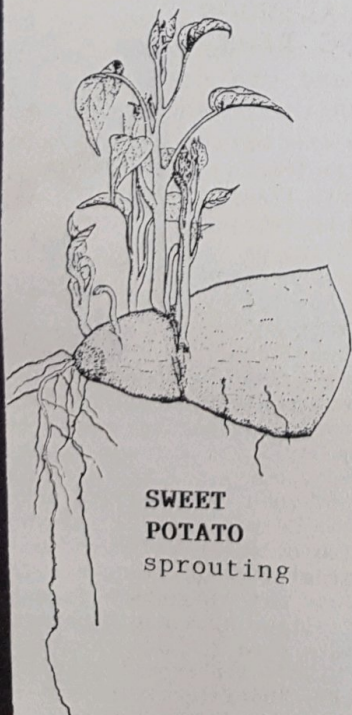
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**SWEET
POTATO**
sprouting

Gardening souls living in high-rise apartments or gardenless condos can fill a hanging pot halfway with compost, lay a small sweet potato horizontally on the compost, then cover it with more compost. Water well initially, then sparingly till sprouts appear. This tropical LOVES heat and bright light; give it your sunniest window. Cooked sweet potato leaves have been eaten as a "green" in Asia for centuries; snip them off to use in a stir fry, casserole, soup or as a sidedish like spinach. Try to buy an untreated "organic" sweet potato, as it will sprout much easier than if sprayed with growth retardants. Growing sweet potatoes like this indoors can provide a winter crop for northern gardeners with short growing seasons.



"Dang, finding THE GAR-
DEN DOCTOR in my mailbox
each Spring & Fall gives
me a REASON TO LIVE! I
can't believe people let
their subscriptions
expire! I'm renewing
for 2 years TODAY for a
MEASLY \$30! I'm showing
this GREAT NEW ISSUE to
my gardening club to get
John a BUNCH of new
subscribers!"

"HEAVENS-TO-BETSY!
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!!"

Todd O. Stevens and James P. McKinley of Pacific Northwest Laboratory in Richland, Washington report the discovery of bacteria living in the basalt aquifer of the the region that are totally independent of photosynthesis, which ultimately supports nearly all living things. These bacteria, living in total darkness deep in the stone, feed directly on basalt rock, carbon dioxide and water. Instead of using the energy of sunlight, or predation, to secure the energy to produce or obtain the carbon compounds vital to life, they use the energy in the hydrogen produced by water reacting with the basalt. Christopher P. McKay of NASA suggests that life forms similar to these newly-found bacteria could easily survive beneath the surface of Mars. **SCIENCE 10-20-95**

The following edible fruits are all members of the Rose Family: Apple, Pear, Peach, Dewberry, Plum, Strawberry, Cherry, Nectarine, Raspberry, Blackberry, Apricot, Almond, Loganberry, Quince, Mountain Ash, Amelanchier (Juneberry), Loquat, Hawthorne, and Rose hips.

"Elves" are a newly-discovered form of lightning that occurs at an altitude of 70-100 kilometers, above the portions of thunderclouds that produce the most powerful flashes of lightning. Each "elf" lasts less than one one-thousandth of a second, too brief to be seen by the human eye, but detectable by high-speed photometers. Each disk shaped "elf" is huge, measuring 400 kilometers across. They apparently emit only red light.

SCIENCE NEWS 12-95



GROWING A CAT FARM

Most cats instinctively eat raw grass for nutritional and medicinal benefits; they can't get it in winter, or if they live indoors. So fill

a flower pot (with a drainage hole and saucer) 3/4's full with compost, sprinkle 2-3 tablespoons of whole rye or oats or wheat berries (from a health food store) or even popcorn or mixed bird seed. Cover with 1" of compost, water well and grow in your sunniest window. Wait till 5" tall and let your cat graze at will. Start a new farm every 3 weeks. Also good for caged birds.



Wild roses occur ONLY in the Northern Hemisphere!

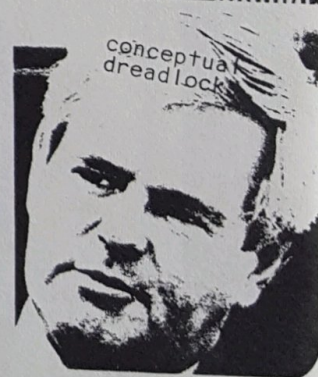
Move over, Michael Jackson...several species of coral reef fish can reverse their sex up to 10 times, from female to 2 KINDS of male, then back! Known as "Successive Hermaphrodites", they swing from having ovaries to testicles and back, the change triggered by the death or disappearance of a dominant male; if he vanishes a female fish can become a male within 4 days. A species of seabass called "Serranus tortugarum" releases eggs during about 7 of its daily spawns, then sperm during the other 7 days, with the switch occurring in as little as 30 seconds.

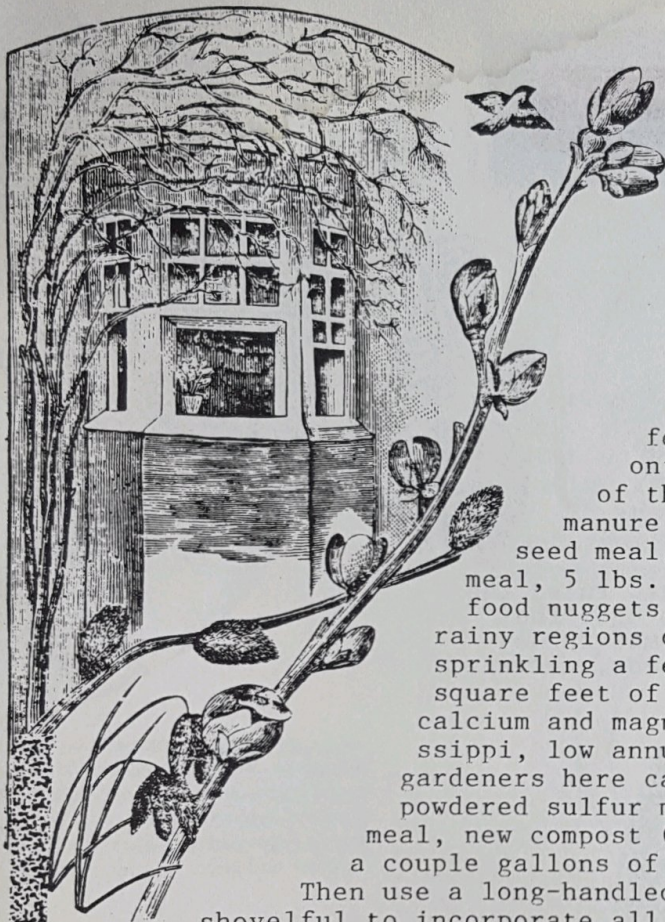
SCIENCE NEWS 10-21-95

FAMILY BALLYHOOS GARDENING TIPS

by Newty and the Woefish

If you need some help trimming high tree limbs by power lines, or spraying de-regulated pesticides on your lawn, support the vitality of America by renting an able-bodied youth from your local "Orphans R Us". The orphanage gets positive cash flow, the young person learns the value of work, the Devil has 2 fewer hands to possess...everybody wins! With the Dept. of Education abolished, and private schools and orphanages democratically sharing in the upbringing of our fine youth, we'll have millions of strong, young tax-free bodies to clear out old growth forests and exterminate spotted owls and black-footed ferrets to make room for our ranchers, nuclear power plants and shopping malls. Our kids can give a "botanic cleansing" to all public and private gardens marred by roses and flowers with names like "The Fairy", "Gay Princess" and "Pink Pansy", foisted on American gardeners by the insidious Gay Agenda! And not a single tax penny spent!





Spring is an excellent time for gardeners in all climatic and geographic regions to revitalize their soil with natural materials purchased largely at feed-stores, or scavenged then recycled. As they are digested in the soil by earthworms, beneficial fungi, bacteria and other vital organisms, they are transformed into soil-building humus and the simple compounds absorbed by our plants' hungry roots, either directly or via the beneficial mycorrhizae fungi that live symbiotically intertwined with plant roots.

In the vegetable & herb gardens, optimum fertility can be had by broadcasting generously onto every 100 square feet of soil any 3, or more, of the following: a 1 inch thick layer of compost or manure (horse, poultry, or sheep), 10 lbs. of cottonseed meal, 25 lbs. of alfalfa pellets, 10 lbs. soybean meal, 5 lbs. of Ringer Lawn Restore, or 25 lbs. of dry dog food nuggets. East of the Mississippi River, plus in some rainy regions of the Pacific Northwest, soils tend to be acid; sprinkling a few of powdered dolomitic limestone on that 100 square feet of soil will neutralize the acid AND supply the calcium and magnesium vital to all plants. West of the Mississippi, low annual rainfall generally results in alkaline soil; gardeners here can add acid-formers like oak leaves (plenty!), powdered sulfur mineral (a light sprinkling), extra cottonseed meal, new compost (plenty), fresh poultry manure (plenty) or even a couple gallons of brown cider vinegar to the above nutrients.

Then use a long-handled shovel to turn the soil over, inverting each shovelful to incorporate all those soil amendments down deep where they can feed all those organisms whose excrement will in turn feed your soil. Use an oscillating sprinkler to give the garden a good long multi-hour soak, then let your garden digest its big meal for about a week before you plant seeds and seedlings.

In the areas of the landscape where the soil is not turned, such as perennial herb, berry and flower gardens, or the lawn, apply the same regimen of nutrients but at say half the rate, followed by a deep watering. Then mulch all the beds with hay, leaves, pulverized tree trimmings, etc. to trap moisture, suppress weeds and of course to further feed the soil.

Bear in mind that the nitrogen SO vital to plant growth is provided by the decay of the PROTEIN in these "edible" materials like animal feeds: cottonseed meal (42% protein), soybean meal (44% protein), alfalfa pellets (16% protein). These percentages are on the tags sown to the 50 lb. bags found in feedstores. Look for broken bags of dry dog & cat food in pet store dumpsters. Or scavenge spent grain from micro-breweries, fresh organic grass clippings, fishery waste, butcher's scraps, waste from tofu makers, or the recently expired no-salt cottage cheese one can find BY THE CASE in grocery store dumpsters.

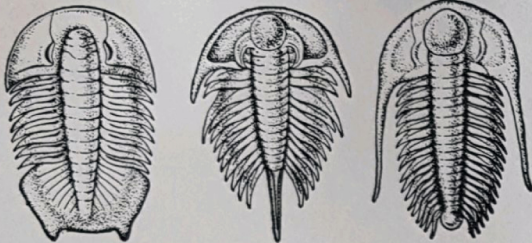
Organic gardeners FEED THEIR SOIL: in turn it feeds their bellies AND their hearts with floral beauty.



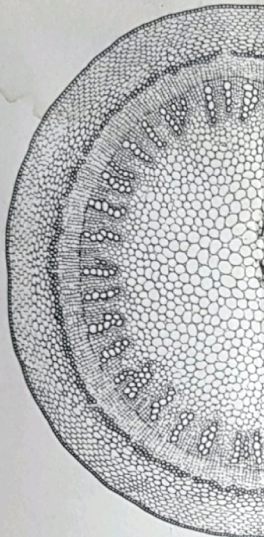
"Listen to your heart, Respect your intuition, Make your manifestation, There's no limitation, Have courage, Have rage, We're all together." Yoko Ono



Self-Study Guide



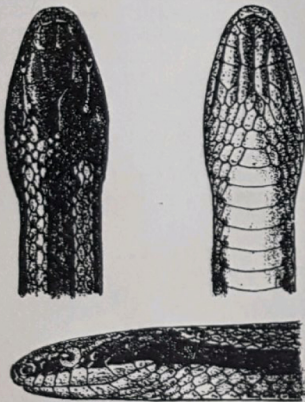
Trilobites, now extinct, ruled the seas 500 million years ago. They were the ancestors of modern day insects, scorpions, crabs, shrimp, and other arthropods.



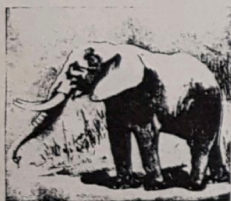
— Transverse section of vascular the regions, beginning outside, are epidermis (several layers), including an almost continuous layer of several layers (the outer ones being phloem strands (separated by pith rays, the innermost the outer and larger ones metaxylem); and the



Primula littoniana



Black-banded snake (*Coniophanes imperialis*).



AFRICAN ELEPHANT

Approaching extinction.



A prehistoric elephant, Gompothierium, extinct.

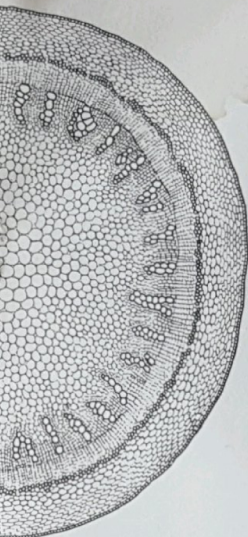


Pileated Woodpecker

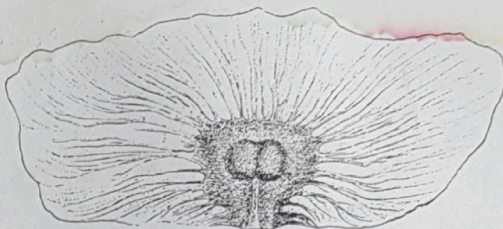
Hairy Woodpecker

Lewis' Woodpecker

A rule for being human: "There" is no better than "here". When your "there" has become a "here", you will simply obtain another "there" that will again look better than "here".



cylinder of a young dicotyledon (*Ricinus*):
 (single layer of cells); cortex (a zone of
 band of fibrous cells (heavy walls); a zone
 m, the inner cambium); the zone of xylem
 st vessels in each strand being protoxylem,
 the pith.



The winged seed of *Bignonia*, when dropped from a great height, glides very well, an adaptation for landing and sprouting far from the parent tree. It inspired early aerodynamic engineers to pioneer "flying wing" aircraft.



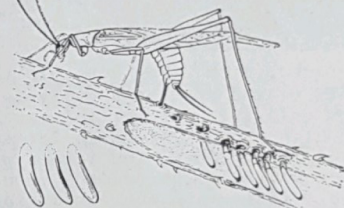
Leaves of the Sensitive Plant (*Mimosa pudica*) before being touched...



...and after.



A prehistoric whale, *Basilosaurus*. extinct.



The female of the snowy tree cricket inserting her eggs into a raspberry cane.



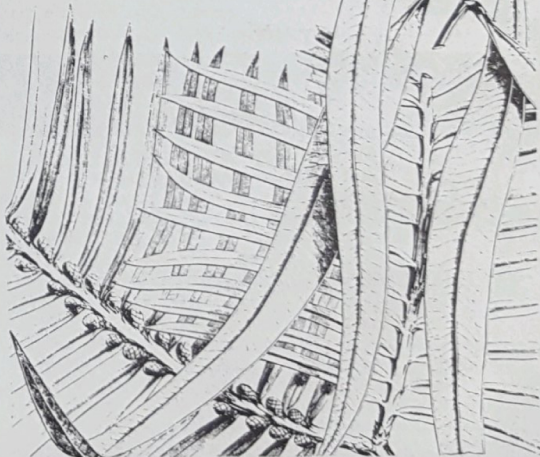
Ivory-billed Woodpecker



Red-billed Woodpecker



Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker



The graceful leaves & flowers of *Acacia macradenia*.

"Of the delights of this world man cares most for sexual intercourse, yet he has left it out of his heaven." Mark Twain

m y S E E D S

On your seed packet with 1 Dog Rose hip tea fingerprint write: **MILK THISTLE** (*Silybum marianum*). This member of the Daisy (Compositae) Family produces big, purplish-red flowers atop 3 foot tall stalks bearing long, slender, glossy leaves. The seeds from the ripe seed heads are rich in 'silymarin', a natural compound shown to promote healing and cleansing of the liver. The edible leaves, stems and unopened flower buds (milk thistle is related to artichokes) contain smaller amounts of silymarin; eat raw or cooked. Sow the seeds $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep in rich fertile soil in full sun; Spring in temperate zones, autumn in Florida, S. Arizona, etc. Harvest young leaves as needed for "greens".

On your seed packet with 2 Dog Rose hip tea fingerprints write: **AMARANTH (mixed species & cultivars)**. Native to the Americas, this colorful, drought tolerant annual produces multitudes of high-protein seeds in large feathery plumes atop the 4'-10' tall plants. The tender new leaves may be eaten raw or cooked. Sow the seeds $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep in well-spaded fertile soil in full sun, in spring just after frost danger has passed (or autumn in mild climate areas like Florida). Keep the soil damp till seedlings appear; thin them to stand 3' apart. Give a few deep waterings per month. Seed heads are ripe when rubbing them firmly releases a few seeds; sever the entire plume, let dry, and thresh out the seeds. Add to batters, doughs, soups, etc.

On your seed packet with 3 Dog Rose hip tea fingerprints write: **FLAX (*Linum usitatissimum*)**. This graceful annual is the source of the fiber used to produce linen fabric, plus the flaxseed that yields the oil which, when used raw, is a valuable edible source of essential fatty acids. Boiled, the "linseed oil" is used in varnishes and paint. Flax's sky blue flowers and drought tolerance make it a good choice for xeriscapic flower gardens. Sow the seeds $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep in rich loose soil in full sun; Spring in cold winter areas, autumn in very mild areas like the Gulf Coast. Harvest the seed capsules when beige and dry; rub them between your palms to release the seeds; use sparingly to thicken broths, salad dressings or as a vegan substitute for eggwhites in cake batters, etc.

Store these seeds, and all your other seeds in the meat or produce drawer of your refrigerator to keep them viable for YEARS and to improve overall germination rates.

One of life's finest attributes is our freedom to grow, to choose to change, to feel new again, and to harvest victory from duress and challenge. We are not trapped in amber, fossilized by past choices and experiences, but free to lift ourselves into the fresh air and light. And as so well pointed out in the inspiring song "Revelations" on the CD "Rising" by Yoko Ono, we can transform "negative" emotions like fear, greed, and anger into courage, satisfaction and rising energy by the sheer force of will and choice. So in that spirit I enter another year of self-publishing "THE GARDEN DOCTOR", begun in 1987 as one of several creative projects near and dear to me.

In darker moments of deep discouragement after last fall's plunge in readership to just 88, when several dozen folks did not renew their subscriptions, I considered ending THE GARDEN DOCTOR after 1996. After all, they say if you build a better mouse-trap people will buy it....here I was with 88 readers after nearly 9 years of dedication to creating a truly alternative gardening publication, while Martha Stewart's quite new publication already has HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of subscribers. I wondered if my optimism and dedication were simply Don Quixote-ish pride. But by Christmas I had 132 readers...52 of you folks are now up for renewal as of this issue. (Of course I hope that each of you enjoys this publication and renews your subscription.) But after much soul-searching I've decided that for the balance of 1996 I will transform that energy of discouragement and self doubt into a new effort to improve, and more effectively promote what I TRULY believe to be a unique and uplifting one-man ALTERNATIVE gardening and environmental publication (sound like a parent, don't I!).

First, a number of people, including a respected botanic gardens librarian, have commented that THE GARDEN DOCTOR is simply difficult to read due to my heavy use of tiny type face and too much use of fancy borders and complex graphics, making each page so visually "busy" as to be a chore to read. So this issue reflects my efforts to correct that. Others are irked by having to turn the publication upside down and sideways to read all the quotes I tuck into empty margins...thus in this issue most are placed right side up and horizontally at the bottom of the page, which, of course, reduced their number (less "clutter"?)

I BRIEFLY considered ceasing enclosing the seed packets in future issues as SO many readers say they NEVER grow them. But I suspect that many of you DO enjoy receiving and planting them, and harvesting their crops. A few folks have said I put so much "how-to" stuff in each issue that they feel it's like finding a bunch of "work" in their mailbox... but if I have to make THE GARDEN DOCTOR useless "fluff" to be a marketplace success, I WILL stop putting it out! In this issue I dropped a few longstanding features that elicit few or no reader responses ("Bad News", "Gregory Pecs", "Radical Plants", my own instructional poetry, and "Phukinay") to create space for new features...let me know how you feel about these omissions and additions. Two permaculturists from Boulder echoed a few other folks by suggesting that people today are simply stressed out and over-loaded by life's daily demands and media barrage, that they understandably need "restful, comfort" experiences in food, TV pablum and "easy" reading; perhaps THE GARDEN DOCTOR is simply TOO intense, provocative and "in-your-face" to attract or retain subscribers...any thoughts on that?

Other folks have said I do a great job CREATING an enjoyable, alternative gardening publication, but am probably LOUSY at promoting it, you know, one of those right-brained creative types lost in the business world. They say Martha Stewart's mag got all those readers via intense commercial promotion, NOT word of mouth. So I'm looking into how to find affordable people who specialize in getting positive exposure for a product or service. On a recent plane flight to Tampa a businessman suggested that I ask each of you who are editors or writers, and who LIKE TGD, to review it in your own publication...I like that one, as positive reviews in Utne Reader, Organica, East West, Herb Companion, Tampa Tribune, Vegetarian Living and others created my original core of readers in the late 80's and early 90's (and some of you still subscribe!)

Since a number of you are rosarians, and since roses, Old and Modern, have become a central guiding focus in my own life, I'll continue putting features on them in each issue.

(continued) **18**

SHARING SECRETS

(GARDENING TIPS)

This issue is a bit late, due in part to that period of discouragement, then by the necessity of deciding which changes to enact. THE GARDEN DOCTOR is both a business venture and a heart offering, so it is a tough call for me to decide its attributes and shortcomings...feel free to write or call with your comments on these changes, comments in general, or suggestions. I was recently given an "NEC" computer in exchange for taking on the editorship of "THE ROSE WINDOW", the monthly newsletter of the Denver Rose Society...this is my first computer, I'm in the Stone Age on the topic, but friends tell me that once I know how to get connected to, and correspond on, the Internet, I will relish the opportunities for communication it offers. I hope to be "on line" (is that the way you say it?) by late April, so perhaps I'll hear from some of you in that manner. Friends also say there are ways to promote THE GARDEN DOCTOR on "The Web"...I've never been ANTI computer, just not drawn to them, seeing them like "Rube Goldberg" machines when it came to newsletter self-publishing (vs. the collage-like cut and paste I've done for the last 9 years to put out each issue.) But I suspect that this computer will open up lines of communication with you, my subscribers, plus other rosarians as my commitment to the preservation, collection, distribution, promotion and breeding of roses deepens continually, intimately shaping my life in ways I could have never imagined a few years ago. I have more than enough creative and Life energy to fully pursue my love of roses AND making this publication a success...my goal is to end 1996 with 500 readers. I'm counting on each of you who wishes to see THE GARDEN DOCTOR survive and thrive to make suggestions, submit your own articles, renew your subscriptions, show or give THE GARDEN DOCTOR to your loved ones, and to write me each time you get a new issue. THE GARDEN DOCTOR is a subscriber-supported (vs. advertiser supported) publication; hence it is a team effort, a shifting entity shaped by our mutual input of energy. So, joyously alive at 42, and still not trapped in amber, I look forward to the transformations in store for TGD, and me, during the rest of this year. And I hope the positive energy I seek to infuse each issue with is a source of growth and joy for each of you.

If you have no fresh fish or fish waste to bury beneath your corn seeds when planting them, bury about 2 cups of dry dog food about 6"-8" down, then plant 2 corn seeds above it. Like fish, it is high in protein, and as it decays it will release the nitrogen essential for strong healthy corn.

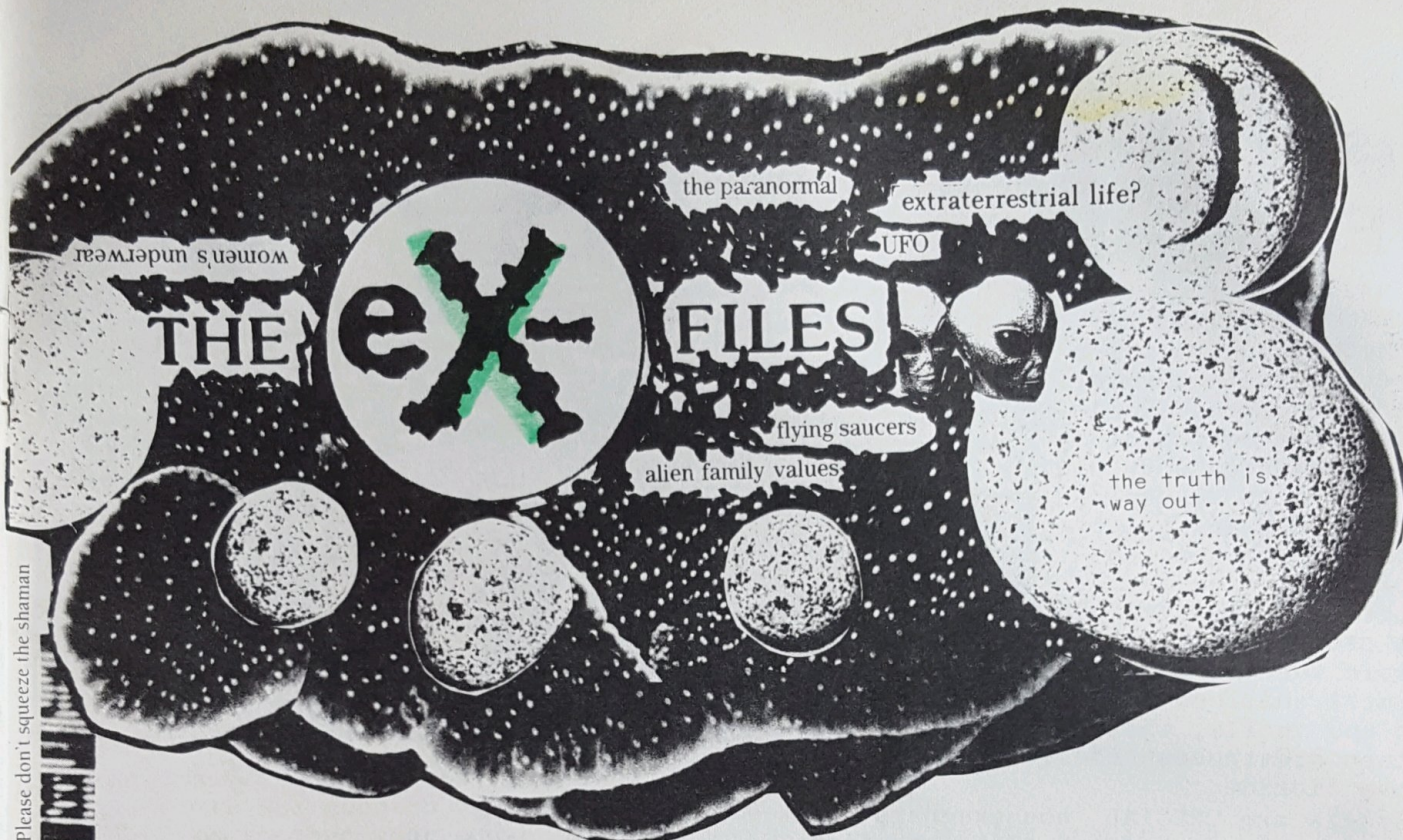
Asparagus is native to the salt marshes of Europe; sprinkling sea salt each spring on your asparagus patch can aid its growth.

Northern gardeners can use a sheet of bubblewrap laid on frozen ground to trap solar heat to thaw then warm up the soil. A black plastic pot or two beneath the bubblewrap to support it off the ground like a low tent creates a dead air space beneath the wrap. Lay stones along the edges to trap heat. The black pots will also trap solar heat and radiate it into the dead air space. Once the seeds are planted, the bubblewrap will then act as an evening frost guard for the seedlings. Remove the wrap on warm sunny days to avoid overheating. Buy big sheets of bubblewrap at office supply houses, or rescue the giant pouches of HEAVY DUTY bubblewrap from the dumpsters behind furniture rental stores; couches are sent to them in these pouches, which can be easily cut along the sides to form VERY big, strong sheets. Better ON your soil than IN a landfill! If taped to the inside surface of poorly insulated windows or greenhouse panes, it also is a VERY effective insulator that transmits light; use duct tape to attach to the CLEAN DRY frame.

Red Green is right...Duct tape WILL fix anything, including a badly cracked tree branch. The branch can then heal.

The simplest method for dealing with aphids on potted plants, roses, new growth on okra, etc. is to simply BLAST THEM OFF with a strong coarse spray from your garden hose. Slow-moving, they will rarely make it back up the plant.

The Redbud tree (*Cercis canadensis*) is usually considered ornamental, but the unopened buds and opened flowers can be eaten raw in salads or cooked in fritters. The young pods can be used like snow peas. These pods, and the buds, can also be pickled.



As agents Smolder and Sulky inch down the eerie dark hall, a sinister white glow emanates from beneath the door just ahead. What alien terror waits within that room...a human-alien hybrid? A phosphorescent bipedal sewer slug with an appetite for the backside of a human neck? A captured UFO power source?

Suddenly agent Smolder kicks in the door, his two powerful arms aiming his gun precisely ahead of him as his eyes quickly scan the brightly lit nearly empty room. Agent Sulky follows him in, her sultry eyes darting around the room for signs of danger, settling at last on agent Smolder's enticingly rounded, and doubtless firm, butt. The tip of her tongue passes over her dry lower lip as shock fills their faces... there before them, bathed in warm light beaming down from an impressive array of full-spectrum Gro-Lites, was the thriving life form they had suspected was hidden away in this old warehouse.

Lowering his gun, agent Smolder turns to her and says..."There it is, Sulky! THIS is what my sister described seeing in the woods the day before she was abducted...look at it...the slender limbs, the odd white spherical reproductive organs, the bright green leaves...it's...it's

..it's...Exochorda, the Pearl Bush!"

"But Smolder, get a grip...let's see...it looks like a member of the Rose family, and judging from the old dried leaves on the floor, I'd say it's deciduous. My background check indicates that winter bouquets of dormant branches can be forced in a vase of water to grow those unusual flower buds that DO look like large pearls. Maybe you ARE right, Smolder."

Glancing at her breasts, he says "But who put it here...why DID they let us find it? Do you think they expect we will collect some seeds, or root some softwood cuttings and plant them around headquarters, unknowingly helping "them" spread Exochorda around an unsuspecting earth?"

They look at each other with hungry eyes, secretly lusting, pulses racing, then look back at the potted life form bathed in light before them..."Do you think this is the only one, Sulky?"

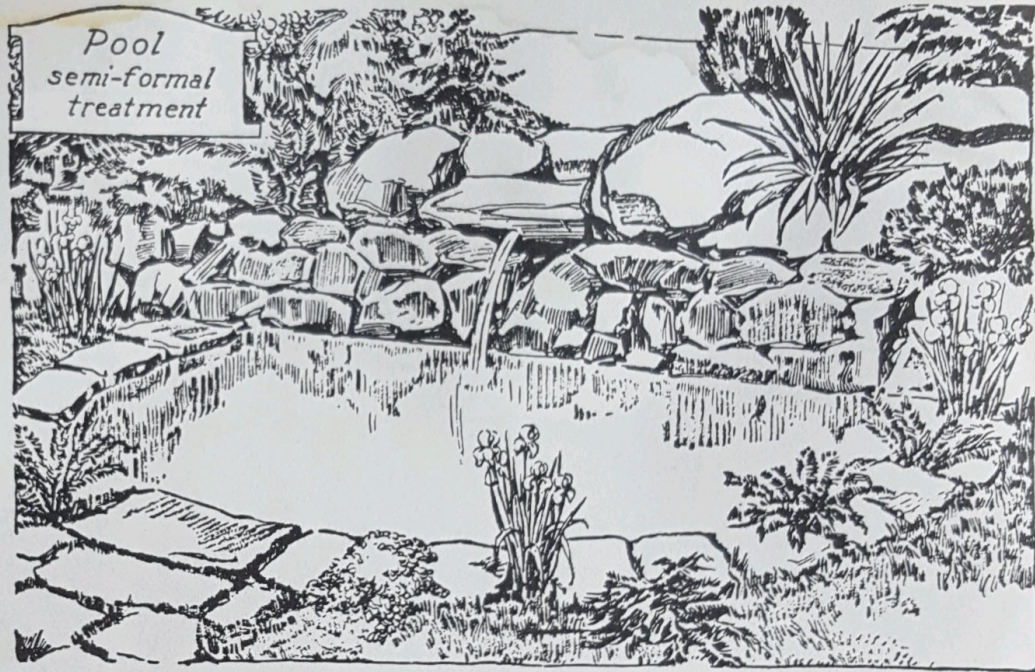
"Oh my God, Smolder, LOOK!...Ripe seed pods! This warehouse must be burned down immediately to prevent the spread of a plant alien to our local ecology."

"I agree, Sulky..." his eyes fixed on the white, pearl-like buds. But down the road, in a garden, grows another Exochorda racemosa, shedding ripe seeds as they speak.

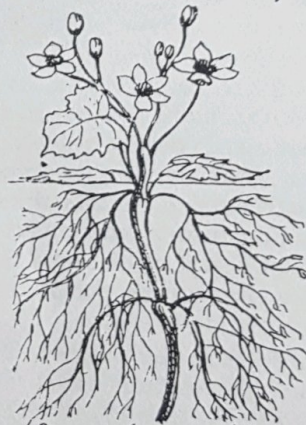
Fish Pond Ecology

Whether you use an old bath tub, a butyl rubber liner in a hole, or a prefab vinyl pond-shell, your pond MUST have a balanced ecology based on several species of water plants to provide oxygen, absorb carbon dioxide, filter out dissolved fish poop and other organic wastes (nutrients) and feed the fish and snails, who in turn breathe out the carbon dioxide.

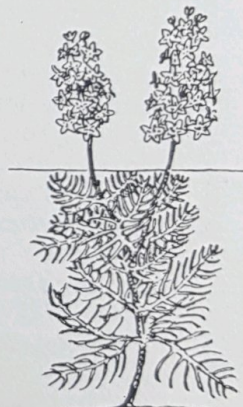
Snails are CRUCIAL "housekeepers" that eat up excess fish food, algae and fish poop; snail poop in turn feeds the water plants. Add a gallon of water from a local lake or pond to introduce beneficial diatoms and bacteria. Let the goldfish feed mainly on algae and bugs...once a week add 2 or 3 nuggets of dry cat food as a SUPPLEMENT...over-feeding is THE main reason pond water goes bad. Once a month drop in 6 dolomite tablets to correct acidity, and remove 1 gallon of water weekly to prevent nutrients build up...use that water on potted plants.



OXYGENATORS



Ranunculus aquatilis
(water-crowfoot)



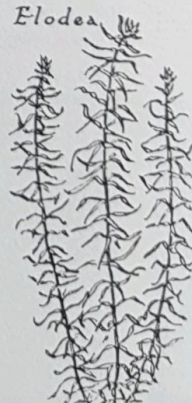
Nottonia Palustris
(water violet)



Vallisneria



Myriophyllum



Elodea

Water lilies are excellent water purifiers. Buy dolomite tablets on the vitamin shelf.

If the pool is to be a success and is not going to be "smelly" or prove a breeding place for insects, it will be necessary to put in plants of various kinds. There is a very wide choice of plants, very fortunately. There are floating Aquatics, Oxygenators, Ordinary Aquatics, Ferns, Rushes and tall growing perennials for the surrounds. These, with the fish, and the crustacea will help to keep the water sweet.

CONTROLLING ALGAE

Soon after the pool has been stocked with plants and fish, it will be found that the clarity of the new water disappears. The owner of the pool will be distressed, and will immediately consider emptying the pool and refilling, but this should not be done, as the clouding is part of a natural cycle. The water will turn opaque, and subsequently become green. The opaqueness will be due to chemical changes in the soil, either used in the bottom of the pool or in the pots that are submerged, and the greenness is due to algae (microscopic plants).

Providing the pool has been properly stocked with the correct plants and live stock to give the necessary balance, in a few months the water should again become perfectly clear. Sometimes this may take as long as eighteen months.

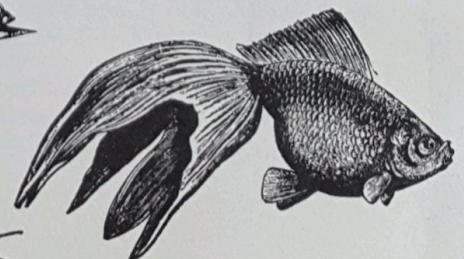
Algae in themselves, providing they do not get too numerous, do no harm to the fish, but rather will they benefit them. Algae are great oxygenators. Where algae growth is excessive it will exhaust the water constituents upon which it is sustained, and so ultimately it will diminish to normal.



Pond



Australian Red



FANTAIL GOLDFISH

Dear John,
Happy Autumn! I hope you are well & enjoying this season of change! Here is a check to renew my subscription. Keep up the good work. Thanks for your continuing encouragement!
Susan Taylor, Tampa, Florida.

Pam liked your renewal notice.
Bill McCracken, Milwaukie, Oregon.

Dear John,
Another great year...of course I'm renewing and would you please tack on another year for Ron and Vicky Baker in Monterey, Kentucky. I'm looking forward to the next issue, you help keep me sane. Good Luck,
Maggie Brandt, Eminence, Kentucky.
p.s. Keep the change again....

Dear John,
Thanks for inspiring me to get out, dig in the dirt and put my greenhouse back into use. You've made it fun!
Alicia Gronke, Portland, Oregon.

Dear John,
Hope Santa was good to you this year. Sign me up for another year and start a subscription for the man of my dreams, Mr. C. L. Anderson, a garden fairy extraordinary. Leeks & Parsnips to you & yours,
Jeff Kuykendall, Baldwin City, Kansas

Hi John-
Thanks for the quick turn-around on these issues- Check's here for the 5 subscriptions (including our own renewal)-\$75.
Jim Douglas & Steve Cunningham, Denver, CO

Dear John,
You are quite **MAD!** After reading the latest issue of THE GARDEN DOCTOR, I had the feeling if it were 1929 it would be the only gardening magazine banned in Boston. I loved it, laughing my sides off at times. Enclosed is a sub for a year. Hooray! ...One thing that bothers me about your remarks about 'Easlea's Golden Rambler'- it has never produced any hips for me (so far). Hmmm. I know it is that rose. So if it does not or is not supposed to, do you think your 'Mr. Nash' is the same? We shall see. I will send you cuttings now if you like or later---I do not prune it. Hope you get into that Robin! It is great fun hearing about others' gardens and stories. Don Gers has a fantastic garden, one of the best in California...I pinch myself I am so lucky. Give my regards to Bill Campbell. He has gone on two of my tours. And stay out of the cold! Blessing,
Bill Grant, Aptos, California.

John- Enjoyed your last issue-especially how you tucked in the nuclear waste idea in the weed killer section. You're great!
Suzanne Farver, Woody Creek, Colorado

READERS

DIGESTED

John- I am renewing, but having your letter sent to Jim McCausland in our office. Jim now does our National Edition Garden Guide and he'll love being edited by YOU the inimitable Country Garden Doctor. Have VERY happy holidays.
Steve Lorton, Sunset Magazine

Dear John,
The violet did it! I HAVE to send your mag to my daughter (actually, YOU have to send it, I have to ask you to- and pay for it). Thanks!
Nan Kennedy, Cleveland, Ohio

John,
Thanks for sending my daughter the pressed-violet issue- She loved it, and now she'll let me have mine back! (renew me, John for 2 years).
Nan Kennedy, Cleveland, Ohio.

Slow But Sure to Renew.
Sheila Lyons, Corvallis, Oregon

Dear John- Thanks for the copy of "THE GARDEN DOCTOR". What fun! I've passed it on to Betsy Kissam, editor of our quarterly journal, "Plants & Garden News" for review.
Janet Marinelli, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens

John- Sign me up for 2 more years. Thanx!
Marian Farrior, Madison, WI

Hi John- Hope you are doing well. Put me on for another year.
Sherry Gillespie, Denver, CO

Greetings John- Here's the check I owe you...The roses you planted are lovely. We'll miss your visit this fall but hope to see you in the spring.
Ann Hirshberg, Tampa, Florida

Dear John- Keep up the great work- who would have thought.
Mike Hittner, Wisconsin Rapids WI
P.S. Keep up the good work, and thanks for making it interesting, informative & with B.S.hype.
Richard Erganian, Fresno, CA



Margaret Head's View of the News

Last fall a national TV news segment about the war in Bosnia touched me deeply in a way I think the reporter did not intend...it reminded me for the first time since I was a little girl of yet another sad effect we humans have on living things.

The scene on my TV was of a snow-covered, war-ravaged countryside, with charred, blown up military vehicles and frozen human corpses littering a dirt road winding through what HAD been a forest. The still-falling snow softened the horrific scene a little, and lined the twigs of the few surviving trees and shrubs as backdrops to the carnage. As the segment drew to a close, the camera zoomed in on a tiny songbird huddled alone on a snowy twig. As it sat there in the bitter cold, the only living thing seen besides a few soldiers and the reporter, my heart went out to it, and a long-forgotten sad thought rose up in me...war kills a lot more than people.

When I was a girl seeing Cowboys and Indians movies, there would be an occasional sad scene of a horse suddenly rearing up then falling flailing to the ground after being hit by a stray bullet, but my young mind pictured plenty of other horses being hurt by the torrent of bullets and arrows during those battles. I remember war movies with suited Medieval knights, or Roman gladiators, their swords slicing other people, the air alive with flying spears and zipping hordes of crossbow arrows, or the torrents of burning oil dumped from castle walls onto combatants on horseback below, and again I'd wonder... "What about those poor horses?"

In 3rd and 4th grades I enjoyed my "horse phase", you know, drawing them, reading horse books, imagining riding my own someday, even though a palomino kicked me in the head when the saddle came loose in a riding rink and I fell off behind the trotting horse! (I know, I know, that explains a LOT of my behavior as an adult!). Anyway, I really LIKED horses, I thought they were beautiful, and I wondered why they didn't seem to matter much to the people IN the war movies or the people watching them. Besides, I KNEW a horse personally; her name was Sandy, and she lived in a pasture right beside my countryside Michigan school (a white converted church, grades 1 through 6 in one room, and the teacher Pearl Johnson would let us kids take turns pulling the rope to the bantry bell to ring in recess!) We kids would pull up handfuls of red clover then stand on the split rail fence and feed her, stroking her warm soft nose as she chewed. I remember looking at her long eyelashes and big brown eyes. We'd also run across the dirt road to pick her apples from the abandoned orchard next to the lilac grove. Sandy always came to the fence to meet us, and was always so gentle, so pleased with our treats, especially the sugar cubes a kid would sometimes bring. I KNEW she had feelings...how could those war movie horses be any different?

Then one Sunday school the teacher evoked in my young heart once again an empathetic sadness for animals when she told us children that when God got angry at the people living in just two cities, Sodom and Gomorrah, he caused a huge flood to cover the WHOLE WORLD. First I thought of all the other people he killed, even kids like me, then I thought of the wild animals I saw all the time in the woods behind the little countryside trailer park I lived in...the beautiful deer, the rabbits and ground squirrels and porcupines, and their babies in forest floor burrows, the turtles and all those animals all over the world I'd seen on TV. I imagined them all drowning to death, and it made me so sad. Why would God be so very mean if he was Love like they said at Sunday school? I remember being mad at God for doing this, then being AFRAID to be mad at God, after all, he did kill all those people and animals. In His war against sinning humans, millions of innocent animals, like Sandy, had to suffer frightening deaths. It seemed to me a terrible thing to do, and I don't think I ever forgave Him for it because he never said he was sorry.

Seeing that freezing Bosnian songbird huddled on a twig in falling snow evoked all those childhood memories and tender feelings, but also the feelings of a woman suddenly reminded that it's not just in movies that animals are made to suffer terribly, and for no reason...not meat, not fur, nor research, just a vast mayhem as meaningless as roadkill. I imagined a Bosnian forest teeming with birds and deer, and their stark confusion and fear as aircraft suddenly roared low overhead, dropping their bombs, feathers and fur bloodied and burned in an instant, the forest shattered by explosions and fire and shrapnel zipping through the air like those bullets and arrows.

Of course my heart also goes out to the humans killed in that war too, especially the children, their mothers and all those village men decimated in the name of "ethnic cleansing". But it saddens and angers me that those creatures, wild or domesticated, that somehow escape human use as food sources, or avoid extinction due to the global habitat destruction from obscene human population increases, or pesticide use, are so often then violently and "accidentally" killed in our wars! Do you remember the sickening TV footage of countless seabirds dead and dying in the thick oil coating the beaches during the Persian Gulf war? How many monkeys and junglebirds were burned alive in napalmed Vietnamese jungles? How many buffalo were killed outright, or left to slowly die on the plains, shot by white men riding trains in an effort to starve Native Americans into submission? How many seals and sea turtles and colonies of seabirds have been decimated by naval gunship battles and the shelling of beaches during sea-to-land invasions? How many creatures on the ground or in the air were blinded or scorched or vaporized by heat and radiation at Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

Why was that cold little Bosnian songbird seemingly the only thing left alive in that bombed out forest, huddled alone on that twig in the falling snow?

LADY SLIPPER ORCHIDS

Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium*) orchids are native North American terrestrial (soil-dwelling) species, and can be grown in 6" clay pots first filled halfway with coarse gravel or broken clay pots (for good drainage) then with a blend of shredded osmunda fiber, leaf mould or compost, sand and peat moss. Like most orchids they do best in a pot that seems a little too small. Wait till the potting medium is quite dry between waterings, then plunge the pot in a bucket of tepid water for a good long soak. Feed with a weak manure tea or fish emulsion a few times a year. In summer grow outdoors in the dappled shade of a tree or lath house; in winter grow in a bright window in your coolest room and reduce waterings to induce dormancy. In spring move to a warm bright window, feed and water more often. Possible sources: **Orchids by Hausermann, Inc.** 2N 134 Addison Rd. Villa Park, IL 60181 catalog \$1.25 **Orchid Haven** 900 Rossland Rd. East, Whitby, ON Canada, L1N 5R5. free catalog



Cypripedium "Mrs. Canham"

The haunting fragrances of orchids result from complex blends of natural aromatic chemicals produced within the bloom. Below are fragrance analyses of two species of *Cattleya* (corsage-type) orchids; note chemical names derived from herbs ("vanilline", eucalyptol, citronellol, etc.).

Cattleya dowiana

Cattleya bicolor

Compound	Compound
α -pinene	limonene
myrcene	eucalyptol
limonene	(E)-ocimene
eucalyptol	6-methyl-5-hepten-2-one
(E)-ocimene	ethyl octanoate
(E,Z)-2,6-dimethyl-1,3,5,7-octatetraene	citronellal
(E,E)-2,6-dimethyl-1,3,5,7-octatetraene	benzaldehyde
citronellal	linalool
benzaldehyde	methyl benzoate
6-methyl-5-hepten-2-ol	neral
methyl benzoate	benzyl acetate
neral	geraniol
methyl geranate	geranyl acetate
geraniol	citronellol
methyl salicylate	phenylethyl formate
(E,Z)-2,6-dimethyl-3,5,7-octatrien-2-ol	nerol
(E,E)-2,6-dimethyl-3,5,7-octatrien-2-ol	phenylethyl acetate
(E)-geranylacetone	geraniol
phenylethyl alcohol	benzyl alcohol
methyl (Z)-cinnamate	phenylethyl alcohol
methyl (E)-cinnamate	(E)-nerolidol
(E,E)-farnesal	1-nitro-2-phenylethane
(E,E)-farnesol	2-amino benzaldehyde
indole	eugenol
benzyl benzoate	indole
	vanilline
	benzyl benzoate
	phenylethyl benzoate



Cypripedium euryandrum



Perle des Jardins



GLING



ROSES

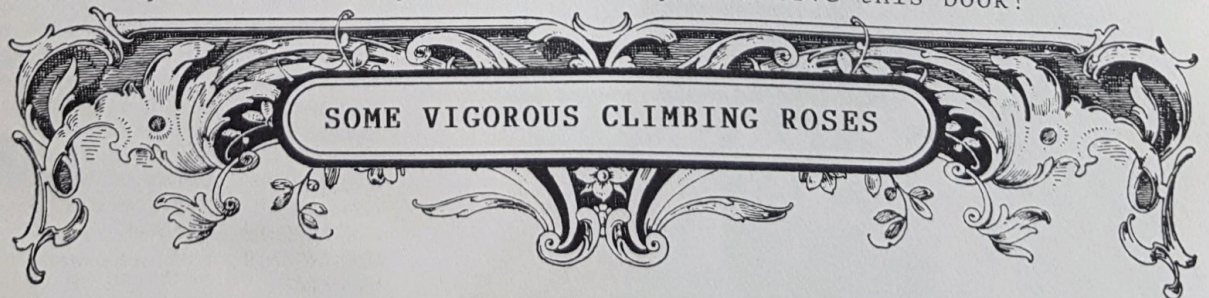


Book Review: "The Quest for the Rose" by Roger Phillips & Martyn Rix, Random House 1993

This remarkable book is a must for all rosarians eager to expand their knowledge while relishing many clear, colorful photographs of many rare and unusual roses, Old and Modern. People newly infected with "Rose Fever" will appreciate the orderly and systematic fashion in which the renowned authors guide us all through the history and basic classifications of roses. Rose hybridizers, amateur and professional alike, will no doubt be inspired by the brief but detailed biographies of the men and women who over the last 200 years have blessed us all not only with specific cultivars we all recognize by name, but ENTIRE CLASSES of roses resulting from their insightful work (Like Joseph Pemberton's "Hybrid Musks") Those folks who just like to curl up in a cozy chair with a book brimming (over 1,000!) color photos will find **The Quest for the Rose** a rare treat...there are hundreds of close-ups of individual blooms and blooming branches, specimen bushes in full flower, plus panoramic shots of lush rose gardens from all over the world.

A treat for all is the chapter recounting Phillips' and Rix' tour of China as they sought out ancient ancestral wild species roses, plus centuries-old hybrids from emperors' palace gardens. Here one sees photos of proud Chinese peasants standing beside magnificent specimens adorning their humble homes. The authors also captured fine shots of magnificent palace rose gardens and the remote valleys still home to the wild Chinese roses that literally gave the world the gift of repeat-blooming roses in the mid 1700's. This chapter is probably the next best thing to surveying China for roses yourself, unless the authors have a video out!

It is hard to imagine a book providing the reader a more comprehensive, COMPREHENSIBLE appreciation for the origins and histories of so many kinds of roses, and in a highly pleasurable fashion made all the more so by a smorgasbord of color photographs taken in the wild, in private and public collections, plus commercial growers and hybridizers. If you love roses, you deserve this book!



MILD WINTER REGIONS

- 'Reve d'Or' Noisette 1869 yellow
- 'Prosperity' Hybrid Musk 1919 white
- 'Cl. Souvenir de la Malmaison' Bourbon 1893 pale flesh pink
- 'Cherokee Rose' Species 1759 white
- 'Gloire de Dijon' Tea/Bourbon 1853-buff yellow-pink-orange-apricot
- 'Crepuscule' Noisette 1904 apricot
- 'Cl. Old Blush' China date? pink

HARD WINTER REGIONS

- 'Alchemist' Shrub/Climber 1956 peach
- 'Francis E. Lester' Rambler 1946 white
- 'Bobbie James' Rambler 1961 white
- 'Seagull' Rambler 1907 white
- 'Victorian Memory' (study name) pink
- 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' Rambler pink
- 'American Pillar' Rambler 1902 deep pink
- 'Long John Silver' Climber 1934 white
- 'Thor' Climber' 1940 red

GARDEN SEX

GOTCHA! Instead of a steamy expose' on getting your rocks off, you'll find a refined & informative treatise on putting rocks ON...a rock garden that is. Read on, deceived gentle reader (Whaddya expect from a gardening newsletter, hard core deep throat corn porn?!)

FIRST and most important of all it is necessary, in building a rock garden, to choose a place that is fully exposed to the sunshine. It is true that some mountain plants need shade and moist soil, but if the building is correct such places will be provided as the work proceeds. Most alpine flowers love and need the sunshine and they will not flourish if planted in shady places.

The building must be firm, thus we must begin at the bottom and on the outer margin so that the foundation will be sound; if the rocks or stones are not firmly embedded the plants can scarcely be expected to thrive. It has already been pointed out that drainage must be provided if the site of the rock garden is on heavy, clayey ground. When that is assured we may begin the work of laying the stones or rocks.

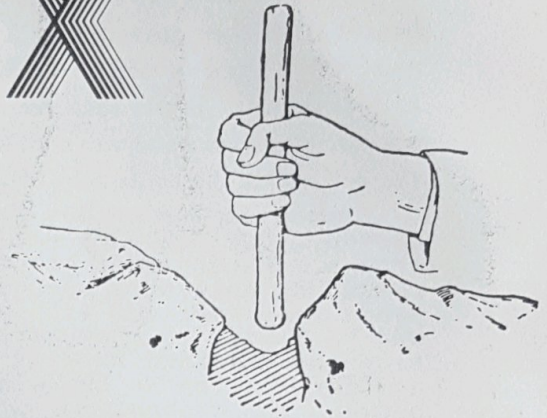
If, when finished, the rock garden has a natural appearance it may be counted a success; if it looks exactly what it is, an artificial, raised mass of soil and rock then it will fall far short of expectations. Most amateurs use too many rocks, and that fault will almost certainly give a bizarre and unnatural appearance to the garden unless the stones are arranged with the greatest care and with knowledge. There is no need to go to extravagant expense in this matter when a rock garden is being built on a small area; one load of stones will go a long way if it is used to the best advantage.

HOW TO ARRANGE THE ROCKS

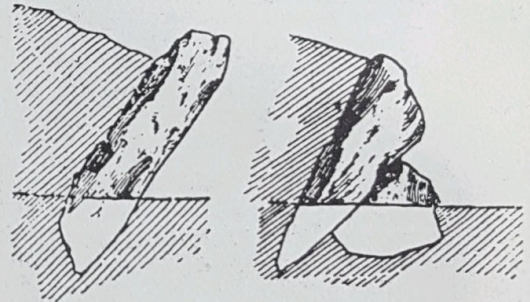
It is a great advantage to have a few large rocks; if they are all of the same size and shape it will be extremely difficult to build a rock garden of distinction.

A few large stones of irregular shape are far better than a large number of others of the same shape and size. Even a cartload of rock or stone will be sufficient to build a rock garden of outstanding interest if some of the largest stones are grouped in bold masses instead of being frittered away, as it were, all over the available ground.

(continued)



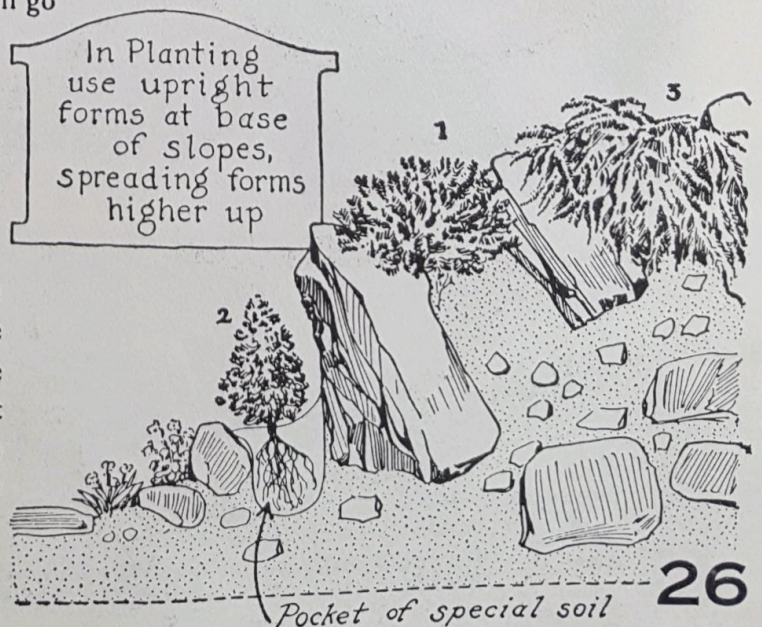
It is necessary to make the soil firm in the crevices between the rocks



The stone on the left is not set firmly, and in time will give way: it needs to be supported as is shown on the right



Showing spaces left between the stones, so that the plants' roots can reach the soil beneath



If the rocks are simply laid on top of a mound of soil they will not show to advantage and the plants will not benefit from their presence. A sound rule is that almost every rock or stone should be buried to about half its depth. It will then remain firm, it will have a natural appearance and will benefit the plants by keeping the soil about the roots cool and moist.

If non-alpine garden perennials are chosen, your ordinary garden soil dug from a far corner of the yard (use the resulting hole as a compost pit or fish-pond), then improved with compost, manure, and kelp meal is commendable for constructing the base and bulk of the rock garden, and for filling in the planting spaces between the stones.

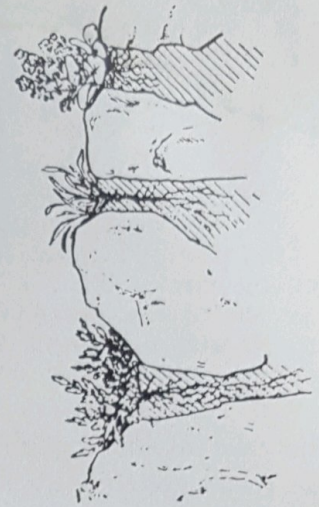
If one intends to grow true alpiners, blend 1 part coarse sand, 1 part peat moss or milled sphagnum, and 1 part compost, composted horse manure or leaf mould. Add 10% by volume of oystershell grit from a feed store if alkaline-loving species are to be grown; selected pockets of this "sweet" soil may be scattered about the rock garden for those plants needing it, with a more acidic soil used elsewhere. Plant each specimen in an EMPTY cavity beside a stone, then fill in around the roots with the soil mix and tamp firmly, as alpiners dislike fluffy soil. Water the completed garden deeply to settle it in: if desired, a 1" mulch of very coarse gravel (preferably of the same kind of stone as you chose to construct the garden with, as natural alpine plant communities have colonized a single outcropping of one kind of stone) may be then spread over the garden for heat reflection, erosion control, moisture retention, and a more naturalistic look. Facing the alpine garden north will ease over-heating in summer and winter...remember, gentle reader, that mountaintops are COLD. An autumn mulch of leaves or hay will reduce winter "heaving" of plants from the soil; remove this in spring, then feed the soil with a weak compost or manure tea or dilute fish emulsion. Below is a tiny list drawn quick from the many flowering plants commendable for the alpine garden. And be sure to lie down beside your completed and beloved garden, exhausted by your passionate effort, and gaze at its fine form and smoke a cigarette, satiated.

AUBRIETAS	AJUGA	HEPATICA
AURINIAS	IRIS RETICULATA	ARABIS ALPINA
CAMPANULA	SIBERIAN SQUILL	VERONICA REPENS
COLUMBINE	SNOWDROPS	ARMERIA
HELIANTHEMUMS	SEMPERVIVUMS	ALYSSUM SAXATILE
PHLOX SUBULATA	SEDUMS	GENTIAN species
ANEMONE Pulsatilla	THYMUS species	ICELAND POPPIES
DIANTHUS species	HEUCHERA	PRIMULAS



27

If a paved path runs through the rock garden the edges should be broken up in this way



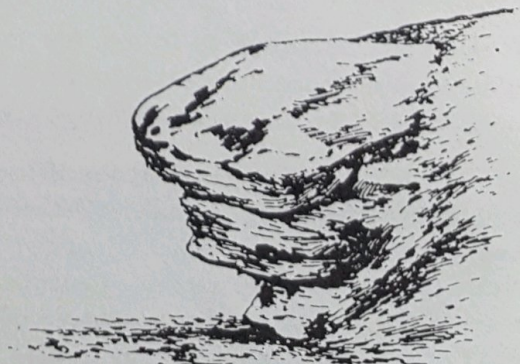
In planting horizontal crevices it is advisable to set the plants as the building proceeds, otherwise the work will be difficult



Even a simple terrace rockery is interesting when planted with "alpiners," but the effect may be commonplace if the pieces of stone are of uniform size

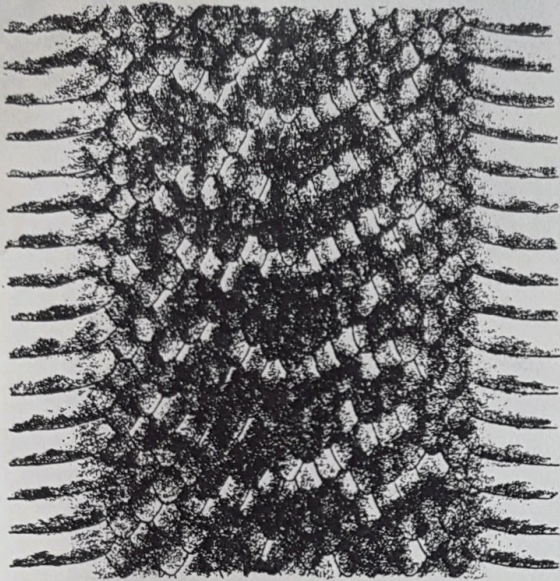


On the left: an incorrect way of making a "pocket"—the roots of plants would be unable to reach the soil below. On the right: rock plant in crevice, its roots able to penetrate deeply

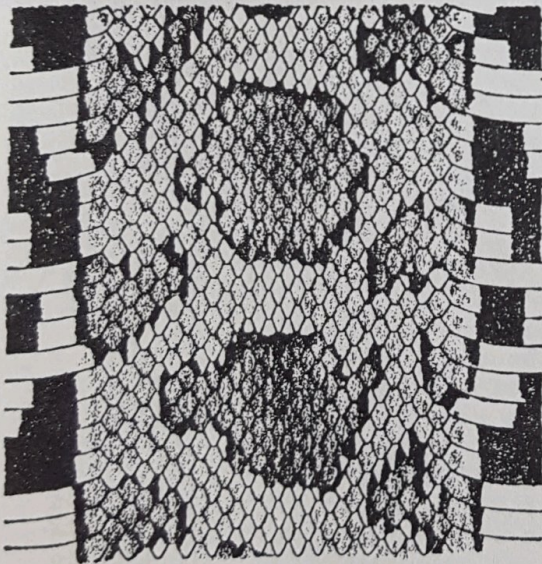


As a rule it is unwise to allow a stone to overhang one below, but a bold headland of this kind may be built here and there for effect

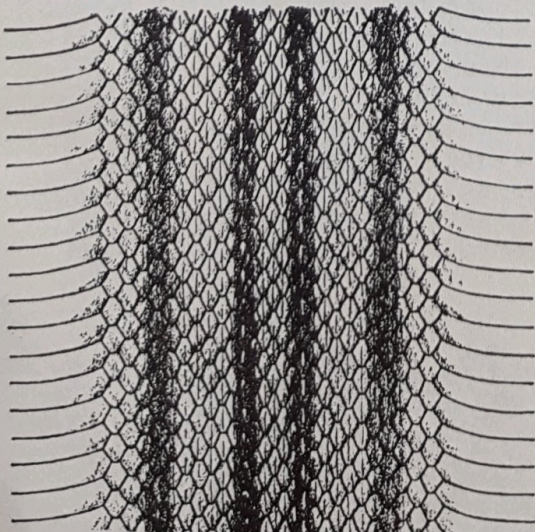
3 BEAUTIFUL SKIN PATTERNS
FOUND ON SNAKE'S BACKS....



TROPICAL INDIGO SNAKE



CORN SNAKE



FOUR-LINED CHICKEN SNAKE

REMEDIES (or prophylactic treatments) FOR
EXISTENTIAL ANGST

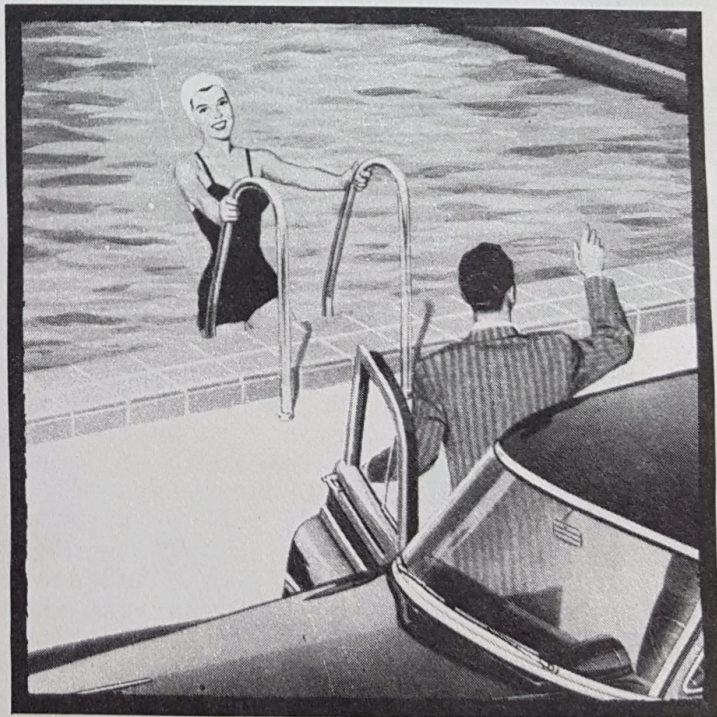
Sit in a lush garden on a sunny day, alone or with your dog or cat or a human friend, and blow bubbles. Watch the rich colors swirling over the curved surface of each floating transparent sphere. Watch them pop.

Curl up in your favorite chair in your jammies, sip your favorite beverage, and watch alternate videos of "Green Acres" and "The Three Stooges" (no Shemp ones, just ones with Curly). Electronic Prozac!

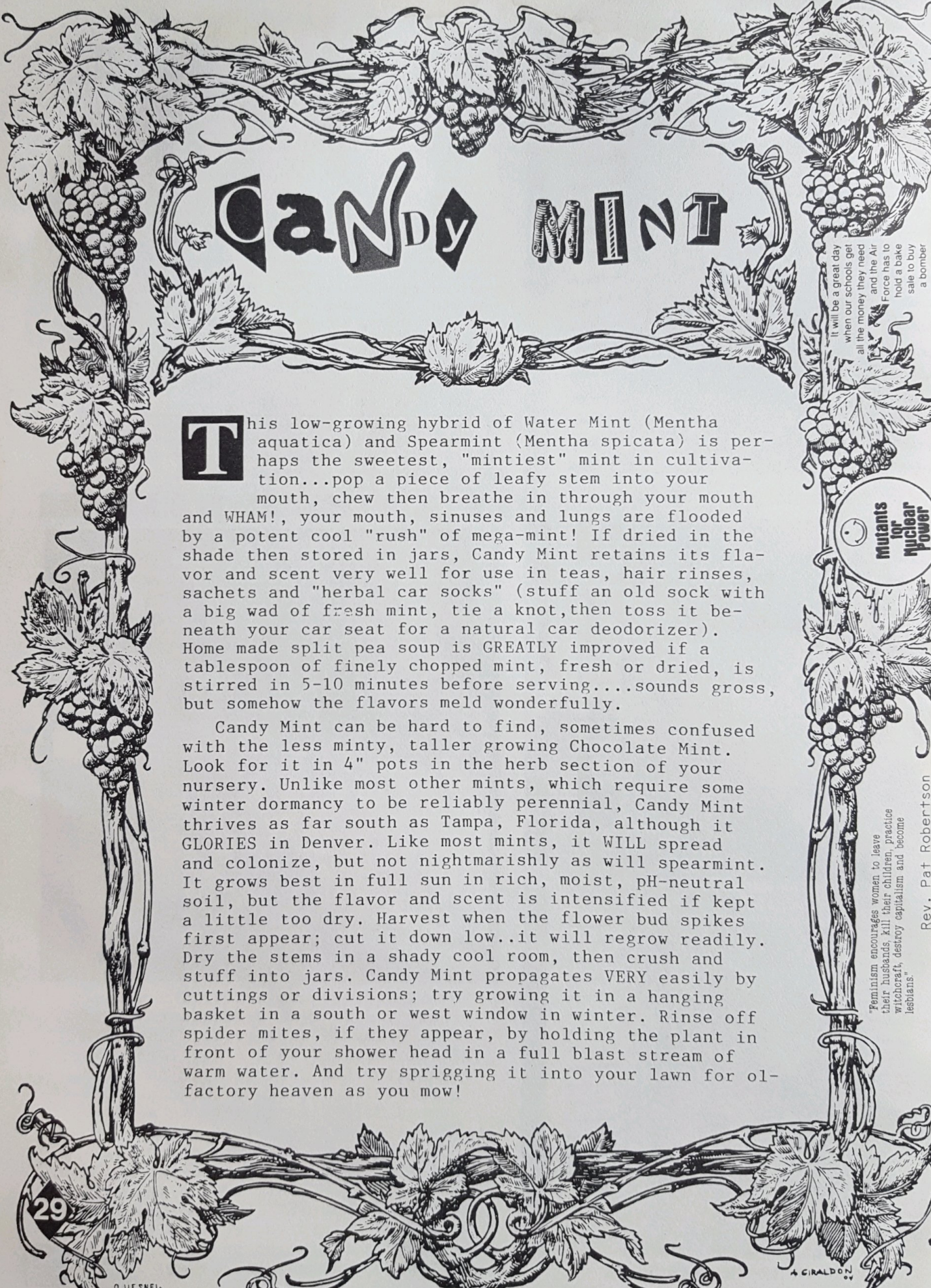
Grow Old Roses and smell them every day. Study the satiny sheen of the petals, the rich reds, soft pinks. Cut one full bloom and float it in a wine glass.

Start a list of the blessings in your life and post it on your refrigerator door. Blessings include: Thick shiny hair, good health, sufficient income, a favorite friend, a fine dog or cat companion, great sex, a passionate hobby, memories of great travel experiences, a nice butt, etc. Add to the list when you think of another blessing, or when a new one comes into your life. Review this list whenever you think your life sucks.

Use twine to make 3 big bundles of fresh mint from your garden. Draw a hot bubble bath, toss them in, climb in, light a candle, turn out the light, sip wine, and listen to your favorite music....groove.



"Hey Clarence, jump on in! The water's great! I didn't know Minnesota could be so balmy in January...I just LOVE global warming! Rush & Newt are right; regulating and reducing air pollution is **STUPID!** Sure, ozone thinning-induced UV radiation gave me a few teensy skin cancers last summer, but I just had them cut out, and now I wear SPF 100 sunblock whenever I go outdoors...BIG DEAL! Aren't you GLAD we voted those SENSIBLE conservative Republicans into power?! Now strip down and jump in you hunk, trunks or no trunks, the water's **GREAT!**"



Candy MINT

This low-growing hybrid of Water Mint (*Mentha aquatica*) and Spearmint (*Mentha spicata*) is perhaps the sweetest, "mintiest" mint in cultivation...pop a piece of leafy stem into your mouth, chew then breathe in through your mouth and WHAM!, your mouth, sinuses and lungs are flooded by a potent cool "rush" of mega-mint! If dried in the shade then stored in jars, Candy Mint retains its flavor and scent very well for use in teas, hair rinses, sachets and "herbal car socks" (stuff an old sock with a big wad of fresh mint, tie a knot, then toss it beneath your car seat for a natural car deodorizer). Home made split pea soup is GREATLY improved if a tablespoon of finely chopped mint, fresh or dried, is stirred in 5-10 minutes before serving....sounds gross, but somehow the flavors meld wonderfully.

Candy Mint can be hard to find, sometimes confused with the less minty, taller growing Chocolate Mint. Look for it in 4" pots in the herb section of your nursery. Unlike most other mints, which require some winter dormancy to be reliably perennial, Candy Mint thrives as far south as Tampa, Florida, although it GLORIES in Denver. Like most mints, it WILL spread and colonize, but not nightmarishly as will spearmint. It grows best in full sun in rich, moist, pH-neutral soil, but the flavor and scent is intensified if kept a little too dry. Harvest when the flower bud spikes first appear; cut it down low..it will regrow readily. Dry the stems in a shady cool room, then crush and stuff into jars. Candy Mint propagates VERY easily by cuttings or divisions; try growing it in a hanging basket in a south or west window in winter. Rinse off spider mites, if they appear, by holding the plant in front of your shower head in a full blast stream of warm water. And try sprigging it into your lawn for ol-factory heaven as you mow!

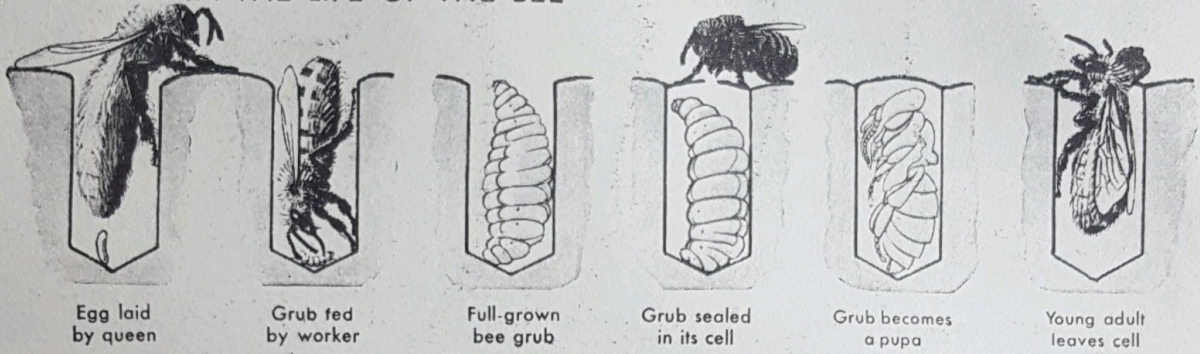
It will be a great day when our schools get all the money they need and the Air Force has to hold a bake sale to buy a bomber

mutants for nuclear power

"Feminism encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, destroy capitalism and become lesbians."

Rev. Pat Robertson

STAGES IN THE LIFE OF THE BEE



Egg laid by queen

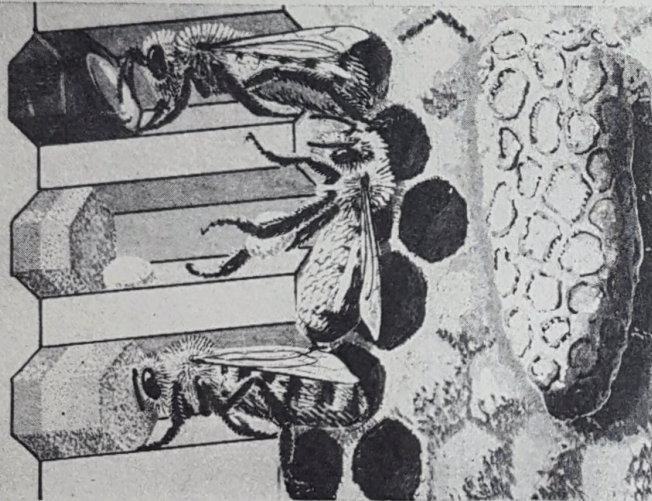
Grub fed by worker

Full-grown bee grub

Grub sealed in its cell

Grub becomes a pupa

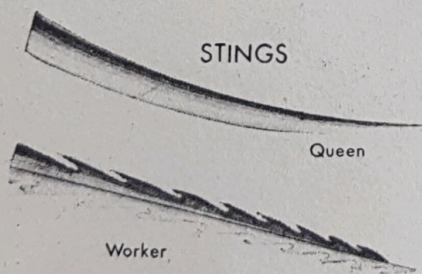
Young adult leaves cell



Storing Food in the Comb. The worker at the top is putting honey in the cell. Pollen is being stored in the middle cell. The worker in the bottom cell is packing the pollen tight with its head. The large cell at the right is the nursery for a queen grub.



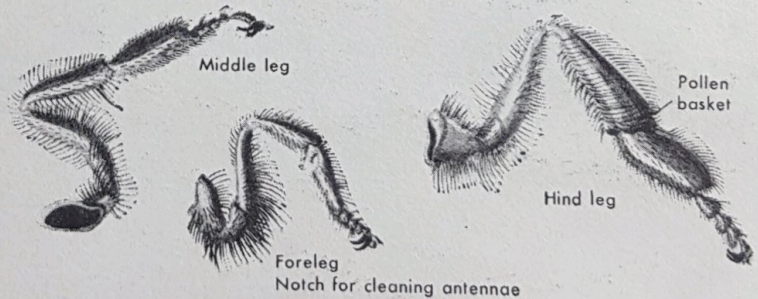
The Court of the Queen Bee. The queen bee is always surrounded by workers. There are usually ten to fifteen worker bees facing the queen. While she lays eggs, they feed her and care for all her wants. When she rests, they stroke her to encourage her to lay more eggs.



STINGS

Queen

Worker



Middle leg

Pollen basket

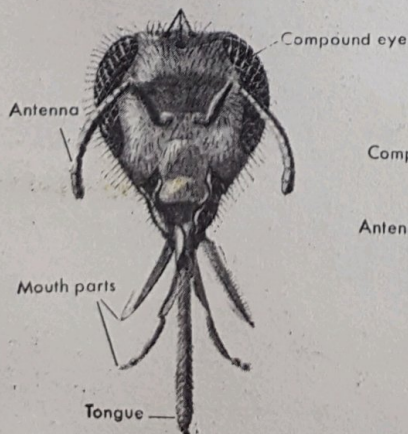
Hind leg

Foreleg

Notch for cleaning antennae

HEAD OF WORKER

Three simple eyes



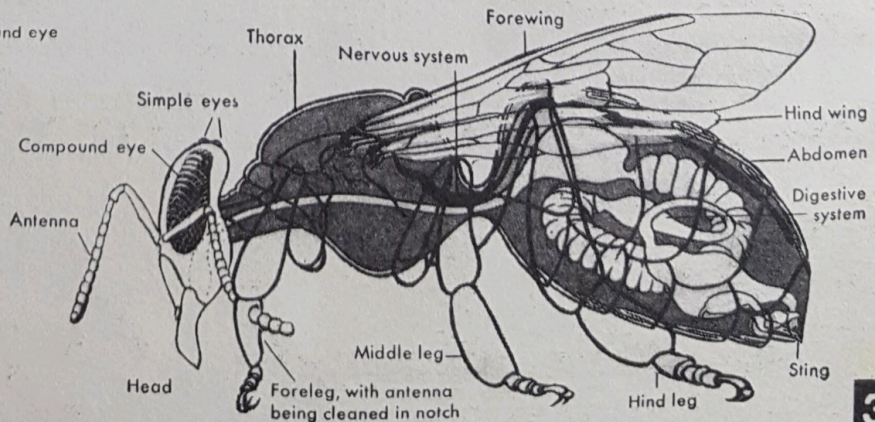
Compound eye

Antenna

Mouth parts

Tongue

X-RAY DIAGRAM OF WORKER BEE'S BODY



Thorax

Forewing

Nervous system

Hind wing

Abdomen

Digestive system

Simple eyes

Compound eye

Antenna

Head

Middle leg

Foreleg, with antenna being cleaned in notch

Hind leg

Sting

"Bless you for your sorrow, it's a sign of vulnerability (Transform the energy to sympathy and it will bring you love). from: "Revelations" on Yoko Ono's CD "RISING"

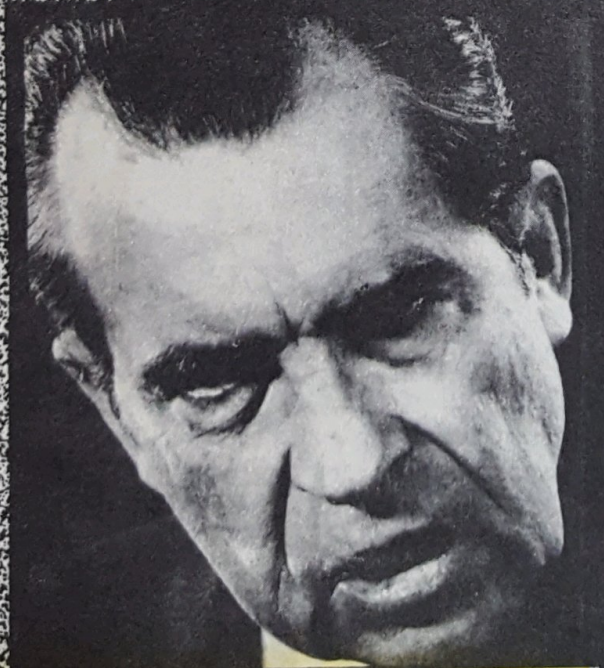
"I know of no more encouraging fact than the unquestionable ability of man to elevate his life by conscious endeavor." Henry David Thoreau

nest of
Towhee
Bunting

Do you know why cannibals don't eat clowns?
Because they taste funny!



"There is no real excellence in all this world which can be separated from right living." David Starr Jordan



THE GARDEN DOCTOR is one crazed gardener's Eco-Logical, alternative newsletter for equally alternative gardeners. Self-published by John Starnes since 1987, it's his home grown, upbeat, offbeat, high-fiber, in-your-face tastefully tasteless, no-bull source of mental manure you can compost at your leisure. Plus you get those **FAMOUS 3 packs of SURPRISE SEEDS** in each Spring and Fall issue! **ALL** for a **MEASLY \$16!** Who says life isn't fair?! Treat yourself and subscribe **TODAY! THE GARDEN DOCTOR** 1684 Willow St., Denver, Colorado 80220 Call John at (303) 388-4731



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