

Germination of Gerbera.

Seed of Gerbera Jamesoni and of Adams' Hybrids are being offered this season by all seedsmen. It has always been a somewhat difficult matter to get this seed to grow. One reason for this failure is because the seed is very light, and unless it has been thoroughly matured and ripened, it is practically worthless. We have had several trials this season to germinate Hybrid Gerberas. The first two were failures, and on our inquiring at Messrs. Yates and Co.'s regarding the seed, we were informed it had been imported from France. Some seed they told us had just arrived from Germany, and we decided to try this, and were successful in raising 13 plants from one packet. We reported this to the firm, who requested us to try another packet of each, which we did, and the result confirmed our previous trial. The seed of gerbera should be planted on end, and given a very slight covering. A good soil in which to sow the seed is half loam and half coarse sand, finely sifted. Heat is not necessary; a frame or cold greenhouse will suit them. Wood lice are very partial to the young plants, and a constant war must be waged on this little pest.

Roses and Rose Growers.

History repeats itself; and the name of Alexander Dickson and Sons, Newtonards, is constantly being repeated over the world as the most successful raisers and growers of roses in all their forms.

Besides winning the champion trophies of the National Rose Society in London, also the provincial trophy of the National Rose Society on four occasions, this year they have won more prizes in the leading rose competitions than any other grower.

Tracing back to 1887, when they first introduced their first Hybrid Perpetuals Earl of Dufferin and Lady Helen Stuart, we have in 1888 Caroline d'Arden; 1889, Lady Arthur Hill; 1890, Jeannie Dickson, one of their finest; 1891, Margaret Dickson, hard to beat, and Marchioness of Dufferin; 1893, Marchioness of Londonderry; 1894, Marchioness of Downshire and Mrs. G. R. Sharman-Crawford; 1895, Mavourneen and Helen Keller; 1896, Tom Wood; 1897, Robert Duncan; 1898, Ards Rover; 1899, Ulster; 1900, Rosslyn; 1902, Bob Davison; 1904, Hugh Watson; 1905, M. H. Walsh (rich velvety crimson suffused with scarlet).

In the Hybrid Tea section we have a fine lot of beauties, and these are considered the roses of the future. For growth, beauty, hardiness, and free

blooming they are competing hard with the Hybrid Perpetuals.

It was not till 1892 when they started raising the Hybrid Teas. In Alice Lindsell they were fairly represented; 1895, Kathleen, Marjorie, Mrs. W. J. Grant, and Shella; 1897, Miss Ethel Richard-

Florence Edith Coulthwaite (deep cream stippled with bright rose on the inside of petals, and reflected on the back, thus creating a delicate orange and peach glow), George C. Wand (glowing orange vermillion that does not fade, awarded gold medal N.R.S.), Grace Molyneux (creamy apricot, flesh in the centre, outer petals creamy white), John Cuff (deep carmine pink with a deep yellow zone at the base of petals), Lady Ursula (flesh pink, very fine bloomer), Mrs. David Jardine (beautiful shade of bright rosy pink, changing in the outer petals to salmon pink).

Teas—1887, Ethel Brownlow; 1889, Mrs. James Wilson; 1896, Muriel Grahame; 1899, Beryl and Meta; 1899, Mrs. Edward Mawley; 1900, Lady Mary Corry; 1906, Mrs. Myles Kennedy; 1907, Souvenir de Stella Gray (the predominating colour is orange with splashes of yellow, salmon, and crimson); 1908, Molly Sharnan-Crawford (eau de nil white, becoming dazzling white as the flowers expand).

We have now come to their ball-roses of 1908, now put on the market, and which have stood the test of public criticism.

Mrs. Hubert Taylor (Tea), awarded gold medal N.R.S., London, 2nd July, 1908. This is really a superb rose. A pure Tea of exceptional merit and distinctness, producing flowers of the highest exhibition standard. The colour is



HUGH DICKSON.

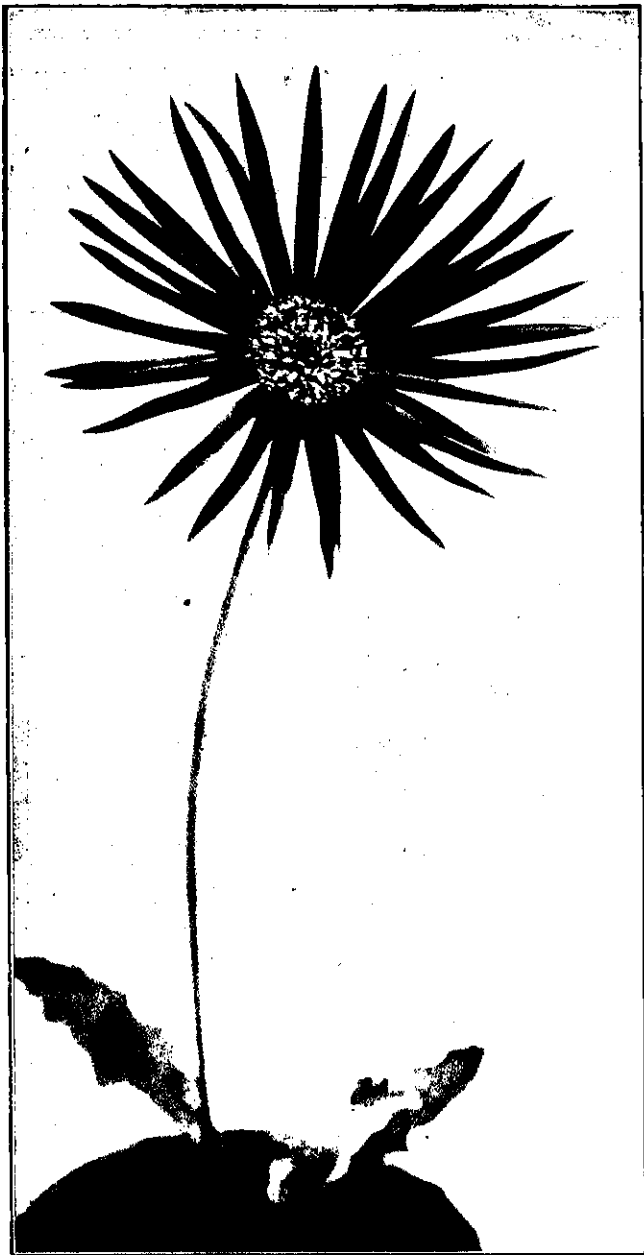
son, Countess of Caledon (very fine and climbing), Kaiserin Augusta Victoria; 1898, Daisy and Killarney; 1899, Shandon and Bessie Brown; 1900, Gladys Harkness, Lady Clanmorris, and Liberty; 1901, Duchess of Portland, Lady Moyra Beauclere, Mamie, and Mildred Grant; 1902, Ards Pillar, Edith d'Ombraun, and John Ruskin; 1903, Alice Graham, Florence Pemberton, and Gertrude; 1904, Lady Ashdown, Rev. David R. Williamson, Dean Hole, Mrs. David McKee, Dr. J. Campbell Hall, and Mrs. Conway Jones; 1905, Betty, Charles J. Grahame, Countess Annesley, Countess of Derby Crimson Crown, Hon. Ina Bingham, Mrs. J. Bateman, Peggy; 1906, Lady Rossmore, Mrs. G. W. Kershaw, William Shean, and Mrs. Peter Blair; 1907, Avoca (crimson scarlet), Colonel S. R. Williamson (satiny white), Dorothy Page Roberts (coppery pink, awarded gold medal of the National Rose Society), Elisabeth Barnes (satiny salmon rose, centre fawn suffused with yellow, outside of petals rosy red, a distinct and novel colouring), Harry Kirk (deep sulphur yellow), Lady Helen Vincent (pink reflex of petals, pale flush), Mrs. Harold Brocklebank (creamy white, centre buff, base of petals golden yellow), W. E. Lippiatt (brilliant velvety crimson, shaded maroon, large full flowers); 1908, Dr. O'Donel Browne (carmine rose),



ALEXANDER DICKSON.

shell pink, the edges of the petals being ivory white.

Mrs. Arthur Munt, a most welcome addition to the Hybrid Tea class, and one of the best introduced. Colour is suffused peach on deep cream, which



W. J. Vasey, photo.

GERBERA JAMESONI (RED TRANSVAAL DAISY).

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