

the soil, remove the paper, and in a few days begin to tilt the glass, eventually removing it altogether.

As soon as the seedlings are large enough to handle, prick off into boxes of light soil. Keep moist and shaded until well established. Give air freely, subsequently remove to a cold frame, and see that the plants never suffer from want of water. Gradually harden off and plant out.

For a brilliant display, the large flowered type *Nemesia Strumosa* Sutton is to be preferred, but for a prolonged, if quieter, effect the dwarf hybrid strain is much the better. This gives a most beautiful show for many weeks on end.

SWEET-SCENTED FLOWERS.

For the garden, blossoms that are grown with a view to cutting should not be judged exclusively from the point of beauty alone; there is the consideration of fragrance which must also count. We think of many permanent favourites, but our thoughts now tend to those things that may be raised from seed that make delightful the borders by reason of their rich fragrance. We must give a passing thought to *Nigella*, to sweet rockets, and ten-week stocks, and Sweet Sultans, and the night-scented stock, *Matthiola bicornis*. If we are thinking of planting other things to remain, let us not forget violas and pinkies—plants that are always lavish with their blossoms. And in company with other flowers that scent the air, we shall assuredly sow seed now in the heat of *Nicotianas*. Some people enjoy the garden in the evening hour after the duties of the day are ended, seated in some corner with book and pipe. It is then when unbidden the delectable fragrance of the plants mentioned as they open their blossoms is appreciated. What is more delightful than a bed of *Heliotropes*?

FLOWERDALE.

WHITE FRITILLARIAS.

It can hardly be claimed that the *Fritillarias* are popular garden flowers, although they include among them many species and varieties of considerable beauty. Some of the finest are difficult to retain in our gardens, while others, again, have an appearance more curious than attractive. Yet those who have studied these plants are eager to assert that they have much real beauty, and that they would not like to be without some, at least, of these bulbous plants. Our native *Fritillaria Melegris*, the Guinea-flow or Snake-head Lily, as generally seen, is more singular than attractive, although it has many points of beauty in its curious chapering and its different hues. This singular appearance is not, however, to be asserted of the white varieties, which are really beautiful with their shapely, pendent, bell-shaped flowers of pure or creamy white. A small group of one of these white *Fritillarias* grown in my rock garden. It is, I think, the prettiest of the four different types of *F. Melegris* with white flowers which I cultivate here. The habit is finer than in the others, the plants being taller and more graceful, while the flowers are of a delicate waxy white texture and colour. This form came to me from a Scottish garden, where it had been for many years.

Another handsome variety with white flowers has the petals than those mentioned, but the bells, though larger, are broader and on shorter stems. Still, it is very ornamental; it comes a little later than the preceding. Its flowers are very shapely. There is also in my garden another *Fritillaria* with very white flowers, but of still dwarfer habit, and having the segments more pointed and not so handsome-looking as in either of the foregoing. A further variety is *F. Melegris contorta alba*, a quaint-looking flower of different habit. In this the flowers are sometimes twisted hence the name *contorta* but this is not always visible. The flowers are on dwarfer stems than in the first, and are long-petalled. They are of very thick texture and of a clear good white.

Although *F. Melegris* likes a moist place, these white forms, and the others, for that matter will thrive and flower well in dry soil. The group I have is at the base of a rocky, and is only about six inches above the ground level. I have other *Fritillarias* of the same species higher up, and I find they look most ornamental at, or

nearly at, the level of the eye. Bulbs should be procured as early as possible in autumn, and should not be kept any longer out of the ground than can be helped. From 3in to 6in is a good depth for *F. Melegris* and its varieties. S. ARNOTT.

FORGET-ME-NOTS.

REASONS WHY THEY SHOULD BE GROWN IN THE GARDEN.

Not a few people have an idea that it is no use attempting to grow forget-me-nots in a garden unless they can be given plenty of moisture, and in support of their argument they point to the forget-me-nots to be found in brooks and marshy spots. But this is only right so far as it goes, for as a matter of fact even *Myosotis palustris*, the water forget-me-not, as it is called, may be grown, and successfully, too, in the garden in a shady part where cooler conditions obtain, and it is not nearly so dependent upon an abundance of moisture as many imagine. I speak from experience of this sort, having grown it in my garden for several years, the roots being taken in the first instance from the riverside. There are other sorts, however, of this beautiful plant, and I would remind readers of such well-tried varieties as *Sylvatica* and *Dis-hillora*, and *alpestris*, the seed of which may be sown in the garden now for flowering another year. Forget-me-nots are beautiful for massing in beds, for growing in window boxes, and it should also be borne in mind that one good thing in their favour is, they may be lifted within a week or two of their blooming for potting, and suffer little or no harm. When pricking off the young seedlings it is best to do so on a piece of ground where they will be able to get shade for some portion of the day.—W.F.D.

THE LOGANBERRY.

This excellent fruit has not received the attention which it merits, probably owing to a fear of its spreading and becoming a great nuisance as the blackberry pest. But if properly cultivated and the runners kept off the ground there is no danger. The uncooked fruit, although luscious in appearance, is somewhat too acid for the majority of people to eat, but when cooked or stewed, and served up with sugar and cream, it is delicious. Loganberries will grow and thrive in most situations, and when established, are vigorous growers. The long shoots should not be allowed to lie on the ground, or they will root readily. These shoots should be tied up to a wire or wooden fence, or pruned well back. Loganberries are not so eagerly devoured by birds as raspberries are, and therefore you can depend on the fruit ripening without protection, and fruit can be gathered when quite ripe. When it is desired to increase your stock of plants allow the runners to trail on the ground, pegging them down in summer, when they will readily take root, and be ready for transplanting in the autumn.

SPRAYING PEACHES AND NECTARINES FOR THE PREVENTION OF LEAF CURL.

It is now well known amongst fruit-growers that spraying with Bordeaux mixture is an effectual preventive of leaf curl. Many amateurs, however, are

either not aware of this, or forget to apply the mixture at the proper time, which is just when the blossom buds are swelling and before the bloom appears, and also a second application two weeks later. Those who make their own Bordeaux can use a 4, 4, 40 application. Small growers who prefer a ready-made spray can procure Woburn Bordeaux paste or the French powder sold in packets. Full directions are given with these articles as to the strength to be used. There is no doubt about the efficacy of all of these sprays for preventing this troublesome disease, and every amateur who desires clean, healthy peaches and nectarine trees should see that this important matter is not neglected.

GLOBE BEETROOT.

One or two individuals of my acquaintance no longer rely on the tap-rooted varieties of beetroot for the main crop, and one who grows for market recently informed me his crop of Globe beet proved the most profitable of any grown in 1911. Moreover, contrary to the opinion of many prejudiced growers, the table quality of a good strain of Globe beetroot is often superior to that of the other section, besides the additional recommendation that roots invariably come just the size most frequently wanted for cooking purposes. Thus it will be seen that to the amateur with a small plot Globe beet has many advantages.

Seed should be sown during September. We always rely on soil well manured for a crop the previous year, and even in a shady border the roots invariably come of good size. Sow thinly in drills from 9 to 12 inches apart; should the soil be exceptionally dry, water the drills an hour previous to sowing. When the seedlings are large enough to handle, thin them out to not less than 9 inches apart. Beyond an occasional stirring with the hoe, no further care need be taken to ensure medium-sized roots, which should be carefully lifted and stored in sand or dry earth.

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