



growths shortened by half their length.

Eriostemon myoporoides is an evergreen native of Australia. Its foliage is scented and in spring it bears pink-tipped buds which open into white, scented flowers. It grows readily in average garden soil and is a useful addition to the shrub border. Its naturally good shape makes pruning practically unnecessary.

Hamamelis mollis, Chinese witch-hazel, is a most unusual winter-flowering shrub. A very hardy deciduous shrub growing to a height of 6ft., it can be trained to develop a trunk and form a small tree. The best situation is in the sun where the soil does not dry out badly during summer. The twisted yellow thread petals of the flowers cluster along the bare branches well before the leaves appear, and for its large ribbed tomentose leaves alone it deserves a place in the garden.

Lavender

Lavandula officinalis, lavender, is an old favourite that grows readily from cuttings. Lavender hedges are most effective and give a good crop of flowers for lavender sachets. To retain fragrance in flowers for sachets the flowers should be cut when they have opened only half way up the spikes and picked early in the morning or in the cool of evening. The oil bearing the perfume is volatile and for this reason the flowers should be kept away from the sun and dried quickly indoors in a warm position.

Luculia gratissima is a frost-tender shrub native to the Himalayan temperate region. In milder districts it flowers during winter, giving a gorgeous display of colour with large clusters of pink, scented, tubular flowers. *Luculias* will not stand frost or strong winds, but they will flourish in a sunny, sheltered spot in a well-drained soil rich in organic matter

and free from lime. The bush grows with a spreading habit to a height of 12 to 16ft. and the flowers on different bushes vary in colour through pale to deep pink. A good supply of water during summer is necessary. Picking the flowers is usually sufficient pruning, but if the bush requires shaping, it should be pruned when the flowers are over. Long branches of *luculia* with their stems crushed slightly and in deep vases last well indoors.

Lippia citriodora or lemon-scented verbena as it is commonly called, grows to a height of 10ft. and among those who know its lemon-scented leaves it is a great favourite. Young plants should be pruned back to develop a bushy habit, otherwise the tree becomes very open and with its naturally sparse leaves and small flowers it does not develop a compact bush.

Oleanders

Nerium oleander attains a height of 8ft. and can be obtained in a wide range of named varieties in single or double forms with colours from white to pink to dark red. Oleanders, as they are commonly called, do well in average garden soil, but in a position where their roots will be cool and moist and not dry out in summer they are superb. They do well in places with high humidity and in coastal areas. Oleander is poisonous in all its parts—flowers, leaves, and stems—and it is not advisable to use it as a cut flower, but in the garden the scent can be enjoyed. Unfortunately black soot on oleanders often makes them unsightly. This sooty mould forms on the honey dew excreted by scale insects which often attack the plant. Scale insects can be controlled by spraying once during November and later in summer with summer oil (1 part in 50 parts of water). These two sprays should kill the scale and remove the source of the black soot.

Osmanthus delavayi is covered with a mass of small, white, scented flowers in September. This shrub with its shiny small leaves and scented flowers, though not very well known, is a useful addition to the shrub garden and does well in a partially shaded position.

Osmarea burkwoodi has as one of its parents *Osmanthus delavayi*, and the two shrubs are similar; it produces white, scented flowers and larger, shiny leaves. Conditions for growth are the same.

Philadelphus coronarius, mock orange, is a favourite spring-flowering shrub. The flowers develop on the ripened wood of the previous season's growth and the shrub has a tendency to bare, leggy stems at the base, but by cutting out the old wood after flowering this can be prevented to a limited extent. Mock orange can be obtained in 5 good varieties and it makes an excellent shrub for the background of the herbaceous border. It does equally well in average or poor soils.

Rosmarinus officinalis, rosemary, makes a most attractive hedge, especially where people brushing past it release its pleasant fragrance. *Rosmarinus officinalis* var. *prostratus*, the prostrate form, makes a very graceful covering on banks and built-up walls.

Lilacs

Syringa, commonly known as lilac, is one of the most popular spring-flowering shrubs. There is a wide range of varieties, some single, some double; colours are bluish purple, wine red, rose, mauve, and white. Lilacs establish well in average garden soil in an open sunny position. They are gross feeders and appreciate quantities of organic matter, either compost or farmyard manure. Lilacs often throw a mass of suckers and take years to come to flowering. These suckers need to be pulled out continually to allow the full vigour of the bush to go toward the production of flowers.

Viburnums

Viburnum carlesii, a native of Korea, is claimed to rival the daphne for scent. It grows to a height of 4ft. and although classed as a deciduous shrub, it often retains its foliage in milder districts. Of free-flowering habit and attractive grey foliage, it begins to bloom early in spring and the individual flowers are white-flushed pink, borne in compact heads, and often 3in. across. *Viburnum burkwoodi* which has *Viburnum carlesii* as one parent, greatly resembles it, but has bigger, freer growth and larger flower heads. The buds are pink tipped and open to white, strongly scented flowers which are useful for cutting. Sometimes a few flowers open during warm spells in winter, but this does not affect the main blooming in spring. *Viburnum fragrans*, a native of Japan, grows to a height of 12ft. and also produces pinkish white flowers.

The viburnums need only occasional pruning to maintain a good shape. Any pruning to encourage flowering should be done to develop spurs, as the flowers are produced on spurs. The viburnums do well in most soils, but *Viburnum fragrans* does better in a warm position.