

THE *Camellia*  
REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Chang's Temple'

Courtesy Col. T. Durrant, Tirau, New Zealand

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One Dollar

# *Southern California Camellia Society Inc.*

An organization devoted to the advancement of the Camellia for the benefit of mankind—physically, mentally, and inspirationally.

The Society holds open meetings on the Second Tuesday of every month, November to April, inclusive at the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive, San Marino. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly precedes the program which starts at 8:00.

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## THE COVER FLOWER

### ***C. reticulata* 'Chang's Temple'**

This month's cover flower is one of the varieties of *reticulata* that Colonel T. Durrant of Tirau, New Zealand imported from China in 1964. Read his articles that starts on page 3 of this issue of *CAMELLIA REVIEW*, also my editorial on page 2, for the story behind this new version of the variety 'Chang's Temple'.

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# THOUGHTS

*from the editor*

I recommend to CAMELLIA REVIEW readers the article "Some Comments on Camellia Reticulata" that starts on the next page. As my note at the beginning of the article states, it is a part of an address, the Peer Memorial Lecture, that Colonel Tom Durrant made at the Annual Conference of the New Zealand Camellia Society held in Waitangi, New Zealand in August 1967. Col. Durrant gave me, for publication, a copy of the address before the meeting, asking only that I withhold publication until he had had an opportunity to publish it in his own NEW ZEALAND CAMELLIA BULLETIN. This occurred in the November 1967 issue. My first impulse was to publish the complete address in this issue. I decided that such action would take up too large a proportion of the 32 pages, that I would undertake to brief it. I gave that up after trying it several times. I am therefore including in this issue that portion of the address that deals principally with the varieties *C. reticulata* that grow in the Yunnan Province of China. The remaining part of his address will appear in the February issue.

I recommend the article for several reasons. First, it is the fulfillment of what I think is the most thorough research of *C. reticulata* that has been made in the Western world. Such research could not have been made in America because the fact that New Zealand maintains diplomatic relations with China permitted Colonel Durrant to do things that an American could not have done.

Second, the research has corrected the nomenclature of some of the *reticulatas* that have been suspect since they were introduced in America. I think I have been close enough to the situation here that I can disagree with Colonel Durrant's suggestion that the confusion in nomenclature can be attributed to at least carelessness in identification during the early days of propagation. The important thing is that we now have something to guide us that is more reliable than some name tags that accompanied shipments of plants from China to California some twenty years ago. These new varieties will be available in America after they have been propagated.

Third, we know that when conditions in China are stabilized, we shall be able to obtain more of these beautiful *reticulata* varieties.

It would be too much to expect that nurseries, amateur camellia growers and camellia show management will hasten to adopt the varietal names as Colonel Durrant has listed them. There is no need for haste, of course, particularly until the new 'Chang's Temple' is in circulation. It is to be hoped, however, that all who are interested in correct nomenclature, which should include all sincere camellia hobbyists and growers, will want to eliminate the duplication and confusion that now exists.

*Harold E. Dyer*

# SOME COMMENT ON CAMELLIA RETICULATA

Colonel T. Durrant  
Tirau, New Zealand

Editor's note: The following is taken verbatim from an address by Colonel Durrant at the Annual Conference of the New Zealand Camellia Society held at Waitangi, New Zealand in August 1967. Parts of the address that deal with aspects of *C. reticulata* other than contained herein will be published in a subsequent issue.

If the 20th century revival of interest in the Genus *Camellia* can be attributed to one man, that man must be the late Ralph Peer, in whose honor this memorial lecture was instituted. The choice of subject, "Some Comment on *Camellia Reticulata*", is also apposite, since he played an important and decisive part in the introduction to Western countries of what are now known as the "Kunming *Reticulatas*".

These beautiful camellias have a fascination all of their own, arising as much from their romantic history as from their magnificent flowers. Their origin, as garden varieties, or possibly hybrids, of the species *C. Reticulata* dates back over 1,000 years into the 9th century A.D. and they have been the subject of a considerable amount of Chinese writing. The production of such magnificent plants from the relatively simple wild species forms pre-supposes a fantastic degree of knowledge and expertise in the fields of plant breeding and horticulture on the part of those early Chinese workers.

In the 11th century, P. Chao, a Chinese literary naturalist, listed and described 72 varieties of this camellia and there are many references in subsequent Chinese literature to them. When one sees the glorious flowers of such varieties as *Chrysanthemum Petal*, *Purple Gown*, *Pagoda* and *Shot Silk*, it is staggering to think that the plants now flourishing in New Zealand, are, in fact, horticultural prolongations of the original plants which first delighted the eyes of those ancient Chinese gardeners. Since they have always been propagated by vegetative methods (i.e., grafting) and no new generation has arisen from seeds, these plants must be some of the oldest vegetable organisms in the world.

Dr. T. T. Yu, of the Academia Sinica, Peking, is the principal source of our knowledge of these plants and, in his lecture to the R.H.S. *Camellia* and *Magnolia* Conference, held in London in 1950, he said, "love of the flower has resulted in the development and preservation of the superior varieties, and its culture is the favourite amusement of the nobility, the literary and the rich . . . in olden times several pairs of camellia plants were given as a portion of marriage dowries." In 1958 Dr. Yu issued a short description of these camellias which was written, of course, in Chinese and published in Peking. Here is a translation into English of some of his comments on the *Kunming Reticulatas*:

"The country of our ancestors is a vast and spacious land, with very rich and fertile soil and many different climates. Consequently there is also a very varied vegetation, the greatest variety in the world. Amongst the many species a great number are valued either for their beauty in the art of gardening or for some other special usefulness. Our ancestors long ago discovered this fact. Moreover they carefully nurtured and cultivated them and they preserved a great variety of species of high quality fruit trees, vegetables and flowers. This being not only a gift of nature but also the result of many years' hard work by the people and diligent cultivation, it deserves our special attention and affectionate care. Amongst the flowers, camellias, peonies, plum blossom, and chrysanthemums have for long been well known throughout the world.

*(Continued on next page)*

However, the camellia of the Yunnan mountains has only recently roused the interest of people of the other parts of the world.

"The Yunnan Camellia is most highly valued in the art of gardening. The shape of the tree is majestic and very beautiful. It can reach more than 10 meters in height and it can live for several hundred years. The leaves are perennial dark green. The flower is very big and its form most beautiful; its colour is very bright and attractive. There is a great range of varieties. It blooms during late winter and early spring, which is the season when most plants are hibernating. It is equally suited as a pot plant or as a plant in the ground, indoors or outdoors. It can be claimed that it is one of the most special and valued plants of the cultivated species.

"Those who have travelled past K'un Ming or Ta-Li will have retained a very deep impression of the Camellia plant. During the period just before and after the New Year, be it in a private court yard, big or small, private or public garden, you are certain always to see a few pots of these flowers in full bloom. Everyone will be able to tell you, just as if they were speaking of their family treasures, some very rich, poetic names, such as, 'This particular plant is called Pine Cone Scales, that one is called Nine Hearts and Eighteen Petals'. In the larger temples there are always a few of these old flower plants, the tallest can reach as high as 12 feet, their width being two or three feet, and the age of the tree being more than two to three hundred years, with several thousands of bright, gay and colourful blossoms. To see the flowers has become a must for all those who go on a sight seeing excursion. During the New Year, friends present these flowers to each other. When girls are getting married Camellia flowers are used as wedding decorations. The facts tell us that the cultivation of the Camellia is very common in Yunnan, and that this tradition has a long history.

"As for the history of the cultivation of the Camellias at Yunnan; it was already quite common during the early period of the Ming Dynasty, when they had already been cultivated for more than five hundred years. The earliest written record was in the CH'ING T'AI T'U CH'ING of Ming which said: 'There is a Camellia, a product of Chou Nan, in front of the temple of the Heavenly King. Its flowers bloom in the winter months; there are three colours — pink, vermilion and pure white interspersed. When the blooms wither, the corollas of the flower do not fall to the ground. The local people thought it was a kind of deity and dared not pluck it.' In the article CHU FANG P'U it is recorded: 'The precious pearl Camellia has a thousand leaves surrounding the bud and it takes eight months to bloom. Its colour is like red cinnabar and most pleasing. It is said that in Chen Nan there is a plant about three yards in height and with a thousand blooms which are all drooping down. They are very very beautiful'. Again in the article YUNNAN T'UNG TSE it is recorded, 'The Camellias of Yunnan are the rarest in the world. The Chin An Hsieh Shao Shou of the Ming Dynasty said there were 72 varieties. The YU CHUAN T'ENG MEI records that the plant has ten distinguishing qualities and that there are a hundred poems written about it. CHAO-PI made almost a hundred different genealogical tables taking the dark red supple branches and the curled up petals as the distinguishing mark'. This is also one of the earliest records of the Yunnan Camellia. Unfortunately, these genealogical tables of CHAO-PI are lost. In the K'ang Wu year of the Chinese Republic, FANG SHU-MEI, a native of P'an Lung Shan, compiled a booklet, called 'A Short History of the Chen Nan Camellia'. A great portion of the book consists of a collection of verse and poems written about the Camellia throughout history. However, simultaneously, it served as evidence of the

existence of 72 varieties of Camellias. From this book we can see that a great portion of the ancient names of these flowers are still retained and are very popular today. This book is written as a reference for all garden lovers and for those who love flowers, with the view of fostering the appreciation not only of Camellia, special to Yunnan, but of other species of Camellia as well, so that they may spread in the courtyards of our country and the gardens all over the world.

The species mentioned in this book can all be found in the Botanical Research Department of the Chinese Science Faculty in Hei Lung T'an of K'un Ming as well as in the people's Botanical Gardens of K'un Ming".

Camellia Reticulata first appeared outside China in 1820 when Richard Rawes, Captain of an East India Merchantman, brought home a plant of a then unknown Camellia for his friend, T. C. Palmer of Bromley, Kent. This was followed in 1824 by another importation brought by John Dampier Parks for the Royal Horticultural Society. These plants were the variety we now know as C. Reticulata 'Captain Rawes', and their first blooming in England was a horticultural sensation of the first magnitude.

It is doubtful if, in 1850, Robert Fortune actually sent home the first plant of the formal double Reticulata which now bears his name (syn. 'Pagoda'), since there is extant an enthusiastic description of a very large plant only a short time after this date. His specimen was described in the Botanical Magazine of 1857 and then named C. Reticulata, flore pleno. Since both of these were sterile forms it was obvious that they were garden cultivars and it was not until 1924 that George Forrest collected specimens and seeds of a wild, single flowered Reticulata found growing on the hillsides at TENG YUEH, in the Yunnan Province of China. This has proved to be a very free growing, vigorous plant which sets seed readily to both chance and controlled pollination.

In 1938 the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society published an article by Hsu Hsen Yu, under the title, Recent Progress in Botanical Exploration in China. In this he referred to numerous varieties of beautiful Camellias for which Yunnan was famous and provided the first clue that some, so far unknown, varieties of C. reticulata were growing there. World War II overshadowed such peaceful and desirable things as botanical research and it was not until 1948-1949 that three eminent collectors, Dr. W. Lammers, Mr. Ralph Peer, both of the United States, and Mr. Walter Hazelwood of Australia obtained shipments of some of these plants.

Unfortunately, harsh treatment by quarantine authorities caused heavy casualties and it is understood that the five plants which Walter Hazelwood imported were eventually destroyed. We have been informed by the owners of the two leading Camellia Nurseries in Australia that their present Reticulata stock plants all came from the United States, i.e. from the Lammers-Peer shipments.

After intensive propagation in the United States, 20 varieties were offered to the public and began to find their way into gardens all over the temperate parts of the world. In 1955 William Hertrich, in Vol. II of "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens", published descriptions and black and white pictures of each of the 20 varieties but it was very soon obvious that there were some serious problems of identity and nomenclature to be solved. In his 1950 Conference paper Dr. Yu had used names transliterated from Chinese and, as a synonym, also gave a translated name. Example: HOYEHTIECHIH or Thick Leaf Butterfly. It was considered in the United States that the use of transliterated Chinese names would be impossible in Western countries and that

*(Continued on next page)*

very free translations would be used instead. So HOYEHTIECHIH became Butterfly Wings, CHANGCHATIECHIH became Chang's Temple, and so on. Under the rules of horticultural nomenclature, undoubtedly the transliterated names take priority but it is unlikely that they will ever be commonly used. It appears that, even in China, several names were in use, in different areas, for the same Camellia and that minor flower variations were given qualifying names. An example of this is TZEPAO (Purple Gown). On a mature plant occasional flowers show narrow, whitish stripes vertically disposed on the center petal. This is then called TZEPAO-YUTAI but all the evidence we have indicates that the striping is casual and not a mutation which can be separately propagated. Different Chinese names, HUNGMARNAO and PEIMARNAO, are used for TAMARNAO (Cornelian) according to the amount of white showing in the flowers. Since the variegation in TAMARNAO is probably virus induced and varies widely from plant to plant, and season to season, the use of different names does not appear to be justified. A possible explanation is that the Chinese name describes a flower and not necessarily a cultivar.

While the priority name for any given cultivar can be arrived at by study of the available information published about it, problems of identity are very much more difficult to determine and it is to this matter we must now turn our attention. One can only speculate as to the cause of the present confusion but it is quite certain that the 20 names published as growing in the Huntington Gardens are attached to a much smaller number of actual cultivars. Some of the missing cultivars may never have left China, they may have succumbed to quarantine treatment or died subsequently. It is certain that bad nursery practice led to considerable mis-labelling, even of the easily recognizable varieties.

In 1963 we were able to establish direct contact with the Botanical Institute at Kunming and received most courteous offers of assistance. We sent them the schedule of Reticulata varieties which was published in the New Zealand Camellia Bulletin, Vol. III, No. 3, and supported this with colour slides of typical flowers of all the varieties growing here. In November, 1964, we succeeded in obtaining a shipment of 28 plants in 14 varieties, which were sent out to Hong Kong. There the soil was removed, the roots packed in moss and the plants sent on by air to New Zealand. Here we must thank Mr. Ralph Dean and his staff who made the arrangements for us in Hong Kong.

On arrival, the plants were in very poor condition, many completely defoliated and showing lesions of *Glomerella cingulata*, the presence of which fungus was determined in the quarantine laboratory. The Plant Quarantine authorities in Auckland and Hamilton handled the plants with very great care and without this co-operation, the shipment would have been lost. After quarantine treatment with suitable fungicides, the plants were put into a peat-pumice mixture and placed in a large polythene tent in our propagating house. All but one or two commenced to grow but the new shoots were collapsing as soon as their growth run was completed. This is fairly typical in the presence of *Glomerella cingulata* and it seemed unlikely then that the shipment, obtained after so much trouble, expense and correspondence, would survive. Some were already dead.

Some time previously, Messrs. Glaxo Laboratories Ltd. of Great Britain, had kindly sent us a quantity of the systemic fungicide, Griseofulvin, for the purpose of an experiment with Camellias. This was in a fertilizer formulation and was now used on the ailing plants with dramatic results. Dieing back of new growth ceased almost immediately, quite extensive lesions on main stems ceased to spread and, after continuous application of the Griseofulvin at



monthly intervals, the plants have made regular healthy growth, flowering for the first time in 1966. Eighteen plants have survived in good enough condition to produce some propagating material.

After considering the evidence obtained from this and earlier shipments, the information supplied to us from the Botanical Institute, and all the available literature on the subject, it is possible to make some observations on the identities of the cultivars of *C. reticulata* now in circulation. We have made repeated importations of these plants since 1954, have re-imported plants of doubtful identity from many sources and have examined a very large number of plants growing in New Zealand and Australia. In endeavouring to establish identities, it is necessary to take into account the fact that considerable variations of colour and flower form occur in *C. reticulata* and judgments must be based on typical flowers from mature plants. Recently grafted plants frequently show wide variation in leaf shape and size and only leaves from mature plants can be used for identification purposes.

Fortunately, there are some varieties about which there is no doubt and these need only be listed or discussed briefly. In each case transliterated Chinese names are given first, translated Chinese names second and the common trade name last.

- |  |                                  |                           |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. TSUEBAN<br>T'UNG-TSAO-PIEN  | ROSE FLOWER                      | CHRYSANTHEMUM<br>PETAL    |
| 2. SUNGTZELIN  | PINE CONE SCALE                  | ROBERT FORTUNE,<br>PAGODA |
| 3. TZEPAO  | PURPLE GOWN                      | PURPLE GOWN               |
| Note: TZEPAO-YUTAI is used to describe this <i>Camellia</i> when narrow vertical striping occurs on the centre petals. Recent comment from Kunming on our colour pictures suggested that they showed a flower of TZEPAO-YUTAI. Our observation is that this is a casual flower variation (not virus induced) and not a mutation.   |                                  |                           |
| 4. TAYINHUNG   | LARGE PINK,<br>LARGE SPINEL PINK | SHOT SILK                 |
| 5. TATAOHUNG   | LARGE PEACH RED<br>LARGE CRIMSON | CRIMSON ROBE              |
| 6. HOYEHTIECHIH  | THICK LEAF<br>BUTTERFLY          | BUTTERFLY WINGS           |
| 7. MOUTANCHA   | PEONY CAMELLIA                   | MOUTANCHA                 |
| This variety has been difficult to establish and plants imported from U.S.A. proved either to be not Moutancha at all, or were very heavily infected with virus and failed to survive. We do not know of a successful plant in New Zealand and have not seen one in Australia. Under the label "Peony Camellia", two plants of this, showing no signs of virus, were included in our 1964 shipment. They have flowered successfully and are a remarkably beautiful <i>Camellia</i> with gradation of colour from Rose Madder HCC 23 to 23/3. Flower size averaged 16 cm. wide and 10 cm. high, with 25 petals and some petaloids. The form is semi-double to open peony. First propagations from the plants are growing strongly and show no signs of virus. |                                  |                           |
| 8. BUDDHA  | BUDDHA                           | BUDDHA                    |

*(Continued on next page)*

9. CONFUCIUS                      CONFUCIUS                      CONFUCIUS  
 Numbers 8 and 9 are said to be recent Reticulata-pitardii hybrids raised in Yunnan. Both are good Camellias, well known and present no identity problems.

10. TIEHTSE-MAOTAN    RETICULATE LEAF    PROFESSOR TSAI  
 MAYEHTIEHCHICH      BUTTERFLY  
 Dr. Wu Chen-Yi, writing to us from the Botanical Institute, Kunming, states, "Tiehtse-Maotan and Mayehtiehchich are identical with and should be regarded as the Chinese names for Professor Tsai." In the original shipments to the United States, there was an unlabelled plant to which the name of "Professor Tsai" was then given in honour of the famous Chinese botanist of that name. Our 1964 shipment included this variety under its translated name "Reticulate Leaf Butterfly". It has flowered and appears identical with plants previously imported as Professor Tsai.

11. SHITZETOU                      LION HEAD                      LION HEAD

12. TAMARNAO                      LARGE CORNELIAN      CORNELIAN

13. CHANGCHATIECHIH CHANG'S CAMELLIA    CHANG'S TEMPLE  
 It is convenient to study these three cultivars together, since they have been completely confused in general garden circulation. A very large number, if not all, of the plants circulated under these three names are identical and produce peony form flowers heavily variegated with white and it was generally believed that they might all be Chang's Temple (See Camellia Nomenclature 1966, S.C.C.S. and N.Z. Camellia Bulletin Vol. III, No. 3, p. 7).

It is now clear that Lion Head is a solid red peony form Camellia and Dr. Yu (in Yunnan Shan-Cha, Peking 1958) states that Tamarnao (Cornelian) is a variegated form of Lion's Head. In "The Garden Camellias of Yunnan", the manuscript of which is published in facsimile in "Camellian" 1964, ed. Griffin F., the same author states that Tamarnao is the ONLY bicoloured Reticulata.

Changchatiechich, Chang's Temple, is not described in Dr. Yu's paper in the 1950 R.H.S. Conference Report, nor in "The Garden Camellias of Yunnan". It is described and illustrated in "Yunnan Shan-cha", Peking 1958, and plants of this were included in our 1964 shipment. These have flowered. There are up to 20 petals in 4 or 5 rows, an open centre with some petaloids. The size is 14 cm. by 6 cm., the petals are deeply notched, some with multiple notchings. The colour is China Rose,

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HCC 024-024/1. This is quite a different camellia from any we have seen before and it matches the Chang's Temple description and illustration in Dr. Yu's 1958 publication. A flower was exhibited at the New Zealand Camellia Society National Show in 1966.

It is now clear that all the bicoloured Camellias circulated under any of these three names are, in fact, Cornelian and should be labelled as such. Chang's Temple does not seem to have been included in the shipments to the U.S.A., or, if it was, did not survive. Propagation from the 1964 shipment has been successful. Lion Head may be in circulation but most plants under this name are Cornelian. Unfortunately, the Lion Head plants in our 1964 shipment did not survive.

Study of the early pictures and writing about this group makes it seem probable that this confusion occurred at the Chinese end and that only Cornelian was exported at that time. The illustrations in "Camellias in Huntington Gardens", W. Hertrich, and certainly those in "The Yunnan Reticulatas" 1954, ed. D. L. Feathers, confirm this, while the coloured picture of Chang's Temple in "Camellias in America", 2nd ed. Dr. H. H. Hume, actually depicts Crimson Robe.

- |     |              |                  |                        |
|-----|--------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 14. | HSIAOKUEYEH  | SMALL OSMANTHUS  | OSMANTHUS LEAF<br>LEAF |
| 15. | TAKIEYEH     | LARGE OSMANTHUS  | TAKIEYEH<br>LEAF       |
| 16. | LIUYEHINHUNG | WILLOW LEAF PINK | WILLOW WAND            |

This is another group of which the identities have become obscure and can conveniently be considered together. Plants imported from the United States on numerous occasions under each of these three names have, on maturity, been identical and are almost certainly all Liuyehinhung (Willow Wand). The illustration of this cultivar, Fig. 9, in the R.H.S. Conference Report is quite typical.

Dr. Wu Chen-yi writes to us as follows: Hsiaokueyeh is easily distinguished from Takieyeh by its smaller and narrower leaves and also by its smaller flowers. Liuyehinhung differs itself very apparently from the other two by its vigorous habit, its soft oblong leaves, bearing a recurved apex."

Our 1964 shipment contained Hsiaokueyeh, under the label "Small Osmanthus Leaf". It has flowered in accordance with Dr. Yu's description, the flower being much smaller, the petals fluted and arranged in three or four rows. The flowers, leaves and general appearance check with Dr. Yu's illustration, Fig 11, in the Conference Report and in "The Garden Camellias of Yunnan". Willow Wand is also in the shipment and appears to check with the plants previously imported under all three names. Having seen the two varieties there can be no confusion between them, but we are left with Takieyeh still missing.

Study of illustrations and early literature published seems to make it clear that Small Osmanthus Leaf did survive in the early U.S. shipments and the confusion over this variety must be attributed to the American nurseries responsible for distribution. We have been unable to establish whether or not Takieyeh has ever existed outside China as a clearly identifiable cultivar.

- |     |         |               |            |
|-----|---------|---------------|------------|
| 17. | TALICHA | QUEEN OF TALI | TALI QUEEN |
|-----|---------|---------------|------------|

*(Continued on next page)*



22.

EARLY PEONY

Included in our 1964 shipment were two plants under the above label. We can find no reference anywhere in the literature to a Camellia of this name or of a description which would fit the flowers. The colour is China Rose (HCC 024/1), 12 cm. wide and 7-8 cm. high. The outer petals lie flat and the high centre has folded petals and petaloids, showing notched margins. Plants grafted from this are growing with great vigor and appear to be free from virus. This is a very beautiful Camellia which will be a valuable acquisition to the range. No Chinese name is available.

In Dr. Yu's Yunnan Shan-cha, 1958, the following additional varieties are listed and described:

23. SUNGTZUKO PINE SHELL

"Flowering period February to March, flowers and leaves similar to Sungzelin (Pagoda), but petals are smaller; leaves are oblong, bent slightly inwards." Not illustrated.

24. T'UNG-TSU-MIEN BABY FACE

This is illustrated as a white, open, semi-double, but the description says "has the latest flowering period, March to April, white with deep red variegation. Leaves similar to Chrysanthemum Petal variety, are deep green. Also called "Soft-stemmed white-red."

25. HUA-YEH PAO-CHU VARIEGATED LEAVES  
PRECIOUS PEARL

"The flowers are larger than variety 18 (Noble Pearl) and variegated with blue; bright and burnished; leaves strongly reticulated with yellow blotches, hence the name."

26. The names, HSUEH, SNOW LION, PEIMARNO and HUMGMARNO occur in the literature and refer to degrees of white variegation present in flowers of TAMARNAO, Cornelian. A name, BLUE-RED PRUNE OSMANTHUS LEAF, has been mentioned in Chinese correspondence but no description or details are available.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION:

1. An apparently healthy and strong growing example of Moutancha has been obtained.
2. Mayehtiehchich is established as a Chinese synonym for Professor Tsai.
3. The identity of Changchatiechih (Chang's Temple) has been clarified and plants of the correct variety obtained. Tamarnao (Cornelian) is established as the identity of the variegated cultivar which has been distributed under these names and as Lion Head.
4. Hsiaokuyeh (Osmanthus Leaf) has been obtained and its identity established. Takiyeh remains in doubt and Willow Wand is confirmed as the identity of the cultivar commonly circulated under all three of these names.
5. Talicha (Tali Queen) is distinguished from Paochucha (Noble Pearl), the existence of the latter outside China remaining in doubt.
6. Subject to the confirmation of second and subsequent flowering, the following cultivars have been obtained from China and established:
 

Tsaotaohung	Early Crimson
Mayehyinhung	Reticulate Leaf Spinel Pink
Hentienko	The Dwarf, Dwarf Rose
Early Peony	? —
Changchatiechich	Chang's Temple
Hsiaokueyeh	Osmanthus Leaf

(Continued on next page)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Thanks are due to very many people who have provided information, plant material and comment during the time we have been studying *C. Reticulata* for the purpose of this paper. Among them are Dr. Wu Chen-yi and the staff of the Botanical Institute at Kunming, for providing plants, answering queries and studying material sent to them: Professor E. G. Waterhouse for making available the Chinese publication "Yunnan Shan-cha" and providing a translation of part of it: Mr. Ralph Dean for facilitating the handling of a *Camellia* shipment through Hong Kong: Mr. T. Savige for material and comments: the owners of both *Camellia* Grove and *Camellia* Lodge Nurseries for allowing us to study their stock plants: Mr. H. M. Hammond for providing some overseas exchange and much encouragement: and many others who have kindly written and made information available.

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## **REDWOOD EMPIRE CAMELLIAS**

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# SALINITY PROBLEMS IN CAMELLIA GROWING

By John D. Lawson, M.D.  
Antioch, California

Salinity is a term which is defined by Webster's Unabridged dictionary as "the quality or degree of being salty." However, as applied to camellia culture it embodies and includes many other connotations. Saltiness in ordinary usage generally indicates the degree of presence of sodium chloride. However, in agricultural application many salts other than table salt are considered. The various metal combinations with the sulfates, chlorides, carbonates, nitrates, phosphates, etc., all have saline effects and must be considered together.

Of course, all water except rain water contains dissolved salts derived from the soil or earth with which it comes in contact. Many of the salts are very soluble so that as rain water seeps through the soil and the rocks and collects in underground lakes and streams it becomes necessarily saline. The type of salinity depends, of course, on the nature of the soil through which the water flows.

An interesting demonstration of this was recently seen in one area in Northern California. A new industrial complex was begun, and for water supply deep wells were drilled. Tests of this water for potability were quite satisfactory. Within a week of the use of this well water, by the construction crew, there was a considerable increase in the amount of time off for sickness, and in checking the water chemically it was found that in each glass of water from the well there was contained about one teaspoonful of magnesium sulfate (epsom salts). On substitution of city water, time off for sickness was restored to normal.

There are numerous tests used to determine the amount of salinity in the water supply. Probably the most common test employed is based on electrical conductivity. This simple test

can be obtained through the County Farm Advisor of your district.

The salts causing the salinity and the amount of each can be identified by various laboratory tests in a different series of tests obtainable at commercial laboratories.

Substances other than soluble salts in the water supply may be very important. The presence of the element boron in amounts exceeding 3 ppm is extremely dangerous, and qualitative analysis should be made for this element. The salinity of container grown plants is also increased by frequent application of fertilizer, although this makes a rather small contribution to the problem.

In discussing salinity, frequently the Ph is brought into the discussion. There is no true relation between the two. Alkalinity is chiefly brought about by the dissolving of sodium carbonates and sodium bicarbonate in the water, neither of which add to salinity, but do raise the Ph. Camellias will thrive under alkaline as well as acid conditions.

How about the use of water softeners? This process depends on the substitution of sodium ions for the more insoluble ions of salts of magnesium and calcium. However, this brings in the problem of sodium poisoning and we have only changed problems.

The only satisfactory method of preventing saline poisoning employs the use of heavy leeching. If one is using a water with relatively high salinity, salinity in the container builds up with repeated waterings if water is not allowed to wash out previous deposits each time.

For example, consider the application of water containing 500 ppm solids. Five days later more of the  
*(Continued on next page)*

same, and five days later repeated, none of the water having flowed through the containers, the only loss of water being produced through leaf transpiration. Since salts are not transpired, we now have all the solids still remaining in the container totaling 1500 ppm. As the toxic level is about 3000 ppm it will not take long to have a poisonous residue. However, if each time water in excess is allowed to flow through the containers, the salts will be washed out each time, and a safe level can be maintained. A porous potting mixture which allows complete drainage is necessary when there is a salinity problem. This mixture requires additional amounts of sharp sand.

Salinity is most commonly evidenced during hot weather when transpiration and evaporation deplete the water in the containers and frequent waterings are needed. Unless the watering is quite heavy, thereby allowing good leeching each time, the saline build-up is relatively rapid.

What are the symptoms of salinity damage? How will you recognize signs of salt poisoning?

There are two types of damage. The first is acute, where an overwhelming saline damage is manifest, and the plant literally dries up. The first manifestation is the loss of normal gloss on the leaves. This is caused by root damage which prevents their taking up of water. If heavy flushing is begun immediately, the plant may be saved. Otherwise the dehydration will continue, and the plant will die standing looking at you with all the dried leaves hanging on.

The second type is the chronic form in which the leaves first show damage on the edges and tips. This burn progresses slowly, growth is stunted, and the affected leaves drop and slow death progresses. Heavy leeching at this time may slowly bring the plant back to life.

When one uses heavy leeching it must be remembered that all of the

contents of the containers are washed out. This, of course, includes all fertilizers so that repeated feedings must be used. There is less leeching of solid fertilizers as compared with the liquid soluble types, so that replacement of the former does not require such a frequent application. For example: the use of cottonseed meal or hoof and horn requires little replacement because of leeching, whereas soluble materials have to be augmented at very frequent intervals. Some large growers have feeders attached to the water supply in such a manner as to feed with each watering. By using this approach, the fertilizer bill goes up, but so does the rate of growth, and where rapid growth is wanted the end result will justify the added cost. These automatic feeders are on the market, and are available to all, but it does not appear to me to be of sufficient value to the non-commercial growers to justify the expense and trouble attendant thereon.

These statements on the salinity problem are based on much personal experience and study. When the writer resided in Sacramento, there were no salinity problems. The water there is ideal and none of the conditions enumerated above were encountered. On moving to Antioch, several thousand plants were lost because of salinity before the diagnosis was made and the remedial measures were instituted.

The most important thing about growing camellias, to my mind, is the water supply. You can grow good plants and produce good bloom if you know the chemical content of it. If you do not know this, you will not know how to fight salinity difficulties if they are encountered. If you do know, you will be able to modify the growing practices accordingly.

---

**S.C.C.S. 1968 DUES**

**NOW DUE**



## A PERMANENT CONTAINER MULCH

D. L. Feathers  
Lafayette, California

When it comes to camellia culture practices, there is more than one way of skinnig the cat, as the saying goes. This is true of mulches as it is of soil mixes and fertilization techniques. For several years past, we had been using coarse compost and then fir bark to top off our containers. These and any other humus material have several disadvantages. This was realized in a half-hearted way but it was not until the lady of the house began to complain bitterly about having to clean up the mess on the patios made by birds and (the last straw) opossums that we began seriously to investigate other materials.

Several years ago, in an endeavor to insulate the soil against petal blight, I conceived the idea of placing two or three inches of gravel throughout on the ground covered by our lath house. We had a half dozen large camellias planted in the ground in this section and to raise them would have been a problem. It was my thought that, because of the porosity of the gravel mulch this would not cause injury to the plants, which would then be at a depth several inches below the desirable level. This has proven to be the case, while watering and fertilizing through the gravel have actually been facilitated, primarily because dry fertilizer no longer cakes and watering causes no mud film to form. In essence, we now have a filtering medium between the roots and water or fertilizer.

Pondering upon this successful experiment, it seemed to offer a solution to our problem. Experimentally, we had tried using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " gravel mulch on a dozen or two plants in wooden tubs on a paved terrace. This was not an ideal test for some of the tubs did not have sufficient space above the soil level in which to place the most desirable thickness of gravel

mulch (about 2"). However we went ahead with the test notwithstanding, the thickness of the mulch varying from perhaps  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 2" of gravel. These plants were in a fairly sunny area and the first gravel mulching was done in the summer of 1966. An improvement in the foliage and general appearance of the plants was noted within a couple of months. Evidently these camellias appreciated the rock insulation we had provided and were responding accordingly.

This past summer, we have made gravel mulching a standard practice with respect to all camellias in the larger containers, irrespective of exposure — sun, semi-shade or shade. The response has been most gratifying and peace has been restored in the household. So far, we have not had a single adverse development. On the other hand, the following definite advantages have been observed:

1. The litter problem has been completely eliminated — neither birds nor animals have ever scattered the gravel about.
2. There have been no weeds whatsoever and fallen leaves are easily removed from the top of the gravel.
3. Watering has been greatly facilitated — the crushed gravel locks together so securely that one need not attach a water wand or other diffuser to the hose, from which the water may be applied directly without disturbing the mulch.
4. Dry fertilizer filters right down through — there is no caking.
5. Perfect insulation against flower blight results—there is no contact of flowers with the soil.
6. Desirable weight is added to the container, thus helping avoid damage to larger plants blown down by heavy winds.

*(Continued on page 30)*

# CARE OF CAMELLIA GRAFTS

A. Wilkins Garner  
Glendale, California

In this article we shall be concerned with the care of the grafts after the mechanics of making the graft have been performed, which of necessity means that certain standard practices were followed. Healthy understock was used—no graft can be better than the understock used. Scions with healthy growth buds, but before growth starts, were used. The cambium layers in both scion and understock were matched and tied with grafting bands. We shall assume that all these basic conditions have been met; otherwise the graft is usually doomed to failure.

If we give more than minimum care to our grafts we can expect a higher percentage of take, which is what all of us hope for. One of the worst enemies we are concerned with is fungus. The best remedy in treating fungus is prevention. Once it starts it is very difficult to control. In my experience I have found certain practices are helpful: First of all maintain clean sanitary conditions of tools, hands, work areas as well as understock and scions; plus keeping understock on the dryer side. Fungus will form and thrive under conditions of excess moisture.

The grafts are now ready to be covered, the purpose of which is to maintain a sufficiently humid condition to keep the scion alive until the all important life giving union of the scion and understock takes place. This is evidenced by the callus forming on both scion and understock. Jars are usually used for covering the graft. I prefer the wide mouth gallon jars; however, polyethylene jars are being used very successfully. They are of special benefit in grafting large understock growing in the ground. The plastic bag is securely tied around the understock below point of graft with sufficient moisture coming from the

understock to keep the scion alive until union forms.

Grafts should now be labeled and placed in the area where you expect to keep them until the scion starts growth. Grafts placed in greenhouse, made of fiberglass, or regular glass painted and protected with lath, will need no further protection from weather. Grafts have been successfully grown placed in front of an attic window or hidden in back of the divan in front of a bay window of the living room (let me know if you get by with this one). Where placed outside they should be protected from rain and must be protected from direct sun. Sun rays hitting directly on the jar or bag will quickly burn the scion. In the case of grafts of large understock in ground, a protective frame work should be placed over the entire graft, covered with burlap bag with opening on the north side for light. This will provide protection from sun as well as from damage by animals.

Now is the all important period in life of the graft. Certain understock will bleed which is evidenced by moisture forming on top of the understock. If this takes place, this moisture should be removed immediately as well as any excess moisture forming on sides of the jar, by means of blotting with clean cloth or paper napkin. Any such excess moisture appearing provides conditions under which fungus forms readily. If fungus does form it should be removed with a camel hair brush and dusted lightly with powder containing captan. Some use mild solution of vinegar and water, others dust lightly with Rootone. While, grafts should be kept on the dryer side they cannot be allowed to dry out. When soil is dry to touch and moisture in covering is very slight, a small amount of water should

be added. Often a graft will go through the union forming period and start growth before needing water.

The callus will start forming on greenhouse grafts, where minimum of 65 degrees is maintained, within two to three weeks. Grafts on the outside will require more time depending on nearness to growing season. This indicates the time for making outside grafts is approximately thirty days before the growing season starts. If callus on both scion and understock has formed before growth of scion starts, you only have the process of hardening the graft. Some prefer to remove the jar or bag just before the growth bud starts to unfurl and if callus is well formed the actual growth will start a little later; but since growth starts under normal atmospheric conditions, there is usually no problem of hardening off. I usually allow the graft to develop two or three leaves, then raise the jar over a period of several days, removing it entirely on a cooler day. Growth starts a little faster this way. Some people use jars with screw tops, removing the bottoms, then the hardening process is merely removing the top, allowing plant to grow through the opening. The same system can be worked with a plastic bag by opening the top of the bag. This is the ideal way to harden *reticulata* grafts—place open end plastic bag over the graft and allow the plant to grow through to

regular atmosphere. Extra moisture should be added after starting to harden grafts, and after the plant is on its own it should be watered thoroughly. At this time one should apply grafting wax to the portion of understock which has not already been covered with new bark growth, thereafter the plant should be treated in the same manner you treat all your younger plants depending on heat and humidity of the area in which you live. The usual practice is not to fertilize grafts the first year, however it is being done successfully, but very lightly.

Even though I have been making grafts for many years I never cease to enjoy every phase of grafting, as well as watching their progress during the first two or three years to see what it will do in my garden. Each year I expect to plant a few seeds for understock and make a few grafts and continue to look forward until they, too, will bloom and prove worthy of a place in my collection.

---

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## PACKING CAMELLIA BLOOMS FOR TRANSPORTING TO CAMELLIA SHOWS

There are three important ingredients to winning awards at camellia shows. First, good cultural practices that will result in healthy plants that will produce good flowers. Second, care of the flower from the time it starts to open until it is picked to avoid bruise of the flower by adjoining foliage. Third, proper facilities and care in placing the flowers in these facilities for transporting them to the show. This article deals with the third ingredient.

Two camellia growers in Southern California, both very successful in winning awards, have been asked to contribute to this subject. Berkeley M. Pace lives in Upland, some thirty miles east of Los Angeles. He drives some 125 miles to the San Diego show, some 150 miles to the Bakersfield show. 30 miles or less to the other Southern California shows, on the morning of the show. Fred Hamilton lives in Santa Maria, about 175 miles north of Los Angeles. He must of necessity have the blooms packed in his car the night before the show whether driving the previous evening or on the morning of the show.

### **Berkeley M. Pace**

Handling and packing camellias is most important in my opinion. First, I line an eight inch deep cardboard box with plastic on the bottom and sides to make the box water-tight. Next, I cover the bottom with damp turkish towel, then fluff about two inches of waxed shredded paper over the bottom of the box to hold the blossoms in place and to cushion from any jar in transporting.

Second, I pick the blossoms by holding a leaf or the stem, thus protecting the blossom at all times from being touched by any object. If the blossom is dirty, I wash it by holding it under the faucet or by submerging it in water, then take a small mohair brush and brush it gently to remove

all foreign particles. I then place it in the box, not letting one blossom touch another.

If I am going to hold blossoms overnight I insert the stems in flower tubes filled with water, then spray them with a fine mist using an atomizer. I cover the box with a tight fitting lid, then place it in a refrigerator at not under thirty-eight degrees.

I have found that the flowers I pick the morning of the show and handle with loving care are the flowers that usually get to the head table for me and hold up longer at the show.

### **Fred Hamilton**

It has been suggested that I present my method of picking, storing and transporting camellia blooms to shows, since I travel farther than most exhibitors (150-300 miles).

The blooms are stored and transported in cardboard orchid boxes that are discarded by florist shops or purchased from an orchid farm. The lids of these boxes should come down the full depth of the box in order that the box be almost airtight.

I line the bottom of the boxes with heavy feather-weight aluminum foil to protect the bottom from moisture, and also to prevent the humidity from escaping. This foil is then covered with an inch or so of shredded wax paper which is sprayed or sprinkled with water both top and bottom. Over this I place a white sheet cotton also moistened slightly. With the box so prepared, I leave it outside with the lid on to cool out in the night before I cut blooms.

Cutting flowers takes place fairly early each morning, 7 to 9 a.m. The flowers are cleaned if necessary with a small camel hair brush and water, then placed in the box with the name of each variety. The box of blooms is taken to a food locker where it is

*(Continued on page 20)*

## PLANTING CAMELLIAS IN THE GROUND

I. John Movich  
Pomona, California

Last week Ruth came over and said she had some beautiful blooms on her three camellia plants and wanted some more plants with buds. Last spring she had bought 'Hawaii', 'Betty Sheffield Supreme', and 'E. G. Waterhouse'. After checking from photographs she decided she would like to have the following: 'Debutante', 'First Prom', 'Spring Sonnet', 'Kramer's Supreme', 'Guilio Nuccio Var.', 'Ville de Nantes' and 'Tiffany'. The 'First Prom' was suggested instead of 'Alba Plena' because it does not shatter but instead falls in one piece. The 'Debutante' was chosen because of its beautiful pink color, good keeping qualities and early blooming. The others were chosen because they were on her list from camellia shows and, as the saying goes, she "just had to have them". These camellias, even though some of them are fairly new, were easily obtained from a nursery specializing in camellias.

I told Ruth to have a few holes dug at least a foot or so deep in a shady area where she would plant her camellias, fill the holes with water and see how long it would take for the holes to drain. She called and told me that the holes drained in ten minutes so last Saturday we went over to her home to plant the camellias. The soil in front of Ruth's home was a sandy

loam. The area at one time was an orange grove and we determined that the drainage was excellent. Since drainage is the most important consideration when planting camellias, we knew we should have no difficulty. Ruth's home faces east with a generous overhang of the eaves, an ideal situation. We dug holes twice the width of the containers and about eighteen inches deep and filled the holes with a mixture of 1/3 soil, 1/3 "Forest Humus" and 1/3 peat moss. After doing an "Indian War Dance" over the holes to firm the soil in the hole, we scooped away enough of the mixture so that the level of the plant root ball would rest about two inches above the surface. We then removed the plants from their containers and planted them. In planting we turned the plants so that the side with most branches would be facing the house because the plant would grow towards the light and make a well-balanced plant within a year or so. We let the hose run slowly around each plant to thoroughly soak the root ball and the soil surrounding it.

When we bought the peat moss and the forest humus, we also got a few sacks of medium-sized fir bark and covered the area around the plants to a depth of two inches and then  
*(Continued on page 28)*

**STRONG**

**VIGOROUS**

**SEEDLING**

**UNDERSTOCK**

**SASANQUA and JAPONICA**

**McCASKILL GARDENS**

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## California Camellia Show Schedule

- Feb. 10-11, 1968  
San Diego Camellia Society  
at San Diego
- Feb. 17-18, 1968  
Peninsula Camellia Society  
at Redwood City  
Pomona Valley Camellia Society  
at Pomona
- Feb. 24-25, 1968  
Delta Camellia Society  
at Pittsburgh  
Temple City Camellia Society  
at L. A. County Arboretum,  
Arcadia
- Feb. 25, 1968  
Camellia Society of Santa Clara  
County. In Student Union Building  
at San Jose City College. This  
will be the Society's first competitive  
show
- March 2-3, 1968  
L. A. Camellia Council  
at Descanso Gardens  
Camellia Society of Sacramento  
at Sacramento
- March 9-10, 1968  
Camellia Society of Kern County  
at Bakersfield  
Northern California Camellia  
Society at Pleasant Hill
- March 10, 1968  
Central California Camellia Society  
at Fresno
- March 16-17, 1968  
Camellia Society of Modesto at  
Modesto. New show location will  
be Palm Court Yard of recently  
completed E. & J. Gallo Office  
Building
- March 30-31, 1968  
Sonoma County Camellia Society  
at Sebastopol

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### PACKING (Cont.)

placed in the holding room which is kept at about 36-38°.

Since the food locker closes at 5 p.m., the containers of blooms are taken out of storage shortly before

## Pomona Valley Camellia Society

Pomona's second meeting of the season will be opened with a bloom display at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday Jan. 11 in the conference room of Pomona First Federal S&L, Main Office Center & Garey Avenue, Pomona.

Mrs. Roberta Wheeler will provide the program for the evening which begins at 8:00 p.m. Mrs. Wheeler is well known to many throughout the greater Pomona area due to her work in landscape gardening and as an instructor of gardening in the adult division of the Pomona Unified Schools. In addition to her many other activities she also has found time to be chairman of the City of Pomona's beautification program.

Plants for the evenings raffle have been obtained from Merle's Camellia Nursery, Grand Terrace, Colton.

Anyone interested in Camellias is invited to attend.

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that time each Friday before the show. Then comes the task of rearranging the flowers in alphabetical order and checking condition — some are discarded but the percentage is small. I place pieces of sponge rubber in the trunk of the car to cushion the boxes. When all the boxes are stacked they are sprayed slightly to keep them cool.

If I leave in the morning for a show, the car is parked outside with windows open and the trunk lid ajar, weather permitting. Then the early morning drive with the ventilators partly open to prevent the car from getting too warm.\* (When traveling thusly, red flannels and overcoats are recommended!)

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\*It might be advisable to discuss this and have an understanding before leaving home; otherwise the heat generated in the car from the argument while driving might tend to offset the fine care that has been given to the packing of the blooms. — Ed.

# Show Results

## LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA COUNCIL

Descanso Gardens, La Canada, California December 2-3, 1967

Sweepstakes — Not Scheduled

Best Japonica, Treated — 'Tiffany', Melvin Gum, Long Beach

Best Japonica, Treated, Runner-up — 'Ballet Dancer', Berkeley Pace, Upland

Japonica Treated Blooms on Court of Honor —

'China Doll', Wilkins Garner, Glendale; 'Cover Girl', Melvin Gum, Long Beach; 'Eleanor Martin', W. F. Goertz, San Marino; 'Elizabeth Le Bey', Thomas Hughes, La Crescenta; 'Clarise Carleton', Melvin Gum, Long Beach; 'Kramer's Supreme', Alvin Gunn, Lynwood; 'General George Patton', Jan Meyer, Glendora; 'Mathotiana', L. H. Shuey, Temple City; 'Mathotiana Supreme', Caryll Pitkin, San Marino; 'Tom Knudsen', L. H. Shuey, Temple City

Best Group of 3 Japonicas, Treated — 'Dr. John D. Bell', Frank Reed, Pasadena

Best Group of 3 Japonicas, Treated, Runner-up — 'Debutante', A. H. Dekker, Glendale

Best Japonica, Not Treated — 'Sunset Glory', W. H. Pike, Los Angeles

Best Japonica, Not Treated, Runner-up — 'Marie Bracey', Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rowe, Upland

Japonica Non-Treated Blooms on Court of Honor —

'Alice Wood', Miss Avonne Crawford, Glendale; 'Indian Summer', Harold Dryden, San Marino; 'Touchdown', Frank Reed, Pasadena

Best Group of 3 Non-Treated Japonicas — 'Touchdown', Frank Reed, Pasadena

Best Sasanqua, Hiemalis and Vernalis, Not Treated — 'Yule Tide', John Movich, Pomona.

Best Sasanqua, Hiemalis and Vernalis, Not Treated, Runner-up — 'Elfin Rose', W. V. Lytle, Glendale

Best Group of 3 Sasanqua, Hiemalis and Vernalis, Non-Treated, Runner-up — 'Ko-Gyoku', A. L. Summerson, Glendale

Best Hybrid, Treated — 'Francie L', Alvin Gunn, Lynwood

Best Hybrid, Treated, Runner-up — 'Felice Harris', Frank Reed, Pasadena

Best Hybrid, Non-Treated — 'Elsie Jury', L. H. Shuey, Temple City

Best Group of 9 Camellia Blooms — W. F. Goertz, San Marino

Best Seedling, Non-Treated Japonica — 'Lulu Belle', Harold Dryden

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## JUST A REMINDER

Harry Novick  
Woodland Hills, California

To my mind, the high light of a camellia meeting or show is to wander about the various exhibit tables and enjoy looking at the flowers. This pleasure can be increased two fold when done in the company of good friends. It gives one a chance to express vocal pleasure at the sight of a particular outstanding bloom. Each friend, of course, will then call your attention to the one favorite that has caught his eye. As we wander around the tables, mental notes are made — that ONE will surely be selected. Pity the poor Judges who are after all only human and are the final word in the selection for the awards table. But alas, beauty is only in the eye of each beholder.

A new point might be added to the methods by which camellias are judged. This can be called "Personality." And don't think that flowers do not have personality. This extra point could be brought out through a bit of staging with a few minor props. For example: never exhibit a pink camellia on a pink background, red on red, and white on white. Simple Eh! Check the tables at some of the shows or local society meetings. Then look at a white on a black background with a leaf or two for accent of the flower. Be sure to place the flower with its best face side forward. Or would it

be better to place the flower in an oversized pie tin surrounded by absorbent cotton until it looks like a sick patient on a hospital bed? To my way of thinking this distracts from the beauty of the flower. Use a small hidden container, if you must use a container or something similar. After all, all sides including the back side are supposed to be open for inspection by the judges.

Before I mention a few more varieties that have caught these old eyes in the past, I apologize to Joyce Kilmer.

'Of all the things I want to see  
Is a six inch camellia looking at me'  
(On my own bush of course)

### EVELINA

A very large white. Not exactly loose peony form but sort of semi tight peony with wavy and fluted petals. Medium open and spreading growth. Real personality appeal.

### I BELIEVE

Sort of radiant red to dark rose in color. Very large semi-double to loose peony form with wavy and fluted petals. Strong upright grower.

### LUSCIOUS LADY

Deep red. Very large, very high

*(Continued on page 32)*

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## SOIL REACTION AND PLANT GROWTH

*Reprinted from LASCA LEAVES, Publication of the Calif. Arboretum Foundation, Inc.*

Of all the factors which affect plant growth, perhaps the most insidious is soil reaction. There is no warning when the alkalinity becomes excessive except the poor plant growth, the fading of vivid flower colors and fragrance, reduced yield of flowers and fruit. This decline is often so gradual as to escape detection. The symptoms, of course, are similar to the effects of soil depletion, and fertilizer application is the first remedy that suggests itself. Unfavorable soil reaction is clearly demonstrated as the most probable cause when fertilizers produce no appreciable change in plant appearance.

This problem has become increasingly common in the fields and gardens of the West, with the continual accumulation in the soil of the alkaline salts found in the irrigation water. When water evaporates it leaves behind its total salt content. Only heavy, "over" irrigation or heavy rainfall will carry these salts away. Light rains and normal irrigation merely carry the salts down to the root zone where they create a serious hazard to plant growth. This problem is acute—indeed, the limits of tolerance of many plants already have been reached.

All acid-loving plants are the first to show distress from alkalinity. Azaleas, gardenias, hydrangea turn yellow—first the lower leaves, then as the trouble worsens, the entire plant. In desert areas, alkaline salts (white alkali) can be seen as a frosty deposit on soil and clay pots and on rocks and cement walks in the garden paths. More damaging, however, is the black alkali that cannot be seen. Here is a simple test for black alkali. To a spoonful of black soil in a water glass, add several drops of hydrochloric acid. If it bubbles, the soil contains the dread black alkali.

The best indication of soil reaction,

however, is the pH. In order to measure acidity and alkalinity, a scale from 1 to 14 has been established, based on the reaction of water which is neutral (neither acid nor alkaline) and is at the mid-point of 7. Higher than 7 pH is alkaline, below is acid. This is more easily understood if one considers the chemical formula of water, H<sub>2</sub>O, but written HOH. Acidity is related to the excess of hydrogen (H), and alkalinity to the preponderance of hydroxyl (OH). Water (HOH) has an equal number and is neutral. Rain water is 6.5. Most plants and soil bacteria are adapted to the reaction of rain water and prefer slightly acid soil.

For ease in remembering, compare the pH with the temperature (Fahrenheit) scale, but space off the last digit. A room temperature of 70 degrees is optimum for man, while plants in general prefer a slightly cooler 65 degrees. Man's blood has a pH of 7.3, plants prefer soil solution of 6.5. Just as many plants grow best at 50 to 60 degrees, some plants (acid-loving) grow best at a soil pH from 5 to 6. Although some plants prefer temperatures of 80 to 90 degrees, there are no plants that prefer high pH. Several will tolerate and some, such as bermuda grass, thrive better at high pH, but it is because of lack of competition. No ornamental plants have become adapted to alkaline soil, perhaps because all plants were dependent on rain for water until the rather recent (in plant history) innovation of irrigation.

Fortunately, the effect of alkaline salts can be minimized by the humus in the soil and actually counteracted by the acids produced by bacteria in the decomposition of organic matter. The end-product renders these salts harmless by a buffering action in which the salts are absorbed by the

*(Continued on next page)*

colloids. The organic content of the soil, therefore, plays a dual role in reducing plant damage from alkalinity.

This accounts in part for the great variation in the damage. Soil reactions may vary from one lawn to the next or even between different locations in the same garden. Sometimes this is due to other factors besides amount of humus. In the Southwest a new sidewalk, through leaching of the lime into nearby soil, may make adjacent soil too alkaline for dichondra or bent grass. Foundations frequently serve as a continuing source of lime for many years and this affects foundation plantings adversely. Many new-home owners have been able to locate buried plaster from the reaction of plants and soil to excessive alkalinity created by the lime.

The reaction of plants to alkalinity (or acidity) is due to the effect of pH on the availability of minerals. All necessary minerals are highly soluble at a pH of 6.5 to 7 and are decreasingly so at either end of the scale. Nitrogen and potash become insoluble at a pH of 8, due to the inactivity at a high pH of the bacteria that render these minerals available to plants. Phosphorus, on the other hand, combines chemically with calcium at a high pH and becomes insoluble. Only by bacterial action can the phosphorus be released for plant use. Iron and manganese quickly become unavailable when the pH is above 7, as do copper and zinc.

The effect of unfavorable soil reaction can be treated by the application of excess amounts of the trace elements bound up by the high or low pH. Although this amounts to treating the symptoms rather than the cause, it is very desirable to quickly alleviate the symptoms. On the chance that one or more of the elements is lacking, it is wise to supply all of the possible deficiencies. Of course it is best to use as a standard practice fertilizers which contain all of the essential trace minerals. In an emergency, the trace min-

erals can be supplied through the foliage by spraying the plants with a solution of trace minerals.

The basic problem of soil reaction is not affected by these superficial measures. It is only by the application of lime if the pH is low or sulphur in some form if the pH is too high, that soil reaction is permanently corrected. Because soil sulphur is inexpensive and releases acid over a long period of time, this material is generally favored. It has a rather limited use, however, because it must be mixed thoroughly with the soil to be effective. It is best used, therefore, only at planting time, and if the alkalinity problem appears subsequent to planting, soil sulphur is not the answer. Furthermore, its slowness of action is a drawback, as it requires at least a year to become effective.

Gypsum is used by many who believe they are counteracting alkalinity, but they are not. The main benefit of gypsum is to replace the sodium on colloidal clay particles which makes clay hard and impervious to water. The sodium salts formed are soluble and can be leached away. The calcium in gypsum opens up hard clay soils and improves drainage, allowing the alkaline salts which have accumulated to drain away.

Aluminum sulfate and iron sulfate have been used rather extensively and with varied results. Their effect on alkalinity is slight and not permanent, but with soluble materials it is very difficult to change the soil pH and the materials should be applied every year for best results.

One of the soluble materials that overcomes many problems in alkaline soil is lime sulphur. This is effective in reducing alkalinity and in replacing excessive sodium in the soil. Apply one gallon per 1000 sq. ft. of lawn or one cup over a 5x10 foot flower bed. Water it in thoroughly. A quick change in the soil reaction may release minerals and produce the same effect as a heavy fertilization.

## WHEN IS A HOBBY A HOBBY?

Anonymous

When is a hobby a hobby and when is it not a hobby but a job? Then the question, "whose hobby is it and who is having all the fun?" After volunteering to help on some of the seldom seen behind the scenes of this, the camellia hobby, I have decided that, like our old friend Clark Hubbs used to say, it is 10% camellias and 90% friendship. If you really want to have this hobby, then you will want to raise your hot little hand when someone asks for help on some committee and you will find that soon the hobby will have you. And then the fun begins.

If you analyze the situation you can't really have success in this hobby unless you have 100%. Try and leave out the 10% and you will find that when you are home alone there is nothing to do. Then leave out the 90% and when you're out where there are camellias and camellia people, you are still alone.

This hobby is really one of the best hobbies to have for people who like baseball. The baseball world has conveniently arranged their schedule so that about the last of the World Series is being televised when the first signs of a camellia bloom can be seen. The last out is being discussed and the first flower is looking at us through the open window. At this point we all become friends again, not taking sides with the winner but beginning to make every effort to be winners ourselves.

Let me tell you a little something about this camellia hobby that is in the 90% category. Have you ever received your nomenclature book through the mail and glanced at it with pleasure? Well, what you don't know is that some camellia friends who believe in propagating the 90% of this hobby have gotten together on a Saturday morning at the Southern California Camellia Society headquarters and

spent a jolly time packing and getting all the books ready for mailing under the direction of the Secretary. In among the names that were receiving these books with you were some very notable people — Joe Pyron, Admiral Felix Stump, your next door neighbor, a friend of mine, and I'm sure you would have found the name of one of your friends. Names are not enough. This hobby is filled with the most rewarding of experiences. When you arrive at any one of the many meetings and greet your friends, and they greet you, you're thankful for camellias.

The husbands sometimes think that this hobby is theirs. Well, the wives go along with this theory 100%, because as long as the husbands tend to the 10% adequately enough (with a little watering help on the side) their wives are more than glad to propagate the 90% of the hobby. Their reward comes in getting a new dress to wear to the San Diego show or the northern shows, and the friendship meetings that are part of it all when we migrate with our blooms to another area. Of course the weekend away from home with no cooking, no dishes has its compensation also.

Come join us at our meetings, our show weekends, seed sorting sorties, mailing parties, scion exchanges, and any other get togethers that up to now you have been missing, and you can be assured that if you have all of the 90% you will also have a better 10%.

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# GROWING CAMELIAS UNDER CONTROLLED CONDITIONS

By Harry A. Shealy

*Reprinted from CAROLINA CAMELIAS,  
the publication of the South Carolina Camellia Society*

Throughout the camellia growing areas, greenhouse culture is being steadily increased. Many very wise words have been spoken and written on potting soils, drainage, fertilizer and chemical usage. This has resulted in great advances in the production of better and bigger blooms.

There seems to be, however, another field offering further possibility of improvement and that is growing camellias under controlled conditions which, if properly practiced, could still improve both quality and add longer enjoyment of the flower. Under controlled conditions, flowers have been known to stay fresh for fifteen days.

To get these conditions, greenhouses should be equipped with three controls. First, controlled humidity is a must. The flower itself is a high percentage of water; therefore, to keep the bloom fresh as well as to get the highest quality, the correct amount of water should be maintained in the air at all times. This would undoubtedly assure quality blooms and many additional days of freshness. This would be especially true on hot, low-humidity days experienced in most camellia growing areas.

To control humidity in the greenhouse is fairly simple and inexpensive. The house would need 110-volt wiring (same as residential); a solenoid valve and a humidistat is necessary. Spray nozzles or atomizers which are designed to work on city water pressure are the other necessary items.

The humidistat is the real heart of controlling. It is activated by a membrane sensitive to water. This membrane expands when wet and contracts when drying. For example, as the element contracts it allows electri-

cal contacts to send energy impulses to the solenoid valve, which turns on the water. This continues until such time as the element stretches, stopping the impulses, thereby deenergizing the solenoid valve and cutting off the water. The amount of humidity desired may be lessened or increased by adjusting the humidistat. Conditions remain constant until it is decided other changes are needed.

These valves may be purchased at either plumbing or washing machine supply houses. The number of nozzles needed would have to be determined by rule of thumb rather than by calculation, as many variables are readily apparent, such as size of house, depth in ground, number of plants, how tightly the house is built, and how much sun or shade, etc. It would be best to have an ample supply on hottest and driest days.

Temperature control is the second area vitally needed. A regular thermostat will turn heat on or off at predetermined levels, never allowing the greenhouse to get too hot or too cold.

Thirdly, a small exhaust fan should be installed at either end of house, preferably at the highest point. A louvre should be installed in the opposite end. This louvre would only open when the exhaust fan creates a vacuum and should close when the vacuum ceases. This fan should be activated by a regular thermostat when the heat goes up to a level which is harmful to the blooms. This will keep the house cooler by removing the hottest air, but will pull breezes above the plants, thus minimizing flower damage. The humidity system will, of course, run more. However, the water temperature is

generally cooler, thereby is an aid in reducing heat.

It might also be added that on cold nights when heaters are running continually, controlled humidification will also add heat units from the water to aid your heating system.

Controlled conditions keep your blooms from drying out when it is cold and heaters burn out the water, or when it is hot and dry. However, there are other advantages when the greenhouse conditions are automatically controlled. Not only will better blooms be grown, but savings will be realized on electric and water bills, cuttings will root much better and more easily, and bare-rooting will be much less hazardous.

Finally, there will be some who will say that there is ample humidity because of water on top and sides of the house. This is not entirely correct, because this is condensation and

doesn't necessarily mean the correct amount of humidity at all. Humidity is very minute particles of water suspended in the air, barely visible unless moisture is rather high, and should not damage the most delicate of flowers. Condensation, on the other hand, is large globules of water. These globules of water will damage blooms because of weight and distance of fall.

It is therefore recommended that each grower find the conditions producing best results, as is done with soils, fertilization, etc.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to take a winter vacation—going to shows, hunting new camellias—and not worry whether the heat is on or off, whether the camellias are too dry or too cold? Controlled conditions will not only grow better, long-lasting blooms, they will give you more peace of mind.



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Harold E. Dryden

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Raymond Noyes, Chairman Spring Show  
Alvin L. Gunn, Asst. Chairman Spring Show  
Robert Briggs, Past Chairman Spring Show

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### **PLANTING (Cont.)**

sprinkled the bushes and the fir bark with a fine spray so that they would also be well soaked. I told Ruth not to fertilize the plants until late spring.

A question Ruth had was, "should she cover or protect her plants when

it got down to 32 degrees". I told her not to cover her camellias in any way since they will take temperatures down to ten degrees without hurting the plants.

I also gave her the dates and the places of the camellia shows to be held in Southern California in February so that she could enter her blooms in the shows and compare them with the other growers' blooms and said, "Who knows, you might win a silver tray". To her comment "That would be impossible", I told her that one of our new members entered a bloom in the early show at Descanso Gardens and won a beautiful silver tray. Also that at Pomona the year before last a gentleman entered one bloom and won "Best of Show".

In answer to Ruth's question as to where she could obtain more information regarding camellias, I recommended that she join a camellia society which meets at a location that will be convenient for her to attend the meetings.

---

## **Temple City Camellia Society**

The Society's third meeting of the year will be held on Thursday evening, January 25, 1968, in the Lecture Hall of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia at 8:00 p.m.

The guest speaker of the evening is Mr. Mark Anthony, Superintendent of Descanso Gardens in La Canada. Mr. Anthony will discuss various phases of Camellia culture, but will stress the progress of Reticulata plantings in the garden. In view of the thousands of camellias growing in Descanso, Mr. Anthony's talk should be of interest to all.

Blooms will be placed on the display tables at 7:30 p.m. At this time we should have a plentiful supply of flowers, so please bring as many as possible.

## LET'S HAVE SOME OLD-FASHIONED BOUQUETS\*

Gertrude B. Fiertz  
Manhasset, New York

The essence of art is change. This principle applies to any artistic expression, from sculpture to music to writing and, let us admit right here — to flower arrangement. Some of these movements in taste and values go in cycles, as is most obvious, perhaps with fashion in women's clothes. Later, after a style has emerged, bloomed, become dominant, been accepted, its values inevitably lose their freshness and force, fade, and are presently replaced.

What prompts these observations is the fact that for many years now we have seen the overriding emphasis, if not the exclusive dominance, of the Japanese style in flower arrangement. In fact we hardly ever see anything else nowadays in flower shows, if not quite so inevitably in private homes. Where, some of us ask, are the bouquets we once saw, warm with color, scented, abundant, attesting, it once seemed, the very fullness of life? Instead we are now brought before "compositions," consisting of wires, pieces of metal, driftwood, or—even worse—before "cute" statuettes, usually of Santa Claus, of Bambi or even an angel, combined, it is true, with a few sprigs, twigs, leaves, a cattail, a branch of pussy willow, and sometimes a flower or two. The longer I look, the more unbecoming the melange appears to me.

And yet, literally across the aisle in many cases, from these monotone and linear "arrangements," appear the ever more abundant, even more colorful and varied flowers now grown in this country. Both dealers and private growers strive to outdo previous efforts. But these productions are typically stacked up on stands and tables,

pot to pot, almost blossom to blossom. Here is no pretense at a setting. These are not yet compositions: these flowers are raw material.

Where then should we enjoy them? In a greenhouse? A florist shop? Why not in our own homes where settings await them? Or do we want in our homes only austere, quasi-geometric arrangements? Why not welcome the spectrum of flower color, the long-neglected range of delight in scent, the message and assurance that in an age of war and struggle, the good earth can still bring forth abundance and beauty?

I know that I am not alone in feeling "homesick" for another style. I have eavesdropped at flower shows and among gardeners. And just over a year ago a well-known garden writer suggested the same thought: "I receive or see," he said, "many photographs of prize flower arrangements and yet almost never do I see any which would be helpful to me in arranging flowers which I grow in my garden or greenhouse. Rarely, indeed, would these 'arrangement' creations stand up very long on the dining room table or would be appropriate there. When are we going to have instruction on how to arrange flowers for daily use? Not Japanese nor 'Art', but just lovely bouquets. . . ."

The situation is not the same everywhere. A year ago in a small town in Switzerland called Uster-bei-Zurich, we visited a flower show that offered nothing but home-grown garden flowers in bouquets. We wandered fascinated by the variety in color, the range of informality and intimacy suggested, the kinds of flowers grown. Or, again, we visited not long ago in far-off Alaska a flower show held in a bank by the local Garden Club of Juneau. Here in a harsher climate, we found

*(Continued on page 32)*

\*This is a letter to the Editor that was printed in the March 1967 Gardeners Forum of the American Horticultural Society.

## "BEST JAPONICA CAMELLIAS" — AUSTRALIAN PREFERENCES

Harold E. Dryden

I suggested in my article about my visit to Australia<sup>1</sup> that the popular varieties there do not always follow the American pattern. This is particularly true with regard to their likes for hybrid camellias because of their desires for color in their gardens. American varieties are becoming increasingly popular as more of them are being introduced and as the ones that have been there for some time are becoming larger. Following is a composite list of "Our 12 Best Japonica Camellias as chosen by the three key men of Camellia Grove Nursery in St. Ives, a Sydney suburb — Jim Fisher, the owner, and his two key men Peter Campbell and Harry Pedersen.

### WHITE

White Nun  
Kamohonami

### VARIEGATED

R. L. Wheeler, Var.  
Empress of Russia Var.  
Jean Lyne

### PINK

C. M. Wilson\*  
Drama Girl  
Edith Linton  
Hatsu-sakura (Daitairin)  
Laurie Bray  
Magnoliaeflora

### RED

Australis  
Emperor of Russia  
Great Eastern  
Guilio Nuccio  
Moshio\* (Australian Flame)  
Prince Eugene Napoleon

### BI-COLOR OR "SWEETPEA"

Betty Sheffield Supreme\*  
Dr. Tinsley  
Sawada's Dream  
Tiptoe

\*Unanimous selection

<sup>1</sup>See "Observations on Camellias and Camellia People in Australia", CAMELLIA REVIEW, October 1967.

It is interesting to compare this group that represents an Australian point of view with Bill Woodroof's choices as given in the article "One Man's Best Varieties" in the November 1967 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW.

### PERMANENT (Cont.)

7. The root level is not raised as with humas, but stays right at the top of the soil level, thus remaining constant.
8. Perhaps best of all, a gravel mulch is absolutely permanent — never needs replacement.

We use what is called "black and tan"  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and buy it by the yard as we also use it extensively on our paths. It costs about \$10 a yard here delivered. Of course, one can buy rock of different colors to get whatever effect is desired.

A friend of mine here who has over 100 camellias has found the very course fir bark (1" to 2") excellent for mulching camellias in the ground. I have been amazed at how well it protects them from the hot sun and, like the gravel, it does not draw up the roots although it is not as easy to keep in place.

Looking at it from another angle, perhaps we might go a step further and use gravel in our soil mix. It is far more natural to the camellia than sponge rock or vermiculite and, especially if used in conjunction with a heavy percentage of water-retaining humus, such as peat moss and compost, would seem to provide almost an ideal medium, especially for camellia types such as *reticulata*, to which perfect drainage is so vital. It is possible there may also be some mineral value to gravel. This year we are using some minus  $\frac{1}{4}$ " sand and gravel from our creek in the soil mix and perhaps may learn more about this as a result.



## SCHEDULE OF DIVISIONS AND CLASSES FOR 1947 CAMELLIA SHOW

With show time approaching, it is of interest to know, or to recall if a person was exhibiting camellias then, the Schedule of Divisions and Classes of the Southern California Camellia Society Show that was held in Brookside Park, Pasadena, in February 1947, twenty years ago. It will be noted as one reads that there were schedules only for *C. japonica* and that the competition was by color and form instead of the present-day competition by species and variety.

### DIVISION I One Blossom

Each class divided according to color.

- (a) Pink
- (b) Red
- (c) Variegated
- (d) White

Class 1. Single—One row of 5 to 7

petals, stamens showing. Examples: Amabilis, Wakanura.

Class 2. Semi-double—Two or three rows of large outer petals with stamens showing. Examples: Tricolor, Grandiflora Rosea, Finlandia.

Class 3. Anemoneform — Two or three rows of large outer petals, center convex and composed of a tight cluster of petaloids. Examples: Chandleri, Francine, Governor Mouton, Marchioness of Salisbury.

Class 4. Peoniform—Large outer petals, large convex center of petaloids forming a dense mass with no stamens evident. Examples: Peoniflora, Emperor, Professor Sargent.

Class 5. Roseform—Petals large, round and turned back from a rose-like bud. Examples: Julia Drayton, Belle Romana.

*(Continued on next page)*



The late Leslie Marshall, popular camellia nurseryman and active camellia society member, and A. H. Dekker.

Class 6, Formal Double—Regularly imbricated from center to outer circumference. Examples: Alba Plena, Pink Perfection, General MacArthur.

#### **DIVISION II**

##### **Three Blossoms**

Display of three blossoms of one variety sub-classified according to type and color as in classes one to six inclusive of Division I.

#### **DIVISION III**

Largest collection of one of a kind of named varieties.

#### **DIVISION IV**

Display of 6 blossoms of one kind in low container supplied by exhibitor. No division as to class or color in judging.

#### **DIVISION V**

Display of 6 blossoms of different kinds.

#### **DIVISION VI**

Display of twelve blossoms of one kind in low container supplied by exhibitor. No division as to class or color in judging.

#### **DIVISION VII**

Best flower from exhibitor's own seedling.

#### **DIVISION VIII**

Most outstanding flower in the show in each of the 6 Classes of Division I.

#### **DIVISION IX**

Most outstanding flower in the show.

---

### **JUST A REMINDER (Cont.)**

flower with heavy textured petals. Peony form. Quite an eye catcher because of its size and height. Medium growth habit.

#### **JUDGE THOMAS PORTER**

Very large rose pink to reddish with many stamens mixed with petaloids. Medium spreading growth. Variegated variety is quite outstanding. Petals are large and heavy textured.

### **LET'S HAVE (Cont.)**

an agreeably open-minded taste that combined a few Japanese linear arrangements with true bouquets emphasizing color and abundance. And one last example: walking, as I have done lately, through the Museum of Modern Art as well as the Metropolitan, I began to notice the many bouquets in pictures by acknowledged masters—Renoir, Van Gogh, Van der Coes, the earlier Flemish, to name a few. How they floured in color, warmth, vitality!

Please, in the name of many of us, may we have back the old-fashioned bouquet?!

---

### **KNOWLEDGE**

Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi recently wrote in *SCIENCE*: "It is thought that (books which contain knowledge) are something, the contents of which have to be crammed into our heads. I think the opposite is closer to the truth. Books are there to keep the knowledge in while we use our heads for something better".

And I, substituting the word *GARDENING* for his *FISHING* continue the quote: "So I leave knowledge, for safekeeping, to books and libraries and go gardening, sometimes for the plants, sometimes for new knowledge. I do not depreciate knowledge and I have worked hard and long to know something of all fields of science . . . But I have retained only what I need for an understanding, intuitive grasp, and in order to know in which book to find what. This was fun, and we must have fun or else our work is no good."

—From  
NOTES BY NELSON COON,  
in *American Horticultural  
Society's Gardeners Forum*

# **Directory of California Camellia Societies**

*Societies with asterisk (\*) are Affiliates of Southern California Camellia Society*

## **\*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF KERN COUNTY**

President: James Hicks, Jr.; Secretary, Melvin Canfield, 2709 Scott Pl., Bakersfield 93306  
Meetings: 2nd Monday October through April in Police Bldg., 1620 Truxton Ave., Bakersfield

## **\*CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY**

President: Douglas Nowlin; Secretary, Mrs. George T. Butler, 1813 Windsor Lane,  
Santa Ana 92705  
Meetings: 1st Thursday October through April in Orange County Farm Bldg., 1916 W. Chapman,  
Orange

## **CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO**

President: Dr. Roy O'Neal; Secretary: Mrs. Martha Derr, 6454 Oakridge Way, Sacramento 95831  
Meetings: 4th Wednesday October through April in Garden & Art Center, McKinley Park,  
Sacramento

## **\*CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Robert Kellas; Secretary, Mrs. Glenn S. Wise, 5493 E. Liberty Ave., Fresno 93702  
Meetings: Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 24, Feb. 21, Mar. 20 in Mayfair School, Fresno

## **DELTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: A. M. Patterson; Secretary: Mrs. Dorothy Blackard, 2707 Prospect St., Concord 94520  
Meetings: 4th Tuesday October through April in School Services Bldg., 6th & G Sts., Antioch

## **JOAQUIN CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Karn Heortling; Secretary: Mrs. Eugene Chesi, 801 S. Pleasant St., Lodi 95240  
Meetings: 1st Tuesday November through April in Micke Grove Memorial Bldg., Lodi

## **LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: James Tuliano; Secretary: Mrs. Joe L. Vendracek, 13176 Fenton, Sylmar  
Meetings: 1st Tues., Dec. through April, Hollywood Women's Club, 1749 N. La Brea, Hollywood

## **MODESTO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Dr. Jake Holtzman; Secretary: Mrs. Hazel Grosso, 1424 Encina Ave., Modesto 95351  
Meetings: 2nd Monday October through May in "Ag" Bldg. of Modesto Junior College

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Robert E. Ehrhart; Secretary: Carl W. Schroeder, 41 Van Ripper Lane, Orinda 94563  
Meetings: 1st Monday November through May in Claremont Junior High School, 5750 College  
Ave., Oakland

## **PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Albert H. Dekker; Secretary: Mrs. A. L. Summerson, 1370 San Luis Rey Dr.,  
Glendale 91208  
Meetings: 1st Thursday November through April in Tuesday Afternoon Club House,  
400 N. Central Ave., Glendale

## **PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Louis J. Giomi; Secretary: Mrs. Pauline Moore, 80 Wheeler Ave.,  
Redwood City 94061  
Meetings: 4th Tuesday September through April in Hospitality Room, First Federal Savings  
Bldg., 700 El Camino Real, Redwood City

## **\*POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Nelson R. Gatov; Secretary: Nancy McCormick, 568 E. Francis, Ontario 91728  
Meetings: 2nd Thursday October through April in First Federal Savings & Loan Bldg.,  
399 N. Garey Ave., Pomona

## **\*SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Samuel E. Foster; Secretary: Mrs. Peg White, 5951 Germaine Lane, La Jolla 92037  
Meetings: 2nd Friday (except February which is 1st Friday) November through May in Floral  
Assn. Bldg., Balboa Park, San Diego

## **SONOMA COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Alton B. Parker; Secretary: Mrs. Inez Tryon, Sebastopol  
Meetings: 4th Thursday, November through April

## **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

See inside front cover of this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW

## **\*TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

President: Laurence R. Shuey; Secretary: Mrs. Violet Shuey, 5813 N. Golden West Ave.,  
Temple City 91780  
Meetings: 5th Thursday of November and 4th Thursday of December through March  
in Lecture Hall of Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

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*Society, Inc.*

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