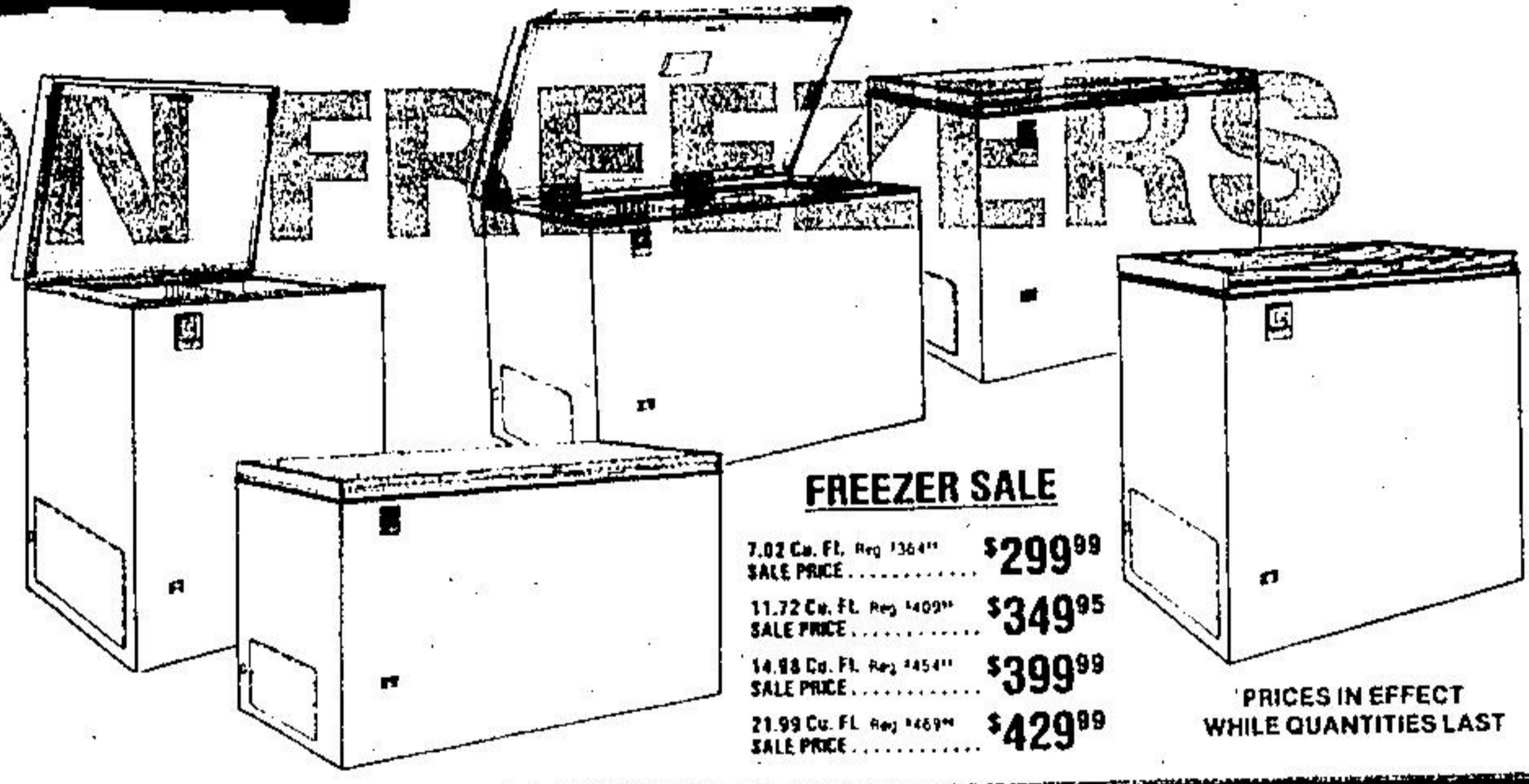


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### Fall planting

Years ago it was customary to plant trees and shrubs in the spring because it was the only season the plants were available. Today, a new tradition has been established. Garden outlets, nurseries and mail-order firms now stock an array of trees, shrubs, spring-flowering Holland bulbs and lawn care products expressly for fall planting.

In addition, there is new evidence that trees and shrubs planted in the fall grow faster and more vigorously than identical species planted in the spring.

In all of the tests, soil temperature appeared to be the key factor. Plants put into the ground in September fared better than those planted in November. Root growth continued until the soil temperature dropped below 40-45 degrees F. The conclusion drawn is that plants need a minimum of four weeks in soil with a temperature above 45 degrees F. For better root development.

The exact planting time for the best results can be determined by geographical location, according to the Fall Planting Council.

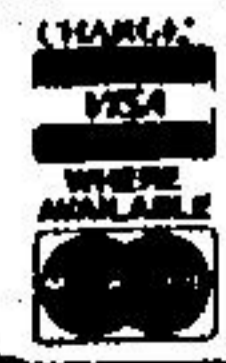
Containerized plants must be removed from their containers before they are set into the ground. Balled-and-burlapped material can be planted "as is". Fall planting procedures are the same as those in spring.

Dig a hole twice the diameter of the root ball and half again as deep. Before setting the plant into place, mix two or three shovelful of peat moss and a sprinkling of all-purpose fertilizer into the bottom of the hole. Add enough of the dug out soil so that the base of the tree or shrub is level with the soil line.

When the root is centered, shovel in more soil until the hole is half-filled. Roll back any exposed burlap and water the area thoroughly. Finish filling the hole to the soil line and soak the area again.

Young tree trunks should be wrapped in burlap strips or aluminum foil to protect them from sun exposure and animals. They also should be staked for protection against strong winds. The simplest method is to place a 2 x 2 inch stake four to six inches away from the tree trunk and drive it approximately 20 inches into the ground.

Attach the tree to the stake with wire encased in a piece of rubber hose or wrapped in rags so it doesn't cut into the trunk.



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