

Annuals an inexpensive way to add colour to your yard

nnuals are plants that live for only one season. Planted fair-L ly early in the season, they grow and bloom, then die as fall comes. They provide a brief, precious blast of color to be enjoyed for only a short time.

Annuals are certainly an inexpensive way to add color to your yard and garden. During early spring and into mid-summer, trays and trays of annuals are available at low prices. You can mix and match flowers of all shapes, sizes and colors. When buying annuals, choose plants that are well-rooted with healthy green leaves and sturdy stems. They don't have to be in bloom, just healthy. After the normal planting season is over, beware of buying too many more annuals. A bargain may not be so good if your plants are unhealthy.

Do you use fencing around the perimeter of your yard to hide an unsightly area or to keep kids and pets in? Climbing annuals are a great way to spruce up your fence line or to hide that unsightly outdoor item. Some climbing annuals include the morning glory, scarlet runner beans, black-eyed Susan vine, sweet peas and hyacinth beans. They'll climb, bloom and make you glad you took the time to plant them.

The aforementioned climbing annuals need lots of sun. They would not do well if left to climb up a tree trunk

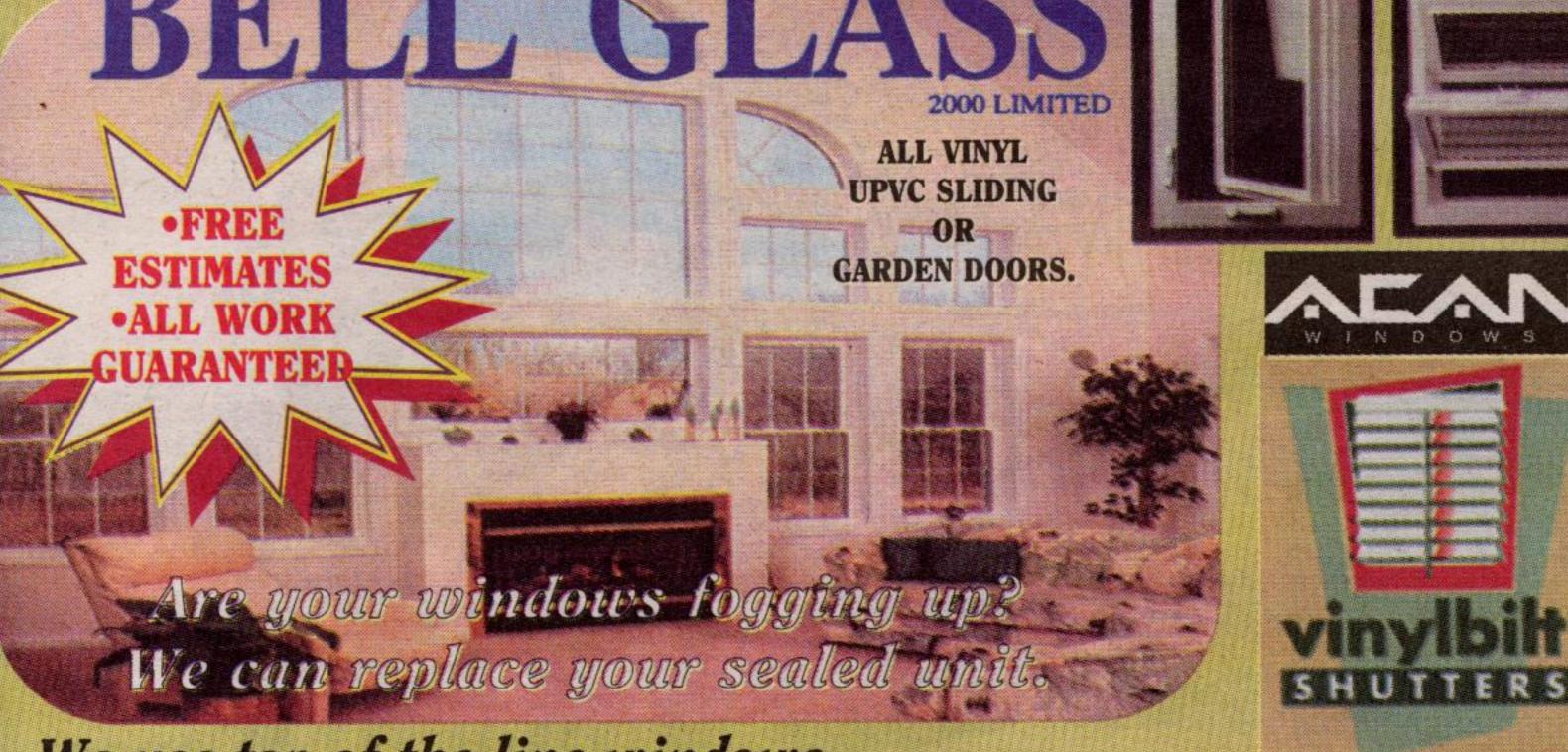


or a shaded trellis. There are some annuals, however, that thrive in shady spots. For successful shade plants try planting impatiens, monkey flower, nasturtium, California bluebell or the wishbone flower.

Planting annuals in pots or flowerboxes is becoming more popular each year. Pots can grace porches, patios and pathways. They are easy to plant and maintain. In fact, many of today's pots resemble marble or clay but are made of lightweight plastic. With this wide variety of pots available, what will you plant in them? Petunias, marigolds, verbenas, thunbergia,

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