



Home Beautifying and Landscape Suggestions



Seeding and Propagation

Propagation by means of cuttings is similar to propagation to that of seed. A cutting is a cell or a group of cells in an active state of growing. In order that this cell or group of cells may continue to grow, it is necessary that the same consideration be given it that is given a seed during its period of incubation. The factors influencing the growth of a cutting are identical with those effecting the germination of a seed, with the exception that in the propagation of cuttings, light is known to have a definite influence. For this reason, it is common practice to use sand in the propagation of cuttings, so that there will be plenty of air, and light to satisfy the needs of the cutting.

However, in propagating plants by means of cuttings, it must be remembered that there are many different kinds of bacteria in the soil, each having an allotted line of duty to perform. One of the duties of one group of bacteria seems to be to attract and destroy any living organism in the soil so that decay might start. Thus, where conditions are not entirely favorable for a cutting to propagate itself, these enemy bacteria pounce upon it and almost immediately decay will start. This soon gets the advantage of the plant cells trying to take on the function of roots and the result is failure.

Perhaps, the greatest factor in the propagation of cuttings is to prevent any unnecessary exertion on the part of the cutting itself. It has plenty to do in changing certain cells in its structure into root cells, without having to care for its stem and foliage at the same time. Thus, care should be exercised to keep it out of direct contact with hot winds or direct sunlight, until the cells that take on the function of roots are rather fully developed.

The scientific propagator prepares beds with two strata of glass, shading the upper strata. He regulates the temperature and moisture content of the atmosphere so they are constant and ideal for the particular plant he is propagating. Temperature varies with different plants from forty degrees F. to eighty degrees F. This range of temperature is great because of the length of time different plant cuttings require to develop a root system. Where a plant develops roots very slowly, a low temperature is required because enemy bacteria would thrive in a warm soil and overwhelm it before it could get started.

In seeding the garden, if the soil has been carefully prepared so as to bring the moisture line up to the depth that the seeds are to be sown, most seed will usually germinate without aid of artificial watering or rain.

Usually there is enough moisture in the soil itself to take care of proper germination. As a matter of fact, in most sections of the country, an entire crop can be grown and harvested without the aid of a single shower of rain or any artificial watering. However, this requires constant tillage in order that the water in the natural reservoir, the subsoil, may be utilized by the growing crop.

As stated above, fertilizers have much to do with the moisture content of the soil. They aid materially in helping to nourish the small tender plant, that develops immediately after germination. Usually there is enough nourishment in the seed itself to grow two or three leaves of foliage.

It is when that supply has been exhausted that the plant is at its most critical stage. It is in this stage that most failures occur.

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	Height		Height
Achillea (The Pearl). White; for cutting	24"	Digitalis Shirley. White to deep rose. June-July	48"
Achillea Mil. Roseum	12"	Funkia Coerulea (Plantain Lily). Blue. Border	24"
Agrostemma Coronaria. Rich crimson	24"	Gaillardia. Brownish-red. All summer	24"
Anchusa Italica. Gentian-blue. June-Sept.	48"	Gypsophila Paniculata (Baby's Breath)	24"
Anthemis Tinctoria (Marguerite). Golden yellow	18"	Gypsophila Repans. Double white	4"
Aquilegia Alpina. Dark blue	14"	Helenium Autumnale Rubrum	18"
Arabis Alpine. Bedding rockeries, white	6"	Hollyhock Double Mixed	72"
Artemesia Lactifolia. Elegant spike sprays, white	48"	Liatris	48"
Aster Hardy, Novae Angliae. Lavender-blue	48"	Linum Perene White	14"
Baptisea Australis. Dark blue; for wild border	36"	Linum Perene (Flax). Blue; all summer; rockery	18"
Boltonia Asteroides. White. Aug.-Sept.	72"	Mertensia. Virginia Blue Bells. Excellent for woods	14"
Pink. For background. Aug.-Sept.	72"	Phlox Subulata Pink. Lilac and white; creeping	12"
Canterbury Bells Blue Double. Biennial	24"	Phlox—Mrs. Jenkins. Purest white	18"
Canterbury Bells Blue Single. Biennial	24"	Phlox—Wanadis. Lilac blue with reddish violet eye	18"
Carnation Grenadin. Mixed. June-Sept.	12"	Polemonium Coeruleum. Jacob's Ladder	12"
Campanula. Biennial; blue, lilac, pink and mixed	36"	Poppy Princess Vic. Louise Per. Bright salmon	24"
Chinese Plants Physalis Franchetti. Lantern plant	16"	Poppy Undicuale	10"
Chrysanthemum Leucathemum fl. pl.	14"	Pyrethrum Roseum	30"
Chrysanthemums. Daisy-like; white	18"	Raminunuculus Repens, fl. pl. Double buttercups	12"
King Edward. White, daisy-like flowers	36"	Rudbeckia Newmanii Yellow daisy-like flower	36"
Centaurea, Montana. Blue. July-Sept.	24"	Lacinata. (Golden-Glow). Yellow	60"
Coreopsis. Yellow. All summer	24"	Sedum Album Clumps	3"
Delphinium Belladonna. Sky-blue. June-Oct.	36"	Sedum Stahl Clumps	3"
Chinese Blue. Blue. June-Oct. Border	24"	Sedum (Acre). Yellow and red; creeping	4"
Chinese Alba. White. June-Oct. Border	24"	Sedum Spectabile. Light rose; July-Sept.	12"
Hybrids. Assorted. Dark shades	36"	Trillium Erectum. Excellent for woods	8"
Delphinium, Formosum. Dark blue	36"	Tunica. Fine hair-like foliage. Pink or white	6"
Delphinium, Summer Cloud. White	36"	Veronica Amethystina	12"
Dianthus Barbatus (Sweet Williams). Mixed	24"	Veronica Elegans	8"
Dianthus Caessius (Cheddar Pink). Pink	8-10"	Viola Cor. Perfection	4"
Dianthus Heddewigii. Double mixed, red	12"	Wallflower. Golden-yellow; blooms all summer	18"
Dianthus Plumaris. Double mixed, hardy pink	12"		

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