

**FALL GARDEN NOTES**

By

M. A. Pottinger, President  
Franken Bros., Deerfield, Ill.

In order that one may have the most efficient garden, where every plant seems to be in just the right position and place, it is necessary for one to take notes from time to time, and preserve them for future reference, so that the necessary developments may be accomplished in an efficient manner.

Evergreens are being used in perennial borders as well as in Rock Gardens and foundation plantings. They lend a foliage effect that is unsurpassed for a year around landscape. Make notes of your borders now, where you may use an Evergreen here and there, in order that you may bring out a most beautiful and desirable landscape.

Recalling some of the spring vacancies in the garden, those of you who have not had the pleasure of enjoying your own daffodils, hyacinths, crocus, tulips and other spring blooming bulbs, should make preparations

at this time for their plantings this fall. The Madonna lilies are the first of the bulb root to be planted in the fall. Shipments from France are now arriving and your needs can be taken care of at once.

There are also many of the spring blooming perennials and roots such as columbine, delphinium, iris and peonies, also phlox should be included in this fall planting list of plants. The season for planting iris and peonies come first. Now is their proper planting season. Perennials and phlox are usually planted in September and October.

Included in your notes should be soil suggestions and observations, as regard to their best natural advantages. To illustrate: Lilies do best in a protected, yet well drained area. The type of evergreens should be selected that will thrive best in the particular spot where you wish them to stand. For instance; such varieties as taxus, Douglas fir, pfitzeriana juniper and hemlocks do very well in shade. While the junipers thrive best in a well drained and airy location. The mountain pine and Colorado blue spruce are two of our most effective evergreens, but should be carefully located, so that they are in the extreme edge of the border in order to get full value of their beauty.

As a reconsideration of your fall notes, they should include a sort of a barometer for the entire program of the coming year, and right now is really the starting point or beginning of your next year's garden program.

Start right and make your garden notes carefully and make your next year's garden a real pleasure.

**RESULTS OF SURVEY OF OAK TREES HERE**

**Diseases Found Affecting This Type of Timber on North Shore Described**

While it has been a matter of report for some time that oak trees in the "North Shore" region were dying in large numbers, no accurate knowledge of the cause of their death was available. Various causes of the injury have been suspected, such as anthracnose, root rot and unsuitable soil conditions.

Recently a conference was held on the subject and the reports of Dr. H. W. Anderson of the University of Illinois and Dr. W. H. Rankin, chief pathologist of the Bartlett Tree Research laboratories, Stamford, Conn., are combined in this pamphlet.

**Extensive Observation**

Observations were made over a wide area in the three days spent on the study and several trees were cut down to determine the condition of the roots and trunk. It was apparent that the white oaks in this district rarely attain large size. After reaching the size of twelve to twenty inches in diameter, they regularly show signs of decline and starvation. The clay soil is undoubtedly responsible for this condition of low vigor, for it was noted that the root system spread only a few feet from the base of the trunk. A dying of the top branches, known as stag-head, is a common result of the weakened condition.

In addition to the low vigor and resulting stag-head, two important pests of the white oak were found to be prevalent. One of these is the scale insect, asterolecanium variolosum commonly known as the pit forming golden oak scale, and the other a fungus disease known as oak leaf and twig blight. The golden oak scale and the fungus disease were found to be commonly severe on the same trees. They seem to thrive together and it is believed that the scale insect is probably the primary cause of injury and leads to more abundant infection of the leaf and twig blight fungus. This increased severity of the fungus on the scale infested trees is likely due to the fact that the twig canker stage is favored and thus a larger amount of the fungus is carried over winter ready to infect the leaves. On trees not severely damaged by the scale, the twig canker stage was not abundant. This fungus disease is epidemic in some seasons and causes wide spread defoliation of white oaks. This was true in this section in 1928, but this season only a scattering infection is present and this mainly on the scale injured trees.

**Specimens Identified**

Specimens submitted to Dr. W. P. Flint, chief entomologist at the University of Illinois, were identified as the pit forming golden oak scale. He states that this scale insect causes serious injury when present in relatively small numbers and is one of the most serious factors in weakening trees in the northern Illinois region.

Although root rot was suspected as being present and in part responsible for part of the loss of oak trees in this section, there was on evidence

obtained that such was the case. In certain trees a small area of the center of the base of the tree was found to be decaying. This type of decay results when the tap root dies and in the specimens examined, the amount of decay was very slight and of no importance in so far as affecting the health of the tree. The lateral roots were found to be healthy.

The three principal causes of the weakening and dying of white oak trees in this region are preventable and on many estates visited, the trees were found to be in a high state of vigor, with large dark green leaves and excellent twig growth for the season. In many cases specimen trees were pointed to with pride by the superintendent as a tree which had been in a weakened condition only one or two years ago.

Even though these examples of healthy white oaks on certain properties are abundant enough to prove conclusively that care will make healthy trees of those that are now in very low vigor, the opinion is all too prevalent in this district that it does not pay to spend much effort on the white oaks. Many trees are being sacrificed needlessly and at greater expense where replacements are made than it would cost to keep them in healthy condition.

The measures of controlling starvation by feeding and of spraying for the oak scale and anthracnose are not new or experimental. They have been used extensively in other parts of the country as well as on a few estates in the Chicago region. The program for oak trees in this region should include feeding with a well balanced tree food, spraying with a good dormant oil spray and two applications of Bordeaux mixture in the spring. The first of the foliage sprays should be applied when the first leaves are about half grown and the second application should be made about two weeks later. If anthracnose is epidemic, one or two more applications of Bordeaux may be needed.

An additional fact was noted during this study. In the laying out of new properties, serious difficulties are encountered in keeping the oaks alive. It is not surprising that trees more or less in the balance as to their remaining alive are so seriously injured when landscaping is attempted. If, for example, the water table is lowered or raised, or if the land is cleared of undergrowth and the soil disturbed, the oaks in this region may die within a year, while under more favorable conditions there would be no harmful results. Preparing the trees before such landscaping operations are begun so that the trees are brought into a state of health is the only way to avoid this difficulty.



**FALL HOUSE-CLEANING**

IS MADE EASIER WITH NEW Hardware equipment

- Brooms
- Carpet Beaters
- Dry Mops
- Sparkle
- Oil Mops
- Sponges
- Ladders
- Chamois
- Galv. Pails
- Scrub Brushes

**The Enlargement of Our Store**

has made it possible to serve you more promptly and efficiently.

Let us supply you with your Hardware

**HUSENETTER**

HARDWARE STORE

385 Roger Williams RAVINIA

Phone H. P. 4387

**ANNOUNCING OUR AUGUST SALE of FURS**

Large Stock on Hand

REBUILDING AND REPAIRING NEW COATS MADE TO ORDER



501 CAPITOL BUILDING

State and Randolph Strs. Chicago

Phone Central 6049

Established 1873

A small deposit will hold any garment till called for.