

continuously flows to the surface, with the power of capillary attraction. The second the ground is stirred this current is so thin or shallow, that it is like soap bubbles or foam, and when once broken, it remains so until the soil is saturated with rain, or of course if artificial rain has been given it creates the current of capillary attraction again, which allows the moisture to flow to the surface and therefore the repeated work of stirring the soil again is necessary. In other words after every rain or watering the ground must be stirred where the dust mulch method is used and depended upon.

The next best means of preserving moisture is the use of American or German peat. This should be applied from one to three inches thick.

**Preparing Beds to Take Advantage of Natural Rainfall**

Little need be said about this subject, although it is of greatest importance, where a great success is to be accomplished, with the growth of shrubs, evergreens, perennials or what not.

Your beds must at all times be created so that the moisture will accumulate or run through them, rather than run away. In order to have a good foundation planting about a house, where the eaves are wide, it is necessary that an area from two to three times the width of the eaves slope slightly toward the house, to supply moisture to that arid area under the eaves.

Where plants that require an abundance of moisture are to be grown, it is necessary that they lay on the lower edge of the lawn, so that the moisture or rains run to them rather than away from them.

Generally speaking all beds in modern landscape, should be so constructed, that when settled they will be slightly depressed, from one to two inches lower than the ground surrounding them.

**Shrubs for Spring Beauty to Be Planted This Fall**  
Charles Fiore

There are many reasons for setting out shrubs in the fall instead of waiting until spring. The one reason, however, that is most convincing—the one that changes fanciful musing to eager activity — is the pleasant anticipation of the picturesque garden that will be yours next year.

Shrubs are the backbone of the planting so give them first consideration when you plan the development of your outdoor living room.

Can you imagine spring coming and going without lilacs to cast their spell over your garden? If you haven't several kinds of this gracious old friend, plant them now. The lilac (syringa) season is all too short, but by proper selection of varieties you can extend their blooming period several weeks.

Most familiar of all is the ever popular syringa vulgaris with its lovely clusters of sweetly scented purple flowers. Syringa vulgaris alba is a sister variety that grows slenderly upright and has blooms of white instead of purple.

Closely following are the Chinese and Persian varieties. Syringa persica and syringa chinensis (the latter is also known as syringa rothomagensis, the Rouen Lilac) both have un-

usually large plumes of exquisitely perfumed blossoms.

Syringa villosa is a later flowering type, as well as syringa josikaea, which forms a large bush with rather small, faintly scented blooms of heliotrope color.

The common lilac is perfectly hardy and does well under the most unfavorable conditions. Of course, if it is given plenty of sun and is planted in good soil it shows its appreciation with increased beauty. The other varieties, however, need better soil in order to make a successful start, and they like an occasional feeding of bone meal or manure.

Another shrub that will be a charming feature in your planting is the flowering almond. Like the lilacs, flowering almond is also very hardy and forms a very pretty dwarf bush. Early in the spring, even before the leaves have dared to venture forth, the brave little flowers join the spring symphony of color. The blossoms put one in mind of roses, except that they are smaller and snuggle close to the branches.

Flowering almond can be had with either delicate pink or pretty white

flowers, and for early bloom in the shrub border, you will find it especially valuable.

A shrub that will add still another color to the border is golden bell (Forsythia). Its flowers also appear before the leaves, and their sunshiny golden color seems to light up the whole garden. The earliest blooming member of the family is forsythia intermedia. Forsythia suspensa has long, slender, trailing branches, and is adapted to foreground filling, while the tallest grower (Forsythia fortunei) makes an excellent tall hedge.

Surely the longing for an abundance of spring loveliness in the garden is reason enough to plant some of these interesting shrubs this fall.

**Human Alarm Clocks**

In some of the English slums, laborers pay ha'penny a week to a professional caller up, who makes his rounds every morning, tapping on windows with a long pole until the language that he hears, within advises him that the client is awake.—The Country Home.

**Crop Damage in Lake County Fifty Percent**

Loss in the corn crop in Lake county due to the drought will total fifty percent in the opinion of J. C. Gilkerson, county farm advisor. This will result in losses of many thousands of dollars to farmers of Lake county, it is declared.

There are no records as to the total acreage of corn in Lake county this year so the loss cannot be estimated but it is believed by some that it will exceed \$100,000.

Crops generally, including vegetables were either destroyed or seriously damaged during the long period of hot weather in Lake and adjoining counties. The loss, however, is not as severe in this section as in other parts of the state, where farmers are still hoping for rain to save whatever is savable.

**High-Hatting the Wife**

Often one goes home to dinner with friends who walk into their own houses as though they were walking into a hotel dining room.—The American Magazine.

*Plant Your Madonna Lilies Now....*

Our shipment of Madonna Lillies from Northern France are now here. Plant your Madonna Lillies now to insure a good top growth before it freezes up. Our shipment this year is the finest we have ever received. Jumbo bulbs running from thirty to thirty-five centimeters. Mammoth Bulbs run from twenty-six to thirty centimeters.

In order to move these Lillies quickly, we have decided to give free if requested, one Delphinium, Belladonna, Bellamosum or Hybrid, with each Lily bulb ordered or one of our Blackmore & Langdon's with each two bulbs, or a Franken's Delight with each three bulbs.

These Delphinium are free if requested.

Delphinium and Madonna Lillies make the most gorgeous combination in the garden.

**MADONNA LILIES**

**JUMBO BULBS, 30-35 Ctm.**  
\$45.00 per 100; 50c each

**MAMMOTH BULBS, 26-30 Ctm.**  
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