

Spring Planting tips

A tree grows in Milton

Proper planting ensures good growth

The Champion is pleased to introduce a new feature series for consumers — Spring Planting Tips — featuring advice from several local experts in the field.

Art Bouwman of Bouwman Nursery, Sixth Line north of Steeles Ave. this week submits the lead-off article of the feature series, which deals with the proper planting of trees. Future features will be contributed by other nurserymen and gardening experts in Milton.

By Art Bouwman
Trees are not only beautiful to look at but are useful as well. They can provide cooling shade for your house, or for you, when you sit under them. They can provide a wind break and cut down on noise. Trees add character to your house.

Did you know that the leaves of trees screen out dirt in the air and act as a filter? They then produce clean oxygen for us to breathe.

But to have a beautiful healthy tree you need to select the right tree for your soil, space and light conditions and the purpose you want to achieve. As specialists in the growing of trees, evergreen and shrubs, we have found that most customers have never learned how to plant a tree the proper way.

Different trees like different soils. Some trees will grow in almost any soil while others prefer either clay or sand. So, if you are going to plant a tree, ask your nurseryman which tree you should plant in your soil conditions.

It is also important to tell the nurseryman how much space is available for the tree to develop and how far away it is from the house.

Many people plant a shade tree only to find later that the shade falls in the opposite direction to where it was intended. To determine the best location for a shade tree, drive an eight-foot two-by-two stake into the ground where you think you want a shade tree. At the hottest time of the day — between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. — check to see where the shadow of the stake appears. If necessary, move the stake until you find the location that casts the shadow where you want it. Using this method can save a lot of work later and, perhaps, the price of a tree.

Some trees, although good shade providers, don't add any character to your home. The same can be said for evergreens and shrubs. Your nurseryman can advise you on the best tree for your location.

We like our customers to see where their plant has been growing before they buy. We have expertly landscaped gardens, pool areas and walkways in interlocking brick for customers to inspect. They may use our ideas in their own areas.

We can give you advice and a quick sketch if you bring a photograph of your home. Many times we have asked to visit a customer's home before making suggestions.

Saturday gardening

Homeowners are investing more time and money beautifying their homes with gardens, but many are making costly mistakes.

To help the amateur gardener get the most from his investment, the University of Guelph is offering a new series of Saturday morning home gardening courses. The series, which runs from April 1 to May 6, is divided into six morning sessions which cover the basics of home gardening.

Professor J.G. Murray of the Office of Continuing Education says the course is designed especially for the home gardener who wants information on a specific topic, but who doesn't have the time to take a general course. The courses are conducted from 9:15 a.m. until noon and are held on Saturday mornings to enable those who live some distance from the campus to attend.

Topics cover vegetable gardening, roses, annuals and perennials, pruning trees and shrubs, lawns, and garden pests and cures. Course instructors include researchers, authors and specialists from the University of Guelph, and horticultural experts from the nursery industry.

Cost of the series, including printed material and a refreshment break, is \$6. per session and \$30 for all six sessions.

Once you have selected your tree, proper planting is the next step. If you have clay soil, do not plant the tree too deep. Clay soil acts like a bathtub. Water cannot drain away and the tree roots drown.

To prepare the spot for planting dig a hole about 12 to 15 inches deep and wide enough to have about six inches spare space after the roots of the tree are spread out. Then place about six to eight inches of good loam in the bottom of the hole and place your tree in the centre, making sure the best side of the head faces the road.

Before adding any soil, place a two-by-two inch stake, six feet long, close to the trunk of the tree, being careful not to drive it into a root. Tap the stake firmly and tie the trunk to the stake with special tree ties. (These ties, available at nurseries, won't damage the trunk.) This important step prevents the trunk of the tree from swaying in heavy winds and rocking loose the new fibrous roots.

Next, fill the hole with good loam. Do not stamp on it. Instead, put the end of a water hose directly in the hole and let it run slowly. The soil will collapse and make a muddy hole. In this way no air pockets stay below the surface.

Allow the water to drain away. The balance of the hole can then be filled with more loam and should be mounded up. Remember to leave an outer ring for future watering. That is, make a slight indentation around the outer edge of the mound and direct flow to this indentation when watering.



IMPORTANT STEP in tree planting is to tie the trunk of the tree to a stake driven into the ground beside it, says Art Bouwman. Stake prevents tree from swaying in heavy winds and loosening new roots.

A lot of customers have good intentions but take the wrong action. On a hot day when they feel like having a cool shower themselves, they think the tree would like the same treatment. They either get out the oscillating sprinkler or shower down the tree foliage with the water hose, forgetting to make the water tepid. A tree can be "shocked" by cold water.

The temperature of well and town water is 36 Fahrenheit on hot days. The temperature of the foliage can be 85 to 90F. The next day the leaves curl, turn brown and often fall off. Even a complete loss of the tree can easily occur because

you have stopped the sap circulation of the tree and the heat dries up the bark.

So, never water from the top unless instructed to do so by a nurseryman. Always water the ground area. Evening watering is best.

Rain, it's true, falls on foliage. But rain water is never really cold. Neither is it hard water. Moreover, it generally rains on a cloudy day, so no burning occurs.

Many people don't understand the meaning of CAL, BR, B&B or SB. These initials all have important meanings in the nursery trade and prices vary with these signs as

well. CAL means caliper. This is the diameter of the trunk of a tree measured within 12 inches above the ground. It indicates the sturdiness and age of the tree.

BR means bare root. This is the cheapest way for the nurseryman to dig a tree, while it is dormant and has no heavy ball. This can be done only before the leaves appear in the spring or when they fall in the autumn. Generally speaking, the spring planting period for bare root runs from the time the ground is thawed out until the end of May.

B&B stands for ball and burlap. When leaves appear on the tree, the tree can no longer be moved bare root and support foliage as well. In this case, we keep the soil attached to the roots by making a ball of soil and wrapping it in burlap. Leave the burlap on the tree when planting.

When trees get larger, these balls of soil cannot be lifted any more, so we make a cone-shaped ball below the trunk of the tree by trenching around it. We cover this cone with burlap and braid strings around the ball. This is an interesting procedure, referred to as SB or string ball, and many Saturdays you can see it being done here if you wish.

Trees dug by this procedure in clay soil will hardly know they have been moved. They will give you instant shade at your home. The procedure can be carried out even in hot weather.

Horticultural Notes

Panel of local experts discusses spring gardening



The arrival of spring was marked by the arrival of geranium slips, lettuce seed and tomato plants as donations for the door prizes at the March meeting of the Milton and District Horticultural Society. The program for the evening featured members of the local society discussing spring planting and an excellent display of lawn ornaments.

The panel comprised of Mel Robinson, Allen Odenbach and Maurice Readhead was introduced by the moderator and nursery stock supervisor Burke McNeill and discussed the growing of seeds under lights, the starting and care of tomatoes and cabbages, the propagation of gladiolus, iris and roses and necessary soil ingredients. Specimens of plants and the overhead projector were utilized effectively in the presentation.

When growing seeds under lights the main factors to be considered are heat, light and water. In the early days of germination proper use of all three is very important. The use of a carefully mixed soil base in a two-inch pot is recommended for each seedling. Water frequently and keep close to the lights at first. The temperature at this time should remain at about 70 degrees. Much care in transplanting from the two-inch pots to jiffy pots will lessen the probability of injury to the root system. As the plant grows, gradually move it away from the lights and water less frequently.

Tomatoes really belong to the mustard family and may be started from seed or from slips. It takes about five days for seed to germinate. The little plants must have plenty of sunshine and heat. A good fertilizer to use around young

plants is 5-10-10, they reported.

Roses are usually healthiest when planted in the fall. By so doing the cold storage period is spent in a natural state in the ground rather than in storage vaults. In the spring the best time to remove the protective soil from around the roses is when the flowering almond comes in bloom. When cutting the stocks back after removing the soil, leave just three buds on each stock.

One of the secrets of success in growing gladiolus is to plant the corm six to seven inches deep. Peat moss and fertilizer should be mixed in when planting.

Major soil nutrients are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium and sulphur. Calcium, magnesium and sulphur are generally present in sufficient supply in southern Ontario soils. Of the other three much potassium or potash is often required on the soils around Milton. Care should be taken when using chicken manure because of the high nitrogen content which could have vegetables growing all tops and no produce. Cattle manure is more suitable.

The panel was capably thanked by vice-president Charlie Clark.

During the business session the president Leonard McNeil announced that the district meeting would be held on Saturday, April 15 and members of the executive

were encouraged to attend. It was also announced that seeds had been ordered for the beavers, cubs, brownies and girl guilds. The visitors and new members were introduced by hostess Barbara Bussell.

Members were also encouraged to view the many varieties of lawn ornaments personally assembled by Cliff Wrighlesworth and Maurice Readhead. Margaret Wrighlesworth, the membership chairman, reported that the membership is now approaching the 100 mark.

The results of the monthly flower show as presented by convener Marilyn Smith and decided by judge Dianne Salter of Acton were as follows:

In the Artistic Section, Top Of The Morning: Jean Robertson, Margaret Wrighlesworth; Dish Garden: Margaret Thompson, Jean Robertson, Margaret Wrighlesworth; Japanese Style Arrangement: Ethel

Clements, Grace May, Margaret Thompson; Dining Room Table Arrangement: Margaret Thompson, Margaret Wrighlesworth.

In the Horticulture Section, Forced Branches: Alan Odenbach, Jean Robertson, Margaret Wrighlesworth; African Violet: Jean Robertson, Margaret Wrighlesworth; Forced Bulbs: Jean Robertson.

The president announced that the next meeting would also be in the form of a panel and would be based on the theme, New Ideas for Planning and Improving your 1978 Garden. A panel of experts from the Civic Garden Centre Edwards Gardens will be on hand to present the program. All attending were asked to bring with them written questions to be submitted to the panel. The meeting date is April 17 and the place is the U.A.W. Hall. Refreshments were served under the efficient supervision of Margaret McNeill and Eva Chisholm.

Achievement Day for 4-H Apr. 22

By Nancy Schmidt

Twenty-three leaders and approximately 110 members in Halton Region have been very active in the current 4-H Homemaking Club "Focus on Living". Learning experiences planned throughout the project have given the members the opportunity to put the 4-H Pledge into practice. The clubs have got involved in activities to learn about first aid, safety, baby-sitting, food and fitness. The study of other topics has taken clubs to conservation

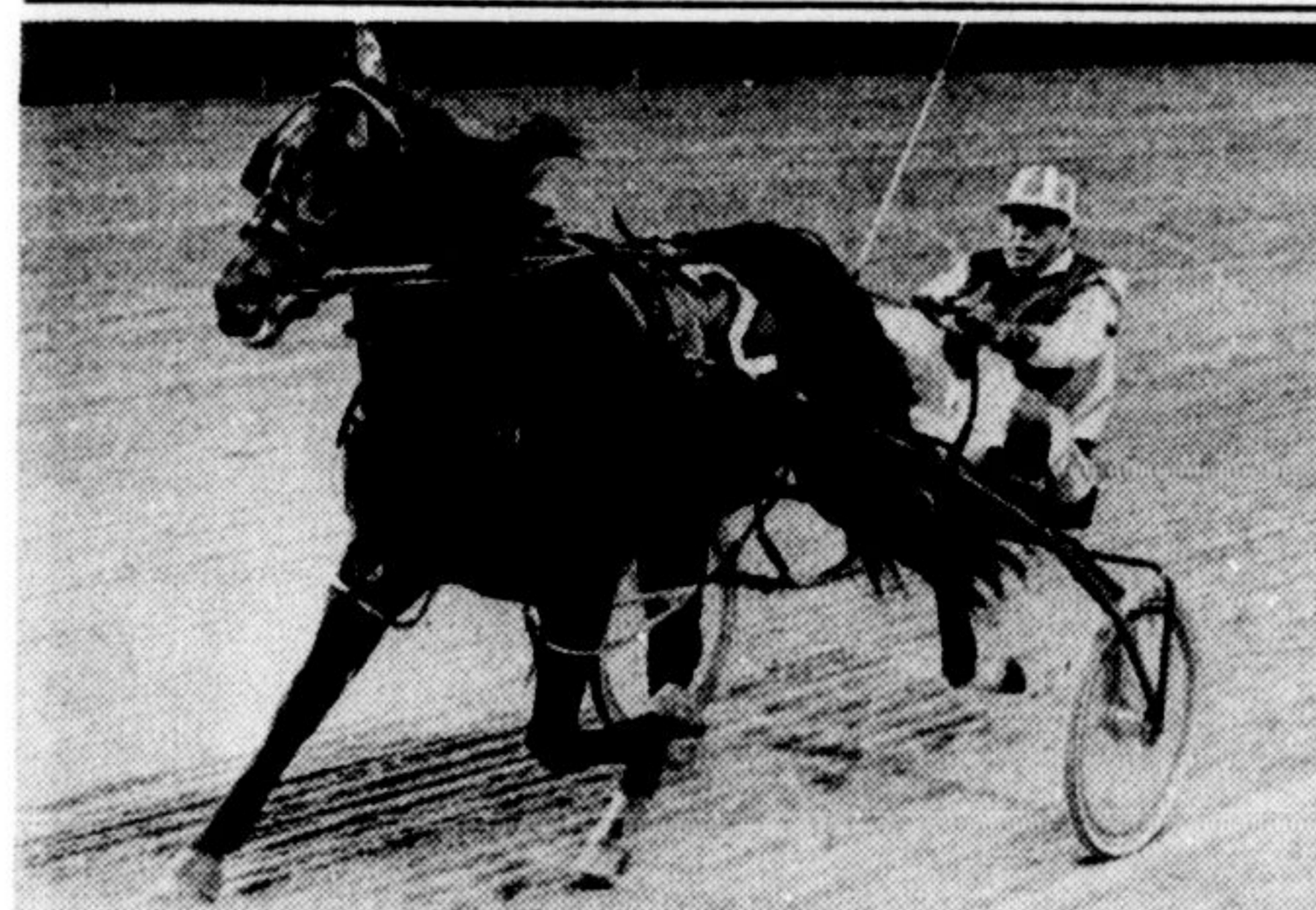
authorities, local council meetings and live theatre productions. In addition all members have learned to do traditional hand quilting.

To complete the project an Achievement Day will be held at the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf, Milton on April 22. Visitors are especially invited to attend the afternoon program to see the individual club presentations. The members' record books and craft projects will be displayed.

This Sunday is Winners' Night at Mohawk.

Everyone loves a winner and this Sunday at Mohawk you'll get to see some of the great winners in harness racing. There's Joe Hudon — Canada's leading percentage driver in 1977 with 251 winning drives and a driving average of .410. He'll be challenging his American counterpart, 22-year-old Donald Dancer, who won 417 races in 1977. These two North American champions will compete in four races with Mohawk's best drivers. This exciting competition is just part of a winning evening we've lined up for you. Don't miss it! Gates open at 5 p.m.

WATCH A WINNING COMBINATION



Driver/trainer Jack Kopas was the 1976 Horseman of the Year. Super Clint was the Canadian 1977 3-year-old pacing colt of the year. His best time of 1:54 equals the world record and last year he had seven winning miles in under 2 minutes. Sunday they'll get together for a training mile that'll show you how winners go through their paces.

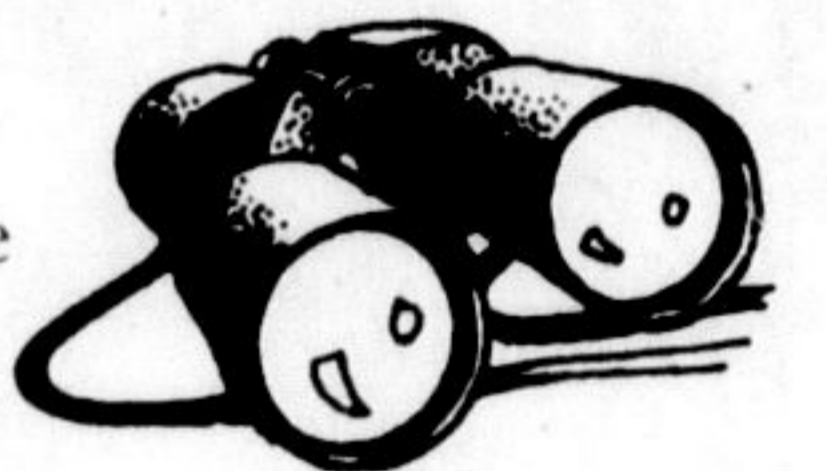
WIN A YEAR'S FREE ADMISSION TO MOHAWK

You could be one of ten lucky fans to win a special VIP pass entitling you to free admission to the grandstand and Sport's for the rest of the year.

The entry form and contest details are attached to the Racing Program you buy at the track. To enter the contest, fill out the form and deposit it in the ballot boxes.

GET SOME TIPS ON HOW TO PICK A WINNER

During Sunday's Handicapping Clinic Mohawk's leading drivers and trainers will discuss the points they look for in a horse. Other handicapping experts will show you how to read a program and explain racing language. Starts at 5:30 in Sport's lounge.



Head over to the east end of the grandstand at 6:30 where some of Mohawk's leading drivers will demonstrate how a horse is rigged in harness and sulky.



International Driving Championship, May 1st.

This exciting racing event will bring together some of the finest harness drivers from around the world, including Canada's Joe Hudon and Donald Dancer from the United States. There will also be drivers from Norway, New Zealand, Australia and three from Europe. Mark the date on your calendar and plan on being at Greenwood on May 1st for the International Driving Championship.

Mohawk Raceway

Hwy. 401 at Exit 38, Campbellville. Phone 854-2255
Gates open at 5. Post time for first race 7:45
General Admission \$2.00. Free Admission to Sport's up to 6 p.m.

10-25 BP 591 ONTARIO ST. S. (AT DERRY ROAD) 878-2952

14 Point Tune-Up

OFFER EXPIRES APRIL 28, 1978

COMPARE PRICES	4 cylinder cars	AND SAVE
6 cylinder cars	\$29⁹⁵ or less	8 cylinder cars
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PRICES QUOTED ARE FOR PARTS & LABOUR (INCLUDING ROTOR) FOR MOST CARS

Here's what we do:

1. Initial ignition system analysis	5. Perform cylinder balance test	10. Check P.C.V. operation
2. Test & clean battery, cables and hold down	6. Check rotor	11. Check & adjust idle mixture
3. Supply & install new spark plugs	7. Check H.T. wiring, distributor cap, coil, primary circuit	12. Check fuel pump and filter for proper operation
4. Supply & install new points and condenser	8. Check and adjust timing	13. Check air cleaner element
	9. Check and lubricate heat riser valve	14. Final ignition system analysis

4 wheel brake RELINE special

✓ Supply & install new linings on all 4 wheels	✓ Check operation of brake lights
✓ Re-surface all 4 drums	✓ Check emergency brake
✓ Re-pack front outer wheel bearings	✓ Check tires & tire pressures
✓ Clean & lubricate brake backing plate	✓ Hand torque wheel studs to manufacturers' specs
✓ Inspect master cylinder & wheel cylinders	✓ Road test vehicle
✓ Inspect front & rear grease seals	

\$64⁹⁵ Including drum re-surfacing (Parts and Labour)

4 wheel drum-disc brake special

✓ Supply & install new disc pads on front wheels	
✓ Supply & install new lining on rear wheels	
✓ Rotor & drum re-surfacing	
✓ Lubricate & clean brake backing plates	
✓ Check wheel cylinders, grease emergency brake & light	
✓ Road test vehicle	

\$79⁹⁵ INCLUDING ROTOR RE-SURFACING

10-25 BP 591 ONTARIO ST. S. (AT DERRY ROAD) 878-2952