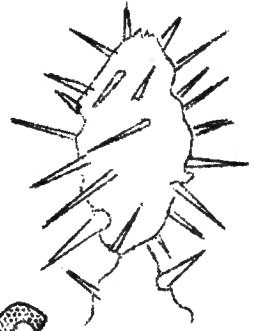


ESPINAS

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FLORES



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BENEATH IT ALL

garden beautiful; or with a vengeance rid your plants of such enemies as rust or mildew. Their evidence is all too apparent. However, when the underground portions of the plant are under invasion by subterranean pest, the symptoms are far more subtle. The plant may wilt in the heat of the day, maybe suffer a little die back, or just grow and bloom poorly; One might think more water and a dab of super-hypo protien will put the plant back in top condition. Such is not the case when nematodes or soil mealy bugs or wireworms are at work; death is slow, but certain, unless proper corrective measures are taken in time.

It is one thing to get a spray can or duster and drive all the tiny aphids, leafhoppers, etc. from your garden beautiful; or with a vengeance rid your plants of such enemies as rust or mildew. Their evidence is all too apparent. However, when the underground portions of the plant are under invasion by subterranean pest, the symptoms are far more subtle. The plant may wilt in the heat of the day, maybe suffer a little die back, or just grow and bloom poorly; One might think more water and a dab of super-hypo protien will put the plant back in top condition. Such is not the case when nematodes or soil mealy bugs or wireworms are at work; death is slow, but certain, unless proper corrective measures are taken in time.

Nematodes are universal, but are especially present in sandy soils. The evidence of their presence is generally knotted tumor-like growths on the roots of a plant; noted only by uprooting. With Cactus this should pose no problem, except with very large specimens; simply deroot, fumigate the soil in the troubled area, and replace after hardening off the plant and passing of fumigant. Another way, that has come into favor recently, is to drench soil with Nemagon. This is not supposed to damage existing plants as others will.

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Gone like the rose
that in winter sleeps,
Gone like the bird
who appointment keeps;
Gone like the leaf
on the ground in heaps,
Gone to the eye
once clear, but now weeps;

Deep in Nature's breast
still and protected,
Waiting for the Spring
your Being projected;
In leaves of the trees
as they take their place,
In the flowers of the field
we'll see your face;

Gone, but not far
is the Gardener's plan,
For death is not cold
there's warmth in His hand --

-- Jim

Soil mealy bugs are usually found in old well established gardens where perennials have matured and remain undivided, shade gardens, and certain host plants with extremely fibrous root systems, such as, some of the Aeonium family; lawn grasses, Acacias, and Cacti are some of the more desirable targets for this pesky little creature. The adults excrete a waxy substance making it difficult for control material to make contact. Make a basin around plant and flood it with a solution of malathion, diazion, or dibrom. In this case the control material used is not as im-

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BENEATH IT ALL (con't)

Water-in, and repeat treatment for three times elapsing 8 days in between.

Wireworms are normally more of a problem in a new garden or where new land has been converted for cultivation. They eat germination seed, cut roots, and bore into bulbs! The thing to consider here is not to give up gardening, but to fill a hose proportioner with a lindane, diel-drin, or chlordane solution and cover the entire area all around the house and garden. This method will take care of many other pests too, especially with the later in a treatment twice or three times a year. Gone are pillbugs, weevils, lawn moths, grubs, grasshoppers, crickets, ants, crab-grass, and a host of others.

Commercial growers always leave a few untreated test areas to check effectiveness, but even rank green thumbs like us should know when our little ones begin to feel better. READ the label carefully some of the control materials are broad scope and have different formulations for different pests, and by all means DON'T add a little for good measure.

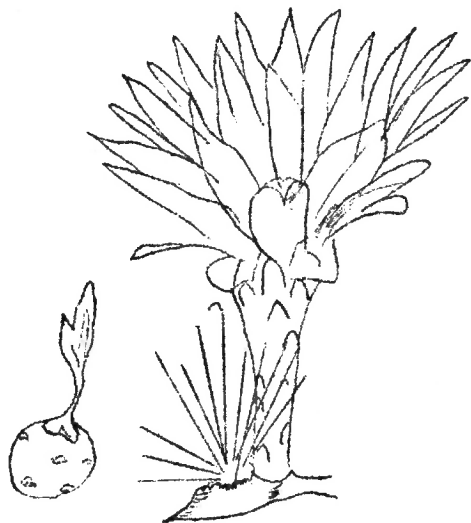
PLANT OF THE MONTH

Among the uninitiated many plants are considered to be Cactus, that are really not; the spiny Ccotillo and Joshua Tree of our southwestern deserts are prime examples, as are many species of Euphorbia. With the experts it is much the same, except the majority of their concern is directed to the differences between the members of a family. Every now and then sufficient anomalous characteristics are noted and plants considered to be of one family find themselves in another or an entirely new family may be formed.

To many amateur collectors this causes a great deal of consternation, after having spent many laborious hours of repetitive recapitulation or just plain wrestling with the phonetics and meaning of the scientific name, so it will be emblazoned on our minds for ever, only to find that our "Creeping Charlie" no longer creeps, our "Wandering Jew" is really an Irishman, our "Peppermint Stick" is rock candy and our "Baby Toes" have hang-nails.

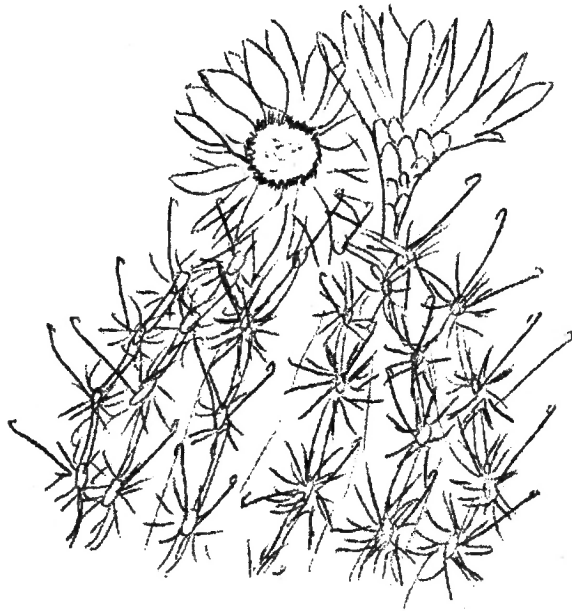
What all this leads to is simply that many times a plant is found by different people in different locations, and because of that difference in surroundings and people it could be improperly listed. Thus as science progresses and technology is refined, our beloved plants remain the same only the name changes to better our understanding.

For well over a half century HAMATOCACTUS SETISPINUS was known to be a member of the Echinocactus family, however Britton and Rose recognized the variance in the texture of its fleshy skin, the flatten ribs, the bristle-like spines, the small red berry fruit, and the warty seed which distinguishes it from its friends and neighbors, and established the new genus of Hamatocactus- (ha-ma-to-kak-tus) from hamatus meaning hooked and cactus with reference to the hooked central spine. Setispinus-(se-ti-spi-nus) means bristle-like spins and alludes to the softer radial spines. (con't next page)



PLANT OF THE MONTH (con't)

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Found among the thickets and rocks of southern Texas and northern Mexico, this holly green beauty forms a short cylinder about 6 inches high and 3 inches thick. It is almost always a solitary plant, but when very old it will sprout from the base. There are 13 acutely notched ribs that slightly spiral in an ascending clockwise manner to the top where the funnel shape flowers are borne. Situated on the rib notches like tiny warts are the areoles, spaced about a half inch apart. From the areoles 12 to 15 slender white spines up to 1½ inches long, and 1 to 3 central spines, longer and stouter, which are hooked at the tip. The flowers bloom in July and August, and are 3 inches long with about the same measurement across. The outer petals are greenish yellow, edged in red. The inner petals are butter yellow with red at the base. The stamens and other inner parts are yellow. It has small persistent red berries for fruit which gives the plant a Christmas wreath appearance.

Hamatocactus setispinus is easy to cultivate and makes rapid growth when grown in a sunny location in medium rich porous lime soil. This three-fold charmer will give you pleasure year-round, whether it is in fruit, flower, or just it's native loveliness.

CRASSULA FALCATA (k-ras-u-la) + (fal-ca-ta) is probably the most handsome of all plants of this genus; a large appearing mass of fleshy bluish grey sickle-shaped leaves that reaches a height of 1 foot. It branches freely from the base to form large clumps of refined ornamentation. From the tips of the branches in late August on through September emerge pink flower stalks which branch into a large, almost flat scarlet inflorescence, 4 to 6 inches across.

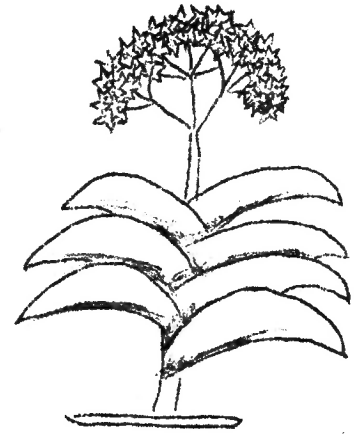
Often called the "Indian Paint-brush", because of its flower, *C. falcata* is more popularly known as the "Propellor Plant" owing to the shape and placement of the leaves. *Crassula* derives its name from *crassus*, Latin for thick and refers to the thick fleshy leaves. *Falcata* comes from *falcate* meaning scythe or sickle-shaped which describes the leaves. Like the majority of succulent plants, it is a native of South Africa; specifically from South East Cape Province ranging to Natal. It is a tremendous greenhouse or window dweller, but in Southern California where minimum winter temperatures stay near 45° outdoor plantings are recommended to add color and dignity to your garden. The recommended soil mix is equal parts of sand and loam; water it freely in the Summer, but only enough water in the winter to keep the leaves firm.

This plant propagates easily from stem or leaf cuttings; for best results, these should be taken in March. Preparing a stem cutting for

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PLANT OF THE MONTH (con't)

Crassula is much like most succulents; make a clean flat cut at the bottom joint, remove a few bottom leaves, and expose cutting to air for a few hours to allow a protective skin to form over cut. Afterwards insert into sand not giving any water until sand is completely dry. This process should take about a week, then add just enough water to keep the sand moist. If conditions are right you should have roots in two to three weeks. When the roots begin to form add a small quantity of liquid fertilizer to the water; by adding vitamin B to the original watering to aid in establishing the roots more rapidly. As soon as plant is well rooted set out in planting mix.



VITALOGY

The Hygiene of Laughter. "Laugh and grow fat" has been a proverb for many generations, but its real meaning was not understood until the very end of the nineteenth century, and then only by a few. But the therapeutic value of merriment is being recognized more and more each year, and if generally understood would very sensibly increase the sum total of human happiness and healthfulness and make serious inroads upon the incomes of the medical fraternity.

Dr. D'Aiutolo, an Italian physician, was the first scientific student to call attention to the healing power of laughter, and in a paper delivered before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Bologna, Italy, he gave the details of a number of cases of bronchial troubles cured by no other medicine than that of laughter purposely provoked for the purpose. The shaking of the chest aided the expulsion of the secretion permitting the oxygen of the air to dry up and heal the diseased cells. The experiments in this direction by capable investigators have not been sufficiently numerous to indicate the very considerable extent to which this treatment can be utilized as a cure, but there is not the shadow of a doubt as to its value in warding off disease, as a preventative of many ailments and as a promotor of physical and moral wellbeing.

Of course it will be objected that a person cannot laugh when he does not feel like laughing, and that sickness or even slight ailments take "all the laugh out of him." It may be necessary to follow the example of old King Saul who, when he felt morose and gloomy, or felt his disease come upon him, sent quickly for his merrymakers or his musicians. These, by their merry songs or their jokes, soon restored the monarch. But it is by no means certain that one needs to send for the merrymaker, for every human being has the capacity for laughter and for creating joy within himself. In most persons it is simply undeveloped from insufficient use. (Encyl of Health & Home-Wood and Ruddock, M.D.)

This new day is given to each to do with as we have the will and the ability. We can fill it with worry, complaining, anger, laziness, and all their pessimistic friends. Or we can for the same price fill it with kindness, love, joy, goodwill and the exciting pleasures which come with doing a good job regardless of its dimension.

(Credible Comments from an old Cactiphile)



"O' sweet September, thy first breezes bring, The dry leaf's rustle and the squirrel's laughter, The cool fresh air whence health and vigor spring, And promise of exceeding joy hereafter,"...September means many things around the country; the beginning of Fall, and cool weather, time to make ready for harvest, time to prepare for change... even though we in southern California are spared many of the chores our counterparts in the North or East are faced with, it is time to consider repotting crowded plants, making provisions for wintering some of

our more delicate specimens, propagating and planting some new varieties so that they will be well established by next Spring.

Speaking of changes NELLIE KENNETT was honored to have the "Most Improved Garden" in Nation City...recieved trophy and proper acclaim for a tremednous job well done...the one thing that didn't change, however, was that the award was given in her husband Harold's name...by golly, you know this may still be a man's world, or at least one little portion of it in National City is...DOC VAUGHAN speaks of change and the rapid development of todays dreams into tomorrows realities, which make it difficult to keep the perspective taught him in his formative years in Montana; when one read much and harkened eagerly to the elders who gathered around the pot-bellied stove to give forth pearls of wisdom, earned at "Knocks College"...To labor well was no disgrace, and to keep a pledge was the proof of a mans character...courtesy and charity to ones neighbors was considered an obligation to be fulfilled without "fuss and feathers"...the rigors of those pioneer days built into the bone and sinew of the youth, a fine citizenry who asked no quarter... the only difference now is that you're lucky to have a quarter to give!

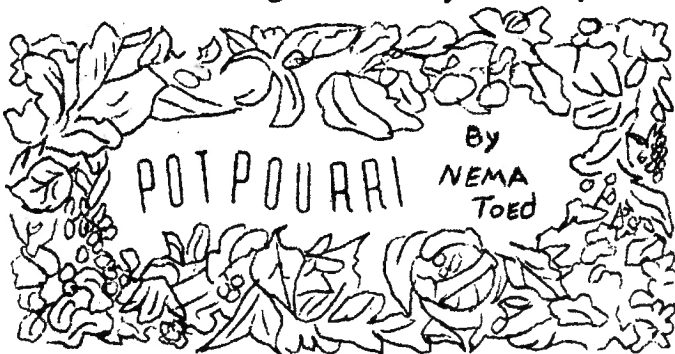
Here's another change for you...someone new scored a smashing success at the "Bragging Table"...ABE and LILLIAN FEINGOLD won top honors with an outstanding Echinopsis Hybrid at the last meet...DOC CORLISS said a few words about his up coming trip to England where he will present a paper on Stapelia to the Royal Horticultural Society...what about the "Beatles"...he also gave some good advice on ording from catalog merchants...keep your orders simple with very infrequent alternates in case of out of stock conditions...if they don't have it, don't substitute...reorder...have a good trip, Doc, and stay away from Carnaby St., you know we're pretty square here.

Several members were given momentos of the Fair for their endeavors ...WALT GREENWOOD received a "Purple Heart" or Thumb Citation for wounds acquired in the line of duty...JIM STALSONBURG was presented the Blue Ribbons from the top exhibits for his bovine efforts...BILL and RUTH NELSON were the recipients of two "hanging bushel-baskets" for hanging on to the end...a "Moon Cactus" for BOB TAYLOR for his stellar service to the cause...and a surprise six layer "Olympian birthday cake" for hot muggy days was bestowed to BOB FLETCHER..."It's the water that makes it good"...

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CACTUS SQUEEZIN'S (con't)

BOB HAFFENDEN showed some brilliant strokes of "gardeners sence" at the open house for his new residence and garden...using coriander oil around the rocks and natural plantings of Cacti as scented bail to trap onion flies, interplanting Tagetes minuta Marigold with Barrel Cactus to eradicate eelworms, and setting out onion and garlic with Cereus and Epiphyllum to curtail pest and ward off black spot... plants are doing fine, but socially unacceptable...September, a month for change...go back to the books or to school and learn to be a better gardener...or if you have reached that peer of technique, just check in to see how the other half is doing...San Diego Adult Education classes have many fine courses available...both in the evening and during the day...Henry J. Kaiser once said, "You can't sit on the lid of progress..If you do, you will be blown to pieces"...it was also said by an old Greek Kakto- phile that came from our village, "Progress is a continuing effort to make the things we eat, drink, and wear as good as they used to be"-A.P.



There's always an increasing urge, when the coffers are filled with gold coin to speak of many things, programs, books, bus trips, cabbages, and kings.

We here at ole E y F are no different, we share many of the same thoughts; but ours is not to formulate these considerations, nor do we speculate that we are the tool to iron out any shortcomings the Society or its members may incur. We are but a reflection of what activities the Board of Directors desires to impart and what others have manifested lengthy dialogue about Cacti and gardening in general.

Board of Directors? Yes, Walter Scott, Kim Arnold, Bill Nelson, and Periso Lewis are the members of this august body, which generally meets the first Friday after the regular Society meeting. Anyone can attend; if you have some thoughts that you would like to pass along, call Scotty at - 296-6022 and make the necessary arrangements.

More programs, yes, more books, yes, more trips, yes, more cabbage, no, unless served with a liberal portion of Corned-beef.

At our regular meeting in October JOAN FLEER will put on the program, consisting of color slides of places and plants in San Diego... looks mighty promising..if time permits and any of you have some slides that you would like shown, please bring them.

Mrs. Bess Brattain has some fine specimen plants for sale..moving to new location and can not accommodate a large collection..she can be reached at 4140 Arizona-S.D. or at #295-4936.

Mrs. Garcia of the California Garden Magazine was at the meeting last month solicting subscriptions to this very worthwhile periodical; \$2.50 per year will get you San Diego's voice in the garden world.. printed for over 50 years by the San Diego Floral Assoc..it is bi-monthly, and will give you many hours of entertainment and information.

"The love of books is a love which requires neither justification, apology, nor defence."....

-- Nema Toed --