

the Texas Rainbow NEWSFLYER



volume II number 2 February 1987
Bulletin Editor L. Dragon

IRIS SOCIETY of AUSTIN OFFICERS:

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There are roses of
red

And some iris are
blue

May Valentine's day
be

A very happy day

just for you !



Please remember not everything printed in the newsflyer is absolute. Some of the things that I have written about have worked for me or other people and they might or might not work for you. Don't be afraid to experiment. I think experimenting, trying new methods etc, is one of the things that help to make a hobby interesting.

Of course if you are growing fantastic iris, then I would be the last person to say try something new or different. I would just say congratulations and tell me how you do it.

If any members of either Iris Society have information that they feel would be helpful for other Iris growers, Please send it to me and I will be glad to print it in our NF.

IRIS BORE SPRAY PROGRAM

Use CYGON 2 E - 3 T. liquid per gallon of WARM water that has 1/4 tsp. detergent to serve as a "sticker-spreaders".

DON'T MIX IN HOUSE .

DON'T ALLOW SPRAY TO GET ON BARE SKIN .

DON'T ALLOW SPRAY TO GET ON FRUIT OR VEGETABLE CROPS .

CYGON 2 E has a 3 year shelf life .

CYGON 2 E is a systemic absorbed into the plant's tissues , so once the surface dries , it doesn't wash off .

Spray beginning of growing season . Wet entire plant and surrounding soil . Greater tissue absorption is achieved on the more troublesome waxy leaved iris varieties by using both a high pressure (60 lb. nozzle pressure) sprayer and warm water spray .

If a lower pressure hand sprayer is used , begin spraying around April and continue to spray at least once a month through October .

DON'T spray on buds showing color or on blooms .

CYGON 2 E IS " STRONG STUFF " SO BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU USE IT .

Don't spray on windy day .

Wear protective clothing , such as long-sleeved shirt and long pants .

When finished spraying be sure to put clothing through at least 2 washings using a strong soap and hot water to get out all traces of spray .

TALL BEARDED FERTILIZER PROGRAM

1. Three weeks or so before bloom - time use about 1 T. of RAPID GRO per gallon of water . Pour around (not on) the plant .
2. After bloom period - remove all spent bloom stalks . Snap or cut off at rhizome level .
3. Mid-summer - feed a very light application of 10 - 10 - 10 . Water in
4. Early Fall - feed another light application of 10 - 10 - 10 . Water in
5. After growth stops or before hard frost apply Superphosphate . For single 1st year rhizomes use 2 T. For larger clumps (5 or so rhizomes) use 1/2 cup . Don't put Superphosphate on the surface of the rhizomes . Water in .

If you are planning to divide your clumps , feed 1 T 10 - 10 - 10 to produce larger - sized increases and also aid in plant recuperation . Then wait 6 - 8 weeks before dividing and re - planting .

If you are not dividing this year , have soil tested and unless absolutely necessary skip the after - bloom fertilizer step entirely . You don't want to create rot problems with lush leaf growth or too many small increases which can crowd your plant circle . Instead , wait until the mid - summer application .

When you set out new rhizomes mix steamed bonemeal in the soil in the hole and plant rhizomes , water in well . Then after about 10 days water with Rapid Gro solution .

I R I S TERMINOLOGY

ADVANCE TOWARD - As in the expressions "advance toward spectrum - red", "advance toward cerulean - blue", etc. Syn. "Approach to", which see.

APPROACH TO - We are still a long way off, but we're in there trying.

EXHIBITION JUDGE - A knowledgeable irisarian of official status who is annually trapped into sacrificing his/her reputation at the local iris show. See "GARDEN JUDGE", "IRIS SHOW".

FANCIER - Irisarian for whom "old variety" means one introduced more than three years ago and who will not hesitate to compost such a variety, extravagant price, ebullient catalog description and fulsome varietal comments notwithstanding.

GARDEN JUDGE - A knowledgeable irisarian of official status who is annually criticized for his inability to be in several places at once.

HYBRIDIZER - A practitioner, amateur or professional, occasional or habitual, of the art of hybridizing (which see), who cannot ordinarily be held responsible for the catalog description of his creations.

HYBRIDIZING - A sort of outdoor game, played in a large flower garden with nature as the opponent, and combining elements of following hunches, believing in dreams and totin' dat bale.

IRIS BORER - A worm which brings

joy to the manufacturers of Cygon 2E and other insecticides.

IRIS FANS - That part of the iris plant which the iris lover does not look at for several weeks of the year.

IRIS SHOW - Irisarians' seasonal orgy.

NON-IRISARIAN - Insensate clod given to such remarks as: "My, don't they look just like orchids!" "But they don't bloom all summer." "Ten dollars for one little root!" "We had some of that one when I was a little kid." "Don't you grow anything else?" Etc.

ROOT - Often confused with "rhizome". A practical distinction is this: The roots are what remain in the soil after the neighbors' children have visited the iris beds.

SHY BLOOMER - A vulgar expression never used in iris catalogs.

SUBSTANCE - That quality of a bloom which succumbs after the third application of the thumb-and-fore-finger test.

TAILORED - Old-style form, not currently in good standing in the newer suburban communities.

VARIETAL COMMENT - One person's opinion.

WIDE CROSS - A genetical term for for what a hybridizer does when he is playing the game with his eyes closed.

THIS WAS WRITTEN BY:

THOMAS J. BUCKLEY

AIS BULLETIN JAN. 1962

I enjoyed reading these definitions, I laughed at some of them, hope you get a laugh from them as well. And please don't take offense at them.

Youth ...

is not a time of life . . .

it's a state of mind. It is not a matter of ripe cheeks , red lips , and supple knees ; it is a temper of the will , a quality of the imagination , a vigor of the emotions ; it is a freshness of the deep springs of life.

Youth means a temperamental pre-dominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over love of ease. This often exists in a man of fifty more than a boy of twenty .

Nobody grows old merely living a number of years, people grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin , but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry , doubt , self-distrust , fear and despair . . these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust .

Whether seventy or seventeen , there is in every being's heart the love of wonder , the sweet amazement of the stars and star-like things and thoughts , the undaunted challenge of events , the un-failing child-like appetite for what-next, and the joy and game of life .

You are as young as your faith or as old as your doubt ; as young as your self-confidence or as old as your fears; as young as your dreams or as old as your despair .

So don't stop having faith and self - confidence and never - never stop dreaming of things to come .

(This was taken from a past issue of BULLETIN of the AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY . I failed to get name of author .)



WORD TO THE WISE...

OUR
WISE
OLD
OWL
SAYS:

Liquid fertilizer applications made from Rapid Gro or Peters 20 - 20 - 20 are very potent , rapidly absorbed water soluble fertilizers . They give plants a quick " boost " , but must be used with discretion so as to avoid lush , weak growth , root burn and iris rot .



ORVILLE FAY

Orville Fay was a hybridizer extraordinaire. He was the winner of two DYKES MEDALS , for TRULY YOURS and MARY RANDALL . He also was an awardee of the FOSTER MEMORIAL PLAQUE as well as numerous other awards. He was one of the first hybridizers to realize the importance of SNOW FLURRY as a (good) parent.

ANOTHER FIRST

THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN DYKES MEDAL AWARDED HAS BEEN WON BY A LOUISIANA IRIS ; HELEN NAISH ; HYBRIDIZED BY JOHN C. TAYLOR OF DURAL , A SUBURB OF SYDNEY , AUSTRALIA .

HELEN NAISH IS A CROSS OF (CLARA GOULA X CHARLIE ' S GINNY) . IT IS WHITE WITH GREENISH VEINING .



W A P P E

W A P P E

B I R T H D A Y C E

FLORENCE FLESHER

FEBRUARY 5

E. DAVID KRAEMER

FEBRUARY 7

ELLEN ROCKWELL

FEBRUARY 28

Happy Birthday to you!

A PRAYER *

May the GREAT SPIRIT send his
choicest gifts to you ;

May the SUN FATHER and the MOON
MOTHER shed their softest beams
on you ;

May the FOUR WINDS blow gently on
you , and on those that share your
heart and wigwam .

* This lovely prayer is from the
Cahuilla Indian Tribe . It was printed
in the Bulletin of the American Iris
Society , January 1962 . Was submitted
by Edward Watkins ; from Region 1 .

We will not have I R I S
meetings in February .

BUT be sure to mark
your calendar so that
you do not forget our

MARCH meetings .

NEXT MEETINGS :

IRIS SOCIETY of AUSTIN
will meet 7:30 pm at
ZILKER GARDEN CENTER
on MARCH 10,1987 .

The NEW BRAUNFELS IRIS
SOCIETY meets 7:30pm
at the FIRST FEDERAL
SAVINGS AND LOAN OFC.
on MARCH 17 , 1987 .
Lorraine and Ray Dragon
of Manchaca will give
a program on TALL
BEARDED IRIS DISEASES
AND PESTS .

SEE Y'ALL IN MARCH !
