

Annual Report for 1971/72

Research Committee

One of the major activities of the research committee has been to aid NALS members, mostly from the amateur ranks, in projects and questions regarding lily research. Questions were received from North American and overseas members regarding breeding, disease control, flower chemistry, plant quarantine regulations, and methods for winter hardiness testing. Most questions were answered directly, and some were referred to specialists within the society.

In a few cases, the research committee has helped in obtaining seed of unusual or rare species or varieties for members; most of these requests were from overseas members.

Requests for literature references on specific topics from non-members were received occasionally, and could generally be filled by sending photostats of lily yearbook articles.

An up-to-date list of scientific lily literature references is in preparation. The society should consider joining one of the computerized literature search services, perhaps in combination with other garden societies. These services provide a biweekly or bimonthly list of all references in the world scientific literature, as far as they concern lilies; at an estimated price of 10.- \$ per year (provided we join other groups), this would be very worthwhile.

Discussion with a few members has brought quite varying response to our suggestions of last year regarding scientific topics at annual meetings. A try may be worthwhile, and would show how much (or little) interest in such topics there is.

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