

THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL LILY GROUP

President:
Mrs. Henry Marshall
1166 Franklin St.
Melrose, Mass. 02176
Normandy 5-7164

BULLETIN #63 MARCH 1967

Secretary-Treasurer:
Miss Wilma Sampson
50 Parker Ave.
Newton Centre, Mass. 02159
BI 4-9559

Vice-President:
Mrs. Arthur M. Arnold
Irene Ave.
Pinehurst, Mass. 01866
MO 3-2180

Directors:
F. Henry Payne
533 Piedmont St.
Waterbury, Conn. 06706
754-3535

Paul R. Bruso,
34 Farmington St.
Worcester, Mass. 01603
753-3515

Edward J. Kelley
663 Cooke St.
Waterbury, Conn. 06710
754-0417

Mrs. Merton B. Allan
36 West Ridge Drive,
Waterbury, Conn. 06708
754-5608

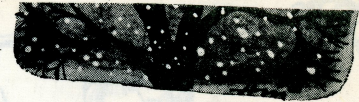
Program Chairman:
Mrs. Burton H. Rice
18 Dorothy Ave.
N. Wilmington, Mass. 01887
CL 8-3893

Publicity Chairman:
Mrs. Merton B. Allan.

Historian-Librarian:
Mrs. Constance Thayer,
Se. Shaker Rd.
Harvard, Mass.

Editor:
F. Henry Payne.

Artist:
Mrs. Virginia Howie,
152 Ridge Street,
Millis, Mass. 02054
FR 6-8420



Think Spring



MAR. 18. 67

Spring Meeting March 18, 1967

Newington, Conn. R.T. 15 - C.L. & P. Building.

You all know where the impressive Conn. Light & Power building is located, towering on the hill top.

For Saturday, March 18, 1967, the meeting is called at 1:00 P. M. - Luncheon on your own.

Don't slave over a hot stove to-day. Have luncheon out, and stay for dinner at Monero's restaurant nearby.

Come to the meeting, get the feeling of Spring. The Program chairman, Louise Rice announces - "A Look At The Species".



L. philadelphicum

L. rubellum



L. grayi

Mrs. Rice, M. C., would like members to tell us of any unusual Species they have grown - how temperamental they are - and especially of members' experiences with them.

Do not exclude the more common kinds, they too can be temperamental.



L. hansonii

Please bring any slides in color that you may have. Of species.

A well known lily authority characterizes one of these species illustrated here as being the most primitive lily now in existence. Which well known species, (not illustrated here) has only one whorl of leaves?

How well do we read our lily literature? Which is the most primitive?

Home work assignment.

Read the December, 1966, N. A. L. S. Quarterly Bulletin, and be prepared.

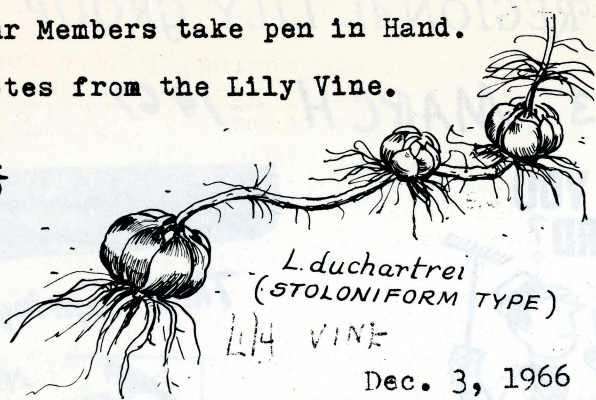
RESERVED

For John Grant's article - Species

Membership in the New England Regional Lily Group is open to all residents of New England, - including New York State - and to N. A. L. S. members in other states and Countries. Dues are \$2.00 per calendar year, \$3.00 for couples.

Our Members take pen in Hand.

Notes from the Lily Vine.



Dec. 3, 1966

Laura sent me her zip number, and enclosed a note.

Dear Henry,

The NERLG is always very welcome and much enjoyed by yours truly. I take great pleasure in reading about the doings of the lily folks, many are well known robin members and personal correspondents. And I love the aura of enthusiasm!

In regard to Mr. Seabury A. Lyon's suggestion about roadside planting of lilies, I would like to toss in my 2¢ worth. People are not too likely to take them because in most states there is a heavy fine for digging any plants within 200 feet of public roads, tho of course I do not know if this applies in your state. (If not, better write your Congressmen) Here in the northwest we tend to spread those plants indigenous to the area. First to help preserve it, and secondly to avoid somewhat upsetting the balance of nature by not introducing too much from other areas. This latter we leave for our gardens for the most part. At times people take their bearded iris discards to the roadsides, but the large bearded beauties can look pretty much out of place when they rise in the midst of I. tenax, inominata, etc. Or perhaps amidst delicate ferns, buttercups,.. hmmm...lilies would look better there, now wouldnt they?

sincerely,

Laura Bradbury



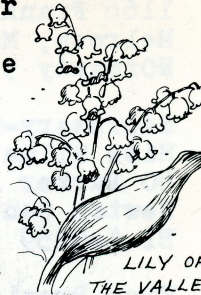
The Foster Stones, lily and rhododendron and azalea specialists have moved to 34 Berlin St., Auburn, and sent a note.

Jan. 19, '67.

Dear Ginny:

We moved to this house Oct. 13th. The lot has over 28,000 sq. feet. We can now see the garden from our window. It's all fenced in, the dogs around here are all king size, you could ride them horse back. We moved the plants in August. Even our holly tree, and it has berries on it now. The flower sets on the rhododendrons and azaleas are loaded. They seem to have set up better than ever. Can't wait to see them in bloom. (You will have to! Ed.) Foster did the plant room in the cellar,

Marion H. Galloway, Boxford, Mass. takes pen in hand, to tell us that she enjoys the Bulletins and hopes we are the same. She writes- I was Horticulture Chairman of the Lawrence Garden Club for many years. - Last year I had some lilies sent to me to raise but it was so late that I put them in pots and you should have seen the blooms I had in the house! I took seed from them and planted it, and now have little bulbs. I have also cross pollenized Amaryllis and have seeds that I planted. The bulbs are now three years old, but no blooms yet.



Marion H. Galloway
Ginny writes.

I have finally started developing our new land. This past week was so balmy I just couldn't stay in all day..so took every afternoon to clear brush down in the swamp. Sam cut some trees with his chain saw.. And I am getting pretty handy with the axe. It has fabulous possibilities..now that I've made a start. Some day you can come up and I'll show you around my Garden-in-the-woods.

Love, Ginny

Slate's Batemanniae Descendants - Unspotted.

By Ruth Clas.

Prof. Slate started many years ago to raise some disease free Batemanniae. He had to use them and some with spot and he gradually worked back out of the spots until he got what looked like the old Batemanniae again. That's why he labels them as above. It is one of those cases of the confusion of dauricum..elegans..maculatum.. when one goes to look them up. If you look in W. & S. under L. maculatum batemanniae, you'll see the names.

and it looks nice and bright. His lights are all in place. Seeds are starting to germinate now. Hope you have a good year. Foster and Adrienne.

(Do you think that story of riding dogs is true?)

Adrienne Stone

- The Stones are really expert with rhododendrons and also azalea and lilies.



We are reserving a space for Mary Arnold for an article.

President Marshall's Message.

3.

I hope to see all of you in Connecticut on March 18th, when thoughts of Spring and gardens AND shows, will be uppermost in all our minds.



Sec'y-Treas. Wilma is ready, willing and able to receive your dues It happens each year!

Marge's favorite lilies.

Our President and Sec'y-Treas. will no doubt drive down together. Hope they have no flat tires. Ed.

MARTA- My Favorite Lily Family.
Eon- by

HANSONII
HYBRIDS

Our Editor has asked me to write a little on my favorite lily family, and how I grow them. After seeing me buy a bucket-full of Auratum Hybrids at our fall auction Henry drew the logical conclusion that these must be my favorites. Once they were, and I do still like them. My reason for buying so many was that they were such a bargain, and from the female point of view, naturally the more of them I bought, the more money I saved. In any case, I would never have presumed to dissertate on the culture of these finicky glamour queens.

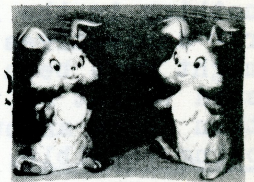
However, over a period of time, your favoritism tends to gravitate toward those that really reward you with a consistently good performance. These recent years of drought have taken a very high toll in lilies from my gardens with one exception--the martagon-hansonii hybrids. These have survived, thrived, multiplied, and given an excellent account of themselves each year. With the exception of fertilizing, I give them the same general culture as my wildflowers. In planting these lilies, plenty of peat is mixed with the soil, and a year round mulch maintained. In the spring, they are fertilized with a high nitrogen fertilizer, as soon as they emerge, and from the time the buds form, they are fertilized with 5-10-10-2 at about 2 week intervals.

They are grown in light shade from deciduous trees, where the ground does not bake dry, and just an occasional soaking satisfies them. When they first

emerge in the spring, I have found that those big juicy asparagus-like tips are highly esteemed by rabbits. A ring of bloodmeal around each shoot has sufficed to discourage the rabbits, but this does have to be replenished after each rain. I find the delicate fragrance of this group of lilies (somewhat reminiscent of the odor of a fresh sliced apple)--to be especially captivating.



Children!!
Come eat
your vegetables!
Before the
Lady uses
blood meal.



Lectures Given.

Marge Marshall on Lilies, Wild Flowers and perennials.



Dave Stone on Lilies and Wild flowers. At the home where he lectured, the grounds were simply fabulous for wild flowers and especially for Martagon hybrids and Auratums.

Henry Payne, hybridizing lilies at Kiwanis Club, and one at Greenwich Garden Center, in a beautiful house with lecture rooms, a fabulous library of horticultural books and pamphlets. There were several acres containing wild flower and other gardens, parking areas and picnic facilities. Clubs and people are welcome, there is a kitchen.

USE POST OFFICE ZIP CODE U.S.A.

For our Dec. Bulletin, 170 members had no zip numbers on their address labels. Of these, 65 sent me their zip numbers, some with notes - fine! If you do not send me the information, there may be a delay in sending the bulletin until I get information from P.O.

Mark and Thelma, formerly of Conn. have moved. Their new address is Doe Valley Park Estates, Brandenburg, Ky. 40108. Many of us remember Mark Ford.

Mark says that moving the lilies was indeed quite a task, but they are all in their new beds.

He has found some lily bugs in town, one being a lady bug. Their new home has a lake on three sides, and they have lots of room inside and out.



Fred Abbey writes about
Alaska X Nutmegger
Seed List #71

As to Alaska X Nutmegger, if it is listed that way, then that is the cross. All crosses were made as I always make them, opening the flower before the tip even expanded, but without protecting the bloom after pollination, (or rather I should say, after emasculation). By the time Alaska was open, there would have been nothing in the Aurelian, or any other Henry derivatives even within miles. Allegra might have been. So, if it is an Alaska seed parent as the listing would indicate, then it is an outside cross. - - As to it's being possible, - anything is.

Fred writes about some
L. pumilum variants.

PEW-
MIL-
UM

Some years ago I found in a large planting of L. pumilum, a few plants with segments (sepals and tepals) which were white. However, the whiteness was rather a lack of color, rather than a true white. The blooms didn't open, but remained shaped about the calyx. The first move was to cross them and also self them. Nothing happened. I propagated them from scales to be sure I wouldn't lose them and had excellent success.

Incidentally, the best time to propagate L. pumilum would appear to be in August, as soon as the stems begin to ripen. Then or later, I treated some of the scales with colchicine, following the method set down by Dr. Emsweller. As soon as the propagation that had colchicine attained size, it became apparent that I had been successful in part. The flower stems were stronger, but they were twisted all out of shape, some even making a complete circle. Others were weaker, - some had doubled calyxes. None had perfect flowers. I noted that a few had edges of the segments that were colored, - not quite red, but with orange. Altho they carried heavy heads of flowers, not one could be induced to seed. Lily people will realize that a number of years elapsed.

I asked Dr. Sam about these and he said this was characteristic of colchicine treated stock, but that, with luck, they would grow out of the crippling habit of growth, and of course to keep trying for seed. I had also used colchicine on Yellow Bunting, which resulted in a stronger form of it. I told Ruth Clas about them, and I probably sent her some bulbs of Super-X, as I designated the white form, but I also sent her some pollen of L. pumilum.

Ruth had some good forms of L. pumilum

4. L. pumilum continued.

she had segregated, and as I recall it, she managed to set seed from the tetraploid Super-X, which would of course give us triploid seedlings.

She shared her seed with me, and I gave it to Tom Haddock, Gardenside. It was sown in two six inch fern pans, and as there was quite a bit of it, the pans were crowded. During 1965 I took them to North Ferrisburg and planted the mass of seedlings as they were. Despite their crowding, a number of stems appeared last summer, 1966. Some of them had the same pigment-less flowers, and others had the orange red edges. I tried to seed them, but an animal trampled them and nothing resulted.

Late in the summer we took them up and reset the lot; there are probably 300 or more most of which should flower in 1967, and show us what we've attained. I suppose we must consider them all triploids, and it is possible there is a chance for seeding. I refuse to speculate on what to expect, - I've been disappointed too many times.

We expect to be home May 5th or 6th, - the bed will be uncovered, and I trust all will be in growth.

Sincerely,

Gleanings from Ruth Clas' letter.

Edith Cecelia hybrids are apt to be basal rot prone as witness reports in robins and elsewhere, (and her observations); Olga Tiemann, Mo. told me she couldn't grow L. cernuum like she used to. An authority says that L. cernuum is quite susceptible to mosaic and to basal rot... and so are its hybrids. My thought is that MANY lilies are "hard to keep" and the E. C. hybrids are just one step along the way to better hybrids.

My Spotless Yellow Canadense X Grayi seed is germinating well.. just put some of them in the refrigerator today, for planting out come Spring. - Lois Lutz, Penna., has red canadense native there which look half way between the bell-like canadense of the Northeast and the thimble-like stubby grayi. Lois' and Ilsa Ouhl's red canadense don't look alike at all in shape. I say Ilsa's are the REAL canadense and Lois' are not the pure. (Come, come, girls! Ed.)

Feb. 1st and time to set up the first of my 1967 Germination Experiments. I have 50-some species in varying amounts. Paid Thompson & Morgan, Eng. over \$20.00 just for seed for experiment! (It's just money! Ed.) They did not have all the species they listed. Park Seed Co. had some listed that I needed. Thank Heaven for friends who "Came through" with Free species seed. The PLAN is to start a batch the first of each mo. from "too early" right thru to "too late", and find out when they WILL germinate.



I hope to find the "best" germination period - at outdoor temperatures. Lilye Mason is watching in the Exchange for seeds I still need - like *duchartrei*, *chalcedonicum*, *parvum*, *pomponium*, *wilsoni*, *martagon*, *cocnese*, *mart. caucasicum*, *medeoides*, *occidentale*, *ponticum*, *fresnense*, *humboldtii*, *parryi*, *volmeri*, *wigginsii*, *roezlii*, etc. (Whew! Ed.)

Our Waterbury members are honored that one of us, Edward J. Kelley, is a species enthusiast. He is a correspondent of the Native Lily Robin #1. Others in New England are Don Hamill, Virginia Howie, Kurt Kopitz and Robert E. Stuart.

ALASKA X NUTMEGGER IS NOT ALONE.

Leslie Laking, writing in the 1966 NALS yearbook reports on some of Percy Byam's "Seedlings". Byam's records state that - 'Byam 555' was derived from a red-yellow blend seedling X Maxwill, Spitfire, Grace Marshall and 'regale apricot' - crossed with a line bred 'Yellow Stenographer'. Lakin states that 'One can only speculate on the part, if any, played by a Lilium regale type in the production of this seedling.'

NALS YEARBOOK 1966.

There are some excellent articles in the current yearbook. Especially the one on page 80. All comedy aside, this was worth waiting for. Prof. George Slate is to be commended for obtaining these articles, which are well written and full of information. To mention only one, I think all of us will appreciate Leslie Laking's dissertation on the Percy Byam seedlings.

ZIP



Codes

Did you notice the listing of names of members of the N. A. L. S? Prof. Slate has printed the zip code numbers of every member except one in Calif.

"My Garden"

"Would you like to know about my garden - Which takes so much of my time and care? Through the center runs a path with flowers on either side; A large bed of patience and a beautiful bed of hope, a fine climbing vine called courage, and a little vine, Cheerfulness, runs in and out all over my garden. Around the garden is a fence made of determination, with posts of perseverance. This is to keep out the grumble vine that grows all around outside and tries to get in. The path in my garden is made of grit, and leads down to a fountain which plays tears, with which I water the garden.

Outside the garden a tree like a weeping willow grows, and sometimes casts a shadow over my flowers. Once in a while at twilight a black-bird comes and sings in the branches. It is called the complaining bird, and does not come often. In one corner of my garden is a hotbed where I raise smiles, because they have to be forced sometimes. My gardeners' name is B. A. Good-one. Lately the grumble vine broke my fence, so I cut it out. I have mended the fence with as much pluck as I could find, and have been gathering my flowers and tying them together with good resolutions.

The artist is Stone,
The author unknown

In Memoriam

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of our N. E. R. L. G. member, Mr. M. Clarence German of Waterbury, Conn. Our good friend and valued member left this life on Friday, December 23rd, last. Suddenly, unexpectedly, he was gone from our midst.

We who were privileged to know him called him friend. Friendship with Clarence was a rewarding and a stimulating experience. His keen mind and wide interests made it a joy to be in his company.

We respected the man for his high principles, his interest and devotion to his family, his church, his work and his affiliated organizations. To each he gave his very best, for this was his way.

Our friend has left us, but we are richer for having known him. We are grateful and proud that he was one of us and we shall forever cherish his memory.

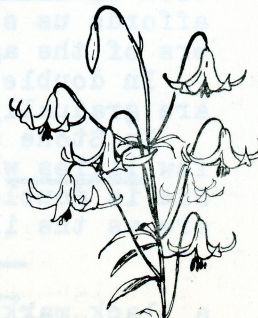
I heard a bird sing in the dark of December
A magical thing and sweet to remember
We are nearer to Spring than we were in September.
I heard a bird sing in the dark of December.



L. concolor



L. canadense

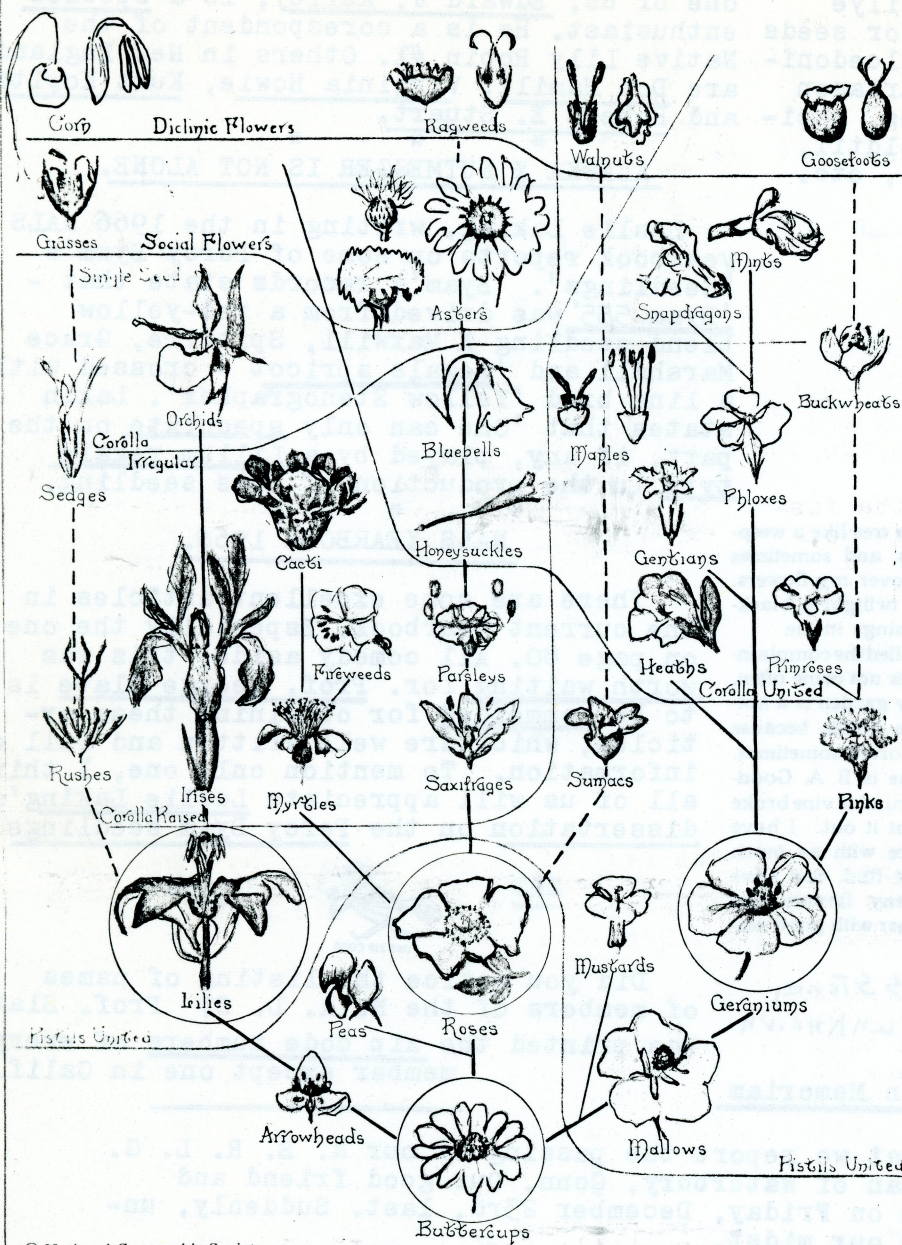


LILIES DEVELOPED FROM THE LOWLY BUTTERCUP. 6.

WILD FLOWERS OF THE WEST

EXCERPTS FROM THE NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE OF MAY 1927.

Articles by
Frederic E. Clements and
William Joseph Showalter
Sketches and color by
Edith S. Clements.



The story of the descent of flowers, as shown in Plate I and as related in the preceding article, represents the conclusions of many botanists, - and constitutes a working hypothesis - upon which further researches are being made.

The authors submit that the lowly buttercup is the Mother Eve of the magnificently diverse race of flowers.

Countless generations marked the climb of buttercups to lilyhood.

One wonders how many years this process took. A thousand million years? Within the 'Lily Family', Nariposas and Trillium have 3 petals and 3 sepals. - The Lillium have the same.

But the true lilies developed their beauty in answer to an evident need for greater publicity for their wares among the insects hosts. This they secured by coloring the calyx like the corolla, so that the lily appears to have six petals instead of three.

Once the lilies gained this development they were so well satisfied with their flowers that they become conservatives, little given to radical changes. - They made many departures in color, shape, an size, but in the fundamental organization of the blossom they have adhered so closely to their traditions that whether they be tulips, mariposa or trillium etc. they still wear the common coat of arms of the family.

© National Geographic Society

MAY, 1927 THE FAMILY TREE OF THE FLOWERS

All of our flowers, according to many botanists, are descended from the buttercup. Those which have stayed strictly at home are buttercups still, but those which sought to adjust themselves to new environments became arrowheads and lilies, roses and peas, mustards and mallows, as the family tree suggests. The peas and mustards have not adventured further in family ramifications, but the geraniums, roses, and lilies have vastly enriched the variety and beauty of the floral world by their contributions. The solid lines indicating descent show those flowers on the family tree which are fertilized by insect-borne pollen, and the broken lines those which are fertilized by wind-borne pollen.

The plant breeder's art is but a revelation of the plasticity of the flower and affords us some idea of the forms the flowers of the ages ahead will take.

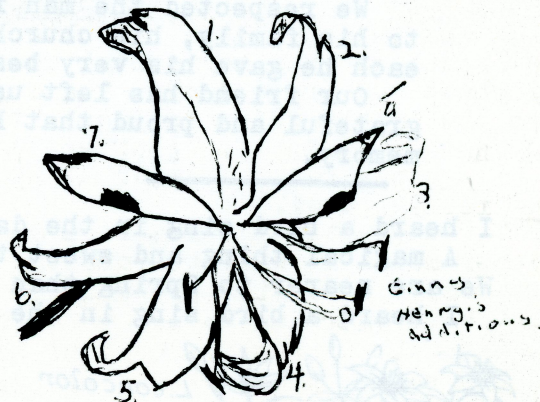
In double flowers the stamens and pistils are gradually converted into petals.

In Stone and Payne's gardens we have a few lilies which show double tendencies. One is double except for the pistil. Others are as the illustration.

1 to 6 - the tepals,

7 & 8 - the stamens showing as a black mark on the 2 extra petals.

Will manual hybridizing reduce ages to years?



NORMAL LILY - SIX STAMENS
THIS LILY - FOUR STAMENS

ABOUT BULLETIN # 60

Your present Editor agreed to write the NERLG Bulletin for a few months. He assumed without checking that his first issue was #61, and it was so marked. *(SO THERE IS NO NERLG BULLETIN #60).* The series runs from #59 and skips #60, and picks up at #61.

GREEN GOLD GARDENS

EBEN WOOD
GREAT POND ROAD
EASTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
02642

Jan. 1967

Our Eben has an interest in life.

"You're crazy", he said, "When you could just as well be in Florida or Hawaii where the sand and sun are always warm, - why do you stay here and fuss over lilies?"

It was no use to try to explain the fascination of trying to see what one can do, he was not the kind who could understand.

I like to play with the idea, "The impossible just takes a little longer." Dick Lighty told us in Boston a few years back that most lily hybridizers do not approve of Leslie Woodriff's hybridizing methods. But he added that any one of them would give their shirts if they could get the results that he does.

When I look over my garden the fact stands out that all of the biggest, most rugged and showy plants came from Woodriff. So, Woodriff can't be all crazy. Anyone who saw my records of 308 crosses made last summer would know that I am crazy.

I grew up with the Canadense and Philadelphicums but never saw a wild Superbum until late last summer. A fellow who is interested in plants, a school teacher who knows a good bit about botany - came in and told me that he had found a bunch of Superbum by a woodland pond and he told me where it was. Next morning I went up to see them. -- My Superbums had been bloomed so long that the seed pods were almost full grown. That puzzled me and still does. Most of the wild blooms were gone but I found one at just the right stage for pollen use and I took it home. I spread the pollen on every bloom that was ripe for it and had some left. So, as there was a husky plant of Black Beauty with several flowers, I used the last of the pollen on them. Woodriff says that Black Beauty is totally sterile as a seed plant and very little fertile with its pollen, so of course I doubted the cross would take, but it did use up all the pollen I had.

Later when I checked up on all the plants crossed I found not one was making any seeds until I got to the Black Beauty where I found, much to my astonishment, that two of the pods had started to turn up and were a healthy green while all the others had dried and fallen. These two never did turn up completely as a good seed take does but they remained in a horizontal position and grew slowly. In about a month one gave up the ghost and dropped off. The other kept growing a little altho badly deformed and when the nights got cold I cut it and put it in water in a west window. There it stood for another month then started to crack open at the top just as good pods do. I cleaned it out and found it full of chaff except for just one badly deformed, but otherwise good looking seed.

It is planted and set in a south window where it gets sun when there is any. After another month it will go into the refrigerator for three months and then out to a cold frame which move will probably be its last, BUT -- IF -- it should grow what a time I would have watching to see what it was when and IF it ever bloomed!

Maybe it is because most of my crosses are so wild, or maybe it was the drought, but for some unknown reason my seeds are not germinating nearly as well this year as they always have before. If, as has been said, "A green thumb is just a dirty one", maybe I have washed mine too clean. (Well, with a clean thumb you won't carry unwanted pollen to a stigma. We hope this wild cross will produce! Ed.)



Eben's woodland pond with L. canadense, L. superbum, ferns, iris and hosta growing. The little boy is admiring Eben's lilies.

The child takes them for granted. Some of the rest of us are amazed that the bulldozers haven't scraped them up for fill some where. There are still wild areas in Cape Cod, I judge.

Ver 2007