



Louisiana's Nurserymen

The official publication of The Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, Inc.

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Louisiana's Nurserymen

Officers: President, Frederic Hoogland, Hoogland's Nursery, Ruston La. 71270; First Vice President, Walter Imahara, Imahara's Nursery, Baton Rouge, La. 70815; Second Vice President, Frank Akin, Akin's Nursery, Shreveport, La. 71105; Treasurer, Earl E. Vallot, Granview Nursery, Youngsville, La. 70592; Secretary, Dr. James A. Foret, U.S.L. Box 4-4492, Lafayette, La 70503.

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COVER: The giant oak forms a backdrop for the copper color of the acalypha and texture the contrast of yucca edged with mondo grass. This planting is at the entrance to Live Oak Gardens, Jefferson Island, near New Iberia. Louisiana's formal gardens attract tourists and afford display area for the wide variety of plant material which has been adapted to the climate of this state.

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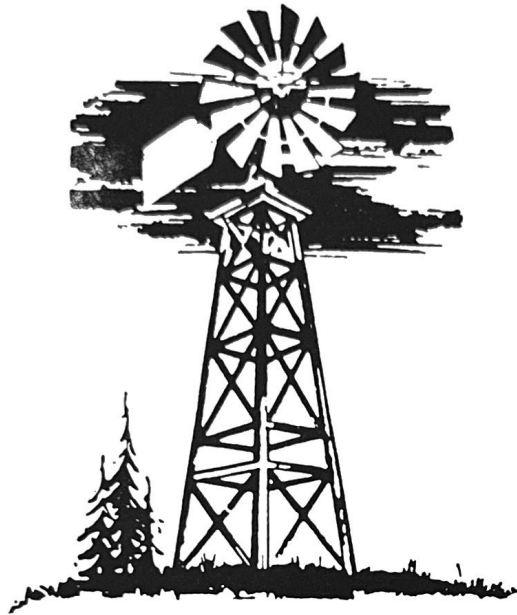
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Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, Inc.

Organized September 17, 1954

TOP DRAWER By President Hoogland



Frederic Hoogland
LAN President

I have some good news for you! As of this date your president and members of the LAN board of directors have met with Dr. Warren Meadows and other members of the LSU Extension Service. It now appears almost certain that there will be an ornamental horticulture experiment station in Louisiana.

Various members of the board of directors were appointed as an advisory committee to work with the Extension Service. The committee members are George Johnson, Clarence Mizell, Mike Richard, Frank Akin, Walter Imahara and yours truly. If you have any ideas along the line of research, please contact one of these committeemen.

Looks like there may be some changes on the horticultural commission this coming year. The LAN board of directors have made a recommendation to the governor to appoint some new representatives to the commission.

The changes in the horticulture laws did not make it out of the legislative committee. Some additional work on the changes will have to be done. Looks like it will be next year before any consideration of horticultural laws can be expected.

I would like to share an idea with you concerning waterline repairs. Every once in awhile, someone around the nursery will cut a waterline or an addition to a waterline will be made. Well, here is the clever idea that someone shared with me awhile back.

When repairing PVC pipe, there never seems to be a way to stop the water leakage, which, of course, prevents the glue from drying. Well, just take some fresh white bread - press it into a ball and cram it into the pipe to stop the water drip; glue the pipe together. Turn the water on at the proper time. The water will melt the bread and it will

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OAK HILL NURSERY, INC

TREES

GROUND COVER

GENERAL ORNAMENTALS

LARGER PLANTS

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The advertisement is enclosed in a double-line border. It features a large, stylized illustration of a tree with a thick trunk and several branches. The tree is the central focus, with various plant categories listed around it. The text is in a mix of bold, sans-serif and serif fonts. The overall design is simple and functional.

Factors Affecting Foliar Absorption

Foliar nutrition is of importance to the nursery industry for it offers a more efficient, economical and rapid method of supplying nutrient material to plants than conventional soil application. Currently there is renewed interest in foliar nutrition due to the current high cost of fertilizer and concerns about environmental pollution by leaching and run-off from ground application. As a result, HRI is helping to support this valuable research.

Foliar absorption of phosphorous (P) compounds has been studied extensively because smaller quantities of P are fixed easily and thus not available for plant use. However, results of experiments studying various P compounds and factors affecting their foliar absorption have been highly variable. Thus, despite the potential benefits, supplying P in foliar sprays is not practiced widely.

One of the principal factors that affects foliar absorption of P is pH of the treating solution, which determines the chemical form of P present in the solution. In addition, pH may alter the permeability of the cuticle, which is generally considered the rate-limiting barrier for foliar absorption.

This work was initiated to better define the effect of pH of the treating solution on foliar absorption of phosphorous and rubidium compounds and to determine the factors affecting foliar absorption with possible adaptation to commercial applications. Absorption was assayed by measuring the amount of radioactive phosphorous or rubidium compounds recovered in the plant after application of a known amount, such as a drop to a leaf.

The analysis of radioactive samples was improved greatly when it was discovered that radioactive phosphorous could be counted much more efficiently with the addition of a specific chemical, previously not known to have such effects. The advantages of the new procedure are that efficiency of counting is greatly improved, cost and time of sample preparation is reduced and samples can be counted directly in water solutions rather than in expensive complex organic solvents. This discovery, quite incidental to the work on foliar nutrition, is now being investigated for possible patent clearance.

Research results indicated that absorption of phosphate compounds was greatly affected by pH. Absorption was least at those pH values when salt deposits were formed on the leaf surface, and greatest when salt deposits were not evident. The formation or lack of formation of salt deposits was correlated with the solubility and moisture retention of the predominant phosphate form present in solution. Hence, pH did not directly affect plant's ability for phosphate absorption, but affected absorption by dictating the phosphate form present in solution and

the degree of absorption was determined by properties of the predominant phosphate form present. Maximum phosphate absorption occurred with sodium phosphate at pH 3-6, with potassium and rubidium phosphate at 7-10, and with ammonium phosphate at all pH values. Calcium phosphate was not readily absorbed.

Absorption of rubidium as rubidium phosphate also was greatly affected by pH. It was minimal at pH 3-6, but was greatly increased at pH 7-10. This was due to the same factors that were shown to affect phosphate absorption (e.g. the degree of drying and formation of salt deposits on the leaf). Rubidium was used since it behaves similarly to potassium and serves as a radioactive tracer in the study of the uptake of potassium. Rubidium chloride (at pH 3-10) was absorbed at about the

same degree as Rb phosphate (pH 7-10) and both were absorbed to a greater degree than Rb sulfate or nitrate.

Urea, one of the most rapidly absorbed and effective compounds used in foliar nutrition, and several similar,

chemically related compounds were assayed as to their effect on foliar absorption of Rb and phosphate. All of these substances decreased absorption of both Rb and phosphate, which was attributed to the formation of salt deposits.

These results indicate that dibasic potassium phosphate (K_2HPO_4), monobasic sodium phosphate (NaH_2PO_4) and monobasic or dibasic ammonium phosphate - ($NH_4H_2PO_4$) and ($(NH_4)_2HPO_4$) respectively - are the most useful phosphate forms. Dibasic

potassium phosphate and potassium chloride (KCL) are the most useful potassium forms for foliar application to commercial crop plants.

Several additional experiments were conducted in order to determine the effect of 18 commercially available surfactants (wetting agents) on foliar absorption. Only three (AL 825, Ethomid 0/15 and Tween 85) increased phosphate absorption, but all decreased Rb absorption. Of the three surfactants that increased phosphate absorption, only one (AL 825) was not toxic to the foliage, and therefore practically applicable. However, the advantage of increased phosphate absorption must be weighed against the decreased Rb absorption.

Time course studies demonstrated that both Rb and phosphate were rapidly absorbed and translocated throughout the plant, and hence, readily available for use by the plant. Absorption of both Rb and phosphate was not greatly affected by leaf age. This indicates that the data from all previous experiments, using only one leaf at a particular state of development, are probably indicative of the response of the entire plant.

Absorption of phosphate by a variety of horticultural species varied greatly, ranging from less than 1% to approximately 15%, whereas Rb absorption ranged from less than 1% to approximately 40%. In addition, plants treated with foliar nutrients produced good growth following treatment and tolerated surprisingly high concentrations of nutrients to the foliage.

In summary, solution pH affected uptake of P and Rb compounds by dictating the chemical form of the compound present in solution. Solubility, moisture retention, and crystallization on the leaf surface were factors determining absorption. Partially as a result of this research, it can be seen that foliar nutrition offers advantages in production of commercial horticultural crops; in landscape maintenance: in more efficient use of fertilizer to reduce pollution of lakes, streams, and ground water supplies; to conserve energy and reduce costs; and is a very rapid means of correcting possible nutrient deficiencies.



EDITORIAL

Three Certified

Much has been said in recent months about unity; more specifically about the kind of communication that promotes unity toward a single goal.

The nature of the nurseryman - both grower and retailer, is individualistic, embodying a singleness of purpose, perseverance in the face of adversity and an abiding stoicism that manifests alternately as tenacity and placidity, as the occasion demands.

This makes the most sincere individual in the world and at times, one not so easily understood if he chooses to exhibit his placid side. -- Which is to say that one must speak if one expects to be heard.

And that brings up the newsletter. This is a great instrument for communication among the members of LAN, but so far a very few members have chosen to speak through the newsletter. Last month's editorial was written by Dave Griffith of Shreveport. And things have been happening with

the Extension Service...the needed things.

And Murph Johnson wrote the article "From the Field" for an earlier issue. These two younger members of LAN spoke. There are a large number of members of every age who have important things to say, observations to make, even brickbats to throw. This is your newsletter, each quarter. I have

met a large number of the membership and visited all except the Lake Charles and New Orleans areas. Next newsletter should carry reporting, in person, from these two areas if we are to represent the entire membership. It would be a better newsletter if at least two articles

were offered by a member who reads the newsletter. You have experience to share, views on current legislation that can carry weight and maybe the "just right" solution to a problem that is particularly knotty for someone else. Let me hear the voices of LAN!

Hilda Welch, Ed.

The Louisiana Certified Nurseryman Examination was administered by Dr. W.E. Fletcher May 28 at the Ira S. Nelson Horticulture Center as scheduled. Three registered for the exam.

Certificates were awarded to Rhonda Porche, Baton Rouge; William E. Lawrence, Baton Rouge; and Ray McKibben, Many.

The qualification as a Louisiana Certified Nurseryman provides professional recognition by fellow nurserymen, the self-satisfaction confidence and security of personal achievement and the ability to better serve customers and employers.

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pass through the pipe.

It works, I have tried it.

I will be looking for all of you at the trade show this August. The TAN/MISS LARK Convention - Trade Show will be held in Dallas this year.

The board voted to host a Louisiana Cocktail Party on "free" night. Be sure to check on this when you arrive in Dallas, but be sure to attend the show.

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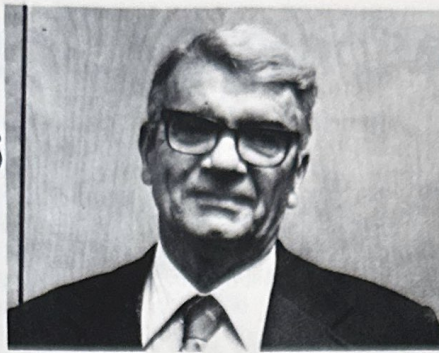
Doc Says

by Dr. James Foret

The impending fuel shortages and certain price increases will definitely add to the headaches and financial woes of our entire industry. With restrictions on vacations and weekend travel, our garden center operators should be able to capitalize on additional time available at home for the average gardener.

Recent predictions are that there will be an explosive growth of heavy spending households continuing into 1985. This is due to the large number of adults (approximately 1/3 greater in 1985 than in 1976). This is another indication of further impending demand for our products. Don't you old-timers retire without leaving at least one replacement.

Late word from AAN is that Chlordane will be available for fire ant control through the end of this year. Only certified applicators will be permitted to purchase and apply the Chlordane to meet quarantine regulations.



President Hoogland appointed a committee during our recent Board Meeting to design and recommend to the Board a new pin for our Certified Nurserymen. Attendance at the last Certified Nurserymen's exam was minimal. We hope that more of you will participate at the next exam scheduled for this fall. Information and details will be forthcoming.

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Louisiana Association of Nurserymen

Grandpa Roach is perhaps the senior, senior member of the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen. And Jimmy Olivier is probably the newest member. In 1979 the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen is marking its 25th year as a State association. Progress has been made by the growers and retailers alike in Louisiana.

Here we have the story of a charter member of LAN and its newest member, both growers. In a follow-up we will look at the progress of the retail nursery business in Louisiana.

Wiley A. Roach Sr., of West Monroe responds most often to "Grandpa" Roach, possibly because his son has become a grower in his area. Grandpa was among the 19 charter members of the LAN in 1954 - even among the initiators of the move to organize growers of nursery material into a separate organization in 1953. And one of the proudest moments of his life came when (even in his old clothes, as he puts it) he was elected its first president. He says he "sure didn't expect it."

He had begun with eight acres of land which he relinquished when "the

government" decided to build what is now the West Monroe Airport. Nine miles west of West Monroe he found 24 acres on which he could begin again. He grew as well and today his holdings include the old family farm acreage in Union and Clairborne Parishes. Roach Nursery, Inc. is a present at 549 acre nursery and incorporated as a small business.

The nursery does business with the Dallas - Ft. Worth, Texas market area as well as Mobile, Alabama and points in Mississippi and Arkansas (to which he is geographically closer.)

Grandpa Roach remembers that Louisiana nursery growers felt that they would function better as a separate group of growers rather than as members of the horticultural association to which they belonged in 1953. With his election as its first president he set about encouraging them to an early affiliation with the Texas Association. They responded and are, 25 years later, affiliated with nursery groups reflecting their special areas of interest as well as regional and national associations, and actively participating in the programs of these associations.

Through the years, Grandpa Roach notes, the annual short course and convention of the LAN has served as a unifying influence as much as an informative session summing up the year's interests. Family members are included and the association's direction is decided upon with the close participation of a majority attendance of members.

Two moments from the past years stand out in this member's memory - indeed they are his most cherished memories: first, he delights in having been chosen to become an honorary Cajun by the southwestern Louisiana group marking the bicentennial of the French speaking people in Louisiana; and now he is an honorary life member of the association he served as its first elected president.

After 25 years of working for himself and for all nurserymen in his state, Grandpa Roach spends a great deal of time on a project to "haul water by air."

"Nature does it all the time; why shouldn't we?" he says, thinking of providing water to drought areas and re-using waste water from the headwaters of the Atchafalaya.

Watching the growing prosperity of neighboring friends who are

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1958 LEADERSHIP - Attending the 1958 Trade Show in Lafayette were, from left, (standing, J.A. Foret, secretary; Clyde Gorum, board member; Wiley A. Roach, board member; Laverne Harper, board members; O.D. Chamberlin, board member; and Alvin

Guidry, treasurer. Seated from left, are Robert Core, first vice president; W.T. Lambright, president; and Marshall Mugnier, second vice president. The 1979 Short Course and Convention was held in Baton Rouge.

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Nursery

Azaleas
under
the pines

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Memberships Span 25 Years

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nurserymen in the Grand Prairie sector Jimmy Olivier has made the move that aligns him with them. In the late spring of this year he concluded, after much self-searching, that he and his family would profit by his change from a career in education to one in the production of nursery stock.

Now he has under construction three lath houses 102' x 35' each, a greenhouse 68' x 35' and a two-story storage unit 30' x 25' which is to be used for cutting, potting, storage and rest facilities. He has planned for five women employees (some of whom will be family members) and expects to be a shrubbery and tree grower in Evangeline Parish. His operation is named "Prairie Wholesale Nursery, Inc."

By August he hopes to have 20 to 30 acres of his 140 acres of rolling central Louisiana hills under cultivation. The former coach and teacher with a master's degree as reading specialist, expects to be found working with growing plants. And he expects to join successful Louisiana nurserymen growers as quickly as steady application will provide.

In common with established growers he has a goal of teaching his sons and daughters the meaning and

satisfaction of working together as a family unit toward a common goal, and the individual satisfaction to be found working with plants. He foresees a closer relationship developing in his family as they share in the progress of the nursery.

"I'll get to be with my family," he said, "especially my kids. I thought they needed to be able to 'do something'. And the nursery business is a good place to earn money."

With the help of his wife Janice, three sons Jay, Brian and Kevin, and daughters Michelle and Nicole, he expects to have overcome initial problems in the next four or five years.

Between the charter member's 25 years of experiences and the groundbreaking experience of Jimmy Olivier in 1979 lies a wealth of untold effort as the nurserymen of Louisiana expend every effort toward mutual progress for Louisiana Association of Nurserymen and the nursery associations with which it is now affiliated.



GRANDPA ROACH - Wiley A. Roach of West Monroe remembers the early events of the organization of the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen.



GROUNDBREAKING - Jimmy Olivier having broken ground for his new nursery in April 1979. of Grand Prairie joined LAN in May.



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TOMATOES PAY - Dr. Joe Pena, economist, Texas A&M University spoke on the economics of greenhouse tomato production. He was one of 22 program participants.

LGGA Short Course Held

"The closer to 25 pounds of tomatoes per plant, the closer you are to making money growing greenhouse tomatoes."

Dr. Joe Pena of Texas A&M University discussed the economics of greenhouse tomato production at the 9th annual Louisiana Greenhouse Growers Short Course June 23 at the University of Louisiana which sponsored the event with LGGA.

A large number of the 200 registrants were present for Dr. Pena's presentation Saturday morning. New officers had been named the evening before at the LGGA annual Cajun Supper.

To serve again are president, Les Addison, Baton Rouge; C.V. Wilson, Ethel; and Robert Barry, Sunset. The board of directors consists of Bob Guidry, Youngsville, Greg Davis, Lafayette; John Mendell, Broussard; Oliver McGuire, West Lake; Kenneth Jacob, Franklin; and Buster Granger of Beaumont, Texas.

Dr. Pena was one of six out-of-state speakers who, with 16 Louisianians, participated in the program which covered installation and maintenance of greenhouses and greenhouse equipment along with greenhouse growing procedures and

trouble-shooting techniques in both areas. Freight shipments, basic electricity for greenhouses, comments from nine exhibitors, slow release fertilizers versus soluble fertilizers for poinsettia production and ideas for extended production were topics highlighted.

Pena is a proponent of the idea of using overhead space for hanging basket production as a method of making greenhouse tomatoes production more lucrative. Producing 20-25 pounds of tomatoes per plant in the greenhouse does take the grower beyond the "break-even" point, but there is space left over that can be put into production. And he advocates ornamentals (seeing tomatoes in a hanging basket as such) for this purpose.

Dr. Pena gave statistics, using slide charts, gathered from his own research. He provided cost of construction figures for a 30' x 96' house (2880 square feet) and pointed out that his \$12,000+ estimate includes operational costs for six months.

"Lower figures given by some reputable manufacturers are incomplete," he said, "Such necessities as cooling pads are left off. Doing your own supervision can save construction costs, but leaving out necessities is not the place to cut costs," he emphasized.

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See You!

By Hilda H. Welch



It was a short quarter this time where the newsletter is concerned. Whenever illness causes a late newsletter and the next one must be on time, this is what happens. And, for me, the short time is an excuse to do more writing. Unfortunately, there isn't as much time to make personal contact for our "letter". We did get to visit Grand Prairie which, as the crow flies, must be not more than twenty miles from my childhood home and I was totally unaware of the area until I went looking for LAN's newest member.

The beautiful low rolling terrain visible from 167 south of Opelousas is just a small part of the hills of central Louisiana. How blind we are to the beauty right beside us!

And I visited the New Iberia area again. Mike Richard's efforts are bearing fruit. That area, too, surprises the unwary. For those who haven't visited the byways off Hwy. 90 in the New Iberia area - one expects to arrive at the Gulf immediately so far into the area he seems to be. And then you find that someone a nurseryman someone has

been at work. The soil in that area doesn't challenge as much as it confounds. Then when the winds blow ceaselessly, -----.

For the April issue I had prepared a brief bit of social chit chat from several areas. This time I'll not have as much, but hope to carry on from here.

I hope the new Mizell grandchild who must be six months old has a new T-shirt by now. Those proud grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Buster Mizell had him in a Green Thumb T-shirt when

he was four days old! And they just absolutely glowed. I suspect there will be a sort of continuous supply of shirts, yes?

And you know Miss Ginny went to Paris to see her new grandchild too? She is Doc Foret's right hand, Gal Friday. And Doc had the good fortune to be presented with another grandchild about that same time. All these new grandchildren spell something - the next nurserymen, perhaps?

The LGGA Short Course was well attended. Dr. Barry says the greenhouse growers usually turn out very well. That group has an annual crawfish supper, so maybe they know good food when they smell it cooking, just like.

The certification exam was given to three who wanted to become certified nurserymen and three certificates were granted. Our congratulations to them. Rhonda Porche, whom we interviewed for the first issue of Louisiana's Nurserymen, has certified. It's nice to follow a scholarship recipient as active as she seems to be.

Don't forget the Convention - Trade Show in Dallas in August. Read the president's letter at the front of the newsletter for his special note.

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'Union' Mimosa is new release for October

The Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations, Coastal Plain Station, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Science and Education Administration (Agricultural Research), announce the release of 'Union' Mimosa developed cooperatively by these institutions.

'Union' is a *Fusarium* wilt-resistant mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*). It is a selection from seed produced by U.S. Forest Service personnel in 1951 by

self-pollination of a resistant tree (No. 65). The seedling survived inoculation with *Fusarium oxysporum* f. *perniciosum* in the seed flat. It was transplanted in 1953 to Union, S.C., in an area naturally and heavily infested with the mimosa wilt organism. In January 1955, the tree was moved to Tifton, Ga. The area in which it was planted was artificially infested yearly (1955-1960) with the wilt fungus from several geographical sources. In 1960,

plantings were made of selection in a second area at Tifton. Inoculum from different sources was applied to this area yearly from 1960-1965. No evidence of the wilt has been seen on these plants grown at Tifton or at Washington, D.C. since 1970, or at Mobile, Alabama or Wachapreague, Virginia, since 1972.

The original tree of 'Union' has a crown spread of approximately 14 m and height of 8 m at 27 years of age and is growing under somewhat crowded conditions. Individual flower clusters are approximately 6.5 cm wide and 4.5 cm deep.

Flower color is light red which extends from the tip of the cluster to approximately 1/4 the depth. The remainder is yellow, white. Foliage and seed are typical of *Albizia julibrissin*.

The tree has proven cold-hardy in the U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C. since 1970 and especially during the severe winters of 1976-77 and 1977-78.

This mimosa is readily propagated by root cuttings 7-10 cm long taken in the dormant season and inserted vertically in vermiculite with 1-2 cm of the upper end uncovered. Soft wood cuttings, made of sprouts from root cuttings, root readily under mist with or without treating the basal ends with 0.1 indolebutyric acid dust.

The Science and Education Administration, Agricultural Research and the Coastal Plain Experiment Station will maintain basic stock for a reasonable time.

'Union' has been propagated in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding with Gulf Stream Nursery, Wachapreague, Virginia 23480 and August E. Kehr, Acting Director, Plant Science Research Division, ARS, February 10, 1972.

Plants will be available to the nursery industry October 15, 1979 from Gulf Stream Nursery, Wachapreague, Virginia and in limited quantity from Science and Education Administration, Agricultural Research, Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Georgia 31794.

Effective release date will be October 15, 1979.



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CLASSIFIED

We will include CLASSIFIED ads in each issue beginning with July. Rates are to be established and will be included with the October issue. See page 15.

Call 1-318-233-2189.

AAN/SNA Convention- Trade Show this month

1979 AAN/SNA CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW — ADVANCE REGISTRATION. All advance registration for the 1979 AAN/SNA Convention and Trade Show will be handled through the AAN office in Washington, D.C. You should have already received the first of several mailings which included a reservation card for the Peachtree Plaza Hotel and advance registration form for the convention. If you have not received this mailing contact AAN, 230 Southern Building, Washington, D.C. 20005 - Tel: 202/237/4060.

If you plan to attend all functions scheduled during your stay in Atlanta, you should complete the advance registration form and mail it back to the AAN office. Your advance registration kit will be ready for you when you arrive at the hotel on Saturday, July 28th.

If you do not wish to register for all functions it will be necessary to wait

until you arrive at the Civic Center in Atlanta where we will have registration beginning on Saturday, July 28th, as in past years.

SNA TRADE SHOW EXPANDS Due to continuing requests for booth space in the annual Trade Show, an additional 36 booths have been added to the 1979 Show. The new South Hall opens directly off the lobby of the Atlanta Civic Center and offers easy accessibility from the registration desk. These new spaces have been offered to the firms on the waiting list and acceptances began coming in immediately. The Show now has a total of 540 exhibit booths.

Another welcome addition to the 1979 Show will be the Marriott's Sidewalk Cafe. This new area is located on the Plaza Level of the Civic Center immediately above the registration lobby. Friendly Marriott service and ample attractive seating will provide everyone a chance to enjoy a relaxing break during the Show.

COMMANDMENTS OF BUSINESS

1. Handle the hardest job first each day. Easy ones are pleasures.
2. Do not be afraid of criticism — criticize yourself often.
3. Be glad and rejoice in the other fellow's success — study his methods.
4. Do not be misled by dislikes. Acid ruins the finest fabrics. However, both may be used to advantage.
5. Be enthusiastic — it is contagious.
6. Do not have the notion that success means simply money-making.
7. Be fair, and do at least one decent act every day.

EPA-APPROVED LAWN WEED KILLERS AVAILABLE. Since EPA has ordered suspension of the sale and use of 2,4,5-T or Silvex, very effective alternatives remain available to the homeowner for lawn weed control. Some alternatives are AM Chem's Super D Weedone, Acme's Weed No More, and a "new" product, Spectrum's 33 Plus TM Lawn Weed Killer, sold nationally for home lawn use by the Ciba-Geigy Corporation.

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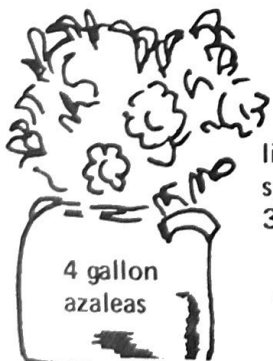
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19 Members Chartered LAN

On April 26, 1953, an active group of 19 nurserymen decided to "form ourselves into a distinct Nurserymen's Association, adopting similar principles applying to the Iowa State Horticulture Society and our body to affiliate with the Louisiana State Horticultural Society Association." They set forth a brief description of the Iowa organization and the membership of the state group from which they would secede was notified that nursery members of the group unanimously desired to form a Louisiana Nurserymen's Association.

The nurserymen secured the necessary approval and were unanimously granted the transfer of ear-marked funds from the La. State Horticultural Association. Aubrey Henderson was named temporary president; Wylie Roach, first vice president; and Price Magee, second vice president.

A board of governors included E.P. Akin, Bill Furlong, George Johnson, Fritz Huber, Joe Vallot, Joe Roshto, Heinz Schacki and Floyd McKee.

Ground work laid, the newly formed Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, Inc. agreed on a six article Constitution stating briefly and clearly

that the membership should consist of four categories of persons "with the purpose of advancing the best interests of the nursery industry in Louisiana by means of better personal acquaintanceship, better methods of propagation, growing and selling, and procuring best results of inspection, legislation and transportation and in general the welfare of the nursery industry."

The officers were to be a president, a first vice president and a second vice president who were to serve for a period of one year. An executive secretary was to be employed by the Board of Directors, to be responsible solely to the Board. A treasurer, a member of the Board of Directors, was to be appointed by the president. The new board of directors would consist of the officers, the immediate past president, and a minimum of eight regular members elected to serve on the board in the manner that officers were to be chosen (names submitted by the nominating committee for vote by the regular membership at the annual meeting.) Each year four of the eight are named to a term of two years.

The by-laws of LAN specify that a person or persons applying for

membership shall have been actively engaged in the nursery business in a reputable, trustworthy and ethical manner for one year in Louisiana. This is the regular (active) member. Other memberships are an associate (memberships outside the state), affiliate (a person employed in any capacity in any nursery industry or establishment or allied industry which is a member of the Association) and the honorary members who are elected to this position because of unusual or distinguished service to the industry.

The new organization provided for the integrity of its future by writing into its by-laws the provisions that a member may be removed for non-payment of just debts, breaking business agreements illegally or unethically, actions derogatory to the association, non-payment of dues and misleading or fraudulent advertising. However, if a member is once removed, he may petition for new membership at the next annual meeting.

More next issue

Hazards - -


from plant life?

The agricultural community - more specifically the nursery and florist portion of the industry - is increasingly damaged by a proliferation of false and misleading commentary on the subject of potential hazards from plant life. The publication of half-truths and myths works a serious disservice on the general public as well.

The foregoing is the observation made by the American Association of Nurserymen as a preface to a statement in pamphlet form prepared to place the matter in an accurate and reasonable perspective.

It is vital that nurserymen and florists be aware that the problem exists and be ready to provide accurate information where possible. It is just as necessary that as much accurate information be provided to the public in a continuing manner so that the negative effect of those misdirected accounts is not crippling to the industry.

Copies of "Poisonous Plants, The Case For the Guilty Garden" is available from The American Association of Nurserymen, 230 Southern Building, Washington, D.C. 20005.



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DON'T WORK HARDER TO INCREASE YOUR EFFICIENCY —WORK SMARTER

Increasing your personal productivity does not mean working harder or longer. It means working smarter. Here are 8 ways to accomplish more of what's most important to you with less time and effort.

1. Manage your time the way you manage your business. A successful company budgets, controls, and regularly evaluates its use of assets. To increase your productivity, you must manage your most important asset — your time — in a similar way.

The first step is deciding what your most important goals are. Ask yourself: What do I most want to accomplish for my company — and myself — in the next several months? Since your time is a scarce and limited asset, you shouldn't squander it by trying to accomplish everything. Instead, concentrate on the most important goals.

Next, you should outline, in writing, the steps you must take to accomplish these goals. Again, focus on the most critical steps. Also try to set out a timetable for completing each of these steps.

complete next issue

Regulators have a place

A plant can be made to grow taller, remain dwarfed, drop its fruit early, regrow a missing part or die. And all it takes is a tiny dose of the right growth regulator. These synthetics are able to enter a plant and so effectively mimic the plant's own hormones that they alter the normal timing of growth and development.

Brent McCown, University of Wisconsin-Madison horticulture researcher, explains that hormones act as chemical messengers to connect the sensing mechanism in one part of the plant with the area of action in another. Through this system of remote control, the plant can distribute water and nutrients, the "plant capital," to appropriate areas of growth and development.

Depending upon the message, the plant may react by turning its leaves toward the sun, sending food to a certain area to begin fruit development, forming scar tissue or responding in a multitude of other ways.

Artificial or synthetic growth regulators imitate the plant's own hormones and in so doing disrupt normal timing. Most herbicides are synthetic regulators that overwhelm the internal growth mechanism; the effect is comparable to what happens when a woman takes birth control pills.

Many regulators affect only specific areas of the plant. Fruit growers can use a chemical spray to keep apples on the tree longer or to knock the fruit off when it is ripe. Soybean farmers can apply defoliant to speed the dropping of leaves and thus hasten maturity.

"Other regulators slow down vegetative growth to dwarf plants; this allows a grower to raise plants under conditions that are less than ideal — when sunlight and nutrients are in short supply" McCown says. We can even get

plants to form missing parts for propagation and rooting.

"But you can't get plants to do anything with a growth regulator that they are genetically incapable of doing. You can't get apple trees to grow oranges or corn to grow on a vine."

Some companies advertise growth regulators that they claim will produce large increases in cash grain crop yields. McCown says, "It is extremely unlikely that a single growth regulator could directly increase yields." The size of the fruit or the amount of seed produced by a plant is controlled by the interplay of a multitude of hormones. "This makes the idea of using one synthetic hormone to produce consistently high yields seem ridiculous," says McCown. "It's like claiming you could shut down all the controls on a car except the accelerator and expect it to give better performance."

"In the long run," says McCown, "the cheapest, most efficient way to regulate plant growth and development is through genetic engineering. Plant breeding produces relatively permanent changes, whereas growth regulators must be applied at least once during the growing season to alter the internal clockwork. Even though growth regulators are applied in 'needle in the haystack' proportions many are relatively expensive or give variable results and therefore are not feasible for general field-scale production.

"The use of growth regulators to control specific processes at specific times is an exciting frontier," says McCown. But it's not likely to replace breeding as the most effective method of engineering plant growth and development.

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