THE TORRANCE HERALD HOME AND GARDEN

Lesser Known Bulb Flowers Can Add Beauty to Garden

In the world of bulb flowers there are several leaders that dominate the scene. But, says the California Association of Nurserymen, there are also a great many other bulb flowers that shouldn't go unnoticed by California gardeners.

The grap hyacinth (Muscari) is one of these lesser known but very worthwhile bulbs. Blooming from February to May the grap hyacinth features blooms on spikes like miniature hyacinth. Muscari armeniacum's flowers are deep violet and white, the spike tipped in pale blue; botryoides has white flowers.

Try the grap hyacinth in great masses under flowering trees or interplanted with other flowers of blue. Give it sun (although it will tolerate light shade) and well-fertilized garden loam. You can leave it in the ground for several years before lifting and dividing the clumps. Or maybe the wood hyacinth (Scilla) is more to your liking in the bulb flower classification. Very hardy it blooms in shades of white, blue and pink.

The Peruvian (S. peruviana) bears star-shaped flowers of bluish-purple reddish-purple flowers or white flowers in early spring; this species does very well in cold winter areas.

Scillas are outstanding, planted informally under trees or shrubs or in pots, even—and they make good cut flowers. Give them sun or shade, moderately fertilized loam and plenty of water during the growing season. The bulb should be planted in October or November and may be left undisturbed for years.

Baptism Service Set At South Bay Church

A baptismal service is scheduled during the 7:30 p.m. worship service at the South Bay Baptist Church, 4365 Sharynne Lane, according to the Rev. George F. Cain.

At the same service, he will speak on "Christ Came Not to Send Peace, But a Sword." In the morning, he will talk on the "The Leprosy of Garments." Crib nursery and junior church services are at the same hour, while Sunday School meets at 9:45 a.m.

Garden Chatter

By LORING BIGELOW

Early bulb shipments are being received now by local Nurseries and Garden Supply Dealers. By starting your planting at this time and following through as additional varieties are available, you should be able to extend the blooming season in your bulb garden over a long period of time.

One of the new arrivals is the White Calla Lily. We are all familiar with this variety and it still is an excellent number for the shadier portions of your garden. In addition to the large white flower, which has been improved over the years, the plant itself has large and attractive leaves. Plant the white calla about 3 inches deep (top of bulb), and approximately 18 inches apart.

The new Freesia hybrids, which produce flowers of large size, and are delightfully fragrant, can be planted at this time. Freesias are usually strong and vigorous, and the many colored flowers will appear upon tall, wiry stems. There are two patented Freesias which are well worth considering: "Marie", which is the largest and most beautiful of all white Freesias, and "Talisman," which is a bright orange-pink, with a rich creamy throat, blooming very early. Other shades are yellow, rose, bright red, lavender blue, and pink. Plant them slightly over an inch deep, and 4 to 6 inches apart.

* * *

Sparaxis, which came to us originally from South Africa and likes our Southern California climate, is becoming increasingly popular each year with local homeowners. These flowers have been crossed and recrossed to the point now where they contain every color imaginable, from brilliant reds, flashing yellows, and deep velvety maroon blacks. These flowers grow quite large, many of them three inches in diameter. Plant the same as Freesias.

The old fashioned Watsonias are still with us and can be planted now. They grow similar to the Gladiolus with which everyone is familiar, and they are in fact closely related to the "Glad," but the flowers are entirely different. Our friendly neighbors "down under," the Australians, have done lots of hybridizing with this plant and have come up with many interesting colors, among them pink, lilac, flame, lavender red, salmon orchid and white. Top of the bulb should be 3 or 4 inches under the soil surface and space them 6 to 8 inches apart.

* * *

Oxalis has for many years been a slow mover in the bulb industry in this area, but is has many, many uses such as ground covers, border plantings, narrow plantings, and its attractive large shamrock foliage is attractive in itself—even without the color ranges of lavender, pink, white, yellow and rose. Some of these varieties have flowers appearing in umbels, while others appear individually on the plant. Don't pass this bulb by, for it may have a definite spot in your yard! An inch deep and about 4 inches apart will do.

The Leucojum, or Snowflake, is also available now. This is a nice variety for naturalizing or growing in spotted plantings in the garden. White, nodding flowers shoot up from this interesting plant, and the bulb multiplies rapidly if left undisturbed. Plant 3 or 4 inches deep and 4 to 6 inches apart.

Lycoris radiata, or if you prefer the Coral Red Spider Lily, is related to the Amaryllis, but its flower is entirely different. Instead of the characteristic large trumpet shape of the Amaryllis, the Lycoris flower is open, with ribbonly petals, and long thrust out stamens. Several nurserymen prefer to call its type "lacey." Approximately 2 inches deep and 8 inches apart will bring you excellent results. This is also a good pot number, and will do well even when the cluster becomes massed.

Ipomoea, or Glory of the Sun, has long been a favorite of mine, for it is a good cut flower, easily grown, and is in a blue-lavender shade that is hard to duplicate in the garden. The flowers are also very fragrant, and appear on a stem that is often a foot in length. Although the bulbs are usually rather small, they should be planted quite deep—5 or 6 inches in light soils or 3 to 4 inches in heavier types. Space them 3 or 4 inches.

Babiana, also available now, is another bulbous plant that has blue-lavender flowers. This one does a little better perhaps in the sandier soils, and should be also left alone. About an inch or so deep and 3 inches apart will do nicely on the "Baboon Flower."

Tritonia crocata, or Flame Freesia, may be picked up from your favorite dealer now. Some people prefer to call this plant

LANDSCAPING?
DO IT YOURSELF FROM A COMPLETE DESIGN OF YOUR PROPERTY
LORING L. BIGELOW
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR
3000 NEWTON STREET
TORRANCE
DA 8-5000

Hardy Cotoneaster Shrubs Can Be Used in Many Ways

Too often abused and misused the Cotoneaster shrub in its many species can be planted to perform a great variety of garden roles. Available in low-growing and taller-growing evergreen forms the Cotoneaster is hardy throughout the state.

In the taller growing species the Monthretia, but whatever you may choose to call it the plant is a mass of thick sword-like leaves with tall stems of small trumpet shaped flowers open at the mouth like a star. For the most part, those available locally are in the orange, salmon, or pink shades. Plant like you do the Gladiolus—about 4 inches deep and 6 to 8 inches apart.

Should your nurseryman or garden supply dealer not stock the varieties that I have mentioned, he will be glad to order them for you as he too is anxious for you to have a successful time with your bulbs.

gardeners can work with the semi-evergreen silverleaf (C. pannosa) which reaches 10 feet with silvery-gray foliage on arching branches. Clusters of white flowers and coral red fruits offer color contrasts. Reaching 15 feet the willowleaf (C. salicifolia) is a species with wrinkled, willowlike leaves of dark, rich green, white flowers and bright red fruits.

One of the most outstanding of the taller growing Cotoneasters, according to the California Association of Nurserymen, is the C. parneyi, growing in the graceful arching manner with dark green, leathery leaves and pink flowers followed by brilliant red fruits.

Ground covers in the lower-growing Cotoneaster species are the rockspray (Horizontalis) and the creeping (C. adpressa). The rockspray forms a mat of trailing branches bearing glossy green leaves, white flowers and scarlet berries and the creeping cotoneaster, deciduous, features pink flowers and bright red fruits.

The necklace cotoneaster (C. decora) reaches three feet in its arching growth; evergreen, it features white flowers and red fruits. It makes a good low foundation box plant. Rockspray cotoneaster (C. microsphylla) spreads to three feet and can be used effectively over walls or along steps. Its dark green leaves, gray underneath, are interspersed with white flowers and rose-red berries.

GARDENER'S CHECKLIST

(Week: September 18-25, 1955)

1. Lawns should be seeded now so that they can become established before cold weather.
2. Remove weeds from the lawn by applying a selective weed killer. Spray the weeds away!
3. Plant Dutch Iris now. This is the best iris for a cut flower. Plant in the sun in well-drained soil.
4. Plant a low cover crop of annual flowers over tulip and daffodil beds.
5. Red spider is causing considerable damage in many gardens. Your nurseryman will recommend a control.

BUILD NOW
FENCES AT BIG SAVINGS
GARAGES DE LUXE MODELS
REDWOOD FENCES PATIO PLANTERS
100% FINANCING
$475 on your slab
$620 including slab
Licensed and Insured Contractors. Quality workmanship & materials!
PHONE NOW FOR FREE ESTIMATE
BLOCK WALLS CHAIN LINK
ALL STATE BUILDERS AND FENCE CO.
1008 W. ROSECRANS, GARDENA
DAvis 8-7853 OSborne 8-7188 NEwmark 5-5198

MOST COMPLETE NURSERY IN SOUTH BAY AREA
★ Weekly Special
CAMELLIAS
1 GAL. ... $1
5 GAL. $1.50
FUCHSIAS
1 Gallon
3 for $1.00
LAWN SUPPLIES
ROLLER & SPREADER LOANED FREE . . .
FALL BULBS LARGE SELECTION
Palos Verdes Begonia Farm
PHONE FRONTIER 5-2447
4024 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
WALTERIA
(Next to Smith Bros. Fish Market)

Torrance PLUMBING CO.
PLUMBING CONTRACTING
REPAIR WORK
REMODELING
KITCHENS and BATHS
GENERAL REFRIGERATORS
WATER HEATERS
FLOOR & WALL FURNACES
R. L. PARKS and J. PARKS MONTABUR
1418 MARCELINA AVE — TORRANCE
FAirfax 8-2654 FAirfax 8-4444

September SPECIAL
RATTAN 7-PC. GROUPING — Includes 3-Pc. Sectional, Lounge Chair, 2 End Tables, Cocktail Table. JUST $199.95
HONG KONG SEA GRASS 23¢ Sq. Ft.
BAMBOO ROLL-UP DRAPES 8¢ Sq. Ft.
LAMPS 50% OFF Reg. Price
Custom CORNICE BOXES Made to Order
★ Rattan ★ Wrought Iron ★ Peel Furniture
Mira Costa Home Shop
200 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach FR 4-4818
Closed Thursdays

ALGERIAN IVY $2.75 PER FLAT
(Approximately 100 Plants)
LANTA (GAL. CAN)
ARALIA (GAL. CAN) 50¢
We have many varieties of TROPICAL PLANTS and CACTI for your Tropical and Cacti Gardens!
Visit our lovely lush Tropical and miniature Cacti Gardens. You'll get many unique ideas for your landscaping!
"If It Grows—We Stock It"
GARDEN CENTER NURSERY
NURSERY STOCK ★ LANDSCAPING ★ HARDWARE
Corner of 182nd & Western Ave. DA 9-2584

Your health will be better since doctors can now use
the voice of the atom

DOCTORS have long wanted to learn more about the human bloodstream—how it supplies nourishment . . . defends against disease . . . becomes diseased, itself.

THAT WISH IS REALITY today, because atomic energy has given a voice to certain of nature's elements. When these elements are exposed to the powerful radiation of splitting atoms, they become radioactive, themselves, and are called radioisotopes. The radiation they give off can be detected and heard with special instruments.

Now doctors introduce isotopes of iodine, iron, sodium, or other elements into the bloodstream. Their course can then be followed to determine the location and nature of the trouble. Isotopes are also becoming increasingly important in actually treating ailments.

ISOTOPES are being used in similar fashion by industry and agriculture to analyze materials, measure wear, control processes, and to help answer mysteries of how plants absorb nourishment from the soil and how it affects their growth and health.

THE PEOPLE OF UNION CARBIDE operate, under Government contract, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Nation's chief source of radioisotopes, as well as the huge atomic materials plants at Oak Ridge and Paducah.

FREE: Learn how ALLOYS, CARBONS, GASES, CHEMICALS and PLASTICS improve many things that you use. Ask for "Products and Processes" booklet E.

UNION CARBIDE AND CARBON CORPORATION
30 EAST 42ND STREET NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
In Canada: UNION CARBIDE CANADA LIMITED

UCC's Trade-marked Products include
SYNTHETIC PRIMARY CHEMICALS — PRESTONE Anti-Freeze — EVEREADY Flashlights and Batteries — PRESTO-LITE Acetylene — Dynel Textile Fibers — BIMETAL Alloys and Metals — ELECTRO METALLURGICAL Alloys — UNION Carbide — LINDE Oxygen — LINDE Silicones — BAKELITE, VINYLITE, and KRENE Plastics — NATIONAL Carbons — ACHESON Electrodes — PUROFAX Gas