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# THE TORRANCE HERALD HOME AND GARDEN

## Bulbs Should Be Planted Now for Blooms in Spring

Autumn's arrival marks bulb planting time—and this bulb is a very hardy flower and an early Spring bloomer, too. Showy solitary flowers bloom on six to 14-inch stems above bright green basal tuft-like leaves. Anemone pennina blooms in sky blue flowers; coronaria, also called the poppy-

flowered anemone, bears poppy-like flowers of blue, red and white in various combinations. In planting the anemone remember that the pennina prefers slight shade while the coronaria takes sun.

Use the anemone, says the California Association of Nurserymen, in rock gardens, along borders or container-planted in pots. Bring them into the house, too, for they make excellent cut flower arrangements.

Appears in February  
Persian or turban ranunculus, ranunculus asiaticus, grows slightly taller than its companion—12 to 18 inches, with globular-shaped flowers set amidst finely dissected leaves bright green in color. Also early blooming, the ranunculus first appears in February and continues to lend its brilliant colors to a garden until April.

There are many improved forms of the ranunculus with

very double or ruffled, camellia-like blooms in cream white, red, yellow, orange, pink, rose. These blossoms mingle well with annuals or perennials in mixed borders if color companions are chosen carefully; excellent in pots, the ranunculus makes a fine cut flower too.

October through January is the planting time for the anemone and ranunculus. In both cases the bulbs should be soaked before planting—the anemone for an hour and the ranunculus for two to three hours. Place the anemone tubers one inch deep and six to 12 inches apart in rich, light, well-drained garden loam or start them in flats of damp sand. Provide ample moisture throughout the growing season.

In planting the ranunculus make sure you don't set the tubers into the ground when the result may be tuber rot. Set the tuber claws downward, one inch deep in light, loamy

## Garden Chatter

By LORING BIGELOW

Your Nursery and Garden Supply Dealer has a product that I have used and recommended several times in lawn construction work.

This material can be used either to renovate an older established lawn, or in constructing a new one. This product, which has been used by farmers for many years, has only recently been made available to the homeowner. Lawn and Garden Cyanamid may be purchased in several different sizes, which depend upon the size of the area you are to treat.

The important factors in building a good lawn are proper preparation of the seed bed, using a mixture of seed that is suited for the type of soil that you have and to the locality in which you live, proper care during the crucial period when the grass is getting established, proper weed control before and after planting, and proper feeding of the new lawn.

Lawn and Garden Cyanamid is a chemical compound which when applied to the soil or to an existing turf kills the existing plants, and all weed seed in the soil.

After a short waiting period during which the area is kept moist, the new grass seed can be sown. This is possible because the chemical has been changed to a beneficial nitrogen fertilizer which feeds the new grass for several months to come.

To give you an example of how this product works in turf, you will perhaps be interested in the results obtained at the Sepulveda Golf Course in the San Fernando Valley. This course is owned and operated by the City of Los Angeles Park and Recreation Department. This test was made during the planting of the grass to determine the value of the chemical compound in promoting grass growth and reducing the labor of weed control.

Nine greens were treated with the compound before seeding and nine greens were left untreated. All other procedures during the planting period were identical for all eighteen greens. The greens all received milorganite and phosphate and were planted with Seaside Bermuda at the rate of seven pounds per 1000 square feet.

Progress of the two sets of greens was carefully observed at all stages up to and after the first cutting, approximately

20 days after seeding. The greens treated with Lawn and Garden Cyanamid were found to germinate faster and developed a richer, even color with denser, more vigorous growth. There was virtually complete absence of weeds in the treated greens, while the untreated greens all had to be weeded, a hand operation which not only involved considerable expense, but which tore up the sod to a certain extent.

In repairing old lawns and making new ones, five pounds of Lawn and Garden Cyanamid is needed for each 100 square feet, and the product is available in 10, 25, 50 and 100 pound sizes.

This product can also be used to improve your soil in conjunction with other types of humus. Two pounds per 150 square feet of area is used in conjunction with grass clippings, leaves, flowers, etc. Another use is in the compost bin by using two parts organic refuse to one part cyanamid by weight, and for those of you who have asparagus beds—give it a try here and see the wonderful results. Use one pound of the product per 30 feet of row, 18 inches wide. Spread when the weeds are first emerging, usually just before or during the cutting season of the asparagus. If some weeds reappear, repeat application, but not more than twice a season.

This product definitely has a place in your garden, especially if you are interested in any of the above mentioned uses. You can pick up some today from your Nursery and Garden Supply Dealer, but if for any reason you have difficulty locating a dealer, send me a stamped self-addressed envelope, and I will send you further information.

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## Berries Offer Winter Color For Gardens

Bright reds, oranges, corals and crimsons scattered amidst dark greens. Sound colorful and pleasing for wintertime color? Well it's all very possible with the many varieties of berry-bearing shrubs suitable for planting here in California.

One of the favorites in the berry shrub class is the barberry. Berberis darwinii, an evergreen is the showiest of this family, growing four to six feet high with crisp dark green, holly-like leaves and unusual dark blue fruits in the winter.

Berberis thunbergii or Japanese barberry is deciduous and reaches six feet in its graceful manner of growth. Its small bright green leaves turn to yellow, orange and red in the fall and are followed by scarlet berries. Almost an evergreen, berberis wilsoniae grows to a sturdy six feet, bearing light green leaves, small yellow flowers and beautiful coral berries.

The cotoneaster family provides several members excellent for winter berry color. For instance, the rock cotoneaster (C. horizontalis) reaches a mound-like shape of three feet and in bold areas scarlet berries cover the branches so beautifully you don't notice the shrub's lack of winter foliage. C. parvifolius is an evergreen, coneaster species with rather leathery leaves, pink flowers and brilliant red fruits.

And for traditional winter berry color there's the holly, or Ilex family, says the California Association of Nurserymen. Traditional of the trade, holly is the English holly (I. aquifolium), a slow growing shrub-tree bearing yuletide boughs of green and berries of red.

soil and water and feed them as you do for annuals. As birds have a special fondness for the new ranunculus foliage cover the young plants with wire. Come summertime and the end of the ranunculus' season, lift the bulbs and store them dry.

Plant the anemone and ranunculus in the coming weeks and your garden will be all the more attractive for it come Spring.

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## Frosts Return From Canada

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Frost and daughter Marsha have returned from 10 days in Canada and the Pacific Northwest.

Alondra Park was the setting for an old-fashioned type Sunday School picnic recently. All members and friends from the Hope Church enjoyed sandwiches, chicken, beans, cold drink and ice cream, while the children each tried their luck at the many different races.

The Sandberg boys are still at it. This is the feeling of the many friends of these sport-minded boys. Clark, 14 year old, and Steven, 13 are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Sandberg, of 10613 Ermanita. They are both carriers for a Los Angeles newspaper from whom they have won two distinct honors. Clark was picked as the best player from the Torrance and Hawthorne area during a football game held at El Camino recently, and Steven won a trip to Catalina for his baseball skills.

Mrs. Ann Collins, of 17025 Crenshaw, left for Salt Lake City, Utah, where she will be met by Jean Chaddock and Mrs. Ken Kavanaugh and children of Placerville, Calif. From there they will form a caravan and motor to New York City. Mrs. Collins will bring her mother back with her from New York.

Fruit salad, finger sandwiches and sno ball delight were the highlights of a luncheon and shower given in honor of the expected baby of Mrs. Ruth Bruce.

The shower was given in the garden of Mrs. W. Towell at 17512 Ermanita. A pink and blue theme was carried out through in the yard, an umbrella in pink and blue with a baby under it, graced the center of the main table. The hostesses were Mrs. R. Gastelum, Roz Snitzer, Betty Myers and Ruth Towell.

Those cooling off in the shade surroundings were Jess Nelson, Betty Myers, Millie Oanes, A. Cortez, Sarah Bramlett, Kate Sprayberry, Audrey Richter, Frances Pawne, Ann West, Pat Stamm, Colleen Miller, Olga Moss, Roz Snitzer, Connie Gastelum, Rachel Sepulveda, Mary Krumwied, Marg Gunery, Helen Dorsey, Gloria Proctor, Betsy Hansen, Darlene Gler, Gloria Askegaard, Maxine Crowley, and Sue Wagner.

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