

Early Autumn Best Time to Plant Ornamental Evergreen Shrubs

When is the best time of year to plant evergreens? The season to set such plants is early in autumn, says Associate County Agent Harry S. Sloat.

The first problem is selection of planting materials. All evergreens are pretty when small, but some of them grow to be trees 80 to 100 feet tall. If planted against a house, they will soon outgrow their position. Continuous pruning will develop a tree or shrub contorted in effect.

So, if you are buying evergreens, Sloat suggests asking the nurseryman how large the plant will grow. If it will become too large, select some other plant.

There are many small-growing evergreens from which to choose and which will not be disfigured by pruning. Among the broadleaf evergreens, select from the Oregon Holly grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*); rhododendrons (particularly the hybrid forms); the azaleas; the Asiatic hollies (*Ilex convexa*, *Ilex rotundifolia*, and others.)

Among the needle-type ever-

greens, upright forms include pyramidal arbovitae and upright yews. Among the spreading forms are the common Pfitzer's juniper, Andorra juniper, and many others.

Rhododendrons and azaleas will prefer a northern exposure, well-drained acid soil supplied with plenty of organic matter.

Most of the broadleaf evergreens prefer a location that is protected from the prevailing winds and hot suns. Use junipers and arbovitae on the hotter, south side of the buildings.

In preparing soil for planting, make the hole larger than the ball of dirt which surrounds the plant. Set the plant approximately the depth that it grew in the nursery. When the hole is two-thirds full, add plenty of water. When the water has been absorbed by the soil, fill in the remainder of the soil.

Be sure the evergreens get an inch of water per week during October, and be sure to mulch each plant with two to three of sawdust, peat moss, leaves, or woods earth.

Kansan Elected Hereford Assn. President

Walter M. Lewis, partner in the veteran Hereford breeding firm of John M. Lewis & Sons of Larned, Kans., is the new president of the American Hereford Assn.

Lewis was elected to the helm of the association at the annual membership meeting held in association headquarters at Kansas City. Elected vice president was Alan Fenev, owner of Milky Farms, Phoenix, Ariz., and a former president of the association.

The new president and two other board members were re-elected to three-year terms as directors. They were Albert Mitchell, immediate past president, and G. C. Parker of Tulsa, Okla.

The 44-year-old Lewis was born into the Hereford industry. His grandfather, the late Wallace Libbey, was a charter member of the association in 1881. With his father and brother, the new president operates Alfalfa Lawn Farms.

Sales price of purebred Herefords has picked up at least \$100 a head in the last six months, Lewis said.

USDA Scientists Discover New Plant Estrogen in Ladino Clover

A new, potentially valuable estrogenic hormone has been isolated from Ladino clover, and its structure has been determined by Agricultural Research Service scientists, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announces.

This estrogen has been named "coumestrol." It is known to be present in alfalfa and strawberry clover, as well as in Ladino clover. The new hormone was discovered at USDA's Western Utilization Research and Development Division, Albany, Calif.

Estrogens, which regulate specific growth and reproductive activities are one type of the chemical compounds known as hormones. They occur naturally in both animals and plants or they can be synthesized. Stilbestrol, used to promote faster weight gains in feeder cattle and poultry, is a useful synthetic estrogen. Synthetic estrogens have been extremely valuable also in human medicine.

Estrogens that occur in animals are secreted by the ovaries and are associated with female sex development. Less is known at present about the character and function of estrogens in plants.

Coumestrol is not only different in chemical structure from known animal estrogens, but it differs also from plant estrogens previously isolated. Although estrogenic compounds are known to be active in about 40 plants, only a few of these plant hormones have been isolated.

The new compound, a crystal line substance, is about 30 times more active than genistein, one of the most potent estrogens previously reported in forage crops

However, it is considerably less powerful in its effects on animals than the synthetic estrogen stilbestrol.

In livestock rations, estrogens may have either good or bad effects. For example, stilbestrol can increase meat production efficiency and rate of gain in weight of beef cattle. This estrogen is used also in the poultry industry to fatten chickens for market (by causing chemical caponizing). But when animals are fed or graze on forage containing excess estrogens (or feed excessively on forage having estrogenic activity), a decrease in their fertility, and stillbirths or early death of their young, may result.

Interference of estrogenic forage with normal livestock fertility occurred spectacularly among sheep in Western Australia during the 1940's. The cause of the decline in reproductively, at first not understood, was eventually traced to excess intake of clover estrogen. This was due to a combination of wartime shortages of fertilizers and bulk feeds, and scanty rainfall in Western Australia, which caused a much greater than normal consumption of clover per sheep.

Estrogen behavior in plants is just beginning to come under systematic scientific scrutiny. An earlier study at the Purdue University Experiment Station, for example, demonstrated wide variations in estrogen concentrations in alfalfa during the growing season. Workers there, however, did not determine the nature of the substances responsible for the effect.



egg prices going up! Purina prices low!

This is the time to make good egg profits...

Good news is here at last—egg prices are on the way up.

And more good news—the forecast is for one of the lowest Purina Chow prices in 10 years. This is a ready-made opportunity for you to make some mighty good egg money—especially if you believe in feeding your hens good feed for top egg production.

Save on Feed Cost, Too

Still more good news—records from 10,000 Purina customers show that most poultrymen can cut feed cost per dozen by feeding Purina.

These folks who kept track and reported their results took only 4½ pounds of Purina to produce each dozen eggs. That's a full 1 pound less than the U.S. average as reported by the United States Department of Agriculture. And that amounted to a saving on Purina of 5 to 7 cents a dozen.

Help Your Hens Lay More Now is the time to help your hens

lay more of those good-priced eggs. If you're not already feeding Purina, start them on Purina Layena right away. More poultrymen—by far—feed it than any other ration, because it does help hens lay their best. And at very low cost per dozen.

No matter what size flock you have or what your grain situation may be... talk over your feeding needs with us. Let us help you start your pullets on Purina Laying Chows for lots of eggs at about 5 to 7¢ per dozen less feed cost than average.

Poultry Health Hint—Pullets need worming before going to the laying house. Wormed birds are healthier, need less feed. And Purina Research has developed low-cost Purina Liquid Poultry Wormer for you. Just put it in the drinking water. The cost—only ¼¢ to ½¢ per bird! Come in and see us soon.



FEED PURINA... YOU CAN DEPEND ON THE CHECKERBOARD

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Wenger Bros.
Rheems | Warren Sickman
Pequea | B. F. Adams
Bird-in-Hand |
| John J. Hess II
Intercourse—New Providence | S. H. Hiestand
Salunga | Snader's Mill
Mt. Airy |
| John B. Kurtz
Ephrata | James High
Gordonville | John J. Hess
Kinzers — Vintage |
| J. Fred Whiteside
Kirkwood | Blend & McGinnis
Atglen | |

Babcock's

How Are Random Sample Test Entries Gathered?

by Monroe C. Babcock



At the recent NEPPCO at Harrisburg, Pa., a poultryman came to our booth saying that he understood that breeders, if they chose, could pick their own sample for Random Sample Tests.

With Random Sample Tests, the rules specifically state that the hatching eggs or chicks be picked from all the eggs or chicks of the particular strain-cross available at the hatchery that day. At Babcock Poultry Farm our samples have always been selected by a Professor from the Cornell Poultry Department. These samples are drawn from thousands of eggs ready to go in the incubators. One egg comes from this tray, one egg from the next tray, and so on down through a cross section of all the eggs we have ready to go in the machines. Eggs are just picked out at random with no effort to select any particular types of egg.

Some breeders and hatcherymen are not located near a State College like we are. Some samples are gathered by county agents, 4-H leaders, high school Ag teachers, etc. It may very well be that some samples have not been drawn as they should be. You hear all kinds of stories. Usually, the man drawing the sample is furnished a complete set of rules by the test. If he reads them, and follows them, the sample will be accurately drawn.

By the way, some breeders and some hatcherymen couldn't come close to winning a Random Sample Test with their own birds if they spent all day selecting the sample themselves. It's not that simple.

We have won a number of Random Sample Tests. Also we have been beaten. Random Sample Tests are a great incentive to us. Sure, these tests have a lot of weak points but as a whole they are good for the industry.

Babcock Bessies are a white egg strain-cross, laying large eggs and laying well for fifteen months. Please send for catalog, folders and price lists. If you want to place your order now, please phone us collect.

P. S. Many hatcherymen quit business this year. There may be a shortage of good chicks for the next 10 months.

BABCOCK HATCHERY

Lancaster County Branch

Route 3R, Lititz, Pa.	Phone MADison 6-5872
Russell Mease	Bob Decker
Route 4	R. D. #1
Manheim, Pa.	Milford, New Jersey
Phone MO-5 4705	Phone Milford 4-4909