Garden Time

New Publication About Camellias Is Available

By M. E. Gardner
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I have been reviewing an excellent bulletin which has just been received from the printer. The title -- "Successful Camellia Culture." All of my readers who live in areas of the state where camellias can be successfully grown will want a copy of this publication.

The bulletin was prepared by a fine team of research and extension personnel, a graduate student and two members of a prominent nursery family.

Dr. R. Gordon Halfacre and Mr. David Bradshaw of the Department of Horticultural Science; Professor J. C. Wells of the Department of Plant Pathology; Professor Robert L. Robertson of the Department of Entomology; and Mr. J. Stewart Howard and Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman (his daughter) of Laurel Lake Gardens and Nursery, Salemburg. It would be difficult to get a more competent team to write about the selection of varieties, planting and care of camellias.

The bulletin is well organized and the format very attractive. These are some of the subjects discussed -- kinds of camellias, location and soil, method of planting, fertilization, pruning, watering and winter care, cold injury, propagation, "Gibbing" (including how to make your own gibbing solution), insects, diseases and varieties.

Proper planting of camellias is illustrated and explained in seven steps. Cleft grafting is also well illustrated and explained -- step by step. Some of the insects covered are -- tea scale, camellia scale, peony scale, Florida wax scale and red spider mites. Control measures are recommended for each. Diseases covered are -- leaf blotch and twig blight, scab, canker (dieback), flower blight, nematodes, yellow mottle leaf, root rot and leaf and bud galls. Control measures are given for each disease.

One fine and unusual feature of this publication is the attention given to varieties. Systematic descriptions of over 200 varieties are listed, including the hybrids.

A limited supply of this circular, No. 543, Successful Camellia Culture, is being sent to County Extension Chairmen. If you get to him first, you may get one copy free. If not, get a group together and order your supply from -- Publications Office, 318 Ricks Hall, NCSU, Raleigh, N. C. 27607. The price, 25 cents per copy. Check, money order or coin should accompany your order to expedite handling.

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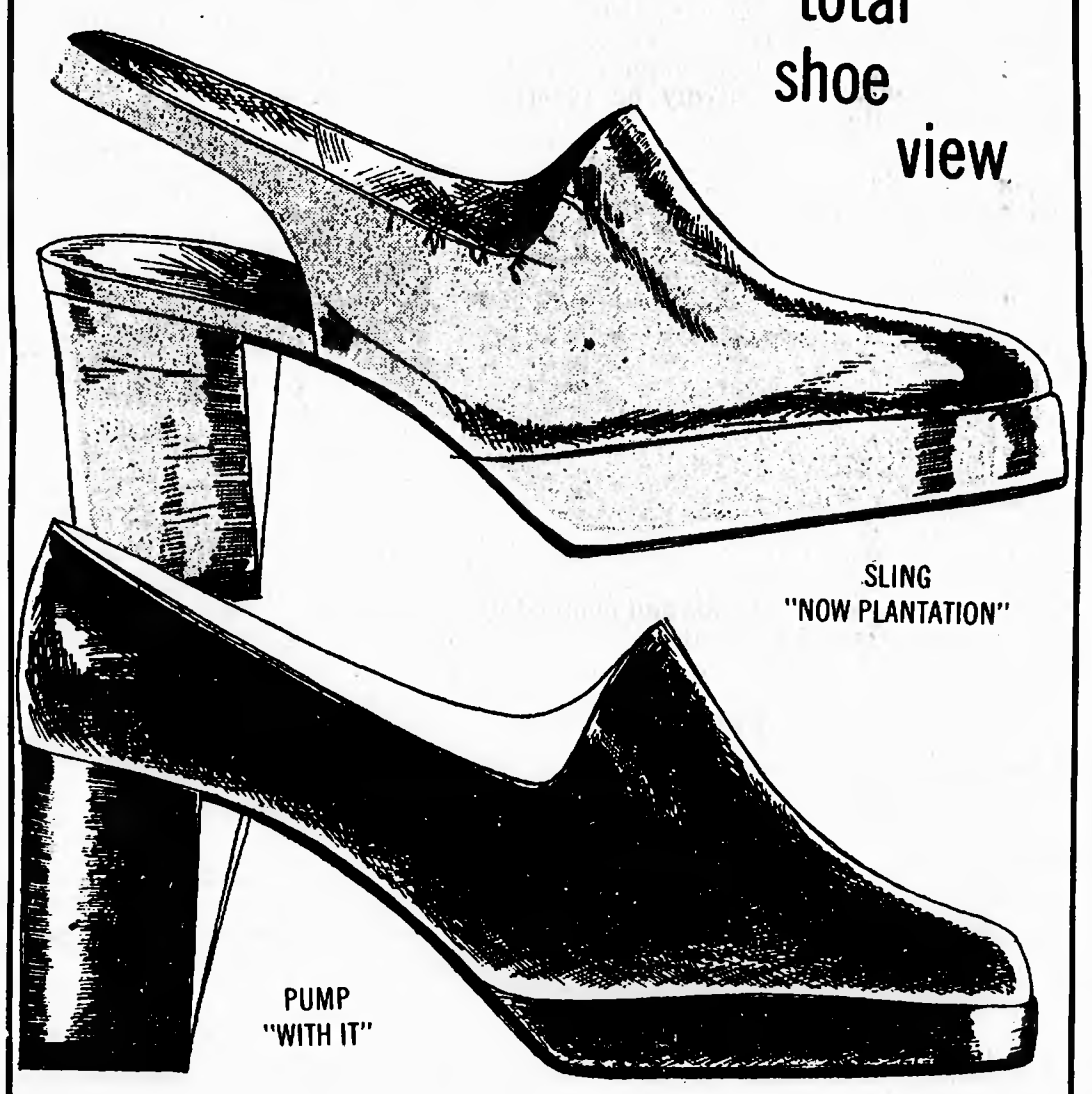

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