

### Shrubs, Plants Propagated By Wood Cuttings

By ROBERT SCHMIDT

Many of our deciduous shrubs and plants may be easily propagated by means of hardwood cuttings. Examples are spiraea, crape myrtle, forsythia, jasmine, figs, bunch grapes, privet, gooseberries, currants, and many others. And this is a good time of the year to make deciduous cuttings.

Good, strong wood of last summer's growth is best for this purpose. The cuttings may be made in lengths of eight to ten inches and tied in bundles of 25 to 50 cuttings. If you have access to cool storage (38 to 40 degrees F.) the cuttings may be stored in boxes of moistened peat or sand. Otherwise, they may be buried in a mound of sand or sandy soil out-of-doors where they can be shielded from the sun's rays.

In burying the bundles of cuttings it is best to place them upside down, that is, with the basal ends at the top. Before growth starts in spring the cuttings must be taken up and planted in rows or beds for rooting. About two-thirds of the base or bottom end of the cutting should be inserted below the surface of the soil and one-third above the surface.

It is necessary that at least one good bud is above the surface of the soil. Instead of storing the cuttings over winter in bundles they may be planted out in coldframes or even directly in nursery or garden rows as soon as they are cut from the plant. Usually, however, the former method gives a higher percentage of rooting.

Although bunch grapes are easily propagated by means of hardwood cuttings, this is not true of most varieties of muscadines. The Scuppernon is especially difficult to root in this manner. For these it is better to layer the vines—that is, to cover a young vine with a shovelful of earth while it is still attached to the parent plant. In one growing season roots will usually form and the plant is a graduate of Aber-



PRACTICING FOR EVENTS—Lt. Daniel I. Allred, Jr., formerly of Aberdeen, is pictured with two other members of the U.S. team to compete in the World Modern Pentathlon Championships at Santiago, Chile, during practice for two of the five athletic events in which each member of the team must be skilled. In swimming trunks, he is standing at center in the photo at right. Practicing pistol shooting, he is shown at far left of the other picture. The other Army officers on the team are Lt. Edward Tourtelotte (left in the swimming photo, right in the pistol-shooting) and Lt. Harlan Johnson. (U.S. Army photos made at Frankfurt, Germany).

## Lt. Allred In World Championships

Teams of 30 Nations To Compete In Chile; Events Start Dec. 5

A 25-year-old Army officer from the Sandhills, Lt. Daniel I. Allred, Jr., will compete as a member of the United States team in the World Modern Pentathlon Championships which begin Saturday, to run through Wednesday, at Santiago, Chile.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Allred of Pinebluff, formerly of Aberdeen, and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Huntley of Pinebluff, formerly of Southern High School and the Univer-

sity of North Carolina and enlisted in the Army about two and a half years ago and has been overseas since last May.

Lieutenant Allred is a member of Battery B, 816th Field Artillery Battalion, which is a unit of the V Corps stationed in Germany. He and two other members of the U. S. Pentathlon team, all Army men, trained for the unique athletic contest at Frankfurt, Germany. Recently, they came to the United States, stopping at the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., to pick up another member of the team and to undergo further training. They then proceeded to Chile.

The Modern Pentathlon is composed of five athletic events—steeplechase riding, fencing, pistol shooting, swimming and cross-country running. Each member of the team competes in all the events, calling for well-rounded athletic ability. Teams from more than 30 nations were expected to compete at Santiago.

Winners are selected on their relative standing in all five events, with the usual winner not a man who places first in any one event, but one who does well in all of them.

The riding event will be held Saturday over a 5,000-meter course that includes slides, ditches, water and fallen trees. Each participant draws lots for his horse and, after a 15-minute workout, takes the steeplechase course alone at five-minute intervals. Since the animal is unknown to the rider before the race, the competitor must use careful judgment not to "over-ride" his mount.

Fencing is scheduled for the second day. The one-touch epee bouts require that each contestant must fence against every other

contender from all the countries entered. One touch of an opponent's weapon and a man is out. There are no preliminary or qualifying heats in shooting, swimming or running. Each man performs only once.

In the shooting event, 20 shots are allowed at a man-size target. Only once in the history of World Pentathlons has anyone made a perfect 200. The competitor must be 25 meters from a bobbing target and must hit a bullseye just below the heart in the center of the target.

The running event requires alert judgment, since the runner must pace himself, running alone on a strange, but marked, 4,000-meter course.

A 300-meter course is featured in the swimming event. Lieutenant Allred called his parents on the telephone, after his arrival in the United States, but did not have time to come home for a visit before leaving for Chile.

UNDER PRICE SUPPORT

Farmers in North Carolina have put around 951,000 bushels of 1953 crop wheat under the Commodity Credit Corporation's price-support program, G. T. Scott, Chairman of the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, reports.

About 943,692 bushels of the amount represents 2,823 loans for wheat stored both on farms and in warehouses, and the balance represents wheat covered under purchase agreements. Twelve and one-half per cent of North Carolina's 1953 crop of wheat is under loan.

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