

Artichoke King



The humble artichoke crashed the limelight when it was banned in New York by Mayor LaGuardia, so it is fitting to present the Artichoke King of America, Dante Dianda. He's the man who introduced the artichoke as a commercial vegetable 30 years ago, and now there are more than 3000 acres of artichokes around his home at Half Moon Bay, Calif.

of three weeks from freshening date.

Question: How can I control the small worms in my tobacco plant beds?

Answer: These small worms often cause severe damage by up-rooting the small plants, but are easily controlled by applying naphthalene flakes at the rate of one and one-half pounds to each 100 square yards of plant bed. It may require from one to three applications and these should be made about one week apart. Strong winds will blow the naphthalene gas out of the bed as fast as it is formed and any applications made just before a strong wind should be repeated as soon as it becomes calm.

QUALITY TOBACCO STARTS IN SEED BED

A well constructed seed bed will protect young tobacco plants from disease and enable them to develop into hardy, thrifty specimens that will grow in the field.

Dr. Luther Shaw, extension plant pathologist at State College, gives the following suggestions for tobacco plant beds:

Locate the bed in a warm, sunny place with a southern or southwestern exposure. The soil should be loamy and well drained. Do not place the bed on a site where a bed has been within the past four years.

Box the bed with planks extending six inches above the surface of the soil. Stretch wire across the bed, or place forked sticks in the ground, to keep the canvas from touching the earth.

Or the bed may be covered with a thin layer of oat or wheat straw, with the canvas resting on the straw. When the weather will permit, roll back the cover for awhile

during the day to give the plants fresh air and sunlight.

It is better to have several small beds than one large bed, as this lessens the possibility of all plants becoming infected with disease. A hundred square yards of bed will produce 10,000 to 15,000 plants. One ounce of seed will sow 300 square yards of bed.

Two hundred pounds of a 4-8-3 fertilizer mixture is enough for each 100 yards of bed. Thoroughly mix it with the upper three or four inches of soil.

Be especially careful to keep the beds free from blue mold or tobacco mosaic infections. This is important.

Dr. Shaw suggested that growers wishing more information write the agricultural editor at State College, for extension circular No. 207, "Approved Practices in Handling Tobacco Plant Beds," and for experiment station bulletin No. 297, "Practices Relating to Control of Tobacco Mosaic."

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to sincerely and gratefully thank everyone for the many kind acts and sympathetic expressions during the illness and death of our Mother. It is impossible to express our emotions and sentiments to all of you either adequately or personally, but suffice to say we are most grateful.

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FORCED BLOSSOMS BEAUTIFY HOMES

Small branches cut from trees or shrubs and placed in warm water inside the houses will blossom several weeks before the advent of spring.

A few such branches placed in containers about a room will brighten it with the effect of spring while winter is still reigning outside, said Miss Anne Pauline Smith, district home agent at State College.

The woods offer many possibilities for indoor forcing, she pointed out. The maples are lovely in old brass, copper, or pottery containers. The black alder, with its long reddish brown catkins, makes an unusually decorative plant for forcing.

The yellow jasmine, the lovely vine which makes eastern Carolina woods so beautiful in spring, can be forced quickly, Miss Smith said. The gnarled forms of the flowering dogwood, the red-stemmed dogwood, and the spice bush are highly decorative.

Fruit tree blossoms—apples, pears, peaches, and cherries as well as the flowering crab, Japanese cherry, and hawthorne—are favorites with many indoor gardeners.

Wild plums, pussy willows, Japanese quince, honeysuckle, the naked jasmine, forsythia, deutzia, syringa, lilac, and the spirea are also beautiful indoors when arranged tastefully about a room.

If you wish to watch that mystery called "life" unfold in delicate beauty, force some lilies-of-the-Valley. Place them in wet sand or sphagnum moss which can be obtained from a florist.

A few simple rules should be ob-

served, Miss Smith pointed out. Take the chill off the water before placing the twigs in it. Don't let the plants get too cold at night or too warm during the day. Keep the container filled with water. Cut healthy branches, not too old.

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FARM QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Question: How can I tell when my chickens have worms?

Answer: Birds that are heavily infested with these parasites are usually quite thin, there is a drawn appearance of the face parts, and sometimes a fading of the eye. The birds are also sluggish and are invariably poor producers. When this condition appears in the flock several birds should be killed and the intestinal tract checked for worms. Before any medication, however you should see your county agent, as worming a flock must be done carefully to prevent the birds going into a moult.

Question: What feed should be given a cow immediately after freshening?

Answer: For the first few days the feed should be very limited. Only bran mash should be used as the grain feed the first day after freshening. For the next four days the feed should consist of a mixture in equal parts of wheat bran and ground oats. A reasonable amount of legume hay and a small amount of silage may be fed during this period. On the fifth day the cow may be started on the regular milking ration and gradually brought to full feed over a period

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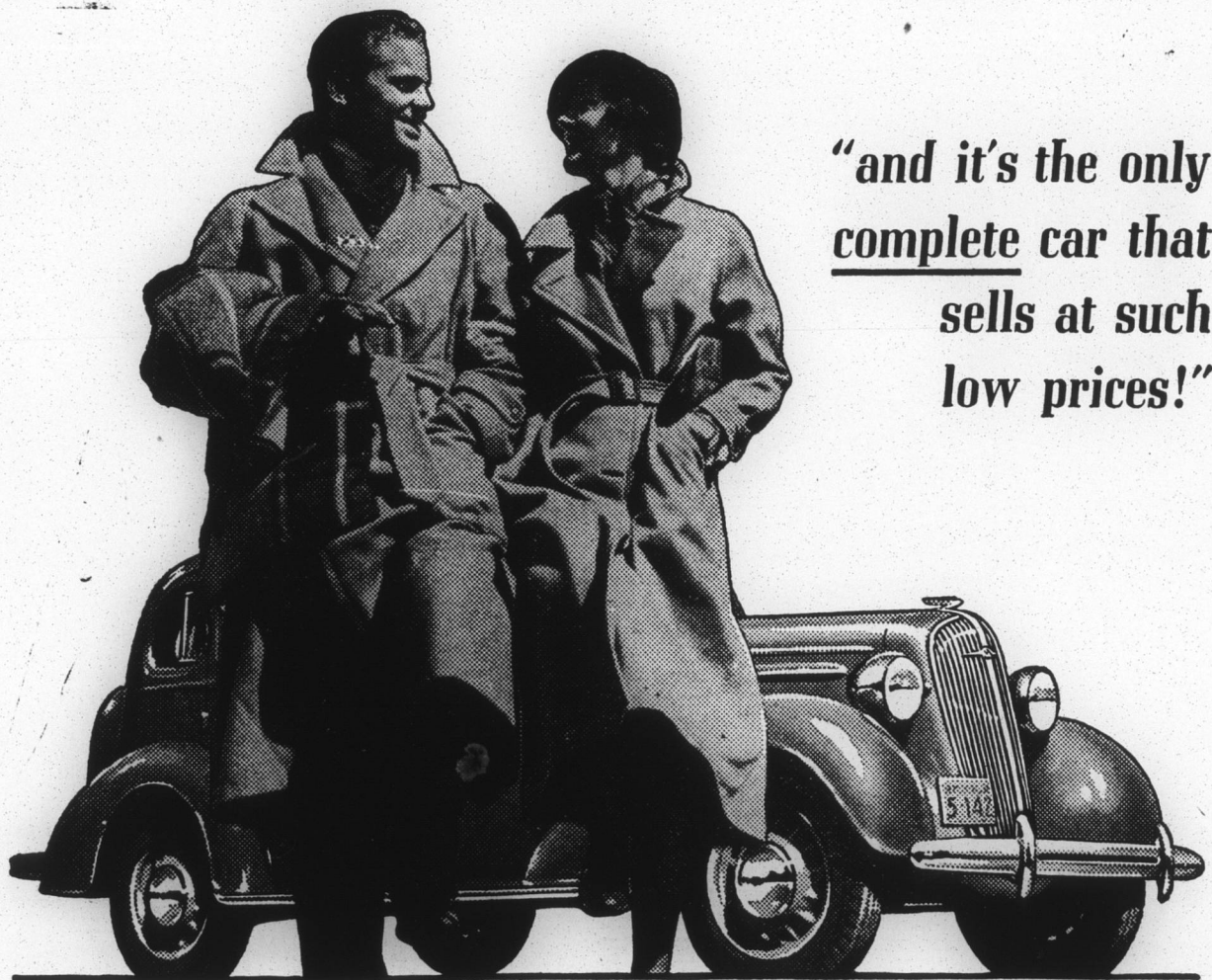
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