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# Iris

# COBBLE COTTAGE GARDENS



THE object of this is more and better Iris—in my garden and yours; to perfect my own collection by adding and subtracting, by comparing and changing, by trying and discarding, by planning and perspiring, and now and then, sitting under a tree and seeing how it all goes; and since the Iris is abundantly prolific, to dispose of the surplus at some small profit to myself and some gain of your

own garden pleasure.

I hope to further these objects successfully and constructively by helping a little in interesting the newer Iris collectors in the better things. There are thousands of Iris varieties—hundreds of new introductions coming on all the time. I do the best I can, because it is first of all a hobby, to find out which are the good things and like most hobbiests I enjoy telling anybody who will listen. But the "open season" gives way to fireside, paper gardening, and for early March garden work I set myself a disciplinary task. From my approximately 500 varieties I propose to discard (mentally) all but 50. Which 50 shall I keep? Discarding 450 Iris varieties is only a gesture, but, gone about as thoughtfully as possible, it is good fun for me and vigorous exercise to such faculties of discrimination as I command. Perhaps both the results and the process may be interesting to others.

Which 50 varieties of Iris are most worth while? In June, when motley enthusiasms, in disorganized procession, chase each other through a riot of color, any such stoic selectivity would be difficult, if not impossible. Then the selection would require many days and in that time there would be many changes of light and shadow, of cool mornings and hot noondays, of fresh bursting buds and of jaded loveliness. There would be times when the best would not be at their best; when the worst would add to their not too perfect beauty the favor of some fleeting hour of charm. But in blustery March, the flowers are nine-months memories; momentary impressions are somewhat blurred in a subconscious summing-up of outstanding values. I sit in

solemn judgment; pretend that evidence is all in; that the eloquent pleas are still. I titillate my scattered affections, naming the fifty I can least do without and tossing the others (mentally) into a floral Gehenna.

Let it be understood that I shall follow no rut. I shall not presume to choose the fifty best Iris nor shall I too vehemently insist that the resultant fifty are the technically best even among the 500 or more with which I have scraped acquaintance. Nor shall I attempt adherence to the American Iris Society formula for rating-important though that is. I sometimes envy those who can so coolly evaluate the physical qualities of a flower and say with solid conviction that one is better than another. I am afraid my judgments are often undermined by an appeal not quite physical. A flower seems at times to have an aura, as people have, which pervades its being and lends to it something not of color, nor of form, nor of poise, nor yet of physical texture, but rather suffuses and blends the whole in something greater than the sum of its separate qualities.

I shall try to select the fifty that I would retain for my garden if some imperious necessity should say to me:

"Select fifty and no more—the fifty you want in your garden when all others are discarded."

Obviously, my reason for printing these musings here lies in the hope that the newer Iris enthusiasts will somehow be assisted in their selections from this list. At the same time I feel it would not be quite honest if I had not first said as precisely as possible, upon what basis my own choices are made.

If, as a more calm and astute critic, you are inclined to upbraid me, to fly at my throat with your own whims, preferences and prejudices, please remember this: reserve the right tomorrow, certainly next June, to toss away one or all of my temporary selections and go meekly over into limbo to retrieve what has been cast out, or to add others which were never in. There are things growing in my garden for which I have high hopes; there are mere prospects full of thrills and yet they will not necessarily appear among the chosen fifty. They are untried. In March I can, with only a few mild qualms, cast them out and give place to what I know.

Now then, if you have no Iris in your garden or only a few of the older ones-if up to now you can say, "Oh yes I have a blue one, a white one and a yellow and red one;" if you are quite content, never having quailed before gorgeous temptations—then toss this little paper into the waste basket at once-and never let yourself wander into a collection of Iris at blooming time. You see, while this little publication will be sent, out of fraternal courtesy, to the 1100 members of the American Iris Society, and is meant for them too. I must confess I am thinking

most, here in these first pages, of those who are not yet dyed-in-thewool Iris enthusiasts, of those who stand at the brink of a new garden adventure.

First, those which serve a white purpose-whites and near whites: I have Taj Mahal, Theseus, Micheline Charraire, Zada, new whites whose praises are variously sung. I am more than hopeful but I do not know them. So, first of all I shall take (1) True Charm, which is not a white, but a white plicata, with delicate tracings of blue-lavender. If among the new ones there is as fine a white as True Charm is a white plicata, I shall revise this list. Then (2) Balaruc, a white-not tall nor large; more serviceable I think than Mrs. Horace Darwin (good, dependable for massing), perhaps no better than White Knight or White Queen. It is no easy matter to eliminate Kashmire White, for all she is almost a stranger to me, or Kashmiriana. whose large, heavy, waxen bloom I saw only after waiting three years (and worth waiting for) but I prefer those I can depend upon for a few clumps of white. (3) Florentina I will have, although it is a blue-white and (4) Zua, whimsically perhaps, because I like to hear the new Iris enthusiasts who come to my garden exclaim at sight of this oddly ruffled crinkly, pearly thing. I may be sorry not to have included May Morn; but I must have both (5) Fairy and (6) Ma Mie. They do duty very well as whites and inside

their delicate cups, shaped so differently, there is an eerie element of surprise. It is very hard to get away from these feathery plicatas with their dainty pencilings and their sanded and splotched backgrounds, I should like Camelot and Anna Farr but I shall pass them by and select another that hasn't as yet even a name-(7) Sass Plicata No. 27, the largest of my plicatas, except True Charm-light fluffy, billowy, finely marked. I can't understand why Mr. Sass hasn't introduced it. He says Beau Ideal is better. Perhaps: it seems to me so different as not to be comparable.

Among light blends (even my grouping is unorthodox), first of all is (8) Asia. It is pre-eminent. I should like Prospero too though it is modeled and colored with a far less delicate touch. Then too Prospero is a rampant grower, which Asia is not (there is likely never to be enough of Asia to go around). Prospero is tall, heavy with bloom and, more's the pity, falls down in a wind unless staked. Asia is far more delicate. (with me more sturdy of stem) far more restrained, in both color and growth—never prodigal of itself except in the rare refinement of its beauty. Then there is (9) Quaker Lady which I would never let grow into a big clump. I can't understand those who suggest massing Quaker Lady. A few of her are very charming indeed; in quantity she seems a little common. I will have (10) Nathalis and (11) Afterglow. With them

Mady Carriere would make a fine trio but I shall have to forego her because I know what desperate choices I shall soon be making among the richly dark ones, so that these paler, more feminine blends must be kept in check.

Again unorthodox in sequence, I select (12) Gaviota, creamy, with a yellow edge; aristocratic in form and making a pleasant transition from the pale blends into the yellows. I want an early yellow and am a little undecided among Helge, Halfdan and Etta but rather arbitrarily I shall take (13) Etta. which seems to me to be midway in color. (As a matter of fact I have all three growing in close proximity). Then (14). Jubilee, another plicata, because there is no other in all her set one half so gay. I am expectant as to Lona and King Karl but they are new to me.

If I were to select but ten Iris instead of fifty the next one (15) Nebraska, would be among them. So far as I am aware no finer vellow grows-still, not, technically, perhaps, a true yellow because a few alien, brown pencilings mark its falls close to the beard; yet in form, poise and depth of color quite unsurpassed. For a softer yellow, I add (16) Shekinah. I await Primrose, Innerglow, Old Ivory, Yellow Moon and Gold Imperial but they must stand upon the revelations of another season and a further revision of my Citronella comes well recommended as does Prairiegold, and I pondered a little over Chasseur but fifty make such a very small company that many must be omitted.

(17) Ochracea isn't yellow but its old gold and lavender give us something unique and serve to introduce a new note in the color movement. There is then (18) Sweet Lavender for which I know no adequate substitute—frilly, fragrant and with a pink flush on each lavender fall.

Pink did I say! (19) Aphrodite has no equal. Tall, of beautifully rounded form and with exquisite evenness of tone except for the white patch which serves to make the smoothness of the pink more appar-And (20) Susan Bliss—as different as two very fine pinks could be, in form, branching and poise. Then (21) Dream. If you have a leaning toward pinks you will want Aurora and Lady Lillian for delicacy and form, Mrs. Caroline E. Stringer for "appleblossomy" suggestions and perhaps Kalos (we are not yet well acquainted) and Georgia and Cecil Minturn for masses and Mrs. Alan Gray because she comes early and sometimes pays a second visit in the fall. But, as there can be but fifty in all this fascinating company, only one other can be selected: (22) Her Majesty, for the quite different rosy quality in her pink effect.

Not very far away in the color scheme is (23) Lady Byng—distinguished, smooth, oh, flawlessly smooth, rosy lavender and (24) Queen Caterina. They somehow belong in company, similar but dis-

tinct—each indispensable. I should like to make it a trio by adding Mlle. Schwartz but there are but 26 choices left me and all the blues and reds and bronzes are still to be reckoned with.

Among the pale, cool blue lavenders I shall name (25) Ballerine first of all and (26) Princess Beatrice second. A. I. S. rates Ballerine 94 and the Princess 95 (the highest rated Iris in commerce). I have long debated their relative merits. are not readily compared, because while similar in general color effect they diverge sharply in form. My choice finally goes by a small margin to Ballerine because, while I believe that Princess Beatrice, fresh, newly opened, to be just a little more charming than Ballerine, I have found Ballerine's beauty more fundamental and preserved in better form after a trying, dry, hot day. In the same numerous color family I select also (27) E. H. Jenkins, beautifully branched, delightfully fragrant, in every way a charming, light, bluetoned bi-color. Then the prolific, exuberant, ruffled (28) Simone Vaissiere. There are garden uses (among pale long-spurred columbine, for instance) which it seems are served by nothing so well as by Rotorua or by Gold Crest, Sapphid and Corrida, but there are too many fine ones in the remaining groups.

Among the deeper blue and blue purples (29) Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau is first. I will name also (30) The Sorcerer. Only once have

I seen these two in bloom together, when I could turn immediately from one to the other. The Sorcerer seemed to have the better of it. Too often however is comparison on a solitary occasion made the basis of hasty preferences, repented at leisure, in harrassed purses and undermined faith in man. I am reminded that the falls of The Sorcerer are not broad and full like those of Gaudi-Personally I do not recall that handicap. Time will tell. For the present both must stand among the fifty.

(31) Lady Lilford I choose for decided individualistic distinction in the dark blue-purple group; (32) Miranda for tall stateliness and good, flaring form, early in the season and for the fine quality and depth of its blue. (33) Perfection, (34) Rheintraube and (25) Azure—blue-toned bi-colors, each distinctly different from the other two in color and form and with a desirable intensity of color value. I am wistful as to Veloute. rivaling Perfection with darker effect but I shall wait. (36) Major for its early appearance, its long season, vigor and for the variety of its manifestations. I have many clumps of it, in all sorts of situations, all thriving and supplying daily an. unfailing satisfaction. Mary Williamson I must forego, even though there will be none in my fifty even remotely like her: if I selected fifty-five she would be among them. I should like to add Harmony, Blue Jay, Cordon Bleu, Othello, each for

distinct and appealing qualities but there are but fourteen choices with which to meet the splendor of the reds.

Let our approach be gradual: (37) Mildred Presby and (38) Dalila-the first, standards almost white (palest of vellow), with falls a deep red violet; the second a trifle less contrasty, a more illusive color effect—a flesh tint in its standards and a deep rosiness (technically a dahlia purple with a pinkish border) in the falls. These two it seems must be among the fifty. I hesitated on Salonique but in looking over succeeding groups regretfully put it aside. (39) Majestic is a bicolor of outstanding merit. Its softly tinted standards intensify the gorgeous effect of its wide, flaring, velvety, red-purple (40) Alcazar is a tall and beautiful bi-color and Magnifica, very similar, is Brobdignagian, a garden exclamation. (41) Argynnis is unquestionably the best variegata -the best yellow-red combination but I cannot put aside (42) Iris King.

(43) Ambassadeur, its standards a blend of violet and yellow, its falls flaring, velvety, violet-carmine is perhaps the best dollar Iris—certainly among the best at any price. It was the universally admired Iris in my 1927 garden. Nothing similar even remotely approaches it in quality. The older smoky Arnols I should like, not alone for sentiment but for its appealing red-brown effect in floriferous clumps, and Vallery Mayet for distinct, brilliant

blending of rose and orange, but the list is all too short and the pangs of parting are sharp.

- (44) George J. Tribolet for its. rich depth and evenness of color. with a coppery suffusion, its size and splendid form, must be retained. And here among my favorites I am unable to think clearly in groups. Each one seems so distinctly individual that choices are much more difficult (to me at least) than among the paler, more subdued tones. It is hard to part with Antonio, Rubyd, Professor Seeliger, Rosalba, all distinct from any of my fifty, or with the older Crimson King but (45) Medrano I must have. It is sad to give up Opera but (46) Seminole must stay. (47) Pioneer is among the chosen, the finest red-purple nearself of which I know.
- (48) Oread is distinct, beautiful. I have had it in bloom only one season but it is one of the most beautiful things I have ever seen—a mixed coloration on the red side of purple but with an effect of old rose shades.
- (49) Morning Splendor is one of the richest color products of all Irisdom. To see the sunlight through its falls!
- (50) Cardinal is lately believed by some to be the most beautiful Iris—one of the really big thrills of my 1927 season. It is a soft violet and raisin purple but with a bronzy veil; in a perfect flaring form and with a regal carriage.

For a further refinement of anguish propose to name tentatively twenty-five of those already considered which seem to me most desirable and entirely without regard to price, for price has little to do with beauty except in this respect: great beauty keeps up the demand and, the supply remaining short, the price does not come down. A newly introduced Iris, since the entire supply of it must be divisions from the single original root (sprung from a single seed) is high in price because time has not permitted large increase. Cardinal, for instance, is new, exceptionally fine and probably will sell again this year at \$20.00. I have none to spare. Asia is a slow increaser, in great demand. Ambassadeur, just as fine in a different class, is a more vigorous grower, a

Aphrodite Medrano Argynnis Miranda **MorningSplendor** Asia Ballerine Nebraska Cardinal Oread Dalila Perfection Gaviota Pioneer George B. Tribolet Souvenir de Mme. **Jubilee** 

faster increaser: the same is true of

dollar class. Here are the twenty-five (at from \$.50 to \$20.00 per root):

They are both in the

Majestic

Ballerine.

Ambassadeur

Lady Byng Lady Lilford

Major

Gaudichau Susan Bliss Sweet Lavender True Charm Again, setting a dollar as the maximum for a single root, the best twenty-five in my collection seem to me to be:

Afterglow **Nathalis** Alcazar Perfection Ambassadeur Princess Beatrice Argynnis Prospero Azure Quaker Lady Oueen Caterina Balaruc Ballerine Seminole Dalila Shekinah Souvenir de Mme. Dream Fairy Gaudichau Sweet Lavender Her Majesty Medrano True Charm Miranda 7.112

H. W.-March 10, 1928.

### Iris Culture

The garden varieties which I offer have thrived for me under "ordinary garden conditions." They will do best in well drained, airy positions, and most surely in full sun. They demand at least what the gardener calls "half sun." Give them "clean dirt"—no manure, no damp mulches, no overhanging, smothering vegetation. The bloom season past they thrive on drought. Sand, gravel, ashes, mortar rubble are useful in loosening a heavy soggy soil. Ground limestone helps to correct an unhealthy sour soil condition.

The thick root stalk, rhizome, from which the leaf fan grows should ride the dirt "like a duck on the water," never more than an inch below the surface with the rootlets spread out lower down for anchorage. When the earth finally settles it does no harm if the rhizome's upper surface is fully exposed to sun and air. The ground should be raised so that water draws away from the crown. In fall pull away—do not cut off—all dead leaves and burn. In resetting, cut back the leaf fans to about six inches.

A light clean covering of leaves or straw (never manure) is good when the ground is frozen the first winter after replanting, to avoid upheaval of plants which have yet to get a good root hold. When growth starts in spring, clear this away and keep the ground clean. Established plants are better uncovered.

#### Remember-air, sun and good drainage.

Bone meal is a safe fertilizer, sprinkled on the ground surface around the plant and scratched in. Shallow cultivation only is necessary to avoid root disturbance. Keep out weeds. If very dry when plants are set, wet the ground about the roots and pull dry dirt over the surface.

For ten cents you may obtain from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. "Farmers' Bulletin No. 1406—Garden Irises", by B. Y. Morrision—a recognized Iris authority. It is a pamphlet of forty-six, 6x9 pages discussing varieties, culture, diseases, pests.

Join the American Iris Society—John B. Wallace, Jr., Sec'y, 129 Church St., New Haven, Conn.—\$3.00 a year for valuable bulletins.

Two books are worth while for the amateur gardener: "Iris in the Little Garden" (Little, Brown & Co.) by Ella Porter McKinney, one of the Editors of the Bulletin of the American

Iris Society—much garden wisdom delightfully recorded.

"The Iris" (Orange Judd Pub. Co.) by John C. Wister, president, American Iris Society.

## Early Dwarfs

The list does not include varieties in this interesting family because names are badly muddled. Efforts are being made through the American Iris Society to clear up the nomenclature of the dwarfs and in time it may be possible to offer named varieties with confidence. I have about 35 to 40 varieties and will sell two each of a representative half dozen (all different) labeled only as to color for \$2.00. They gave me bloom in 1927 from the last week in April to June 1. Four to 10 in. high. In red purples, blue purples, yellow, white, pale lavender. Most of them multiply rapidly.

#### Intermediates

The list does include a few Intermediates (intermediate in height and time of bloom between the dwarf pumilas and the tall bearded varieties which latter make up most of my list). I will supply two each of five Intermediates for \$2.00—assorted as to color, and labeled as to name and color.

## May I Help You Select?

Further—if you read the descriptions which follow and feel bewildered as I often did (and still do) under similar stress of selectiondecide upon your appropriation — whether you want quantity or quality or a certain mixture of both; tell me what colors appeal to you; what colors you wish to predominate; enclose your check and you will get the best my judgment can give you for the sum paid. For \$5.00 I can send you a collection of one each of 20 varieties or I can send you one root that will be a source of joy. Probably you would rather have most of your first Iris appropriations go for varieties that sell for from 50 cents to \$1.00 each. Another \$5.00 or \$10.00 or \$15.00 would add just a few very new distinctive things that would raise the level of the general average with outstanding features. There is nothing I take more pride in than filling that kind of order.

By using the so-called early dwarfs and the intermediates with the late tall bearded varieties your Iris season is doubled in length.

# The Crass Details, Etc.

Check should accompany order.

Prices are based on single rhizomes, but I often do better than that. There is a saying: "The higher the price, the smaller the root." Some varieties make big roots—others are always much smaller. I try to please every customer, and send a little more than is expected. I will dig no variety for less than 50 cents. When you see a price thus, ".50—" it means you will get at least two roots at that price. You will often get two of other than those marked with the minus sign—but that's not a promise. I pay the postage. Stock of many varieties is small. If the surplus is exhausted, substitutions will not be made, but the price returned.

It is an advantage to me to dig many orders at one time. So—you may deduct 10% from the total of your order if it is to reach me before July 1 with the understanding I may ship at my convenience in July. (I will meet your convenience in all cases as closely as possible.) July and August are the best months in this part of the country to set out Iris plants. Many varieties will ordinarily bloom the first year after planting—others are slower to respond.

You may be sure I use great care in labeling, but mistakes might be made; then I will make them good.

The name of the variety is followed by information in parenthesis; the American Iris Society rating (in a possible 100 points) if rated; the name of the originator, followed in some instances by the name also of the introducer and the year introduced. Color terms are founded on Ridgway's "Color Standards and Nomenclature" which is not very satisfactory because so few have this rather expensive book. Many descriptions therefore are a combination of a brief form of the description of the American Iris Society with a note as to the color effect in as simple terms as I can devise. Unfortunately all eyes do not give the same response to color stimuli.

My garden is my hobby. I want all my customers for my friends.

HARVEY WHIPPLE.

Address

2970 West Grand Boulevard. Detroit, Michigan.

The garden is 25 miles out. Visitors will be welcome by appointment.

S. means Standards, F. means falls—distinguishing the upper three from the lower three petals.

Afterglow (86—Sturtevant 1917) large, light lavender and yellow blend. 3 to 4 ft.....50 (Along with this I can't help thinking of Mady Carriere and of the newer Nathalis—all delicately toned blends effective against dark backgrounds or in thin shade and best of all in evening light. Mady has less yellow, more blue, while Nathalis has a distinctly pink effect in its soft suffusion of color)

Alcazar (89—Vilmorin 1910) S. mauve; F. red-purple. A tail, large, striking bi-color .50 (Magnifica is similar but taller, larger—very large—more garish| and as monopolistic of attention as a drum major in scarlet and bear skin. The antithesis of the "shrinking violet")

Ambassadeur (94—Vilmorin 1920) Bronze bi-color with dark, velvety-red falls—to 31/6 fr

(An indispensable—height, form, substance, color, growth, all excellent. I know of nothing anywhere near like it that even approaches it

in quality. The most generally admired popular priced Iris in my garden)

(The list of my white plicatas is headed by True Charm—very tail, large, truly charming and with me an easy, vigorous grower. Ma Mie and Jeanne d'Arc are similar in color and form but differ in form from True Charm and Anna Farr, Hebe, Fairy, Mme. Chereau and others. Then there is a considerable list of more heavily splotched, thickly sanded and otherwise more colorful ones, that do not belong in this group—the general garden effect of which is white.)

Antonio (Hort 1921) Mahogany red in effect—lighter, redder and taller than Medrano. I liked it as it bloomed for me in 1927 and my notes say "good," underscored. You may have a piece of it for...... 2.00

Aphrodite (Dykes 1922) A new "pink" one effect; Dream has an established value—an of outstanding merit; early, tall, (4 ft.) well excellent pink pallida; Georgia is closest to branched, flower of rounded form and of smooth color, set off by a white patch around the beard. Very much in demand. Aphrodite, minus height, and the effective (See note under Aurora)...... 7.50 Archeveque (83-Vilmorin 1911) Deep, rich, violet purpie-2 ft.-too bunchy for good individual effect but fine in mass......50-Argynnis (Longfield 1925) Brilliant yellow and red effect that makes most other variegatas almost insignificant—except that I reserve the right to perennial enthusiasm for Iris King. Argynnis is different and taller ...... 1.00 Ariadne (Dykes 1921) A blue bi-color that is different. S. pale silvery blue with a slight frill; F. deeper blue with a red violet suffusion that lends to the flower a very unusual charm. Armenian (Millet) It's odd, a mixture of flesh color, mauve, yellow, red-violet. My 1927 notes say "A rather characterless blend" But that means little. I regard Mrs. Curtis as all but impossible but many discriminating garden visitors like it-nine women in ten do. Armenian, as is..... Arnols (78-Barr 189-) Smoky brownpurple effect. In mass scarcely ever fails to attract favorable attention..... Asia (92-Yeld 1920) Lavender-yellow and pale purple blended with quite indescribable charm-4 ft. upstanding, outstanding. On even a short list of the best.......... 3.00 Atlas (75-Millet) "Bradleys violet with darker velvety veins," vigorous growth to Aurea (74-Jacques 1830) An old, clear, chrome yellow one that newer things have not routed..... Aurora (74-Yeld 1909) Delicate pink effect, grateful for thin high shade-beautiful in evening light-better than its rating-to 4 ft........ . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (I had a hard time last year to form settled judgments about the "pink" ones. Aphrodite, early, very tall, still expensive, is in a class by itself. Susan Bliss is a top notcher too, and to me also distinct in both form and color. Georgia, Cecil Minturn, Dream, Lady Lillian, Aurora, Kalos, Pink Progression,

resulting notes are a hodge-podge.

of all; Caroline Stringer is a white and pink-

an apple blossom effect; Pink Progression is

white at the haft and carries well for garden

These

white patch, and fine for massing; Cecil Minturn is a good low mass and a fast increaser; Kalos I must see again. In fact I must see them all again. If you want several pinks try them all. Lady Lillian is good in delicacy of color, height, and rounded form. Lohengrin is popular—except with me.) Azrael (Morrison 1924) A very blue-toned violet bi-color, with flaring falls; 3 ft....4.00 Azure (82-Bliss 1918) Richly, unmistak-Balaruc (Dennis 1922) White, similar to, perhaps better than White Knight, to 30 Ballerine (94-Vilmorin 1920) Large, frilly, light blue-violet with a shimmer of frost over its broad segments. If I listed my ten best this would be near the top..... 1.00 Blue Jay (71-Farr 1913) Well named. There are probably better blues-but for a late season effect in clump, I can think of Camelot (81-Bliss 1918) A warm white Caporal (Bliss 1919) A distinctive red one for massing. "Chinese violet to magenta." Cardinal (Bliss 1922) To say that the standards are bronzy lavender and the falls raisin purple is hopelessly inadequate to describe the thrill it gave me when I first saw it. It will probably be sold this year at \$20.00 a root. I have none to spare. Cecil Minturn (Farr 1922) For a pink mass. Technically: ruffled, lilac to rose purple. Multiplies like guinea pigs. Rhizomes so small, I dislike to send them out but they are more vigorous than many big ones. Chasseur (Vilmorin 1925) Yellow. S. large and frilly; F. rather narrow, center pale, almost white with small red-brown markings. Distinctive, effective..... 3.00 Chlorinda (Morrison 1922) A large amber yellow, with soft brown veins widely spaced; rarely over 18 in. high. Mr. Morrison says Caroline E. Stringer, and a Longfield seedit does not behave consistently year after year, but "when good, it is the largest flower ling—I went from one to another at various hours of the day on different days. The Clematis (78—Biss 1917) Distinctive when few things stand out: Aurora is palest pink fully open, with standards and falls both held horizontally. Light lavender with darker 

Col. Candelot (80—Millet 1907) I can't understand how with twelve voting this got a rating so high, or why it is so often praised. Its drab and brick-red combination is different but to what purpose! I'd like to sell most of what I have but can't conscientiously recommend it even at	Elsa (Morrison-Sturtevant 1926) Beautiful large blue lavender flower with flaring falls
dainty plicata that has many admirers— the standards etched blue lavender; the flaring falls bordered lavender2.50	white ground heavily marked litho-purple. Segments rather narrow but bloom was popular with 1927 visitors
<b>Dawn</b> (78—Yeld 1911) Early, creamy mass. 27 in	Fro (75—G. & K. 1910) S. yellow; F. velvety bordeaux with narrow yellow margin.
Demi-deuil (69—Denis 1912) Sombre (as the name implies) in deep violet with coppery shading—falls having white markings. I don't like it	Individually I like it less than Iris King but in clump it is very effective. I am not ready to decide between it and Flammenschwertto 30 in
Diadem (Bliss) Lilac-rose and deep mauve with a prominent, rich gold beard ,50 (I am trying a grouping of Diadem, Swatara and an unnamed seedling of Mr. Burchfield's which we have dubbed "Grapejuice"—	with yellow-edged segments. Distinctive; good substance and form. Quite worthwhile
because of its perfume. All are of similar coloring—at least harmonious—Swatara lightest, Diadem next, "Grapejuice" of deepest tone—all with pronounced gold beards)	red-purple with coppery suffusion. ("S. Nigrosin violet; F. velvety blackish red-purple") Over 3 ft. A magnificent Iris 5.00 Georgia (Farr 1922) "Pink" 3 ft. (A. I.
Dolores (Bliss 1920) White plicata of Mme. Chereau type. I am not yet sure why it was introduced	S.: "Probably the most effective 'pink' in mass")
Dream (85—Sturtevant 1918) A "pink" pallida of outstanding merit ("Lilac to Chinese violet"). Good grower, 3 ft	Germaine Perthuis (Millet 1924) Rich mulberry purple with prominent yellow beard. Grows to 4 ft. Still very new but gives promise of termendous popularity, worther of a distinguished pagest Services.
Du Guesclin (83—Bliss 1921) Blue bi-color of vigorous growth and strong color effect.	worthy of a distinguished parent—Souvenir de Mrne, Gaudichau
"A blue toned Monsignor." 30 in50  E. C. Shaw (Fryer 1919) A claret bi-color.  Bright. Medium size1.00	Gertrude (65—Peterson 1907) Early dark blue-violet. Fragile—probably that influenced the low rating, which should have some relation to season and comparable rivals in
E. H. Jenkins (Bliss 1919) Light, blue-toned bi-color; fine form; beautiful candelabra-like branches. Delightfully fragrant. An exceptionally fine Iris 30 in Free blooming 75	relation to season and comparable rivals in bloom at the same time. Gertrude bloomed 1927—May 22 to June 10, the first half of the period with few, if any, effective rivals. This, high shade helps these fragile ones.

some of which are good despite their frailty. Ratings are a splendid institution but sometimes they get on my nerves. That's a good deal to say for ..... Gold Crest (75—Dykes 1914) Effect, clear light blue self with a contrasting gold beard. (Sapphid, in bloom at the same time, though beginning a week earlier, is of deeper blue effect. Two-day-old blooms of Sapphid are almost identical in color with Gold Crest. Nevertheless adjacent clumps continue to supply the two fine blue tones for the overlapping seven to ten days of their seasons). Golden Promise (Neeiev 1926) citron and chrome yellow; falls have center suffusion of lavender which fades out in half day of sunlight. Good form and substance. 3 ft. Tall good yellows are not common 6.00 Halfdan (71-Goos and Koenemann 1908) Creamy; yellow beard and at base of fall, lighting well-an early bloomer (1927-first bloom May 22). Helge has the same characteristic lighting but is in itself a bright yellow. (May 25). Both are good for the early groups..... Harmony (Dykes 1924) Standards, falls and beard a deep blue-purple-a beauty and a good grower. Blue Boy closest in color at same time but is a poor rival..... 3.00 (74—Denis 1910) Hautefeuille violet bi-color. 3 ft. Makes a good clump effect.... Helge (66-Goos & Koenemann 1908) Comes before the rush with its sunny yellow. Blooming (1927 on May 25) when there are so few others, its rating is too low. (See also Her Majesty (73—Perry 1903) Rose color effect in mass ("Rose-purple veined deeper"). Hiawatha (74-Farr 1913) "S. pale mauve; F. nigrosin violet"—and that's all I thought about it until one day my eye caught the sunlight through its falls. The result is worth Homer C. (Morrison 1922) A rich red purple, said to be a much better and taller Opera.8.00 Iris King (79—Goos & Koenemann 1907) S. bright yellow-buff; F. velvety garnetbrown with very red high lights in sunlight. Isoline (86-Vilmorin 1904) Very beautiful. S. pinkish buff; F. Chinese violet-in

effect a coppery old rose. Rather deliberate

in getting established, but worth waiting for.

To 3 ft.....

Japanesque (Farr 1922) S. light lavender: F. violet. Flower opens flat like Clematis but. unless you are enamoured of its form (which Jean Chevreau (Cayeux 1923) A beautiful, distinctive plicata: S. cream buff: F. cream; all segments marked mauve. There will be a few divisions to spare at..... 2.50 Jova (Morrison 1922) A self color of deep blue effect (by the book, Bradley's violet): good form; well branched; fragrant. Excel-Jubilee (Sass 1923) A yellow-buff plicata with coppery specks—a large very gay flower the demand for which is greater than the Juniata (81 - Farr 1909) "Mauve to manganese violet; vigorous grower. Fragrant. To 42 in." says A. I. S. and does it injustice. I had bloom in 1927 50 in. high—the tallest in my garden except Conquistador..... .50 Karen (Morrison 1923) A rich bronzy red-purple with flaring falls. A sister of but not quite such good form as Oread......1.50 Kestrel (Morrison-Sturtevant 1925) A violet bi-color of great richness. S. conic. lobelia violet; F. flaring velvety nigrosin violet and a good grower......10.00 Kochii (78) Early, rich blackish purple; 2 Lady Byng (Bliss 1922) A Lady indeed-exquisite refinement of form and color-a clear, smooth rosy lavender. I treasure it well up among the best. The standards have a slight frill. I like it best and believe it is best in thin, high half shade. A good grower with small roots. I am apt to think of it along with Queen Caterina—but after all their effects are quite distinct . . . . 1.50 Lady Lilford (80—Foster 19—) S. deep violet; F. blackish purple. A flower of impressive richness and wide, flaring distinct form. Some people have seemed to think it hard to grow and it is seldom listed. I have it in several different locations in my garden and have yet to discover any difficulty. It is not a fast increaser yet roots are small. 2.00 Lady Lillian (Burchfield 1925) Pale soft pink effect of good form and height .... 3.00 Loreley (78—Goos & Koenemann 1909) S. deep yellow, irregularly splashed with the raisin purple of the falls. Fragrant, 30 in.

Mady Carriere (79-Millet) An open

flower blending yellow and lavender. (See

Afterglow).....

AND THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED	
Magnifica (91—Vilmorin) The most assertive Iris in my garden. A bi-color of such size and brilliant contrast as to be the occasion for "Ah's"	the I list o for the
Majestic (Bliss 1920) Lavender and red- purple, wide flaring bi-color of large size, medium height and strikingly beautiful effect. Unlike some of the Dominion race it has been a good grower in my garden10.00	pales stem Schw Moti
Major (1840) A purple bi-color that comes early and stays late. Large flower, medium height. In sunlight, the falls are red purple, in shade, blue-purple. The first Iris I grew. Its season is so long, its growth so free, its color so fine, I think, everything considered (sentiment a strong factor) it would be the	bron marg diver Mm tum the poise
(sentiment a strong factor) it would be the last with which I would part. A clump for	Mm
open flower; one of the best of its class. Most extremely open forms I don't like—this is a pronounced exception	Mon falls vigor chara
Mandarin (Cleveland 1920) An odd one. A note made June 10, 1927 says: "wide, flaring, rosy-bronze and red—try it with a clump of something yellow."	Mon plica F. w
Mary Williamson (78—Longfield 1921) A ruffled flower, 20 in. high with white standards and violet falis having a white margin—an open flower distinctive and of good texture	Morn the rigarde with
Massasoit (74—Farr 1916) Violet bi-color with a metallic blue tone—beard white50	(S. p open flarir
May Morn (McKinney 1924) "Soft yellow, flushed pink; growth vigorous."50	high parti kept
Meadowlark (Burchfield 1925) A lavender buff blend with a small flower. 1.00  Medrano (Vilmorin 1920) Medrano (Vilmorin 1920) Representation of the state of the small flower and representation of the small flower and the small flower	Mrs. white
in effect; fine form, good grower—quite distinct. Sometimes compared with Opera, which, I think, it excels in beauty and in which I see no resemblance	Mrs. doub said
Mercedes (83—Verdier 1905) S. a light purple veined and dotted darker. F. creamy with bright purple dots and pencilings. Unusual and effective plicata blend	Mrs. deep mass
Mildred Presby (Farr 1923) Probably the finest of many good ones produced by the late Mr. Farr. S. pale but clear yellow; F. velvety dark violet—30 in.—very contrasty.	Mrs. Ther gard for n
Miranda (Hort 1919) Effect, a strong blue—S. domed; F. flaring, 40 in. high on stout stems—early (1927—May 30 to June 17). In every way a really fine Iris that deserves wide and general use. Mrs. McKinney in "Iris in	the Good simil stand fresh in Pa

Little Garden" names Miranda first in a of twelve she would add to the five selected he foundation of an Iris garden . . . . e. Schwartz (87-Denis 1916) Large, st mauve, very beautiful. I wish the is were straighter and sturdier but Mlle. wartz is much better in that respect than ther of Pearl.... ne. Blanche Pion (Cayeux 1906) S. nze yellow; F. lavender-blue with silvery gin. It is one of those on which tastes ne. Cheri (83 Sturtevant 1918) "Ageraviolet tinted with pink and warmed by yellow undertone; flower of exquisitee; 42 in." Originator's description. .75 ne. Chobaut (85—Denis 1926) d, of pale yellow, veined brown with ssian red reticulations. 3 ft...... nsignor (84-Vilmorin 1907) Mauve; heavily marked dark velvety purplerous growth. Du Guesclin is similar in acter of coloration but is of pronounced effect.... ntezuma (83-Farr 1909) A yellow ata. S. empire yellow dotted red-brown; hite, streaked amber... rning Splendor (Shull 1922) One of most truly gorgeous things in my 1927 len. A wonderful Iris of red effect and sunlight through its falls is irresistible. petunia violet; F. raisin purple") Nearly ned, the standards form a gothic arch, falls ng, beard yellow. At the edge of thin, shade of an old apple tree, where it had ial shelter half the day, a single bloom perfectly for three days ..... 4.00

Horace Darwin (Foster 1903) A e with a bluish undertone that is better its rating; excellent for massing.. .50-

s. Alan Gray (76—Foster 1909) A bly welcome "pink" because early—is I sometimes to bloom again in late mer.....

. Neubronner (68-Ware 189-) Small yellow flowers 2 ft. high. Fine for sing......

Walter Brewster (Vilmorin 1921) re are many light blue bi-colors. The den needs many—as foils if nothing more more garish hues. This has been one of very satisfactory ones in my garden. d branching habit; 3 ft. or better; color lar to Lord of June but far better subice. A slight rosy flush on fall when h. Awarded Mrs. Edward Harding prize in Paris as best 1921 introduction.....

Nathalis (Longfield 1927) Large, tall, soft-hued blend of pink effect. A splendid grower (see note under Afterglow)..... 1.00

Nebraska (H. Sass 1927—was Sass yellow No. 1) This is the finest yellow of my acquaintance. It was a real sensation with 1927 visitors. I had it growing under number. For me it bloomed at 3 ft., first year planting. For a friend at 38 in. The standards of a fresh bloom are in a pointed whorl like some rosebuds. The falls are widespread. slightly ruffled. The color is strong and clear yellow except for brown pencilings close to the beard. These are lost in the general effect. It grew near Susan Bliss and is very close in form to this fine pink. Nebraska is a real addition. Roots not large; growth good. The Sass brothers have given us some fine things. Nebraska should stand very high among them..... 6.00

Nuee D'Orage (76—Verdier 1905) The floppy standards dull lavender; falls, Bradley's violet. Its other name is Storm Cloud

Ochracea (79—Denis 1919) There is nothing else like it. In effect, old gold; the falls flushed mauve. It is also called Sunset.

Opera (87—Vilmorin 1916) A rich red one —very popular. S. livid purple; F. velvety dusky auricula purple. 2 ft........ 1.00

Oread (Morrison 1927) One of the distinctly outstanding new things last year. A red-violet bi-color, the falls deeper with margin of the standard color—a rich old rose effect. 30 in. Stock\*limited....... 10.00

Parc de Neuilly (81—Verdier 1910) Pleroma violet, beard blue, vigorous grower. S. ruffled. 30 in.............................50—

Petrel (Morrison 1922) A richly and distinctly colored violet bi-color (S. hortense violet; F. amethyst violet, shaded velvety raistin purple below beard); well branched; growth vigorous and it belongs in front position as it grows but 2 ft. high.......1.00

Pink Progression (Champe 192-) Tall—40 in.—pale pink that looks particularly well in low sunlight (see note under Aurora) 2.00

Pocahontas (77—Farr 1915) A ruffled white, bordered lavender-violet. 30 in. Of Chereau type but more heavily marked .50—

Queen Caterina (90—Sturtevant 1917) Large light lavender-violet. A flower of outstanding quality. (See Lady Byng) .75

S. white, F. pansy violet, bordered blue-
white Mildred Presby is newer and better
costs more and after all, is quite different
though regarded as a successor to Rhein Nixe
Nixe
S. light wisteria violet; F. madder violet—
S. light wisteria violet; F. madder violet—vigorous grower to 3 ft. A flower whose blue effect has "distance." A favorite in our garden
garden
Robert W. Wallace (Perry 1923) A rich red-purple, similar to but much better than Archeveque
Rodney (83—Bliss 1919) A tall, violet-blue seif ("Dauphin' violet; haft reticulated dusky purple; floriferous; growth vigorous,
seif ("Dauphin' violet; haft reticulated
dusky purple; floriferous; growth vigorous, 39 in.")
Rosalba (Bliss 1920) Deep rose; fine for
massing
Rotorua (Bliss 1921) Pale bluish lilac. Makes a beautiful cool clump and mingles nicely with the paler Columbines50
Rubyd (Dykes 1922) A much admired bloom of good form and of a rich red violet; a
blue beard, yellow tipped, that adds greatly
to the charm. Very free bloomer 1.00
Salonique (Cayeux 1924) S. cream; F. pansy violet. In class with Mildred Presby
but softer through reduced contrast. Thus
the effect is quite different. The falls are close in color to the falls of Opera but duller
and have a thread edge of the standard
color 1.00
Sapphid (Dykes 1922) Of noteworthy color
quality, a clear bright blue with a very fine gold beard; blooms with the intermediates
(May 24, 1927) and is like them in height. Unfortunately the blue fades slightly. (See
Unfortunately the blue fades slightly. (See
Gold Crest) 2.00
Seminole (83—Farr 1920) Brilliant red- violet bi-color ("S. Amparo purple; F. velvety
raisin purple; stalk, well branched; growth
vigorous; 3 ft.; type of Opera but taller")
raisin purple; stalk, well branched; growth vigorous; 3 ft.; type of Opera but taller") One of the finest. Gorgeous with the sun shining through
Shekinah (87—Sturtevant 1918) By which yellow Iris are often judged. Tall, good
carriage—a pale yellow of pallida habit. Miss
Sturtevant's best known seedling. 3 ft75
Sherwin-Wright (76-Kohankie 1915)
Golden yellow, small flowers; 30 in.; growth rampant, a good dependable yellow50—
Simona Vaissiana (Attlet 1921)
Simone Vaissiere (Millet 1921) A very beautiful flower. S. palest blue; F. brilliant blue-violet, flaring, ruffled; strong grower. 33 in. tall in my 1927 garden. A favorite with many visitors 2.00
blue-violet, flaring, ruffled; strong grower.
33 in. tall in my 1927 garden. A favorite
with many visitors 2.00

Sindjka (83—Sturtevant 1918) A blene of dull lavender and olive buff and of mauve to manganese violet says A. I.S. A larg flower to 4 ft. high; vigorous grower—remotely after the manner of Asia but to my notion lacking its beauty ..... Souvenir de Mme Gaudichau (93 Millet 1914) A good clump commands attention from a long distance and close up is found a magnificent flower. S. Bradley's violet; F. velvety blackish purple; beard blue, yellow tipped; fine substance and good grower. A standard by which many others are measured. If you are to have but a dozen this should be one...... Susan Bliss (Bliss 1922) A beautiful "pink" in poise, form and color. ("Lilac to Mallow pink") It bloomed for me at 36 in. but I am told goes higher. Its falls are flaring with a little crinkle at the edges. Among the numerous pinks it is outstanding and dis-Suzon (Millet 1921) In passing I wish to pay suitable tribute to one of the "new things" in which I failed to discover a redeeming characteristic. I saved a piece as a most satisfactory example of what an Iris should not be—the rest went over the fence. Swatara (Farr 1918) "Light mauve to pleroma violet-beard intense orange." Described as a self it is a bi-color in effect. (See note under Diadem)..... Sweet Lavender (85 Bliss 1919) There is no other quite like it or with the same kind of charm. Light lavender-violet with a pronounced rosy suffusion on the falls, slightly ruffled and crinkly. Good grower and bloomer. To 42 in. Very fine..... 1.00 Taffeta (Cleveland 1920) Feminine advice has it that this is well named. "S. light heliotrope-gray flushed deep olive buff; F. dull lavender, pallida habit, 3 ft.-attractive smoke tone."..... The Sorcerer (Floore 1924) I am tempted to agree in the recommendation that came with it to my garden, viz.: "A bluer, better Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau." But that is a dangerously extravagant claim and I prefer to watch it yet a season or so and see how it behaves. Not an easy doer ...... 8.00 Thorbecke (68-1897) We like it much better than its rating. S. white; F. velvety orune purple; 30 in..... Tintallion (73 Sturtevant 1921) White, deep purple at tips of flaring falls..... 1.00 Tom-Tit (80-Bliss 1919) Dark violet self

-18 in. As to habit, somebody said "hoy-

denish"...

Troost (84 Denis 1908) Phlox purple, falls Virginia Moore (81-Shull 1920) A good flushed and veined Rood's violet. Either you yellow one that blooms late...... 1.00 like it very much—or you don't..... Veloute (Vilmorin 1924) Very dark blue effect and appeals to me as a very fine dis-Tropic Seas (Shull 1924) A bluer sister of Morning Splendor. I recall it from 1926 as tinctly worthwhile Iris. It is nearest to Perfection in color, but the standards are darker very fine (it should be, considering its relative) than in Perfection and the flower of a rounded but it didn't bloom for me last year.... 5.00 form, quite different from the older variety. True Charm (Sturtevant 1920) Its name is meaningful. White with margins delicately The whole result is distinctive...... 2.00 Western Dream (Weed 1923) Dark blue-lavender bi-color. To 3 ft..... 1.00 marked blue-lavender. Good grower. Tallest, largest, best of many white plicatas in my Zouave (Vilmorin 1922) White; S. veiled garden. Bloomed for me at 44 in..... 1.00 with lilac; F. dotted violet at edges; a light 27 Avril (Denis 1923) With this the originator celebrated his wife's birth date: a tall and dainty plicata. 2 ft...... Zua (75—Crawford 1914) Pearl white, creped and fringed. 18 in. Very popular violet-purple bi-color of real merit. It may need a stake to support the heavy bloom but because it is so different in form and texthe bloom is worth it..... Valery Mayet (85—Denis 1912) S. rose purple flushed ochraceous orange; F. velvety Zwanenburg (Denis 1909) A low-growing, flat-opening flower, hard to describe—in effect dahlia purple; growth vigorous-3 ft. Flower an olive bronze and very odd, like something not large but distinctive..... that might have grown in the woods ... .50

> Harvey Whipple 2970 West Grand Boulevard Detroit, Michigan