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HYBRID DELPHINIUMS AND GYPSOPHILA 1941 ★

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DELPHINIUMS

OR

A DREAM COME TRUE



I dreamed I walked in a garden fair;
 There was music and mystery in the air.
 I dreamed that I saw the Morning Dew
 Stealing a bit of the violet's hue;
 Then silently rising on its toes,
 Kiss the blush from a deep pink rose.

A gossamer thing it seemed to be;
 Yet plain enough for the eye to see.
 And as I gazed in mute surprise,
 I saw it leap to the azure skies;
 And as if 'twere an easy thing to do,
 I saw it summoning shades of blue.

The ocean's blue with a slight green tinge,
 The blue of the lovely gentian's fringe,
 The blue of that quaint old porcelain pot,
 The blue of the shy forget-me-not,
 The living blue of a baby's eye,
 The clear bright blue of October's sky;

And as I thought on this pretty dream,
 The gossamer-dew began to gleam;
 For with blush of rose, and violet hue,
 And all of those lovely shades of blue,
 It had strangely mingled sun and showers;
 And fashioned the loveliest fairy-flowers.

I walked in a garden wondrous fair;
 There was music and mystery in the air.
 I saw the glist'ning morning dew
 As it tenderly touched the violet hue;
 Or clung to the delicate rosy glow
 On the rich blue flow'rs, as if loathe to go.

The music, I now could plainly see,
 Was the droning song of a honey-bee.
 As on whirring wings of a humming-bird
 The mystery vanished; my soul was stirred;
 For there where the blue Delphiniums grew,
 God had made my beautiful dream come true.

—Mary Louise Leonard

DELPHINIUMS, Finest Hybrids. Everyone who saw our Delphiniums in bloom last summer was most enthusiastic over their rare charm and beauty. One of our visitors, a gentleman who has more than once visited the gardens of Delphinium Specialists, both throughout the United States and in Europe, when he had seen our Delphiniums said: "They don't grow any finer ones anywhere." As we became more and more enamored by their irresistible appeal, it seemed we just must tell folks about them; thus giving others the opportunity of sharing the sheer joy and satisfaction which we have realized from these "garden aristocrats."

The question of bringing them to the attention of the public became a problem demanding considerable time and thought. We regret that we did not decide upon the idea of giving you an actual color photograph while our Delphiniums were at the height of their glory. You will notice that those shown in the illustration, with the exception of three or four spikes, are laterals. Taking this into consideration, you will be able to form a fair

idea of the size and quality of the main stalks, which grow from three to six feet high, with blooms from one and one-half to three feet in length.

Variety of bloom. The types and colorings are innumerable and fascinating beyond description. The flowerets are single, double, and semi-double. Some have bees of striking contrast in color, while in others the bees are less conspicuous. Some bees are very definite in form and coloring; especially is this true of the dark brown furry ones, which are very often startlingly real in appearance. Others are the same shade as the flower with tiny touches of white or rich brown fur trimming. In hybrid Delphiniums there is a type to please the fancy of each individual. For the one who likes contrasts, there is the light flower with the dark bee; or the dark flower with the light bee; or the combination sometimes found in the double ones where the outer petals are deep smalt blue and the inner petals rich hortense violet. For those who prefer the dainty pastels, there are the lighter shades of blue

and hortense violet; or the marvelous blendings of iridescent hues. Even the most fastidious person will find many types and colorings which are just right.

In the cover illustration, the small spike to the right of the pink larkspur in the center of the basket, while only a lateral, shows the "blush of the rose;" while the large double-flowered one at the center of the rim of the basket has "a bit of the violet's hue." Although the "ocean," "gentian," "forget-me-not," "sky," and "baby's eye" cannot be definitely pointed out in the illustration, these and many other shades of blue can readily be found in our fields of hybrid Delphiniums.

The photographer, the engraver, and the printer, have all contributed their utmost skill in an endeavor to bring to you the beauty of these lovely flowers but after all, they are unable to reproduce the marvelous sheen inherent in each flower, since God alone knows the formula for mingling the hue and dew, sun and showers necessary for such a reproduction.

NAMED VARIETIES.

Although many of our hybrids are worthy of the most beautiful names imaginable, our experience with both seeds and plants of named varieties purchased from various Delphinium Specialists in different parts of the country has been so thoroughly disappointing that we heartily agree with Mr. A. J. Macself, the well known authority on Delphiniums, who states in his booklet: "Delphiniums, And How to Excel with Them"; speaking on propagation from seed: "being a flower that is very readily cross-fertilized by bees and insects it is extremely variable, and select varieties cannot be reproduced with a great degree of certainty, although a small proportion of seedlings may adhere closely to the characteristics of the seed-parent." Three years ago we carefully saved the seed from one of our choicest light doubles; and while a few of the seedlings closely resembled the seed-parent, the majority were different in type, and varied widely in colorings. Therefore we offer both seed and

seedlings from choice varieties in mixture only.

Seed, trade packet \$1.00; 6 packets for \$5.00

Seedlings, taken from 3" pots, dirt washed from roots. **\$1.75 per doz.**

Plants, personally selected from field while in bloom, **\$2.00 each, up.** Price in accordance with individual merit.

CULTURE. Where greenhouse or hot-bed is available, seed may be sown from February through May, depending upon climatic conditions; or in August if fall sowing is desired. Seed may be sown in open ground or in flats, in May, if seed-bed is given a somewhat sheltered position with partial shade. Watering is most important.

The seed-bed should never be allowed to dry out, though the watering should be done with a fine spray so that the seeds will not be washed out. Do not cover too deeply, an eight of an inch is sufficient depth. There should be some sand in the soil to provide proper drainage; for while the delphinium likes plenty of water, an excessive supply around the roots will cause them to rot. Bone-meal is a good food. If cow manure is used it must be well rotted.



SCARLET GLOBE SALVIA

EUPATORIUM, Coelestinum. This pretty, hardy per-

ennial merits the favor of every flower-lover because of the generosity of bloom it offers during the late summer and fall when blue flowers are scarce. It is equally valuable to the florist since as a cut flower it has few equals in keeping quality. It resembles the ageratum, being on the periwinkle shade of blue. **Single clump 50c. 3 for \$1. 25; 100 for \$8.00.**

GYPSOPHILA, Bristol Fairy. No florist can afford to be without at least a few of these new double-flowering Baby's Breath. In bouquets or designs, it not only brings out the beauty of the form and coloring of the other flowers; but likewise lends its own individual charm. Notice the fairy-like effect of the basket of Delphiniums on the cover. In these dainty double white flowers

one has not merely a valuable supplement; but both compliment and supplement. **Grafted plants from flats, 10—\$2.00; 100—\$15.00. One-year field-grown roots from grafted plants, each 50c.; 10—\$3.50; 100—\$30.00.**

GYPSOPHILA, Ehrlei. Prices same as Bristol Fairy.

GYPSOPHILA, Paniculata. One-year roots, 10—\$1.00; 100—\$8.00.

SALVIA, Bonfire and Splendens, 100 plants \$1.25 postpaid.

SALVIA, Scarlet Globe. Our new type of Scarlet Sage, offered last spring for the first time is constantly growing in popularity with all who have seen it. Because of its symmetrical form it is ornamental even before blooming; while it is doubly so when covered with a mass of bright scarlet flowers. The foliage is beautiful in itself, being a rich dark green. Owing to the extreme drought last summer; and the fact that it is, even under favorable conditions, a very light seeder, we have no seed to offer. We can supply rooted cuttings, ready now, **dozen \$1.25, postpaid.** Special price on quantity lots.

SOLANUM, Christmas Pepper. An important improvement over the Christmas Cherry, producing a mass of bright colored minute peppers and white star-like flowers at the same time. The

fruits are yellow, orange, brilliant red, and dark purple. Some of our specimen plants last year had flowers, and fruits of the four colors on them at the same time. One of these specimens took First Prize at the Woodbury Flower Show last September. **Seed, Trade Packet 75c;** Special price on larger quantity upon request.

ASPARAGUS ROOTS, Mary Washington.

Due to the highly rust-resistant quality of this new strain, it is rapidly replacing the old favorites such as Pelmetto and Giant Argenteuil. The superiority of Mary Washington is also conspicuous in its large dark green stalks with tight, firm tips; while the fact that it is early and productive makes it the most profitable Asparagus now procurable. After many years' experience in the growing of Asparagus, we still contend, and with less opposition than in years past, that one-year roots give the greatest degree of satisfaction. Our roots are **GROWN BY US** from seed **PURCHASED BY US DIRECT FROM THE ORIGINATOR.** Do not confuse these with roots grown from seed the origin of which cannot be guaranteed. **100—\$1.50; 1000—\$7.50.**

TERMS: Cash with order.

LOCATION OF NURSERY. We are on the Delsea Drive, 26 miles south of Philadelphia, about 2 miles north of Malaga, where Route 47 and 48 intersect. Visitors heartily welcome. No Sunday trade.



FIELD OF SCARLET GLOBE BEFORE BLOOMING