# THE INTERNATIONAL CAMELLIA JOURNAL

## 国際ツバキ協会

KOKUSAI TSUBAKI KYOKAI SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONAL DU CAMELLIA SOCIETÀ INTERNAZIONALE DELLA CAMELIA INTERNAZIONALE KAMELIENGESELLSCHAFT



#### Cover:

Dr. Frank Houser of Georgia, U.S.A., explains glasshouse camelliagrowing to Australia's Eric Craig and New Zealanders Peggie Lamb and Bonnie Redpath. (Story on page 26).

### The International Camellia Society

was inaugurated in 1962 with the following motives:

- 1. To foster the love of Camellias throughout the world, and to maintain and increase their popularity.
- 2. To undertake historical, scientific and horticultural research in connection with Camellias.
- 3. To co-operate with all national and regional Camellia Societies and with other Horticultural Societies.
- 4. To disseminate information concerning Camellias by means of bulletins and other publications.
- 5. To encourage a friendly exchange between Camellia enthusiasts of all nationalities.



## THE INTERNATIONAL CAMELLIA JOURNAL

ISSUE 7

NOVEMBER, 1975

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17 McIntosh Street, Gordon, N.S.W. 2072, Australia

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## President's Dream of International Camellia liaison is vindicated

Thanks to the widespread appreciation of the 1974 *International Camellia Journal*, a surge of contributions has enabled me to publish this 1975 issue on time. It is our hope to maintain this regularity.

I believe you will find this issue one of the finest collections of Camellia material yet published. It is a clear vindication of our President's dream . . . that a viable International Society can provide its members with the most valuable and authoritative camellia research and information.

I am eagerly looking forward to news from other parts of the globe which have yet to tell us something of their local camellia scene — Africa, South America, Eire, Yugoslavia — to name just a few.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

This issue has 12 more pages, more interest, and less administrative detail than last year's. But one matter we had hoped to include is still missing, namely, the Society's financial accounts, as Mr. John Gallagher of England found himself unable to give the Treasureship adequate time.

Meantime our bank balance is in credit, but inflation and fluctuating currency values will oblige us to watch income and expenses closely. The best thing every member can do for our Society is to use this Journal to enrol at least one new member.

\$ \$\dagger\$ \$\dagger\$\$ \$\dagger\$\$

International togetherness, on a personal basis, is one of the most rewarding parts of I.C.S. membership. So do try to attend one or more of the Camellia gatherings listed on page 10.

This issue introduces a new feature that I hope can be extended in future years: an article in the language of the author, as well as the English translation.

Our Society's new motif (top of page 1) is a delightful illustration of C. 'Mrs. D. W. Davis', especially drawn for us by world-famous Australian artist Paul Jones.

Australian Directors have every reason to be proud of their 100% membership increase since last year. But Japanese Directors have done even better! This issue recognises their fine effort in lifting Japanese membership from 28 to 87 (211%) and Taiwan from 1 to 20.

Professor Waterhouse . . . your dream is coming true!

Eric Craig

### NOVEMBER, 1975

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## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 1975

In 1974, members of the International Camellia Society were able, for the first time, to elect a President, a Vice-President and Directors to govern the Society. Voting was by postal ballot, concluded on February 28, 1975. The President, Professor E. G. Waterhouse (Australia), and Vice-President, Mr. David Trehane (England) were elected unopposed.

Directors elected were Harold Hillier, John Gallagher, David Trehane, Frank Knight and Reginald Try (U.K.); Vicomte de Noailles (France); Dr. Toshiro Ueda (Japan); Alex Jessep, Tom Savige and Dr. John Pedler (Australia); Mrs. V. Lort-Phillips (Channel Is.); Antonio Odriozola (Spain); Charles Butler, Douglas Deane Hall and William Kemp (U.S.A.). As required by Article II-A2 of the By-Laws, two members from each geographical region were appointed to complete the full Board. These were Dr. Antonio Sevesi (Italy) and Dr. James Smart (U.K.) representing Europe; Yoshiaki Andoh (Japan), leaving the other Asiatic representative to be appointed later; Willard F. Goertz and Jack H. Jones (U.S.A.); Trevor Schofield and Jan Van Bergen (Africa); Owen Moore (N.Z.) and Eric Craig (Australia). All Directors have the same status, rights and responsibilities, and form one undivided Board and govern the Society. The Board thus has the widest international representation.

Article IV-C of the By-Laws states "The Secretary, Treasurer and Editor shall be appointed by the Board of Directors". Nominations for each of these offices were called for and made, and the following were elected unopposed:

Secretary — Mr. Roger Gray, Australia.

Treasurer — Mr. John Gallagher, England.

Editor — Mr. Eric Craig, Australia.

All Directors and Officers of the Society began their term of service on April 1, 1975. In the meantime, however, the United Kingdom Directors consulted together and organised a first manifestation from the revivified International Camellia Society by staging an exhibition of camellia blooms in the name of the I.C.S. at the Spring Show of the Royal Horticultural Society in London. This happy idea met with wide acclaim overseas, and offers to send blooms by air came readily from Australia, Japan and the United States. This involved careful organisation and planning, both overseas and in London, where Dr. James Smart and a small group of helpers were able to arrange, most tastefully, an imposing and extensive collection of named camellias from all quarters of the globe. So great was the success of the exhibit that it attracted the rare award of a Gold Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society. It was my great privilege to be present at this exhibition, and to accept the invitation of Lord Aberconway, President of the R.H.S., to meet the members of the Council and to lunch with them on the day of the Show.

On the same day it was found possible to hold a discussion with some of the newly-elected I.C.S. Directors — Mr. David Trehane (Vice-President), Mr. Harold Hillier, Mr. John Gallagher, Mrs. V. Lort-Phillips and Dr. John Pedler, President of the Australian Camellia Research Society, who was in London at the time. Warm and friendly relations were quickly established.

That same evening a Dinner had been arranged at the Guards Club by Lady Carew-Pole, and was attended by some 70 I.C.S. members whom it was my great privilege to meet and address.

I was particularly interested in meeting, among others, M. Andre Baumann, Chairman of the Camellia Section of the French Horticultural Society and M. Paul Plantiveau of the Parc de Proce in Nantes, and to discuss with them the revival of camellia interest in France. I was delighted to make my first Spanish camellia contact in a cordial conversation (not in Spanish, but half in French and half in Italian!) with the Marquis de Figueroa and the Marchioness, and to hear of camellias grown in Spain. It was a deeply moving experience for me to meet so many members of the Society on such a warm and friendly basis, and to enjoy the gracious and intimate hospitality of their homes. Mrs. Mary Armati and I stayed with Mr. John Gallagher, Major E. W. M. Magor, Lord and Lady Falmouth, Sir John and Lady Carew-Pole, Mrs. Alison Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hillier, Dr. James Smart, Lady Anne Cowdray, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Urlwin-Smith.

Surely a happy day has dawned, and we are set on a steady course of camellia discovery and camellia friendships in most countries of the world! Is it too much to hope that we shall soon be able to locate and study the various centres and gardens in China, where camellias are grown and cherished?

E. G. WATERHOUSE

As we go to press, Mr John Gallagher has advised that he is unable to continue as Treasurer. Whilst it was my wish that his successor should be in England, the United Kingdom Directors have strongly urged an appointment in Australia, where the main expenditure occurs in publishing our *Journal*. Accordingly, subject to confirmation by the Directors, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr John Alpen of Cheltenham, New South Wales, as I.C.S. Treasurer.

## COME TO CORNWALL IN CAMELLIA-TIME

Make plans to visit the International Camellia Society Conference

## **APRIL 3 to 9, 1976**

A unique opportunity to see some of England's most magnificent gardens ... and to meet the best of friends — international camellia friends!

Write for details to

#### **DAVID TREHANE**

Trehane; Probus; TRURO, CORNWALL, ENGLAND

#### MEET SOME OF THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS:



Vice-President DAVID TREHANE

David Trehane graduated B.Sc.(Hort.) Reading University 1928. Spent some years growing 200 acres of vegetables; after war grew Highbush Blueberries, Camellias, Azaleas, Magnolias. Now grows different camellias: believes outdoor future in Britain is with williamsii hybrids. Formerly 30 years in local government, member Ministry Agric. Horticultural Advisory Council, Governor National Vegetables Research Station. Now advisory committee Rosewarne Experimental Research Station, Justice of Peace and Rotarian. Is restoring five-acre garden on ancestral land in Cornwall.



Hon. Secretary ROGER GRAY

Roger Gray is a 47 year-old Sydneysider who entered accountancy in 1946, and except for a short period in Papua New Guinea in the early 60's, has remained in the same profession. Tennis, competitive sailing and yachting were his outdoor interests until he became absorbed in an article on Bonsai. This led to foundation membership of The Bonsai Society of Australia, and then to camellias. In 1973, he became Vice-President of the Bonsai Research Group; in 1974 Hon. Treasurer of New South Wales Foundation branch of the Australian Camellia Research Society.



Editor ERIC CRAIG

Eric Craig has spent most of his business life in marketing and public relations. Was a Meteorological Flying Officer R.A.A.F. in World War II. He became entangled with camellias accidentally. His wife joined the Australian Camellia Research Society in 1957, and persuaded him to help organise the Society's first major Sydney show. That did it! He has been a President of the New South Wales Foundation branch, Associate Editor for the A.C.R.S. "Camellia News", and A.C.R.S. Vice-President since 1970. Presently he is Australian Regional Director of the I.C.S.

#### AND SOME OF THE I.C.S. DIRECTORS:



DR. JAMES SMART England



MRS. V. LORT-PHILLIPS Channel Islands



DR. ANTONIO SEVESI

"Jimmy" Smart is Consultant Anaesthetist for North Devon Hospitals. Lifelong interest in horticulture started with Alpines in 30's. Six years in Royal Navy World War II. Interested in propagation many different genera by seed, cuttings, grafts, airlayers, etc. Member International Dendrological Society. Camellia interest boosted by U.S.A. visit 1968, after which greenhouses built and collection extended. Has exhibited at R.H.S. camellia competition in London most of last seven years; has gained awards for 'Debbie' 1971 - 'Francie L' 1972 — 'Mouchang' 1973.

Violet Lort-Phillips and Captain Raymond Lort-Phillips (Scots Guard) lived in several parts of England before moving to Channel Islands 1957. Meeting many great gardeners during extensive overseas travel (including China in 1948!) she became a "camellia addict". Since living on the Island of Jersey, in a house overlooking the distant coast of France, she has developed a beautiful and fascinating garden. Was actively involved with Red Cross for 30 years; now Chairman Gardening Committee of Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, and Chairman Jersey Teilhard Centre for Future of Man.

Antonio Sevesi graduated as an Electrotecnic Engineer, but has loved flowers as long as he can remember. Since 1950 he has been able to spend more time with his favourite hobby, and became interested in camellias during visits to Lake Maggiore, where growing conditions appear to be ideal. After contacting overseas camellia "notables" including Professor Waterhouse. Colonel Tom Durrant and Charles Puddle, he arranged his first camellia show in 1964, and this led to formation of the Societa Italiana della Camelia in 1965, with Dr. Sevesi as Foundation President.

#### THREE OF OUR ENGLISH DIRECTORS:



HAROLD G. HILLIER, C.B.E.

Harold G. Hillier is senior partner of the firm Hillier & Sons of Winchester, England, which was founded by his grandfather in 1964. "Hillier's" is said to grow a greater variety of trees and shrubs for the cooler temperate regions than any other establishment. He recently retired from the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society after 25 years' service, but remains an Honorary Fellow and Vice-President.



FRANK KNIGHT

Frank Knight commenced his horticultural career in Mr. J. C. Williams' garden in his native Cornwall, then studied three years at Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, and six years at Arbor-etum of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. He had 20 years in the nursery trade; General Manager Knaphill, and Managing of Notcutts. Director Woodbridge. In World War II he was Horticultural Officer in Home Security Directorate of Camouflage, and in 1955-69 was Director of the Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley.



REGINALD TRY

Reg Try and his wife Gemma call themselves "dedicated Camelliolics". Have made many friends following the camellia trail in other countries. Reg, retired Transport and Travel executive, has over 100 camellias at "By-ways", Windsor, planted 1870-1900. Has won many awards in the R.H.S. camellia competitions at London. In 1973, won gold medal and silver cup for July exhibition at Royal Windsor Horticul-tural & Rose Society Show, featuring camellia blooms air-freighted from I.C.S. members in Australia.



LE VICOMTE DE NOAILLES France

(Charles) de Vicomte Noailles is President of the Camellia section of the French Société Nationale d'Horticulture, and a Director of that Society, as well as a Vice-President of the Royal Horticultural Society, London. For 15 years Le Vicomte was President of the Société des Amateurs de Jardins. These days he lives mostly at Grasse, on the French Riviera, where he grows an extensive variety of plants, specialising in camellias, tree paeonies and deciduous magnolias.



YOSHIAKI ANDOH Japan

Yoshiaki Andoh born Kyoto, graduated in Jurisprudence. Has been senior Director industrial now companies, aging Director company making Pool Filter-aids looks forward to greater leisure with camellias. Likes mountaineering: dreams of exploring Yun-nan, especially as C. reticulata enticed him to study the international development of camellias. Yoshiaki is President of Kobe Camellia Society and Director of Japan Camellia Society. Author of Tsubaki, Meika no Shokai to Saibai (1971) and Tsubaki Nyumon (1974).



DR. TOSHIRO UEDA Japan

Dr. Toshiro Ueda graduated from Tokyo University, and specialises in School medicine. Foundation President of Kohda Lions Club; is now Vice-President Nagoya Camellia Society. been interested in camellia propagation since 1959. and has planned several camellia gardens. comed American Camellia Society visitors to his garden in 1970; made return visit to America in 1971, and attended International Camellia gress in Australia 1973. by accompanied Ueda, and his aunt, Mrs. Yoho Sakai of Tokyo.

#### THREE OF OUR AMERICAN DIRECTORS:



BILL GOERTZ San Marino, California



JACK JONES Savannah, Georgia



CHARLES BUTLER Mobile, Alabama

Willard F. (Bill) Goertz came to California from Minnesota 1919, graduated University of California at Los Angeles, spent 41 years manufacturing and marketing Oilwell production equipment. Retirement 1967 gave him more time to indulge his camellia hobby acquired 1948, and to travel extensively with wife Ruth to the world's four corners. Bill's commercial and personal efficiency led to presidency of San Marino Community Council, Southern California Camellia Society and S.C.C. Council.

John Marshall (Jack) Jones was born on a Virginian tobacco farm. He B.Sc. mining graduated engineering, practised engineering six years, then spent 37 years in Insurance Savannah, Georgia. Was converted to camellia and azalea hobbyist 1936 by late Arthur Solomon, a founder of American Society. Camellia achieved notable success growing trees and shrubs never previously tried in south-eastern U.S.A. Member International Dendrology Society, Royal Horticultural Society, Carolina Camellia Society.

Charles Butler practised law in New York City before moving to Mobile, Alabama, in 1951; now a Senior Partner of prominent law firm in that city. Joined American Camellia Society: has served as State Director Alabama. Chairman of Board of Directors, and President for two terms. Now President Emeritus and lifetime member of the Board ex officio; also member of Board of Trustees American Camellia Society Endowment Fund - has served as Ch'man. Shares enjoyment of 5 grandsons with wife Venetia.

#### THREE AUSTRALIAN DIRECTORS:



DR. JOHN PEDLER

John Pedler is engaged in rehabilitation medicine with the National Heart Foundation and the Australian Government rehabilitation service. After returning from war service 1946, was Commissioner St. John Ambulance Brigade, South Australia, six years. Became interested in camellias 1936, joined Australian Camellia Society 1957; has held all offices in the South Australian branch, including two terms as President. Is currently completing his third year as President of the Australian Camellia Research Society.



ALEX W. JESSEP

Alex Jessep, following war service 1915-1919. achieved B.Agr.Sc., B.Sc. and M.Agr.Sc. degrees at Melbourne University. Was appointed Principal Victorian Horticultural College 1925-1941. Appointed Government and Botanist Director Melbourne Royal Botanical Gardens 1941, retiring 1957. Foundation President Australian Camellia Research Society Camellia 1952-62. and Registrar since 1954. Foundation member of I.C.S., N.Z.C.S. and S.C.C.S. Horticultural honours include E. G. Waterhouse Medal, Merrillees Gold Medal and R.H.S. Gold Medal.



TOM SAVIGE

Tom Savige, born on a farm, inherited family love of gardening and horticulture. Graduated Engineer 1932. Became interested in camellias while stationed San Diego, California, 1946-49. Joined Australian Camellia Society shortly after formation; now member I.C.S., A.C.S., S.C.C.S., Japan C.S., Italian C.S. and R.H.S. Victoria. Author of "Camellias in Australian Gardens". Main interest interspecific hybridisation and researching old camellia literature. Has been secretary, editor and President of Australian Cam-Research ellia Society. Was awarded the E. G. Waterhouse Medal 1970.







WILLIAM P. KEMP North Carolina, U.S.A.



DOUGLAS D. HALL Washington D.C., U.S.A.

Owen Moore served in the N.Z. Armed Forces during World War II, then attended Canterbury Agricultural College, returning to Department of Agriculture after graduation. In 1960 resigned to manage the family farm, producing fat lambs, beef cattle and grain. Horticultural interests are chiefly camellias, roses, orchids. Involved in local administration of horticulture; has been Council member New Zealand Camellia Society for several years, the last two as National President. Active interest Local Government and education; member County Council and School Board of Governors.

Bill Kemp, as everyone knows, is one of nature's gentlemen. He arrived quietly in Australia for the 1973 International Congress; didn't breathe a word about being Chairman of the American Camellia Society Board of Directors. But he and his charming Betty won so many hearts, no one was surprised when Bill was elected A.C.S. President in 1974. Controls a large furniture manufacturing business, but finds time for many deeds of kindness. As Betty proudly confides: "He's a wonderful fellow, my Bill!"

Douglas Deane Hall has been a stalwart of The Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley for many years, working in numerous capacities such as Publicity Chairman, Vice President, Director-at-Large 1965, Program Chairman 1966, Presdient 1967-69, Show Chairman 1970, Chairman of Judges 1974. And for good measure, Doug has been American Camellia Society regional Director for Maryland, District of Columbia, and adjacent countries of Virginia since 1970. Frequently figures (with wife Martha) in "best bloom" awards.

The Editor regrets inability to include photographs of Directors Trevor Schofield and Jan van Bergen (South Africa), and Antonio Odriozola (Spain).

### CAMELLIA SHOWS worth visiting in 1976

Is always showtime in California, U.S.A.

February 7-8

Georgetown, South Carolina and Savannah, Georgia, U.S.A.

American Camellia Society show at Nashville, Tennessee

March 12-13

Camellia Exhibition at Rome, Italy

International Camellia Society conference and tours at Falmouth, Cornwall, England.

For full details, write immediately to Mr David Trehane, Probus, Truro, Cornwall, England.

April 10-11

12th International Camellia Show at Cannero Rivera, Italy

"Camelias on the Lake of Como" — Italy

Sydney, Australia — "Bicentennial Salute to America"

Whangarei, New Zealand - New Zealand Camellia Society convention

August 2-4 August 19-20

February

### The Search for SCENTED Camellias

**TOM SAVIGE** 

Wirlinga, N.S.W., Australia

Floral fragrance in camellias is rare, and when it does exist is rather light. It is particularly rare amongst the cultivated forms. Of the species, seven have some perfume: C. fraterna, C. kissii, C. lutchuensis, C. miyagii, C. oleifera, C. tsaii and C. sasanqua. The most pleasant perfume is that produced by C. lutchuensis, reminiscent of stocks or the sweet osmanthus. C. fraterna would be next, followed by C. tsaii, while that of the other four is somewhat musky. Of the cultivated varieties, some from the C. japonica exhibit odour, usually very light and delicate.

In the endeavour to produce fragrant camellias with large blooms, most work has been based on *C. lutchuensis* using fragrant, fertile *C. japonica* cultivars as seed parent. Most of the early work was done by Dr William Ackerman at the U.S. Plant Introduction Station, Glenn Dale, Maryland, Dr Clifford Parks, and the late Dr Robert K. Cutter, Berkeley, California. However, the first cross involving *C. lutchuensis* was made by Howard Asper in 1960 using *C. saluenensis* as a seed parent.<sup>1</sup>

During the 1961-62 season, Dr Ackerman made a number of hybrid crosses involving C. lutchuensis, C. fraterna and C. miyagii. The most successful were C. japonica subsp. rusticana x C. lutchuensis and C. japonica x C. fraterna. Later successful crosses were C. lutchuensis x C. fraterna and C. reticulata x C. fraterna.

Under the direction of A. E. Langley and Dr Clifford Parks, further hybridising and crossing was done to intensify fragrance in camellias.<sup>3</sup> This involved the fragrant *C. japonica* varieties 'Scented Treasure', 'Sweet Delight', 'Hikaru-genji', 'Fragrant Jonquil' and *C. lutchuensis*.

In 1964 the *C. saluenensis* x *C. lutchuensis* hybrid made by Howard Asper flowered, and proved as fragrant as its *C. lutchuensis* parent. Following this, extensive crossing was done, including using the pollen of the Asper hybrids as well as *C. lutchuensis* pollen on 'Berenice Body'. Crossing also included C. j. 'Reg Ragland'.<sup>4</sup>

In "Camellia Breeding Progress Report III" it is noted that the first C. japonica x C. lutchuensis hybrid had flowered and proved fragrant, but that all attempts to intensify floral fragrance by intercrossing C. japonica cultivars with detectable fragrance had failed. Also, up to this time, all attempts to hybridise C. lutchuensis with C. reticulata had proved futile.

The following year, "The Camellia Breeding Progress Report IV" reported substantial success. It was found that C. japonica x C. lutchuensis produced the most fragrant hybrids. Further hybridisation was undertaken, including C. fraterna x C. japonica; C. fraterna x C. lutchuensis; C. hiemalis x C. lutchuensis; C. japonica x C. tsaii; C. reticulata x C. lutchuensis; C. sasanqua x C. lutchuensis; C. x williamsii x C. lutchuensis and C. x tourjeii x C. lutchuensis, as well as crosses involving the already synthetised c. japonica x C. lutchuensis hybrids. These particular hybrids were not found to be very fertile and gave poor results. A report of the results of these crosses is given by Dr Clifford Parks' article 'To be Yellow and Sweet'. The attempts to cross C. lutchuensis and C. reticulata were still unsuccessful, but C. tsaii was found to cross with both C. japonica and C. reticulata.

In 1966 the first lutchuensis hybrid was named 'Fragrant Pink'. It was the *C. japonica* subsp. rusticana x C. lutchuensis cross reported in 1962.

Dr William L. Ackerman reports<sup>8</sup> that in general, using the species with the largest flower as seed parent was more successful than the reverse, and when crossing between diploids and polyploids, the species with the highest ploidy is the most successful seed parent. Hence it was found that the *C. japonica* x *C. lutchuensis* and the *C. reticulata* x *C. fraterna* crosses were more successful than the reciprocal ones. In the meantime the late Dr Robert K. Cutter had become interested in breeding fragrant camellias<sup>9</sup>.

When the camellia breeding project at the Los Angeles County Arboretum was terminated, Dr Cutter received most of Dr Parks' fragrant series, and was able to carry on this part of the project with assistance and advice from both Dr Ackerman and Dr Parks. In 1973 Dr Cutter registered two seedlings, which were the result of back-crossing: 'Virginia W. Cutter', a cross of C.j. 'Bertha Harmes' x Ackerman 63-32 (C. japonica x C. lutchuensis) and 'Alice K. Cutter' a cross of C.j. 'Mrs Bertha A. Harms' x Parks 69-2 ('Reg Ragland' x C. lutchuensis).

One of the problems facing hybridisers was the virtual seed sterility of all the first generation *C. lutchuensis* hybrids. In addition, pollen sterility varied from 0-18% with an average of 5% normal pollen. The *C. fraterna* hybrids were more pollen viable, with an average of 36% normal pollen. No success was achieved by intercrossing *C. lutchuensis* hybrids, but back crossing to *C. japonica* produced some results.

As back-crossing has the disadvantage of dilution of floral fragrance, Ackerman undertook to induce fertility in his 'Fragrant Pink' clone by colchicine treatment, in the expectation that the resultant colchicine-induced polyploid would be a successful seed parent. <sup>12</sup> In the resultant colchiploid, pollen fertility was found to be increased from 5 to 77%, indicating a substantial increase in total viability.

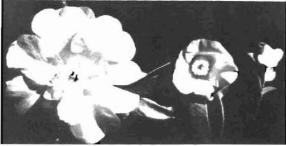
Considerable subsequent crossing, using pollen from fragrant *C. lutchuensis* hybrids onto this colchiploid, has been done with the expectation that the resultant triploid seedlings will carry 3 sets of genes for floral fragrance.

About 1971 Dr Cutter<sup>13</sup> obtained scions of two fragrant seed parents in David Feathers' hybrid 'Salab' and *C. japonica* 'Koshi' from Japan, and used them in a number of combinations.<sup>14</sup> Unfortunately, in August 1973, Dr Cutter suddenly died. However, his wife Alice donated his collection of 334 fragrant plants to the Northern California Camellia Society Research Committee. Mr Ken Hallstone, chairman of the committee, has taken over the collection with the task of carrying on the work on floral fragrance.

The cross between *C. reticulata* and *C. lutchuensis* was finally successfully made by Frank Pursel, Oakland, California, in 1970. 'Crimson Robe' was the seed parent. The seedlings were found to have little scent. Further back-crossing with *C. lutchuensis* pollen is being attempted.

Ken and Kay Hallstone visited Australia and New Zealand in 1974 and proposed that interested hybridists from all camellia-growing areas should join in the program to breed camellias with pleasant floral fragrance and first class blooms. During 'Project Pensacola' in January 1975, William Ackerman also offered to assist by providing breeding material; the best of 15 years of work, so the effort could be carried on from the level already reached. This most generous offer was accepted, and already this material is arriving in Australia. It is being handled by Len Hobbs of Victoria, and quarantined at the Rhododendron Society's Garden at Olinda. Ken Hallstone has asked the writer to correlate any work done on fragrance in Australia, and report existing fragrant clones and the results of any hybridising.

It is hoped that there can be set up at Olinda (and the E. G. Waterhouse National Garden in Sydney) collections of all fragrant varieties and hybrids, in a similar manner to the collections being established in Northern California and at Glenn Dale, Maryland. There will thus be a reservoir of fragrant clones for more advanced hybridisation.



C. lutchuensis at right was crossed with C. japonica 'Reg Ragland' at left, producing the intermediate bloom designated 69-2. This hybrid is seed sterile, but with viable pollen which was used on 'Mrs Bertha A. Harms', to produce the fragrant hybrid 'Alice K. Cutter'

Following is a list of camellia species, hybrids and japonica varieties, with fragrance:

C. lutchuensis C. fraterna

C. kissii C. miyagii

C. oleifera

C. sasanaua C. tsaii

C. lutchuensis hybrids 'Fragrant Pink'

'Fragrant Pink' colchiploid 'Alice K. Cutter'

Virginia W. Cutter'

Various Hybrids: 'Salab'

'Apple Blossom' 'Glad Rags'

'Christmas Daffodil' 'Wabisuke'

Cultivars of C. japonica:

'Scented Treasure' 'Sweet Delight' 'Scentsation'

'Hikaru-genji' and sports 'Fragrant Jonquil'

'Koshi'

'Odoratissima' 'Party Girl' 'Brodies Pink'

'Blood of China' 'Kingvo-tsubaki' 'Kramers Supreme'

'Lazetta'

'Rosemary Kinzer' 'Esther Moad'



'Tamari Ikari', a scented C. japonica cultivar from Japan

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## FRAGRANCE IS HERE TO STAY

**KEN HALLSTONE** 

Lafayette, Calif., U.S.A.

In my article in the International Camellia Society's 1974 Journal, a plea was made for hybridizers throughout the camellia-growing world to contribute to development of a show-quality flower possessing pleasing fragrance.¹ Hybridizers from five different countries other than the United States responded, and have now embarked on a breeding program for floral fragrance. My thanks and congratulations to each of them. This is a report from the five countries. Here in the United States, more than ten people are seriously working in this field. If you are sincerely interested in starting a program for floral fragrance, contact the representative in your country.

In Australia, Tom Savige, Lavington, N.S.W., reports that little work has been done to date with breeding for fragrance. As a result of his recent trip to Pensacola, Florida, and through contact with Dr Wiliam Ackerman and others, he now has most of the significant fragrant hybrids developed over the past fifteen years. These he will cross on some of Australia's fragrant clones such as 'Brodie's Pink', 'Odoratissima', 'Glad Rags', 'Party Girl' and others. Tom aims to promote a special section for fragrant cultivars in the E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden near Sydney, and a similar section in the newly developing Camellia Garden at Olinda, near Melbourne. These, he feels would act as a reservoir for breeders of fragrance throughout Australia.

One response to my plea came from Dr James Smart, Barnstaple, Devonshire, England. He also reports that little hybridizing for fragrance has been done in England, but is willing to give it a try. He now has grafts of most of the basic fragrant hybrid clones and will be able to start his program. Two fragrant clones immediately available to him are japonica 'Barbara Mary' and saluenensis 'Bow Bells'. Undoubtedly by asking around, he will discover many others.

In Japan, where it all started, Yoshiaki Andoh responded to the call. He lists four fragrant seed-setting Higos that will be part of his program, and recommends them for others to use. They are:

'Akatsuki-no-Kaori' (Fragrance in the Dawn)

Soft Pink turns White as the bloom ages. Medium to large, single. Leaves 3½" x 1½". Compact upright growth.

'Nioi-fubuki' (Scented Snowstorm)

White streaked Rose Pink, medium to large, single with a cluster of gold stamens. Leaves 3½" x 2", compact upright growth.

'Tama-ikari' (Precious Anchor)

Pale Pink at base shading to deeper Pink at edge, small, single, non-Higo type. Leaves 3½" x 2", compact upright growth.

'Tenkoh' (Fragrance in Heaven)
Pale Pink, medium single.

He too, has grafts of the best of the *C. lutchuensis* hybrids, and will be using them when mature on the many fragrant clones that exist in Japan.

In New Zealand, Jim Finlay of Whangarei has collected a supply of fragrant *lutchuensis* hybrids similar to those of Tom Savige's, and can be counted on as a source of scion material for his fellow countrymen. He has made two crosses of his own that should be mentioned: *C. japonica* 'Tiffany' x *C. lutchuensis*, and *C. japonica* 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' x *C. lutchuensis*. When these plants mature and bloom, he will evaluate the flowers and fit them into his breeding program.

Leslie Riggall of Esponente, **Portugal**, reports that breeding for fragrance is a new concept in Portugal and Spain. He has acquired and introduced to these countries many fragrant clones with which he is working. Some of the japonicas are: 'Arome', 'Fragrant Frill', 'Violet Bouquet'. Of the fragrant hybrids he has 'Alice K. Cutter', 'Fragrant Pink Improved', 'Virginia W. Cutter' and several additional un-named clones.

Our ebullience for floral fragrance through articles, speeches ad discussion has not been in vain. Three Northern California Camellia Societies offered a section for competition in shows for the best fragrant cultivars. Although the rules of entry and judging varied among the shows, it was a first, and they are to be commended.

At Santa Clara County Camellia Society at San Jose, ten exhibitors displayed twenty-five flowers. The trophy was awarded to a Dr Clifford Parks un-named hybrid # 18E (3) which is C. japonica 'Snowbell' x C. lutchuensis. It is blush in color, small and single, possessing lutchuensis fragrance.

At the Northern California Camellia Society show in Concord, the Dr Robert K Cutter Memorial Trophy was won by Woodford Harrison's hybrid seedling C. japonica 'Mrs Bertha Harms' x Dave Feathers' 'Salab' (hybrid 'Apple Blossom' x C. saluenesis). This is a 4" flower, deep pink, semi-double, with golden anthers, possessing the fragrance of 'Apple Blossom'. Six exhibitors benched fifteen flowers in this show.

In the Modesto show, Barbara Butler staged a sophisticated and well planned competition; details have been reported in February 1975 issue of the Camellia Review.<sup>2</sup> Twenty-three flowers were exhibited; ten varieties of japonica and seven seedlings.

The japonica 'Scentsation' a silvery pink, large peony flower was selected as the best fragrant flower.

What can you do to expand interest in your area? FRAGRANCE IS HERE TO STAY!

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## ON A MAGIC CARPET WITH E.G.W.

#### MARY ARMATI

Roseville, N.S.W., Australia

"Oh! to be in England, now that April's there!" Of course you may strike hail, frost, snow, rain, mists, interspersed with patches of sunshine. At least that was the case in Cornwall early April 1975, when I visited there with our President, Professor E. G. Waterhouse. The general cry was: "Oh, why weren't you here last year! We haven't a decent camellia to show you."

But the warmth of English hopsitality made up for frost-bitten camellias, and as we had come to U.K. to meet the Directors and Members of The International Camellia Society as much as to view camellias, we were not disappointed. Our hosts and hostesses showered us with loving kindness, and were honoured to receive the grand old gentleman of camellias. Many homes were opened to us during our six week visit, and although most gardens were damp and frost-bitten, the houses were warm with glowing fires and bright conversation.

Leaving Sydney by Jumbo jet 26th March, we flew direct to London, (except for refuelling stops), arrived in London March 27th, and were met at Heathrow Airport by John Gallagher, who had driven up from Dorset to welcome us to England. We landed in a snow-storm, but his warmth overcame the frigidity of the weather.

E.G.W. obeyed instructions (for once!) and rested in bed for 48 hours following his long flight. Then off we went to Verwood, Dorset, where John Gallagher lives with his mother and sister, Jean. Such a warm friendly atmosphere, with much laughter, delicious meals, and after-dinner music! In John's lovely garden of 2 acres, we were excited to see much carnellia hybridising taking place. Little metal tags deterred me from my subconscious habit of plucking dead blossoms!!!

We also visited the Trehane Nurseries at Verwood and Wimborne. All the camellias are grown under glass, looking healthy and tended by the Manager, George Orman, and his wife Vi. We saw a number of EGW babies, some rarely seen in Australia, but well worthy of recognition, namely 'Puck', 'Barbara Mary', and 'Betty Cuthbert'. Other camellias which took my eye — 'Pope John', a beautiful white formal; 'Elizabeth Rothschild', soft flush of pink, semi-double; 'Pierzio Secondo', beautifully veined deep carmine, edged with white; anemone type, long upright petaloids.

At the Rothschild garden at Exbury, we were received by the Manager, Douglas Harris, and the Head Gardener, Stewart Hart. The garden, mainly rhododendrons, has many old camellias, but there were few blooms, due to heavy frosts. The EGW fingers were itching for secateurs, as all bushes badly needed pruning.



A proud moment! Professor E. G. Waterhouse and Mary Armati of Australia with some of the blooms that helped the I.C.S. display to win the Royal Horticultural Society's Gold Medal.



E.G.W. is delighted with Dr James Smart's camellias grown in the ground inside his glasshouse at Barnstaple, North Devon.

We stayed at the gracious early 19th century home of Major E. W. M. Magor, Lamellen, St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall, from 2nd to 4th April. Major Magor lives at Lamellen with his charming daughter Felicity Peter-Hoblyn, her husband, and their children Harriet and Edward, who completely stole my heart. The garden (of about 26 acres) contains many rhododendrons of great size and merit, but unfortunately few of these were out. Near the house are some old camellia bushes, doing well in the open. A large bowl of C. 'Lady Clare' stood on the table in the entrance hall; the old bush looked very healthy, and is productive in most weathers. I also noticed 'Glen's Orbit', one of Mrs Alison Johnstone's babies. Unfortunately EGW was in bed with a cold, and saw none of this garden.

From there I visited Tremeer, the home of member Major-General Eric Harrison, a sprightly gentleman of 81, whose garden is one of his many achievements. His 300 camellias include 14 plants of 'Donation' in varying aspects, all covered in blooms, and vividly pink. General Harrison — who has been an Olympic hurdler, has fought with General Eisenhower in North Africa, been Master of the Hounds, and a crack shot — now tends his garden, paints pictures, and keeps budgerigars. He is as warm as Australian sunshine. Later he visited Lamellen to pay homage to EGW; they made quite a pair!

Then to Tregehan, Par, Cornwall, the home of Miss Gillian Carlyon, whose garden of about 60 acres contains many camellias, young and old. Miss Carlyon, a keen hybridiser, has many splendid varieties to her credit. I was greatly impressed with C. 'Cornish Spring', a small single pink, floriferous, with vigorous upright growth. ('Rosea Simplex' x cuspidata). She honoured us by showing us her beautiful walled garden and well-tended glasshouses, which have stood for a hundred years or more. She is a lady with a very dry sense of humour; at the front door is a large notice: "Buckingham Palace — Tradesmen's Entrance".

At Tregothnan, Truro, Cornwall, we enjoyed staying with Lord and Lady Falmouth, and their sons Nicholas, Charles and Vere. Their vast home of about 50 bedrooms, with many ancestral portraits, thousands of books, rare porcelain and priceless treasurers, is occupied by a warm and friendly family. EGW slept in a large bedroom named H.M.S. Defiance, which seemed very apt! We were driven round the huge garden by Lady Falmouth in freezing weather, Lord Falmouth striding ahead of the car with long secateurs to pluck blooms for identification from the hundreds of old camellias in the garden. Some bushes are 30 ft high, and all looked healthy and strong. Once again C. 'Donation' stood out as a hardy subject, and C. 'Adolphe Audusson' seemed the best of the reds. C. 'Alba Simplex' had a great number of blooms, standing up reasonably well to the snow and frosts. It was a very great privilege for us to be driven round this garden; I believe the only other person to have had that honour has been Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

We paid a brief visit to the Treseder Nursery at Truro with Neil Treseder. Owing to a snow storm, we did not get out of the car, but could see that it is a very busy nursery. Then to Chyverton, Zelah, Cornwall, the 18th century home of Mr Nigel Holman, his wife Elizabeth, and

children Nicholas and Joanne. I viewed the garden after lunch between snow storms, and was rewarded for my damp walk by beautiful blooms of C. 'White Swan', C. 'Lady Clare' and C. 'Mildred Veitch'. I was also very impressed with an azalea, 'Schlippenbachii'. In the house is a chair carved from the trunk of an old Magnolia 'Campbellii', on which we were asked to sign our names — a unique Visitor's Book!.

From April 6th to 9th, we were guests at Antony House, Torpoint, Cornwall — a National Trust house, the home of Sir John and Lady Carew-Pole. Sir John Carew-Pole is Lord-Lieutenant of Cornwall, and the house is open to the public three days a week, but all rooms are lived in and enjoyed. The oak-panelled walls extending to the ceiling, hundreds of books lining the walls of the library, and ancestral pictures of great beauty in every room, make this 1723 Queen Anne house a very beautiful home indeed.

The very warm hospitality from our host and hostess made our stay a memorable one. Lady Carew-Pole took us to view her Antony Estate Nurseries, where camellias are grown in plastic tunnels and in the open. A keen camellia grower, Mrs Reid of Liskeard, brought blooms for EGW to identify; The next day, Mr and Mrs Lionel Fortescue came to lunch, and EGW and Mr Fortescue (an old Eton Master) talked at great length in French, in which tongue they are both fluent.

Leaving Antony, Sir John Carew-Pole drove us to Truro, where the Mayor, Mr Tonkin, welcomed us to the Truro Flower Show, and presented me with a large box of Cornish Gingerbread. A wheel chair, thoughfully provided by Major Magor made it possible for EGW to see the Show without undue fatigue. I am afraid the daffodils stole the Show, even to the extent of appearing in the paper next day being admired by camellia lovers E. G. Waterhouse, General Harrison and Major Magor!

After the Show we were driven to Trehane by David Trehane, Vice-President of the I.C.S., a warm, handsome Cornishman looking much younger than his years. In the garden, camellias are growing happily in the open, including a number of EGW babies: 'Charles Colbert', 'E. G. Waterhouse', 'Lady's Maid', 'Sayonara', 'Bowen Bryant'; all very healthy and proudly displayed.

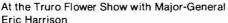
At Trewithen, Grampound Road, Cornwall, is one of the loveliest gardens I have seen, and owned by a truly great lady, Mrs Alison Johnstone, who lives there with her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Johnstone. Her late husband Mr George Johnstone was responsible for the charmingly landscaped garden.

Mrs Johnstone and EGW, both in wheel chairs, spent hours exploring the garden in freezing conditions. No garden lover should visit Cornwall without seeing this garden! Once again C. 'Donation', C. 'Lady Clare', C. 'Adolphe Audusson' stood out as hardy subjects. All the williamsii do well, C. 'J. C. Williams' in particular. This garden is noted for its very old and large magnolias; and a few blooms remaining on M. 'Campbellii' made me long to visit again in a better season.

Next a night at Caerhays Castle, St Austell, the home of Mr and Mrs Julian Williams and their sons Charles and David. It was in this garden that the first williamsii was born. With Philip Tregunna, the head gardener, I trudged around the vast garden in heavy rain. Some of the camellias and magnolias are 100 years old or more, and the C. williamsii, about 60 years old, make colourful hedges and wonderful windbreaks. I was impressed with C. 'George Blandford' (saluenesis x 'Elegans'), 'Delia Williams' and 'J. C. Williams', as they had a profusion of blooms and seemed to be standing up to the icy conditions remarkably well. After dinner EGW was shown J. C. Williams' Garden Notes, and correspondence with George Forrest, which made his eyes shine with happiness.

At Trewidden, Penzance, Cornwall, I took a photograph of Mrs Charles Williams with a C. 'Prince Eugene Napoleon' at least 45' high. She has many old camellias, and hedges of C. williamsii like those at Caerhays. I was interested to see a large crater which was made by a bomb in the last war, but has been put to good use for tree ferns, azaleas, rhododendrons and magnolias.







With old friend Harold Hillier at Jermyns

On 15th April we lunched with Lord Aberconway, President of R.H.S., and the R.H.S. Council in London. Lord Aberconway told us that his three favourite trees are R. 'Elizabeth', C. 'Donation', and Embothrium. After lunch we viewed the I.C.S. display of camellias flown from all parts of the world. Dr James Smart and his helpers had done a marvellous job and won a Gold Medal for the I.C.S.

EGW's eyes filled with tears as he viewed beautiful blooms from the U.K. augmented by blooms from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington, Japan, France, Channel Islands and Australia.

I.C.S. member Mr P. Urlwin-Smith had made four trips to Heathrow Airport to pick up the blooms, and had to fight to get the blooms through Customs in time.

That night, the I.C.S. Dinner at the Guards' Club was well organised by Lady Carew-Pole. Large bowls of C. 'Cornish Snow', and C. 'J. C. Williams' greeted us on the stairway, at the head of which EGW sat and shook hands with the members who attended, introduced by Sir John Carew-Pole. The Queen Mother was not able to attend, as she was visiting the Shah of Persia. After-dinner speeches were made by Mr David Trehane, who presented EGW with a yellow rose for his buttonhole, and bouquets for Lady Carew-Pole and myself. Dr James Smart presented EGW with a huge paperweight of Dartington glass, suitably engraved with an EGW camellia, in lieu of some Dartington glasses which were not finished in time for the dinner (but which reached him on his 94th birthday!) Then, much to my surprise, Mr Trehane presented me with a smaller paperweight to mark the occasion. We were touched by the warmth of the speeches. EGW's reply seemed inspired. He spoke of "camellia power" cementing the bonds of friendship and understanding among the nations of the world.

At Jermyns House, Ampfield, Romsey, Hants, we stayed at the beautiful home of I.C.S. Director Mr Harold Hillier, and his wife Barbara. An unbelievable garden and arboretum of 102 acres, standing in the midst of the great Hillier Nursery of about 700 acres. I felt Harold Hillier had a wider knowledge of trees than any man I had ever met! EGW, in a wheel chair pushed by Roy Lancaster, the Curator, was delighted to see many camellias. One camellia walk, about half a mile long, was not as spoilt by the weather as many we had seen in Cornwall. We saw a very fine bush of C. 'Moshio' and numbers of C. 'Donation' and C. 'Inspiration' covered in blooms.

Before we left Jermyns, EGW and I planted a C. 'Yoibijin', to mark the occasion of our visit.

The home of Dr James Smart, U.K. Regional Director of I.C.S., at Marwood Hill, Barnstaple, N. Devon, was a complete change from the old stately homes we had visited. A contemporary house of part Georgian design, its picture windows frame a beautiful garden of some 6 acres. The cherries, daffodils, magnolias, rhododendrons and conifers were all very

colourful. The appealing R. 'Elizabeth' grows close to a cleverly contrived lake. One looks down from the house, built high on a hill, to an area of moving water forming two lakes, and then the garden rises again to the rolling green fields of Devon, where cattle graze peacefully.

Dr Smart's glasshouse camellias grow in the soil, not in pots, and produce magnificent blooms. He has 600 varieties, and tries to hybridise without much success, as he says seed does not set easily in Devon. He is able assisted by his gardener, Malcolm Pharoah, a well-trained young man from Wisley. We visited Mrs Edwards at West Porlock, and saw C. 'Uraku', sasanqua 'Fukuzutsumi', and many old camellias planted by the late Norman Hadden. We also visited Rosemoor, Torrington, the home of Colonel Eric and Lady Anne Palmer. Lady Anne, a member of I.C.S., is Chairman of the International Dendrological Society Tours, and works like a beaver in her garden. We saw a particularly fine bush of C. 'Mercury' glowing vividly red in the late afternoon sun. We also visited Lady Amory, at Knightshayes Court, one of the Great Gardens of England — a National Trust property. The garden contains a vast collection of flowering trees and shrubs, and much of the garden is informal and wooded.

Lady Anne Cowdray met us at Westbury, and took us to her home Broadleas, Devizes, Wiltshire. Broadleas is a great credit to Lady Anne and her diligence. Her wooded glade is charming, with cherries, magnolias, crabs, camellias, azaleas, and rhododendrons blooming happily. Maples too, took my eye, as they were just coming into leaf. After dinner, Lady Anne made us feel very much at home playing the piano; this seemed the perfect finish to our day.

Back in London, the highlight was EGW's 94th Birthday on 29th April, and his Private Audience with Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, at Clarence House. He found her most charming, natural, and friendly, and when he presented her with an 'E. G. Waterhouse' camellia from the Trehane Nursery, on behalf of the I.C.S., she was most pleased, and gave him an autographed photograph of herself, to wish him a happy birthday.

The next day, Miss Jill Waterhouse, daughter of Dr & Mrs Douglas Waterhouse of Canberra, A.C.T., and grand-daughter of EGW, came down from Cambridge where she lectures in Victorian History, armed with a super chocolate cake bedecked with candles, so he had a double birthday celebration. He had received dozens of cables, telegrams, phone calls, letters and cards, and felt his London birthday was the birthday of his life.

The first days of May were spent at Earleydene Cottage, Ascot, Berkshire, the home of Mr and Mrs Philip Urlwin-Smith. We were taken to the Savill and Valley Gardens in the Great Park, Windsor, with Mr Hope Findley, who has just retired from the Gardens, and is now advising Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on the planting at Sandringham Castle. We saw some fine bushes of C. 'Donation', C. 'Salutation', and C. 'Citation', well covered in blooms, although the season was nearly at an end.

On our way back to London, we viewed the Wisley williamsii Camellia Trials, and were pleased to see ten Waterhouse babies on trial. Mr Urlwin-Smith then kindly took us to the rarely-visited Chelsea Physic Garden, 302 years old, and originally started by the Apothecaries who came up the Thames in boats. Every herb imaginable grows here, and we felt grateful to the Curator, Mr Paterson, for allowing us to see this unique garden. I was particularly interested to see an old Koelerijteria, about 40 ft high, looking exactly like the tree on the Willow Pattern plates!

On our last day, at Horsham, Sussex, Miss Godman's garden had the largest C. 'Donckelarii' I have ever seen, about 125 years old, and simply covered in blooms. Miss Godman has a fine collection of ceramics from Persia and China, and we could have spent much longer there, but we were to lunch at Leonardslee, the home of Sir Giles and Lady Loder, just a stone's throw away. This is a garden famous for its rhododendrons, azaleas, and camellias, but there were also many magnolias and other flowering shrubs and trees. We drove around the garden in a motorised buggy, Sir Giles at the wheel. He has hundreds of camellias growing in the open, as well as marvellous bushes in glasshouses. His blooms at the R.H.S. Show would have to be seen to be believed, they were so perfect.

Back to Sydney on 8th May, the long journey greatly assisted by Qantas, who treated us superbly. And so ended a wonderful tour that will be long remembered. Thank you, everyone!



Mary Armati of Australia helps Dr James Smart to unpack overseas blooms.

## Camellia Exhibit in London

MALCOLM PHAROAH

Barnstaple, Devon, England

On the occasion of the April 1975 meeting of International Camellia Society members at the Royal Horticultural Socity's hall in London, it was decided to stage an exhibit of camellias in order to gain new members for the Society.

Dr James Smart of Barnstaple, Devon, being the newly-appointed Regional Director of the Society, was asked by the Vice President to arrange it. But what began as an idea for a small exhibit grew and grew, with correspondence from people around the world who were willing to send blooms. In the end, it became a large and truly international display.

As Dr Smart's gardener, I gradually became more and more involved. So, too, did the I.C.S. President, Professor Waterhouse, who at the beginning said he would send flowers from Australia, but who in the end came over for the show, and turned his visit into a six-weeks tour of the gardens of Southern England.

A lot of effort and thought went into arranging the exhibit, which was thirty feet long and seven feet wide.

The hall in which the show was held is a tall building, so something had to be done to give the exhibit height; this was successfully achieved by building two pyramids with sprays of camellias, one comprising *japonica* cultivars and the other hybrids.

Both started with deep pink blooms at the top, gradually fading to white at the bottom.

For ease of arrangement, the thirty-feet length was split into five six-feet lengths. The two outer sections, covered with moss, were boards of wood with regularly-spaced holes holding water-filled containers to accommodate the individual blooms. The boards sloped forty-five degress from front to back, where — to give extra height — sprays of camellia species were arranged.

The two inner sections again had a camellia board at front, covered with moss, and at the back were the pyramid trees of camellia sprays. The middle section had three arragements of camellias on a green velvet background at front with a sloping moss-covered board at the rear, and more camellia species.

The blooms sent from Australia arrived in good condition, and included cultivars 'Harmonius', 'Laurie Bray', 'High Jinks' and 'Debutante'. These were placed on the left side of the exhibit at the top. In front of these were blooms brought from Jersey by Mrs V. Lort-Phillips, which included 'Captain Rawes'. In front of these was the French section brought from Nantes by M. Paul Plantiveau, which consisted very appropriately of 'Ville de Nantes' and 'Adolphe Audusson'.

Alongside these, in front of the *japonica* pyramid tree, were the *higo* camellias sent from Japan by Mr Y. Andoh. Although slightly damaged in transit, they gave a delighful contrast to the larger blooms nearby, and were much admired.

The pyramids were a framework of specially-made boxes to which vases were strapped. This structure was concealed by the sprays when complete. The *japonicas* included 'Sylva', 'Apollo', 'Lady Clare', 'Lady 'Vansittart' and 'Devonia'; the hybrids 'Donation', 'Mary Christian', 'Philippa Forwood', 'Brigadoon' and 'Cornish Snow'. All these blooms were from various outdoor growers in England. Between the trees was the camellia board holding under-glass blooms grown in England and included 'White Nun', 'Julia Hamiter', 'Butterfly Wings', 'Easter Morn' and 'Mrs D. W. Davis'.

On the front of the stand were the three floral arrangements of cultivars with soft colours: 'Berenice Perfection', 'Spring Sonnet' and two of Professor Waterhouse's own raisings, 'Betty Cuthbert' and 'Barbara Mary'.

The right-hand side of the exhibit featured many impressive blooms grown outdoors in the United States of America. These came from many people, including Willard F. Goertz and Colonel Frank Reed from Los Angeles, Ken Hallstone and Dave Feathers from San Francisco, The Camellia Society of Potomac Valley sent by Douglas Deane Hall, and from the National Arboretum Washington, sent by Dr W. L. Ackerman.

Many blooms were recent introductions and much admired, such as 'Nuccio's Ruby', 'Bob Hope', and 'Royalty' together with many favourites of which 'Francie L', 'Commander Mulroy', 'Howard Asper', 'Miss Charleston' and 'Tiffany' were particularly outstanding.

Along the back of the stand were either sprays or plants of species which were both interesting and educational. These included taliensis, granthamiana, hongongensis, tsaii and sinensis.

All flowers, except on the trees, were individually labelled; further labels told where each particular group came from, and whether they were grown out-of-doors or under glass. Because of the sheer size of the exhibit, the labels did not distract attention from the blooms.

Help in staging the exhibit and in collecting and driving the boxes from London Airport to the hall was undertaken by various members of the Society. This proved a major problem, as it was more difficult to get the blooms from the authorities than had been anticipated.

After a day and a half of solid work, it was very rewarding when the Royal Horticultural Society awarded the exhibit their highest award, a gold medal.

YOUR LOCAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY would get great value from International Camellia Society membership . . . for no horticultural society Library is complete without The International Camellia Journal. Show this issue to your Librarian!

7

NAGOYA CAMELLIA SOCIETY (Japan) has set a splendid example of I.C.S. support: Its President, Vice President and Secretary have all become members in the past twelve months! A hearty welcome to Eimei Nagata, Dr Tohji Tomino, and Hiroshige Hayakawa.

## HOW CAMELLIA BLOOMS FLEW FROM CALIFORNIA TO LONDON

**WILLIARD F. GOERTZ** 

San Marino, Calif., U.S.A.

Normally, when the first of April arrives in California, Camellia shows are history and the season is over. For us, this is the time to start vigorous pruning, which included picking off what few flower buds remain, because blooms at this time of year are very soft and of poor quality.

This year our season was extended with some new activity and a definite challenge when a suggestion was received from Director Jimmy Smart of Barnstaple, N. Devon (also from Milton Brown of A.C.S.) to send blooms to the Royal Horticultural Show in London, for a camellia display by the International Camellia Soceity. My first reaction was: "It is too late", but the weather turned cool and I decided to go ahead.

Surveying all of our plants, I found a number of under-developed flower buds which I treated with gibberellic solution. This was done to hasten their maturity, and also to induce best possible texture and lasting qualities. Then the weatherman failed to cooperate, as we had 12 days of almost constant rain, some hail, a few mornings of frost, together with the lowest temperatures ever recorded here in April.

To be sure of having blooms for the TWA flight of Sunday, April 13th, it was necessary to start early looking for unmarked blooms — between showers — and keeping them properly refrigerated. Our camellias are all grown in the open, with no protection from cold, rain, wind and other adverse conditions. I began having perfect condition blooms Sunday April 6th, putting them in air-tight plastic boxes with individual little plastic cups containing a solution of commercial preservative called "Floralife" (contains napthalene acetic acid), to which I added a few drops of gib solution.

Since these blooms were intended for display only, and not for competition, I was fortunate to have the run of Nuccio's Nursery. Being located in the foothills, their weather, however, was even worse than ours, but with their great number of plants I found several friends' gardens and picked a few good ones. The morning of April 13th I had approximately 75 blooms (a majority from our own garden) to choose from. The 34 best ones were selected and packed in the same method as previously described, except with the addition of polyester fiber for cushioning. I chose to send the more recent introductions, including 'Dr Clifford Parks', 'Lasca Beauty', 'Nuccio's Ruby', 'Bob Hope', 'Ming Temple', 'Sandy Sue' and 'Angel Wings', among others. Nuccios also were kind enough to let me send two of their new ones being propagated for future release: 'Pink Frost' and 'Elegans Champagne'.

All 34 blooms were in excellent condition when the six boxes were delivered to Los Angeles International airport — then it was a matter of "Please handle carefully, Right side up, Keep cool, Don't tip" stickers all over the boxes; similar verbal pleading with the TWA people — and then personal thought concentration "Please arrive safely at the R.H.S. in Vincent Square!!"

Other blooms from the Los Angeles area were sent by Col. Frank Reed of Pasadena — his boxes and mine went in the same shipment.

Needless to say, there was a feeling of relief and gratitude when a letter came from Dr Smart ten days later, reporting that our blooms, had along with those from other parts of the world, arrived in fine condition, that the camellia show was a "Gold Medal" success.

#### TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF

## THE OCCASIONAL EXHIBITOR

#### **DR JAMES SMART**

Barnstaple, Devon, England

In the United Kingdom, shows do not form a large part of the Camellia enthusiast's activities. In fact, there are only three in the entire year: the competition at the R.H.S. in Vincent Square in association with the early spring show in March is primarily for Camellias grown under glass; the show in the same place, coinciding with the Spring Flower Show in April is for Camellias grown in the open; while the Spring show of the Cornish Garden Society at Truro has a large Camellia section, this also for Camellias grown in the open.

The problem is to get blooms to the show on time whilst retaining their freshness. As the next show may be twelve months away, it is a slow process to profit by the mistakes of that year, and develop a satisfactory technique; directly one problem has been dealt with, a new difficulty assuredly arises.

I have exhibited at the March show for 5 of the last 7 years and still have more problems than answers. These problems can be divided in two: how to get the blooms to flower on time, and how to transport them over 200 miles without losing condition.

As to the first part, which mainly concerns the March show, I should mention plants are grown in the ground of the greenhouse, not in pots. I will not go into treatment, pruning, feeding, etc, although it is clear that no last-minute treatment can produce fine flowers from an indifferently-grown plant.

Fortunately, the March show is generally at the peak of the flowering season in my part of the country for plants grown under glass, but there is an enormous variation in individual plants. The 'Tiffany' which was in full flower in '74 has only buds on the same date in '75, whilst of other cultivars in full flower in '75 were only in bud in '74. I have found this persisting phenomenon over the years, though applying to different cultivars on other occasions. Further, some cultivars take much longer to develop from bud to full flower than others. 'White Nun' and 'Elsie Jury' I have found very slow, whilst 'Coronation' and some of the *reticulatas* such as 'Ming Temple' are relatively quick.

This makes it difficult to determine, at a given moment before the show, whether it is worth giving added heat to the house. Unless there is one particular cultivar that is more important to time to a certain date than others, I have decided that what you gain on the swings, you lose on the roundabouts (or what you gain on *japonicas*, you lose on *reticulatas*) so I do not interfere.

I never give heat to the greenhouse before mid-January, and then only enough to just keep the frost out. The other indication for raising greenhouse warmth is the prevention or diminution of condensation on delicate blooms as show time approaches. I find that larger white blooms are worst affected . . . such as 'White Nun' and 'Coronation' it is a major challenge to get these to the show without small brown blemishes from condensation. I have aimed at keeping greenhouse temperature constant day and night in the last 2-3 weeks by giving maximum day ventilation then setting the thermostat for a similar night temperature to that reached during the day. With our variable climate, this becomes difficult to control, especially if you get a windy day with sur, then it is impossible to keep full ventilation without wind damage to the blooms, with the result that the temperature inevitably rises and it becomes impracticable to keep the night temperature sufficiently high to prevent condensation.

This year, at the suggestion of my gardener, Malcolm Pharoah, we have tried to produce a micro-climate with protective bags over the blooms and thus, for the first time, got both 'White Nun' and 'Coronation' to the show in perfect condition. A related hazard which affects individual blooms unexpectedly and infuriatingly is the unanticipated leak which shows up in the greenhouse always over your best bloom after a heavy shower of rain.

The usual attention has to be paid to prevent the petals of show blooms contacting leaves, etc, and pegs are used to hold them away, or individual leaves carefully removed; this is started 2-3 weeks before the show, and carried on until the blooms are safely cut. Similar hazard arises from visitors brushing against the bush.

This year, a brand-new hazard cropped up, and I do not know the answer yet; perhaps some reader may have encountered it, and will be kind enough to make suggestions.

This hazard comes from our feathered friends, the little horrors! They have always given me trouble with single williamsii flowers out-of-doors, but this year the small blue tits decided that the greenhouse was a nice place for a feed. They have ruined virtually all single and semi-double blooms by sitting on the lower petals whilst finding the nectar at the base of the stamens: they have pecked out a segment of the stamens and one or two of the petals of smaller flowers, whilst leaving scratch-marks with their claws on lower petals of larger blooms. As the greenhouse is 14 ft high, and has 3 ft windows the full length of the ridge on either side, with two sliding doorways each 10 ft x 6 ft 6 in it has been found impracticable to net the ventilation, especially since it is the small blue tits which do the damage, needing a very small mesh netting.

We therefore tried to spray the greenhouse with bird repellant and in fact did this on more than one occasion, using different brands.

This had the result of only disfiguring the leaves with a dusty deposit for the whole season, whilst leaving the birds free to attack the buds which they did only when the flower opened sufficiently to have grown away from the repellent area. As it is manifestly impossible, because of ventilation and condensation to keep the windows shut, the only remedy appears to be the use of Scaraweb, or stretching black cotton around the greenhouse, or to give up single and semi-double camellias, especially the red ones so popular with the birds.

The second part of my problem is how to get the blooms some 200 miles to London for the show. To those in the United States and elsewhere accustomed to long motorways, I point out that the first part of my journey is through Devon lanes, with all that means in the way of corners and hills!

For individual blooms I use boxes with a thin layer of damp cotton wool covered by soft chopped cellophane. If this layer is too thin, the bloom may move about and be damaged, and also, the cellophane may become damp from the cotton wool and injure the petal. On the other hand, if it is too deep, its natural springiness may bring the flower too near the lid. I have therefore come to use deep wooden boxes, instead of boxes whose top tends to sag. The box is then sealed over with tightly stretched polythene before the lid is closed.

In order to compete on anything like level terms with exhibitors from around London, it is essential to drive through the night to arrive about 07.30 and stage before 10.15. With air-tight boxes, and with the use of Kinetin and Naphthalene Acetic Acid, as used by Col Frank Reed in California, no doubt it would be possible to drive up the day before the show, especially if one could keep the boxes chilled. The formal doubles, full paeonies and some of the singles appear to travel best; the loose paeony, anemone and semi-double forms are the more difficult in my experience.

Before leaving home, one must decide which blooms are to be entered in each class. I find the easiest way is to put a Link-Lok label on every bloom to be picked, the name and number of the class already entered thereon. This is done the afternoon before the show, the label being placed between the bloom and the bloom and the first leaf, thus staying on the flower when picked. Then at night, all flowers with labels are cut without further checking.

Sprays of blooms are even more difficult. In the March show, there are a number of classes involving sprays, twelve of which wold be necessary to enter in all classes. I have found the best transport is a deep wooden box, the same as for individual blooms, but in addition, to support the individual flower on a cushion of soft material, chopped cellophane or tissue. It is much easier if a spray can be found with all blooms facing the same way.

I cannot pretend to know the answers but certainly lay claim to a knowledge of the problems and can bear witness to the trials and tributions of the occasional exhibitor. Perhaps they might become less if I had to tackle the job every Saturday through the season. Perish the thought!



David Feathers (right of centre) welcomes travellers to Camellia Lane, Lafayette, California.

## Australians tour U.S.A. Camellia Country

42 Australians and 2 New Zealanders toured American camellia territory last January (1975), and attended the annual Convention of the American Camellia Society at Pensacola, Florida.

It was the largest overseas contingent ever to participate in that important American get-together of camellia enthusiasts. The touring party, appropriately code-named "Project Pensacola", was led by Australian Regional Director Eric Craig, and included Camellians from New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria. The New Zealanders, Peggie Lamb and Bonnie Redpath, were both from Christchurch.

"Project Pensacola" was motivated by the news that Mr William Kemp, a member of the American group which visited Australia for the 1973 International Camellia Congress, had been elected President of the American Camellia Society shortly thereafter. Mr Kemp, in his presidential address at Pensacola, gave an extremely warm welcome to the Antipodeans.

In expressing thanks for the overwhelming hospitality they were receiving, Eric Craig conveyed to the Assembly the personal greetings of the Professor E. G. Waterhouse, President of the International Camellia Society. The Professor's message said that "as an old-stager approaching 94 years of age, I can tell you that camellias are conducive to longevity. They are sane and sound and healthy and beautiful. They promote harmony and friendship and international understanding. I use the words of Robert Browning to express my wish to you all: 'Grow old along with me; the best is yet to be'.''

On behalf of the Australian Camellia Research Society, Harry Churchland (President of the New South Wales Foundation branch) presented the American Camellia Society with an unusual silver trophy. It was hoped, said Mr Churchland, that the trophy could be awarded at the A.C.S. Convention each year for the best camellia of Australian origin exhibited at the concurrent Show.



Another happy-talk occasion at Lafayette. From left: Bill Nielsen (South Australia), Ken Hallstone (Lafayette), Harry Churchland (New South Wales), John Nicholls (Menlo Park, Cal.).



The gracious welcome to Georgia at the Massee Lane barn: Fort Valley's Robert Lanyon, Lea Dettmann (New South Wales), Anne-Marie Lanyon and Tim Dettmann.

Mr Milton Brown, Executive Secretary of the A.C.S., said that the tray would be displayed at Massee Lane headquarters, and the name of each year's winner of the Australian Award would be engraved thereon. The Australian Camellia Research Society's emblem — the Paul Jones drawing of C. 'Margaret Waterhouse' — graces the central part of the trophy, while a superb Australian Opal is embedded in the tray immediately beneath the camellia.

In addition to the 200 or more American Camellians they were able to meet at Pensacola, the tourists made many new friends in the course of their stopovers at San Francisco, New Orleans, Fort Valley, Savannah, Charleston, Goldsboro N.C., Washington D.C., Los Angeles and Honolulu.

Fort Valley people actually accommodated the entire group of 44 in their homes . . . an act of kindness that evoked the most heartfelt gratitude.



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#### Lifting tree for exhibition, root-ball secure in basket

## GROWING CAMELLIAS IN WIRE BASKETS

R. A. R. TRY Windsor, England

Over 20 years ago I made my first wire basket. My garden adjoins Windsor Forest and so I am pestered with moles. I cultivated and planted out camellia seedlings and cuttings (scions) so the moles moved in and tipped them out of the ground. I was using wire netting to keep out the rabbits — they enjoy young succulent growth. It occurred to me that planting in a container, made of this wire, would not only fool the moles but permit the roots to grow out naturally. Little watering would be necessary. With pots and other containers much water is required.

On many occasions I have exhibited large specimen camellia trees at the R.H.S. in Vincent Square, London. These are lifted in the basket from the ground with no damage to the root ball, and placed in a sheet of polythene to maintain moisture. Weight is minimum and no breaking pots.

Baskets are easily constructed in various sizes. Wire netting is made in various widths. For a medium size basket obtain netting 2 ft wide. Cut along the centre with wire cutters, giving lengths 1 ft wide, with one prepared edge and one loose edge left by the cut. Cut a length about 3 ft, fold over in the form of a tube with about 2 inch overlap, and fasten together with the loose wire ends.

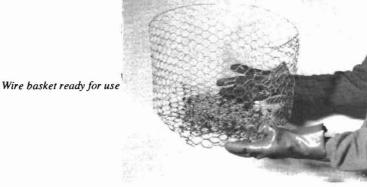
Make a number of cuts from the bottom (about 6 in) and fold under to form the bottom of the basket, using the wire ends to clip it together.

This is a very substantial container about 6 inches deep 12 inch diameter. I use both  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and 1 inch mesh.

To basket a plant, excavate a hole about 6 inches deep (do not cultivate deeper) and 2 to 3 ft across. Place basket in centre, set plant in basket, and fill basket and hole with your favourite compost. Roots grow through the wire into surrounding compost, not becoming root bound as in a pot or other container.

Alternatively the basket can be placed directly on the ground — paved or cement area. Provide a suitable surround bricks, stone, logs — and fill with compost. Wooden tubs and containers can be used for special display, as a plant established in a wire basket can be transplanted at will. After blooming, roots can be pruned. This reduces growth but encourages budding.

Camellia trees 10 ft high, 15-20 years old, are now being transplanted. The wire baskets are still in good condition, hold the root ball securely, and provide a grip for lifting.



Root-ball in basket, as lifted from garden



Root pruning reduces growth but encourages budding



Placing basket into tub for exhibition



Photographs by Kingsley Jones of Windsor

## ITALY'S ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CAMELLIA SHOW

#### DR ANTONIO SEVESI Milan, Italy

The Show was to have been held between the 5th and 13th April. Unfortunately, extremely unfavourable meteorological conditions had delayed flowering to such an extent that on April 10th the 800 plants to be exhibited showed very few flowers. Accordingly it was decided to postpone the exhibition till April 20. It proved an immense success and was seen by about fifteen thousand people.

The International Camellia Show, which originated at Cannero, Riviera, and is normally held there, was transferred on this exceptional occasion to the Brissago Islands in Switzerland. This was in order to meet the wishes of a group or horticultural enthusiasts of the Ticino Canton, who desired in this way to celebrate the 25th year of the islands' union with the Canton.

The Show was divided into 5 main sections viz:

- 1. Exhibition of plants
- 2. Exhibition of blooms
- 3. Exhibition of stamps representing camellias
- 4. Exhibition of books on camellias
- 5. Exhibition of Watercolours of camellias

Before describing the show, it is opportune to draw attention to the arduous preparation required, particularly in the exhibition of plants. There was the problem of transporting the plants over the lake to the islands. Things were complicated on the Italian side by bureaucratic Customs requirements, and on the Swiss side violent and sudden snowstorms blocked the roads.

For the 600 plants brought by the Italians, a ferry was used which normally transports motor cars from Laveno to Intra. There were customs formalities and loading and unloading regulations to comply with, but thanks to the collaboration of all, the plants were transported without a hitch. For the Swiss plants a large barge was used. One exhibitor had his plants in a locality blocked by snow and hence had to use a helicopter.



Vehicular ferry used to transport 600 camellia plants to the Brissago Islands in Switzerland



Aboard the ferry ... preparing to unload the Italian camellias for the Brissago islands' Exhibition

## XI MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE DELLA CAMELIA

DOTT. ING. A. SEVESI

Milano, Italia.

La Mostra avrebbe dovuto svolgersi fra il 5 ed il 13 aprile. Purtroppo le sfavoresvolissime condizioni metereologiche hanno notevolmente compromesso l'andamento della fioritura, per cui il giorno 10 aprile le 800 piante esposte presentavano pochissimi fiori sbocciati. E' stato quindi deciso di prorogare l'esposizione fino al 20 aprile. Il successo e stato enorme ed i visitatori furono circa 15.000. Ma andiamo con ordine.

La "Mostra Internazionale della Camelia" che e nata a Cannero Riviera e che in tale localita normalmente ha luogo, si e svolta eccezzionalmente alle isole di Brissago (Svizzera). Questo per aderire al desirderio di un gruppo di appassionati di floricultori del Canton Ticino che volevano con questa manifestazinone festeggiare il 25° anno di appartenenza delle isole stesse al Cantone.

La mostra era articolata in 5 sezioni principali e precisamente:

- 1. Mostra delle piante.
- 2. Mostra dei fiori recisi.
- 3. Mostra di francobolli rappresentanti camelie.
- 4. Mostra di libri sulle camelie.
- 5. Mostra di acquerelli di camelie.

Prime di descrivere la mostra e opportuno fare un cenno sulla laboriosa preparazione richiesta in paticolare dalla monstra delle piante. Si presentava il problema del trasporto per via lago dato che alle isole non si poteva accedere diversamente.

A complicare ulteriormente le cose contribuiva; per le camelie italiane, la necessita di sbrigare le pratiche burocratiche doganali e per le camelie svizzere, che vennero portate piu tardi sul posto, le violente improvvise nevicate che hanno bloccato le strade.



Mostra della piante — una zona della la isola e coperta con un alto strato di torba



Mostra di fiori camelie — sugli stessi dei vasetti cubici di ceramica contenenti oasis

Despite all this a total of about 800 camellia plants were displayed.

The other sections of the show were exhibited in the palace which dominates the largest island. These exhibitions were brilliantly organised by Mrs Mary Caroni, who made use of the show cases that were already there.

**Exhibition of Plants:** Never in the world has such a large number of camellia plants been concentrated in a Camellia Show. An area of the island was reserved for this purpose and was covered with a layer of peat, and separated from the garden beds by trunks of trees. It was a particularly attractive sight, especially in the last week when flowering was at its peak.

It would take a long time to list the names of exhibitors and of the varieties of camellias shown. Sufficient to know that there were 9 Swiss exhibitors and 20 Italian and that there were about 60 varieties. There were many plants of great size.

**Exhibition of Camellia blooms:** These were displayed in a room in which there were tables covered with jute, and on the tables little cubical ceramic vases for the flowers.

There were 8 Swiss exhibitors and 3 Italian. About 200 varieties were exhibited. Amongst them a dozen *reticulata* varieties stood out. These are very rare in Europe.

Exhibition of Stamps representing Camellias: Mr Jean Louis Nagel showed his complete collection of stamps and objects depicting camellias.

In particular there were illustrations of the tea plant, and a few small tea plants were also exhibited.

Exhibition of books: A complete set of the "Notiziario della Societa Italiana della Camelia" and of the "American Camellia Yearbook" were exhibited, and in addition books on Camellias and photographs of frontpieces in books on Camellias. This exhibition was completed with examples such as the variety 'Vergine di Collebeato' and beneath it a book giving the original description of the variety.

Exhibition of Watercolours: The Swiss painter Anne Marie Treschlin showed about forty watercolours throwing into relief even the smallest details of camellia varieties, even of those that are little known. The artists' finesse of execution shows that she has deep botanical knowledge which enables her to reproduce faithfully, as well as the flower, the stalks, branches and especially the leaves — which although different from variety to variety, are often depicted as being identical.

In one room there were exhibited watercolours by the Swiss artist Varena Knobel. These were very decorative, although executed in a different style.

All in all, the 11th Exhibition of Camellias gave visible testimony of the progress made in cultivating and publicising camellias in Italy and in the Ticino Canton, especially on the shores of Lago Maggiore.

Visitors were extremely impressed by the show, and supported the appreciation of the Camellia as a flower and as a plant worthy of prominence in a garden.

The Italian Camellia Society, heartened by the pronounced success of the Show, feels greatly encouraged to continue the work it has undertaken of promoting a greater distribution of Camellias in Italy.

Per le 600 piante portate dagli italiani venne utilizzato un traghetto che normalmente fa servizio di trasporto di automobili fra Laveno ed Intra. Naturalmente si sono dovuti usare degli artifici per attraccare il traghetto sia a Luino, per le operazioni doganali, sia alle isole di Brissago per lo scarico ed il successivo carico. In ogni modo questo trasporto eccezzionale grazie alla collaborazione di tutti e riuscito molto bene.

Per le piante trasportate dagli espositori svizzeri e stata usata una grossa barca. Detta operazione e stata facilitata perche la grossa barca era evidentemente piu maneggevole. Un espositore aveve le camelie in una localita bloccata dalla neve e quindi inaccessibile. Per portare queste piante fu necessario utilizzare un elicottero.

In ogni modo sul posta sono state sistemate in totale circa 800 piante di camelia.

Le altre sezioni della mostra furono sistemate nel palazzo che domina l'isola piu grande. Dette mostra sono state curate dalla signora Mary Caroni, utilizzando le vetrine gia esistenti, in modo esemplare.

Mostra della piante. Mai, risulta, erano state nel mondo concentrate piante in così grande numero per una mostra di camelie. Una zona della isola e stata riservata a questa rassegna, coperta con un alto strato di torba e le aiuole delimitate con tronchi di alberi. L'aspetto era particolarmente attraente. In modo particolare l'ultima settimana quando la fioritura fu completa.

Lungo sarebbe elencare il nome degli espositori e del le piante esposte. Basta sapere: che erano presenti 9 espositori svizzeri e 20 espositori italiani e che le varieta esposte erano circa una sessantina. Molte erano le piante di grandi dimensioni.

Mostra di fiori recisi. Fu sistemata in una sala, nella quale vi erano dei tavoli coperti di juta e sugli stessi dei vasetti cubici di ceramica contenenti oasis nel quale venivano impiantati i fiori.

Gli espositori svizzeri erano 8 e gli espositori italiani 3.

Le varieta esposte erano circa 200. Facevano spicco una decina di varieta di reticulata che sono molto poco diffuse in Europa.

Mostra di francobolli rappresentanti camelie. Il signor Jean Louis Nagel ha esposto la sua completissima collezione di francobolli e di annulli riguardanti le camelie. Vi erano particolarmente illustrate le piante del te anche con la esposizione di alcune piantine ed illustrazioni.

Mostra di libri. Era esposta la collezione completa dei "Notiziari della Societa Italiana della Camelia" e la collezione completa della "American Camellia Yearbook" inoltre libri sulle camelie e fotografie di frontespizi di libri sulle camelie. Anche questa mostra era completata con esempi come una camelia della varieta 'Vergine di Collebeato' con lo sfondo di un libro che descriveva la stessa.

Mostra di acquerelli. La pittrice svizzera Anne Marie Treschlin presentava una quarantina di acquerelli che mettevano in risalto anche i piu piccoli dettagli di varieta di camelie anche poco conosciute. La finezza della escuzione denota nella pittrice una profonda conoscenza botanica che le permette di riprodurre fedelmente oltre al fiore anche gli steli, i rami e specialmente le foglie che pur essen do molto differenti fra le diverse varieta vengono spesso dipinte tutte uguali.

In una sala vi erano esposti gli acquerelli della pittrice svizzera Varena Knobel, pure molto decorativi, sebbene eseguiti con uno stile diverso.

In complesso la "XI Mostra Internazionale della Camelia" ha dato una testimonianza visiva del progresso nella diffusione e nella coltivazione della camelia in Italia e nel Canton Ticino. Specialmente sulle sponde del lago Maggiore.

Le impressioni raccolte fra i visitatori, sono state estremamente favorevoli ad un rilancio della camelia quale fiore e pianta da inserire nei giardini in posti preminenti. La "Societa Italiana della Camelia" dal caldissimo successo conseguito ricevera un ulteriore incoraggiamento a proseguie nel la via intrappresa per una sempre maggiore diffusione delle camelie in Italia.

"The Show's the Thing" in U.S.A.



Judging at the annual Show of The Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley, Washington D.C.: Carroll T. Moon of Columbia, S.C., Mrs Lewis (Mary) Knock of Salemburg N.C., I.C.S. Director Douglas Deane Hall, and J. S. Howard of Salemburg N.C.

MILTON H. BROWN Executive Secretary, American Camellia Society

Camellia shows play an important role in "the camellia world" in the United States of America. It may come as a surprise to many, but the first camellia show was not in the South or in California — it was in Boston, Mass., where camellia shows started in 1839 by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society continue each January. Camellias in this show in the past were plants in tubs, and not individual blooms. The first camellia show, more or less like those held today, was held in Sacramento, California in 1924. There was a revival of interest in camellias and what is touted as "the First Public Camellia Show" was held in Macon, Georgia on February 5, 1932 which was followed by the start of the Azalea and Camellia Society of America, the forerunner of the A.C.S.

One of the first acts of the newly formed American Camellia Society in 1945 was the establishment of camellia shows by local clubs, and which were recognized as being held in cooperation with the ACS. The up-dated detailed "rules and regulations" for such cooperative shows is covered in The American Camellia Yearbook 1972.

In the camellia shows, held throughout the country, camellias are exhibited as individual blooms and classified according to the accepted nomenclature. There are separate classes for *japonicas*, sasanquas (in fall shows only, of course), reticulatas and hybrids with reticulata parentage, hybrids with no reticulata parentage, and seedlings in each of these categories. More shows are now also including a separate section for mutants or sports.

Show kits are mailed to local clubs by the ACS office when requested. There is a fee of \$10.00 to cover costs of printing and handling the various types of official ACS certificates for each of the categories — including certificates for Honor Table Awards, Sweepstakes and Sweepstakes Runner-ups. Also, information and publication for promoting membership in the ACS is furnished.





There are few absolutes levied on local clubs by the ACS; the widest possible lattitude is granted to the clubs, with the ACS more an adviser than "dictator". There must, of course, be fully accredited judges — at least two-thirds of the judges must be accredited. Clubs are encouraged to include novice judges as well, so they can complete the required amount of judging to become accredited. The other few "musts" are covered in the 1972 Yearbook.

Each flower is judged against perfection in its own class. Indeed, if only one flower of a particular variety is shown, it can win a blue ribbon (first place); if not a perfect bloom it could be awarded a red ribbon (second place) or a yellow ribbon (third place), or be adjudged not worthy of any award. As the judges — usually in teams of three — are judging, they send to the Head Table those blooms that merit consideration for Best-in-Show, Best Large, Best Miniature, Best Reticulata, Best Hybrid, etc. When the treams are finished with the individual blooms, the Chairman of Judges then directs the manner in which the top awards are to be given. The number of such winners is based on the Show Schedule, and varies from one show to another. Some shows might have an award for Best White, Best 'VILLE DE NANTES', Best Bloom of Australian Parentage, etc. See photo of Mr & Mrs Harry Churchland presenting the Australian Trophy to its first winner, Dr & Mrs Harry T. Moore Jr., at the Pensacola ACS meeting.

Judging can also be tiresome, as seen in the picture of one judging team where the two ladies decided to be comfortable by removing their shoes. It also can be "pleasurable" as noted in photo page 34. Awards, other than ribbons, range from silver bowls or salvers, porcelain Boehm edition of 'BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME', to other procelain pieces, or the rare Clara Maria Pope prints of camellias being sold by the ACS.





4

35

A part of Cooperative ACS Shows ever since 1948 has been the Artistic Arrangements section. Each spring the Arrangements Chairman published in the Camellia Journal the schedule for the year. Photos of local show winners are then sent to the ACS to compete in a national contest. Winners receive ACS membership, or the current edition of the Yearbook, with the two top national winners being awarded an engraved silver trophy. Photo 4 shows the national winner from a class named "The French Alliance" in the 1974-75 show season. Pictures of the national winners are an integral part of the ACS Yearbook.

Camellia shows run the gamut of a simple local show with blooms — and perhaps sr \_\_ys of sasanquas in the fall — to elaborate presentations. The annual show in Slidell, La. is a fine example. In 1974 the Queen was crowned by the Executive Secretary; in addition to her Consort (see Photo 3) there was a Court of some 40 Princesses, Dukes, Pages and Court of Honor Attendants. Details and a colour photo in the May 1975 issue of **The Camellia Journal**.

During the 1974-1975 camellia season there were probably some 80 shows. Of these 70 were held in cooperation with the ACS. According to their reports, approximately 300,900 people viewed approximately 95,000 camellia blooms, hundreds of artistic arrangements and educational exhibits. The latter ranged from pre-recorded TV programs in Pensacola, to exhibits of grafting, rooting, etc. and a display at the U.S. National Arboretum of foliage sprays of more than 20 various camellia species. The ACS obtained 288 new members as a result of the hard work of the local ACS Booths.

To paraphrase one of William Shakespeare's widely known phrases: "The Show's the thing" to catch the interest of gardeners in camellias!!!



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# THE FASCINATION

# OF RETICULATA HYBRIDS

**JAY W. ELLIS** 

Keystone Heights, Florida, U.S.A.

Reticulatas and reticulata hybrids, which I will refer to simply as "retics", for brevity, have been gaining in quality and popularity at a resounding rate in recent years. The best are yet to come, and I believe strongly that retics will be hailed as the leaders of the camellia field in the future. While they prosper in California, New Zealand and Australia, and in varying degrees elsewhere when grown under protection in greenhouses, they presently are far more difficult outdoors in the southeastern region of the United States, where we reside.

Doris and I are truly fascinated with retics. We are resolved that we will learn how to grow them successfully, and to determine those presently known and future varieties that will fare well under our climatic conditions.

Our first retic plants, two 'Purple Gowns', were acquired in 1952. They promptly died, as did our interest. A few years later, after enviously observing the beautiful retic blooms beginning to appear in camellia shows, we started again, still without much success.

We learned that our container planting mixture was too heavy; that we watered and fertilized excessively; and that the use of drainage material in the bottom of containers tended to cause waterlogging, with a resultant rotting of the root system.

We adjusted the planting mixture to a lighter and more porous formula, and decreased the watering by approximately one-third. The "slow release" fertilizer concept, where the ingredients are metered slowly into the soil over a period of 8 to 9 months, appealed to us. We commenced using the 18-6-12 formula during 1973, one application per year as a top-dressing. At this time we also applied dolomitic lime, one heaping tablespoon per gallon of soil in the container.

Simultaneously, we began to incorporate the slow-release fertilizer in our potting mixture a few days prior to actual use of the soil, 8 pounds per cubic yard. As each plant needed repotting, we replaced the old soil, eliminated the drainage material and added additional lime. Improvement in the general condition and growth of the plants became obvious within a few months. It appears that a soil ph reading of about 6.4 appeals to our plants, and that they need more calcium than was previously available to them.

During 1974 we fed the retics planted in the ground with approximately 8 ounces of 18-6-12, and a cupful of dolomite to a 3 year grafted plant, other sizes proportionately. Improvement was again obvious, and we plan to continue such feeding annually, unless we find something better!

In spite of the encouraging results, dieback of occasional limbs, new foliage shoots and leaf buds on the trunks and larger limbs still occurs, and is our major problem. This condition is prevalent throughout the lower south in retic plantings, particularly those outdoors, with the result that only a minor percentage of camellia enthusiasts try to grow them.

During April and May 1973, the time of retic leaf fall in this area, we sprayed the plants 3 times with a solution of 1 tablespoon of Benlate (benomyl) fungicide per gallon of water, with negligible results. In 1974 we made a similar spraying using 1 teaspoon each of Benlate and Cyprex (dodine 65%) per gallon of water, and commencing early in March. The results appeared

slightly better but were inconclusive. During February and March 1975 we made 2 soil application of griseofulvin, 125 mg per gallon of soil, 6 weeks apart, with the chemical placed about one inch below the soil surface. Only 3½ months have elapsed since the first application, so it is too early to assess the results. No one can say we are not trying!

Our limited experience with fungicides to combat dieback indicates external applications have little value, although they may deter the initial invasion of the fungus spores through the wounds caused by leaf drop, if applied with considerable and monotonous regularity. Therefore the answer, when found, may be an internal, systemic type treatment.

We have heard that an Australian plant pathologist has used the fungicide thiabendazole with promising results. (See following article.)

Another solution may be the determination of existing retic varieties that are resistant to dieback, and the development of new crosses that are not susceptible. The latter course may be overly optimistic, but are not all hybridizers and camellia growers optimists? One amateur hybridizer we know developed several good crosses of 'Cornelian' x 'Mrs D. W. Davis' a few years ago. The plants successfully withstood a long hard freeze, with temperatures as low as 15°F; and several 2 year grafts of these crosses have exhibited no dieback symptoms in the 'deep south' to date. The future progress of these varieties, and of the further crosses and crossbacks, therefrom, will be watched by this observer with the utmost hope and anticipation!

An eminent professional plant breeder has made several hundred successful sasanqua x reticulata crosses in recent years, in the quest for extreme cold hardiness. Such hybrids may also be early blooming and more sun tolerant than those known today, traits that will be most welcome to retic enthusiasts.

Some day, a number of reticulata hybrids with show flower qualities, built-in cold and sun resistance, early blooming characteristics and dieback immunity will surely appear on the scene. Can you wonder that Doris and I are so thoroughly fascinated with retics?

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# FUNGICIDAL CONTROL OF CAMELLIA DIEBACK\*

A. L. BERTUS

Biological and Chemical Research Institute, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Rydalmere, N.S.W., Australia

### SUMMARY

Five fungicides, benomyl, captafol, griseofulvin, thiabendazole and thiophanate-methyl, were tested as soil drenches for the control of *Glomerella cingulata* dieback of camellia. The three systemic benzimidazole compounds all controlled the disease; thiabendazole also stimulated plant growth.

Dieback caused by Glomerella cingulata (Stone) Spauld. and von Schrenk (Colletotrichum gloeosporioides Penz.) (Davis and Pirone, 1941; Baxter and Plakidas, 1954) is common in New South Wales in cultivars of the Camellia japonica group. Some are seriously affected and plants often die.

In a preliminary trial on fungicidal control of this disease (Bertus, 1970), benomyl, captafol and griseofulvin were used as soil drenches or foliar sprays and, although none these fungicides completely controlled the disease, soil drenching with benomyl gave some control. The results of a second trial with these fungicides, thiabendazole and thiophanate-methyl are fendited below.

# **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Rooted cuttings of the highly susceptible *japonica* cultivar Donation were potted individually in 5-inch plastic pots containing a 3:1 peat: sand potting mixture. Each cubic metre of potting mixture contained 995 g superphosphate, 593 g hoof and horn, 99.5 g potassium sulphate, 99.5 magnesium carbonate, 74 g potassium nitrate and 49.7 g 'Ess-Min-El'. No other fertilizers were added during the experiment.

The fungicides tested were benomyl, captafol, griseofulvin, thiophanate-methyl and thiabendazole the first four were wettable powders and thiabendazole was in the form of an emulsifiable concentrate. Twenty-two plants were treated with each fungicide; 150 ml of an aqueous suspension containing 750 ppm active ingredient were applied to each pot as a soil drench. This concentration approximates to a commonly used rate of fungicide application. Twenty-two untreated plants were maintained as controls. Fungicidal treatment was repeated 14 times at four-weekly intervals.

One week after the second application, two pruning cuts were made on each plant and a suspension of mycelium and conidia from a 21-day-old culture of the fungus growing on potato dextrose agar was brushed on the cut surfaces. The fungus was isolated from a naturally-infected plant.

Symptoms were recorded at the time of each application and two days after the final one the heights of all plants treated with benomyl, thiabendazole or thiophanate-methyl were measured; leaves were removed, weighed fresh and analysed, and the root systems were examined.

#### RESULTS

None of the plants treated with benomyl, thiabendazole or thiophanate-methyl showed symptoms of disease (Table 1). Between the fourth and fifth of the four-weekly applications

TABLE 1
Fungicidal control of camellia dieback after one year
(22 plants per treatment)

Treatment	Number of plants with dieback	Number of dead plants
Benomyl		0
Captafol	· 7	12
Griseofulvin	4	17
Thiabendazole	0	0
Thiophanate-methyl	0	0
Control	1	20

some of the plants treated with captafol or griseofulvin and untreated plants began to show diaback symptoms and eventually died. At the time of the seventh application all thiabendazole-treated plants were more vigorous and had foliage of a deeper green than other apparently healthy plants. This had become even more evident at the time of the final application.

There were no significant differences in plant heights and no obvious differences in the root systems of plants treated with benomyl (B(, thiabendazole (TB) or thiophanate-methyl (TM). Leaf fresh weight was greater with thiabendazole than with the other two treatments, viz. TB 16.1, TM 7.7, B 7.1 g (L.S.D. = 6.5, P = 0.05). The percentage nitrogen contents of leaves were TB 1.62, TM 0.86 and B 1.08 (dry matter basis). Phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, sodium, copper and zinc were also increased by thiabendazole treatment, but potassium and manganese were reduced.

Control was thus effective with monthly soil drench treatments with any of the three systemic fungicides, benomyl, thiabendazole or thiophanate-methyl. The apparent stimulatory effect on growth of thiabendazole was reflected in the fresh weights of leaves and in the results of the leaf analyses.

It is known that benomyl possesses cytokinenin-like activity, and beneficial side effects, such as increased shoot vigour, following its use on grape-vines, have been attributed to this characteristic (Skene, 1972). Although benomyl, thiabendazole and thiophanate-methyl are all benzzimidazole compounds, in this experiment only thiabendazole showed stimulatory effects on camellia plants and thus appears to be the most suitable fungicide for the control of camellia dieback.

Thanks are due to Camellia Grove Pty. Ltd. for donating the plants used in this experiment, to Mr R. Weir for the chemical analyses and to Mrs J. Wood for technical assistance.

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# ARE THEY IDENTICAL?

E. G. WATERHOUSE

Gordon, N.S.W., Australia

# 'Blood of China' and 'Crusselle'?

In the *International Camellia Journal No. 6*, 1974, p.50, the question was raised whether the above two camellias are identical. The following information from members provides us with the definite answer that they are two separate varieties:

Mrs Robert Edward Hodgson, 1166 Oxford Rd., N.E., Atlanta, Georgia writes: "Mr T. A. Crusselle tells me that back in 1954 or 1957, Forrest Park Nursery near Atlanta bought 500 seeds from a nurseryman in France. The camellia 'Crusselle' was grown from one of these. Everyone here says there is a distinct difference between 'Crusselle' and 'Blood of China'. Mr Crusselle says he has both plants and they are quite different, one being bright red, the other more of an orange-red."

Mrs Francis L. Edmondson, 2640 Mabry Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia write: "Mr Crusselle says that 'Crusselle' came from a batch of seeds imported from Dardanella, France. Tom and I agree about the differing characteristics. My 'Crusselle' is about 12 ft high, and yes, the foliage is almost identical to 'Blood of China', yet occasionally the leaves are a great deal larger. The flowers of 'Crusselle' are a brighter but lighter red, more ruffly, stamens slightly more dispersed, and more petals. 'Crusselle' also has a slight fragrance. Mr Crusselle says that upon entering his glasshouse, the fragrance is quite noticeable.

"Mr D. W. Doak, first President of the North Georgia Society, and instrumental in naming this variety had 'Blood of China' (syn. "Victor Emanuel") and 'Crusselle' growing almost side by side, and never dreamt of them being considered the same. Dave Strother was also of the same opinion that they are separate and distinct varieties."

# 'Jean Lyne' and 'Mrs William Beckman'?

Leslie Riggall, Quinta de Curvos, Farjaes, Esponende, Portugal, writes: "By sheer coincidence I happen to grow camellias 'Jean Lyne' and 'Mrs William Beckman' side by side, and have been surprised to find that they cannot be distinguished from each other, neither in flower, leaf, nor growth. The inference is that the American camellia is really 'Jean Lyne'. As your flowering season is now current, could you investigate this by comparing the two, assuming that both varieties are growing in Australia?"

Our Comment: 'Jean Lyne' was first listed in Australia by Hazlewood in 1941, "Large semi-double with pink stripes." The first publication of 'Mrs William Beckman' was in 1952. 'Jean Lyne' certainly came first. Whether it reached America by 1952 and was renamed there is extremely doubtful. It did reach America, as William Wylam reports having flowered it (A.C.S. Yearbook 1952, p.12). 'Mrs William Beckman, is described in the A.C.S. Yearbook 1952, p.4 as a "Tricolor seedling from Mrs Edinger's Rosebud Farm, sixteen miles south of Sacramento. A semi-double white, lightly variegated with red. It resembles 'Finlandia Variegated'. Solid pink sports of the variety have been reported."

This is so circumstantial that there seems no doubt 'Jean Lyne' and 'Mrs William Beckman' are separate, but closely similar varieties. 'Mrs William Beckman' does not seem to be known in Australia.

# **IMPORTANT NOTES FOR 1977:**

March 19-20

American Camellia Society show at Modesto, California

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Paris, Carquefou 44470, France

# C. transnokoensis, HAYATA 1919

TOM SAVIGE

Wirlinga, N.S.W., Australia

This species has been placed by J. R. Sealey in the section Theopsis, which consists largely of small-leafed shrubby plants. Other members of the section already in Australian gardens include C. lutchuensis, C. cuspidata, C. fraterna, C. tsaii, C. maliflora and C. rosaeflora. The species C. transnokoensis forms a shrub or small tree up to 5 metres high with slender twiggy growth; the new growth in finely villose at first, becoming glabrous as the bark exfoliates, reddish-brown; older branches becoming roughened and greyish. Leaves shortly stalked, lanceolate-elliptic, averaging, 4 cm long and 1.7 cm wide; apex bluntly acuminate; base broadly acute, thinly leathery, dark green above with raised venation; midrib minutely hirsute, midgreen below; lower midrib sparsely villose, sometimes glabrous; venation suppressed; margins crenulate-serrate. Petioles, 3-5 mm long, finely pointed, reddish, glabrous; flowers shortly pedicellate; pedicel and calyx 6 mm long, glabrous; pedicel 2.5 mm long, thickening upwards, with 3 overlapping triangular bracteoles; sepals 5, widely triangular, reddish edges, 3 mm long, occasionally slightly ciliolate. Corolla 2.5 cm diameter, campanulate, white, consisting of 6 petals, the inner 3 large obovate, creped, reflexed; outer-most small, pointed, pink flushed on back. Petals united with androecium at base. Androecium glabrous, 1.7 long, filaments white, united for half their length forming a fleshy tube; anthers yellow, darkening with age. Gynoecium glabrous 20 mm long; ovary 2 mm high; style 17 mm long divided at apex for 4 mm into 3, occasionally 4 arms. The flowers form singly in leaf axis and in pairs at tips of new growth.

The material in Australia is derived from a single clone imported from Nuccio's Nursery in California, and could be expected to illustrate only one form, and not exhibit the variations which would be found in material collected in the wild.

There has been doubt expressed that this particular material is, in fact, the true species C. transnokoensis. Both C. transarisanensis and C. nokoensis have been given as possibilities. However it clearly is not C. nokoensis, as its filaments are not villose, the style is divided and flower larger, as well as a number of other points of difference. While it is very close to C. transarisanensis, its evident pedicel and glabrous bracteoles set it apart. The slight differences between it and the description of the type material in A Revision of the Genus Camellia by J. Robert Sealy could well come within the range of variation that could be expected from such a species, and it is evident that this clone is derived from the species Camellia transnokoensis.

This species is a native of Formosa, where it has been described as common in forest at 6000 to 9000 feet, and was first described by the Japanese botanist Hayata in 1919 from material collected in March 1918.

It both grafts and strikes readily, and while it has no evident characteristics of value in hybridising, this has yet to be checked out.



# Camellia transnokoensis

- A. Twig showing leaves, flower and buds. Illustration reproduced at two-thirds actual size.
  B. Calyx ad Style X 2
  C. Leaf serrations X 2
  D. Flower two-thirds size, side view, showing typical petal reflex.

# Classification of Camellia Hybrids by Collective Epithets

**TOM SAVIGE** 

Wirlinga, N.S.W., Australia

With the realisation that most camellia species will hybridise, one with the other, there has occurred a veritable flood of interspecific hybrids, in some cases already involving up to four species.

In an effort to bring some order to this mass of material, it is proposed that the botanical "Collective Epithet" be used to designate each important group of material.

The International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants 1969 sets out rules for designating such collective names for interspecific and intergeneric hybrids and their derivatives. The CODE lists three types of designations:

- 1. By formula: This is the method commonly used, consisting of the names of the parent species concerned, connected by the multiplication sign. Normally, in this case, the seed parent is always listed first, if known. However, when used as a collective epithet encompassing all derivative crosses, wich includes crosses both ways, the listing is in alphabetical order, e.g. Camellia cuspidata x Camellia fraterna.
- 2. By botanical name: This consists of the generic name followed by a latin collective epithet, preceded by the multiplication sign, e.g. Camellia x williamsii.
- 3. By collective epithet in modern language, and consisting of not more than three words, e.g. *Camellia* x (Asper Hybrids).

The code goes on to say that the brackets may be omitted, and where the status of the collective epithet is clear, the word indicating the collective nature of the unit may be discarded. Therefore, we can use the simpler form: Camellia x Asper Hybrids.

There are already a number of collective epithets for camellia hybrids in use, and the same rules of validity associated with prior naming apply here, as well as for varietal names.

In extending the existing collective names to cover the increasing number of hybrid groups, some form of ground rules seem desirable to prevent confusion and duplication. The following basic guide lines are suggested:

- 1. That, until a particular hybrid combination and its derivatives become of horticultural importance, (i.e. have named cultivars) they remain designated by formula.
- 2. Latin collective epithets may be used only to honour workers in the scientific disciplines.
- 3. That modern language collective epithets be used
  - (a) To honour the originator of a combination.
  - (b) To refer to the original named hybrid cultivar.
  - (c) To refer to the place of development of a combination.

For example, the first proposition can be used only once. When an individual originates more than one combination, a second method of naming becomes necessary.

There is an advantage in using the original varietal name of a combination for the collective epithet, as this will usually bring to mind more readily the species combination involved, and this method of naming is to be preferred. This is particularly so once a third or further species is included in a combination.

By and large, the various named horticultural hybrids are the most important combinations involved, as these are usually widely disseminated, whereas the various un-named hybrids remain the prerogative of the original hybridiser and possibly a few associates.

Following is a list in alphabetical order by formula, followed by collective epithets of interspecific hybrids which have named horticultural varieties. The asterisk indicates combinations already designated by a valid collective epithet.

C. cuspidata x C. fraterna

\*C. cuspidata x C. japonica

C. cuspidata x C. saluenensis

C. fraterna x C. japonica

C. graphamiana x C. japonica

C. x A Milky Way Hybrids

= C. x Cornish Snow Hybrids

= C. x Sawada Hybrids

- C. x Autumn Glory Hybrids

C. granthamiana x C. japonica = C. x Autumn Glory Hybrids
C. granthamiana x C. reticulata = C. x Homeyer Hybrids
C. granthamiana x C. saluenensis = C. x Grannie Hybrids

C. hongkongensis x C. saluenensis = C. x Hongkong Hybrids
C. irrawadiensis x C. japonica = C. x Hilsman Hybrids

C. japonica x C. lutchuensis = C. x ackermanii C. japonica x C. pitardii = C. x El Dorado hybrids

C. japonica x C. reticulata = C. x Feathers Hybrids \*C. japonica x C. saluenensis = C. x williamsii \*C. pitardii x C. reticulata = C. x tourieii

\*C. pitardii x C. reticulata = C. x tourjeii C. oleifera x C. hiemalis

C. oleifera x C. sasanqua = C. x Oleifera Hybrids C. oleifera x C. vernalis

\*C. reticulata x C. sasanqua = C. x Asper Hybrids \*C. reticulata x C. saluenensis = C. x Borde Hill Hybrids

Using these collective epithets it is possible to extend the system to hybrids involving more than two species. Of present horticultural merit, we have the following combinations followed by a proposed collective epithet:

C. granthamiana x C. x tourjeii = C. x China Lady Hybrids
C. japonica x C. x Cornish Snow Hybrid = C. x Sylvia May Hybrids
C. japonica x C. x tourjeii = C. x Dryden Hybrids
C. reticulata x C. x williamsii = C. x Lewson Hybrids
C. sasanqua x C. x tourjeii = C. x Dream Girl Hybrids
C. williamsii x C. x tourjeii = C. x Francie L. Hybrids

The selection of the various names above was made on the following grounds:

The hybrid grex c. cuspidata x C. fraterna is nominated the C. x Milky Way Hybrid as the camellia 'Milky Way' was first of this cross to be named. This cross was made by Dr P. L. Hilsman, Georgia, U.S.A. and named in 1965. The "Hilsman" name is retained to designate the C. japonica x C. irrawadiensis combination.

In the case of *C. cuspidata* x *C. saluenensis*, this has been published both as C. x Cornish Snow Hybrid and C. x Caerhays Hybrid. However, as 'Caerhays' is also a *C.* x williamsii variety, the former designation is considered more desirable to avoid confusion.

The first C. japonica x C. fraterna cross named was 'Tiny Princess' made by K. Sawada. His name has been selected for this combination as there could be confusion between 'Tony Princess' and the synonym 'Little Princess', used in Australia for 'Showa-wabisuke'.

The first named *C. japonica* x *C. granthamiana* was 'Autumn Glory' synthetised by Mrs E. McMinn, Victoria, Australia and released in 1967. The collective epithet C. x Autumn Glory Hybrid is proposed for this hybrid combination.

In the case of *C. reticulata* x *C. granthamiana*, successful crosses have been reported from various sources for some years, but one of a group raised by Dr W. Homeyer of Georgia has priority in naming. As Dr Homeyer has released a group of horticultural varieties of this combination, his name rather than that of one of the varieties is proposed.

The hybrid cross C. saluenensis x C. granthamiana named 'Grannie' had recently been registered by L. E. Jury of New Zealand, and it is proposed that this combination be known as C. x Grannie Hybrids.

'Hongkong', the first horticultural variety from the cross C. saluenensis x C. hongkongensis raised by David Feathers of California, is proposed as the name for this combination and derivatives.

As a group of cultivars of the cross C. japonica x C. irrawadiensis was raised by Dr Hilsman, his name is nominated for this type of hybrid.

Dr. Ackerman's 'Fragrant Pink' was the first named hybrid of the *C. japonica* x *C. lutchuensis* combination. Due to his promotion of this hybrid type in the development of floral fragrance and his considerable scientific research bearing on camellias generally, the latin form of collective epithet is proposed for this group, viz. *C.* x ackermanii.

The hybrid 'El Dorado' raised by Howard Asper was the first named *C. pitardii* x *C. japonica* cross. As the *C. sasanqua* combination has already been designated as C. x Asper Hybrids, those from *C. pitardii* x *C. japonica* are nominated C. x El Dorado Hybrids.

The hybrid crosses between C. oleifera and C. sasanqua, C. hiemalis and C. vernalis have been grouped together due to similarity with C. sasanqua and the doubtful botanical standing of the other two. The collective epithet C. x Oleifera Hybrids is suggested for this group.

C. x Borde Hill Hybrids has been selected for the C. reticulata x C. saluenensis combination, as Col Clark's Borde Hill Garden was the source of a number of varieties of this combination, beginning with 'Salutation' in 1935.

In selecting the collective epithet, C. x Feathers Hybrids for the C. reticulata x C. japonica combinations, consideration was given to the fact that David Feathers of Lafayette, California, was the first to raise horticultural varieties by hybridising between these two species, and that his work as a camellia hybridist, editor and author is of high standing. The epithet C. x heterophylla is rejected as C. heterophylla has been nominated as a species.

In the cases of crosses between species and hybrids or between hybrids, in general the name of the first horticultural variety of the combination is proposed for the collective epithet. However, in the case of the *C. japonica* x C. x Cornish Snow Hybrids, due to the variety 'Sylvia May' being the basis of a considerable group of this combination, that is, *japonica*, *saluenensis* and *cuspidata*, it is proposed that they be known as C. x Sylvia May Hybrids.

In the case of *C. japonica* x *C.* x tourjeii, the first hybrid named was 'Elsie Dryden' raised by Harold Dryden of California. Therefore the shorter C. x Dryden Hybrids is proposed for this combination.

The same proposal is put forward for the *C. japonica* x C. x Borde Hill Hybrids as the first named cross is 'Dr John D. Lawson', named for the raiser. Hence the suggested epithet for this combination is C. x Lawson Hybrid.

While there appears to be a long list of collective epithets, the alternative method of listing by formula would be approximately four times as long, and include some complicated designations.

An example is C. x Francie L Hybrids. By formula this combination would be C. x (C. japonica x C. saluenensis) x C. x (C. reticulata x C. pitardii). In addition, possible reverse crosses would involve a total of four formulae. This example may be thought extreme, but similar four and even five species combinations are being made.

# DIMORPHIC FOLIAGE ON CAMELLIA HYBRID



A typical growth sequence: At left (terminal), saluenensis; mid-section japonica; extreme right, saluenensis.

#### LEONARD WEBBER

Australian Institute of Horticulture

In its early life, seedling C. saluenesis x 7101 was different. Its label recorded the fact that the foliage was grey-green, more grey than green.

In 1972 this unusual greyish-green persisted and, whilst no special record was kept of the leaf shape, it closely followed the *saluenensis* parent.

New shoots in 1973 took on the normal Camellia look, very distinctive from the previous colour.

Propagation took place in 1973/74 and some 12 plants now exist. Two distinct types of foliage were noticed in 1974, that is, distinct in shape, colour and toothing of the margins.

- 1. Leaves like those of C. japonica
- 2. Leaves like those of C. saluenensis

This is not some random distribution where the different leaves appear at irregular intervals. It is a neat and orderly arrangement. Let us have a look at this year's growth pattern:

At the commencement of the growing season a new shoot arises from the stem — it carries japonica-like leaves, the shoot matures.

Cyclonic rains in late summer force the buds into growth; the three uppermost (terminal) buds now produce shoots carrying *saluenensis*-like leaves; on another part of the plant a shoot with *saluenensis* type foliage gives rise to shoots clothes with *japonica*-like leaves.

Shoots arising from the older leafless stems are unpredictable (unless the stem was marked) and give the impression that the growing points and buds are able to differentiate between the two leaf types. The first flower buds (1975) are also of some interest. On the original seedling the terminating shoot carries japonica type leaves, the flower bud is axillary, whereas another plant terminating with saluenensis foliage carries the bud at the terminal.

The hybrid is C. saluenensis x C. japonica 'Buddy'.

# C. 'FUYAJO' AND ITS POTENTIALITIES

**LES JURY** 

New Plymouth, New Zealand

According to results in my crosses with C. 'Fuyajo' it is capable of producing a rather surprising colour range — scarlet, scarlet-crimson, black-crimson and blue.

Here in New Plymouth, it blooms early and continues over a long season. As an additional bonus for hybridists, it has deep golden yellow anthers which hold colour till blooms drop to the ground. Seeing that this camellia holds so many desirable potentialities, and hybrids from it will certainly figure in camellias of the future, I wish to urge other hybridists to work on 'Fuyajo' and its derivatives.

With this in view, I have sent scions to Australia and U.S.A. of my hybrid 'Bright Buoy' ('Fuyajo' x 'Hassaku') a scarlet-crimsons ingle, with extra-bright long-lasting golden yellow anthers. Two years ago, another hybrid ('Fuyajo' x 'Moshio') flowered a single scarlet; the proposed name is 'Scarlet Buoy'. Then last year, another of same parentage flowered a rich crimson single, to be named 'Crimson Buoy'. The latter is the dwarfer and most prolific flowering; scions of all three have been given to New Zealand growers.

The name "Buoy" was intended to imply that as a buoy is a guide to shipping, so 'Bright-Buoy' should guide hybridists into the raising of the brightest and richest or reds, with bright long lasting pollen anthers. As Howard Asper has his three "Girls", I now have my three "Buoys".

I do not know if the "Buoys' will set seed to reticulata pollen, but if so, then it would be to great advantage, as most reticulatas have short lived anthers, also it would extend the flowering season of reticulata hybrids, as 'Bright Buoy' is very early, blooming right through winter; japonica x reticulata hybrids could also be tried, such as 'Valentine Day' and 'Howard Asper', or any other red hybrid, also the best red japonicas.

I am unable to work on 'Bright Buoy' as I have retired to a smaller garden, where I have the two later "Buoys" and just a few other breeders.

There are distinct variations in the form of two of the black camellias, 'Fuyajo' and 'Kuro-tsubaki'. I have seen three forms of 'Fuyajo' recently in N.Z., two of them with incurved petals, one with wide open blooms and reflexed, also some difference in leaf. Have also seen three forms under the name of 'Kuro-tsubaki', these varied in leaf and flower form, and number of petals varied from 14 to 20, the true form is said by Mr Ishikawa to have 14 petals.

A few years ago I raised a blue camellia from 'Fuyajo' x 'Gauntlettii'. That particular cross was made because it seemed to me the maroon crimson colour of 'Fuyajo' was not a "true" colour, and by crossing with a white, the recessive colour might show forth. From about 14 plants raised, one was a single purple-blue; unfortunately, it was lost on being moved. But I have set out to get a blue again, and now have about 60 one and two year seedlings, all 'Fuyajo' x japonica varieties showing some blue.

If I succeed in raising another blue, I would distribute scions to other hybridists, as the more who work on it, the sooner a wide range of blues could be raised, from pale to deep shades and hopefully two-toned forms. In this colour range, there would surely be some unattractive shades and forms; that must be expected as part of the job in the effort to obtain attractive colours.

From the beginning of my hybridising, brilliant reds stood out as one of my special objectives. After trying various approaches, I find 'Fuyajo' has no rivals, it is clearly the 'link' into brilliant reds.

There has been some confusion as to the correct name for 'Fuyajo' and its taxonomu. A recent letter from Prof. Waterhouse says: "'Fuyajo' is the first publication of the name (in Chugai 1936). In 1937, Chugai misspelled it as 'Fuzajo' (I have both lists). Dr Tuyama must have seen only the letter and thought it the first listing and the one to adopt. I hear from my friend Mr Andoh that Dr Tuyama now admits that 'Fuyajo' is correct; this work has a meaning, "Fuzajo' means nothing at all."

Quite obviously the second listing as "Fuzajo" was a printers error, so that can now be ruled out. However there is still some research going on to find whether 'Kon-wabisuke' had prior listing to 'Fuyajo', and whether both names refer to the same variety.

As to the taxonomic standing of 'Fuyajo', Mr Ackerman says there is nothing he can find in his research to establish it as a separate species. L. R. Shuey says, "strong evidence points to the fact that it is in reality, a hybrid, and many experts now consider it as such."

Whatever it may be, it seems logical to accept Ackerman's suggestion, that all the "black camellias of Japan" should be referred to as the "Purpurea Group", because they all appear to be derivatives from one original "black" parent.

I think the variations indicate hybridity. Prof. Waterhouse says: "In 1962 in Japan, I saw a number of seedlings called 'Kon-wabisuke', very like 'Fuyajo'." I saw in Australia a bloom as "Kon-wabisuke", a very small thimble shaped, neither incurved nor recurved. I think the 10 plants sent to N.Z. as "Purpurea" by Wada were seedling-raised.

Note by Professor E. G. Waterhouse:

Mr Yoshiaki Andoh tells me that the name FUYAJO originates in the name of a castle in China, where it had been said that the sun rises even in the night. Hence the name means "brilliantly illuminated place at night".

# CAMELLIAS ARE 40-LOVE AT WIMBLEDON

R. P. WAKEFORD

Wimbledon, London, England

Here, on the southern side of London, I grow over 40 varieties of camellias in the open ground and in containers. The containers stand on an open terrace facing south, with the garden level for the open-ground camellias being about two feet lower.

The five varieties that flowered in January were all in the ground; why these flowered before those in containers it is difficult to say, but the latter are perhaps more subject to wind, of which we had more than usual.

Last season, 'Yoibijn' came into flower on 22 December, but this season 'St Ewe' was first to bloom on 2nd January. Those to follow in January were 'General Lamoriciere', 'Sacco Nova', 'Barbara Hillier' and 'Bokuhan'.

'Sacco Nova' is our oldest and most successful camellia. It was planted in 1950 and is about 12 ft high.

'Eugene Lize' was first to flower in February, followed by 'Tricolor de Sieboldii', 'Augusto L' Gouveia Pinto', 'Lady Clare', 'Maculata Superba', 'Elegans', 'Arejishi', 'Mrs D. W. Davis' (which we bring indoors in the winter), and 'L'avvenire'. I grow 'E. G. Waterhouse' in a container, and it does well, but we could do with some of the Australian sunshine in London in February.

# CAMELLIA HUNTING IN THAILAND

# DR PETER VALDER B.Sc.Agr., PhD.

School of Biological Science, University of Sydney, Australia

With camellia enthusiasts longing for trips to Yunnan, or wishing they could go to Vietnam to look for the species with flowers reported to be yellow, it occurred to me that there may be other camellia localities in south-east Asia which could be visited more easily. Hence, in January of this year, while visiting the mountains of northern Thailand in search of rhododendrons, I kept an eye out for camellias as well.

The most easily reached mountain top in Thailand is that of Doi Sutep-Pui, at the foot of which the town of Chiang Mai is situated. The mountain has two peaks, Doi Pui, 1685 m, and Doi Sutep, which is a little lower. One can drive to the saddle between the two, the road being sealed as far as the gates of the summer palace of the Royal Family, at about 1370 m. Even though the vegetation has been damaged by the farming of the tribes, whose opium crops are a tourist attraction, it is still possible to see a number of beautiful plants in the course of an afternoon's outing from the town.

On 21st January the epiphytic *Rhododendron veitchianum* was in full bloom, the buds were swelling on huge trees of *R. moulmainense*, numerous plants of a Michelia species were covered with cream, lemon-scented flowers, the Thai form of *Prunus cerasioides*, a cherry with pale carmine blooms, was flowering, and *Schima wallichii* and a species of *Lilium* were in fruit.

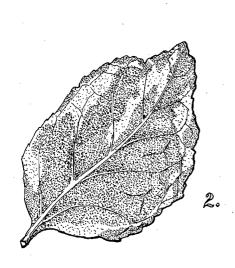
Together with these plants, all growing amongst the pines, evergreen oaks and chestnuts, were two species of *Camellia*. One of these, a small tree, bore large leaves up to 10 cm in length. Although not in bloom it appeared to be *C. oleifera* var. *confusa*, which reportedly has white flowers about 6 cm in diameter. A few seeds were collected from the ground and sent home, where they have germinated. The other species had small papery leaves and pinkish, hairy, young shoots. Although no flowers, fruit or seeds were seen, it seems certain that this was *C. connata* which has white flowers about 2-3 cm across.

According to Camellia Nomenclature 1974, C. connata is in cultivation in the United States, so no doubt C. oleifera var confusa is as well. Apparently they flower in June and July in their native habitat, so they may prove useful as parents in the breeding of cultivars to extend the flowering season in Australia. However until they bloom here, their flowering season under our conditios must remain unknown.

Further camellias were seen on Dio Intanon, Thailand's highest mountain, which rises to 2576 m about 60 km south west of Chiang Mai. Close to the summit some huge old trees of Rhododendron arboreum, with R. veitchianum, orchids and other epiphytes on their branches, were opening the first of their red flowers. Lower down, at about 1800 m, numerous camellias were seen, some with bullate leaves. These may also have been forms of C. oleifera var. confusa, but it occurred to me at the time that the Thai camellias might be worth further investigation, particularly since there are numerous other mountains which could be visited.

Although it has no camellias, another Thai mountain which is well worth visiting is Phu Kradung near Loei in the northeast. This is a grassy plateau with an average heightr of about 1200 m. It is covered with picturesque pines amongst which are hundreds, possibly thousands, of plants of *Rhododendron simsii* and *R. lyi*, which must make a spectacular sight in March and April when they bloom, together with gentians, lobelias, violets, pitcher plants, orchids and various other plants of horticultural interest. At the time of my visit most of these were not in bloom, but I collected seeds, and am hoping I will not have to wait too long before I can see the flowers for myself.

# Chimeral Leaf Variegation in Camellias





TOM SAVIGE

Wirlinga, N.S.W., Australia

The leaves illustrated here at two-thirds normal size are examples of mericlinal chimeras. No. 1 is from a sport of 'Dewa-tairin' ("Golden Temple") originating in the Sydney garden of Pat Goonan; No. 2 from a plant of 'Betty Sheffield Dream' at Wirlinga.

The No. 2 leaf shows evidence that the colour intensity is controlled by a variation in the number of cell layers, as the lighter the colour, the thinner the leaf thickness at that point. This varies from 0.5 mm in deep green areas to 0.31 mm in areas of lightest green. The distortion and drawing in of the leaf edges where the lighter coloured areas reach it, also indicates the loss of a cell layer in this region.

The mechanism to create this condition would seem to be the operation of a mericlinal chimera of the periclinal type, which causes interruption in the formation of apical initial cells constituting one of the three cell layers of the opical meristem. It is possible that this interruption could extend into the second cell layer in the very light areas, and there are areas where some "mixing" has occurred.

While the old Japanese variety 'Benten' exhibits a similar condition, the leaf variegation on 'Francois Wiot' is more likely the chimera affecting only the chlorophyll pigmentation, possibly due to a mutant plastogene, as its leaf thickness is constant at 0.41 mm. A microscopic examination to check these suppositions seems desirable.

# INTERNATIONAL LETTERBOX

### From Japanese botanist Dr Takasi Tuyama, June 1975:

"I made a survey of Spanish camellias at Santiago de Compostela in northwestern Spain. In July I will participate in the XIIth International Botanical Congress at Leningrad, and will look up the Russian as well as the Chinese botanists. I will make an effort to find camellia-lovers among them or among their friends."

# From Dr Takasi Tuyama, September 1975:

"At the Leningrad Congress, we found no botanists or horticulturists from China or Taiwain. At Moscow I met Dr Lapin. He was very proud of the good collection of Camellia cultivars at Batami, Georgia, but I had no time to see this. The collection at the Greenhouse of Hortus Botanicus Principalis, Moscow, was very poor compared with the collection at the Greenhouse of Academia Nauk at Leningrad.

\* \* \* \*

#### From Mrs Bunty Kitson of Cornwall, England:

"No sooner had the lovely 1974 Journal arrived than I received a letter from U.S.A. from a complete stranger who said: 'My brother has grown camellias for years, and he saw your name in the Journal. We have been trying to track down Kitsons for years'."

\* \* .\*

#### From Mr Yoshiaki Andoh, March 1975:

"Many foreigners still urge strongly to translate my small book into English, but it may well defy the cleverest translator."

\* \* \*

#### From Mr Robert Gimson of San Vicente de Nogueira, Pontevedra, Spain:

"On the way from Oporto is Castrelos, where there is a camellia said to be 200 years old, and Torres Agrelo with some fine old camellias. Half an hour to the south is Lourizan, with camellias and fine trees planted about 80 years ago. The same distance north are two old manor houses, Rubianes and La Golpelleira, with camellias planted before the end of the last century. Near Santiage de Compostela are Santa Cruz de Rivadulla with hundreds of camellias, some planted in the 1880's, and Ocha where there is a reticulata semi-plena 10 metres high and about 120 years old. On the north coast east of Corunnais the Torre de Lama, where there are more than 10,000 camellias, some planted between 1840 and 1850."

# Camellias in Hawaii



**ARTHUR DAVIS** 

Honolulu, Hawaii

Lying as they do, well below the Northern Tropic, the half dozen or so inhabited islands of the Hawaiian chain might at first sight appear to be unrewarding territory for the Camellia enthusiast. Indeed, in the case of the Island of Oahu (upon which the capital, Honolulu, is located) this is undeniably so. The topography of the island has created a series of micro climates—hot and dry on the leeward coast and deep valleys, with rainfalls of up to 150 inches a year in the hinterland.

It is true that the hills behind Honolulu, rising to some 1100'-1200', carry some development and habitation, but for the most part the mountains rising to a maximum height of 4000' are too rugged and inaccessible for domestic purposes, and carry a rain forest type of vegetation wholly inimical to anything except of a tropical nature. Such few camellias as one does see, and there are some in gardens in the hills, are almost always of very poor quality — their trunks and branches infested with moss and lichen, and with terminal bud clusters of anything up to 10 or 12—a sure sign of malaise. As for the odd blooms which one occasionally sees, they are fairly obviously chance seedlings of very doubtful parentage.

On the neighbour islands of Maui and Hawaii (almost always referred to as the "Big Island") the picture is much prettier, and here they do really well. In fact they are not grown as extensively as they should be, for the climatic conditions on both islands are superb.

On Maui the vast dormant volcano of Maleakala rises to 10,000' and all the way up its flanks is development to about 6000'. Mr Colin Lennox at 4000' grows proteas, azaleas, rhododendrons and other temperate climate subjects with complete success, and such Camellias as he has are doing splendidly; it will be my endeavour to persuade him to plant more, for which he has ample space.

The best collection in the Islands undoubtedly belongs to our old friend and fellow I.C.S. member, Herbert Shipman of Hilo. On his properties, extending up to 3000' on the flanks of Inauna Loa, he has upward of 300 varieties, and is always looking for additional cultivars. At 83 years of age, he reminds us in many ways of our beloved Professor Waterhouse. Keen, alert and completely "on the ball", he is confined for a considerable portion of his time to a wheelchair. Nevertheless, he too made the trip to London this summer (complete with wheelchair and Hawaiian "man Friday"), his principal objective being the R.H.S. Chelsea Show.

So "Tropical Paradise" though this may be, we still have a concern for the Camellia lover, and anyone visiting these parts in the proper season will assuredly not be disappointed.



# The BORROMEAN ISLANDS and their CAMELLIAS

**HENRY COCKER** 

Italy

Probably no statistics exist recording the maximum size reached by Camellias in European gardens. It is doubtful however if the proportions of a *C. japonica* hybrid which, in 1929, died in the gardens of Isola Bella, have been exceeded. The trunk of this methuselah among Camellias measured three feet in circumference, and probably died of old age, as it was believed to have been planted about the year 1785; the date when extensive outdoor planting of Camellias in Italy was initiated. In fact, many of the fine old specimens still flourishing in the gardens of Isola Madre and Isola Bella probably include some of the first Camellia plants to be introduced into Europe.

The long life and vigorous development of these plants fully demonstrates the suitability of Camellias for European gardens, particularly in the Lake Maggiore area, where the plants always produce an abundance of seed, and in many gardens have even become naturalized from self-sown seed. When the International Camellia Society held its annual convention at Stresa, in 1972, I had the pleasure of escorting the members when they visited the Borromean Islands, and much was their enthusiasm when they actually saw the prolific growth attained by Camellias and other fine plants such as Rhododendron, conifers, Magnolia, camphor trees, Eucalyptus, 'Mimosa', and other exotics so far from their native habitat. Many members have no doubt seen some of the photographs and films taken, and this written description will help to complete the general history and background.

# HISTORY OF THE ISLAND — ISOLA MADRE

The two Borromean Islands of Isola Madre and Isola Bella, in the center of that part of Lake Maggiore which divides the lakeside towns of Stresa and Pallanza, form the major part of a group of three, of which Isola Madre ('Mother Island') is the largest, measuring 350 yards by 250 yards. The third island is Isola Pescatore ('Fishermans Island'), mostly inhabited by fishermen, although there are a few small hotels, restaurants, etc. Isola Madre consists entirely of garden, plus a huge, old, at present uninhabited Palace; and a chapel dedicated to St. Vittore, built on the site of a former chapel which records indicate as having been built in 845 A.D.

This was the first of the islands now owned by the Borromean family in various parts of Lake Maggiore, and since the 10th century, reports have chronicled its luxuriant vegetation. Large scale building and landscaping was started in 1502. The Borromean family has always devoted great energy and wealth to the beautification of this island and, according to the official guidebook, in 1769 Count Federico Borromeo was spending such vast sums there that according to popular belief, he was supposed to have discovered a mysterious and inestimable treasure. His 'queerness' however caused him to be 'imprisoned' for a time in the Palace.



Looking across Lake Maggiore to the snow-covered Alps

The general layout and design of Isola Madre is completely informal; apart from a vast, rectangular terrace in front of the Palace, the chief feature of which is the biggest example of the palm Jubaea spectabilis growing outside in Europe. It was planted in 1858, is 52 ft high, and the trunk is 13 ft in diameter. This fine specimen flowers and fruits every summer and always evokes admiration. Other notable features of the terrace, and its fine lawn and flower beds, are what is probably one of the largest specimens of Lagerstroemia indica in existence, and a pool of "Lotus Lilies" (Nelumbo nucifera). This informal layout of the island, so richly planted with mature specimens of Cinnamomum camphora, gigantic examples of Magnolia grandiflora, really tree-sized Rhododendron arboreum, many fine conifers, great masses of Azalea indica, a superb Taxodium distichum, numerous Liquidambar styraciflua, Liriodendron tulipifera, and huge Camellia; plus a comprehensive collection of flowering shrubs, all help to create an impression of size and space out of all proportion to the size of the island.

There are also numerous open, grass spaces and excellent lawns, where the mainland and even the lake remain hidden, and where hundreds of naturalized pheasants and small green parrots lead a life of luxury waiting to be fed by the thousands of visitors who tour the island. The only real damage done by these parrots is their greedy love of the young tips of bamboo, which are also a characteristic of the island. There are superb views of the lake and surrounding mountains which confirm the close vicinity of the Swiss Alps, where snow can be seen even in mid-summer. The real 'Queen' of the garden however is a truly remarkable specimen of Cupressus cashmeriana 80 ft high and almost as wide, with its pendulous branches retained from ground level upwards. It is certainly the finest outdoor specimen in Europe.

# THE BORROMEAN FAMILY

This noble family traces its origin back to 303 A.D. and its present head is His Excellency Prince Vitaliano Borromeo. Founder of the family was Vitaliano I, of Padua, and the surname of Borromeo was not assumed until 1416. Through marriages, conquests, and fluctuations of fortune the family is linked with numerous other great Italian families such as Sforza, Visconti, Medici, etc. During the ensuing years the family has numbered among its members St Carlo Borromeo, born in the fortress of Arona in 1538 and founder of the famous Borromeo College. He was created a cardinal and archbishop of Milan by his uncle Pope Pius IV. Members of the family have also served as Viceroys. Senators, Ambassadors, and have always dedicated themselves to the liberal arts, letters, and the sciences. Vast properties are owned throughout North Italy, Milan, and in other parts of Italy; including the smaller "Isolino" of Lake Maggiore, a little island which for many years was leased to Arturo Toscanini. Many old forts and castles, some still inhabited also belong to the family.

#### THE ISOLA BELLA PALACE

Both Isola Madre and Isola Bella are served by excellent, government owned, modern steamers, some of which can carry up to 1000 passengers in luxury, with bars and other conveniences. Many of the boats also travel as far as Locarno, in Switzerland, as the



A form of Camellia reticulata in the gardens



Some of the fine specimen camellias

Swiss/Italian frontier actually crosses the northern end of Lake Maggiore. Both islands are open to the public from spring until autumn, and on Isola Bella the Palace can also be visited. This magnificent building contains not only a fabulous collection of works of art, but also has many important historical connections. In this article it is not possible to give even a brief description of its treasures, but mention must be made of Tapestries Gallery containing six, 16th century, Flemish silk and gold tapestries; the weapons room contianing ancient arms and armour from the 17th century; the medallions room, originally used for banquets; the Grand Hall; the music room; the inestimably valuable picture gallery; the Napoleon Room, where Napoleon slept during the night of 17/18 August 1797; the library; the Giordano Room with more important paintings; the Hall of Mirrors; the marionette theatre; and the six remarkable grottoes decorated to create an impression of coolness even on the hottest day, and almost at lake level, with decorations and designs made of coral, shells, aquatic animals and vegetation; a theme which varies from grotto to grotto.

### THE ISLAND OF ISOLA BELLA

Apart from its monumental Palace, a church, several houses, shops, restaurants, small hotels, and other tourist attractions, this island also comprises a vast garden. The private apartments of the Palace, and a part of the garden, are used by Prince Borromeo and his family.





Camellias used as wall plants and hedges on Isola Bella

as a summer residence. In contrast to the other island, the garden of Isola Bella is strictly formal, in the Baroque style, and extensively terraced. Apart from the stupendous specimens of evergreen Azalea indica, many magnificent broad-leafed trees and conifers; flowering shrubs, displays of summer annuals, aquatics, and a profusion of white peacocks; it is the Camellias which attract so much attention when in bloom from February to May (according to season and variety). The garden was initiated circa 1670, and it is obvious from the general layout and design that many of the existing fine old trees still to be seen were among the first subjects to be planted. With such a design, with its many terraces, there were many walls to cover and Camellias are extensively used for this purpose, together with orange trees. Many other varieties of Citrus are grown as standards to form an avenue and they blend happily with superb examples of Pinus, Schinus, Paulownia, Albizzia, Banana palms, succulents, etc. There is also an excellent collection of plants of economic value such as coffee, Carica, Cassia, Saccharum, Schinus, etc. A collection of carniverous plants provides much interest; while one of the most spectacular flowering plants is a fine specimen of Camellia reticulata with the proportions of a small tree. Oleanders of course thrive in this garden which receives so much sun.

# CLIMATE AND SOIL

References in this article to plants such as *Eucalyptus*, "Mimosa", *Cinnamomum*, etc. may justifiably but erroneously, induce the reader who is unfamiliar with the zone to assume that the gardens of Isola Madre and Isola Bella are situated in a warm climate. The truth, however, is exactly the opposite but there is a good and valid reason for this apparant contradiction.

The islands are surrounded by the large expanse of water which comprises Lake Maggiore. The surface of this lake is never frozen, and consequently serves to insulate the islands from the lower temperatures experienced on the mainland, where winter temperatures of several degrees below zero C are frequently experienced, and where heavy falls of snow are not uncommon.

This insulation produces a "micro-climate" which has considerable influence on the type of flora which can be cultivated on the islands, and permits many species to be grown which do not thrive in the other zones of the immediate vicinity. Long, hot, relatively dry summers also favour the production of well ripened, mature growths which are better able to tolerate cold than the sappy, unripened wood found on plants growing in a locality where summers are cool and wet.

The soil of the garden is either neutral or acid, and completely non-calcareous, with a pH reading of 5-7; thus making it a perfect habitat for a wide range of Ericaceous plants and other lime-hating subjects. It is light in texture, very porous, rich in humus and organic matter. A disadvantage is the shallowness of the soil, overlaying rock, and consequently shallow, superficial root formation. There is, however, an abundance of water available from the lake for irrigation; while there is little doubt that the roots of many of the larger trees actually extend to the water level of the lake.

# **RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

Reviewed by E. G. WATERHOUSE

#### GENDAI TSUBAKI MEIKAN

Published 1975 in Tokyo by Bunka Fukuno Gakuin. 306 pages. 3200 yen. This book covers the wide field of modern camellias and is the work of Dr Shuho Kirino, Director of the Japan Camellia Society, Saburo Yokoyama, Director of the Japan Camellia Society, Hiroshige Hayakawa, Director of the Nagoya Camellia Society, and Kiyoshi Tarumoto, Secretary of the Kobe Camellia Society.

It contains 64 colour plates and 740 monochrome illustrations. It is entirely in Japanese, and discusses 36 species, 562 Japanese varieties and 146 overseas varieties. There are chapters on colour, form, habit, leaves and fragrance.

#### **JARDINS DE FRANCE**

Published by the National Horticulture Society of France, the March 1975 issue of this attractive monthly review features an excellent colour-cover of C. 'Adlophe Audusson'. It contains six articles on camellias, one announcing that a camellia exhibition was to be held in Paris for the first time that month, in the Floral Park of the Bois de Vincennes.

The City of Paris purchased some large old camellias for the Park three years ago from Sevres. Some were put in tubs, some in the open ground. All grew happily, and regaled visitors with flowers in January this year. The Parisians were intrigued, sometimes mistaking them for rose-trees!

The collection in the park is growing annually; there are now 250 plants and about 30 varieties. This all goes to show that the camellia is being rediscovered in France, and is on the way to regaining the prestige it enjoyed in the early 19th century. There is a Pavilion in the park where enquirers can obtain particulars concerning cultivation.

Other articles in the March 1975 issue include, "Cultivation of Camellias on the Riviera" by I.C.S. Director, the Vicomte de Noailles, and "Grafting of Old Camellias" by Jean Laborey.

# **GROWING CAMELLIAS**

By Neil Treseder and Edward Hyams. Published 1975 by Nelson. 187 pages, 15 colour plates. U.K. price £3.75.

A book to be welcomed by all camellia lovers. Hyams describes soils and situations, buying and planting, manuring and feeding, propagation, pots, containers and culture in the U.K.

Treseder, Cornish Nurseryman of long standing, writes warmly of hybrids old and new, discusses interesting camellia problems. The colour plates are good, some excellent. The appearling semi-double white on the cover is 'Sodegakushi', to quote its valid Japanese name which should never have been changed. 'Exbury Trumpet' gives an excellent rendering of all salient features of that form of saluenensis. 'Hornsby Pink', from Tregothnan, raises the question of the validity of this name.

Cornwall has long been famous for its camellias, and for the impetus given to breeding by the williamsii hybrids created at Caerhays Castle by J. C. Williams. These are well described, as are the williamsii of America, New Zealand and Australia. In his chapter Camellia x williamsii 'Donation', Treseder illustrates the term clone and grex in discussing his low-growing form of 'Donation'.

Of particular interest are the new hybrids recently created by Gillian Carlyon at Tregrehan. Beginning in 1960, and undaunted by early failures, she was able to publish in 1972 a description of thirteen "Carlyon Hybrids". Outstanding amongst these is "Tristrem Carlyon", obtained by using "Rosea Simplex" pollen on 'Salutation', and described as "paeony form rose madder, vigorous growth". The flower has the same colour and fluted petal formation as C. reticulata 'Captain Rawes', according to Treseder, seeming to confirm the original claim, often disputed, that 'Captain Rawes' is the pollen parent of 'Salutation'. The conviction that this is so prompts Treseder to examine a similar case in early literature: Verschaffelt's Nouvelle Iconographie des Camelias, Vol. XII 1850, illustrates and describes 'Emperor' as a C. j. 'Colvillii' crossed with pollen from reticulata. This was raised by a Mr Davies near Liverpool. The conclusion is that it is a fallacy to regard 'Captain Rawes' as completely sterile.

The Carlyon hybrids have flowered under glass; their quality as outdoor plants has yet to be tested.

\*"Rosea Simplex" was listed by Costa in 1846. Was this parent used, or was it a modern rose pink seedling?

# Camellias in Galicia

#### **ANTONIO ODRIOZOLA**

Librarian Mision Biologica Salcedo, Pontevedra.

# **ROBERT GIMSON**

The first camellia which came to Europe was, without any doubt, *C. sinensis*, but it came in pieces, since the tea made from its leaves is mentioned in Ramusio in 1545, and came into common use in the 17th century. We find in Samuel Pepys' famous Diary an entry on 28 September, 1660: "I asked for a cup of tea and drank China which I had not seen before." Tea quickly established a hold among the English, and to avoid repeated imports of dried leaves, they ordered some living plants. Afraid of losing this profitable business (one pound sterling for 125 grams of tea), the astute Chinese sent plants of another species of camellia, of similar appearance, but whose leaves were more leathery, and useless for making tea. So it seems this is how the first plants of *C. japonica* arrived. At the beginning of the 18th century, James Cunningham, a surgeon in the British East India Company, sent named plants, and these were the first to be acclimatized, some in the gardens of Robert James, 8th Lord Petre, which were painted by G. Edwards with a pheasant sitting on a branch.

# **Camellias in Spain and Portugal**

Antonio Palau y Verdera in Volume V of his translation of Linnaeus' work (Madrid 1786) mentioned the camellia in Spain for the first time. Cavanilles also mentioned it two years later in his Sixth Dissertation (Paris 1788), but it was not until the middle of the 19th century that that camellias started to become known as important garden plants, which are referred to in the writtings of Yanez, Augusto de Burgos, Colmeiro, etc. Yet Camellias were not mentioned in the Dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy until the 11th edition (Madrid 1869).

Its literary popularization also started in the 19th century with the translations of La Dame aux Camelias by Alexander Dumas the younger, and the poems and writings of Selgas, Perez Galdos, etc.

With regard to Portugal, a publication of the U.S. Department of Agriculture<sup>1</sup> said that in the Conde de Campobello's garden in Oporto, there are camellias brought from Japan in the middle of the 16th century, according to the family archives. This is not correct. The Conde himself told me that Dr Meyer had misunderstood; he did not tell Dr Meyer the camellias were 400 years old, but that documents substantiate that the manor and its garden were in the possession of his ancestors 400 years ago. In any case, the three magnificent specimens with single red flowers, which the Conde kindly showed me in 1967, could be about 200 years old.

#### In Galician Gardens

The great botanist, Miguel Colmeiro, who botanized in Galicia in 1845, gave a summary of his observations in 1848 in the pamphlet Rucuerdos botanicos de Galicia (Santigao de Compostela, 1850) — (Botanical Reminiscences of Galicia) — where one reads the following curious paragraph: "Moderate heat and abundant humidity (Note B) keep the Galician soil covered with green, which does not last long in other parts of Spain for the opposite reasons. Hydrangeas, paeonies, camellias and fuchsias thriving in the gardens of Galicia without being carefully nurtured, are a reminder of the qualities of its soil and climate to those who know how many precautions ae needed to keep similar plants growing in many provinces in Spain."

Nevertheless the Galician writers have not been lavish in mentioning camellias. I have not been able to come across any in the romantic gardens of Valle-Inclan, although they are mentioned in the second edition of the story Mi hermana Antonia (My sister Antonia) — 1920. It is worth noting that Emilia Pardo Bazan married in 1868 and went to live in Santiago de Compostela, while her husband completed his legal studies; the plot of her first novel Pascual

Lopez — Madrid 1879 — is in Santiago de Compostela. The hero says "I used to lavish my attentions on Pastora indiscriminately with carnations and camellias, which I gathered in any garden in the suburbs." Camellias also appear in El cisne de Vilamorta (The Swan of Vilamorta), which was inspired by an actual manor house, that of Banga near Carballino.

# The Camellias of the Galician countryside

It was natural that Emilia Pardo Bazan noticed the camellias, since they were to be seen on her family's farm at Meiras (now the summer residence of His Excellency the Head of State). Writing autobiographical notes in September 1886, she meditated on "the broad lane of camellias, which dominated the whole expanse of the valley and the sea of Sada", and noted "the sad and beautiful landscape at dusk, when the globe of fire of the moon rises up behind the black chestnut groves, but pleasant unlike much of the day, when one sees between the camellias and yuccas the headlong flight of an army of ducks still wet from their swim in the pond." Some of the camellias still exist.

Like eucalyptus and acacias, camellias have been growing in Galicia for a century; we do not look on them as exotic plants, so they have become part and parcel of the Galician countryside. In the Rias Altas (Note C), in the arc from Corunna to Lugo, there is the Tower of Lama, and on the banks of the Sor at the Ria of Barquero, we find today the finest park of nature reserve in Europe. Some 11,000 camellias flourish there; some are old plants, and some are recent cuttings taken from plants brought there by Don Vicente Pardo, which his son-in-law Don Federico Macineira (who certainly introduced the eucalyptus) tended carefully, as does his son, Don Jose, now. At the manor houses of Abegondo, Rivadulla, Oca, and in many others throughout the region one can admire beautiful specimens, such as the *C. reticulata* at the back of the chapel of the manor of Oca, which a Belgian expert considered to be the oldest in Europe.

# The Camellias of Vigo and Pontevedra

However the best climate for camellias is found in the Rias Bajas (Note C), and wonderful specimens are to be seen at the manors of Rubianes, La Caeyra, Lourizan, the Mision Biologica, Torres Agrelo, Castrelos and many others.

Nor do we find them only in the gardens of emblazoned country houses, but also in many small farms, and even in the tiny garden of a railway station. They are planted in the streets, such as those in Vigo which attracted the attention of Hubert B. Owens, when he wrote "It is impossible to convey my astonishment at finding 25 feet tall *Camellia japonica* trees planted at approximately 30 foot intervals along the curbs of the sidewalk for the entire length of this avenue of 4 to 8 storey buildings. I could not believe my eyes when I saw these trees flourishing in a mere 3' x 3' of soil surrounded by broad areas of masonry paving."<sup>2</sup>

Mr Owens also saw in the wonderful manor of Castrelos (Note D) "the Methuselah of Camellias", a beautiful tree on the terrace at the back of the Museum; it has a trunk 60 cm in diameter, and is thought to be 200 years old.

# Origin of Camellias in Vigo and Pontevedra

It is not easy to ascertain the source of these old camellias, since scarcely anyone has notes or invoices which give the names of the cultivars, or dates of purchase. The Marques of Santa Cruz de Rivadulla has a notebook in which one of his ancestors, in the middle of the last century, recorded the decorative trees and shrubs which he acquired; it would be of great interest if the present owners of stately houses and farms would search their family records, since interesting dates might be found. Fortunately there is some information about plants introduced to Vigo and Pontevedra by the Marques Loureiro.

Benedicto Conde, the great Bene, always an enthusiast for every noble cause, gave an account in the Faro de Vigo of 17 February 1967, of planting the gardens at the Marques de Valladares' manor (Note D) in 1860 by a Portuguese garden designer, who was manager of the Real Companhia Horticolo-Agricola Portuense. In fact this company was started at the end of the 19th century, but it was the successor to the Horticultural Institute founded by the Marques

Loureiro in 1849. Until recently, the company's nursery was in the beautiful Quinta das Virtudes, within a stone's throw of the centre of Oporto, on a steep slope down to the River Douro.

# Marques Loureiro and Pontevedra School of Agriculture

Jose, Marques Loureiro, was an outstanding figure in the gardening and agricultural world. He introduced to northern Portugal many plants and trees, eucalyptus and acacias amongst others, which figure in his magnificent catalogues. The Companhia Horticola-Agricola continued these publications and the serial numbers. Reverting to camellias, perusing his catalogue No. 9 printed in 1872, we see that he was offering and describing no less than 606 cultivars, 184 Portuguese and 422 foreign. Without a shadow of doubt, Marques Loureiro was the designer to whom Bene refers, and it was he who brought to Vigo the oldest camellias of the present Park of Quinones de Leon. (Note D)

His reputation spread to Pontevedra, where a School of Agriculture was started in 1873 in the farm of La Caeyra (Note E), which belonged to the Riestra family. The documents of the School's progress are preserved in the Library of the Pontevedra Museum. There one finds a valuable document which, in my opinion, gives the date when the first camellia came to Pontevedra. It is an invoice from the Marques Loureiro dated 28 January 1876 for plants despatched to the School of Agriculture, and on it, in addition to climbers, shrubs, etc. appear 25 cultivars of camellias with their respective names, among them, 'Alba Plena', 'Paeonia Rubra', 'Colletti Vera' and others still grown.

Subsequently more camellias must have arrived, for in 1882 the School of Agriculture published a small catalogue, of which there is a copy in the Pontevedra Museum, and in it are trees, shrubs, etc. for sale at the School; the list of camellias has reached the high figure of 130 (70 foreign and 60 Portuguese). After the School was closed, the catalogue was published again, but this time without the year, and in place of the School of Agriculture, 'The La Caeyra Institute of Agriculture, Pontevedra. Proprietors: The Dowager Lady Riestra and Sons'. (There is a copy in the Penzol Library in Vigo).

Comparing the cultivars in these catalogues with those of the Marques Loureiro, one notices that 60 Portuguese and some 40 foreign ones came from the Horticultural Institute, Oporto, although 30 other cultivars remain, the origin of which I have not been able to trace; perhaps they came from Italy or Belgium.

#### References —

- Plant Explorations. Ornamentals in Italy, Southern France, Spain, Portugal, England and Scotland. (1959). Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- 2. OWENS, Hubert B. (1961). Landscape Practice n Galicia. The American Camellia Yearbook.

#### Translator's Notes:

- (A) Galicia comprises the four provinces of north-west Spain: Corunna, Lugo, Orense and Pontevedra. From the 8th to the 12th centuries, with Leon and Asturias, they formed the independent Kingdom of Leon.
- (B) Climatological statistics of Pontevedra:
   Average annual rainfall 60 inches
   No. of days of rain 150
   Average relative humidity 75¢
   Mean daily temperatures January Max. 14°C., Min. 3°C; July Max. 27°C., Min. 13°C.
   In my garden, 10 miles NW of Pontevedra, the average number of air frosts of 1°C has been 6 during the last five years, and only three times had 2°C been recorded.
- (C) The Rias of Galicia are deep estuaries, like fiords. The Rias Altas are those around Corunna, and the Rias Bajas are on the west coast.
- (D) Transferred years later to the Municipality of Vigo, forming the nucleus of the Park of Quinones de Leon.
- (E) On the outskirts of Pontevedra, now occupied by blocks of flats.

# THESE CAMELLIAS ARE LOOKING GOOD IN NEW ZEALAND



# **OWEN MOORE**

Wanganui, New Zealand

In New Zealand camellias are judged mainly for their appeal as garden plants. They are grown in association with a wide range of shrubs, perennials, and in some cases bedding annuals. It is very fortunate, of course, when a plant which produces a wealth of bloom for garden display also produces bloom worthy of gracing a show bench and perhaps catching the eyes of the judging panel. Some varieties admirably meet both requirements.

Of course there is a complication — so many new varieties are being registered that it is impossible to keep up with them, and at the moment we are at a transition stage where some really exciting varieties are gaining general distribution, and will supersede many that have been considered good. On the other hand, I wonder how many of the new varieties will stand the test of time.

Whilst it is bewildering enough to members of a camellia society, the general gardening public, which plants thousands of camellias each year, has had no guidance available to enable it to choose from the catalogues or the plants displayed in nurseries and stores. With this in mind, the New Zealand Camellia Society in 1971 (Vol. VII No. 2 of its Bulletin) published a list of varieties considered worthy of an Award of Garden Merit. The original list has since been added to, as listed in July 1975 (Vol. IX No. 2). No undue emphasis has been placed on the size or dramatic appearance of flowers, and the varieties have not been selected on show-bench performance (although many have done well there). The main requirements were that they should be

- Good garden plants when grown under average conditions;
- Flower freely and reliably, and not subject to undue weather damage;
- 3. Sufficiently well distributed to enable observation over a wide area.

# Here are the varieties given an Award of Garden Merit in New Zealand:

# Sasangua

Plantation Pink Mine-No Yuki Sparkling Burgundy Bettie Patricia Navaio Showa-No-Sakae Crimson King Exquisite Chansonette Setsugekka

# Japonica

Guilio Nuccio
Moshio
Bokuhan (Tinsie)
Laurie Bray
Lady Clare
K. Sawada
Guest of Honor
Carter's Sunburst
Adolphe Audusson
Clarise Carleton
Grand Slam
Kitty Pink Diddy

Tiffany
R. L. Wheeler
Dr Tinsley
Grand Sultan
Dixie Knight
Berenice Boddy
Coronation
Onetia Holland
China Doll
Hatsu-Sakura (Daitarin)
Glen 40
Midnight
Tomorrow Park Hill

# Reticulata, including Reticulata Hybrids

Captain Rawes
Tzepao (Purple Gown)
William Hertrich
Confucius
Phyl Doak
Francie L
Liuyehinhung (Willow Wand)
Talicha (Tali Queen)
Tayinhung (Shot Silk)

Sungtzelin (Pagoda)
Tataohung (Crimson Robe)
Buddha
Barbara Clark
Fair Lass
Hoyehtiechih (Butterfly WIngs)
Moutancha
Tamanao (Cornelian)
Tsueban (Chrysamthemum Petal)

# Hybrids with no Reticulata Parentage

Donation Elegant Beauty Water Lily Elsie Jury El Dorado

E. G. Waterhouse Leonard Messel Debbie Anticipation Now what about newer varieties that may supersede something on the list? The awards committee of the New Zealand Camellia Society has consequently listed several varieties considered worthy of further attention: *Japonica*: 'Ace of Hearts', 'Bob's Tinsie', 'Grand Prix', 'Mark Allan', 'Mary Paige', 'Tom Knudsen', 'Twilight', 'Wildfire'. *Reticulata including Reticulata Hybrids*: 'Arch of Triumph', 'Balderdash', 'Brilliant Butterfly', 'Descanso Mist', 'Fire Chief', 'Greystone', 'Howard Asper', 'Lila Naff', 'Lisa Gael', 'Samantha', 'Valentine Day'. *Hybrids with no Reticulata Parentage*: 'Senorita', 'Wynne Rayner', 'Prudence', 'Snippet'.

Now for those that have done well on the show benches: 1973 Champion Bloom of the show, best retic. or retic. hybrid was 'Tzepao' (Purple Gown). Reserve Champion, 'Howard Asper'. Champion japonica, 'Elegans Supreme'. Champion hybrid other than retic. parentage, 'Grand Jury'. 1974 saw some of the newer varieties gaining the awards with 'Dr Clifford Parks' the Champion Bloom, best retic. or retic. hybrid. Reserve Champion was 'Lila Naff'. Champion japonica, 'Midnight'. Champion hybrid other than retic. parentage, 'Angel Wings'. The premier class at the national show in New Zealand is one for twenty-four blooms of different varieties or species. Last year's award-winning entry comprised: 'R. L. Wheeler', 'Guilio Nuccio', 'Water Lily', 'Jean Clere', 'Can Can', 'E. G. Waterhouse', 'Howard Asper', 'Grand Slam', 'Governor Earl Warren', 'Captain Rawes', 'Tzepao' (Purple Gown), 'Betty Sheffield Supreme', 'Wildfire', 'Guest of Honor', 'Tiffany', 'Maroon and Gold', 'Dixie Knight', 'Sungtzelin' (Pagoda), 'Ville de Nantes', 'Midnight', 'Grand Jury', 'Gwenneth Morey', 'Margaret Davis' and 'Elegans Supreme'.

Back to our title: Yes, some different varieties are looking good this year: 'Red China' is proving a wonderful garden plant; 'Leonora Novick' is considered our best white; 'Miss Charleston Var' really outstanding along with 'Island of Fire', 'Marguerite Cannon' and 'Silver Anniversary'.

But from what one hears, "we have not seen anything yet!" We eagerly await this year's National Show and our Convention garden visits.

# CAMELLIAS IN THE ENGLISH MIDLANDS

(continued from page 65)

A number of varieties of American origin which are supposed to produce paeony-form flowers throw formal doubles with us. The most notable is 'Betty Sheffield' and her sports. A few years ago the Boehm porcelain company came to us looking for a flower of 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' as a model. Alas, all we had ever had were rather flat formal doubles, and they naturally wanted a paeony-form flower. Lastyear a plant of 'Betty Sheffield Blush' produced some beautiful paeony-form flowers in an unheated plastic house. I quickly planted it out before anyone could sell it, but this year, outside, it has only produced the usual formal doubles.

Other varieties which come formal double with us are 'Centennial', 'Christine Lee', 'Daikagura', 'Pink Champagne' and 'Roosevelt Blues'. 'Elegans' varies, and this year some flowers have approached formal double. 'Queen Bessie' varied, having formal double flowers early, but paeony-form flowers later. 'Queen Bessie' varied in colour from palest blush early in the season to pale pink later. Other varieties which produced more colour as the season progressed were 'Dorothy James', 'King's Ransom' and 'Peach Blossom'. Towards the end of the season in a fine spell in May, the last flower on our freshly planted 'C. M. Hovey' was much deeper in colour than the earlier ones.

One wonders whether these various effects are due to variations in temperature, or light intensity, or both. However resolved, we are approaching the stage of making positive recommendations of varieties for planting in our rather marginal climate.

# **CAMELLIAS IN**

# The English Midlands

H. JOHN TOOBY

Bransford, Worcester, England

In the 1974 issue of the International Journal (p.21), Mr Milton Brown refers to the search of American growers and hybridists for more cold-hardy varieties. Camellias in Britain are concentrated in the milder south and west, and are usually planted in sheltered situations. Recently, with the spread of garden centres, the bolder (or more foolish?) among us are planting them in the midlands and the north.

Having a personal interest in Camellias as well as a Midlands nursery which supplies garden-centres from Scotland to Jersey, my colleagues and I visualise British housewives planting Camellias in suburban gardens all over the U.K. So we are very conscious of the need for varieties which won't let them down. Even here at Worcester we are beyond the 52 degrees parallel, the latitude of south Labrador or north Sakhalin. Our cool summers and mild winters are often interrupted by warm or cold spells of varying intensity and duration. This year we had cold weather late March and early April, with cold winds and snow showers that interrupted the season just as flowering was getting under way. Maybe the task is more complex here than in the U.S.A., as several factors are involved.

Our coldest recent spring was in 1963 when we had deep snow, cold winds and very low temperatures for about two months, down to 5 degrees F at its coldest. This did little permanent damage to established bushes, but decimated those in tubs or pots, and demonstrated in no uncertain manner the advantage of planting out strong two-year old plants.

The establishment problem may be complicated by our soil, which is based on Keuper Marl, on the heavy side, and with pH close to 7. However that may be, we find that a number of popular varieties are often difficult to establish here. These include 'Aaron's Ruby, 'Adolphe Audusson', 'Hatsu-Sakura', 'Herme', 'Mathotiana', 'Mathotiana Rosea' and 'Tiffany'.

Having established your plant, the next hurdle is to get buds on it. Camellias flowered marvellously in Britain in 1974 when a mild winter and spring followed the hot summer of 1973. This year, following a changeable 1974 August and September and another mild winter, there is a different story with generally poorer results. Gardeners in the north and west seem to have had fewer flowers than those in the Midlands and South-east. Generally speaking, williamsii and other hybrids have performed well, with 'Gloire de Nantes' the best of the *japonica*. Most varieties have done well here, and though some produced few or no flower buds, some others were really outstanding — 'Apollo', 'Dainty Dale', 'Inspiration', 'Margaret Ratcliffe', 'Mercury' and 'Sunset Glory'.

We can lose a lot of buds in a severe winter, but some varieties seem more prone than others to bud damage, notably 'Dorothy James', 'Pink Perfection' ('otome') and 'Tiffany'. Others produce smaller flowers than normal after cold weather; these include 'Dobrei', 'Jupiter', 'Shira Giku' and 'Rubescens Major'.

Our Camellias are deliberately planted with little regard for shelter. In our rather spartan conditions we find that many pink, white and striped varieties of *C. japonica* have their flowers quickly marked by the weather, be it wind, rain or sun. This is much more noticeable here than in warmer gardens further south. *williamsii* and other hybrids seem to be much more tolerant, particularly 'Donation' and 'Inspiration', as do many red and a few dark pink *japonicas*. 'Angela Cocchi Pink' and 'Governor Earl Warren' are noteworthy, as is the white-edged 'Yours Truly'.

(continued page 64)



Headquarters building of the American Camellia Society at Massee Lane, Fort Valley, Georgia.

# American Camellia Society

**JOSEPH H. PYRON** 

Executive Secretary Emeritus, ACS

Camellias were not introduced to America until John Stevens of Hoboken, New Jersey, imported the old single red from England in 1797 or 1798. 'ALBA PLENA' was imported by Michael Floy, an English nurseryman, when he established a nursery in New York City in 1800. Camellias were offered for sale in the early 1800's in Boston, Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Pensacola, Mobile and New Orleans. They were advertised by nurserymen in San Francisco and Sacramento in 1852.

By 1829, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society (Boston) and the Philadelphia Horticultural Society exhibited camellias in their general flower shows. Boston established a separate camellia show in 1839 and has held an annual show since that time. In the Boston and Philadelphia areas camellias were considered greenhouse or "stove plants", for their flowering out-of-doors was too uncertain.

In the milder climate of Charleston, Savannah and along the Gulf Coast, camellias soon became popular garden subjects. San Francisco and Sacramento exhibited camellias soon after their introduction in 1852.

Practically all of the early introductions were *Camellia japonica*, and rarely was a verietal name given. As more and more varieties appeared, local names were given, often the name of the grower, nursery or location. This occasioned considerable confusion, with one variety being advertised under as many as seven or eight names.

During and after the War Between the States, the South was bankrupe in its struggle for existence. Gardens were neglected or abandoned. In his infamous March to the Sea, General Sherman's troops ruthlessly burned and plundered plantations and cities in their path. Camellias and other ornamentals declined in popularity, and it was not until the 1920's and 1930's that there was any considerable revival of interest.

Growers soon organized local groups to put on camellia shows, but there was no organized exchange of information.

The first camellia organization designed to be national in scope was the Azalea and Camellia Society of America, headquartered in Macon, Georgia, with T. J. Stewart as President and H. T. Connor as Secretary. This was in 1932. A small annual was published for a few years. Its purpose

was to promote greater interest in these plants, and to attempt to find correct names of the many varieties. This small, mostly local, society was officially merged with the American Camellia Society on March 29, 1946, including membership roster and assets of \$400.00.

Following the Savannah show on February 10, 1945, at the suggestion of several growers present, Judge Arthur W. Solomon organized a dinner meeting. T. Jeff Smith of McRae, an early importer and collector, suggested the formation of an organization to be known as the American Camellia Society. This would be truly nationwide, even international in scope. The purposes of the society would be not only the standardization of nomenclature and registration of now varieties, but would also serve as a means of dissemination of scientific research and other information concerning culture, history and other phases of camellia interest. Standardization of judging and shows was a goal.

A committee was appointed to develop plans to be presented before a meeting of exhibitors and nurserymen to be held at the Dempsey Hotel in Macon on September 29, 1945. A letter of invitation was sent to one hundred and eleven camellia enthusiasts throughout the South, the Gulf Coast and the West Coast. Forty-four attended the meeting. Dave C. Strother presided. A charter and by-laws was presented and adopted with certain changes.

Dr H. Harold Hume of the University of Florida, a distinguished camellia authority, was elected President, with T. J. Smith as Treasurer. The Secretary, R. J. Wilmot, was instructed to have the Society incorporated as a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Florida.

By the time of the first annual meeting in Savannah on February 9, 1946, the Secretary reported 683 members had paid in \$6,884.60. A quarterly mimeographed newsletter was authorized. Annual dues were set at \$3.00. By December 31, 1946, 1749 members were enrolled with an income of \$10,940.00. Thus the new society was off to an excellent beginning during its first year of existence.

Our first Headquarters was in a small wooden two-room laboratory on the University of Florida campus in Gainesville. We soon outgrew this limited space, so the office was moved next door in an old residence. Although drafty and unattractive, the space was provided without cost by the University.

The ACS Governing Board cast around for more adequate quarters. Several sites were offered or considered. The generous offer of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia of space at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station in Tifton, Georgia was accepted. This limited space was also soon outgrown, and there was no space to seat members and others visiting Headquarters. As we began to accumulate a library there was no room for this, nor for storing back issues of Yearbooks and Journals.

Dave C. Strother, developer of the famous Massee Lane Camellia Garden near Fort Valley, Georgia, was asked to consider donating his garden as the site of a permanent Headquarters. He agreed, and offered to maintain the garden until ACS could provide a means of financing its upkeep and build a fireproof building. In addition, he contributed generously toward the building fund, and bequeathed \$50,000 in his will.

At this point it became necessary to establish an Endowment Fund for building and maintaining a Headquarters, since no part of annual dues are available for this purpose. The building was completed in 1968 and a modern greenouse, a deep well and automatic sprinkling system installed for the 7 acre garden.

A long needed addition was the building of a suitable residence at the garden for the Executive Secretary/Editor. This was completed in 1973 and is now occupied by the present Executive Secretary/Editor, Milton H. Brown, and his wife Ann.

Other improvements made by direct donations include the outstanding collection of Boehm porcelain birds and its beautiful building; entrance gates, a fountain, electronic chimes; renovation of a barn to serve as a place for camellia shows, barbecues and other activities

The late Dave C. Strother, who donated his Massee Lane garden to the American Camellia Society.

connected with the society. The Middle Georgia Camellia Society was responsible for the latter improvement.

The American Camellia Society administers several awards sponsored by individuals or groups other than the society and itself awards medals, plaques, certificates and honors authorized by resolution of its Governing Board. These are:

The Illges Medal Award for outstanding *japonica* seedlings. It is awarded only when deserved, not on an annual basis.

The Ralph S. Peer Sasanqua Seedling Award is a silver bowl for *Camellia sasanqua*, *C. hiemalis* or *C. vernalis* seedlings. The bowl is retained by the society, however a plaque is awarded to the originator.



The Harris Hybrid Award is a plaque for a hybrid involving a cross of two or more species of the genus camellia. Awarded to originator.

The Sewell Mutant Award is a silver bowl to the selector/propagator of a true mutant or sport which holds true when propagated. The introducion must be a distinct break in color and/or form.

The newest award was donated by the Australian Camellia Research Society for the best bloom of Australian origin exhibited at the ACS Annual Meeting. The trophy, which will be retained at Headquarters, is a beautiful tray of Australian silver with a large opal embedded. The winner will be given an appropriate certificate.

Other awards granted by the society are the Bronze Plaque in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of welfare of the society. Not more than one plaque may be given in one year.

Another coveted award is a Fellowship in recognition of substantial and new contributions to scientific knowledge in the culture, care and knowledge of camellias, or in the development of out-camellia clones or hybrids, or similar advances in camellia culture. Not more than two people may be so honored in any one five year period. Fellows receive life memberships.

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as reported to the Editor on 25 August, 1975

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for "Hina-nongyo" read "Hina-ningyo" for "veneration" read "venation" for "leaf axials" read "leaf axils".

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