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The American Peony Society Bulletin



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KINGWOOD CENTER
900 West Park Avenue Mansfield, Ohio

KINGWOOD CENTER, Bulletin Cover

Kingwood Center is a delightful spot in north central Ohio where the gardening sciences join the arts in a cultural setting. It is a lovely and pleasant place to visit and enjoy. But more significantly, it is an educational center encouraging the home gardener to become more personally involved in the art, science, and pleasure of gardening; to become more aware and appreciative of natural worlds about him; and to be exposed to more of the cultural art forms which add to the quality of life itself.

National Convention, 78th Annual Meeting, and 76th Annual Peony Exhibition June 12, 13, and 14, 1981 Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio U.S. Highway 42, South of Highway U.S. 30

Your peonies have been disbudded; now label, bag, cut, and exhibit them at the National Exhibition.

In cutting flowers for show purposes, it takes experience to know just when the proper time for cutting has arrived. A few points to remember are as follows: Singles, semi-doubles, and Japanese type varieties can be cut in firmer bud formation than can the full doubles. The experienced exhibitor will place paper sacks over the buds he has selected for his exhibition blooms well in advance of cutting them. This cutting should be done just before the calyx breaks, or when there is a slight feeling of softness under the touch. Bags should not be removed to determine this stage of development. In fact, they should not be removed until after the blooms have been taken to the showroom from the storage room, the stems freshly cut, ready to be placed in containers of fresh water. If the specimens are pretty well developed in the sacks, they might be left on until one is ready to remove them to the various classes provided by the exhibition committee. It is most interesting to watch them unfold with all their loveliness, as though they were eager to compete and display their beauty to the public. The sacking will retain all the delicate tints and shades that the sun would otherwise soon dissipate. It is like cutting a bud about to burst into blooms and removing it into the house for its final dress rehearsal.

Fifth District Peony Exhibition: June 6-7, 1981, Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg, Illinois

Minnesota Peony Society Exhibition: June 20-21, 1981, Har Mar Mall, 2100 North Snelling, Roseville, Minnesota

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DEPT. OF REGISTRATION

The department was formed to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies. All new varieties should be registered to avoid duplication of names.

Greta M. Kessenich, Secretary

OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Section (2) That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the Peony; to improve the methods of its cultivation and methods of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any kind of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held exhibitions, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor or in any other manner.

The AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY BULLETIN is the official Society publication. It is mailed postpaid quarterly to all members in good standing.

MEMBERSHIP

The By-Laws state: All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are interested in the Peony, its propagation, culture, sale and development are eligible for membership. Dues are as follows:

Single Annual.....	\$ 7.50	Junior or member family.....	\$ 2.50
Single Triennial.....	20.00	Life.....	150.00
Family Annual.....	10.00	Commercial membership.....	25.00
Family Triennial.....	27.50		

Family membership, any two related members in same household.....One Bulletin
Junior membership, any age through completion of high school.....Separate Bulletin

For those who wish to further support the Society, the following special memberships are available.

Contributing.....	\$25.00	Supporting.....	\$100.00
Sustaining.....	50.00	Patron.....	250.00



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

The beauty of spring! The trees and shrubs are dressed in their green finery, the herbaceous peonies are in bud, and the tree peonies are ready to show off their magnificent colors. This is the time to make plans to enlarge your garden with some of the peonies that extend the blooming season.

After a long winter, the beauty of the peony gives one hope and a new beginning. It is good to be in the garden enjoying nature. When the peonies are peeking through the ground, it is then that we hear and see the long V-shape flight of wild geese going north to their favorite lakes. It is good to look up in the heavens and have that feeling that all is right in the universe. The gardens will soon be ablaze with color, the peony giving its share of beauty with several weeks of bloom.

The tree peony is the first to bloom, then hybrids, and on to the early, midseason, and late varieties of the herbaceous. The colors of the tree peony are magnificent and exotic. Some blooms are large, some are full doubles, and some are single with suffused shades interposed by the art of peony breeding. The peony is truly "the king of all flowers."

The hybrids are in a class all their own, with colors indescribable. They are so vivid, striking, lively, and bright with a brilliant sheen of glowing beauty. We all know the huge doubles that have always been referred to as "the peonies of all peonies"! Can they ever be surpassed? This is doubtful, because in their own class they excel in size, depth of beauty, and refinement. Some of the colors are soft and dainty, and many are fragrant. They also have all shades of the dark and brilliant reds and dark and lovely pinks, as well as the blending of tones.

The Japanese peonies are glamorous, possessing dignity, standing straight and tall, and defying the rainy season as well as the singles. All these, together with semi-doubles, have a definite place in a garden of peonies.

So take time to "smell the flowers" in your busy life. Visit peony gardens and select the varieties and types that you would like to grow. Then patronize a commercial grower of peonies. You will receive a good, strong division that will give you enjoyment for years when properly planted and given good care.

I hope to see you at the annual meeting and show at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, on June 12, 13, and 14.

Irvin Ewing

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUIZ LETTER OF MARCH 16th

Toichi Domoto, Hayward, California

TRANSPLANTING SEASON TREE PEONIES

Early to mid-September. For us in the Bay area of California, determine by digging near the outer perimeter of the plant and checking for root dormancy. No new white root hairs will be evident. The plant will still be in full foliage; it won't even be starting to change color.

METHOD

Remove all leaves. Dig plant bare root rather than with a soil ball (B&B). To be of benefit, the soil ball would be too large and too heavy to handle without special equipment. Start digging and removing soil at least one foot beyond branches and work toward center. If soil is hard, try hydraulic digging (a high pressure of water with a coarse nozzle at the end of the hose).

We have found that leaving the soil around the ball and cutting the roots back (severely) is of little or no benefit, especially if being transplanted into soil of different texture; for example, dobe to sand or vise versa.

When removing or moving roots prior to taking out of the hole, avoid extreme bending. Tree peony roots have a hard, woody inner section surrounded by a starchy, fleshy section. Any cracks in this outer root layer may be a source for root rot.

Plants in sandy soil usually have thinner roots with more forks to them. Those in heavier (good rose soil) have fewer, thicker, and less branched roots. They may extend farther out.

Root pieces are of no value unless they are large enough to be used in grafting. They should be at least 12 inches long. We have never had any bud development when left in the ground or dug and sectioned. Some of the luteas develop plants but the hybrids have not. The Moutan or suffruticosa group never have.

AFTER TAKING PLANT OUT OF HOLE . . .

This step will take nerve. Close your eyes and cut back all top growth to six or eight inches of the base. Should the plant show natural divisibility, it is best to divide.

You have sacrificed flowers for one season and also top growth, but the dormant buds will be forced into growth in the spring. This shoot or shoots will develop from the base enough to produce flower the second season. (In our area the old stems can be removed after the plant is established.)

Planting

Planting is the same as for any bare root shrub. Spread root

carefully, cover and water in.

SHIPPING, PACKING

Allow the plant to dry in the shade for several days. This will cause the roots to become limber and thus be handled without cracking the outer root layer. Tie the roots together carefully; wrap damp sphagnum moss around the roots. (If sphagnum is not available place root into plastic bag and add damp peat moss for filler. Tie the package securely to keep the moss from shifting away from the roots.)

NOTE: MARKETING

In our early years, we sold plants from the seedling field. We allowed the customers to mark the plant in bloom and we delivered the bare rooted plant in September (not pruned back). These usually flowered in our customer's garden the first season, but they would take at least two to three years to flower again. We had complaints. Many of the semi and double forms would not develop the petalage after transplanting. We were accused of switching labels or sending inferior plants. We are happy to say that a number of the customers came back later and paid us for the replaced plant. I like to think that the others did not have the patience that a true peony lover possesses.



While visiting New Zealand I had the pleasure of meeting three peony lovers who are members of the American Peony Society.

Miss Leslie Anderson of Christchurch has an excellent selection of flowers with over 50 peony varieties in her garden. She spends a great deal of time tending her garden. Her house and grounds are very beautifully landscaped, reflecting the care and attention given to them.

Miss B. A. Waller, also of Christchurch, has a lovely home situated on the Avon River. Her house is surrounded by a multitude of shrubs and flowers. Her grounds reflect a very avid interest in gardening.

Mr. D. E. Archer of Kaiapoi has a peony collection in excess of 2,000 plants in a very attractive setting of shrubs and flowers surrounding his house. He serves as editor and writer for various horticultural publications in New Zealand.

I found the people in New Zealand to be very garden conscious and outgoing, and the country itself was very scenic, interesting, and beautiful, with a great many contrasting hills and plains.

Unfortunately, while I was in Australia, time did not permit me to see any of our Australian members.

—Chuck Klehm, Charles Klehm and Son Nursery,
Arlington Heights, Illinois

CULTURE OF THE PEONY

The peony stands at the head of the list of hardy plants, since it will live year after year even if totally neglected. But, like corn and potatoes, it must have intensive cultivation to come to its greatest perfection. It is for those persons who like to give the plant the best chance possible to show what it can do that the following cultural directions have been prepared.

Location and Soil. Peonies should be planted where they will receive full sun and where the soil will not be impoverished by the roots of trees and large shrubs. A well-drained soil is necessary to good results, as peonies will not do well when the ground is wet and soggy. The heavier soils produce the best blooms.

Preparation for Receiving Plants. If a regular bed is to be set out, begin preparations a month before the plants arrive. If the soil is fairly good garden soil suitable for raising vegetables, plow or spade to the depth of eight inches. Then work up the soil, level it off, and leave until time to set the plants. Top fertilization will be sufficient. But if you have filled soil of poor quality dig it out to the depth of two feet. Fill in about a foot of well-packed compost, humus, and/or well-rotted manure. Then continue with twelve inches of good garden soil, packing it down and leaving it to settle.

To produce the finest blooms, peonies should be planted three feet apart each way. Four feet is better. They should not be placed where the soil will be sapped by the roots of large trees or where they will be crowded by other plants.

Set the plants so that the tops of the pink or white buds will come two inches below the surface. Work the soil in around the roots with the fingers. Press down firmly with the heel, being careful not to injure the buds. Then fill the hole with loose soil and mound it up about two inches above the surrounding surface. This last step insures the shedding of water during the first winter. After the ground is frozen, apply a light mulch of straw, wild hay, or corn stalks.

Cultivation. When gardening time comes in the spring, remove the mulch and level the mound. As soon as the buds appear above the ground, begin cultivating, and cultivate until the plants are in bloom. The soil should be stirred to the depth of two inches close to the plant and three farther away. If the plants are in rows, cultivate to the depth of six inches between the rows. After the blooming season cultivate enough to keep down the weeds.

If the peonies are planted as specimens on the lawn, the sod should be removed around each plant in a circle at least three feet in diameter. The soil from which the sod is removed should be continually stirred in the spring from the appearance of the plants until the blooms are about to open.

Watering. In times of drought, give an occasional thorough water-

ing. A liberal supply of water during the blooming season will help greatly to make fine flowers. A good way to water is to dig a little trench around a plant about six inches from the stalks and pour in two or three pails of water at a time. Where plants are in rows an entire row may be easily watered by digging a trench on each side and filling from the hose. Such a watering will last for a week. The ordinary sprinkling is useless. After the blooming season, cease watering.

Cutting Back the Plant. In cutting flowers, be sure to allow at least two leaves to remain on each stem to insure root growth for another year. After the blooms have fallen, cut off the flower buds and trim the plant enough to make it shapely. In this way it will remain an attractive feature of the garden throughout the summer. In the early fall it is safe to cut the stalks to the ground.

Winter Protection. In such localities as Illinois, Ohio, and southern Iowa, snow cannot be depended upon to furnish continuous covering; and in northern Minnesota, North Dakota, and Canada, high winds often sweep the ground bare of snow. Here the ground is likely to heave, and a light covering such as has been recommended for newly set plants should be furnished each winter. But in northern Iowa, southern Minnesota, and Wisconsin, where the ground is covered throughout the winter with more or less snow, no mulch is necessary after the first year.

Why Peonies Do Not Bloom. "Why don't my peonies bloom?" This is one of the most common questions that come to our office. We are going to give what we believe are the chief causes of failure with peonies. Each person will probably be able to determine the one or ones which apply to his peonies.

A common cause of trouble is lack of cultivation. Peonies are often planted in the lawn and the grass allowed to grow up into the roots. You would not expect a good crop of corn or potatoes under such conditions. Peonies, like garden crops, need thorough cultivation.

Peonies need abundant food and moisture. If they are planted near large trees, the soil will be robbed of both water and food elements. As a rule the roots of large trees sap the soil for a distance equal to the height of the tree. Grass may do well under and near trees but peonies will not.

Peonies need sunshine. They should not be planted where they will not receive it for a large part of the day.

Too deep planting is, perhaps, the most common cause of lack of bloom. Peony roots, as has been said, should be so set that the little pink or red buds will come two inches below the surface of the ground. If set deeper, the buds will form up on the stem instead of on the fleshy root and are not likely to produce flowers.

Everyone knows that the peony may be propagated by root division; that is, that if a new plant of *Festiva Maxima* is wanted, it may

be produced by cutting from an old clump a division consisting of a portion of the root with a part of the crown adhering. But some persons may not know that a new plant of *Festiva Maxima* cannot be produced also by planting seed from this variety. But the fact is that the modern peony is the product of many crosses, and so does not "come true" from seed. That is, even if plants of a single variety are so isolated that they cannot be fertilized by the pollen from another variety and the seeds produced are planted, the seedlings resulting will give flowers that vary widely in color and form. The plants themselves will differ in color of foliage, habits of growth, etc. Every one of the seedlings may be inferior to the parent stock; but, on the other hand, one or more may prove superior to it in some important characteristic at least. Thus we see that although seeds cannot be used in the propagation of old varieties, they are the essential thing in the production of new sorts.

Now, if different varieties are grown side by side, wind, bees, and butterflies will carry pollen from bloom to bloom and thus bring about cross-pollenization. The seeds thus produced will, of course, bear much greater possibilities of variation than those produced by a single variety. And if the parent stocks are fine varieties, their descendants are more likely to be worthwhile than are the descendants of common stock.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PEONY PLANTINGS

As Hedges. Peonies make fine hedges for division lines between lots, along driveways and walks, or as borders for vegetable gardens.

If you have other places on your ground for the growing of peonies you will probably plant these hedges for color effect. In this case plantings of one color and variety closely set will be most effective. However, if all of your peonies must go into the hedge, you had better make a compromise and plant partly for color effect and partly for full development of individual blooms. In this case, choose some varieties for one purpose and some for the other purpose; give the choice plants more room, and disbud them.

When first set, the peonies of a hedge may be alternated with iris or fine varieties of perennial phlox. A succession of bloom will thus be furnished. Such a border can often be so planned that it can be widened when the peony plants are three or four years old. The other plants can then be moved to the front.

In Shrubbery and Perennial Borders. The peony is indispensable for furnishing masses of color in mixed borders. In long borders, the best effects will be produced by setting two or more plants of one variety in a group, alternating the color of the groups. Scatter single plants through a short border. In choosing varieties select early, midseason, and late varieties and thus insure a long season of bloom.

In Garden Rows. To secure quantities of flowers for cutting and

also to produce the most beautiful blooms, plant in rows in the garden. Here cultivation is easy, and the flowers can be cut without interfering with color effects in the more decorative plantings.

ADVICE TO THE PEONY COLLECTOR

We have all kinds of collectors in the world. We have the collector of canceled postage stamps, the collector of old coins, the collector of beautiful pieces of china, and so on without end. And we also have the collector of peonies.

Now, the making of a collection of peonies is a fine thing so long as it is carried out along the right lines. The collector of canceled postage stamps adds to his collection every different stamp he can possibly beg, buy, or steal. It doesn't make any difference whether it is a pretty stamp or not. It must be different, and preferably it must be something hard to get. The question of looks has nothing to do with it. But it is different with peonies. What the collector of peonies should be after is beauty, and beauty only.

Why, some people have what is called the "peony bug" so badly that they lose sight of the idea of beauty entirely in making their collections and let all sorts of other notions guide their choice. However, what we all should want, as far as peonies are concerned, is good peonies, good peonies only, and more of them.

Every enthusiastic peony collector becomes wrapped up in his flowers. He is interested only in named varieties and wants to have a personal acquaintance with each variety in his collection. If his collection is large he will need to make in a book a plat or a number of plats showing the exact location of each in his plantings. In any company of peony growers there are likely to be several who will be eager to explain their particular system of plats and keys.

Show Flowers. By the term "show flowers" we mean flowers that are produced for the beauty of the individual bloom whether they serve to give pleasure to the grower and his friends alone or are intended for exhibition at flower shows. The true flower enthusiast is likely to be more interested in developing the greatest possible beauty in individual blooms than he is in producing mass effects. The peony grower who wishes to devote some of his plants to the production of exceptionally fine flowers may find the following suggestions helpful. Set the plants where they can be thoroughly cultivated, and keep the soil loose from early spring through the blooming season. Give each plant plenty of room to develop, as the three-year-olds give the finest flowers.

If there is a lack of moisture, give occasional thorough watering from the time the buds begin to develop.

Disbud the plants. That is, pinch out the side buds when about the size of a pea, leaving only the central bud to develop.

Cut the flower as the bud seems to be opening. Remove most of the

leaves. Place in water about eight inches deep, being careful that no water touches the bloom. Set in a cool dark room. Treated in this way, the color develops to its fullest perfection and the texture of the petals is stiffened. For producing mass effects, varieties having a strong color which is not affected by the sun have been advised. But for show blooms, it is apparent that flowers having fine, delicate coloring are equally desirable, for the color can be preserved by cutting in the bud and developing in the house.

(The previous 4 pages, from The Culture of the Peony, were taken from a peony manual written and published by Mr. A. M. Brand in 1923-1924. This material was submitted by Myron D. Bigger, Topeka, Kansas.)

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY BOOTH AT NURSERYMEN'S SHOW, KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Leila A. Bradfield

Every other year the Southwestern Michigan Landscape and Nurserymen Association plans a landscape and garden show in collaboration with the Kalamazoo County Extension Office.

1981's theme, "March into Spring," came at a most appropriate time: March 4 to 7, with one and a half inches of snow covering the countryside. The focal point of the show was a "Theme Room" that the landscapers and nurserymen and women designed by bringing some spring magic into the area.

In addition, a larger commercial exhibit room contained the many displays of agencies and business firms of the city which supply materials for this area. A second large room contained the educational exhibits, which included booths set up by The American Peony Society; Dutch Mountain Nursery, who displayed prairie plants; Kalamazoo County Parks; The Kalamazoo Garden Council, who had an exhibit of house plants and their care; The Michigan Nut Growers Association, showing the wide variety of nuts that are hardy in our region; The Kalamazoo Gladiolus Society; The Southwestern Iris Society; The Kalamazoo County Coop Extension Service, and The Kalamazoo Orchid Society, who had a large display of their orchids.

The American Peony Society booth was at the entrance to the room. It was decorated with a large display of the full-color *Bulletin* covers of many back issues. David Reath sent enlargements of the peonies in his catalog as well as Anthony DeBlasi's magnificent pictures of the Japanese tree peonies which appeared in the last issue of *The American Horticulturist*. On the tables were many issues of the *Bulletin* from the immediate past few years, The American Peony Society *Handbook of the Peony*, and catalogs from Klehm's and

Wild's. Needless to say, this made a very colorful table that caught the eye of every passerby.

Chris Laning also brought dishes of peony seed (tetraploids, lactifloras, and mixed), a pot of six-inch-high seedlings, two freshly dug peony roots, and dried peony seed pods. These were the "piece de resistance" of the show, for no one knew that peonies set seed that could be germinated or that seed pods are formed so attractively for dry arrangements.

What did the public wish to know about peonies? The greatest number of inquiries centered around the question, "Why don't my peonies bloom?" This involved further information, but often I heard Chris say to them, "Maybe you need to try some new hybrids as well as growing the old doubles that you inherited."

One lady in particular stopped and asked Chris why her peonies didn't bloom. In turn, Chris said, "Well, why don't they?" She answered, "Well, for one thing, my husband keeps mowing them down," to which Chris responded, "Then it's simple. The first thing you want to do is get rid of your husband!"

All of this good humor and the many questions answered made our booth a very popular place. Many people attended from out of state and all areas. Nostalgia for peonies of yore was great during Senior Citizens' Day. Many wanted to know where the "Memorial Day" peony could be purchased or where the Hawaiian peony that closes up at night could be found!

The colored slides of the Society sent us by Mr. Edblom were a great asset as they were projected on a glass screen so that people could view the peonies from both sides. Chris gave two lectures using the slides; there was a very wonderful attendance at both. Chris and Lois Laning and myself manned the booth, with help from other friends.

This educational exhibit would not have been possible without the generous contributions of material from Greta Kessenich, Mr. Roy Klehm, Mr. Richard Edblom, Dr. David Reath, and Mr. Allen Wild. Many thanks to all of you who helped in disseminating knowledge about the peony.

FROM THE AVANT GARDENER, VOLUME 12, NO. 17

Elm trees removed due to Dutch elm disease need not be burned or buried, says Charles Kostichka of the University of Wisconsin (Madison, Wisconsin 53706). The lumber can be saved by placing it in a pile less than six feet high and covering it with clear plastic (bury the edges in the soil) from April through August to let the sun kill the disease-carrying beetles.

FROM THE MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING NEWS

by Betty Jean Forcier

When retiree Gus Sindt turns up at a peony show, whether it be local or national, his fellow exhibitors wilt, even if their flowers don't. That's because this 32-year 3Mer's single flower entrees have a habit of winning. His wife, Charlotte, is no stranger to the winners' Court of Honor with her floral arrangements, either.

At this year's American Peony Society annual show, Sindt's flowers brought him more best-of-show honors than he's ever reaped in national competition. Of fifteen categories in the Court of Honor, six were topped by his blooms.

"I'm a past president of the Society and currently serve on its board of directors," he states, "and I've attended the national shows all over the United States and in Canada every year since 1964."

This year, Sindt's "peony patch" boasted 145 different varieties. His dwarf and median iris garden has more than 600 varieties of that flower.

"I grew up on a farm near Pipestone, Minnesota, and I guess that's why I've always been interested in growing things," he noted. "I prefer to show peonies because they're so easy to handle and they keep well."

When he retired in 1976, this 3Mer was a statistics and quality control supervisor in the Industrial Abrasives Division laboratory. He spent his entire career, with the exception of the last two months, in Building 2. Originally, he was hired as a chemist in the old Glue Bond Lab and his first assignment was to work on the development of a glass-beaded tympan paper which still is used on letterpress printing presses. That product was the beginning of what is now the Printing Products Division.

His career behind him, Sindt is content to grow the flowers he loves and feed the many species of birds which inhabit the woods around his home.

"My only complaint about retirement," he says, "is that there just isn't enough time to do all the things I want!"



Write to Milton Anderson, 22179 Keather Ave. N., Forest Lake, Minnesota 55025, for his commercial list of peonies available for fall planting.



**If you cut a tree, plant a tree.
It is nature's replaceable energy.**

THE SHAPE OF THE TREE PEONY LEAF

by John Simkins, Oakville, Ontario, Canada

A few years ago I wrote a note on the shape of the first two or three leaves on seedling peonies. Since then several members have asked about the shape of tree peony leaves and if there are distinguishing leaf shapes for certain types or varieties. I'm not sure we can answer the question, but I have copied a selection of leaves and will make any comments I can on them.

In the tree peony garden one can readily pick out five classifications by shape. These are Japanese, Saunders and *Daphnis lutea* hybrids, *lutea* hybrid F-2's, Wisley Gardens F-2's of *lutea* *Suffruticosa*, and Itoh's and Rock's variety of *P. Suffruticosa*.

Tree peony leaves are generally pointed, with three points predominating on the main leaf tips. There are usually five three-pointed tips on each leaf. The leaf could be looked on as a combination of three sub-leaf groups of three leaves each. One exception to this grouping is Rock's variety, which has five groups of five leaves. The leaves are much smaller than any other type; so small, in fact, that the main leaf is usually smaller than any others. This is especially evident in seedlings, and they can be picked out quite easily. The Wisley garden *lutea* x *suffruticosa* also has groups of five leaves but only has three of them.

The other variation in leaf placement is in the joining spot of the two faler leaves; in general there is an inch or so of stem, the *Daphnis* F-2 and the Itoh's excepting when the tip leaves and the flankers join together at the stem. Two of the Japanese examples follow the general rule.

The other variation is in the width of the individual leaves in relation to their length. In general, the *luteas* have larger, thinner leaves than any others in the species, especially the Wisley *luteas*. The latter are usually tall plants reaching to six feet so really stand out more noticeably. Saunders' Chinese Dragon and Daredevil have quite thin leaf segments, but the leaves are wide. They are lower-growing, wider plants and stand out with their feathery appearance.

The Itohs have a distinctive leaf shape in that the triple points are quite small. It appears to me that in the struggle of the genes the three-pointed leaf just won out over the single point.

I hope this short exposition and the photos will aid the members in looking for this feature. This will add another dimension to our enjoyment of the peony. Any other observations, comments, or questions would certainly be of interest. The leaf photos were done on a Xerox-type machine.



Chinese Dragon



Princess



Japanese



Mystery



R.H.S.



R.H.S. Lutea x
Suffruticosa



Rocks Variety



Japanese



Japanese



Saunders
Daredevil



Lutea species



Mystery



Shukhima



Daphnis F-2



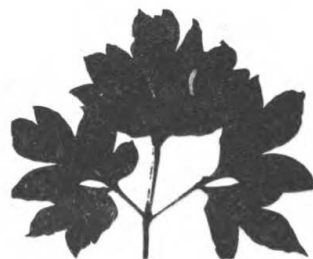
Daphnis B.C.



Shukhima



Itoh 3



Itoh 3

JUST WHEN DID THE BRAND PEONY FARM AND NURSERY START?

by Bob Tischler

For all the years that I knew of it, the Brand Peony Farm and Nursery was always advertised as having started in 1868. However, in the back of Boyd's Peony Book you will find an ad stating that it was established in 1867. Now I have discovered catalogs that are older than either of these two dates. One is dated 1858 to 1897. This catalog lists the name as the Faribault Nursery with O. F. Brand as proprietor. In this same catalog I find at the top of each page the heading "Brand's Nursery." I am confused, but these old papers are so interesting to look over now. One has to wonder just how those old-timers did so much with the prices and conditions as they were in those old days.

On the inside of the front page is the following wording: "Purchasers cannot fail to appreciate the advantage of dealing directly with a well-known firm that has been so long engaged in the testing and proving of fruits and plants for this climate over that of buying from irresponsible agents or nurserymen with only ten or a dozen years of experience in this climate. There is more than money paid for the stock to be considered, for it is generally too late for correction after imposition has been discovered, and valuable time has been lost. Hence the necessity of getting the right things to start with. The character for accuracy, promptness, and fair dealing which we have earned and enjoyed for more than thirty years renders it entirely unnecessary for us to publish a list of references. Our thousands of customers are our references, the best that can be desired."

The following is another quote: "We expect to astonish the world in the next ten years with new apples and plums. Of new and superior hybrids we now offer. . . . These are all trademarked to protect them from the tree sharks, who, we are sorry to say, are so prominent, both in and out of the state Horticultural Society. They are composed of a class of men who have no ability of their own to bring out valuable things but are always standing by, ready to pirate upon the labors and property of others. Let society condemn them."

Under the listings of new apples I find the variety *Euella*, one of Brand's originations. I quote him as follows: "As this is the most valuable early apple ever originated and every farmer and fruit grower in the land will want some of them, I am obliged to throw around it the same safeguard I did around the peerless apple in order to keep pirates from imposing on the public spurious stock sold as *Euella*. I shall keep all buds, scions, and trees out of the hands of everyone until the fall of 1899 or 1900. As the word *Euella* is a word that I coined or created expressly for this apple, I shall permit no one to use the name except persons who have failed to find names good enough for their darling girl babies. They will be allowed to use it as a first name for that purpose."

— 16 —

Apple trees in this catalog are priced at 25¢ each for a four- to five-foot tree, or \$3 per dozen. A five- to six-foot tree is priced at 35¢ each or \$4 per dozen. Unless otherwise noted, stock is shipped postpaid. There is also an apple named Faribault.

The following is a listing of some of the items listed in this catalog: Raspberries, 50¢ a dozen or \$2 per hundred; currants and gooseberries, 25¢ each or \$2 per dozen; strawberries, 35¢ a dozen or \$2 per hundred (four kinds); white birch trees, six- to seven-foot, 50¢ each; rose bushes, 50¢ each or three for \$1; peonies, rosea or Tenuifolia Flore Pleno, \$1 each. (Check prices on these now!) There are fifteen other varieties of peonies listed that I have never heard of, nor can I pronounce some of them. A few of them are *Stanley*, *Globosa*, *Grandiflora Carnea Plena*, *Carnea Elegans*, *Prince De Galindyke*, *Ambroise Verschoffelt*, etc. Prices are 75¢ to \$1 postpaid.

Colorado blue spruce trees are listed at 50¢ each for a ten- to twelve-inch tree. The catalog includes a list of 100 trees ready to be set out, five varieties for \$5. (How did they do it?)

The following is a listing of some of the items listed in this catalog: Sand cherries, 15¢ each (a notation is made, "of no value whatever); raspberries, 50¢ a dozen or \$2 per hundred; currants and gooseberries, 25¢ each or \$2 per dozen; strawberries, 35¢ a dozen or \$2 per hundred (four kinds); white birch trees, six- to seven-foot, 50¢ each; rose bushes, 50¢ each or three for \$1; peonies, rosea or Tenuifolia Flore Pleno, \$1 each. (Check prices on these now!) There are fifteen other varieties of peonies listed that I have never heard of, nor can I pronounce some of them. A few of them are *Stanley*, *Globosa*, *Grandiflora Carnea Plena*, *Carnea Elegans*, *Prince De Galindyke*, *Ambroise Verschoffelt*, etc. Prices are 75¢ to \$1 postpaid.

Colorado blue spruce trees are listed at 50¢ each for a ten- to twelve-inch tree. The catalog includes a list of 100 trees ready to be set out, five varieties for \$5. (How did they do it?)

In another old catalog I find that they listed 108 varieties of apple trees, 54 varieties of pear trees, 30 varieties of cherry trees, 49 varieties of plum trees, 38 varieties of peach trees, and 11 varieties of apricot trees. In addition, there are listed 55 varieties of grapes, 21 varieties of raspberries, 10 varieties of currants, 10 varieties of gooseberries, 53 varieties of roses, 105 different kinds of trees, and 93 varieties of shrubs. This catalog also contained pages on how and where to plant certain nursery stock, summer and winter care, insect problems, and disease care.

There was only one full page in color of a rose, but it was very beautiful also. Don't you wonder how things were done in those good old days? The prices of the nursery stock will always amaze me as well as their ways of doing business.

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Compiled and edited by Greta M. Kessenich in cooperation with the
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2. REGISTERED PEONIES

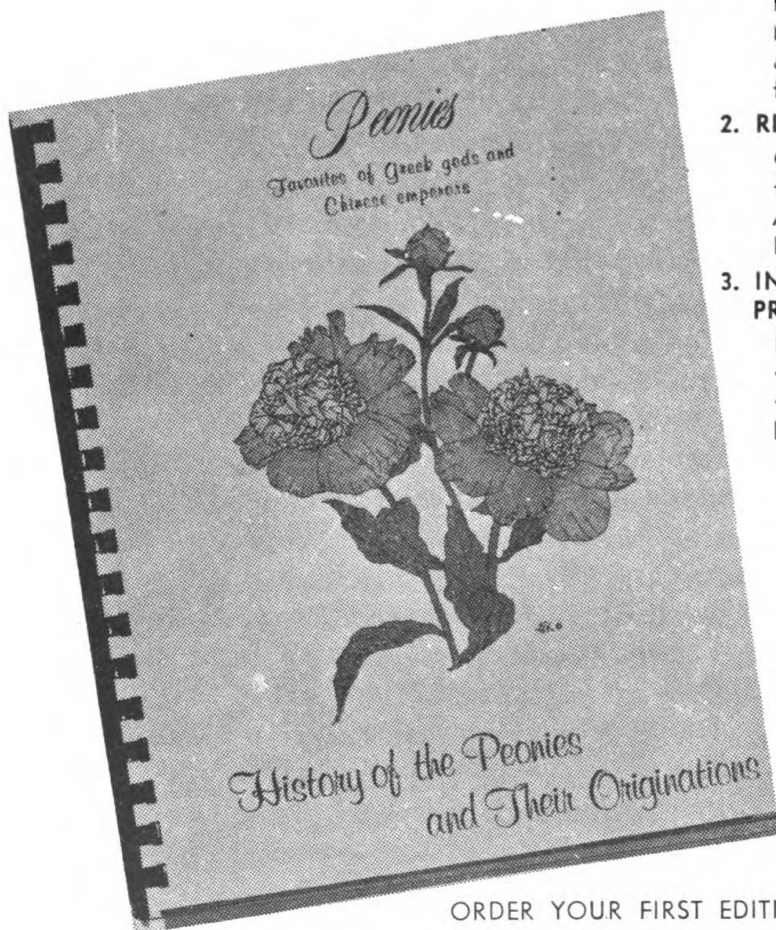
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PROPAGATION OF HYBRID PEONIES EASE OF DIVIDING AS WELL AS GROWTH

Allan and Dorothy Rogers, Sherwood, Oregon

The peony is one of the slowest of perennials to propagate. This is controlled by the relatively few new eyes formed each year, their location on the root, and the general health and vigor of its growth habits. In *P. lactiflora* it is generally estimated that the number of eyes will double each year, although there is a great variation between cultivars.

Many of the hybrid crosses between *lactiflora* and various species are even slower in their ability to make salable divisions. This is particularly true with many of the hybrids originated by Dr. A. P. Saunders, including various strains of *Officinalis* as one parent. His *Cytharea* (*lactiflora* x *officinalis lobata*) is regarded by many of us as the most beautiful hybrid in existence. Allan Wild told me in 1980 that he doubted if 500 plants of this variety existed worldwide. This slow increase took place over a period of nearly 30 years!

In August of 1978 we had the opportunity to purchase 99 different hybrid cultivars from Keith and Peggy Goldsmith in Edmunds, Washington. Sixty-eight of these were only available as a planting piece; the other 31 were as regular divisions.

The planting pieces were set out in a single row spaced 15 to 18 inches apart. The land (a well-drained clay loam—pH 6.2) had been rototilled four times during the summer. It had previously been planted in improved livestock pasture (orchard grass, fescue, and clover). The peonies were put out the first of September in full sun—an ambiguous phrase in cloudy western Oregon. No additional fertilizer was applied. They were irrigated the next two summers.

Because of crowding, in October 1980 every other plant was dug out, divided, if possible, into new planting pieces, and moved to a nearby location. In the two-year growing period only one cultivar died (*Lactiflora* x *Coriacea* - Lavender). Because of the close spacing several other low-growing cultivars were shaded enough to restrict their growth.

The following table shows A. The relative quality of root and number of eyes on each piece in September 1978, and B. The number and quality of planting pieces into which the original piece could be divided in 1980. (E = excellent; G = good; F = fair; P = poor.)

September 1978

October 1980

September 1978

October 1980

	Root	Eyes	Planting Pieces		Root	Eyes	Planting Pieces
Birthday	F	4 tiny eyes	3 G	Red Red	E	5	2 P, small
Cecelia	F	2 med., 4 sm.		Rose	P	2	half rotted
Challenger	G	1 advant. bud	1 E big	Rose	P	2	1 F
Defender	G	4 sm.	2 E sm.	Diamond	spidery		
Elizabeth	F	2 big	4 G divisions, eyes all on neck	Rose	P	2	1 F
Good Will	G	1 lg., 2 tiny	3 G divisions	Rose	G	2	3 G
Hope	E (clubby)	2	3 G divisions	Garland	F	2	2 G
Janice	F	1 sm.	3 P tiny, (shaded)	Roselette	G	2	1 G
Illini Belle	G (clubby)	4 med.	4 G	Roselette	G	1	1 G
Lotus				Roselette	F	1	1 G
Bloom	G	2	4 G	Rushlight	G	2	2 G
Mercy	F	4 sm.	3 F, eyes on stem	Rushlight	G	1	1 G
Nosegay	E	4	5 G	Rosy	F	2 sm.	2 G
Papilio	G	6	3 G, spidery buds on neck	Wreath	spidery		
Papilio	G	5	2 G, spidery buds on neck	Rosy	P	1 sm.	2 G
Little				Wreath	spidery		
Cream				Paladin	P	2 sm.	3 F
Star	G	1	2 G	Paladin	P	1 sm.	2 F
Magnolia	E	2	3 E, heavy roots, huge fat pink buds	Picotée	G	2	4 G
Flower			1 E, heavy roots, huge fat pink buds	Picotée	G	2	3 G
Magnolia	E	1 sm.		Salmon			
Flower				Glow	G	2 (on neck)	2 G
				Skylark	F	1 (on neck)	1 G
				Your			
				Majesty	E	2	2 E
				Sunlight	E	4	4 (2 G, 2 E)
				Sunlight	G	2	2 G
				Sunlight	F	2	1 G
				Saunders	G	2	5 G, divided well
				179			
				Saunders			
				8277	E	3 (2 on neck)	3 (1 E, 2 G)

THE WORK OF FRENCH PRODUCERS

Although England has had many cultivators of the peony and some producers, it is in France that the real history of the modern peony begins. A number of French gardeners raised peony seedlings in the early part of the nineteenth century, and many named a few of their best sorts (see table). Some of the old varieties still find a place in most lists of peonies, and a few are splendid varieties. Among the good ones are *L'Indispensable*, *Delicatissima*, *Festiva*, *Festiva Maxima*, *Edulis Superba*, *Grandiflora*, *Nivea Plena*, *Alexander Dumas*, *Modeste Guerin*, *Purpurea Superba*, and *Madam Calot*. Since 1850 France has had four great originators—Calot, Crousse, Lemoine, and Dessert. Each has produced a long list of good peonies.

Calot was the first of France's really great peony breeders. His work was done at Nancy, directly east of Paris perhaps a hundred and

fifty miles. He inherited the collection of the Compté de Cussy. Using this as a foundation for his work, he produced and named many meritorious varieties. He continued sending out seedlings up to the year 1872. Of the Calot peonies we have selected sixteen very fine sorts, all of which we consider worth growing and many of which are strictly first class (see table). Eugene, Eugenie Verdier, Marie Lemoine, Mons. Dupont, and Reine Hortense we consider his best. In fact, we rank these among the world's best.

Crousse: Calot's work as an originator ceased with the year 1872, and during that year his collection passed into the hands of Crousse. It was a fortunate transfer. Calot was a great florist, but Crousse seems even greater. He was a tireless worker, and most painstaking. During the years this great collection was in his hands he produced more good sorts than any other one man. He had a genius for selection, and the flowers he named and sent out are, as a rule, of a very high standard. From 1872 to 1879 he continued to send out from the Calot seedlings, but after 1879 the flowers were his own. The first good flower accredited to him in order of time is *Livingstone*, a magnificent deep pink and a flower hard to excel. *Livingstone* was introduced in 1879 and was followed during the next 17 years by a long list of uniformly high class flowers. His *Avalanche* is a flower without defect. We would rather sell a *Mons. Jules Elie* to a beginner than any other peony.

The Lemoines. In the same garden at Nancy where Calot and Crousse produced their wonderful flowers, Victor Lemoine, the greatest flower originator of all time, also did his work. He produced many fine varieties of roses, geraniums, begonias, lilacs, and many other flowers as well as the peony. The uniformly high quality of the Lemoine peonies is remarkable. *Le Cygne*, the rival of *Therese* in general favor, *La Fee*, *La France*, *Solange*, *Sarah Bernhardt*—the collector wants these and all the rest.

His son, Emile Lemoine, is now carrying on his work. Through the many raids upon Nancy during the late World War, he stayed bravely at his post, though a bomb from a German gun landed within a hundred yards of his house and about the same distance from the entire stock of one of his most cherished peonies.

Dessert: At Chenanceaux in southern France lives a genial gentleman styled Mons. A. Dessert. He is the originator of *Therese*, which is very generally considered the most beautiful of all peonies. Dessert is the greatest living authority on the peony. He has produced many varieties, and as a rule they are of the very highest order. While Calot and Crousse seem to have worked for beauty of form, constitutional vigor of plant, and profusion of bloom, Dessert seems to have worked also for beautiful color combination. *Tourangelle* we consider the equal of *Therese*.

Of these four great French originators of the peony, it might be interesting to know that Crousse and Dessert are still living. Crousse gave up active work with the peony many years ago, but Dessert retired from work only this year.

HISTORICAL TABLE OF PEONIES

CHIEF PRODUCERS AND THEIR VARIETIES

In this table the chief peony originators and their productions are arranged as nearly as possible in chronological order. The table shows also the ratings of the varieties in the symposium of the American Peony Society.

French Producers

Rate Average

LEMON

8.1 Grandiflora Nivea Plena (1824)

7.6 Edulis Superba (1824)

DONKELAER

8.0 Festiva (1838)

DELACHE

6.8 Purpurea Superba (1855)

7.1 Delachei (1856)

GUERIN

7.8 Modeste Guerin (1845)

7.1 Alexander Dumas (1862)

MIELLEZ

9.3 Festiva Maxima (1851)

8.1 Mme. Calot (1856)

CALOT

8.7 Reine Hortense (1857)

8.1 Duchess de Nemours (1858)

8.2 Gigantea (1860)

8.1 Mlle. Leonie Calot (1861)

8.0 Boule de Neige (1862)

8.3 Eugene Verdier (1864)

8.6 Eugenie Verdier (1864)

7.8 Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille (1865)

7.9 Mme. Crousse (1866)

7.8 Augustin d'Hour (1867)

8.5 Octavie Demay (1867)

7.5 Constant Devred (1869)

8.5 Marie Lemoine (1869)

8.3 Mons. Dupont (1872)

8.1 Couronne D'Or (1873)

8.1 Mlle. Rosseau (1868)

CROUSSE

8.1 Livingstone (1879)

7.9 Mme. Geissler (1880)

8.4 Felix Crousse (1881)*

8.5 Mme. Emile Galle (1881)

7.7 Mme. Forel (1881)

7.5 Mme. de Galhau (1883)

8.7 Albatre (1885)

7.9 Mme. de Verneville (1885)

8.7 Claire Dubois (1886)

8.5 La Perle (1886)

8.3 La Rosiere (1888)

9.2 Mons. Jules Elie (1888)

8.9 Marie Crousse (1892)

8.4 Marguerite Gerard (1892)

8.6 Albert Crousse (1893)

8.1 Asa Gray (1895)

8.2 Gismonde (1895)

8.2 Pierre Ducharte (1895)

LEMOINE

8.9 Mme. Emile Lemoine (1899)

8.1 Galathee (1900)

9.0 La France (1901)

8.6 La Lorraine (1901)

8.9 Enchantress (1903)

8.8 Alsace Lorraine (1906)

9.2 La Fee (1906)

9.0 Sarah Bernhardt (1906)

9.9 Le Cygne (1907)

8.6 Primevere (1907)

9.7 Solange (1907)

8.4 Lamartine (1908)

VERDIER

8.3 Marie Jacquin

DESSERT

8.5 Adolphe Rosseau (1890)

7.6 Pierre Dessert (1890)

8.3 Eugene Bigot (1899)

8.2 Mme. de Treyeran (1899)

8.8 M. Martin Cahuzac (1899)

8.4 Albiflora, the Bride (1902)

8.5 Germaine Bigot (1902)

9.8 Therese (1904)

9.0 Rosa Bonheur (1905)

9.4 Mme. Jules Dessert (1909)

9.0 Raoul Dessert (1910)

9.4 Tourangelle (1910)

8.8 Souv. de Louis Bigot (1913)

RIVIERE

9.2 Phillipe Rivoire (1911)

English Producers

THE KELWAYS

8.3 Venus (1888)

9.0 Baroness Schroeder (1889)

8.7 James Kelway (1900)

9.1 Lady Alex. Duff (1902)

8.8 Phyllis Kelway (1908)

9.8 Kelway's Glorious (1909)

8.8 Kelway's Queen (1909)

* - 100 years old this year

The English Producers

The English Kelways, father and son, are the great English originators. They have sent out an immense number of varieties. Most of these have been inferior in quality. However, they have some remarkable varieties. Of these Baroness Schroeder is the best known. Kelway's Glorious is a truly wonderful flower. The call for it at \$40 per plant is so great that we have been compelled by insistent purchasers to sell some of the seedlings in our show bed.

Crousse gave to the peony world many great peonies in his day. Some of his varieties continue to be grown in our gardens at the present time. This is the birthday of the peony **Felix Crousse**; it is 100 years old, and it can be seen growing in countless gardens today.

Listed under "the description of the most popular varieties" in the book *The Peonies* (John C. Wister, Editor) we found **Felix Crousse**. The book states that this peony was named for Felix Crousse of Nancy, 1840-1925, who took over Calot's peony collection. It is a late variety, a double, globular bomb type of brilliant red, long the most popular red variety.

This historical document of the French and English producers is from the manual Brand's American Peonies. Nursery established 1967. Written by A. M. Brand. Published 1923. Manual loaned this office by Myron D. Bigger, Topeka Kansas.

TREE PEONY NOMENCLATURE

Neville Harrop, 17 Auvergne, Hobart Tasmania 7008, Australia

All in the garden is *not* rosy!

I have been a member of the Society for five years and am an ardent devotee of the tree peony. Over a period of those years, I have imported approximately 30 tree peonies from the United Kingdom, 150 from Japan, and 220 from the United States. All these plants were intended for mother stock and not for direct sale. This constituted a lot of money, and unfortunately I had a lot of disappointments apart from the obvious delights from those which flowered true to their name.

Those from the United Kingdom were purely renamed Japanese (refer to my letter in *Bulletin*, No. 226), of which about half were released from quarantine.

The names had no meaning. To start with, the Japanese have little respect for correct naming, and when this is compounded by the re-naming of the plants in the United Kingdom, it comes close to being ridiculous.

The 150 Japanese plants were very healthy, even though younger than those from America, and had a high success rate in quarantine—probably between 75 and 90 percent. The standard of packing was excellent and must have played a part in the high success rate. The plants are ordered by colour (one cannot order by name), but before posting they are identified by name. A letter is immediately sent advising what has been posted, when it was posted, and giving the flight and consignment number. This is extremely helpful in alerting the receiver to follow up on delayed delivery before the plants become dehydrated in some airline depot.

Goodness knows why they bother to name them, because any relationship between the plants and the name would appear to be purely

coincidental. All the yellow were either **Souv. de M. Cornu** (Kinsi), **Alice Harding** (Kinkow), or **L'Esperence** (Kintei) and therefore easily recognizable, but the others varied from the typical muddy red, floppy, single, sub-standard seedling to a few perfectly glorious doubles which I have no way of positively identifying.

I will not import any more peonies from either of the two countries mentioned above.

The 220 from America are really the ones of interest and the ones on which I must concentrate. Of the 220 I've imported, about 120 have been released from quarantine. At one stage I put the blame squarely on our local quarantine department's shoulders—quite unfairly, I have discovered since then.

The reasons for the losses have been 1. Six months' difference in seasons, compounded by the excessively severe regulations on arrival in Australia; and 2. Lack of knowledge by the quarantine department of the correct "weaning" of peonies into Australia. Note: Camberra are extremely bureaucratic and autocratic, but the local quarantine authorities are very cooperative, helping wherever they can.

I now have 120 plants from American which appear to be correctly named.

TWELVE QUATRAINS ON THE TREE PEONY

from the Late Ming (16th Century)

First Translations from the Original Chinese by

John Marney, Associate Professor of Chinese, Oakland University

Hsueh Hui (1489-1541)

Tree Peonies

A broidered garden, everywhere there, fettered with famous flowers;
My steps are blocked by their tiered tiers of budding crimson
cambric.

I ponder on your favors, which resemble the colors of springtime—
Upon tree peony branches, indeed their glory's profuse.

Lu Shu-sheng (1493-1589)

The White Tree Peony

Springtime colors at Loyang, from within a painted picture
By magic emerge in the natural world, transformed by the work of
the Maker.

Not just that their profuse glory competes with the reds and
purples,

But they're all of a kind in their limpid splendor, led on by winds
from the east.

*(Translator's note: The east wind in China symbolizes the coming of
springtime, renewal, and the awakening of passions.)*

Li Yueh-hsin (16th century)

Buying Tree Peonies

I much dislike the south-lying acres, taxed of their mulberry and hemp.

Seated deep in a flowered arbor, I precisely compare the flowers.

I've heard it said that the tree peonies, newly planted, are out.

For ten thousand cash upon demand I buy a little red shoot.

(Translator's note: The "south-lying acres" here refers the reader to a long poem from the 2nd millennium B.C. preserved in the Confucian Canon of Odes. Titled "Ch'i Yueh" [Seventh Month], it is a kind of almanac, or calendar of activities performed by farmers in their feudal society. It is much studied for its sociological interest. See James Legge, The Chinese Classics, London: Trubner, 1871, Vol. IV, 226. "Mulberry and hemp" are kennings for silk and linen.)

Feng Ch'i (fl. 1600)

Tree Peonies

I

A hundred treasures by a balcony, sheltered from the sunrise cold;

Their heavy scent on a pavilion path, as if you could almost see it.

When springtime comes, then who would be the Lord of Vernal

Glory?

Commander-in-charge of thronging fragrance—that's the tree peony!

II

A bouquet of posies, blushing clouds, serenely unwilling to open;
Holding their fragrance, holding their poise, tipsy with springtime
radiance.

The Eastern Emperor of the mists and dew knows how many of
few—

Yestere'en before a breeze he'd already conferred their purples.

(Translator's note: The Eastern Emperor was the Spirit of Spring. The "purple" here is the color of the silk court robes conferred by the emperor upon his high ministers. Feng is thus saying that the God of Springtime has promoted the tree peony above all other flowers.)

III

Their jadestone beauty, winsomely winning, fades in the last month
of spring.

Immortal beings of Ku-sheh [Mountain] view them during the day.

Beneath the moon, one well may boast, their faces seem like jade;

In recent years indeed they've had a sweet scent just like orchids.

IV

Voluptuous adornment conjoined aflutter, glistening variegated
cumuli.

Surely they'll o'erturn a state in their last-month-of-springtime
glory!

In vain one doubts their pentachrome comes from Wen-t'ung's
brush-pen;

Scattered abroad they're minister to the blossoms of the ten
thousand trees.

(Translator's note: "O'erturn a state" is a famous phrase originating in the Confucian Canon of Odes, referring to the destructive power of a woman's beauty. It is particularly associated with a Madam Li, famed consort of Emperor Hsiao-wu of the Han [r. 140-87 B.C.] who with one glance could overturn a city, and with two a state. It also became renowned as a feature of the opening line of the celebrated poem "Song of Everlasting Regret" by the T'ang poet Po Chu-i [772-846]. See Robert Payne, ed., The White Pony, New York: John Day, 1947, pp. 207-211.

Wen-t'ung was the pen-name of Chiang Yen [444-505]. He was unique in the Chinese literary heritage for his uncanny ability to imitate the poetic styles of great masters before him, and a large corpus of his work is preserved by the Chinese in their most prestigious anthologies of literature. His "pen of many colors," i.e., the different hues of his imitative literary styles, is celebrated in a story about him. It is said that he once dreamed that someone gave him a variegated brush-pen, after which his writing became more vivid. Years later, he again dreamed that a man appeared before him, demanding the return of the pen. After this, his writing declined. See John Marney, Chiang Yen, 444-505. Boston: G.K. Hall/Twayne, 1981—a fortuitous plug for my latest book!)

V

Not mist, nor miasma, by a carven balustrade.

Savor their heaven-sent fragrance, and view them after the rain.

Would that by a beautiful lady, of brodered tapestry woven,

They'd be hung aloft, a kingfisher curtain, to keep out the
springtime cold!

Wang Heng (1564-1607)

Two-Colored Tree Peonies

I

Palace-clouds bud by bud, bright rose mists at dawn;

A hundred treasures before a balustrade dispute the beauty of their
flowers.

Breakfast-wine not yet consumed, blushing-jade faces

Lightly dusted with sandalwood powder, mate for the plum
blossoms.

II

A Loyang maiden, her flushed complexion plump;
Blood-colored gauze apron, a precious waistband girdle.
Suppose her full-round skirts be the moon half-o'er a courtyard,
Then after all her neckline collar's the hundred flowers at dawn.

Yen I (16th century)

Tree Peonies Blossoming Profusely In a Courtyard

I

A leisured courtyard quietly quiet, o'erborne with verdant lichens.
Who banished those renowned flowers in glistening glittering
bloom?
Now I believe the selflessness of impartial Heaven and Earth;
No place within a wicket-house, they fall abandoned on a bank.

II

By Golden Valley's carved balustrades they bloom in measured
rally;
Spreading luxuriant, their older limbs will snap and fall decayed.
Boundless in their irrigating flood, a boast beyond human vigor;
Their spirit turned by the Immanent Potter, in sequenced order
recalled.

*(Translator's note: "Golden Valley" was the name of the famous and
luxurious garden constructed by the ostentatiously rich Shih Ch'ung
(d. 300). The "Immanent Potter" is the Chinese Creator.)*

HISTORY OF THE TREE PEONIES OF HAO PROVINCE

by Hsüeh Feng-hsiang (Ming, 1368-1644)

A first and complete translation by John Marney,
Associate Professor of Chinese, Oakland University

*[Translator's Note: This is a detailed description of the
items listed in Hsüeh's "Index to the Tree Peonies of Hao
Province" translated and published in the last issue of BAPS.
The items in the Index and the History differ in some small
degree.]*

A continuation from Bulletin #237, Page 39. This completes
the "Index to the Tree Peonies of Hao Province."

Better than Hsi Shih. The flowers are a full foot large. The color is
powder-white, haloed with red. Another variety is the Fragrant Hsi
Shih, whose color is also akin. The fragrance in the flowers is elegant
and ardent.

Embroidered Hibiscus and Jade Hibiscus are akin, and originated with Mr. T'ung.

Added Color Smiling Face has green embryo and willow green petals. It suits the sunshine and easily opens. The flowers are delicate and small and have support petals. From the corolla inwards, the color is deep; outwards, of slighter measure. Another variety with green petals is called **Greater Added Color Smiling Face**. The flower petals are long or short; the color too is not up to the standard.

Jade Tower Springtime Snow. The flowers are as large as a dipper. Another variety is the **Jade Tower Springtime**. When old, the color is akin to the **Crane Feather Red**.

Rouge Bordered Powder. Powdered petals and vermilion silk-thread interchange in distinctive pattern.

Gold Essence Snowy Waves ["Index" trans. **Gold Refined Snowy Waves**] has white flowers and yellow calyx which shine and illumine each other. The flower petals are rather broad but thick and stiff. Near the stamen they are purplish, and frequently because of this it is confused with **Yellow Flannel Spread upon Brocade**.

Jade Beautiful Woman has large petals and the color is white like even powder.

White Lotus Flower comes from Hsü province. The yellow heart in the middle is like cotton thread, an inch or more, very similar to lotus stamen.

Coral Tower. The stems are short, the embryo long. It suits the sunshine. The color is like coral.

Clear Rouge Red ["Index" gives **Clear Moon Red**, i.e., cognate graphs "rouge" and "moon"], i.e., like **Rouge Red**. The embryo is red, pointed and long. This category is also in plum red color. At its peak, the flower petals thrust up; weakening, then it is level headed.

Great Fire Pearl has green embryo. The color is deep red. Inside and out screen a light like fire brightly burning lustrously clear.

[Red] Glass Beads Red. The flowers are bordered white with crimson inside.

Original Substance Crown has long embryo and opens early. The flower petals are robust and healthy. The outside is white, inside red.

Leaning Against a Balustrade Charm has flesh red embryo and a pale peach red color. The flower head is long and large. Another variety is the **Everywhere, Charming** [text has cognate graph "pool" for "everywhere" in the "Index"]. It is thousand-petaled and forms trees. The color is glossy, and surpasses it.

Greater Red Charm. In the sunshine it easily opens. The color ranks with **Rose-color Charm**. The petals are single. Another variety is **Charming Red**, whose color is like the **Wei Red**. The flowers are hard to graft, and slightly small.

Five Clouds Tower. The flowers are round and concentrated like a

ball, and rather long. When open it forms an embroidery. At the top there are five turning petals, bordered with interspersed yellow and green.

Jade Tower [whereon] Kuan Yin Appears. The flowers are white, but open with difficulty. When it does open it is like the moon in the water [seen from] a tower-terrace, and far emergent from the dusty [world]. The flowers are little different from the Mid Autumn Moon.

Ch'iao Red has two varieties, both with red embryo and with a color that is deep and heavy. Near the wood it is red. Both originated with Mr. Shen.

Limpid White ["Index" gives Limpid Jade] originated with Mr. Chu. Of old there was the Purple Jade, whose flowers were extremely large. Among the white petals there are scattered red silk threads, entwined like embroidery.

Dozing Crane Immortal. The color is light red. It suits the shade. Its size is like the Trusting to New Makeup. The flower heart produces two petals; it sheds the purple and retains the vermilion. It is first purple, then deep red. Again, the Flower Red Treasure Tower Terrace [correction for "Index" trans. Flower Red Competing with Tower Terrace] is also like this.

Tipsy Orang-outang [or Scarlet Red] is a flower first originating with Mr. Shen. It easily opens, and the color is dark red, in the center of which there is a slight sandalwood purple. It is inferior to the Flower Red Level Head. Where the purple is dense, however, it is superior.

Sprinkled Gold Peach Red has yellow whiskers filling the corolla, and all spreading about the petals, the tops of which are spotted in measured arrangement like the stars.

Peach Red Tower is small with large red petals rising in a tower.

Old Monk's Hat. A single flower has five petals. Two petals in consort stand up; two side petals assist them; and one petal winds around the back. The very lowest of these is like the Ch'en Province Red.

Rouge Red

Greater Red Treasure Tower Terrace

Palace Springtime Giant Level Head

Better Than Heaven's Fragrance

Powdered Embroidered Ball

Powdered Double Tower

Better Than Dark Red Peach

Whistle-reed Bark Purple

Rouge and Powder Red, with Support Petals

Purple Tasseled Fringe

White Tasseled Fringe

From Out of the Lips White

Pien City White

Whistle-reed Color Tower

Lotus-rootstock Color Lion Head [Correction to "Index" trans. Clear Color Lion Head]

Gold Thread Robes was produced in Hsü province. The corolla is tall, the stems long. The broken petals are prettily ornamented. Its color is red and entirely without kin with which it may be compared. It may be taken as the crown of the Divine Category.

Flower Red Matchless has fish-scale regular small petals in orderly tier upon tier. Another variety has red flowers without match, small petals concentrated and concerted, and double towers rising eminently. The colors are akin to each other.

Five Mounds Springtime has rare color to dazzle the eye: two flowers with large petals in dense profusion; and tower terrace flourishing profusely.

Boudoir Beauty has velvet petals delicate and fine.

Golden Chamber Loveliness has tiered and divided broken petals elegantly layered like a tower.

Fine Weather Charm has small petals and is plum red.

Lovely White Without Peer, the Pure Gentleman of Ch'u [i.e., the 4th century B.C. statesman-poet Ch'ü Yuan], the Thatched Hut Nobleman [lit. White Room; i.e., a hermit], and Lien City Jade are all thousand-tiered with large petals.

Yellow and White Embroidered Ball, **Jade Enrichment White**, **Competing With Jade Giant**, **Ice Pure White**, and **One Color With a Jade-green Sky** all have broken petals rising in a tower.

Jasper Terrace Jade Dew has velvet petals, tight and concentrated.

Snowy Undyed Silk. The petals are tight; the stamen fragrant.

Wang Household Greater White is bigger than all others. [Text here seems fragmentary.]

Lotus-rootstock Fiber Rainbow Garments. The face is some eight inches across.

Third [Month of] Spring Giant is multi-petaled. The peach red corolla emerges from the surface of the tree.

Rose-color Wondrous Category, **Rose-color Splendid Adornment**, **Rose-color Incomparable Singing** [-girl] all spread several large petals underneath. Among them, fine fragments pile up and accumulate. Another variety, the **Rose-color Mahayana** [Buddhist "Great Vehicle"], has large petals bursting full. Their colors are all like their names.

Variegated Sunset-clouds Silk is thousand-tiered with large petals.

Coral Phoenix Head. The corolla opens with large petals.

My peony garden was not affected by the weather this last year. I have some two- and three-year-old plants that are not blooming, but they must be given time for adjustments. However, you can be sure that I read and appreciate all the articles on why peonies do not bloom and will follow all advice.

My most spectacular bloom last June was Doris Cooper, a 10- or 11-inch flower (not even disbudded), pale pink, fragrant, flat, and rather high. I had waited two years for this bloom. Later the side buds bloomed, and they were almost as nice. We took pictures. I have about 50 varieties of herbaceous peonies.

My latest thrill is buying tree peonies. I have about 27 now. At first I did not want to grow them, as we have rabbits in the woods next to us. Now I have a fence around each plant.

—Helen Darnow, Ardsley, New York

A Fantasy—Yes? No? [Editor] **THE PEOPLE VERSUS PEONIES**

Anthony J. DeBlasi, East Wakefield, New Hampshire

Chris Shepherd checked the time. The neon-green readout on the video monitor reported: "TIME=0946/DAY=161/SEASON=VERNAL/YEAR=2032." He had a few minutes left before meeting the gleaming shuttle that would take him back to Earth for his trial, and he decided to take one final look at the garden that got him into trouble. The peonies, in lavish bloom, were neatly arranged in a radial design around the hexagonal house, made mostly of glass and resembling an immense quartz crystal.

"I'm leaving now, hon," Chris declared wistfully and kissed Norma, his wife. "Come along, Jackie."

She took her father's hand and together they stepped out into the unorthodox minilandscape of blossoms around their house. "They're so pretty, daddy!" chimed Jackie as she studied and sniffed the great puffs of pink and white and red flowering in the spaces between the cleverly laid out paths. "Do they have little bangs on Earth, too?" (Chris had dubbed the peonies "little bangs" in allusion to the big bang that he was told in school got the universe going ten billion years ago. He fancied—in the way the plants shot out of the ground and exploded into bloom—embryonic repetitions of that awesome event.)

"I hope so, honey!" answered Chris. "Granny once told me that there were huge estates on Earth—homes ten times the size of ours with grounds around them extending for acres—where you could walk for an hour or more and see nothing but beds and borders of flowers!"

"Wow! I wish I could see that!" beamed Jackie. "Could we visit one while we're on Earth?"

"I don't know, sweet. I'm not sure they exist anymore," came the father's disappointing reply. "For all I know, I may have the last Martha Bulloch in the universe, the last Le Cygne, the last Kansas . . ."

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Chris went on naming the peony varieties in his collection as they passed each by.

A sadness settled over him as he gazed across the concave landscape of space colony 00031A (Triple-O-Thirty-one-Alpha—Thirty-one-Alpha for short) to the Technician Sector's horizon over half a mile away. Observing the upward curve in the man-made land, he realized he would soon be leaving this mile-wide cylinder spinning at one r.p.m. (to simulate Earth's gravity), where he had spent most of his life, perhaps never to return. His blue-green eyes dwelt on the fields, ponds, trees, and houses that lined the inner wall of the rotating human habitat built out of metals, glass, and soil mined on the moon and on a nearby asteroid. This great cylinder, powered entirely by solar energy, offered a bland existence compared to the wonderful life his father always spoke of back in the old days on Earth, but it was home! He had grown attached to it even though he had been born on Earth. He took a handful of the fluffy, dark-grayish soil made from substances in the asteroid. The imitation earth was enriched with a fertilizer combination of nitrogen and oxygen from the asteroid. His father had told him that Earth's soil was fragrant. He smelled the stuff in his hand. There was a faint odor that reminded him of laundry detergent.

Up until six years ago the habitat's curving panorama was entirely green and gray from trees, pasture, and farmland. Now, once each vernal cycle, appealing spots of pink, red, and white sparkled over the verdant land like sparks from a rocket ignited in the Shepherd garden. Everyone wanted to grow these wonderful, living crystals, with their exciting colors and sweet odors, and Chris was dividing his peonies each autumn and giving pieces of roots to neighbors. The Peony Invasion had begun in earnest! Looking straight "up" across a diameter of the cylinder—where sky would be on Earth—Chris could see little pink spots smuggled into the green patches of the Governor's Sector.

As an adolescent, Chris hustled baggage and cargo for the Shuttle Service. One day he came upon a box with his name on it. When he took it home and opened it, he found some funny-looking roots in it with a note from his father explaining that they were flowers—*peonies*, the letter went on to describe, including pictures of them. His father was saving them from destruction, now that all the land on Earth was being covered with hydroponic glass houses for the production of food.

That was the beginning of a conspiracy backed by the Neo-Audubon Society to preserve plant species by smuggling them to the colonies. Thirty-one-Alpha, with its alternating seasons, was suitable for certain perennials and shrubs requiring winter dormancy. However, the authorities seized all shipments of such plants destined for that colony in a series of ruthless crackdowns. But Mr. Shepherd succeeded in smuggling some peony roots to his son in space.

The beauty of these plants astonished the colonists. This was the first year that there were no crowds at the Shepherds' place to see and photograph the amazing formations. They had been warned by the authorities to stay away. Only visiting old-timers knew the peonies when they saw them. So *this* is what Earth is like—or *was* like! Encouraged at first that he would be the steward of the peonies, Chris was now dejected over the prospect of seeing this pioneering effort to preserve

beautiful living things nipped in the bud.

Chris' indictment back on Earth was that of possession and proliferation of a dangerous crop upon a space habitat. The court was given a holographic projection of the Shepherd garden as an exhibit of evidence. Then a federal agent at the site burned one of the plants and fed a sample of the ashes to the chemical analyzer. Instantly the courtroom computer read out the constituent elements and compounds, proving beyond the shadow of a doubt that what they saw were not artificial plants, but real, live flowers!

"Do you have anything to say?" asked the judge.

"I didn't know peonies were dangerous," Chris remarked boldly.

"Do you realize what it means to allow such a wasteful luxury as a flower to take up precious space needed for the accommodation of the human species? If everyone on the colonies grew and collected them, there would soon be no room left for colonists! The incursions would shatter the delicate eco-balance established with such great effort and expense, and the food-producing system would collapse. You'd have famine on Triple-O-Thirty-one-Alpha. Already your peonies have circled around the habitat clear to the other side of the cylinder, opposite where you live."

The court was given a holographic survey of 00031A, showing the threatening spots of color spreading like a disease. Several spectators cringed in horror. They were the best-dressed ones—and the fattest.

"What will happen to the peonies?" Chris inquired.

"They have been ordered burned—every one of them!"

No one had to guess what the verdict for Christopher Shepherd would be: PE—Permanent Exile somewhere on Earth, to be cleared with Computer Central. "Does my wife—"

"She will be sent back to you, if that is her wish," interrupted the judge.

"And Jackie—my daughter—do I get to keep her?"

"You may keep your daughter."

As he waited in the great holding complex in Arizona for Norma to arrive, Chris swore that he would comb every square inch of Earth (he had no clear conception of how large Earth was) to track down the peonies, and he would protect them with his own life, if need be! He had heard it rumored that China was a good place to look for flowering plants. He would not permit these living echoes of the way the universe must have begun to be snuffed out from the galaxy. In his brief acquaintance with them, he had grown fond of the "little bangs."

"Daddy," Jackie asked, "Why don't they let us keep the flowers?"

"Because, my sweet, they are impractical. They are getting in the way, and some folk see them as a threat to human life."

The girl's pretty blue-green eyes met her father's. Her tender face wore a bittersweet expression. "Would life be worth living without flowers?" she asked.

Happy to be clinging to the one flower that had been spared for him, Chris cradled his daughter's head between his hands and replied, "I wonder, my darling; I really do wonder."

Tiffany-Style Lampshade For Sale

A Tiffany-style stained glass lampshade depicting a border of twelve pink peonies enveloping a 22-inch diameter globe. This lampshade contains in excess of 1200 individual pieces of glass, and each intricate floral design was drawn from research done at the Massachusetts Horitculture Society, as well as from photographs taken of various peony blossoms. A five-light brass cluster provides for appropriate distribution of light upon illumination. This piece displays the finest in materials, selection, and craftsmanship available. For additional information, write: RASMAS, 7 Burpee Road, Nahant, Massachusetts 01908; or call 617-581-0301.

In spite of all the drought, it was a good year at my peony patch. A few that were either moved or new did marginally well, but in the main they all came through with a bang. **Golden Hind** was first class; **Mother's Choice** was aptly named. **Nick Shaylor** was never better. **Red Charm** earned its name in all ways—form, vigor, and color. **Cytharea** had its best year to date. **Coral Fay** was outstanding in just its first year, with two absolutely ravishing blooms. **Mrs. F.D.R.** was beautiful. All the old war horses did well.

—Fred Woodbury, Westerly, Rhode Island



THE PEONY COLLECTION AT DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

Harry B. Kuesel

I have been primarily known for iris-growing and have been breeding, growing, and introducing irises for more than 25 years. I started also to grow a few peonies back on Long Island in the early fifties. In 1959 Brother Charles Reckamp, who also grew some fine irises, introduced me to the world of hybrid peonies, and **John Harvard**, **Great Lady**, **Laura Magnuson**, and **Veritas** were varieties that bloomed with the irises and provided colors they couldn't quite match. Then Alan Wild came along and said I just had to have **Red Charm**, **Ann Cousins**, and **Nick Shaylor**. Louis Smirnow lived nearby, and I found that he agreed with Alan on these, but **Doris Cooper**, **Gay Patee**, **Diana Parks**, and **Flame** were not to be overlooked. But Louis was even more enchanted with the tree peony. I recall that the Japanese Peony—**Hana Kiso** (**Floral Rivalry**)—was my first deep pink and one of the most spectacular blooms. Then came **Fuji No Akebono** (**Day-break on Fuji**) in glistening white with deep red flares. **Souvenir de Maxime Cornu** was a great yellow from France.

One day in late May or early June in 1965 I went to a flower show

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at the Essex House in New York City. There I met Sylvia Saunders and those spectacular lutea hybrids—**Age of Gold**, **Banquet**, **Black Pirate**, **Harvest**, **Roman Gold**, and **Marchioness**. I believe Sylvia liked the latter the best. Over the next five years I got some two-year grafts from her. My garden was at its peak when the American Iris Society held their 50th Anniversary Convention in New York in 1970. I'm sure I made many peony converts from among the many convention visitors. The lutea hybrids and hybrid herbaceous peonies were all blooming well when they came to see my garden.

Suddenly, in 1971 the company where I worked (Johns-Manville) decided to move their corporate headquarters from New York to Denver. I hated to leave my garden, but I had no choice. I had to move and try to move my garden. My friend, Bill Peck, in Oyster Bay, Long Island, provided a safe haven for my peonies and tree peonies during the winter of 1971. In the late summer of 1972 they were moved to my new garden in Littleton, Colorado, and were just becoming established when my company decided to move its headquarters from the high plains of Denver to the foothills of the Rockies west of Littleton.

By this time I had become active in the Denver Botanic Gardens and was elected one of their trustees. The Denver Botanic Gardens had just undergone some major reconstruction. They consisted of a mass of concrete paths and a lovely conservatory, along with some nice open pieces of the ground. Two iris-growing friends, Jack Riley and Jack Durrance, saw to it that the gardens had the finest irises growing there—but no peonies! I decided that I would move my transplanted peony garden to Denver Botanic in the fall of 1976. Glenn Park, who was Assistant Director at the Denver Botanic Gardens at the time, recalled that Roy Klehm back in the Chicago area grew wonderful peonies. He drove back there to get some of those famous "Estate Peonies." I think Roy gave him at least one of each of his patented varieties. Then Jack Durrance and I called on the Wilds of Missouri. They were very generous and gave us many varieties. We now have more than 100 varieties.

Last summer I met an old friend, Ray Scheele, at the American Hemerocallis Convention in Boston. He said, "Have you heard about the latest Chinese Conquest by Louis Smirnow? He's gone back to China and found some blue and green tree peonies." As soon as I got back to the Denver Botanic Gardens in Denver I told them about them. They telephoned Louis Smirnow and got there in time to pick up some of these varieties last fall. David Reath from Vulcan, Michigan, also helped with some species, such as *p. suffruticosa* (Rocks), *p. lutea*, and more of the Saunders and Fay hybrids.

The following is a current list of the peonies that are growing at the Denver Botanic Gardens:

LIST OF HERBACEOUS AND TREE PEONIES AT DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

<i>Age of Gold</i>	<i>Gessekai (Kingdom of the Moon)</i>	<i>Moonstone</i>
<i>Airaway</i>	<i>Glory Hallelujah</i>	<i>Mrs. F.D. Roosevelt</i>
<i>Alexander Woolcott</i>	<i>Great Lady</i>	<i>Nancy</i>
<i>Alstead</i>	<i>Green Glory of China</i>	<i>Neon</i>
<i>Angel Cheeks</i>	<i>Hanadaijin (Minister of Flowers)</i>	<i>Oklahoma</i>
<i>Ann Cousins</i>	<i>Hana Kisoi (Floral Rivalry)</i>	<i>Orihime (The Weaving Princess)</i>
<i>Arcturus</i>	<i>Haru No Akebono (Spring Dawn)</i>	<i>Painted Desert</i>
<i>Argosy</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Peach Fluff</i>
<i>Ballerina</i>	<i>Heavenly Blue</i>	<i>Peppermint</i>
<i>Banner Bright</i>	<i>Henry Bockstoce</i>	<i>Pico</i>
<i>Banquet</i>	<i>Herald</i>	<i>Pink Jazz</i>
<i>Barrington Belle</i>	<i>Heritage</i>	<i>Pink Lemonade</i>
<i>Best Man</i>	<i>Highlight</i>	<i>Raspberry Sundae</i>
<i>Black Pirate</i>	<i>Hit Parade</i>	<i>Red Moon</i>
<i>Blue Joy of the Dynasties</i>	<i>Hollywood</i>	<i>Red Beauty</i>
<i>Blue Moon</i>	<i>Honey Gold</i>	<i>Red Comet</i>
<i>Bowl of Cream</i>	<i>Hoosierland</i>	<i>Red Charm</i>
<i>Break O' Day</i>	<i>Imperial Green</i>	<i>Red Red Rose</i>
<i>Bright Knight</i>	<i>Innovation</i>	<i>Requiem</i>
<i>Carrara</i>	<i>Irwin Altman</i>	<i>President Lincoln</i>
<i>Carina</i>	<i>Isani Gidui (Smiling Lion)</i>	<i>Roberta</i>
<i>Chaminade</i>	<i>Iwo</i>	<i>Roman Gold</i>
<i>Chief Justice</i>	<i>Jay Cee</i>	<i>Ruth Clay</i>
<i>Chief Logan</i>	<i>Jean Cooperman</i>	<i>Scarlet Tanager</i>
<i>Charlies White</i>	<i>Jitsu Getsu Nishiki (Finest Brocade)</i>	<i>Sea Shell</i>
<i>Cheddar Cheese</i>	<i>John Harvard</i>	<i>Susie Q</i>
<i>Chocolate Soldier</i>	<i>Julia Grant</i>	<i>Sweet Sixteen</i>
<i>Christine</i>	<i>Kaskaskia</i>	<i>Sword Dance</i>
<i>Convoy</i>	<i>Kamada Fuji (Wisteria of Kamada)</i>	<i>Top Brass</i>
<i>Constance Spry</i>	<i>Kate Barry</i>	<i>Truly Yours</i>
<i>Cytherea</i>	<i>Krinkled White</i>	<i>Ubatama (Brilliant Black Gem)</i>
<i>Dawn Pink</i>	<i>La Pinja</i>	<i>Velma Atkinson</i>
<i>Dignity</i>	<i>Laddie</i>	<i>Veritas</i>
<i>Dinner Plate</i>	<i>Laura Magnuson</i>	<i>Vivid Rose</i>
<i>Do Tell</i>	<i>Lavender Bouquet</i>	<i>Westerner</i>
<i>Doreen</i>	<i>Le Jour</i>	<i>White Innocence</i>
<i>Doris Cooper</i>	<i>Lilac Time</i>	<i>Yellow King</i>
<i>Dorothy J.</i>	<i>Lotus Queen</i>	<i>Your Majesty</i>
<i>Dream Mist</i>	<i>Ludovia</i>	<i>Windflower</i>
<i>Emma Klehm</i>	<i>Lustrous</i>	
<i>Fairbanks</i>	<i>Madame Butterfly</i>	<i>Tree - P. lutea</i>
<i>Fairy's Petticoat</i>	<i>Mary E. Nichols</i>	<i>Tree - P. delavay</i>
<i>Fairytale</i>	<i>May Morn</i>	<i>Tree - P. potanini</i>
<i>Feather Top</i>	<i>Mid May</i>	<i>Tree - P. suffruticosa (Rocks)</i>
<i>Firelight</i>	<i>Moon of Nippon</i>	<i>Herbaceous - P. peregrina</i>
<i>Flame</i>	<i>Moon River</i>	<i>Herbaceous - P. humilis</i>
<i>Florence Bond</i>		
<i>Florence Nichols</i>		
<i>Fuji No Akebono (Daybreak on Fuji)</i>		
<i>Gay Cavalier</i>		
<i>Gene Wild</i>		

We have acquired the famous tree peony collection of the late Leo Armatys. We are offering several for sale, all specimen plants of the highest quality. Send for our list.

LOUIS SMIRNOW AND SON
85 Linden Lane
Brookville, Long Island, N.Y. 11545

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PEONIES

HERBACEOUS *HYBRID* *TREE*
DAYLILIES *JAPANESE IRIS*

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