but, having very large bulb and luxuriant foliage, they occupy considerable space. The Pancratiums, as a rule, are not so large, but produce strong spikes of fragrant flowers, most of the species. The Yellow Narcissus and Narcissus Pseudonarcissus are specially fascinating in regard to soil, though responsive to good cultivation, and they absorb large quantities of water while in active growth.

W. H. Taplin.

Yucca Gloriosa.—For the first time, so far as I can ascertain, a species of Yucca is flowering here. It blooms late in the season, and until this year every attempt it has made to flower has been frustrated by freezing weather. This year a slight covering at night has sufficed to protect it against the low temperatures we have experienced, and for three weeks or more its large panicle of flowers has been a novel and attractive spectacle. The warm weather has permitted every flower to expand, and although it is now (November 20th) past its best, it is still an object of much interest. It has a second branch almost ready to flower, but it is too much to hope for more flowers with winter at hand. I know only one or two more examples of this arborescent Yucca in Philadelphia. They are quite hard here, and, no doubt, if they were planted in a warm, sheltered place the flowers would often expand in spite of their late appearance.

Joseph Mehan.

Iris macrospora.—The experience of Max Leichtlin in growing this prettyiris successfully, as given by Mr. Gerard in a recent issue of GARDEN AND FOREST, is valuable to growers. Herr Leichtlin states that at Baden-Baden they start into growth in May. The iris is interesting in showing how plants adapt themselves to changed conditions. In its native home, here in the northern Coast Range. I macrospora lies dormant during the dry, rainless season, from May to October. The plant first rains start a root, and, if old roots pushing out rosettes and new spongy roots forming at the base of the growing end of the wiry rhizome. The leaves soon start. Its growth is here a winter growth, and with its flowering in May begins the rest period by the long summer rest. At Baden-Baden it would seem to take a winter rest and make growth in summer. Otherwise, my experience corresponds with Herr Leichtlin’s, in that the best time to move the plants is just as they begin to start. Examination of a hundred collected plants moved October 15th shows that they are now (November 16th) making a vigorous root-growth.

U.S. Carl Purdy.

Correspondence.

Notes on the Vermont Apple Crop.

To the Editor of GARDEN AND FOREST:

SIR,—The American apple crop, taken as a whole, is very large in the northeastern part of the United States. The crop here is nothing less than phenomenal. The actual commercial crop is probably twice as large in the apple-growing regions of Vermont as it has ever been known before. This is largely due to the favorsableness of the season; but partly, also, to the considerable number of young trees coming into bearing. In fact, the present remarkable supply of apples calls attention to the fact that, in the apple-growing sections of the state, orchard planting has been steadily going on for some years. In contrast to this, in those parts of the state where apples are not commercially grown a young apple tree is a curiosity.

The crop in Vermont is not only large, but is much better in quality than usual. This, of course, must be credited largely to the wet weather in May and June, for, with the very large crop of berries with all trees, it would not have been surprising to gather small and poorly flavored apples. The summer was comparatively dry, which, while disastrous to the yield of corn and fruit, greatly benefited the apples. Thus, in 1899, 900 acres were harvested, while in 1898, 1800 acres were harvested. This year’s crop was far better than usual, and the yield was much larger.

The apples were gathered in late October and early November, and were all ripened and dried before the frost. The fruit was of a rich, yellow color, and the flesh was firm and juicy. The majority of the apples were sold as fresh fruit, but a small portion was dried for future use. The demand for the apples was great, and the price was high, averaging $1.50 per bushel.

The Vermont Experiment Station, under the direction of F. A. Wauk, is making experiments with Dendrobene as an insecticide. This is an insecticide which is to be used in the control of peach-borer insects. It is a liquid which is applied to the leaves of the peach tree and is absorbed by the roots. The insect is thus controlled and the yield of the tree is increased. The experiments are being conducted in cooperation with the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station.

Joseph Mehan.

Recent Publications.


In the preface of this excellent book Professor Shaler modestly recounts some of the personal experiences which have helped to educate him in his work. He states that during the civil war he was called upon to study the significance of railways in the critical work of campaigns; that ever since the war he has been interested in road-making in connection with geological work; that he has been actively engaged in making roads and has been one of the Massachusetts Highway Commission for developing a plan for the betterment of the roads of that state; that he has helped to lay out and construct a hundred roads, having made a special study of the relation of road-building ma-