

Primroses

Winter 1994
Volume 52, No. 1



PRIMROSES

Quarterly of the
American Primrose Society

Winter 1994
Volume 52, Number 1

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EDITORIAL DEADLINES

Winter issue ... December 1
Spring issue ... March 1
Summer issue ... June 1
Fall issue ... September 1

PHOTOGRAPHIC CREDITS

Special thanks to Deborah Rutman for the attractive photographs from Prague and the High Tatras. Deborah is not particularly a primrose enthusiast but she was in East Slovakia in mid-1993, traveling near the places visited by Fred Knapp.

Photographs on pages 6 (inset) and 15 are from the APS files.

A SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to Cy and Rita Happy for all their help with the quarterly.

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ON THE COVER

Old-fashioned primroses once again, appear to be special interest to primrose growers. The cover shows some of the old-fashioned flower forms recreated by Peter Atkinson in his hybridizing program. The large background photo is a Feather or Shag with long narrow calyx separations carrying the flower color, and the inset photo is a Hose-in-Hose of fine, upright form. Jacqueline Giles describes her success growing traditional or old-fashioned primroses in an article in this issue.

A Message from the President

In this the first quarterly of the new year, I would like to thank our editor, Maedythe Martin, for the fine job done on the Fall 1993 issue. We, in the society, owe a great deal to our editor for such an excellent publication. Both the content and the color presentation in the last issue were outstanding.

The quarterly bulletin is a real credit to our society, thanks to the many contributors. The fall issue was very attractive with the superb photographs and fascinating article by Paul Held, APS member from Connecticut. Let's see more of this high calibre of contribution.

The society has many requests for color photographs in every issue. This would be great — after all, primula deserve to be shown in color all the time — but the expense is considerable. Each issue with a color cover and inside color photographs cost an extra \$1,500, over and above normal printing costs. At this rate, our bank balance would soon deteriorate. However, we can afford to have a color issue every year, maybe more often.

The society executive pays attention to all your letters requesting information on growing primula, on sources of plants and seeds, for book lists. Thea Foster, corresponding secretary, is kept very busy with letters sent because of several recent newspaper and journal articles. These letters, hopefully, will bring new APS members.

APS HISTORICAL MATERIAL

I am trying to collect the society's historical material together in an organized manner, to make it available for reference. At least we can know what exists and where the material is located. I have Florence Bellis' original notes made when compiling her book, and also some correspondence describing her original 'Cowichan' polyanthus hybridizing. The lead plates from which the illustrations in the early quarterlies were made have been kept safely

and, thankfully, did not end up in the dump or melted down for scrap metal.

Old letters, slides, photographs and trophies are out there. Let's hear from you about them. A pair of old gooseberry scales is missing. Please write to tell me of any historical information you have or know about.

TRIP TO ASIA

Lastly, I'd like to know if you are interested in a proposed trip to Asia to see *Primula* in the wild. This requires a definite commitment on our part if we are to ask an experienced guide to accompany us. Trips have been planned in the past and fallen through. The year after next, 1996, is proposed but I must know how many want to go before plans are made. Please contact me or Thea Foster, corresponding secretary, if you are interested and would like the APS to sponsor the trip.

Spring shows are upon us — the joyous results of years of preparation and care. Do participate, lend a hand, and enjoy.

To a successful year.

John Kerridge,
President ❖

**Color Issue
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Eight Pages of Excellent Color Photos
Order from the Treasurer

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9705 SW Spring Crest Dr.
Portland, Oregon 97225

Board of Director's Meeting

Held October 9, 1993 at Chehalis, Washington

This is a summary of the board meeting.

Corrections to the minutes: membership and the financial year in APS run from January to December. Board membership is from April to April.

The treasurer was unable to attend and no report was given. The editor sent a report on the next issue, which will contain color photographs. There will be an additional \$1,500 cost for printing and photograph reproduction to the cost of a regular black and white issue.

The Judging Committee reported that there will be judges training in the spring. Herb Dickson suggested that judges develop a specialty in three areas: Vernales section, Auricula section and other species.

Marie Skonberg, Seed Exchange coordinator from Alaska, attended the board meeting and reported that seed is being donated. Barnhaven has been very generous. Marie is seeking new sources of seed and would appreciate any information from the APS membership.

Chapters reported. Washington State Chapter will hold a show April 16-17, 1994. Eastside will not

have a show, but will hold a plant sale, date to be announced. The National Show will be held April 9-10 at the Beaverton Mall. The Tacoma Chapter will hold a show April 9-10. The Vancouver group reports good attendance at its meetings held every two months.

Thea Oakley was appointed librarian for the society. She brought some books on primulas to demonstrate what can be made available to members.

Fred Knapp of New York State has accepted the position of director of the society.

Micro-propagation was again discussed. The society has agreed to proceed with the propagation of one named auricula. This will be a trial effort, and plants will be available to members only.

Dorothy Springer has received very few responses to her request for plant descriptions of *P. x 'Juliana'* to be included in the register. She once again sends a plea for the cooperation of all members.

Further suggestion on an APS video include: Herb Dickson on primrose culture from seed, Bodil Leamy on root cutting, Cy Happy on division of plants,

Continued on page 10

APS National Show

Oregon Primrose Society and Valley Hi Chapter, Co-sponsors
Plant Show, Plant Sale, Annual Banquet (Saturday Evening)

APRIL 9, 1994: 10AM TO 6PM
APRIL 10, 1994: NOON TO 5PM

Location: Beaverton Mall
3205 S.W. Cedar Hills Blvd., Beaverton, Oregon

For more information and banquet reservation forms, contact:

Thelma Genheimer	or	Etha Tate
7100 S.W. 209th Ave.		10722 S.E. 40th Ave.
Beaverton, OR 97007		Milwaukie, OR 97222

For plant sale consignments, contact Thelma Genheimer



Czechoslovakian Primulas

by Fred Knapp

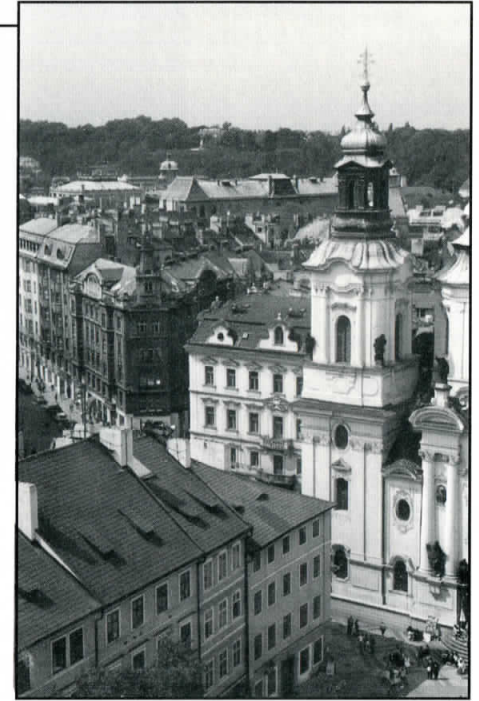
Photo by D. Retman

This past summer the New England Wild Flower Society offered a plant exploration trip to Czechoslovakia, led by Paul Martin Brown. As outlying members (New York) we had already been on several good trips with Paul under NEWFS auspices, and thought this would be a marvelous opportunity (probably our only lifetime chance) to see the area with knowledgeable guidance and with administrative problems solved by other hands. This was our first trip to mainland Europe, so we had no idea what to expect of the flora and still do not know to what degree its fantastic bounty is unique to the area or typical of other European areas of similar climate and topography.

Czechoslovakia is now an anachronistic term; the area has been split approximately 60-40 into the western Czech Republic and eastern Slovakia or Slovak Republic. It is several years since Communism gave up its grip on the area. Border crossings — Austrian or inter-republic — are non-events similar to U.S./Canada, or even easier. We are not into travelog nor social comment in this article but can say that there were many surprises, many problems now paltry in retrospect, and many plants — none paltry. There were even a few primulas!

The trip dates, June 25 to August 14, 1993, precluded primulas in bloom in the areas we visited. Despite this, *Primula elatior* was a dominant influence in nearly every site. In any grassy meadow or field and most woodlands, at all altitudes other than alpine — everywhere *P. elatior* leaves were a large part of the herbaceous understory. Sometimes one wished for a machete to cut back the pesky *Dactylorhizas* and *Gymnadenias* to find the primulas (minor exaggeration).

It made me jealous to stand, in July, in the midst of unaccustomed color and variety, and then to realize that this was no mere summer phenomenon but a second wave following an earlier great profusion of primulas. The reaction was



The roofs of Prague greet the traveler to Czechoslovakia.

even stronger than that, however, for there was usually an equal part of *Colchicum autumnale* foliage — the third wave of bloom for autumn.

One of our standard reactions to plant tours of different parts of the U.S. is, "Maybe we should retire to this area?" It's easy to put Czechoslovakia on the list. The identity of these plants — I had expected *P. veris* to be more common in such profusion, primarily on the grounds of familiarity — was uniformly assigned by each of our several Czech botanists in various parts of the trip.

Primula farinosa is a great favorite among U.S. primula seed growers, along with *P. frondosa*, its close cousin. For those who, like me, are not

Czechoslovakian Primulas continued

sure of the difference nor the valid results of purchased seed, there is a great color plate in John Richards' new book **Primula**. We saw *P. farinosa* in only one spot, a sunny sub-montane wet meadow. Here grassy or, I suppose, more properly sedgey, tussocks of sphagnum made a glistening net of waterways just big enough to soak an unwary foot poked through the mask of foliage. Nearly every tussock had its rosette of *P. farinosa* perched on sphagnum. Some companion plants (to fill out the impression of the area) were *Eriophorum latifolium*, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Equisetum palustre*, *Caltha palustris*, *Pedicularis palustris*, and *Dactylorhiza majilis*. Our friends *P. elatior* and *C. autumnale* were still around on the larger dryer tussocks.

The Carpathian Mountains form a huge irregular arc of about 900 miles and almost 270 degrees, stretching northeast from Bratislava along the approximate Czech/Slovak border, thence to the east along the Slovak/Polish border, and then making a great swoop south and west through the middle of Rumania to plant their foot on the banks of the Danube at the Rumania/Yugoslavia border. Halfway across the Slovak Republic is the area called the High Tatras, long a target for alpine plantsmen, skiers and hikers.

The region is primarily granitic, contains the highest peaks in the Carpathians and is set out a bit to the south of the main run of the range. It is only 16 miles wide. The highest peak, at 2,655 meters, is Gerlachovsky Stit, variously



Photos by D. Retman



Primula auricula (inset)
was discovered high in the
Tatras mountains.

called Gerlack, Stalin Peak or Franz Joseph Spitze depending on the fortunes of empire.

I make that 8,711 feet, but it is elsewhere listed at 8,735 and/or 8,737 feet. The Tatras are not inaccessible, but neither are they akin to the Beartooth Pass or Rocky Mountain National Park. One does not drive to the top.

With 15 people of mixed vigor and limited time our leaders chose Lomnický štít, a mere 2,632 meters but furnished with gondola and chair lifts. We left our bus at the gondola base about 900 meters, took the gondola to a small lake, with hiking trails, at 1,751 meters. From there, six or seven of us took the chair lift to 2,190 meters or 7,185 feet.

For us two this would have been exciting by itself as the gondola ride was steep, and the chair lift our very first encounter with such! There is a gondola to the tippy top, but our

botanist had sneered that there were no plants there — I thought him a prejudiced and tasteless lowlander until I later read some promo material which admitted that “purists” dislike the concrete steps and railings which prevent people from jostling each other over the side. Always believe your local botanist! I’m glad we did!

Around the chair lift terminus were such typical alpine plants as *Silene acaulis*, *Salix* sp., *Pulsatilla alba*, *Chrysanthemum alpina*, *Soldanella carpatica* or perhaps *S. hungarica* (didn’t check), and *Sedum acre*. Finally, our least experienced member found the toothy little fans of *Primula minima*. That certainly made the day. Having taken a fix on *P. minima*, we found plenty more around the tarn when we returned to the way-station at 1,751 meters. This day was a great success and, as it was heavily fogged in above the end of the chair lift, we missed nothing by not seeking the view from the very top.

Due south of the High Tatras, halfway to the southern border of Slovakia, is a central area, the Muranska Planina or Muran Plains, of irregular terrain, karsty, with limestone cliffs and outlooks from 900 to 1,400 meters. It is a protected land reserve with restrictions on use and access. Here lives *Daphne arbuscula*, an endemic. All its other homes are artificial. Many outlooks are in the neighborhood of 1,200 - 1,300 meters, and we were shown *D. arbuscula* on east-facing cliffs in such an area. Nearby was a familiar friend, *P. auricula*, with other alpine/sub-alpines such as *Dryas octopetala* and *Draba aizoon* and even *Gentiana clusii*. Another good day! We also saw *P. auricula* on roadside cliffs at lesser altitudes in the general area.

The original intent of this article was merely to report that we saw four species of primulas in Czechoslovakia. If you want to understand why it took so long to get it reported, take a trip over there yourself and see if you don’t come back with the same problem! ❖

Photo by D. Retman



At the foot of the Tatras lies the 13th century walled town Levoca.

Plant Portrait

PRIMULA SECUNDIFLORA

Purple, reddish purple, crimson, deep rose, red, plum, wine. These terms have all been used to describe the color of *Primula secundiflora*. The color is difficult to define, but the understated elegance of the plant in a shady garden is obvious.

Primula secundiflora was discovered by Delavayi in 1884 in Yunnan. The first plants in cultivation bloomed in Veitch's nursery in 1905 from a Wilson collection in 1904. It was given the Award of Merit in the same year.

Most authorities place *P. secundiflora* in the Sikkimensis section. In his recent book John Richards chooses to align it with the Proliferae group, stating that the only natural hybrid known is with *P. poissonii*. No garden



Photos by Jay Lamm



Primula secundiflora.

hybrids have been found. Regardless of its designation, the plant has proved to be long-lived with an evergreen rosette of 5 to 7 inch leaves and a short, thick rhizome. The flower stem rises to 12 to 18 inches and carries a second (one-sided) whorl of 4 to 20 pendant, flaring, bell-shaped flowers. This species usually blooms in June.

Primula secundiflora is found in the alpine and subalpine regions of China and Tibet in swampy places on limestone ground and clay-slate. Plants are usually found in humus-filled depressions at the edges of groups of rhododendrons. Therefore, in cultivation, the plants need fertile, humus-rich soil in partial shade. The roots need a cool root run, but one that is not waterlogged. Plants are fully hardy and resistant to winter wet, providing the soil drainage is good.

It is easy to grow *P. secundiflora* from fresh seed, although rarely does it seed itself in the garden. Like members of the Proliferae section, the seed has a short viability. Vegetative division should be done in the spring.

Primula secundiflora is one of those plants in a shady garden that a visitor might not notice immediately. It doesn't signal its presence like *P. florindae* and *P. sikkimensis* with their shining yellow flowers. The visitor will, however, take a second and third look at this quality plant. As to the color, the best description was written by Reginald Farrer in **The English Rock Garden**: "their colour is such that they just miss the absolutely frightful and in the missing achieve with precision the absolutely beautiful."

This Plant Portrait is submitted by the Oregon Primrose Society in lieu of a chapter activity report. Meeting times for the Chapter is listed with Chapter News. ❖

A Surprise "Orchid" Primrose, *Primula vialii*

Photo and story by Gordon Emerson

During an initial surge of interest in the genus *Primula* I tried a score or more species, including *P. vialii* — it and more — without much permanence.

As I recall, I first purchased two or three plants of *P. vialii* from a mail order source. The plants survived the summer without blooming and vanished over winter. Next I raised some plants from seed. One or two flowered before dissolving in the late summer heat. Perhaps it had been an excessively wet (or dry) summer. We have both kinds in northeastern Ohio. I forget which; this was 12 to 15 years ago.

Late spring last year, 1992, in the course of browsing the left-overs on the next to last day of Bluestone Perennials' week-long end-of-shipping season clearance sale I picked up a four-cell tray of tiny primrose seedlings labelled simply "Orchid." I presumed these to be *P. x 'Juliana'*. The largest of the more than dozen seedlings had leaves no more than one half inch long.

I had earlier prepared a bed in anticipation of the little plants I would be bringing home from the sale. This is in an area which tends to stay damp even during the driest summers, yet has adequate drainage and shade until past midday. About six inches of very sandy topsoil was laid over rough-spaded heavy clay-loam. I decided to plant the tiny seedlings directly into the bed rather than into a flat and risk neglect. It was, after all, a mere one dollar investment.

The decision proved to be okay. Even the tiniest (dibbling size) had lush root systems, and there was an immediate growth spurt. By fall some of the plants had a six-inch spread and even the smallest were of respectable size. I still did not suspect these might be other than what I had first presumed.



Primula vialii in Gordon Emerson's garden.

Nor was I suspicious at first this spring. Only when flowers failed to appear as 'Wanda' and her relatives came on did I pay closer attention, noting, for example, the more upright hold of the leaves. All had wintered through despite light or no snow cover through December and January and were growing strongly.

The *Primula japonica* bed nearby came into flower, and other damp-loving primulas bloomed. And then one day while weeding — ah ha! they're going to bloom after all! The first scape was a foot high before I tumbled — *P. vialii*! By then 11 other scapes had begun to rise — all but three plants flowering. A leisurely-produced, several weeks-long display startled visitors into many "those are primulas?!" comments. The plants continued to thrive after blooming and go into a second winter looking as healthy as anything around. ❖

Slide Library Programs

Three programs available to American Primrose Society members

Three programs on primula topics have been compiled by the Slide Librarian, John A. O'Brien, Sr., and his helpful volunteers in Alaska. The programs are available on loan to members by request for meetings or just to enjoy.

Program 1. American Primrose Society Slide Program. Eighty slides of a variety of primroses in gardens and in flower arrangements, with a four-page narrative accompaniment.

Program 2. Auriculas. A video and slide program, developed to increase interest and knowledge in these lovely plants, and to encourage growers. The video is "A Star is Born" from the "Primula Worldwide" symposium of 1992. Auriculas from the Alps, from the gardens of Alaska and from Thea S. Foster's garden are featured.

Board of Director's Meeting

continued from page 4

Rosetta Jones on pollinating and June Skidmore on troughs. There will be further discussion.

Information on a proposed trip to botanical gardens in China was introduced by President John Kerridge. Those interested should contact him. June Skidmore may be able to arrange a "primula" expedition to the United Kingdom. More information will be available on this, or contact June Skidmore.

The nominating committee will be chaired by Thelma Genheimer. June Skidmore agreed to be on the committee.

The next meeting will be January 29, 1994.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Flynn,
Recording Secretary ❖

Program 3. Wild and Tame Primulas in Alaska. A video and slide program. The video is Tass Kelso's program "Yankee Doodle Dandy" on native American primula from the "Primula Worldwide" symposium. The slides show native primula in Alaska, and were donated by Tass Kelso, Stanley Ashmore and Aline Strutz with the help of Ermalee Hickel.

Please send the date for which you need the program and a check or money order for \$10 made out to the APS Slide Library. Return the program within two weeks. Your postage cost will also be about \$10 to return the material.

Send requests to: John A. O'Brien, Sr.
APS Slide Librarian
9450 Herbert Place
Juneau, Alaska 99801 ❖

Corrections and Apologies

Don Keefe in his "Primrose Notes" in the summer, 1993 issue referred to the "late" Ralph Benedict. Don subsequently received a letter from Dr. Ralph H. Benedict protesting his untimely demise! The American Primrose Society wishes to apologize to Dr. Benedict for the error — Don Keefe was mortified — and hopes he will continue to receive and read the quarterly for many years to come.

The photo of the auricula theatre at the Chelsea flower show in the summer 1993 issue of the bulletin is not that of Brenda Hyatt's, as reported, but Cravens'. Sorry for the error.

Beginner's Corner

For the first time I am able to include a feature column for the novice primrose grower. I hope you will find answers to your questions on how to start seeds and grow primroses. I'm counting on your questions to form the basis of the column. So, send in all your questions and watch for a response here.

Help!

September 14, 1993

Dear Editor,
As a Primrose reader, I'm writing in response to your — Help!

I'm a novice at primrose growing and would love to see a "beginner's corner" in your quarterly. My collection of plants is small, with only four varieties, which I've bought through mail order, and have grown from seed.

There seems very little interest in Central Illinois in the culture of primulas, and our local nurseries only stock *P. denticulata*. I shall have to try to change this by inviting our garden club to view my collection next spring and asking the nurseries to stock more varieties of primrose.

My questions are — How and when does one collect seed? Would shredded pine needles discourage the onslaught of slugs and save my plants from becoming tattered remnants? What variety are the primulas that are sold in mid-winter at the supermarket? These brilliant splashes of color have brightened many a cold day, and I have planted them in the garden is spring and watched them flourish.

Thank you for all the enjoyment you have given me through your publication.

Frances Stagg
Peoria, Illinois

Reply from board member Fred Knapp:

October 12, 1993

Dear Ms. Stagg,
Your letter of September 14 has been forwarded to me by Maedythe Martin. I am a new Eastern member of the APS board and a long time confirmed novice at primrose growing.

I am surprised that your local nurseries only stock *P. denticulata* and would love to know what makes it the easiest primula in your area or the most economically useful. Please ask your nurseryman some time and drop me a line if the answer makes any sense. I grow it only poorly here, for reasons yet unknown.

Your questions:
How you collect seed? I'm not sure where your question begins and ends. If fertilized, the seed capsules will be pretty obvious. Many, if not most primulas are not self-fertile. Read some of your books about pin-eyed vs. thrum-eyed forms for mechanical reasons which are part of the story. I suspect that your plants are not setting seed, which is fairly common.

If you have several clones (rather than divisions of the same plant) the task is easier. Dismember a few flowers, pin and thrum, to identify the location of things, then fertilize them yourself. Use a fine brush, toothpick, or pin. Look to see that you actually have picked up pollen to transfer, and persevere. It may take several attempts before you and the plants can agree on timing/technique. Once you get capsules, let them turn tan to brown before harvesting them. Watch them carefully as fall approaches; even let a few open on their own just to record the timing. Good luck.

Slugs? I do not believe pine needles are rough/sharp enough to discourage them.

continued on page 12

P.S. How about a primrose hot-line?

Primrose Readers – Help! Update

NEW CONTRIBUTORS, NEW FEATURE COLUMNS

The Winter 1994 issue includes a new feature column, "Beginner's Corner" thanks to letters from new growers. If you don't see your question answered here, please send it in. The column depends on questions from new growers just starting with primroses.

The Mailbox column has letters from first-time contributors from Montana and Calgary, among others. Thanks for sending your comments. All you other readers – send your contribution so we can learn what primulas grow well in your area. Keep the letters coming!

GARDENING SOCIETY LIAISON

Is someone willing to help with contacting other societies and exchanging ads? This

would put APS in touch with other associations so we could learn about their events and exchange information.

ADVERTISING MANAGER

An advertising manager to encourage new advertisers for **Primroses** is also needed — desperately! Advertisers are sources of seed for members.

Here are two jobs waiting for someone to help out. Hope to hear from you soon.

The consensus seems to be — have issues with color photographs as often as the society can afford it! So there will be another color issue this year. Thanks for all the complements for the fall 1993 issue. Paul Held's *P. sieboldii* photographs were indeed splendid! ❖

Beginner's Corner

continued from page 11

Mid-winter supermarket plants? Sold here also, December through spring in successive waves. They are polyanthus and acaulis hybrids, generally incestuously overbred for flower size and color, which often do not turn out to be good doers in the garden — their genes are too focused on their narrow objective. I, too, plant them out and find one here and there which retains garden capability.

In the last decade they have been somewhat refreshed by the introduction of *P. juliae* blood. Not all the results are hardy, but I look for smaller leaves and flowers as an indicator of possible garden success. The original species stock for these plants was combinations of *P. veris*, *P. vulgaris*, and *P. elatior*.

I am glad to hear that the APS lives in Illinois. Too often the major plant societies seem to be based on the two coasts, while the center of the country seems forgotten. How many other APS members do you know in Illinois or the Great Lakes area? I see that even the American Rock Garden Society, larger than APS and probably the group next most interested in primulas, has only one member listed in Peoria.

I hope these comments will be of some help to you. Good luck with your next growing season.

Fred Knapp
Locust Valley, New York ❖

My Barnhaven Elizabethan Primroses

by Jacqueline Giles

Primroses are one of our oldest and most beloved flowers. When in Elizabethan times the knot garden became very popular in both manor house and cottage gardens, the neat size of the primrose fit the design perfectly. It was at this time that the different forms of the primrose were noticed and named.

In his **Herbal**, written at the end of the 16th century and the beginning of the 17th century, John Gerard describes Hose-in-Hose and Jack-in-the-Green. These were widely planted during the 16th century; I can imagine the arrangement of leaves behind the blooms appealing to the Tudors. An interesting form of the Jack-in-the-Green is Jackanapes. This is the "Franticke" or foolish primrose described by Parkinson in his **Paradisus** of 1629. The green calyx is striped with the same color as the flower.

Barnhaven played a large part in the conservation of the Elizabethan primroses. In the late 1940s a Captain Hawkes from Cheshire sent Florence Bellis some seed of the Jack-in-the-Green, and Hose-in-Hose from plants in his garden. Florence was intrigued and worked a few of them onto her Barnhavens. The colors improved and she carried on in a small way, as they had limited appeal in the 1950s and 1960s. "Strictly for the nuts," she said.

In about 1972 Jared Sinclair, who was by now carrying on the good work of Barnhaven, noticed an interest in conservation was

beginning to be fashionable. He began by crossing the Hose-in-Hose with the Jack-in-the-Greens and vice versa, and as he puts it, "all the weirdos began to appear eventually." We are indebted to Mr. Sinclair for all his hard work and dedication. It is thanks to him that these lovely antique plants are back in circulation.

In 1988 I sent for my first Barnhaven catalog. I was intrigued by the section "Elizabethan

Photo by J. Giles



Drifts of old-fashioned primroses and polyanthus in Jacqueline Giles' garden.

Barnhaven Elizabethan Primroses continued

Primroses" written by Mr. Sinclair. "Called anomalous primroses by the sages, many of these curiosities so dear to Tudor hearts are allegedly gone with the dodo but here they are coaxed back to life by way of dogged perseverance and fearful expense," he wrote. From that packet of seed I had every type of Elizabethan oddity that he named.

Two years later I collected and sowed my own seed; flowering time was like Christmas, wondering what was coming next! Two-thirds of my plants were of the antique mode in lots of lovely colors.

It is best to keep all plants for an extra year, as I have found they sometimes change form year to year. Last year I split into six plants a rare Pantaloon. Only three flowered as Pantaloons the following spring; the other three went back to being plain polyanthus. I am hoping they will have a change of heart this year. One of my original Barnhaven plants started off as a Jack-in-the-Green, a lovely soft lemon and apricot color, the next year it became a Jackanapes and last year it sported a double flower.

A very feathery type of Jackanapes has now appeared in my latest batch. I am hoping that it is going to bring me the Feathers or Shags type of Elizabethan primrose mentioned in Sacheverell Sitwell's lovely book **Old Fashioned Flowers**.

I am also looking for a Clown which I believe to be a not very well defined Hose-in-Hose type, striped and spotted with white. Both these types of Elizabethan primrose are thought to be extinct. The pleasure and excitement of these enchanting primroses continues to delight me. I grow about 300 Elizabethan primrose plants each year, collecting some open pollinated seed from each generation.

All types of Elizabethan primroses can be primrose or polyanthus form, but most are polyanthus. The names are also historic curiosities but are worth preserving.

Jack-in-the-Green

Also called Jack-in-the-Pulpit. The name of the leader in some old English dances. Buds like moss roses opening into flower held by a ruff of leaves instead of the normal calyx.

Jackanapes

Possibly takes its name from a striped coat which was fashionable during the 17th century. Like the Jack-in-the-Green but the calyx is striped with the same color as the flower.

Gallygaskins

An old name for wide breeches. The flowers have an abnormally large or distorted or ribbed calyx.

Hose-in-Hose

This is an old name for stockings. A fashionable gentleman in Tudor times would wear two stockings, one inside the other. The outer one having the top turned back. The Hose-in-Hose has two flowers, one held inside the other.

Pantaloons

Striped breeches worn by the Tudors. Hose-in-Hose blossoms with a striped flower at the back.

Jackanapes-on-Horseback

With a bunch of leaves sprouting from the stem beneath the flowers.

It would be lovely if, in these modern Elizabethan times, these charming plants could again enjoy the popularity they deserve.

My garden will be open on 17 April 1994 under the National Gardens Scheme.

Jacqueline Giles lives and gardens in Bolton Percy, York, England. ❖

Growing Auriculas – My Way

by Dorothy Springer

Although the Vernales are my passion and interest, I have always been intrigued by the Auricula clan.

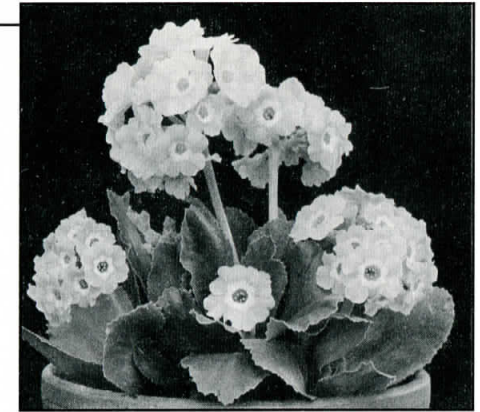
Years ago, having been put down quite thoroughly on several occasions by the powers of the auricula world in this area, I decided I would quietly develop my own system of growing.

Frankly, I was scared to death of auriculas! Scared to divide, scared to water or not to water. Scared to fertilize or not. Scared to use this soil mix or that. Just plain scared to grow them at all! I really got started when I began successfully growing some of the European species and their hybrids.

Put off by the many recipes for soil mixes I finally sat down one day and listed the requirements for growing auriculas. Good drainage: that meant sand or grit. Moisture-retaining: add some peat moss or leaf mould. Loam: all the recipes called for loam. Now where does a city dweller with terrible garden soil find loam? Potting soil will have to do. Since the potting soil already contained peat moss and pumice I cut down on the amounts of peat and grit. Add a little superphosphate and some steamed bone meal, toss in a little crushed charcoal to keep the soil sweet, store for about three months to age and then start potting.

I've also found that a standard potting soil of good grade with the addition of a little more pumice or grit will work just as well without all the fuss of mixing and storing.

To pot or repot I just center the plant in a clean plastic pot of the correct size for the plant, fill in around the roots with soil, firm the soil and top off with a thin layer of grit, pumice or aquarium gravel to keep down the moss and liverwort that seem to love my plants.



A yellow border auricula, originally grown by Earl Welch, can be brought to perfection using Dorothy Springer's directions.

My other problem is root aphids. This neighborhood abounds in buttercup whose roots are covered with root aphid. I don't know if it is the primula root aphid or whether my auriculas passed the aphid on to the buttercup all up and down the block or if the auriculas acquired it from the buttercup.

To combat this miserable pest, I water in a solution of Orthene as soon as repotting is completed. Then I use it again twice a year, just before spring growth commences and then just before mid-fall. I always add some spreader-sticker to the solution to help cut through the cottony covering of the aphid.

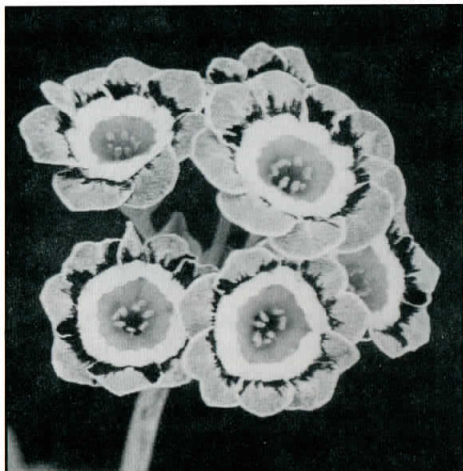
I tried the greenhouse to house the collection. No good. Fuschias, begonias and geraniums being over-wintered in a cold greenhouse do not survive. Auriculas do not want a greenhouse full of those companions and the heat necessary to keep them alive during the winter months.

We have a north-facing deck with a wide overhang on the back of our house. The picnic

Growing Auriculas – My Way continued

table pushed against the house wall and under the overhang provided a fine place to keep the beginnings of the auricula collection. They receive plenty of light and certainly more than

Photo by Cy Happy



Growing white-edged show auriculas can be intimidating but repay all the effort.

enough good air circulation as the prevailing winds here are from both the north and west. The plants have frozen solid in their pots on many occasions and survived beautifully.

I feed my auriculas in the spring each time they are watered with a diluted 20-20-20 liquid fertilizer and find they are happy on that diet. They are fed this way until late summer. During the winter they are watered just enough to keep them barely damp, usually just two or three times between December and February.

My advice to new auriculas enthusiasts is to read as much as possible, listen to the experts in your area and then come up with your own system using the back-ground information, your knowledge of local growing conditions and your own common good sense. It worked for me!

My problem now is that the auricula collection has long out-grown the deck space, and too many plants on the deck flooring have caused the deck to rot! ❖

SHOW DATES

Oregon Primrose Society and Valley Hi Chapter: National Show
April 9 & 10 – Beaverton Mall
Tacoma Chapter
April 9 & 10 – Lakewood Mall
Washington State Chapter
April 16 & 17 – South Center Pavilion
Eastside Chapter – Plant sale, no show – Date to be announced

B.C. Primula Group
April 23 & 24 – Southlands Nursery, Vancouver, B.C.
Alaska Primrose Group
May 13 & 14 – Garden Conference and Trade Show, Juneau, Alaska
Alpine Garden Club of B.C.
April 16 & 17 – Pot show, VanDusen Gardens, Vancouver, B. C.
Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Society
April 8 & 9 – St. Mary's Church Hall, Victoria, B.C.



Under the Overhang

by Rick Lupp

GROWING IN THE ALPINE HOUSE AND CONTAINERS

When I think of growing *Primula* in the alpine house, the first plant that comes to mind is that little gem from the Maritime Alps of France and Italy, *Primula allionii*. This delightful miniature forms tight mounds of congested rosettes with small, sticky, grey-green foliage.

The plants bloom from late February to early April here at the nursery at Graham. The blooms are very large for the size of the plants — reaching one and a half inches across in some forms and are carried in umbels of two to seven on short stems which rise to just above the foliage. A well grown plant can be a solid dome of color when in bloom. I have had the occasional odd plant produce a light fall bloom as well.

Cultivation of *Primula allionii* in the alpine house presents no great difficulties. The plant in nature grows in shaded limestone cliffs and crevices; however there is no need to provide limestone if you do not have a convenient source. I find that a mix that contains approximately 50% peat and 50% grit of one kind or another works very well. I generally use an even leaner mix with excellent results.

The plants should never be allowed to dry out when they are in active growth and in bloom and should receive a light dose of fertilizer when growth begins in very early spring or late winter. Many growers insist that the plants can not be top-watered especially in winter; however, I have found that I can top-water on a year-round basis as long as I avoid watering during periods of high humidity and poor air circulation. Molds and fungus are a definite

problem with *Primula allionii*, so use a light hand when watering and pay attention to conditions.

It is important to practice good housekeeping with this plant. Remove all dead and dying foliage before the onset of winter so as to minimize the sites where fungal spores can establish and grow.

The plants can be divided and increased by removing the rooted offsets in late summer or early fall so they have time to establish good roots before the worst of winter hits. Unrooted offsets can also be removed at this time and inserted in sand or grit until they root, a process which generally takes about a month or two. I grow the rooted cuttings on until the following spring before potting into two and a quarter inch pots.

On the rare occasions when I have been fortunate enough to come by seed of *Primula allionii*, I have had good results when I planted the seed in November. The seed pot was left in a covered but unheated frame until germination took place in April of the following spring. The seedlings were allowed to grow on until early August. Then they were pricked out and planted into two and a quarter inch rose pots to grow on until the following spring, when they were moved to four inch pots.

All of my *Primula allionii* plants are repotted every year, a practice which results in vigorous, heavy-blooming plants. Fungi aside, about the only real pest we have had any problems with

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APS Bookstore

The Society has a special price on the new Richards' book, **Primula**, available to members only: \$36US plus postage. Send your order directly to Thea Oakley, Librarian.

Other titles that could be made available if there are enough requests include Shaw's **A Book of Primula**. If you are interested, write to Thea Oakley.

Older titles that are out of print will be made available if used copies are found. You may want to send a list to Thea with your requests.

Send for a list of all titles presently available.

Thea Oakley
American Primrose Society Librarian
3304 288th Ave. N.E.
Redmond, WA USA 98053
Phone: 206-880-6177 ❖

Sybil McCulloch

It was with great sadness that we learned of Sybil McCulloch's death on September 28, 1993. She was able to provide us with unique historical information on the 'Cowichan' primrose's origins in the Cowichan Valley where her family lived for many years. Always a dedicated and knowledgeable rock and alpine gardener, she had a special affection for primula and her collection always included some gems. She will be particularly missed.

Under the Overhang

continued from page 17

are root aphids, the bane of the Auriculastrum section. I spray my plants every 60 days with a systemic pesticide during the period of the year when the female aphids are active, April to November here in western Washington.

There are a high number of named cultivars of *P. allionii* available in Europe with over a hundred grown in England alone. Many are very similar plants or are selections that are deficient in color or flower form. This is all rather academic to North American growers as very few cultivars are available in the U.S and Canada. The situation is improving as more enthusiasts are trading plants among themselves and the plants are coming into the hands of specialty nurseries for propagation.

Among the cultivars that are available to North American growers I especially like *P. allionii* 'Edinburgh' ('Elliot's Form' is the name the plant is circulating under in America) with extra large, violet colored flowers. 'William Earle' is a heavy bloomer with large lavender-purple blooms with a small white eye and rather crenate petals. 'Crowsley Var.' is a smaller flowered form with vibrant orchid-purple flowers with a rather late bloom.

I hope you are inspired to seek out some of these forms and start growing. The bit of extra effort will lead to a great deal of pleasure in the years to come, as this beautiful little jewel of a primula produces its early blooms to melt away the gloom of winter. ❖

News from the Chapters

ALASKA

We had the first of several programs planned, on Saturday November 6, 1993. That program was on auriculas. Attendance was 38 people. We gave out information on books about auriculas and invitations to join the American Primrose Society. Everyone also received a nice surprise gift from Misty Haffner — a small package of exhibition alpine auricula seeds. Herb Dickson included these extra seeds recently when Misty was placing an order. You can bet that a nice present like that made lots of people happy and made lots of friends for APS.

Our next program will be the premier of our "Wild and Tame Primroses in Alaska" on November 27. We also plan to show the video of Tass Kelso's talk "Yankee Doodle Dandy" about wild Primroses of North America, given at the APS "Primula Worldwide" symposium.

Our slides of "wild" primroses, although not many in number, include those from southeast Alaska up through the Interior and clean up to the very Arctic Coast between Prudhoc Bay and Point Barrow and out through southwestern Alaska and Prince William Sound, out to the very near end of the Aleutian Islands at Attu. Now that's coverage, due to the wonderful donors and the APS Slide Library.

Other programs this winter:

January, third Saturday: Candelabra primroses
February, third Saturday: Florindae, Sikkimensis section

March, third Saturday: 'Cowichan', Hose-in-Hose, Jack-in-the-Green polyanthus.

The Juneau Garden Club will have a sale on May 5 & 6, primroses included. On May 11 there will be a Garden Club get-together and picnic at Ruth Nelson's garden.

A person makes lots of nice friends when they are growing primroses and joins the Primrose Society. Report from John O'Brien, Sr.

PENNSYLVANIA

Doretta Klaber Chapter

This chapter sent out a newsletter January 6, 1994, with the following information:
Seed sowing workshop at Dot Plyler's, February 5, 1994. Species seeds, as well as Sakata seed 'Lovely,' 'Prominent' and 'Pageant' strains (a generous donation), plus polyanthus 'Pacific Giant' strain will all be available.

A show at a local mall is also planned this spring, as well as garden visits to Bill Seigel's and Marguerite Godshall's gardens. Evelyn Schule will host the picnic and plant sale.

President John Kerridge has written the chapter, expressing an interest in it and hoping to come and visit. He asks for suggestions on what the chapter wants from the society, what it enjoys most, and what would be of interest to others.

Fred and Joann Knapp gave an illustrated talk to the group in November. *Thanks to Carol Kueppers for sending the newsletter.*

OREGON

Oregon Chapter

The Oregon Chapter meets every third Friday from September through May at 1:00 p.m. at the Milwaukie Community Club (42nd and Jackson Sts.) in Milwaukie. For more information on meetings and programs, please call Ann Lunn at (503) 604-4582.

WASHINGTON

Eastside Chapter

Meets the first Monday of every month at the Universal Savings Bank, 6615 132nd Ave. NE, Kirkland at the Bridal Trails Mall at 7:30 p.m.
October program: Roy Eaton, owner of a nursery in Duvall, will speak on "How to prepare your garden for winter."
November program: Primroses in fall and winter.
December program: Christmas party. Bring a garden gift to exchange.

Seattle Chapter

Meets four times a year. Contact June Skidmore, President, for information.
The speaker at the October meeting was Steve Doonan on cultivation of *Primula* in the Auricula section.

Tacoma Chapter

Meets the first Tuesday of each month, except July and August in the Fireside Room of the United Methodist Church, 1919 West Pioneer, Puyallup at 7:30 p.m.
October program: Larry Bailey's presentation on show auriculas, on video, from the "Primula Worldwide" symposium. Note: April Boettger, who

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Notes from the Editor

PRIMROSES ARE POPULAR

The APS continues to receive letters from interested growers — 20 at a time — due to mention of the society in gardening publications. The December issue of **Horticulture** included an article, "Auriculas," by Ann Lovejoy with wonderful pictures of auriculas in Long Tom pots, and sumptuous displays of plants at British shows. Cultural directions for growing show auriculas are included. The first name in the list of sources for auriculas was the APS. Corresponding secretary, Thea Foster, and her helpful husband who addresses all the envelopes, keeps churning out letters in response to all the inquiries.

The January issue of **Horticulture** has a piece on growing from seed, and again the APS is mentioned. The society also had calls from a journalist in Baltimore writing an article on primroses for his paper. More letters from would-be growers will follow, no doubt. The society can only benefit from all this new interest and energy from new growers.

FAR NORTH GARDENS

This favorite source of primrose plants has contacted us again. You may want to write for a catalog: Far North Gardens, P.O. Box 126, New Hudson, MI 48165. They have a wide range of lovely primroses and the catalog has been a delight to read for the many years it has been coming out.

SEED SOURCE

June Skidmore has forwarded the latest catalog of alpines and primula seed from Field House Alpines, for whom she distributes. The section on primula is extensive and reports of great germination and sturdy plants growing from the seed are widespread.

A GARDENING CRUISE

A recent letter tells of a five-day Trans-Atlantic cruise on the Queen Elizabeth II from New York to London in August this year. The five days will be filled with lectures, seminars and presentations on gardening by **Horticulture** magazine lecturers, and representatives of public and private gardens of England, France and the United States. For information write to: Valerie S. Brown, Set Sail Cruises, 1156 S. Main St., Suite 49, Conyers, GA 30207 or call 404-388-0607.

A rock gardening friend recently gave me the following excerpt from F. Kingdon-Ward's book, **Burma's Icy Mountains**, (London, 1949):

"On March 23rd J. K. and I took the road to the Hpare pass, ascending a narrow thickly forested glen where again the trees were thickly draped with moss. A mile short of the pass, at an altitude of about 7,000 feet, we found a camp site on a grassy hillside just above the road, and pitched our tents. Vast numbers of *Primula denticulata* were in full bloom here, the color ranging from pure white to deep violet, and from mauve to purple; they were finely grown plants too, the mealy stems sometimes six inches tall. Some of the clumps bore a dozen mop heads, and were doubtless almost as many years old. In spite of its undeniable charm this plant must be regarded as a dangerous pest, an irrepressible weed, which is killing out more valuable pasture plants by sheer weight of numbers. The more the grass is burnt, the better the *Primula* likes it." Are there clues here to the successful cultivation of *P. denticulata*? Imagine this plant as a weed!

TWINNING UPDATE

Dennis Oakley is pairing up APS members in North America who also want to join a primrose society in the United Kingdom. So far he has arranged three pairs. You pay the APS membership fee for your twin, they pay your membership fee in the U.K. and all exchange problems disappear. Others interested can write to: Dennis Oakley, 10060 Dennis Place, Richmond, B.C. Canada V7A 3G8.

SAKURASOH REMINDER

Get ready to take a photo of your 'Sakurasoh' purchased at "Primula Worldwide" in the spring when it blooms. Send the photo with a description to the editor to be entered into the Sakurasoh registry.

GARDENING BOOKS

Recent catalogs received are those from Shire Publications and Batsford, both from England.

The Shire list includes Ruth Duthie's little book, **Florists' Flowers and Societies** which tells of the early history of auricula growers in England, and a fascinating bit of history it is, too. Write for their list: Shire Publications Limited, Cromwell House, Church Street, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, HP27 9AJ, U.K.

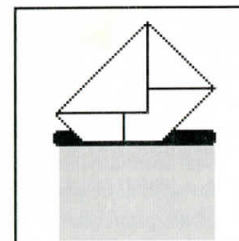
The Batsford catalog includes a practical guide to micropropagation, **Plants from Test Tubes**,

continued on page 22

From the Mailbox

Letters from our readers

Photo by John Roden



January 1994,
Dear Editor,
I enjoyed the fall APS bulletin. Since I am the only one listed in Montana, I am writing a few lines about primrose growing.

Lima is 6,300 feet high and last year it froze every month of the year. It is normally dry here, but last summer was an exception. The primroses loved the cool weather and bloomed more in summer than in spring.

I had several polyanthus in alkaline, well-drained soil in full sun. They were covered with flowers. I broke them up and put them in rows for future plant sales.

I have a primrose border on the north side of the house. In this border are three *Primula parryi*, grown from the seed exchange seed, which bloomed this year. They have leaves a foot long. Aphids got under the sepals, just over the seed capsules. I put a stop to that and the few seeds which developed were scattered near the plants.

A couple of small *P. sieboldii* type plants bloomed for the first time. Someone wanted to buy them, but I need them for seed production. The auriculas did best out away from the house. I tried one in full sun but its leaves turned yellow so I moved it back into the shade. I might add that we have very clear skies and the sun is very bright.

Primula japonica did not winter well. One bloomed, but I wasn't too excited about its color. *P. denticulata* did not prosper in the spot where I planted it. A few bloomed half-heartedly and died. *P. vialii* germinated in great numbers. They did not like the limey soil.



Primroses in Montana grown from APS seed thrive in John Roden's north shady bed.

I gave one special treatment in a pot and it bloomed.

I have a seed list of hardy mountain plants. A few are sun-loving dry-land rock garden types. The list is free and I will sell or trade seeds. Write to John Roden, Box 211, Lima, MT 59739. (Look for John's ad at the back of this issue.)

Thanks now,
John Roden, Lima, Montana

January 11, 1994
Dear Editor,

Congratulations! The fall 1993 **Primroses** is fantastic! The color picture on the cover is not only beautiful, but beautifully reproduced. I

From the Mailbox continued

loved the photographs, and to see the wonderful variations of *Primula sieboldii* encourages me to try growing them. In response to your "Notes from the Editor," I think it is very worthwhile spending extra dollars on both color covers and inside color photos. How often? Every issue should have them!

I'm not usually one for writing letters, but I guess I should tell you a bit about Calgary and primrose growing here. Calgary is 100 km east of the Rocky Mountains. We are often the recipient of winter Chinooks, warm winds that can turn a -20 C morning into a +10 C afternoon. There are usually several feet of snow in the mountains, while in Calgary we frequently struggle with no snow cover and temperatures that can go below -30 C. We have cool summers and most summer nights the temperature drops quickly enough that we seldom sit outside after dark.

Almost all of my primulas have been grown from seed from the APS and rock garden society exchanges, and therefore some won't be true. Currently I am growing *Primula halleri*, *P. vialli*, (it's been with me four years now), *P. frondosa*, *P. sinopurpurea*, *P. apennina*, *P. glaucescens*, *P. kisonana*, (should flower for the first time this year), *P. veris*, *P. elatior*, *P. denticulata*, *P. marginata*, *P. saxatilis*, *P. auricula*, *P. alpicola*, *P. florindae* and *P. sikkimensis*. All of these have proven hardy here and I hope they survive the massive garden rebuilding I have planned for this summer. I am particularly intrigued by the petiolaris primulas, but alas, we don't have the same quality nurseries here as in other places. It just makes the "hunt" that much more exciting, and it will give me a greater appreciation for plants that I finally obtain.

Keep up the good work! It is very much appreciated, especially by the usually silent people like me!

Sincerely,
Pam Eveleigh, Calgary, Alberta

December, 1993
Dear American Primrose Society,

I would be grateful if you would be able to put an advertisement in your bulletin for **Seeds Wanted**. I am looking to hear from anyone from the U.S.A or worldwide who have the Vernales section primulas. I am particularly looking for Elizabethan 'Jack-in-the-Green,' 'Hose-in-Hose,' 'Pantaloons,' and any other weird and wonderful curiosities.

I would like to correspond with any one who is growing these Vernales curiosities. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. I would be very grateful if your would give me a mention at your Chapter and APS shows. I would like to hear from anyone as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. P.J. Szypitka
63 Bastlefields Lane, Hobeach nr. Spalding,
Lincs. England, PE12 7PG ❖

Notes from the Editor

continued from page 20

by Lydiane Kyte. **The Medieval Garden**, by John Harvey might be of interest to those primula growers fascinated by its early history. Write for the catalog to: Batsford, 4 Bakers Mews, London, England W1M 1DD.

Hazel Wood, specialist in secondhand and antiquarian gardening books has sent a list to the society. Here's a source for the fine books on primroses and auriculas printed in England in the 1940s and 1950s by authors such as Genders. Books on other florists flowers, such as the carnation, are also listed. The holdings are extensive, and she will also undertake book searches.

The list will be held by the society's librarian, Thea Oakley, or you can write directly to Hazel Wood at: Hazel Wood, Antiquarian and Secondhand Books, 27 Woodfield Drive, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, England DE11 0DE.

RYVOAN

Please contact the editor. There is no return address, how can I contact you? Please send a note at once; very interested in further correspondence. ❖

Primula Seed Sources

Compiled by Marie Skonberg, Alaska

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES THAT OFFER SEED EXCHANGES WITH PRIMULA SEED

- American Primrose Society
Addaline Robinson, Treasurer
9705 S.W. Spring Crest Drive
Portland, Oregon 97225
- Alpine Garden Club of BC
Joy Curran, Membership Chairman
RR#1 B38 Bowen Island, BC
Canada V0N 1G0
- American Rock Garden Society
Jacques Mommens, Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 67, Millwood, N.Y. 10546
- Dansk Primula Klub
J Vagn Jensen, Danmarksvej 43B
2800 Lyngby, Danmark
- Matsumoto Sakurashoh & Primula Club
Kazuo Hara, Secretary,
9-21 Miyata Matsumoto, Nagano 399 Japan
- National Auricula and Primula Society,
Northern Section
D.G. Hadfield
146 Queens Road, Cheadle Hulme
Cheadle, Cheshire, England SK8 5HY
- National Auricula and Primula Society
Midland and West section
P. G. Ward, 61 Lawson Close,
Salford, Bristol, England BS18 3LB
- National Auricula and Primula Society
Southern section
L. E. Wigley, 67 Warnham Court Road
Carshalton Beeches
Surrey, England SM5 3ND
- The Alpine Garden Society
The Secretary, AGS Centre
Avon Bank, Penshore
Worcestershire, England WR10 3JP
- The Rock Garden Club Prague
Eva Hanzlinkova
Pasteurova 5, 14200
Praha 4, Czech Republic
- The Scottish Rock Garden Club
Mrs. J. Thomlinson
1 Hillcrest Road, Bearsden
Glasgow, Scotland G61 2EB

COMMERCIAL SOURCES FOR PRIMULA SEED AND PLANTS (MAIL ORDER)

- A Plethora of Primula
244 Westside Highway
Vader, WA 98593
- Albiflora Inc.
P.O. Box 24
Gyotoku, Ichidawa, Chiba 272-01 Japan
- Arrowhead Alpines
P.O. Box 857, Fowlerville, MI 48836
- Barnhaven Primroses
Langerhouad, 22420 Plouzelambre, France
- Bijou Alpines
26121 150th Avenue East
Graham, WA 98338
- Brenda Hyatt Auriculas
1 Toddington Crescent, Bluebell Hill
Nr. Chatham, Kent, England ME5 9QT
- Carroll Gardens
P.O. Box 310, Westminster, MD 21157
- Chehalis Rare Plant Nursery
2568 Jackson Hwy., Chehalis, WA 98532
- Chiltern Seeds
Bartree Stile, Ulverston, Cumbria
England LA12 7PB
- Chris Chadwell
81 Parlaunt Road, Slough
Berkshire, England, S13 8BE
- Collector's Nursery
602 N.E. 162nd Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98684
- Colorado Alpines, Inc.
P.O. Box 2708, Avon, CO 81620
- Cravens Nursery
1 Foulds Terrace, Bingley, West Yorks.
England BD16 4LZ
- Cricklewood Nursery
11907 Nevers Road
Snohomish, WA 98290
- Daystar
Litchfield-Hallowell Road, R#2 Box 250
Litchfield, ME 04350
- Donington Nursery
Main Road, Wrangle, Boston, Lincs
England PE22 9AT

Primula Seed Sources continued

Edrom Nurseries
Coldingham, Eyemouth
Berwickshire, England TD14 5TZ

Ernst Bentry
Potsfach, P.O. Box 1127-D-3510
Hann, Munden 1, Germany

Field House Alpines
June Skidmore, 6730 W. Mercer Way
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Gardenimport Inc.
P.O. Box 760, Thornhill, Ont.
Canada L3T 4A5

G. Ghose and Co.
Townsend, Darjeeling, India

Goodwin & Son
Goodwin's Road, Bagdad South 7407
Tasmania, Australia

Heronwood Nursery Ltd.
7530 288th St. NE, Kingston, WA 98346

Holden Clough Nursery
Dept. ARGS, Holden, Bolton-by-Bowland

Clitheroe
Lancs., England BB7 4PF

Insriach Apine Plant Nursery
Aviemore, Inverness-shire
Scotland PH22 1QS

Jelitto Staudensamen
Porsfach 560 127 D-2000
Hamburg 56, Germany

Jim and Jenny Archibald
'Bryn Collen' Ffostrasol, Llandysul
Dyfed, Wales SA44 5SB

Josef J. Halda
P.O. Box 110, Hradec Kralove 2, 501 01
Czech Republic

Josef Jurasek
Lamacova 61, Praha 5, 152 00
Czech Republic

Karmic Exotix Nursery
Box 146, Shelburne
Ont., Canada L0N 1S0

P. Kohli & Co.
Park Road, Srinagar, Kashmir, India 190009

Lamb's Nursery
101 E. Sharp Avenue, Spokane, WA 99202

Mary's Plant Farm
2410 Lanes Mill Road, Hamilton
(McGonigle) OH 45013

Milaeger's Gardens, 4838 Douglas Avenue
Racine, WI 53402

Mojnic Pavelka
P.O. Box 95, 64101 Novy Jucin
Czech Republic

Mt. Tahoma Nursery
28111 112th Ave. E., Graham, WA 98338

Nature's Garden
P.O. Box 574, Scio, OR 97374

Geo. W. Park Seed Co. Inc.
Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood, SC 29647-0001

Plant World
St. Marychurch Rd., Newton Abbot
S. Devon, England TQ12 4SE

The Primrose Path
RD 2 Box 110, Scottsdale, PA 15683

Rainforest Gardens
13139 224th St. RR#2, Maple Ridge, B.C.
Canada V2X 7E7

Rosetta Jones
E. 170 Donoon Place, Shelton, WA 98584

Russell Graham, Purveyor of Plants
4030 Eagle Crest Road NW
Salem, OR 97304

Sahin, Zaden B.V. Postbus 227
Gerald Doustaat, 32400 AE Alphen a/d
Rijn, Holland

Sakata Seed America Inc., P.O. Box 880
Morgan Hill, CA 95038-880 (wholesale only)

Sakata Seed Corporation
P.O. Box Yokohama Minami No. 20
Yokohama, Japan 232

Saltspring Primroses
2426 W. 47th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V6M 2N2

Seedalp Switzerland
P.O. Box 282, Meyrin, Geneva, Switzerland

Siskiyou Rare Plant Nursery
Dept 1, 2825 Cummings Road
Medford, OR 97501

Southwestern Native Seeds
P.O. Box 50503, Tucson, AZ 85703

Stokes Seed Co.
Box 1308, Buffalo, NY 14240

Thompson & Morgan, Inc.
P.O. Box 1308, Jackson, NJ 08527-0308

Andre Viette
Rte 1, Box 16, Fishersville, VA 22939 ♦

Seed Exchange List

American Primrose, Primula and Auricula Society

The seed list made it out early this year. The reasoning behind this was to give the membership an early start on planting the seed which will allow you to get the primula seedling out to the garden earlier, which will give them a better survival rate over next winter. The result of this will be more primula growing in everyone's garden.

There is something magical about growing primula from seed. Every tiny seed that is planted with loving care is a miracle within itself. It is alive, in a dormant stage just waiting for the perfect moment to erupt from the seed coat, to become a part of our world as a beautiful primula. The excitement of watching this happen is one of the ultimate highlights in a grower's life. I can only compare it to the first primula blossom in the early spring. It is so delightful, so stimulating, so impressive, I love it.

With every seed order that I fill, I get this visual picture in my mind of what the end result of these tiny seed will be. Believe me, it is a colorful image.

The seed list comes to you from a circle of people with a love for primula. First there are the donors, who grow the primula, wait until

just the right moment to pick the pods, clean them, then send the seed to me. I receive the seed and take care of it. The seed names are what make the seed list and with the help of some very special volunteers is printed, put into envelopes and mailed to you. The membership send in their orders, they are filled, the seed is planted, grows, blooms, sets seed, the seed is sent in to the A.P.S. seed exchange. This wonderful cycle continues, all with love for primula.

The seed list can only get better. I am asking all members to write me with any comments, complaints, or suggestions on how we are doing with the seed list. All will be seriously considered to make our seed exchange better.

If you haven't yet sent in your seed order, please do at your earliest convenience. I want to keep those colorful images in my mind, thank you.

Marie Skonberg,
Seed Exchange Coordinator

The Society extends a great vote of thanks to Marie for coordinating the seed exchange this year. She's done a great job. The variety and extent of the list are impressive, and she deserves a big round of applause from all of us!

SEED EXCHANGE

The APS Seed Exchange is open to all members in good standing.

The seed is listed first by Primula Section, then by species or cultivar name. Both G. K. Fenderson's book **A Synoptic Guide to the Genus Primula** and **The American Primrose Society Pictorial Dictionary** have been used for classification and spelling.

The number of seed per packet will vary according to the amount of seed available. Unless otherwise stated, there will 10 seeds per

packet. However, some may be available in a lesser quantity and will be listed as limited seed.

Mail your order as soon as possible. Orders from this list will be filled until March 31, 1994. At that time, a Surplus Seed List will be available. If you wish to receive a copy of that list, check the box on the order form and enclose a long, self-addressed stamped (or one international reply coupon) envelope with your order. Orders from the Surplus Seed List will be filled until May 15, 1994. Orders will be filled in the sequence they are received, with donor orders being processed first.

Seed Exchange continued

We offer no guarantee that the seed you order will grow. However, the seed is stored under refrigeration to maximize viability.

We attempt to verify botanical and cultivar names used, but can not guarantee that the seeds are true to name. Single quotation marks indicate a named hybrid clone, the seeds of which may not come true to type.

Abbreviations and symbols used in the Seed List are as follows:

- HP = hand pollinated
OP = open pollinated
col. = collected in the wild

Members ask why we print the seed list in the quarterly. It's so you can look back to find what was number 252 in 1988 and find the name once you have grown the plant.

SEED EXCHANGE LIST**SECTION ALEURITIA**

1	farinosa	[D26]
2	halleri	[D22]
3	halleri	[D26]
4	halleri	1993
5	incana	[D37]
6	laurentiana	[D37]
7	mistassinica	[D22]
8	mistassinica alba	[C1]
9	modesta alba	[D22]
10	scotica	[C1]
11	scotica	[D12]
12	specuicola	1993
13	yuparensis	[D19]

SECTION ARMERINA

14	involutrata	[D22]
15	involutrata	[C1]
16	nutans	[D37]

SECTION AURICULA

17	auricula	[D37]
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- ssp. = subspecies
var. = variety
(15) = # of seed per package if other than 10
[D1] = person donating the seed
[C1] = commercial company from which the seed was purchased
1993 = Surplus seed from last year's exchange
* = Limited seed. One package per customer

Contributions to the 1995 Seed Exchange are welcome until October 31, 1994 at which time the Seed List will be compiled for 1995. All contributions of seed should be mailed to: Marie Skonberg, P.O. Box 70, Ouzinkie, AK 99644.

18	auricula	[D10]
19	auricula ssp. ciliata	[D37]
20	clusiana	[D37]
21	clusiana col. Austria	[D37]
22	glutinosa	[D37]
23	hirsuta	[D37]
24	integriifolia	[C1]
25	latifolia	[D23]
26	latifolia	[D37]
27	marginata	[D37]
28	palinurii	[D37]
29	pedemontana	[D37]

AURICULA HYBRIDS

30	Auricula, double	[D4]
31	Auricula, double	[D5]
32	Auricula, exhibition alpine mix	[D6]
33	Auricula, garden, blue	[D6]
34	Auricula, garden, brown	[D6]
35	Auricula, garden mix	[D6]
36	Auricula, garden mix	[D1]
37	Auricula, garden mix	[D4]
38	Auricula, garden mix	[D28]
39	Auricula, garden mix, pastels	[D7]
40	Auricula, garden, red & purple	[D25]
41	Auricula, garden, red	[D6]

42	Auricula, garden, white	[D6]
43	Auricula, garden, yellow	[D15]
44	Auricula, garden, yellow	[D6]
45	Auricula, petite hybrids	[D6]
46	Auricula, red self	[D6]
47	Auricula, yellow self	[D6]
48	x pubescens, Giganta	[D26]

SECTION BULLATAE

49	forrestii	1993
50	forrestii	(5) [D37]

SECTION CAPITATAE

51	capitata ssp. mooreana	[C1]
52	glomerata	[D19]

SECTION CORTUSOIDES

53	cortusoides	[D17]
54	jesoana	[D37]
55	kisoana mix	[D30]
56	mollis	[D8]
57	polyneura	[D17]
58	polyneura	[D18]
59	polyneura	[D21]
60	saxatilis	[D16]
61	saxatilis	[D21]
62	saxatilis	[D37]
63	sieboldii	[D10]
64	sieboldii	[D17]
65	sieboldii	[D37]
66	*sieboldii Dancing Ladies	[D4]
67	*sieboldii Galaxie	[D4]
68	*sieboldii Manakoora	[D4]
69	*sieboldii Pago-pago	[D4]
70	*sieboldii Tah-ni	[D4]

SECTION CRYSTALLOPHLOMIS

71	macrophylla, white	[D20]
72	melanops	[D25]
73	nivalis	[D25]
74	*nivalis var. colorata, col.	[D37]
75	sinoplaginea	[D25]
76	sinopurpurea	[D21]
77	sinopurpurea	[D2]
78	tschuktschorum col. St. Paul Island, AK	[D36]
79	*tschuktschorum col. Providonia	(5) [D37]

SECTION CUNEIFOLIA

80	cuneifolia	[D29]
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SECTION DENTICULATA

81	cashmeriana col.	[D37]
82	denticulata	(15) [D37]
83	denticulata	(25) [D1]
84	denticulata, mix	(25) [D25]
85	denticulata, mix	(25) [D29]
86	denticulata, ruby	(15) [C2]
87	denticulata, white	(15) [C2]

SECTION FEDTSCHENKOANA

88	*fedschenkoi	(5) [D37]
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SECTION JULIA & HYBRIDS

89	Garryard polyanthus x juliana OP	[D28]
90	x juliana, blue	[D4]
91	x juliana 'Dorothy'	[D3]
92	x juliana, Footlight Parade	[D4]
93	x juliana, mix	[D25]
94	x juliana, Fireflies	[D4]
95	x juliana, polyanthus mix	[D4]
96	x juliana, polyanthus type, red	[D4]
97	Julian mix	[C3]
98	x pruhoniciiana, amaranth red	[D26]
99	x pruhoniciiana, blue	[D26]
100	x pruhoniciiana, mix	[D26]
101	x pruhoniciiana, pink	[D26]
102	x pruhoniciiana, red	[D26]
103	x pruhoniciiana, yellow	[D26]
104	Wanda Hybrid, blue	[C2]
105	Wanda Hybrid, mix	[C2]
106	Wanda Hybrid, lilac	[C2]
107	Wanda Hybrid, pink w/red eye	[C2]
108	Wanda Hybrid, raspberry red	[C2]
109	Wanda Hybrid, red	[C2]
110	Wanda Hybrid, rose	[C2]
111	Wanda Hybrid, white	[C2]
112	Wanda Hybrid, yellow	[C2]
113	Wanda Formula, mix	[C3]

SECTION MONOCARPICAE

114	malacoides, Oscar, carmine red	[D24]
115	malacoides, Oscar, rose	[D24]

SECTION MUSCARIOIDES

116 cernua	[C1]
117 concholoba	[C1]
118 concholoba	[D19]
119 vialii	(50) [D2]
120 vialii	(50) [D10]
121 vialii	(50) [C3]
122 vialii	(50) [D37]

SECTION OBCONICOLISTERI

123 obconica, deep blue	[C2]
124 obconica, red & white	[C2]
125 obconica, white & blue	[C2]
126 obconica, carmine	[D24]
127 obconica, lavender	[D24]
128 obconica, pink	[D24]
129 obconica, red	[D24]
130 obconica, rose	[D24]
131 obconica	[D28]

SECTION OREOPHLOMIS

132 luteola	[D26]
133 luteola	[C1]
134 macrocarpa, col. Kashmir	[D37]
135 rosea	[D37]
136 rosea grandiflora	[D22]
137 rosea grandiflora	[C2]

SECTION PRIMULA

138 elatior (carpathica)	[D37]
139 elatior	(20) [D31]
140 elatior	(15) [D27]
141 elatior	(20) [D12]
142 elatior, cream, red foliage	[D27]
143 elatior ssp. leucophylla	[D9]
144 elatior ssp. pallasii	[D37]
145 elatior ssp. tatrca	[D37]
146 veris	(15) [D25]
147 veris	(15) [D9]
148 veris, crimson, gold	(15) [D19]
149 veris var. macrocalyx	(15) [D37]
150 veris (officinalis)	(15) [D37]
151 veris, red	(15) [D18]
152 veris, yellow	(15) [D16]
153 veris OP	(15) [D2]

PRIMULA HYBRIDS

154 Acaulis, Barnhaven gold	[D4]
155 Acaulis, blue w/red eye, HP	[D10]
156 Acaulis, cream w/green eye, HP	[D10]
157 Acaulis, Harbinger	[D4]
158 Acaulis, Prominent, white	[D24]
159 Acaulis, Prominent, yellow	[D24]
160 Acaulis, Lovely, apricot	[D24]
161 Acaulis, Lovely, blue	[D24]
162 Acaulis, Lovely, mix	[D24]
163 Acaulis, Lovely, pink	[D24]
164 Acaulis, Lovely, scarlet	[D24]
165 Acaulis, Lovely, yellow	[D24]
166 Acaulis, Osiered Amber	[D4]
167 Acaulis, Pageant, apricot (20)	1993
168 Acaulis, Pageant, bicolor mix	[D24]
169 Acaulis, Pageant, bright pink	[D24]
170 Acaulis, Pageant, bright rose	[D24]
171 Acaulis, Pageant, carmine bicolor	[D24]
172 Acaulis, Pageant, deep carmine rose	(20) 1993
173 Acaulis, Pageant, red bicolor	[D24]
174 Acaulis, Pageant, rose bicolor	[D24]
175 Acaulis, Pageant, white w/yellow eye	(20) 1993
176 Acaulis, Pageant, mix	[D24]
177 Acaulis, Prominent, mix	[D24]
178 Acaulis, Prominent, blue	(20) 1993
179 Acaulis, Prominent, bronze	(20) 1993
180 Acaulis, Prominent, pink	[D24]
181 Acaulis, Prominent, purple bicolor	[D24]
182 Acaulis, Prominent, red bicolor	[D24]
183 Acaulis, Prominent, rose bicolor	[D24]
184 Acaulis, Prominent, scarlet	1993
185 Acaulis, Prominent, white	(20) 1993
186 Acaulis, Spectrum, New African Violet	[C3]
187 Acaulis, Picotee Blue & White	[C3]
188 Acaulis, Spectrum, Naughty Marietta	[C3]
189 Acaulis, Picotee Purple & Yellow	[C3]
190 Acaulis, Picotee Red & Yellow	[C3]
191 Acaulis, Picotee Rose & White	[C3]
192 Acaulis, Spectrum, Purple Laced	[C3]
193 Acaulis, Spectrum, Siberian Sunrise	[C3]
194 Acaulis, Spectrum, Stardust	[C3]
195 Acaulis, Spectrum, Crimson Laced	[C3]

196 'Cowichan' Polyanthus, red	[D27]	234 x bulleesiana,	
197 'Cowichan' Polyanthus, red HP	[D2]	orange bicolor	(20) [D8]
198 'Cowichan' Polyanthus, Formula mix	[C3]	235 x bulleesiana, lavender	(20) [D8]
199 Polyanthus, Mrs. McHenry's Giant Yellow HP	[D2]	236 x bulleesiana, pink coral	(25) [D38]
200 Polyanthus mix	[D9]	237 x bulleesiana, coral orange	(25) [D38]
201 Polyanthus, white	[D9]	238 bulleyana	(20) [D19]
202 Polyanthus, Gold-laced x polyanthus	[D2]	239 bulleyana	(25) [D2]
203 Polyanthus, Gold-laced	[D37]	240 bulleyana	(25) [D15]
204 Polyanthus, Grand Canyon	[D4]	241 bulleyana	(20) [C1]
205 Polyanthus, Harbour Lights	[D4]	242 bulleyana	(20) [D18]
206 Polyanthus, Harvest Yellows	[D4]	243 bulleyana	(20) [D27]
207 Polyanthus, laced hose-in-hose	[D28]	244 burmanica	(20) [D37]
208 Polyanthus, light purple	[D15]	245 burmanica	(20) [D20]
209 Polyanthus, Little Egypt	[D4]	246 burmanica	(25) 1993
210 Polyanthus, Mauve Victorians	[D4]	247 Candelabra, bright red	(20) [D27]
211 Polyanthus, New Pinks	[D4]	248 Candelabra, carrot orange	(20) [D27]
212 Polyanthus, Orange-laced x blue 'Cowichan' w/round eye HP	[D28]	249 Candelabra, deep yellow	(20) [D21]
213 Polyanthus, Pacific Giants	[D11]	250 Candelabra, Inschriach hybrids	(20) [D15]
214 Polyanthus, Pacific Giants, bicolor shades	[D24]	251 Candelabra, mix	(20) [D35]
215 Polyanthus, Pacific Giants, blue shades	[D24]	252 Candelabra, mix	(20) [D32]
216 Polyanthus, Pacific Giants, pink shades	[D24]	253 Candelabra, orange	(20) [D21]
217 Polyanthus, Pacific Giants, scarlet shades	[D24]	254 Candelabra, orange	(20) [D31]
218 Polyanthus, Pacific Giants, white	(20) 1993	255 Candelabra, peach	(20) [D27]
219 Polyanthus, Silver Dollar mix	[D4]	256 Candelabra, pink	(20) [D21]
220 Polyanthus, Violet Victorians	[D4]	257 Candelabra, Plant World Rainbows	(20) [D19]
221 Polyanthus, Winter White	[D4]	258 Candelabra, rosy red	(20) [D27]
222 x tommasinii	[D18]	259 Candelabra, red	(20) [D21]
223 Traditional mix	[D4]	260 Candelabra, yellow	(20) [D27]
224 White Polyards OP	[D28]	261 Candelabra, yellow orange	(20) [D27]
SECTION PROLIFERAE & HYBRIDS			
225 anisodora	[D8]	262 chungensis	(20) [D25]
226 anisodora	[D25]	263 chungensis	(20) [D21]
227 aurantiaca	[D23]	264 chungensis	(20) [D3]
228 beesiana	(25) [D18]	265 x chunglenta	[D26]
229 beesiana	(20) [D21]	266 cockburniana HP	[D28]
230 beesiana	(20) [D23]	267 cockburniana	(15) [D3]
231 beesiana, rose carmine	(20) [D27]	268 cockburniana	(15) [D8]
232 beesiana, dark purple	(20) [D27]	269 helodoxa	(15) [D18]
233 x bulleesiana	(25) [D34]	270 helodoxa	(15) [D8]
		271 helodoxa	(25) 1993
		272 japonica alba	(15) [D37]
		273 japonica	(25) [D23]
		274 japonica	(25) [D20]
		275 japonica	(25) [D9]
		276 japonica	(25) [D13]

277 japonica	(25)	[D30]	321 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D16]
278 japonica	(25)	[D15]	322 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D8]
279 japonica, fluorescent pink	(15)	[D14]	323 reticulata		[D12]
280 japonica, mix	(20)	[D15]	324 secundiflora		[D26]
281 japonica, mix	(20)	[D2]	325 secundiflora		[D21]
282 japonica, mix	(20)	[D29]	326 sikkimensis	(15)	[D21]
283 japonica, mandarin red	(20)	[D18]	327 sikkimensis	(15)	[D33]
284 japonica, mandarin red	(20)	[D27]	328 sikkimensis	(15)	[D37]
285 japonica, mandarin red	(25)	1993	329 sikkimensis	(15)	[D14]
286 japonica, rose	(25)	1993	330 sikkimensis v. pudibunda		[D25]
287 japonica, 'Miller's Crimson'	(25)	1993	331 waltonii hybrids		[D25]
288 japonica, 'Miller's Crimson'	(25)	[D19]	332 waltonii		[D37]
289 japonica, 'Miller's Crimson'	(25)	[D14]			
290 japonica, 'Miller's Crimson'	(25)	[D27]			
291 japonica, 'Miller's Crimson'	(25)	[D8]			
292 japonica, pale pink					
semi-double		[D27]			
293 japonica, 'Postford White'	(20)	[D14]			
294 japonica, 'Postford White'	(20)	[D1]			
295 japonica, 'Postford White'	(20)	[D8]			
296 japonica, 'Postford White'	(25)	1993			
297 japonica, rose	(25)	1993			
298 japonica, rose	(20)	[D15]			
299 japonica, white w/pink tinge	(25)	1993			
300 poissonii	(15)	[D19]			
301 pulverulenta	(20)	[D18]			
302 pulverulenta	(20)	[D37]			
303 pulverulenta	(20)	[D2]			
304 pulverulenta	(20)	[D8]			
305 smithiana (prolifera)		[D26]			
306 smithiana (prolifera)		[D25]			
307 wilsonii		[D20]			

SECTION SIKKIMENSIS

308 florindae	(15)	[D18]
309 florindae	(15)	[D29]
310 florindae	(15)	[D35]
311 florindae	(15)	[D14]
312 florindae	(15)	[D3]
313 florindae	(15)	[D1]
314 florindae	(15)	[D17]
315 florindae, copper		[D8]
316 florindae, mix	(15)	[D34]
317 florindae, red		[D25]
318 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D25]
319 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D23]
320 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D1]

321 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D16]
322 florindae, yellow	(15)	[D8]
323 reticulata		[D12]
324 secundiflora		[D26]
325 secundiflora		[D21]
326 sikkimensis	(15)	[D21]
327 sikkimensis	(15)	[D33]
328 sikkimensis	(15)	[D37]
329 sikkimensis	(15)	[D14]
330 sikkimensis v. pudibunda		[D25]
331 waltonii hybrids		[D25]
332 waltonii		[D37]

SECTION SOLDANELLOIDES

333 flaccida		[C1]
334 reidii hybrids		[C1]
335 reidii var. williamsii alba		[D37]
336 reidii var. williamsii		[D37]
337 reidii williamsii, blue form		1993
338 reidii williamsii, white form		1993

SECTION SPHONDYLIA

339 boveana		[D20]
340 gaubaeana		[D37]
341 gaubaeana		1993
342 kewensis, Mountain Spring		[C2]

OTHER PRIMULACEAE

343 Androsace alba		[D12]
344 Androsace lactiflora		[D12]
345 Dodecatheon pulchellum		
ssp. superbum		[D3]

COMPANION PLANTS

346 Acer griseum		[D16]
347 Aquilegia canadensis		[D13]
348 Campanula takesimana		
alba col. N. Korea		[D37]
349 Crocus korolkowii	(5)	[D37]
350 Crocus olivieri	(5)	[D37]
351 Daphne tangutica		[D16]
352 Fritillaria pallidiflora	(15)	[D37]
353 Gentiana lagodechiana		[D16]
354 Gentiana sino-ornata		[D16]
355 Helleborus niger		[D13]
356 Lewisia cotyledon alba		[D16]
357 Lewisia cotyledon mix,		
Sunset Strain & magenta		[D16]
358 Lewisia cotyledon, pink & white		[D15]

359 Lewisia cotyledon, yellow	[D16]	367 Trillium smallii col. Japan	[D37]
360 Lewisia nevadensis	[D16]	368 Tulipa urumiensis	[D37]
361 Lewisia tweedyi, yellow	[D16]	369 Jeffersonia diphylla	[D13]
362 Meconopsis betonicifolia alba	[D21]	370 Veratrum nigrum	[D37]
363 Meconopsis betonicifolia	[D21]		
364 Meconopsis betonicifolia	[D16]	ADDENDUM	
365 Ramonda myconi	[D37]	371 Acaulis, double	[D4]
366 Ramonda nathaliae	[D37]	372 Acaulis, Barnhaven mix	[D30] ❖

This seed list is printed here for historical reference.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS 1994 SEED EXCHANGE

The APS Seed Exchange Committee wish to personally thank all of you who found the time and energy to grow the primula, hand pollinate, collect and clean the seed, then package it up for mailing to the APS Seed Exchange. This is indeed a labor of love for primulas and for the American Primrose Society. We would not have this Seed Exchange for the membership if it were not for you, the donors. Thank you for your support and for your contributions of seed!

DONORS

D1 John O'Brien, Sr.	Alaska	D18 Renee/Dennis Oakley	Canada
D2 Dr. John Kerridge	Canada	D19 Plant World	England
D3 Misty & Rick Haffner	Alaska	D20 Keith Sellars	England
D4 Angela Bradford		D21 Ernie/Marietta O'Byrne	Oregon
(Barnhaven Primroses)	France	D22 Norbert/Irma Markert	New York
D5 Rosetta Jones	Washington	D23 Janice Anthony	Maine
D6 Herbert Dickson	Washington	D24 Sakata Seed	California
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COMMERCIAL SOURCES**(Purchased seed)**

C1 Field House Alpines	England
C2 Colegrave Seed	England
C3 Sahin	Holland ❖

Journal Report

For this issue Thea Foster has some observations culled from the National Auricula and Primula Society (Southern Section) Yearbook.

The National Auricula and Primula Society (Southern Section) has produced an exemplary 1993 Yearbook. Editor R.H. Barter has filled it with an abundance of good material so it has been necessary to choose just a few of the articles to review. We recommend them all to primula and auricula fanciers. Several other pieces are of interest to APS members and could be reviewed later when spaces allows.

AURICULAS OF 300 YEARS AGO

It was a fortunate day for auricula growers when the late Dr. Ruth Duthie made the chance discovery in London's Lindley Library of two volumes of various garden flowers compiled between 1704-1714. In the first volume there were eight pages devoted to auriculas of the day located in a German doctor's garden. Editor R.H. Barter has reproduced 66 realistically drawn flowers in black and white — with numbered descriptions which are very clear — making the original plants easy to visualize. Society member Ken Saint has carefully translated the 'somewhat archaic' German descriptions and Allan Hawkes has penned an excellent thoughtful preface.

Present day growers of border and garden auriculas will be amazed to see the 280 year old sketches as they depict flowers remarkably like the ones on plants we might expect to raise from a modern packet of mixed seed. There are purples, violets and leather color, rose, orange and red shades. Out of the 66 only one was distinctly yellow! This may cause us to reconsider past theories of auricula genetics. Calling all experts in this field!

Another amazing phenomenon is the large percentage of striped flowers — 15 in all. Today we would expect to have to sow a large packet of striped auricula seed from one of the

good specialist hybridizers to produce results of that sort.

Seven of the flowers shown were described as red — from light red to highly red, blood red, crimson and dark red. Several are described as having a "satin-like sheen." Over ten years ago some Douglas seed produced for me hand-somely distinctive reds, with a very glossy texture. I crossed them with other good reds, also from Douglas seed, but lacking the shine. A number of satiny ones have resulted. I am now reminded to pursue this line once more.

How did that extensive and fascinating collection of auriculas come to exist almost 300 years ago, in what appears to be such obvious defiance of accepted modern theory of their color genetic heritage? For auricula people this revealing study is our version of looking back to the origins of the universe — but we need a horticultural 'Hubble' to help us!

Certainly we would be most grateful if some learned geneticists out there would put all their intuition and collective knowledge to use in an effort to unravel this fascinating puzzle! Maybe someone can "out-Biffen" Biffen!*

* Sir Rowland Biffen, author of the **The Auricula** (Monograph) 1951.

BARNHAVEN III

Angela Bradford's chronicle of Barnhaven's adventurous move to France is a wonderful story. Her quite detailed account of the hows-and-whys of the change of location makes good reading. She includes practical notes, such as the seed mix used for her primulas which is always of such great importance to other growers. In the Pacific Northwest, as indeed throughout the entire APS membership, we maintain a continuing pride and interest in the "Barnhaven saga" — the brainchild of Florence Bellis. What a standard Angela Bradford must

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An Index to the Quarterly

For the first time in a long time we have an index to the quarterly bulletin. This index is for Volume 50 and 51, 1992 and 1993, but what a great relief it is to have an index at all, again. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers we can look forward to more of these.

The plan is to do an annual index and include it with the Winter issue, which is the first in the new year. As well, the volunteers are working backwards to close the gap since the last index in 1976.

Please let us know if this index helps you find the answers to your questions, or if there are changes you would like. Send your comments to the editor.

Alaska Garden Show

The Alaska Group of primrose growers will be participating in the Garden Trade Show and Conference held in Juneau at the Centennial Hall, May 13 to May 15, 1994. President John Kerridge of the American Primrose Society will speak on primroses.

Local primrose growers are willing to billet visitors from out of town. Come and visit us in the land of rain and snow and glaciers, where primroses love it, especially when it is too miserable out of doors for gardeners. As Caroline Jensen says, "Alaska is primrose country!"

*Contact John O'Brien, Sr. for further information:
9450 Herbert Place, Juneau, AK 99801.*

Journal Report

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had high — but she sounds most equal to the task!

BORDER CLASSIFICATION

Geoff Nicolle's lively writing style makes his column in the **Yearbook** well worth reading. He includes a discussion of the problems faced in some of the NAPS shows over the categorization of Border Auricula. It surprised me that a variety as small as 'The General' was included amongst "Borders" in a recent overseas nursery catalogue.

Primula x pubescens in the PNW shows have had small tight-leaved rosettes — usually clearly showing their link to the Auriculastrum group. We look forward to hearing how National Auricula and Primula Society solves this classification dilemma. It would be extremely helpful to see a general standard devised. Those of us who breed border auriculas and *P. x pubescens* would be especially interested.

Thea Foster, North Vancouver, B.C. ❖

News from the Chapters

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spoke on auriculas at the September meeting prepared a useful leaflet on propagation and culture of primroses.

November program: Seed planting program: demonstration and directions for potting up seedlings by Herb Dickson, Cy Happy and Dan Pederson. Seeds available at the meeting.

December program: Annual Christmas pot-luck dinner.

Washington State Chapter

Meets the second Friday of each month except July and August at the United Good Neighbor Center at 305 S. 43rd St. Renton at 7:45 pm.

October program: Surplus auction. Peter Atkinson told how his hybridization program led to his plant "Celebration." Marie Skonberg from Alaska visited the meeting.

November program: Slide program by June Skidmore on English primrose shows, growers, and nurseries. She also discussed their methods for growing, cultivating and judging primroses.

December program: Annual pot-luck dinner.

Information on the 1994 show.

British Columbia Primrose Group

Meets every two months on the third Wednesday, at Southlands Nursery, 6550 Balaclava, Vancouver, B.C.

The group met on November 17, 1993, and heard a most valuable talk by Bob Bunn on growing species primula from seed. Bob has raised over 100 species and is willing to share his knowledge.

The group now has a small library of books to borrow. The meeting concluded after a short talk, illustrated with slides, by John Kerridge on standards for exhibiting gold-laced polyanthus.

On New Years Day about 17 of the group paid a visit to Westwind Greenhouses in Richmond. At this time of the year thousands of *Primula acaulis* are ready for shipment to nurseries and corner stores in the area.

The trip was suggested by one of the B.C. Primrose Group who works at Southlands Nursery where we meet. Renee and I live near the greenhouses, wholesale only, and we offered to pay them a visit and arrange a tour.

We met the manager (he says the bank is the owner!) and spent an hour with him admiring the thousands of gorgeous plants of every conceivable color arrayed row upon row on long tables. These are covered with special mats where drip hoses on automatic timers provide water. The manager receives plugs of seedlings from a supplier and grows them on in 5" pots in the main greenhouse and 4" pots in a slightly smaller greenhouse. In the smaller greenhouse there were 17,000 plants! All plants are watered from below to prevent rot developing. The beautiful condition of the plants showed how well the system works.

We split into smaller groups and wandered down the benches admiring the various colors and the various flower forms. I was particularly interested in any that showed doubling as I am doing a bit of cross-pollinating with this aim in view. Someone found a Jack-in-the-Green and I would have liked to acquire it.

We broke up after an hour and on the way out passed a small shed where trolleys loaded with plants stood awaiting shipment. The scent in this confined area was almost overwhelming. Everyone enjoyed the visit and I was thanked many times for arranging the outing. It had to be early in January as before the end of the month the plants would all have gone. Maybe this field trip would appeal to other chapters.

Report by Dennis Oakley. ❖

Wanted

Seed wanted: Mr. Szypitka writes from England that he wants seed of traditional or "Elizabethan" primroses, including all the anomalies: Hose-in-Hose, Jack-in-the-Green, Pantaloons, all of them.

He would also like to correspond with anyone growing these curiosities of the Vernales section. See his letter in the Mailbox column, this issue. His address is, 63 Battlefields Lane, Holbeach nr. Spalding, Lincs., England, PE12 7PG.

National Auricula and Primula Society

Invites all auricula and primula lovers to join in this old society. Membership includes yearbook.

Northern Section

D.G. Hadfield

146 Queens Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire, England

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67 Warnham Court Road, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey, England

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Yoshikawa-Koya 647-51
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399 Japan

The APS Primula x 'Juliana' Registry - Don't Forget

The American Primrose Society Board of Directors decided at the "Primula Worldwide" symposium in 1992 to establish a registry system for the identification of the many *Primula* x 'Juliana' hybrids, both old and new.

If you raise a new variety you feel is worth naming, write to me for a registration form, making sure to include a photograph.

Dorothy Springer
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News Flash! Don Keefe is now coordinating the Round Robin.
Find his address on page 39.

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Dues for individual or household membership in the American Primrose Society, both domestic and foreign, are \$15 U.S. per calendar year (\$16 for renewals postmarked after January 1); \$40 for three years; or \$200 for an individual

life membership. Submit payment to the treasurer. Membership renewals are due November 15 and are delinquent at the first of the year.

Membership includes a subscription to the quarterly **Primroses**, seed exchange privileges, slide library privileges and the opportunity to join a Round Robin.

PUBLICATIONS

Back issues of the quarterly are available from the secretary.

Manuscripts for publication in the quarterly are invited from members and other gardening experts, although there is no payment. Please include black and white photographs if possible. Send articles directly to the editor, Maedythe Martin, 951 Joan Cres., Victoria, B.C., Canada V8S 3L3.

Advertising rates per issue: full page, \$60; half page, \$30; quarter page, \$15; eighth page and minimum, \$10. Artwork for ads is the responsibility of the advertiser, and camera ready copy is appreciated. Submit advertising to the editor.

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