

looks good in the range of 2 to 3 ppm. We tried chlorine, since there is no residue.

TOM McCLOUD: We have used chlorine too, but it has no residual action. I noticed that Ball Seed Co. was using rock salt in the stone areas under the benches to control weeds and fungus gnats.

MODERATOR BRIGGS: How do you treat *Hamamelis virginiana* seed so that it germinates the first spring? I've tried 60 days warm, then 120 days cold, and have gotten 5% germination the first spring.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The key is breaking the leather-hard seed coat down. Work in England (IPPS Proc. 34:334-342) showed that 2 months warm/2 months cold/2 months warm/4 months cold produced 88% germination).

MODERATOR BRIGGS: Is there any great difference between *Pinus densiflora* 'Oculus Draconis' and *P. thunbergiana* 'Oculus Draconis'? Which does better in the midwest.

HARRISON FLINT: Yes, they are two different species. *P. thunbergiana* should be hardier.

MODERATOR BRIGGS: What are the chilling requirements for seed of *Trillium grandiflorum* and *T. sessile*?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Seeds of *T. grandiflorum* and probably other species are noted for their "double dormancy". Two cold periods are required. The first removes a block to root growth. The first cold period is followed by a warm period for root growth that is followed by a second cold period which removes the block to shoot growth. The need for a second cold period may not be needed if the seeds are sown fresh, without being allowed to dry.)

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 10, 1987

The thirty-seventh annual banquet was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton International Hotel at O'Hare, Chicago, Illinois.

On behalf of the Society—Eastern Region, the annual Research Award was presented to Timothy J. Smalley and Dr. Michael Dirr, Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. The title of their study was "Regulation of Photosynthesis During Rooting of *Acer rubrum* 'Red Sunset'."

EASTERN REGION AWARD OF MERIT

Leonard Savella made the following Award of Merit presentation:

The Award of Merit is the highest award the Eastern Region of the I.P.P.S. can bestow. To receive this award is indeed a great honor.

The recipient of this year's award is truly deserving. He started his nursery career at the young age of 6 years. Between 6 and 12 years of age he worked on an estate owned by a Miss Case who also allowed the recipient's parents, Peter and Anna, to grow rootstocks and have cows and chickens on the farm. Peter and Anna Olga Puren were childhood sweethearts in Latvia and Russia. They emigrated to America where they married and had two children—the recipient, and a daughter, Laura.

The recipient's job as a young boy was to maintain the peony and wildflower gardens of the estate, which are presently combined into the perennial display area at the Arnold Arboretum in Weston, Mass.

His other duties, along with his sister Laura, were to deliver door to door through the neighborhood the milk and eggs that the cows and chickens produced. His parents, through hard work managed to buy a small parcel of land on which they grew fruit trees and ornamentals. The recipient, working with his father, eventually increased their acreage and business ten-fold.

Our recipient attended local schools in Massachusetts and in 1933 went to Cornell University where he enrolled in the College of Agriculture. He graduated in 1938 with a Bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture. He was a miler on the track team that traveled to England in 1938 to compete against the combined teams of Oxford and Cambridge Universities. He stayed on after the races to bicycle through England, Holland, Germany, and France, visiting nurseries that he had heard his Dad talk about so often.

In 1940 the recipient married his sweetheart, Wally Bralit. The new bride soon started working in the nursery office. They had two children, Wayne, born in 1942, and Roger born in 1944.

In the 1940's, along with his nursery business, our recipient was tree warden and moth inspector, as well as cemetery commissioner for the town of Weston, Massachusetts. Later, after moving to Hopkinton he was a member of the finance committee and then served for ten successive years as the Chairman of the City Planning Board from 1954 to 1964.

Our recipient was also president of the New England Nurserymen's Association in 1943, president of the Massachusetts Nurserymen's Association in 1952, a founder and first president of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society in 1970. He has been a member of the International Plant Propagator's Society since 1964.

His many presentations in the Society's programs have been most informative and educational, and will be of great help to young nurserymen and horticulturist for generations to come. He has left his mark. He was a great friend to all of us. He was a man who did not seek praise or recognition because he felt that what he did was what anybody would do. A man who possessed a talent and knowl-

edge of plant propagation, hybridizing, and horticulture that very few will attain and yet among his peers he would be humble.

Here are some of the awards and honors bestowed on him that few of us knew about because he never talked about them or wanted a pat on the back. In 1967 he was awarded the Jackson Dawson Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for his accomplishments in plant breeding and propagation. In 1974 he received the highest award, the Bronze Medal, given by the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. In 1978 he received the American Horticultural Society's Citation and Gold Medal for his outstanding contributions to commercial horticulture. In 1980 he was awarded the American Rhododendron Society's Gold Medal, and the Evelyn Mooney Award for Creative Horticultural Achievement by the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

It was in 1940 that he crossbred two rhododendrons to get the now famous 'P.J.M.' rhododendron which he named after his dad. This was just the beginning of a whole list of new rhododendrons and kalmias that he introduced to the plant world. His nursery now consists of over 1000 acres. A nursery that, in my opinion has the greatest selection of plant material in America. His nursery catalog is called the nursery bible because of the great selection of annuals, herbaceous and woody perennials. It is used extensively by New England nurserymen to learn the correct spelling and botanical names of plants.

YES, our recipient has left his mark.

The recipient of the I.P.P.S. Eastern Region Award of Merit this year is the late Edmund V. Mezitt. I am deeply sorrowed that our recipient is not with us today for he passed away in September, 1986.

I would like to present this award to his wife, Mrs. Edmund Mezitt, so that it can be displayed with his many other awards.

Sincerely,

Leonard Savella, Chairperson
Larry Carville
John McGuire
Gus Mehlquist

Joerg Leiss
Richard Zimmerman
James Cross
Leonard Stoltz