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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

COPY

Caladiums
(Fancy leaved)

Compiled by W.A.Geiger and A.C.Splinter

(Approved by Dade County Gardeners and Florists Association on January 31, 1929, after discussion ~~and~~ with "Evening Class" work in charge of Prof. Butts and issued as Bulletin #3)

The Caladiums belong to the class of plants commonly called Elephant Ears which includes the types botanically known as Alocasias, Colocasias and Xanthozomas. Botanically the fancy-leaved Caladium, while sometimes classed separately are very closely allied to the Colocasias, from which they can only be distinguished by certain floral characteristics and which type can easily be identified by the fact that the stem joins the leaf about an inch in front of the base of the leaf instead of at the base as in the other types.

The derivation of the name Caladium is doubtful but is probably of Indian origin. They belong to the plant Order Aroideae and are chiefly grown for the great beauty and varied hue of their leaves. The botanical description of this class of plant is as follows: Spathe, hood-like rolled around at the base; spadix, upper portion entirely covered with stamens, but ultimately becoming bare at the extreme top, provided with blunt glands or sterile stamens in the middle, and ovaries beneath; anthers, shield-shaped and one-celled; ~~ovaries, numerous, two-celled with from two to four ascending ovules in each cell. Leaves with long petioles, more or less saggitate, ovate and usually very richly colored. Fruit, a one or two-celled berry with few seeds. They are all of easy culture and grow freely in a humid atmosphere.~~ ovaries, numerous, two-celled with from two to four ascending ovules in each cell. Leaves with long petioles, more or less saggitate, ovate and usually very richly colored. Fruit, a one or two-celled berry with few seeds. They are all of easy culture and grow freely in a humid atmosphere.

Although Caladium bicolor was known since 1769, the growing of the so-called "Fancy Caladiums" did not get started before 1857-58. About that time two Frenchmen by the names Petit and Baraquin collected along the Amazon River in Brazil a number of then entirely new varieties that they shipped to Europe.

These varieties became listed as Caladium Baraquinii, C. Verschaffeltii, C. Chantinii, C. Humboldtii, etc. and were the foundation of the work of Louis Van Houtte, who is claimed to be the first one who started to hybridize Caladiums. He and Alfred Bleu, another well-known grower in Europe, were so successful that they could exhibit in 1867, during the World's Fair in Paris, France, a very nice collection of new hybrids of which one was named "Triomphe de L'Exposition", a variety still to be found to-day in every better collection.

Bleu brought his collection of new hybrids up to about 250 varieties, all of a very fine type ranging down from very robust growing varieties to real dwarfs. Unfortunately when he died in 1903, this collection was sold to parties who did not handle the collection to the best advantage so that most of the varieties are lost to-day and the rest so terribly mixed up or running under different names that it is impossible to classify any by their correct names.

Another of the early beginners was C.J. Bause, in London, England, who started in 1875 to hybridize Caladiums and who was the first breeder of ~~many~~ real yellow varieties. Some of these varieties are still on the market as Prince of Wales, Princesse Royal, Golden Queen, etc., but can only be bought at present in Europe as American firms list none of these older types.

After Bause died, his son-in-law, J. Luther, took over the business and he developed a great number of very fine varieties of exquisite appearance. He was the first breeder of a real white variety still on the market under the name of "Silver Queen" and still without a better one to compete with it.

There is one more of the European breeders whose name is perhaps little known because all his hybrids never reached the big markets, although they were excellent types and pretty well known in England around 1879. His name is Jacob Weiss, a German by nationality.

The first breeder of new varieties of fancy caladiums in the United States was Adolphe Jaenicke, from the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis. He brought out a number of very fine varieties of which some are still very well known on the market, as Torchlight, White Flag, Ivory, Lydie Oakley, etc.

But Theodore Mead, living on the West Coast of Florida who, although at present is better known through his work in the line of growing and hybridizing orchids has been still more successful. His hybrids are all strong growers and very beautiful. Every grower of caladiums should have at least the following varieties: Mrs. Theodore L. Mead, P.W. Reasoner, Hildegarde Nehrling, Chas. T. Simpson, Osceola, and Berthold Nehrling.

Another very well known grower of fancy caladiums in South Florida is the late Dr. H. Nehrling, of Naples, a town on the western end of the Tamiami Trail. His enthusiasm and great love of this class of plants had no limit, with the result that his collection was once the most complete in the United States, containing hundreds of thousands of different varieties and almost every known type. He also brought out a number of new hybrids of which one is especially beautiful and everywhere known under the name of "Mrs. W.B. Haldeman". He sold the larger part of his collection some time ago to the Royal Palm Nurseries (Reasoner Bros.) in Oneco, Fla., who are at present the most successful growers of fancy caladiums in the United States.

At last we must remember a man whose name was once known all over the world, and whom every one ~~called him~~ then called the "Caladium King". But this title sounds still too humble after considering the enormous amount of scientific work necessary to accomplish as much as he did in the line of breeding new types and varieties of Caladium. Nobody before him, or who has followed in his footsteps, has been able to create such wonders in color and variety as he did, giving to the world something that should never be forgotten.

This man was Adolph Lietze, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in his younger days a collector of orchids and other rare plants until 1880 when he began to breed and hybridize Caladiums. He was successful from the very beginning, although he had nothing else on hand to start with but about a hundred different varieties of Alfred Beau's hybrids which, of course, were at that time the best in the market.

How he did it and what other types and varieties he perhaps used with which to begin his hybridizing work is still a secret to this day. Only about nine years later he was already on the market with nearly 400 different new hybrids which were so new, different and beautiful that he took everybody by storm when he came to the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 and exhibited a collection of his hybrids. Many people could not believe that it was possible to grow plants with such wonderfully colored leaves & they rather had the impression that all the different colors and tints were worked in by some artificial method. In fact, to this day, it very often happens that people, seeing Caladiums for the first time, express the same belief.

He took a large number of orders with him from Chicago, all of which he filled and this was the real start of the cultivation of Caladiums in the United States. We can safely say that to-day more than 90 per cent of all the Caladiums grown in this country are of Brazilian origin, even if many of the varieties are now known under new names.

This changing of names had already begun while Lietze still lived and it spoiled his business to some extent. As a Brazilian, he gave his hybrids names which are especially difficult for English-speaking peoples to read and pronounce. Names like Guaratingueta or Memoria de Vigarito Joa Procopio seemed impossible to his customers in England, so they soon started to rename such varieties, which practice of course created much confusion among customers in other European countries who bought from Lietze and also from England, as often varieties purchased under different names proved to be duplicates of each other. Lietze, however, managed to get along very well, although perhaps he did not advertise enough, which, in many cases, gave other people the chance to reap the profit. But, because he turned out something new nearly every year, the demand for his products was always big enough to keep his business in a ~~stagnant~~ satisfactory condition.

Lietze died in 1907. He left to his sons a collection of hybrids Caladiums that contained over one ~~hundred~~ thousand different varieties and every variety was propagated again in thousands and could be had in great quantities. They were all his own hybrids and the results of many years of hard work and endless patience. Each variety was named and classified, the colors of the leaves described in every detail, the parents of each named, and the date when it was first introduced, etc. In addition to these named varieties he left also several thousand seedlings and full-grown plants which he had under observation at the time and which he had not yet named or classified, as he was very strict and would never list a variety that had not shown that it was absolutely constant in color, habit, growth, etc. It happened very often that he destroyed several thousand young plants just because he could not find among them the type he wanted and which consequently seemed useless to him. This is, of course, the method of every good and successful breeder. Luther Burbank worked exactly the same way, singling out only the most perfect types from thousands of specimens that he would not show any of the differences desired and expected by him when he crossed the parent plants with each other.

Lietze, of course, never did any hybridizing work with other varieties of plants but kept himself strictly confined to the Caladium and this is perhaps the reason that he was so successful with this class of plants. Altogether, it must be said again, that he was a great man and, after considering his wonderful work it has to be admitted that it will perhaps take many generations to duplicate what he has accomplished in the time of only a few decenniums.

Lietze was not very generally known in this country while he still lived and to-day his name is almost forgotten here, in fact many Caladium growers have never heard of him even though their entire collection may contain nothing but varieties of Brazilian origin.

It is unfortunate that at the present time many plant growers know nothing concerning the origin of the plants which they have under cultivation, a habit for which there is little excuse. If the grower will not familiarize himself with his plants, how can he expect the general public to do so, or impress on them how much work and patience is necessary to the creation of new plants and flowers and that prices for the new introductions which may appear ~~high~~ somewhat high, may, in reality, be very reasonable, considering all the above factors.

The cultivation of Caladiums in Southern Florida is still only slightly developed, although the climate is almost perfect for the cultivation of this wonderful class of plants, especially when the varieties of Brazilian origin are planted because these varieties were originated in a country with a climate very similar to that of Southern Florida and do much better than the European types which are strictly nothouse plants and much more difficult to grow out of doors.

While the Brazilian varieties like hot weather and show the finest colors when the temperature is above 80 degrees the European varieties fade slowly away under such conditions unless they are kept ~~out~~ in a well shaded and ventilated place, and even then they often turn out to be a failure. The one outstanding exception is Triomphe de L'Exposition which does exceptionally well here.

If any one wants to grow Caladiums and will start with the following varieties which are the best of all the Lietze Caladiums, they will have the most beautiful Caladiums that it is possible to secure. The varieties are Rio de Janeiro, Hortulanau, Blumenau, Anajatuba, Aguape Putomayo, Bania, Tiberica, Adamstor, Mrs. John Laing, Teyu Pire, Beryamin Constant, Mucuripe, Itapocu, Areca Branca, ~~Camille~~ Caninde and Dom Pedro de Alcantara. To this collection should be added Mrs. W.B. Halderman and Triomphe de L'Exposition.

The fancy leaved Caladium is essentially a summer growing plant. ~~Re~~gardless of climatic conditions it gradually stops growing and making new leaves about October and by November the bulbs have generally become dormant, although occasionally a plant will do quite well until January at which time they naturally remain dormant until February or March 1st when a new shoot ~~starts~~ starts out from the bulb, after which it should be planted as soon as possible. The bulbs can, however, be started earlier, which is necessary in order to make a show on estates owned by winter residents before they leave in the spring.

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If the bulb is not planted after it starts into growth it will rapidly deteriorate

While the fancy-leaved Caladium can probably be grown here with less trouble than in any other place in the country, it nevertheless requires a reasonable amount of care and there are certain requirements which must be followed to grow them successfully.

In the first place they should be given protection from direct sunlight and strong winds. They do best as potted plants in shade houses and in greenhouses where the glass has been whitewashed. However, excellent results have been obtained where they have been used as foundation planting on the north and east sides of buildings, especially if protected from the winds, or in shady locations in a patio. While they object to much direct sunlight, they should, however, be given a reasonable amount of light to bring out the full coloring of the leaves.

In the matter of soil the two main requirements are that it be rich and well drained as the plants require an abundance of water. These plants are amongst the bulbs which will flourish with plenty of manure about the roots, which in the case of Gladiolus and Dahlias would almost certainly be ruinous. Cannas, aloccasias, colocasias and xanthosomas do not seem to be injured in the least by the presence of manure near the bulbs unless it be too fresh or chicken manure.

The plants are naturally soft watery plants which should be protected from winds, etc., and therefore the nitrates which they receive from manure to them as would be the case with plants which are planted out where they are subject to the sweep of winds and the elements and therefore would require to be hardened. All of the members of the Caladium Family are gross feeders and without plenty of nourishment and water it is impossible to get large fine plants.

Old rotted manure, or sheep manure if not pulverized too fine are the best fertilizers. If possible avoid the use of so-called commercial fertilizers but mixing a liberal amount of raw ground bone meal with the soil will supply them with nourishment throughout the season. When the plants reach the peak of their growing season an application of liquid manure made from cow manure and applied about twice ~~amweek~~ per week is also beneficial.

None of our natural soils are ideal for these plants and the soil should be specially mixed for best results.

The mixture should be light, rich, and easily drained, and one which can be watered liberally, but which will ~~not~~ neither cake or become soggy. The same soil can be used from year to year by simply adding more fertilizer and any elements which results obtained indicate might be beneficial unless the soil has become infested with nematodes (root knot) in which case new soil should be obtained and used. It should be remembered that Caladiums make surface roots and thrive in a loose soil which is easily aerated.

For best results use a mixture composed of 25 percent thoroughly rotted cow manure or horse manure, 20 percent peat moss, 20 percent pulverized muck, 25 percent black sandy top soil and 10 percent of good topsoil marl, with a liberal sprinkling of ground bone meal. In the bottom of the pots place about one-half inch of clean sharp sand or some other means of securing good drainage. Where it can be obtained a liberal amount of leaf mold is excellent to add to the soil above described.

As soon as the dormant bulbs start to sprout they should be potted up, as heretofore ~~mentioned~~ mentioned, until March 1st, after which all the remaining bulbs should be potted. Bulbs which are planted early one year will mature early and can be started much earlier the following ~~spring~~ year than bulbs which are planted later. To make a showing before the end of our tourist season the bulbs ought to be planted before by ~~March~~ February 1st. Bulbs planted late in summer or fall can be potted up as late as June 1st.

Water rather sparingly at first, increasing the amount of water as the plants make growth. After the plants have made leaves water them copiously, always giving them enough to penetrate the entire depth of the pot. It is very important never to allow the plants to become dry enough to wilt the leaves.

Shortly after the first leaves appear the plants will send up a flower stalk. The flower is not ornamental and unless hand-fertilized will not make seeds and it is therefore best to cut them off before they bloom.

Plant one bulb to a pot, if the bulbs are large. If the bulbs are medium-sized or small, from two to three bulbs can be planted in a 6-inch pot. For all except very large bulbs of the largest-leaved varieties like Triomphe de l'Exposition, can be planted in an 8 inch pot. Some of the more delicate and semi-transparent-leaved varieties are only at their best when grown under glass or in a slat-house, but there are some varieties like Triomphe de l'Exposition and Mrs. W.B. Haldeeman, which do wonderfully well on a sun porch or in a foundation planting, especially in a northeast exposure.

About October the leaves become smaller in size and the stems incline to droop indicating that the plants are preparing to rest. When this happens, it is best to lay the pots on their sides in a dry place and withhold water. After the leaves have dried up the bulbs should be removed and placed in boxes or tins in a dry place where they are safe from insects and rodents until they show signs of sprouting again in the spring.

By no means allow the tubers to dry up for if this happens they will frequently rot away inside. In our climate, however, there is not so much danger of this as in the north. Caladiums will not endure a very low temperature and are very

subject to frost.

Both Henry Dreer, 1606 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia Pa., and the Royal Palm Nurseries, Oneco, Fla. will furnish lists of named varieties with descriptions and prices upon request. The mixtures furnished by most seedsmen have generally proven unsatisfactory, being composed of inferior and poorly colored varieties. This, however, does not apply to the special mixtures sold by the Royal Palm Nurseries.

The following dealers in foreign countries can be relied upon to furnish Caladiums that will come true to name: H. Hoffman, Streatham, England; C.L. Klissing, Barth (Pomerania), Germany; A. Lietze (Th. M. Lietze) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

FANCY-LEAVED CALADIUMS

LIST AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BETTER KNOWN VARIETIES

- Agary - Silver green, light red center, large red blotches.
 Augustora - Moss green, with pink and cream spots.
 Auro Fino - Green border, white blotches, red ribs.
 Aguape - Brilliant red and pink on green background.
 Aymore - Green, white center spotted lavender turning pink with age.
 Anna - Pink leaves.
 Adamastor - Darkish violet red, leaves transparent.
 Beethoven - Dwarf arrow-shaped leaf, almost white.
 Betty S. Oates - Green, spotted red and white.
 Acre - Mixture of yellow-green and pink with dark green spots.
 Areca Branca - Transparent white with green veins.
 Anajataba - Dark claret with light yellow veins.
 Berose - Light green, striped and flushed red.
 Blushing Maid - Almost pure white shading to pink center.
 Bahia - Cream yellow with dark carmine spots.
 Blumenau - Transparent light lilac with creamy yellow veins. (Very delicate).
 Benjamin Constant - Milk-white, mingled with light crimson.
 Candidum - White green ribs and veins, dark stems.
 Caninde - Delicate pink.
 Cocoloba - Green, red ribs, many white spots.
 Charmisso - Green with red veins, marbled light green.
 Cuyaba - Transparent white and pink, green veins.
 Dr. H. Nehrling - Dark green border, pink and white spotted center.
 Dr. Vilhena - Dark green, white center, spotted red.
 D.M. Cook (Mephisto) - Crumpled leaf, plum-red center, spotted deep red.
 Don Allison - Large green leaf, veined red and splashed rose and white.
 Dom Pedro de Alcantara - Transparent, intense claret with yellow ribs and edges.
 Ernest Schmidt - White leaf, light colored stems, green veins.
 Elsa - Changing deep green to intense pink densely flecked crimson.
 Elsa Robinson - Transparent white changing to pink.
 Fanny Rahe - Very brilliant crimson, similar to Mme. Truait.
 Fluminense - White and cream with red spots.
 Fred Bause - Deep rose center, overlaid with purplish.
 Fascination - Deep green border, shading to old rose center.
 Faceiro (Faceiro) - Immense creamy white leaf, clouded moss green, blotched green.
 Garten Directo Betz - Large bronze red leaf, darker veins, vigorous.
 Garten Director Gireaud - Creamy yellow, clouded moss green, spotted red.
 Gitterana - Green border, pink center and veins.
 Gaeratii - Green with red center, white spots.
 Golden Queen - Sulphur yellow, cannot stand sun.
 Hedwig Else Nehrling - dark green with red spots, lance leaves.
 Heraldii - Green with wine colored center, white spots.

- Stuart H. Anderson - Dwarf, deep pink center, transparent blotches, green border.
 Tecumseh - Deep red, with green border, rather dwarf.
 Thomas Tomlinson - Deep red, green border, sometimes mixed with white.
 Triomphe de l'Exposition - Fine old red variety.
 Truce - Old rose or flesh.
 Tibirica - Wonderful claret color with cream yellow ribs and spots.
 Teyu-Pire - Difficult to describe, transparent gelatin lilac-rose, with yellowish green worked in.
 Vesta - Green ground, white veins, surrounded by salmon red spots.
 Virgile - Large green leaf, white center veined pink, occasional pink spot.
 Wightii - Light green, red and white spots.

The original from which this was copied was loaned BYM by Mrs. Porter Baldwin
 308 Monroe Drive
 West Palm Beach, Fla.

There were notes in her handwriting to indicate that Dr. Mead was now dead
 and that Royal Palm Nurseries were now out of existence (1948)

Tampa, Fla.,
March 17, 1950.

Mr. E. Y. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D.C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

Received your letter of the 4th inst., and glad to hear from you. I had been thinking for some time that I would write and see about when you wanted me to ship your bulbs, but have been busy shipping bulbs and with my other work and neglected to do so. At the time I received your letter I was checking thru my bulbs making a list of a great number of varieties from which I would select bulbs for you and have just now practically decided what I would send. I might possibly make one or two changes. I had made a list in the summer and thought it was in my file with your letters but seems I failed to put it there, therefore was making another. I do have your letters and note what you have and would like and hope you will be pleased with the selection. It was hard for me to decide what to send as I have so many that are very beautiful. Until you wrote that you did not want the red centers I had planned to send some different varieties in these as most of these grow lovely here and did not know they would not there. I do know that all caladiums vary some in their beauty as to the weather conditions, the amount of sun as some of the most transparent ones will not stand as much sun as the others and one has to experiment. I have a little spanish moss overhead in my slat house and different varieties sometimes have to be changed from one location to another. I also have some in full sun in the yard in the beds with my azaleas.

We had had a very hot winter most of the time, the warmest and driest I believe in the history of Tampa taking the season as a whole. At present I have some few varieties up in the azalea beds and quite recently have had to cover them a few times to keep the frost from them. I shall start planting mine around the first of the month if the weather permits, last year planted several hundred in March but this year it is too cold at night for them.

I will make arrangements to send them by Parcel Post whenever it is convenient to you, and if you do not want them sent to the address above please advise. I will include gratis a small bulb of the Gem (lance) caladium like a leaf I sent to you and which I promised to you in one of my letters.

Helen M. Lee -?

Spangled Banner 75

89-Seedling 75

Fire Nymph 75

Orchid Beauty 1.50

Loe Munson 75

Avalon Rose 35

Edith Mead 1.50

Collier 75

Maurice de Nassau 1.50

Tom Thumb 75

889-B

Florentine 1.00

Margueritta 1.00

Plum Color Spots 50

Sagurema or Silver Sheen

Mrs. Anna Nehrling 50

Carolyn Wharton 1.00

30 Seedling 1.50

Edith Mead Seedling 1.00

~~Piraciba~~

Delillah 1.00

45 Seedling 1.00

Oneco 1.00

Paula Leitze (lance) 1.00

28 Seedling 75

Meruda 75

Alba 1.00

Dr. Henry Nehrling 1.00

MI Faute or something else 1.00

Fascination 1.50

Eoes 1.00

~~Scatium~~

Donna Marie 1.00

Betty 75

Tabatingo 1.00

Spanish Flag 75

~~Helen Monson~~

Sea Gull 75

Lavender Queen 1.00

Oriental 1.00

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With Best Wishes Sincerely, Mrs. Edith M. Lee

29 May 1950

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie,
1110 Caracas Street,
Tampa 3, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Ivie:

Thank you for your letter of May 26 with its news but I am so distressed that it should be bad news and sorrow for you. Please accept my condolences, and sympathy.

I too have been away, but before I left, I put the roots of the caladiums in a pan of soft peat moss, with careful labelling, and just enough moisture to keep it firm. Some had started to sprout in the box, and most had started before I left.

Yesterday, I potted them all up, in fine shape save for the single variety 'Plus colored spots' which had entirely decayed. Do not worry about this one. As I have already grown a splendid lot from Brazil, I had just such leaves as you imagine, and will work for the illustration in the long series.

You understand, of course that it will be autumn before they are in condition for photographing and that the magazine article cannot possibly appear before 1951. I will see that a copy comes to you, whether I am in the office or not. If the pictures turn out as well as those I have had in the past of the old sorts, it should make a stunning issue.

Only three have developed first leaves large enough to see and I think they are delightful, every one of them. The only transparent so far is Lavender Queen and that is beautiful. I am certain that I shall like them all, and hope with all my heart that I shall be able to give the caladiums a great boost in the North where they make fine pot plants but are not known by name. Certainly I shall do all that is humanly possible to that end.

Sincerely,

B.Y. Morrison

BYM:s

Dear Mr. Morrison:

The Alba is very rare. I had it several years ago and everyone begged so hard that I kept cutting my bulb to get one for each person and lost my two bulbs that fall. I could not find another until ~~last~~ ^{two} years and it did unusually well and I was able to cut off one for you.

I would be very grateful if you would mention the fact in your article that the bulbs were purchased from me. It seems to me that a person might sell some from such publicity. I would surely let you know if I did. Would appreciate it if you will let me know when the article is published so that I may purchase a copy of the magazine.

I will close wishing you much pleasure and success with your caladiums.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie
Mrs. Edith M. Ivie

1110 Caracas St.,

Tampa 3, Fla.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Mrs. Edith M. Alrie,

1110 Canfield Pk.,

Tampa 3, FLA.

MAY 26

1950

MAY 26

6:34 PM

2 1950

FLA.



Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D. C.

7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park, 12, D.C.,
16 April 1950

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie,
1110 Caracas Street,
Tampa Fla.

Dear Mrs. Ivie:

I dashed off a few hurried lines the other day to let you know that the roots are safely here. I have looked at them and they are in beautiful shape. You need have no fear. I have grown fancy-leaved caladiums before this. You have forgotten the list of varieties that I sent you on which I have notes and of which I have pictures?

It is too bad that I did not make myself clear about the red-centered caladiums. I do not LIKE the varieties like Ace of Diamonds, etc. that are large tough looking things with dull red centers to bright red centers. They grow like elephant ears, not caladiums. But I have all the pictures of that type that I need. If you had red-centers that were transparent, that is just another thing and I did not say that I did not want red-centers, merely that I did not want more of the type specified. As it is I am afraid that you took far too much pains with the small order. I shall do my best; the photographer takes superb pictures and you ought to be pleased with the results. Certainly I hope you will be.

I feel for you with the low temperatures. We have had the nastiest spring that I recall. All my very early azalea blooms are frozen and there will be only samples on those sorts. It remains to be seen what damage may have been done to the undeveloped buds. I hope none.

I do not believe that I shall try to put caladiums in any flower show. I do all my 'proselyting' via the magazine! I'll send you the copy when it comes out, you need not look for it, as it is never on news stands, goes only to members. We have a good caliber of membership and I hope they will hunt you out with their orders.

I am most grateful for all you have done to make this project a success and hope truly that the results will please you when they are published.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

B.Y. Morrison

BYM:s

1160 Caracas Street

Tampa, Fla.,
May 26, 1950.

Mr. B. V. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D. C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

I received two letters from you written in April. The first I received before I left for a trip and I do not recall whether I sent a card in answer to it or not, as I had so many thing to do before I left. I had not forgotten that you had raised caladiums and had pictures of some, but it had skipped my mind just at that moment for I was shipping others orders and writing to them and with so many other things on my mind at that time guess my brain was not functioning at it should.

I am looking forward to the magazine and to knowing how you like what I picked out for you. I do hope you will like all of them and derive much pleasure from them.

Too bad you lost so many of the azalea buds, I have had that happen here, but not this year as they bloomed early. I have about 20 kinds and about 70 bushes, some of them over five feet in height and the same size across and they have never been more gorgeous than this year. I have planted caladium among mine and when I returned from my trip those were gorgeous, I do not believe they have ever been more lovely and so transparent. These were named while I was in the South and I had a lot of them but I did not have time to water them and some are just coming up and I have about two day's planting yet to do, but since my returning home I have not been able to settle to anything and there is so much that I need to do, but hope to soon get back to working. I wonder if yours are now up for I know it has been cold.

I was away when your second letter arrived and I did not return until late in the afternoon of May 15th. I married Dec. 24th, but still continued and will yet still use the name of Ivie for my caladium business and also for the kennel I have for boarding dogs, as the change of name would only cause confusion. My husband was going to N. Carolina and as I had never been up in just that section and I always have to make my trips in the late fall or winter on account of my business I decided to go with him, expecting to return within a week or ten days at the most. It turned cold the first day up there and for two days it was 20 degrees in the morning and when I left there on May 15th we were still wearing coats all or part of the day, as it was in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains. I would have enjoyed my trip immensely except for the sorrow that came from the trip. A friend of my husbands came up from Tampa late in the afternoon of April 29th and was returning to Tampa Sunday afternoon and I was to come back with him. My husband was to stay up there on some business for awhile. On the morning of the 30th this gentleman and my husband and I were going on a business trip. When I found he was leaving that afternoon instead of Monday as he had planned previously I stayed home to pack my suitcase. Well, they took my husband's truck and had gone less than 1 1/2 miles and around the bend of a mountain they went down about 40 feet over an embankment, truck turned over and cab was mashed even with the

dashboard. One was thrown to the left and the other to the right. Both received broken backs and other injuries. My husband was hurt the worst, head injuries, broken rib and broken back and was not expected to live the first night. He improved but I thought was worse the second week but the doctor said he was not. However he passed away at 6P.M. on May 11th. He was born within 18 miles of there and had brother and two sisters and other relatives there, in Virginia, so he was buried ~~there~~ on Sunday the 14th. ^{in Virginia} The other man was not hurt so badly it was thought but complications set in and on May 13th he was moved in an ambulance to a large city in N.C. to a hospital ~~where~~ and given blood transfusions. I do hope he gets well. The cause of the accident is not known, some say a car crowded them off the road, others say not, but persons living just around the bend said they were not making over 20 miles an hour, and they both said they knew they were not making more than thirty at the most. My husband was a careful driver and had driven in every State of the United States and up to this time had never had an accident, but there is always a first time.

I see I have made some errors so just please overlook them. I have intended writing to you each day since my return but the days passed without my doing so.

I certainly wish you much success with your caladiums and I am sure you will derive much pleasure from them.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Edith M. Lurie

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

29 May 1960

Mrs. Smith H. Ivie,
1110 Caracas Street,
Tampa 3, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Ivie:

Thank you for your letter of May 26 with its news but I am so distressed that it should be bad news and sorrow for you. Please accept my condolences, and sympathy.

I too have been away, but before I left, I put the roots of the callulums in a pan of soft peat moss, with careful labelling, and just enough moisture to keep it firm. Some had started to sprout in the box, and most had started before I left.

Yesterday, I potted them all up, in fine shape save for the single variety 'Plus colored spots' which are entirely decayed. Do not worry about this one. I have already grown a duplicate of it from cuttings they had just such leaves or so I imagine, and will serve for the illustration in the long series.

You understand, of course that it will be autumn before they are in condition for photographing and that the magazine article cannot possibly appear before 1961. I will see that a copy comes to you, whether I am in the office or not. If the pictures turn out as well as those I have had in the past of the old sorts, it should make a stunning issue.

Only three have developed first leaves large enough to see and I think they are delightful, every one of them. The only transparent so far is Lavender seen and that is beautiful. I am certain that I shall like them all, and hope with all my heart that I shall be able to give the callulums a great boost in the North where they make fine pot plants but are not known by name. Certainly I shall do all that is humanly possible to that end.

Sincerely,

B.Y. Morrison

BYM:s

1160 Caracas Street

Tampa, Fla.,
May 26, 1950.

Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D. C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

I received two letters from you written in April. The first I received before I left for a trip and I do not recall whether I sent a card in answer to it or not, as I had so many things to do before I left. I had not forgotten that you had raised caladiums and had pictures of some, but it had slipped my mind just at that moment for I was shipping other orders and writing to them and with so many other things on my mind at that time guess my brain was not functioning at it should.

I am looking forward to the magazine and to knowing how you like what I picked out for you. I do hope you will like all of them and derive much pleasure from them.

Too bad you lost so many of the azalea buds, I have had that happen here, but not this year as they bloomed early. I have about 20 kinds and about 70 bushes, some of them over five feet in height and the same size across and they have never been more gorgeous than this year. I have planted caladium among mine and when I returned from my trip those were gorgeous, I do not believe they have ever been more lovely and so transparent. These were watered while I was away as I had my azaleas watered, but those in cans were not watered and some are just coming up and I have about two days' planting yet to do, but since my returning home I have not been able to settle to anything and there is so much that I need to do, but hope to soon get back to working. I wonder if yours are now up for I know it has been cold.

I was away when your second letter arrived and I did not return until late in the afternoon of May 15th. I married Dec. 24th, but still continued and will yet still use the name of Ivie for my caladium business and also for the kennel I have for boarding dogs, as the change of name would only cause confusion. My husband was going to N. Carolina and as I had never been up in just that section and I always have to make my trips in the late fall or winter on account of my business I decided to go with him, expecting to return within a week or ten days at the most. It turned cold the first day up there and for two days it was 20 degrees in the morning and when I left there on May 15th we were still wearing coats all or part of the day, as it was in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains. I would have enjoyed my trip immensely except for the sorrow that came from the trip. A friend of my husband's came up from Tampa late in the afternoon of April 29th and was returning to Tampa Sunday afternoon and I was to come back with him. My husband was to stay up there on some business for awhile. On the morning of the 30th this gentleman and my husband and I were going on a business trip. When I found he was leaving that afternoon instead of Monday as he had planned previously I stayed home to pack my suitcase. Well, they took my husband's truck and had gone less than 1 1/2 miles and around the bend of a mountain they went down about 40 feet over an embankment, truck turned over and cab was mashed even with the

dashboard. One was thrown to the left and the other to the right. Both received broken backs and other injuries. My husband was hurt the worst, head injuries, broken rib and broken back and was not expected to live the first night. He improved but I thought was worse the second week but the doctor said he was not. However he passed away at 6 P.M. on May 11th. He was born within 18 miles of there and had brother and two sisters and other relatives there, in Virginia, so he was buried there on Sunday the 14th. The other man was not hurt so badly it was thought but complications set in and on May 13th he was moved in an ambulance to a large city in N.C. to a hospital ~~there~~ and given blood transfusions. I do hope he gets well. The cause of the accident is not known, some say a car crowded them off the road, others say not, but persons living just around the bend said they were not making over 20 miles an hour, and they both said they knew they were not making more than thirty at the most. My husband was a careful driver and had driven in every State of the United States and up to this time had never had an accident, but there is always a first time.

I see I have made some errors so just please overlook them. I have intended writing to you each day since my return but the days passed without my doing so.

I certainly wish you much success with your caladiums and I am sure you will derive much pleasure from them.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Edith M. Lurie

7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park, 12, D.C.,
16 April 1950

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie,
1110 Caracas Street,
Tampa Fla.

Dear Mrs. Ivie:

I dashed off a few hurried lines the other day to let you know that the roots are safely here. I have looked at them and they are in beautiful shape. You need have no fear. I have grown fancy-leaved caladiums before this. You have forgotten the list of varieties that I sent you on which I have notes and of which I have pictures?

It is too bad that I did not make myself clear about the red-centered caladiums. I do not LIKE the varieties like Ace of Diamonds, etc. that are large tough looking things with dull red centers to bright red centers. They grow like elephant ears, not caladiums. But I have all the pictures of that type that I need. If you had red-centers that were transparent, that is just another thing and I did not say that I did not want red-centers, merely that I did not want more of the type specified. As it is I am afraid that you took far too much pains with the small order. I shall do my best; the photographer takes superb pictures and you ought to be pleased with the results! Certainly I hope you will be.

I feel for you with the low temperatures. We have had the nastiest spring that I recall. All my very early azalea blooms are frozen and there will be only samples on those sorts. It remains to be seen what damage may have been done to the undeveloped buds. I hope none.

I do not believe that I shall try to put caladiums in any flower show. I do all my 'proselyting' via the magazine! I'll send you the copy when it comes out, you need not look for it, as it is never on news stands, goes only to members. We have a good caliber of membership and I hope they will hunt you out with their orders.

I am most grateful for all you have done to make this project a success and hope truly that the results will please you when they are published.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

B.Y. Morrison

BYM:s

1160 Caracas Street

Tampa, Fla.,
May 26, 1950.

Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D. C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

I received two letters from you written in April. The first I received before I left for a trip and I do not recall whether I sent a card in answer to it or not, as I had so many thing to do before I left. I had not forgotten that you had raised caladiums and had pictures of some, but it had skipped my mind just at that moment for I was shipping others orders and writing to them and with so many other things on my mind at that time guess my brain was not functioning at it should.

I am looking forward to the magazine and to knowing how you like what I picked out for you. I do hope you will like all of them and derive much pleasure from them.

Too bad you lost so many of the azalea buds, I have had that happen here, but not this year as they bloomed early. I have about 20 kinds and about 70 bushes, some of them over five feet in height and the same size across and they have never been more gorgeous than this year. I have planted caladium among mine and when I returned from my trip those were gorgeous, I do not believe they have ever been more lovely and so transparent. These were watered while I was away as I had my azaleas watered, but those in cans were not watered and some are just coming up and I have about two day's planting yet to do, but since my returning home I have not been able to settle to anything and there is so much that I need to do, but hope to soon get back to working. I wonder if yours are now up for I know it has been cold.

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I see I have made some errors so just please overlook them. I have intended writing to you each day since my return but the days passed without my doing so.

I certainly wish you much success with your caladiums and I am sure you will derive much pleasure from them.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Edith M. Lurie

V.S. In case you are not familiar
with lance leaf varieties, these are
young leaves they get some wider & of
course longer.

Tampa, Fla.
May 27, 1949.

1110
Caracas Street

Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D. C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

Received your order and thank you for same. The
check certainly came in handy just at this time for I had
some unexpected expense. I am glad to receive the order
now for it will give me the opportunity to choose varieties
that I think you will like and after I dig my bulbs,
probably late in December, will advise you what I have
selected. I will omit those that you have.

My plants are coming along nicely but when the
summer rains arrive they will be even more lovely. I have
many azalea plants in my yard and have put quite a
number in front of them & they are very colorful.

I am enclosing 3 leaves of strap or lance leaf varieties.
The pink is the one I promised you free when I last wrote to
you. The red is Rosalie, the other Paula Leitz. I may have
a few varieties of the lance variety to sell this fall and
wondered if you would want any of the lance variety
included in your order or if you just desired the Coladams
with regular leaves. I don't know how these will arrive as I
put some parafine on stems & haven't done this before but hope
they arrive in good condition. I stated this letter sooner but
found I wouldn't get anywhere to mail until today, so finishing letter
& enclosing leaves.

Sincerely
Mrs. Edith M. Love

7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park, 12, D.C.,
22 May 1949

Mrs. Edith Ivie,
1110 Caracas Street,
Tampa, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Ivie:

I'm sorry that everything seems to have gone awry for me again this year.

It is now too late to do anything about the cissampelos for this season's growth but I do want them in time and in order that there may be no more slips on my part, I am sending you now a check for thirty-five dollars and beg that you will give me credit for that amount against the time when I can grow them, next spring I hope.

What I should like to have, would be an assortment of named clones that would give a good range idea of the shapes and sizes of leaves. There was a very poor pictures in one of the issues of Home Gardening (New Orleans) that showed a line up of leaves. I want a much better showing and mean to publish them in the National Horticultural Magazine of which I am editor. I am perfectly willing to leave the selection of varieties in your hands, but I did not wish any of the varieties included that my photographer has already recorded. (List at bottom of letter.) One root each is quite enough as all I need is one pot full for the photographer and from which to make notes for the text.

I'm sorry as all get out to have managed so poorly but there it is and if you will book the check now, I won't fall down in 1950!

No thanks on the Begonias bulbs. I have them already!

Very truly yours,

B.Y. Morrison

Incl. check.

Tampa, Fla.,
Feb. 2, 1949.

Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park 12, D.C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

Received your letter this morning and glad to hear from you. Just yesterday while looking for some papers I had misplaced I found the letter you had written to me in 1946 and I was really surprised when I received your letter this morning.

Yes, I still have caladium bulbs to sell and just now am checking over my bulbs to see what sizes I have and making price lists preparing to answering the many inquiries I have on hand. I have been very busy and only selling or rather shipping until now orders which I could fill without correspondence.

I presume you would want the large bulbs for they show the lovely colors to more advantage. I have some of my planting stock which I thought I might sell this season and had three persons in mind that I thought might buy it. However, I would like for you to have a nice collection of large bulbs and I will make you a reasonable price if you can give me a good-sized order this month, sending remittance so I could use the money this month, and if you want me to hold the bulbs until the weather is warmer I will be glad to do so. I have been under some very heavy expense and need quite a bit of cash before the first of March. I also have a few surplus bulbs of the Haemanthus Lilly. It is a gorgeous, and I wonder if you know what it is and if you might be interested in getting any bulbs. Will quote you price when I write to you about the caladiums. I understand they are very rare and are expensive, takes about four years I believe before the bulb is old enough to bloom.

I will not write to these other persons about these large bulbs until I have heard from you. I might have 100 varieties to sell. I probably have 200 or 300 bulbs this year that I did not get marked so will keep until next year or until they have come up so as to see what they are, and a few of my varieties may be in these unlabeled bulbs. However, if you will write to me advising me about how many bulbs you could use, if you would like only one bulb of a variety or more, and approximately what you desire to spend, I will be in better position to know just what bulbs to offer to you. Also would you like some of the lance or strap-leaved varieties (I presume you know what they are) or do you wish just the heart-shaped caladiums? I have a few very pretty lance leaved varieties and like the others they must be seem to be appreciated.

I will greatly appreciate it if you will let me hear from ^{you} ~~at~~ at an early date and I will do my best to give you the bulbs you would like, if you still have my list, if you will give me the names. Upon hearing from you I will forward list of what I have and the price

Hoping to be able to serve you in the near future, I am

Sincerely,

1110 Caracas St., Tampa 5, Fla.

Mrs. Edith M. Lorie

Tampa, Fla.,
April 5th 1949.

Mr. E. Y. Morrison,
821 Washington Loan & Trust Building,
Washington 4, D.C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

I wrote to you Feb. 2nd, answering your letter of Jan. 26th and as I haven't heard from you I presume you may not want any bulbs this year.

However, I will start to plant my bulbs in another week and have checked over my stock to see what I can sell of my stock bulbs as I have sold all of the other bulbs I had for sale. Most of these bulbs are larger than bulbs ordinarily sold for the same prices as these are my stock bulbs and as I want to sell about 50 more bulbs before planting I am offering these to you. These would make a nice selection for you and bulbs are the size that ~~you~~ make a nice showing; and I may not have bulbs as large as these another year nor the same varieties, for after I sell or plant these I will not have any more bulbs to sell until next year. If you are in position to buy these I know you will be glad that you did and will derive much pleasure from them. I measure my bulbs across and size given is that measurement and bulbs are thick bulbs. If you can use these 38 bulbs I will let you have them ~~for~~ for \$35.00 if you will order by return mail, and will give gratis a \$2.00 bulb of Gem (lance) leaf caladium, which is a gorgeous caladium and one that I have been selling for ~~many~~ \$3.50 for a one-inch bulb; or if you prefer a \$2.00 bulb of a very choice Lily bulb that I have will give you that instead of the caladium bulb. It is named "Haemanthus." If you order and want directions regarding planting I will be glad to give you same if you will advise me. Those that I have for sale are listed below:

1 1/2" Bulbs		1 1/4"	
E C Dahl 1.50	Fascination \$1.50	Maid of Orleans	75¢
Pink Cloud 1.50		Richard Deckard	1.00
		O.V. Zanghrin	1.50
11/8"		Sagurema	.75
28 Seedling	.75	43 Seedling	1.00
Bulb which is Brilliantissimo			
or Oneco	1.00	1"	
Helen Monson	1.50	Sacred Heart	1.00
		Candidum	.75
1"		Sadie Reasoner	.75
Royal White	1.00	Sophie Helman	1.00
Oneco	1.00	Deliliah	1.00
Itaque (I Take)	.75	Spanish Flag	.75
Red Ensign	1.00	Mrs. Frieda Hempel	.75
Eoes	1.00	Tom Thumb	1.00
Edith Ivie	.75	Scarlet Beauty	1.00
Marie Moir	1.00	Oriental	1.50

3/4"		1/2"	
Daisy	.75	Fay	.75
829-B	1.00	Tabatingo	1.00
Scarlet Pimpernelle	1.00	2 bulbs Argyrætes (about 1/2")	@ 50¢ - 1.00
Carolyn Wharton	1.00		
(2) Paula Leitze	.75		1.50

If you do not wish to buy the 38 bulbs but would like part of this collection will let you have them at the prices quoted if order amounts to \$10.00 or more.

If you want to buy any of these please let me have order by return mail.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie
~~Mrs.~~ Edith M. Ivie

1110 Caracas St.,

Tampa 5, Fla.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie,

1110 Caracas St.,

Tampa 5, Fla.



Air Mail

Mr. B. Y. Morrison,
The American Horticultural So., Inc.,
821 Washington Loan & Trust Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

513

1110 Canessa St.
Tampa 5

26 January 1949

Mrs. Edith M. Ivie,
Tampa Florida,

Dear Mrs. Ivie:

In 1946 I thought I was going to be able to take a flier in growing some caladiums and you were good enough to write me quite fully and to let me have a carbon copy of your list as of that date. Any number of things happened to prevent it but I should have written you to explain and apologize.

Now I believe that this summer I shall be able to do what I had in mind then, on the same more or less modest scale.

All that I should like to know now, and I inclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply, is whether or not you still sell roots and whether or not you will take a chance on me once more!

Thank you in advance.

Very sincerely yours,

B.Y. Morrison.

Incl. BYM.s

7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park, 12, D.C.,
26 January 1949

The Postmaster,
Tampa, Florida.

Dear Sir:

Several years ago I had correspondence with Mrs. Edith M. Ivie of Tampa Florida about the possible purchase of roots of fancy-leaved Caladiums which she grows for sale. Mrs. Ivie replied, gave me the quotations and descriptive matter. Through various other happenings I did not go through with the purchase.

Now I find on consulting my file, that I do not have any street or rural route for her address. I should like very much to take up again the matter we originally discussed.

If it is in order could your office supply the address on the inclosed letter for her and let it go ahead. If this is not permitted, will you accept my apologies in advance. In the other case, my grateful thanks.

My letter to Mrs. Ivie has been left open for your inspection.

Very truly yours,

B.Y. Morrison

BYM:s

Tampa, Fla.,
Feb. 20, 1946.

Caracas Pr.
1110 Tampa 5

Mr. B.Y. Morrison, Editor,
The American Horticultural Society, Inc.,
821 Washington Loan & Trust Bldg.,
Washington 4, D.C.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

I have at last practically finished checking my bulbs and have just made a list of practically everything I have for sale, I presume I may have a few more varieties in with my bulbs I have set aside for planting that I might be able to sell, and prices would range from 75¢ to \$1.50 per bulb. If you see any listed in the descriptions that you would especially like, I will see if I can spare any of that variety. Some bulbs I have sold down so close that I only have one or two left for stock and some do not multiply so well as others. Most of these bulbs which I have listed at \$1.00 and \$1.50 are bulbs that I do not usually sell, but keep for stock and sell very small bulbs from for 75¢ each and those I have listed as 75¢ are larger than I ordinarily sell for 75¢, but thought possibly you might be interested in purchasing quite a number, and of course the larger the bulb the lovelier the coloring and the more pleasure one derives from them. I have particularly picked out these for I thought you would like the selection if you wanted all of them and if not you could pick what you did want. Most of these varieties the price starts at 75¢ for a small bulb. I have checked those that I knew I could give you two or more bulbs if you so desired, and can probably do so in some others. I have some more varieties in my regular 75¢ bulbs and probably a few in some 50¢ sizes but have put them aside to fill other orders which will be small orders. Any of these I have set aside for you that you do not take I will keep as my stock plants. I wish you could see my plants when in foliage. They are as a rule their prettiest in July or August and they are really gorgeous. People rave about their beauty! Some varieties I have in tiny bulblets for \$1.25 dozen but it takes so long for those to grow and one doesn't get as nice a selection, and then too all of my bulbs of this size for this year are sold. I didn't have so many small ones this year. I had to return one check for \$25.00 last week and one for \$10.00 for small bulbs I could not fill and have a \$10.00 one now that will have to return unless he wants some more expensive bulbs. The bulbs that I am quoting you 75¢ for I get from \$1.25 to \$1.75 for a plant when in a gallon can. The \$1.00 and \$1.50 bulb I get from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per plant. I also ship plants sometimes at these same prices, but it is a job to take up and pack them. I have two lovely lance leaf varieties that I sold 1" bulb (plants) this past summer for \$3.50 each and could have sold more. One of these plants I cannot sell in Tampa, for I understand there are only two people here who have it and in order to get it I had to promise I would not sell it in Tampa, but could sell elsewhere. Several here offered me \$3.50 for that one plant I sold of this variety but I told them it was not for sale. I had a lady who bought from me years ago and still buys other varieties. When she sent her second order in last summer and wanted to know what I had in lance leaves I sent her one leaf of each of those \$3.50 plants and told her the

size of bulb, etc., and she ordered these two plants along with her order and then wrote me how well pleased she was with them. Both of them are really gorgeous. I have sold as much as \$40.00 worth to one person a few times, but have never included any free bulbs. I do not know how many you may be interested in getting, but I am going to make you an offer. I believe one bulb of those I have listed figures \$35.50. If you are interested in purchasing that amount I will give you extra bulbs amounting to \$1.50; if you desire to purchase as much as \$50.00 worth of bulbs, I ~~give~~ will give you \$3.50 extra in bulbs, or one \$3.50 bulb of the variety I cannot sell here in Tampa whichever you prefer. I haven't listed any of these for sale, but believe I have one or two I could spare; if I should not have one that size and you order the \$50.00 worth and want one I will send one priced accordingly and send the difference in another bulb or two.

If I can help you in any way regarding the culture, etc., I will be glad to give you what information I can. I enjoy my caladiums and azaleas more than any plants I have ever had and I presume I have had around 200 varieties, but do not have so many now for I enjoy these two so much. My azaleas are gorgeous now. I am cutting down some on the amount of my bulbs for I have so many things to do I don't have time to devote to so many. I have to plant them each spring and take up each fall and keeping them marked separately to sell is so much more trouble than if one only had their own collection and it does not give me any time to rest and the doctor says I must get some rest for I have been putting in 12 to 18 hours daily for a long time. I have been trying to work only 8 to 10 hours the last few weeks and feel much better and putting on some weight, but have gotten so behind with my work. It is way past bedtime but I wanted to get this letter off to you, and I'll have to try to get to town tomorrow and pay bills. Have been trying to leave here for three weeks, but it seems always something to prevent my doing so.

When ordering would be best to advise when you think best for shipment to be made, for it would not do for them to go into freezing temperatures. We have had one gorgeous winter, some frost but not killing one and no ice, which is very unusual; 35 degrees I believe the lowest we have had so far. Some people think it never gets cold here, but I have worn more clothes here in Tampa than I did at 35 below Zero in Vermont. It is very damp and penetrating, and may be cold in the morning and warm up so much in the day that one will not need a coat and then perhaps need a fire at night; the weather is so changeable. Last winter, rather winter of 1944 we had one week that I used my circulating heater for one week night and day, and in January 1940 the temperature went to 19 degrees and we kept fires burning three nights to save our citrus trees. We have been here several years, came here from New York but my people are from the New England States. I have been in Washington about three times on trips, and I have a lady friend living in the suburb there now, so hope in the next few years to take another trip there when I go North again. I didn't intend to write only about caladiums but seems I drifted away.

I was rather surprised to learn you had a caladium that only took a months rest. I wonder, do you stop watering it to let it die back? I have kept some to January, but have tired of watering them and let them go back. I do not let mine bloom for I have been told it takes strength from the bulb. The older bulbs usually put up bloom before the foliage. Pardon my typing for I have not used a typewriter in months and one soon gets out of practice and then too I dropped my machine and ~~ix~~ the type sticks at some points, will have to get it fixed.

*hoping to hear from you in the near future, I am
Very truly yours,
Mrs. K. L. M. Krie*

Candidum	75 <i>have</i>	Crimson Wave	1.50
John Peed	1.00	Sagurema	1.00
Elsie Hedwig Wehrling	1.00	Scarlet Pimpernelle (small)	.75 <i>have</i>
Dr Miller (lance)	1.00	✓ Edith Mead Seedling	75
Jessie Thayer	1.00	✓ O E Orpet (lance)	75
68 Seedling	1.00	Kalocsahatchee (lance)	75
Fascination	1.00	O V Zanghrin	1.00
Red Ensign	75	E C Dahl	75
80 Seedling	1.50	Lucy Calkins	75
Eoes (light colored, very different from other caladiums)	1.00	Red Flare (14 Seedling)	75
Gratiosum	75	Thomas Tomlinson	75
Richard Deckard	1.00	Similar to Rio De Janerio	1.00
✓ Spangled Banner	75	Mrs. W B Haldeman	75
Brilliantissimo	1.50	✓ Katherine T	75
Firebrand (30 Seedling)	1.00	Mazaby	75
43 Seedling	75	Plum Color Spots	75
Brazilian Butterfly	75	✓ Edith Mead xxx	75
✓ Ace of Hearts	75 <i>have</i>	✓ Mrs. Sadie Reasoner	75
Marie Moir	1.00 <i>have</i>	Garten Director Gireaud	75
Sir Francis Crisp	75	28 Seedling	75

40 mm -

13.00
4.50
35.50
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75
20
300
140

Ace of Hearts: Bright red over most of leaf with green on outer edge; very similar to Scarlet Beauty

Apagus: Deep rose center with green border

Brazilian Butterfly: small light green leaf with pink spots

Galkins, Lucy Y: Taxus green border with rosy magenta ribs and center spotted salmon pink; leaf is large and beautiful

Candidum: Pure white leaf bordered narrow green, rich green ribs & netting

Crimson Wave: Crumpled transparent deep rose leaf; a few green spots on leaf; black stem, very lovely

Crisp, Sir Francis : Pale green with center of transparent lilac spots

Collier: Deep pink crinkled leaf with green midribs and veins

Cook, D.M.: Crinkled leaf with lovely red center; rest of leaf green with red spots

Dahl, E.C.: Green splashed with lilac pink; oftimes transparent

Deckard, Richard: An English introduction; large leaf brightly colored rich rose pink with crimson ribs; between the veins are lilac pink blotches; bronze pink margin

Fascination: Green border, rose ribs and veins; rather transparent grey between ribs with network of deep rose

Faust: Crinkled leaf, rose pink center and veins; rose pink intermingled with medium green on rest of leaf

Fluminese: Small crinkled yellowish green leaf with irregular red spots

Garten Director Gireaud: Large leaf; whole leaf marbled and spotted spinach and apple green with oxblood red spots and speckles

Gratiosum: Cedar green edge; violet rose ribs; apple green center with oxblood red spots; reminds one of a strawberry

Haldeman, Mrs. W. B.: Attractive bright red, narrow green border, interspaces splashed with white

Hazel Beauty: Rose color with green midribs and veins

Hortulania: Deep blood-red splashed leaf, zoned transparent rose with narrow green border; very large leaf

Hollick, Gertrude: Very similar to Mrs W B Haldeman, but the leaf is a ~~A~~ different shade of pink

Kaloosahatchee: Lance leaf variety; green border with center of leaf almost white

Lord Derby: Crinkled transparent rose colored leaf

Mary, Queen of the Scots: Creamy white with red splotches and dots; different shade of green makes leaf very attractive

Mazaby: Green leaf with large lavender spots

Mead, Mrs. Edith E: Beautiful snow-white leaf; prominent chocolate ribs, narrow green border; never fails to attract attention

Mead, Mrs. Edith E. Seedling: (known also as 49 Seedling) Transparent flushed pink leaf, turning deeper in color as the leaf ages; narrow green border; ribs between a deep rose and purple

Miller, Br.: Moss green border, cardinal red ribs; crimson red center; leaves when aged turn rather ~~and~~ rosy bronze

Moir, Marie: Large whiteleaf, delicate green veins, a few transparent deep rose spots on leaf Very lovely

Morning Sun: Gets brilliant red: almost the ~~entire~~ entire leaf when in full sun and bulb is large; entirely different when grown in shade

Munson, Mrs. Fannie Stenbridge: An English variety of great beauty. Transparent rose colored leaf with deeper rose midribs and veins. Tiny trace of green around the edge

Nehrling, Elsie Hedwig: Lance leaf; dark green with red spots, white mid-rib

Nehrling, Mrs. Arno: Dwarfish growing, producing many pointed leaves of a lovely bronze pink shade, overlaid with vermillion ribs, and a bronze green network near the margin, which is a deeper bronze

Oriental: A gorgeous transparent pale pink leaf

Orpet, O. E.: Lance leaf; bright red with narrow green border; crinkles from the edge Very lovely

Painted Lady: Green with white and red irregular spots. Not common one

Peed, John: Cherry red with green margin; semi-transparent center. An English introduction

Plum Color Spots: Bright green with irregular plum color spots; large leaf and very showy

Pocille Anglais: Center a deep crimson with bluish tint; metal green border; very lovely

Mrs. Sadie A. Reasoner: Entire leaf evenly colored very deep rose; leaf semi-transparent; veins and nerves ivory white; oftentimes leaf has occasional touches of pale sea-green

Red Ensign: Brilliant red, narrow green border; very lovely

Rio De Janeiro: Entirely transparent crumpled leaf of loveliest bright rose; heavy scarlet ribs, narrow green border; gorgeous, but won't stand sun

Rising Sun: Showy brilliant red center and ribs on dark bronzy green ground; leaf profusely spotted transparent pink

Royal White: Very narrow boxwood green ribs and edge. Entire leaf purest transparent white, changing to blush pink as leaf ages. Very delicate and fine

Agave: Leaf a combination of yellowish green center; tiny spots of rose and different shades of green on leaf. Very different from others and lovely

Saracoba: Pink leaf with green veins and midribs

Scarlet Pimpernelle: Leaf powdery white; the center is one large scarlet splash without veins or ribs; border creamy yellow. Very large leaf

Schiller, Frederick Von: Narrow light green border; very deep transparent rose to border; almost cream veins, green on leaf is pale and pale green stems

Seedling 28: A lovely light colored caladium

Seedling 43: Very large leaf. dark deep red center continuing to green border

Seedling 68: A beautiful combination of rose color

Seedling 80: (Firebrand) Rose pink, white and different shading of green on leaf, usually very brilliant and transparent; lovely

Seedling 90: (Pink Cloud) Green leaf spotted deep rose pink; light green veins. Very beautiful -- this ~~is~~ is not caladium called cloud

Seedling 96: Transparent light center with green border

Senora: A beautiful pink and green combination

Spangled Banner: Holly green on outer edge; carmine ribs and center, spotted crimson pink

Spanish Flag: Wide green border, rather maroon color center, small leaf and very attractive. It is entirely different from other caladiums and needs plenty of sunshine to bring out the lovely coloring; otherwise it is two shades of green

T: Katherine: A beautiful red, almost transparent leaf with spots of deeper red; rather crumpled leaf and narrow green border

Thayer, Jessie: Spinach green leaf; amaranth red ribs, also rose on leaf; velvet sheen over entire leaf; pretty and different

Thomas Tomlinson: Partly transparent; brilliant red with narrow green border, interspaces somewhat mottled with white, green and red. Very pretty

Waller, Lewis: Small leaf; deep red center with narrow green border

Watermelon: Rather round leaf; center red with green border

999-B Spinach green border; amaranth red ribs, pale rose pink center, becoming amaranth red as the leaves age

Brilliantissimo: Firery red, a gorgeous caladium

Zanhrin. O.V. A firery red caladium, very beautiful

Argyrites: A Belgian caladium, small leaves of green and white, new and very different from other caladiums

Listed below are sizes of some leaves I have measured from my stock, not extra large bulbs, and grown in gallon cans. I have had other varieties with leaves equally as large.

Hortulania	12 x 16 inches
43 Seedling	12 x 17½
Piracicaba	12 x 15
Scarlet Pimpernelle	11 x 15½
Mazaby	10 x 14
Mrs Haldeman	9 x 15
Thomas Tomlinson	8 x 14
Faith Mead	7½ x 13

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7320 Piney Branch Road,
Takoma Park, 12, D.C.,
22 May 1949

Mr. M.O.Kent
Box 875
Okeechobee, Fla.

My dear Mr. Kent:

If you are willing, would you send me a copy of your collector's list of caladiums? I know that it is too late to purchase, and it is not my plan to purchase this spring, but in the spring of 1950 if you still have plants, roots rather, to dispose of.

I saw your advertisement in the 'For Sale, Want and Exchange Bulletin' from Jacksonville, Fla., that comes regularly to my official desk in the USDA.

This request and interest, however, is purely personal.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

B.Y.Morrison

BYM:s

