

GRAFTING CERTAIN CLIMBING PLANTS

TOM ALLEN

James Coles & Sons, Thurnby, Leics.

CLEMATIS

Stocks. One can produce one's own or buy them in. If the latter, order them early the year before, in June or July. Stock plants should be set aside early and potted on into large pots around Christmas time and placed in a warm house, 50 to 60°F. The first scions should be ready in February.

Method: Side Graft. Plants then potted on into 2-1/2" pots and placed in closed cases, at a temperature of 70-75°F. Benlate is widely used on all clematis crops in order to combat *Botrytis* and, on growing plants, for mildew; application is every two weeks. Grafted plants should start to grow within the next month. They are removed from the case when buds are 1/8" high and placed on an open bench. They are staked with 12" splits when ready and moved into a cooler house. They should be ready for potting by the end of May/early June and will make good plants in flower by the middle to end of August.

PARTHENOCISSUS TRICUSPIDATA 'VEITCHII'

Stocks. Bought or grown from hardwood cuttings. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* stocks are lifted as required. Scions are also gathered as required.

Grafting. This starts early in January. A side or cleft graft is used. Grafted plants are potted into 2-1/2" pots and then into a closed case, bottom heat: 70 to 75°F. Root action is very quick. Callus soon forms on top of the stocks and the buds soon start to swell. When runners start the plants can be removed to an open bench. We have found it good policy to stake the plants as soon as the runners are about 6" long. Plants are potted into selling pots in June and will make good size for selling by August.

PROPAGATION OF ACER PLATANOIDES WALDERSII

IVAN R. DICKINGS

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This cultivar is similar to *Acer pseudoplatanus* 'Brilliantissimum' with young leaves opening out to a shrimp pink but more lacey in appearance. The leaves then turn to a creamy white, veined and speckled with green.