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**COMPATIBILITY IN GRAFTING AND BUDDING FRUIT
AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTS FOR ADAPTATION
AND DWARFING PURPOSES**
D. B. WHITE and J. P. MAHLSTEDE
*Department of Horticulture
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa*

This is the first progress report on a project initiated at Iowa State University in 1956 entitled "Dwarfing of Fruit and Ornamental Plants." One of the primary objectives of this project is the development of techniques for dwarfing and adapting ornamental plants to different soil or climatic conditions. Many select plant materials, normally tall growing, would be well suited for use with modern contemporary building designs if height development could be restricted. Since this project was initiated, several stations have reported on similar work which is either underway or in the planning stage. The number of projects reaffirms the need for an increased inventory of low growing plant materials having acceptable ornamental characteristics, for areas differing in soil and climatic conditions.

One of the most common problems encountered in grafting is that of incompatibility. This inability of two components when grafted together to produce a healthy plant has been known for many centuries. In the third century B.C., Cato (4) observed that the scion used in grafting should always be of a better type than the rootstock, and that certain combinations could not be made successfully. Many other writers of his day recorded similar experiences with the practice of grafting. Francis Bacon, (2), in 1639 stated that a diversity of fruit could be

Journal Paper No. J-4101 of the Iowa Agricultural and Home Economics Experiment Station, Ames,

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On the program there are many firsts, in other words, the first time these various topics have been presented. This morning we have three professors on the program presenting three of these new topics.

Our first speaker this morning, Donald White, is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts in ornamental horticulture, and who now is taking his graduate work at Iowa State. This will be a report of five years work in the development of dwarfing understock for budding and grafting both ornamental and fruit plants.

We are most unfortunate in not having Mr. White with us since he was called back to Massachusetts because of the death of his father. We have John Mahlstedt who will read his paper, and I am sure will be able to answer any questions regarding this work. John Mahlstedt!

DR. JOHN MAHLSTEDT (Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa):
Mr. Moderator, President Templeton, and Members of the Plant Propagators Society:

This paper is entitled, "Compatibility in Grafting and Budding Fruit and Ornamental Plants for Adaptation and Dwarfing Purposes." This was the topic we have selected for discussion this morning.

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¹Journal Paper No. J-6101 of the Iowa Agricultural and Home Economics Experiment Station, Ames, Iowa. Project No. 1310

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In this case, we will search for “mist propagation”.

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The search engine finds the keyword “mist propagation” in a paper by Donald Moore on page 80. Clicking “next” will find the next reference to the keyword in the document.

MR. SANDKUHLE: What about watering?
MR. VERKADE: Your watering problem is minimized. They occupy the same amount of room but they look neater in the flat.
MR. SANDKUHLE: You have had no problem from the lack of air on the sides or rotting out of the bottom of the pot?
MR. VERKADE: I haven't seen too much difference.
MR. SANDKUHLE: John, I'd like to make one comment. We have a fine medium for use in the peat pots on the West Coast. We happen to be a user of the UC Mix. Using Redwood sawdust and sand we find in the small peat pots we create quite an algae problem. If not taken care of, it puts quite a crust on the top of the peat pot and, therefore, slows up the percolation of the water. If you are anticipating changing, you want to watch the algae problem.
MR. JACK HILL: What do you do about this algae problem?
MR. SANDKUHLE: At the present time, Jack, we use a copper spray and we have eliminated some of it. We had not noticed it at first and did not take care of it. As a result we had to go in and actually remove the crust. It puts a membrane on top of the medium, somewhere in the neighborhood of twenty-thousandths of an inch, and it prevents the water from going in.
MODERATOR MAHLSTÉDE: I think you will all agree that the panel has done an excellent job, so let's give them a hand. (Applause)
It is a pleasure for me to introduce Donald J. Moore, Reforestation Officer, from Hamilton, Bermuda. He has traveled a long way and probably invested quite a bit of money to be here with us this afternoon. After talking to Don before the meeting, I am certain that he has an interesting message to bring us on the topic, "The More Unusual Aspects of Plant Propagation Methods and Experiences in Mist Propagation in Bermuda." Don Moore!
Mr. Donald J. Moore presented his address.

THE MORE UNUSUAL ASPECTS OF PLANT PROPAGATION METHODS AND EXPERIENCES IN MIST PROPAGATION IN BERMUDA

DONALD J. MOORE
*Bermuda Botanical Gardens
Paget East, Bermuda*

Before proceeding into the main subject matter of this paper, it is, I feel, essential to acquaint you all with a few statistics relevant to Bermuda's geographical location, climatological data and topography. Whilst these factors may not effect propagation to any great extent in a broad sense, they most certainly do dictate problems to us locally. They do this in no uncertain matter.

Our climate may be described as sub-tropical. Geographically, however, we are located in the Temperate zone. Exact location, relevant to the nearest point of land, is 568 miles from Cape Hatteras. The nearest west indian island is Abaco, some 700 miles to the south west. Contrary, to general belief, we are not part of the West Indies, but are indeed, very much an isolated land mass.

