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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

JAPAN HYBRID PLUM TREES
35 Years Old

1927

999 Giant Everbearing Strawberries

Profit-making New Fruits

THE GARDNER NURSERY CO.

OSAGE, IOWA

Our Mitchell County Fair Exhibit

GREETINGS

WE EXTEND the heartiest Greetings to our old friends, far and near, who have co-operated with us so splendidly during the past and we pledge all of our resources and time and talents of our entire organization to serve your interests in the future, even better than we have in the past, for we are learning all the time and putting new and improved methods into operation that will make this possible.

NATHANIAL C. GARDNER

Who started our business away back in 1857 was one of the pioneer horticulturists of the middle west

come in; and, in fact there were no regular roads, except the winding prairie trails that lead from settlement to settlement. The nearest trading point was McGregor on the Mississippi River some ninety miles away and it took from ten days to two weeks time to go there for the needed supplies. Bands of Indians were a common sight. Deer and other wild game abounded along the streams; and prairie chickens, quail and wood grouse were very plentiful. The whole country was as far away from its present state as can well be imagined.

Grandfather's first start in the nursery business was in growing strawberries and other small fruits and in the saving of what, in those days seemed to be large quantities of vegetable and flower seeds. These fruits and seeds were sold to the store keepers in the settlements and to the neighbors. They were all hungry for the fruits and vegetables they had been accustomed to enjoy in their eastern homes before moving out into what was then the wild west.

CHARLES F. GARDNER

Who for 21 years was president of our Company and one of the best known plant breeders in the great Mississippi valley

Grandfather was a great hand to experiment with the different fruits, etc. and had brought a liberal supply of them overland in his ox-drawn covered wagon, when moving from western New York to the new Iowa home.

The Indians told of evergreens growing along Root River some 60 miles to the north. Grandfather and the writer's father Charles F. Gardner, then a boy in his teens, drove up there and brought back a load of the young wild Pines, some of which are still growing on the old homestead and other near by farms.

Then came the period of Civil War that cleaned the farms and settlements of all the young men who went in answer to Uncle Sam's call to the battle fields down in Dixie land. After the war Charles F. Gardner purchased the land and established the location on which our nurseries now stand. He made the growing of Evergreens from seed, his leading specialty for a number of years and was the first person west of the Mississippi to successfully grow Conifers from seed in commercial quantities. Thousands of the fine Evergreen windbreaks now growing all over the middle west stand as a monument to his early labors in this line.

The work of Fruit Breeding was started about 40 years ago when father planted some selected pits from a Japan-American crossed plum originated by Prof. J. L. Budd, of Iowa Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa. He found the trees grown from this particular variety would some of them "throw back" on the Japanese side of the family and bear big plums of most delicious quality and the trees were as hardy as our native Oaks.

By top working other Japanese varieties and making hundreds of crosses the work has been carried on and we are now five generations away from the original Japan Hybrid No. 3 as developed by Prof. Budd. In our experimental orchards we have hundreds of bearing trees, all different from each other and no more like them in the world. From these hundreds of varieties we have selected 15 that stand out in a class by themselves, being by far the largest and best quality plums we have ever seen, barring none. You will find these new plums described on pages 8 and 9.

About 17 years ago father started experimenting in breeding and originating new varieties of strawberries, especially with the idea of prolonging the fruiting season. He made thousands of crosses between the earlier varieties of Everbearing Strawberries and was very successful in originating new varieties of great merit. Our Number 999 Giant is one of the most popular Everbearers. The year it was originated we had over 80,000 strawberry seedlings from which it was originated. We now have 33 new varieties of Everbearing Strawberries that we are growing under numbers and after giving the usual four year test the top notchers will be named and introduced to the strawberry loving public.

Father and I were very close together in all of this work and some of the most pleasant memories of my life are the walks we used to take through the Experimental Grounds looking at the new creations and studying them with view of making new combination of crosses that would bring a still further improvement either in the fruits or in the root system or habits of growth. I well remember a walk we took in June, six years ago, when we decided to cross our best Everbearing variety with the best once-a-year fruiter, to see what such a combination would bring. And as it has happened from the crosses made that day, came the wonderful RED GOLD, once-a-year fruiter, described elsewhere in this folder

Father simply lived with his plants and would get so interested in his work that he often lost all track of meal time, and had to be looked up and told that it was time to eat. The last year of his life was spent among his new Creations and he greatly enjoyed watching the new varieties grow and bear their different types of fruits.

CLARK E. GARDNER
The President and Manager of
our Company who has grown up
in the business

WILLIAM C. GARDNER
Vice-President and Secretary of
our Company

Other lines of work have been carried on in the crossing of the English Walnut, of California, with our hardy native Butternut. The original crosses were made several years ago and the first generation of hybrids should start bearing nuts now within a few years. From these hybrid trees that throw back on English Walnut side of the family we may get a new nut with shell so thin that they may be cracked with the fingers. We also have originated new race of Sweet Chestnuts that bear large eating nuts on young trees.

ROBERT E. GARDNER

Last but not least is "Bob" on whose shoulders will some day fall the mantle of management. However, he has several years of school and playtime before business demand his attention

In pears we are working with the Chinese Hardy Blight Proof Varieties and so far have been very successful.

In apples we have 14 new varieties of great merit that we have bred from hardy iron-clads, crossed with Delicious and other fine dessert varieties.

We are testing the new varieties and will propagate and offer for sale only those that are an outstanding improvement over the older sorts.

In our General Nursery Department our largest item is strawberry plants which we grow in large quantities in both the everbearing and June fruiting varieties. Next comes the new Japan hybrid plums, apples,

pears, raspberries, grapes, asparagus, rhubarb, shrubs, ornamental trees, hedge plants, evergreens, etc.

We operate 160 acres with practically every square foot under intensive cultivation and our soil is especially adapted for growing of trees and plants.

We are the folks who originated the idea of packing Potted Bulbs and Violets in Jardiniere cartons ready for over the counter trade in Department, Drug and Variety stores. We have broad basic patents on our packages and this department has grown to be a big business in itself with practically no limit to future sales possibilities.

We operate our own printing plant, consisting of six presses of various sizes, folding machines, cutters, etc. We manufacture millions of flower pots and bulb cartons each year, besides printing the many catalogues, booklets, folders and other supplies used in our general Nursery advertising.

Charles F. and Clark E. Gardner inspecting beds of seedling Everbearing Strawberry plants

Good Will. Our business is particularly fortunate in having a Good Will that reaches into all parts of the United States. We have pleased customers residing in practically every city, town and village in the land.

To enable you to become better acquainted with us we are showing on these pages the people who have shaped the policies of our business from its beginning away back in 1857.

OUR BUSINESS POLICY.—Any business to succeed must have a fixed policy and some goal to work towards from day to

day. I am going to give you some of the details of the policy of our Company in its relations with its customers and also a little glimpse of the goal that we keep ever before us.

In the first place our **POLICY WITH CUSTOMERS.** We earnestly strive to treat each and every one of our customers so that they will be pleased with every transaction they may have with us of whatever nature it may be. We plan to give the greatest possible value in everything we sell, consistent with good business practice and to deliver nothing but good dependable Trees and Plants. We, like Grandfather before us, are all the time experimenting with the better ways of propagating, digging and packing our products and our constant aim is to improve the service that we give our customer in every way that we can.

A View in Our Strawberry Experimental Grounds showing
Fancy Evergreens in Background

COMPLAINTS—We have a most excellent lot of helpers in offices and fields, but we are all human and once in a while, in spite of best of systems, errors of some sort will occur. In such cases we only ask that we be promptly notified of the error and it is our fixed policy to go to the limit in adjusting such matters to the satisfaction of all concerned.

OUR POLICY in Nurseries, Farms and Packing Rooms. We believe in growing good Trees and Plants. We propagate by the latest scientific methods and handle our stocks in every detail so as to insure the highest possible amount of vitality at shipping time. We do not believe that high grade stocks can be grown in fields in which weeds and grass are left to grow up with the crops. Therefore, as you will see by the photographs in this book, our fields are kept absolutely clean from early spring until fall and all of the fertility of our rich Iowa soil goes into making our Trees and Plants stronger and with much more vitality than were they let grow up with a lot of weeds.

THE FUTURE—We expect to continue this Nursery business from generation to generation, as in the past. We can see a wonderful growth ahead of us in the next few years. The demand for our **HARDY "BLIZZARD BELT"** Trees and Plants is growing rapidly. Last year we added thousands of new customers and this year we expect to do even better. But after all the great pleasure of the business comes from the old faithful customers who have been buying from us year by year, some for a period of over forty years. We enjoy the letters we get from these old friends and we appreciate their friendship and good will above money or price. In fact, one of the greatest factors in the growth of our company, has been the "word of mouth" advertising that our customers have given us in the past. Often times one shipment to a good friend will mean a dozen or more orders from that locality for the

next year and more and more as the years go by and the good influence keeps on spreading to other planters in the community. So you see that our **Goal** is to so conduct our business that our customers will become our friends and this simply means that we must give **service** and **value received** in every order we ship and should a mistake of any kind occur, to promptly rectify the same **no matter** at what trouble or expense to ourselves.

Come and See Us. If you chance to be passing near Osage we extend a cordial invitation to call and see us and if it is during fruiting season we will be glad to show you the new fruits described in this catalogue and, after sampling them, will let you be judge as to their merits.

Fruit Growing is a very profitable business if you have the right varieties and give them the proper attention. We will be glad to help you in selection of varieties or in any other way if you are interested in this line of work.

Big profits will be made in growing strawberries for market during the next three years as there is an acute shortage of plants in many parts of the country.

This view shows our transplanting machine drawn by Fordson tractor. Three men with this outfit can set from two to three acres a day depending on the kind of stocks or plants they are setting

The foresighted folks who set large fields, or only garden beds of strawberries the coming spring are certain to find a big demand for both plants and berries at high prices besides their having the pleasure of growing their own berries for table use and preserving.

Getting started early with our new varieties of strawberries, plums, etc. will mean a great deal of added pleasure and profits for you.

Please feel free to call on us at any time we can be of service.

Sincerely,

CLARK E. GARDNER,
President.

Propagation of Orchard Fruits

You will be interested in our Triple Root method of grafting plums, apples, pears and nut trees, which is the outgrowth of many years of experimenting with different ways of propagation of orchard fruits and has many advantages over the older methods.

These Triple Root Grafts are made by grafting three roots on a strong sturdy scion of the variety desired, as shown in picture. This gives three chances to grow over one by old methods and

if all three roots unite and grow the graft or "little tree" starts off with a splendid root system. By setting the Grafts into permanent place the first roots go out into the soil making the anchor roots for the tree. These are never disturbed, and the whole growth is strong and healthy, making trees that come into bearing early and still that are long lived, and will not be blown over by strong winds just as trees are in their prime as is often the case with Orchard trees that had their first or anchor roots cut in Nurseries. We have picked 183 big Yellow Gold plums from a single tree the 3rd year after planting.

By the use of proper hardy roots practically all orchard fruits can be propagated by this Triple Root Method and such Grafts will quickly grow into profit making orchards that will grow and serve their fortunate owner for a lifetime. Another great advantage is that these Triple Root Grafts can be safely shipped in special mailing boxes anywhere in the U. S. at but a few cents cost for postage. In these days of high express rates this makes a big saving over the shipping of trees, which have had anchor roots cut in nurseries and which cannot grow another set of anchor roots as good as the first ones, for it is their first roots that reach away out and that penetrate to great depths and not only anchor the trees but also give a large area of soil to draw food to the trees, which means hardy, healthy orchards with large crops of profit making high grade fruit.

For our friends who do not have room for the planting of several trees and still would like to have several varieties growing and fruiting, we can supply a combination Triple Root Graft with three varieties growing on same as shown in picture. The three varieties must be closely related, that is all three plums or all apples, etc. Cannot grow apples and plums on same graft.

As you will notice we give prices on these various Triple Root Grafts along with trees when quoting on our hardy plums, apples, pears, and nut trees. All of the grafts are made as shown in pictures, using the proper hardy roots in each case. They are made up in winter and early spring and packed in our cold cellar where the roots callouse and unite with scion and so are ready for shipping and the starting off of a vigorous healthy growth when planted on your place.

Photo of Triple Root Grafted Plum showing how three roots are grafted on Scion instead of one. Price \$1.00 each.

Hardy Japan - American Hybrid Plums

ONE OF OUR BEST PROFIT MAKERS

Our new hardy plums with their large size fruits and wonderful flavors have attracted the attention of fruit growers from Maine to California. They are the direct results of over 40 years of breed-

ing and selecting from thousands upon thousands of individual varieties. In our work with plums we have originated a new race that bears fruit of large size and highest quality, equal to the best of the Flower Kingdom fruits but born on trees as hardy as our Northern Oaks and that will grow and fruit successfully in all parts of the United States and over the most of Canada.

Plums of Our Own Origination

CAPT. GARDNER. Named in honor of Charles F. Gardner the originator. This variety was first marked in our experimental orchards by Prof. Beach and Maney, of Iowa Agricultural College

CAPTAIN GARDNER. Photo above shows exact life size and measured six inches around.

Ames, Iowa, who were visiting us for the purpose of seeing the new plums in fruiting. The photo plate shows exact size of a plum of the variety that measured 6 inches around. Shape is distinctly Japanese. Color a dark red covered with a rich blue bloom. Flesh firm, but very tender and of a very pleasing flavor. A very choice dessert fruit and when cooked has none of the pucker and astringency of the ordinary plums, Season Sept. Freestone.

Trees 5-6 ft. \$2.50 ea.

Trees 3-4 ft. \$2.00 ea.

Triple Root Grafts

\$1.00 ea.

DESSERT BLUE. You are sure to be greatly pleased with the high quality of this our best dessert plum. Very easily peeled and with cream and sugar added you have the most delicious table sauce that you can imagine. The plums are from four to five inches around, turning from a dark purple to almost a blue color when fully ripe. Flesh is very tender and meaty, with reddish

streaks and simply packed with sweetness and a delightful perfumed flavor that makes one taste call for more. Season late August. Clingstone.

DESSERT BLUE
Our finest quality dessert plum

Triple Root Grafts \$1.00. Trees all sold for this year.

YELLOW GOLD. If you chance to be one of the thousands of visitors who called on us while our plum orchards were ripening their big load of fruit the past summer, you will be sure to remember the rows of Yellow Gold. Little compact trees only three years out and loaded with their golden harvest from top to bottom. Rows of older trees so full of fruit that one

lady said it looked as if we had taken a bushel basket of plums and dumped them on a single branch and they all stuck. This variety has thrown back on the peach side of the family and must have been crossed with the peach away back in Japan, perhaps hundreds of years ago for Mother Nature takes no account of time. The tree while extremely hardy, having gone through 40 degrees below zero weather, have leaves the shape and color of the peach and the trees branch and grow more like peach than plum. The plums are mammoth in size measuring up to 6½ inches around. Color is a beautiful shade of bright lemon yellow changing to a

YELLOW GOLD
Our Largest Plum

Triple Root Grafts \$1.00 each. Trees all sold for this year.

Special Offer Number 10. For a few of our friends who desire them, we will graft a Capt. Gardner and a Yellow Gold on a Dessert Blue Triple Root Graft which will bear all three of these delightful plums on one tree. Price \$1.50 each. See picture.

Special Offer Number 11. We have twelve other varieties of new plums from same line of breeding as Dessert Blue, Capt. Gardner and Yellow Gold that we are keeping under numbers. We will supply Triple Root Grafts of these new varieties in assortment at \$1.00 each if you wish to get an early start with them on your grounds.

The New Minnesota Plums

These new plums were originated on the State Breeding Experimental Farm conducted by the Horticultural Department of State University. They are mostly first generation crosses between Japan and American plums and will please you as they grow and fruit on your place. We have the following varieties growing and fruiting in our orchards and can supply Triple Root Grafts of

rich orange as fruits are fully ripened. The fruits is the sunshine are prettily blushed with bright red and the trees loaded from top to bottom are a sight to behold. Yellow Gold as its name implies has a flesh of golden color, very firm, meaty and of an elusive flavor somewhere between a high quality plum and peach. You will enjoy plum butter made from this wonderful plum Freestone.

The above picture shows a Capt. Gardner and a Yellow Gold grafted on to a Dessert Blue Triple Root Graft making a tree that will bear all three of these delightful new Plums. Price \$1.50 each, see special offer 10

Same at 50 cents each in any quantity desired.

UNDERWOOD.—Large early red plum.

MONITOR.—Large yellow fleshed Plum with mottled skin.

STELLA.—Medium late greenish yellow, turning to red, good quality.

WINONA.—Not fruited with us as yet.

LORING'S PRIZE.—One of the largest. Our trees should fruit next year.

Any of the above new Minnesota Plums made up into Triple Root Grafts at 50 cents each.

Japan-Hybrid Plums

We have a block of two-year-old Plum trees grown from hand picked fruits from our choicest named varieties like, Capt. Gardner, Yellow Gold, etc. These trees are all different with no two alike and among them will be some wonderful new varieties of plums. If we had the ground to spare we would set them all ourselves for they will all bear good marketable plums and there are sure to be some prize new varieties among them. If you like so experiment with new fruits you will enjoy watching some of these trees growing and fruiting on your place. The trees are very fine two-year-olds, 5 to 6 ft. tall, and if you will send us samples of any of the plums that measure above 6 inches and supply us with some twigs of grafting wood from such of the trees as we may wish

Type of fruit from Japan-hybrid trees

Japan-Hybrid Plum
top grafted as in offer
Number 15

to propagate, we will supply you with these fine new Hybrid trees at \$3.00 per 10, or \$10.00 for 30 trees, and guarantee the express will not exceed \$1.00 on the 10 trees or over \$2.00 on the 30, to your station.

These Hybrid Plums make a fine shelter belt set 8 feet apart in single row. You can plant them along a fence line so they do not take up any extra ground. When in blossom in spring they are very beautiful and as the blue, red and yellow plums begin to show color in late summer you would not sell the trees for \$25.00, each.

These Hybrid trees are nicely branched and if you wish some of them top worked to Capt. Gardner, Dessert Blue and Yellow Gold or any of other combinations below so that each tree will bear four distinct varieties of plums. We will furnish them to you for \$1.50 each.

OFFER NUMBER 15—Japan-Hybrid Plum tree, 5 to 6 ft. tall, top grafted with one limb each of Capt. Gardner, Dessert Blue and Yellow Gold Plums, \$1.50, each.

OFFER NUMBER 16—Japan-Hybrid Plum tree, 5 to 6 ft. tall, top grafted with one limb each of Underwood, Monitor and Number 90 Hybrid, \$1.50, each.

OFFER NUMBER 17—Japan-Hybrid Plum tree, 5 to 6 ft. tall, top grafted with one limb each of Capt. Gardner, Underwood and Waneta, \$1.50, each.

Types of Japan Hybrid Plums. Eighteen Plums to a quart box.
From our Exhibit at the Mitchell County Fair.

Or if you wish other combination of varieties order under Offer Number 18 and specify the kinds you prefer.

Prof. Hanson's New Plums

We have the following of Prof. Hanson's new varieties of plums bearing in our Orchards of which we can supply Triple Root Grafts at 40 cents, each.

WANETA—Large red plum, showing strong Japanese type.

KAHINTA—Good mate to Waneta but a little later ripening.

KIOWA—Good quality, heavy bearer of medium large plums.

SAPA, HANSKA, and OPATA Cherry Plums in Triple Root Grafts at 30 cents, each.

Other Orchard Fruits

PRICES EXPRESS OR FREIGHT COLLECT

Our BLIZZARD BELT Fruit Trees, Small Fruits, Bulbs, etc., are grown by the latest scientific methods to insure the utmost of hardiness vitality and fruiting vigor. Our trees not only succeed in the cold north, but their very hardiness and vigor enable them to grow and succeed in the far south where hot, dry weather conditions prevail during a large part of the year.

	Each	10	100
APPLE TREES—4 to 5 ft.....	\$0.70	\$6.00	\$50.00
Triple Root Apple Grafts	\$0.25	\$2.25	\$20.00

VARIETIES: DUCHESS, YELLOW TRANSPARENT, WEALTHY, NORTHWESTERN GREENING, JONATHAN, DELICIOUS AND WHITNEY.

	Each	10	100
CHERRY TREES—2½ to 3 ft.....	\$0.75	\$7.25	\$70.00

VARIETIES: EARLY RICHMOND AND MONTMORENCY.

	Each	10	100
PEAR TREES—3 to 4 ft.....	\$0.75	\$7.25	\$70.00
Triple Root Pear Grafts.....	\$0.35	\$3.00	\$25.00

VARIETIES: KEIFFER, BARTLETT, VERMONT BEAUTY AND SECKEL.

	Each	10	100
PEACH TREES—3 to 4 ft.....	\$0.50	\$4.50	\$40.00

VARIETIES: ELBERTA, CHAMPION, BOKARA AND CROSBY.

TESTIMONIALS

We are not filling this Catalogue with Testimonial Letters on account of lack of space in the book, not on account of a lack of testimonials, as we have thousands upon thousands of them in our files. We prize these letters from our customers telling how well their trees and plants are doing and we have them from every state in the Union, Canada, Mexico and some of the farther away Foreign Countries, where the fame of our new fruits has spread.

*Photo shows exact size of a stem of
Red Gold Berries
except four inches of bottom end
of stem was cut off*

Gardner's June-Fruiting Red Gold Strawberry

The Best Profit-Maker We Have Ever Grown

This New Red Gold Strawberry is in a class by itself, far ahead of any other June-Fruiting Strawberry we have ever seen.

Red Gold is the direct result of seventeen years of scientific strawberry breeding carried on by our Mr. Charles F. Gardner and his corps of assistants. It came from a cross between our Number 999 Giant Everbearer and the big, once-a-year fruiter, Premier, and was selected from thousands of Individual Hybrid Strawberry Varieties, each having its own characteristics and differing from all others the same as people are all different.

Red Gold is a wonderful plant maker, with strong, deeply penetrating root system and will withstand more drowth and frost conditions than any strawberry we have ever grown. The fruit stems are giants in size measuring from 10 to 15 inches long, being more than double the size of Dunlap and carries an average of three times as many berries to the stem. The photo above shows a Red Gold fruit stem taken exact life size, except that bottom end of stock was cut off. The berries are very large with record of individual berry that measured $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches around.

They have a very bright shining strawberry red color which makes them very attractive on the markets. The berries are of distinctive shapes

and you will find pointed, oblong, round and flat types on nearly every fruit stem. In quality, the Red Gold stands supreme. The big berries are firm and meaty, but with none of the woodiness often found in large berries. Flesh is tender and melts in the mouth and the flavor is so pleasing that it is hard to describe. It is the only very large berry we have ever grown that has the extreme high quality of the native wild strawberry.

Red Gold is a great profit maker and self advertiser for even when in blossom the stems are so thick that the rows look white, like a bed of Daisies, but as the berries grow and begin to ripen with the strong, sturdy fruit stems holding the big fellows up out of the dirt, then they are so wonderful that you want everybody to come and see.

Red Gold berries start ripening with us just before the Dunlap, about the season of Premier, but continues ripening fine berries for a week after these two standard varieties are gone. It is nothing unusual to find a fruit stem of Red Gold that measured 15 inches tall and that has above 20 berries on a single stem. The stems are stout and sturdy, being from two to four times as large in diameter as Dunlap.

In our test fruiting beds we had Red Gold, Number 38, Cooper, Premier and Dunlap with plants set same day and given exactly the same care, and Red Gold stood out so far in advance of any of other varieties; in size of plants, yield and size of berries, as to be noticed and remarked about by every visitor who saw them.

See next page

The largest Red Gold strawberry to date measured 8½ inches around and was grown by Mr. Jos. S. Murphy of Grand Ave., Superior, Wisconsin, who wrote us on July 17th, 1926:

... That he had picked a Red Gold Strawberry that measured 7 1-2 inches around. On July 24, 1926 he again wrote that he had another 8 1-2 inch berry, and sent it to us. It arrived a little crushed but measured full 8 1-2 inches around, beating our former record of 7 1-4 inches by an inch and a quarter.

Mr. Murphy wrote that Mr. Pat. Harty, of South Range, Wis. heard about the first 7 1-2 inch Red Gold berry and made a special trip to Superior to see the plants fruiting. He saw the second 8 1-2 inch berry before it was mailed to us and gave permission to use his name as an eye-witness. He also wants to get from 5,000 to 10,000 Red Gold plants for setting next spring.

Exact size of a Red Gold Berry that measured 7 1-4 inches around.

The big, 8½-inch berry attracted so much attention that the Evening Telegram sent a reporter out to see the bed and took photos of the plant and the big berry and published same in their issue of July 27, 1926, as a matter of news.

You will find Red Gold a great profit-maker and you can have a real "Gold Mine" in your back yard if you set a good bed of this wonderful

new variety in your garden this season. We offer you fine, big, new runner plants of Red Gold at \$2.00 a dozen; \$6.00 for 50, and \$10.00 for 100, postpaid, for shipment at proper time in spring.

Mr. C. D. Strong, Box B, Syracuse, Nebr. writes on July 12th, 1926 that he had picked a Red Gold berry that measured 7 inches around, and had counted twenty-eight berries on a single fruit stem.

NOTE.—Our Red Gold strawberry is an entirely different variety from one introduced by a Michigan Grower under name Red Gold. Under the rules of American Pomological Society two varieties of strawberries cannot bear same name and priority of publication determines the right to use a name. The Society is now investigating the matter and should it be found that the Michigan folks happened to decide on Red Gold as a name for their new berry and published it before we did we will change our name to Red Nugget or Gold Mine. If it is found that we published the name Red Gold first then we will retain the same as permanent name for our grand new strawberry.

The picture shows Charles F. Gardner examining a No. 999 Giant plant on left and Premier on right. Blossoms on these plants had been crossed and a breeding box placed over them to exclude pollen from outside reaching them. It happened that Red Gold was among the plants grown from this cross.

Other June-Fruiting Strawberries

PREMIER. This fine, big berry has come rapidly to the front during the past few years, especially in the East. Berries large size, beautiful color of a good quality. We have a nice stock of plants and offer them at 40 cents a dozen; \$2.00 per 100, postpaid; or \$10.00 per 1000 by express, collect.

DUNLAP. The standard June-fruited strawberry by which all other varieties are measured. Medium size berry, dark red color, with a more tartness to flavor than in Premier or Red Gold.

30 cents a dozen; \$1.50 a hundred, postpaid; or \$7.50 per 1000 by express, collect.

COOPER. Another big strawberry that originated in the East. A good plant maker and produces big, fat berries of good color and quality—in great abundance.

40 cents a dozen; \$2.00 per 100, postpaid; or \$10.00 per 1000, by express, collect.

NUMBER 38. One of our new Hybrids. Berries not as large as Red Gold, but very fine color and quality and an extra heavy fruiter. Only a few plants to offer this season at \$3.50 a dozen, postpaid.

It is an easy matter to have a good strawberry bed in your garden. No particular experience is necessary to be very successful in raising this the most delicious of all fruits. Any good garden soil will grow you fine crops of berries if you set the proper varieties. For garden culture where ground is limited we advise setting plants 2 ft. apart, both ways or if you have plenty of ground to spare then have the rows 3 ft. apart with plants 2 ft. in row. All of our varieties are male plants and will fruit if set alone, but we find from experience, that even with all male plants it is a good plan when convenient to alternate rows of different varieties as the blossoms will fertilize better by so doing.

Plants of once-a-year fruiting varieties will bear their first crop the next season after setting, and another big crop the following year. If your ground needs fertilizer you will find our Double Crop Plant Food very good to work into the soil before planting at rate of 20 lbs. to square rod. The Floranid is very fine to scatter along the rows after plants are growing, at rate of one-fourth lb. to square rod and work into the soil around the plants. It is quick acting and the plants get the benefit of its effects almost immediately.

With each shipment we send Transplanting and Cultural Directions so that anyone, whether experienced in Horticulture or not, can easily be successful in growing big crops of our fruits.

PREMIER

Group of The Great Plains Horticulturists, including the Profs. of Horticulture from leading Agricultural Colleges of Middle West and Canada in a field of our Giant Everbearing Strawberries on August 12th.

Everbearing Strawberries

By setting a bed of our Everbearing Strawberry plants in the spring you can have the great pleasure of picking big, red, ripe strawberries all through the summer and fall months of the same year plants are set. Think of it, from these plants you can figure on picking ripe strawberry in quantities as quickly as you can grow ordinary garden stuff like peas, beans, etc. In other words, from plants set in April or May you will start picking ripe strawberries the latter part of July and continue picking all through August, September and October, until stopped by the first hard freeze. The ordinary light frosts do not hurt the berries.

Charles F. and Clark E. Gardner examining new varieties of Hybrid Everbearing Strawberries. Japan Hybrid Plum tree in center, and Fancy Evergreens in background

During the past 18 years we have tested out every variety of Everbearing Strawberries that we have heard of and at same time we have been breeding and selecting new varieties of our own origination, with wonderful success. We have discarded a lot of the older varieties like Superb, Americus, Productive, Autumn, etc. and only list those varieties that we have found will succeed and grow big crops of berries under ordinary soil and weather conditions. Everbearing Strawberry plants are scarce this season, there being a short crop of plants over a large part of the country.

We have a very fine stock of new plants and offer the following varieties as being the very best for home garden or commercial planting.

Number 999 Giant Everbearing

This wonderful variety did not just happen, like Topsy, in Uncle Tom's Cabin, but was the result of years of labor in breeding and was selected from eighty thousand seedlings by our Mr. Charles F. Gardner, who spent the best years of his life in the work of originating and improving the Everbearing Strawberry.

Number 999 Giant Everbearing

Berries of Number 999 Giant are large, often measuring up to 5½ inches around. They have a beautiful bright red color and a flavor and fragrance different from any strawberry you ever tasted. As you bite into one of the big fellows you can easily imagine you are eating a new fruit, with the combine flavors of a rich, spicy canteloupe mixed with the luscious jucyness of a well

ripened peach with that tantalizing wild strawberry flavor predominating over all. Talk about your strawberry shortcakes.

Here is where Number 999 shines, and think of it from plants set out this spring you can be picking these luscious, big berries for shortcakes and for table use all through the summer and fall of same year plants are set. The plants of Number 999 Giant are strong growers with splendid deep root system often going down into the ground to a depth of from 12 to 15 inches, enabling them to keep right on bearing through hot dry times. The leaves have a bright clean tinge of bluish green color that is practically rust proof. Our best ten beds of Number 999 Giant plants, each measuring a rod square and grown in different parts of the United States, yielded an average of 186 pints of berries to each rod square bed, the same year plants were set, or at rate of 14880 quarts per acre, which at average price of 20 cents comes to \$18.60 per square rod of ground, and \$2976.99 for full acre.

We can supply you with extra fine, new plants of Number 999 Giant Everbearing Strawberries at \$1.00 a dozen; \$1.75 for 25; \$3.00 for 50; \$5.00 for 100, all postpaid; or \$30.00 for 1000 by express, collect.

Photo taken Sept. 21st shows Rod Square Bed of Mr. Robert Heiden, Woodinville, R.F.D. 1. Wash. Mr. Heiden writes: "I found No. 999 Giants very excellent, both in quality and quantity, of mammoth size and wild strawberry flavor. Just as you recommended them to me." Note the size of above plants and see how they are loaded with fruit in all stages of development

Progressive Everbearing

This variety resembles the Dunlap in appearance of the fruit and will average fully as large in size when weather conditions are favorable. Color a dark red, just the shade that takes on the markets. Berries are well shaped, and of most excellent flavor, much better than the once a year fruiting varieties. The plant is a strong grower and makes runners freely. Plants set in spring will produce a fine crop of berries starting in July and continuing until stopped by severe freezing weather in late fall. Fruits heavily on new runners within four to six weeks after they are rooted.

Fine new runner plants 40 cents a dozen; 80 cents for 25; \$1.00 for 50; \$2.00 a 100 all postpaid or \$10.00 a 1000 by express collect.

Champion Everbearing

This variety bears a big crop of berries the same summer and fall of the year the plants are set. The first picking coming on from two to three weeks earlier than Progressives set at same time. Berries are of large size, good shape, and of splendid quality and will sell at high prices on any city market. We are fortunate in having a fine stock of plants of the true Champion variety and we have put our prices down so that everybody can order freely and have plenty of strawberries for home and market use. at a very small outlay for plants. Order freely for this variety will surely give you the best of satisfaction. Dozen, 50 cents; 25 for \$1.00; 50 for \$1.50; 100 for \$2.50 all postpaid or \$12.00 a 1000 by express collect.

Mastodon Eveabearing

This new variety comes from Michigan. We have fruited it for two years. So far with us it has been a shy plant maker. Berries are of large size but of coarse texture with flavor not as good as other varieties we list, but with sugar and cream they make very satisfactory eating. New runner plants. \$1.00 a dozen; \$1.75 for 25; \$3.00 for 50; \$5.00 a 100 all postpaid.

New Hybrid Everbearing Strawberries

Charles F. Gardner picking Everbearing Strawberries 60 days after plants were set

We have been breeding the Everbearing Strawberries for the past 18 years and have had wonderful success in originating new varieties. In our testing fields we have 32 new varieties of Everbearing Strawberries now in their 4th year of testing, that were originally selected from over a hundred thousand seedlings grown from various crosses we had made. These new varieties are simply wonderful and should you happen to be near Osage anytime during the summer or fall seasons we give you a cordial invitation to come and see these new varieties in fruiting and if you do not find them the most wonderful strawberries you have ever seen, we will pay your traveling expenses both ways no matter how far your home may be.

We are listing but three of these new Hybrids this season, the others will be added after further testing.

HYBRID No. 2. A beautiful, large berry of extra choice quality and of a most pleasing strawberry red color. Plant is strong, robust grower; deep root system; and is strongly drought and frost resistant. Price \$5.00 a dozen postpaid.

HYBRID No. 9. Has all the good qualities of Number 2, but berries are of different shape and color and while the flavor is just as good it is different. A splendid home garden berry. Price \$5.00 a dozen postpaid.

HYBRID No. 12. This variety is the one we are banking on for a long run in the commercial growers field. Large, brilliantly colored berries; splendid quality, and firm enough to ship to distant markets. Price: \$5.00 a dozen, postpaid.

If you are a strawberry enthusiast we advise you to try these new varieties in your garden this year. They are sure to please you as they grow and bear their wonderful, big berries.

You can grow a big crop of Strawberries from our Everbearing varieties the same summer and fall of year plants are set. Plants set in spring will commence ripening berries by last of July and then bear big loads of berries all through the summer and fall months until stopped by severe freezing weather, which usually strikes us about the 1st of November. The same plants will come through the winter and produce big crops the second year.

OFFER No. 18. Have you a place along alley or lot line where you want a 12 to 15 foot screen? There is nothing better for the purpose than our 4 to 5 foot Japan Hybrid Plum Trees set two feet apart. In the spring they will be white with bloom and the fragrance will scent the air for a long distance. Every tree will bear plums all different.

For this purpose we offer trees 4 to 5 feet tall at 25 cents each, by express, collect.

Other Small Fruits, Vines and Garden Roots

Redpath-Latham Rep Raspberry

REDPATH-LATHAM RED RASPBERRY—This is the largest and by far the best Red Raspberry we have ever grown. We have often times picked five of these berries that made a solid row across a quart berry box. Berries are firm, hold together well, good color and excellent quality. Very hardy, plants set in spring will usually bear a fall crop, ripening in September. 50 cents each; \$3.50 a dozen postpaid; \$10.00 per 100, or \$80.00 a 1000 by express or freight collect.

SNYDER BLACKBERRY—A very hardy blackberry that bears heavily in all parts of the country. Berries large size and very sweet. Always sells at high prices on market. 20 cents each; \$1.50 per dozen postpaid; \$6.00 per 100 by express or freight collect.

CONCORD GRAPES—The standard black grape. A few vines growing in your garden will bear you bushels of fine quality grapes. Strong 2-year-old vines, 35 cents each; \$3.00 per 10 postpaid; \$25.00 a 100 by express or freight collect.

BETA GRAPE — A new type of Hardy Wine Grape that is absolutely hardy and requires no winter protection even in the far north. Grape medium size in compact bunches, very sweet when fully ripe. Fine for growing along fence line on porches or along side of buildings. Strong 3-year-old, bearing vines that will fruit this summer; 50 cents each; \$4.00 per 10, postpaid; \$30.00 per 100, by express or freight, collect,

Beta Hardy Wine Grape

ALPHA GRAPE—Another new Hardy Wine Grape with fruit a little larger than Beta. They bear well when set together, the Beta in one row and Alpha next to them. Both of these grapes are excellent for table use and also extra fine for cooking and extracting juice. Strong 3-year-old bearing size vines that will fruit this summer. 50 cents, each; \$4.00 per 10, postpaid; \$30.00 per 100, by express or freight, collect.

ASPARAGUS—Have you a good Asparagus bed? You will certainly enjoy having plenty of this delightful, early spring veg-

etable fresh for the table and for canning. We send plain cultural directions with every shipment.

GIANT BONVALLETT ASPARAGUS—Strong 3-year-old roots: large enough to start cutting for table next year. \$1.00 per dozen, postpaid; 50 for \$2.50; 100 for \$4.00, by express or freight, collect.

MARTHA WASHINGTON ASPARAGUS—New rust proof variety coming rapidly to the front. Large light green stalks, pure white when bleached. 2-year-old plants, 60 cents a dozen; 50 for \$2.00 postpaid; 100 for \$3.00; 1000 for \$15.00 express or freight collect.

RHUBARB (Pieplant)—Deserves to be ranked among the best early products of the garden. You will enjoy having fresh pieplant pies and sauce, from your own garden. Strong 2-year-old roots, 25 cents each; 10 for \$2.00; 100 for \$10.00, all by express or freight, collect.

Varieties: GIANT, MYATT'S LINNEAS, RED WINE, all good.

Landscape Department

You can get a lot of pleasure, and at the same time add greatly to the beauty and value of your home, by a judicious planting of hardy Shade Trees, Shrubs, Perennials, Hedge Plants, etc. On the ordinary Home Grounds the proper places for setting what are generally known as Landscape Shrubs are foundation planting plots, clump effects, single specimens, perennial groups along walks and driveways, evergreens and shade trees for along lot line and street, with hedge plants on street, driveways or division line; and climbing vines for porch or trellis.

The Key Photoplate below shows some of the places to set Landscape Stocks to make the best and most permanent effects.

Number 1, Mountain Ash. 2, Japanese Berberry. 3 and 4, Climbing Honeysuckle. 5, Bridal Wreath. 6, Foundation Planting of Peonies, Iris, Columbine, Violets, etc. 7, Spirea, Anthony Waterer. 8, Snowberry. 9, Horsechestnut, Walnut or Butternut.

For foundation planting the Japanese Berberry makes a very beautiful effect. Set them close to building, spacing distance between cellar windows with plants about two feet apart. In front of the Japanese Berberry, set perennials like Iris, Peonies, Rocky Mountain Columbine, Violets, Ferns, etc., with Bulb beds of Gladiolas and Tulips in open spaces. A group of Bridal Wreath, Spireas, Hydrangea, Syringa, etc. are nice for corners of porches with climbing Roses or other vines growing up to windows.

Single specimen Shrubs make a nice affect set in lawn and in rear of house, especially around garage. The Beta Grape makes a very nice vine for growing up on garage. The vine is hardy, grows rapidly, has a pretty foliage and bears bushels of grapes practically every year. A few evergreens add greatly to the beauty of any place, especially during the winter months. For single

specimen shade trees on lawn or for setting along street the Mountain Ash reigns supreme. Horse Chestnut are also much used for this purpose. For hedges the Japanese Berberry comes first, followed by Bridal Wreath, and the evergreens. Privet is used in the south, but is not hardy with us.

FLOWERING MOUNTAIN ASH (Shade Trees) — Our most popular ornamental tree suited for street, lawn or cemetery planting. A rapid grower and hardy in all parts of the U. S. Trees are covered with clusters of white flowers at Decoration Day time, turning to red berries in September. These berries stay on trees all winter unless picked by the birds, who are very fond of them. We have a large flock of Cedar Wax Wings that stay with us practically all winter long, just on account of having these berries in abundance. Robins, Cardinals and many other birds like them. All lovers of birds should set as many Mountain Ash trees as they can. We have a very fine stock of trees in wide variation of sizes as follows: 1 to 1½ ft. 25 cents each; 2 to 3 ft. 50 cents each; 3 to 4 ft. 75 cents each; 4 to 5 ft. \$1.00 each; 5 to 6 ft. heavily branched \$1.50 each. Small sizes postpaid. From 3 to 4 ft. and up by express or freight collect.

HORSE CHESTNUT—Another flowering Ornamental tree that is loaded with cream white flowers at Decoration Day time, later turning to cluster of nuts. Fine little trees 3 to 4 ft., \$1.00 each by express or freight collect.

BLACK WALNUT—This is the variety that bears the nuts now so popular in confectionery and ice cream trade. Trees are rapid growers, come into bearing early and make a most beautiful ornamental tree for street or lawn planting. The timber of Black Walnut is very valuable, a single tree often selling at a very high price. Trees 2 to 3 ft. 50 cents each by express or freight collect.

WHITE BIRCH—A fine variety for street, lawn or cemetery planting. Bark turns white. A hardy, fast growing ornamental tree. 1 to 1½ ft. 50c. each; 6 to 8 ft. \$2.50 each by exp. or frt. collect.

JAPANESE BERBERRY—This shrub is probably the most widely planted of any variety now grown. It is very hardy, a fast grower and especially suited for foundation planting, single clumps and for hedges. A Japanese Berberry hedge if not trimmed will reach height of about 5 ft., but may be easily kept down to any desired height by shearing once a year. Bushes have yellow flowers in early spring turning to bright red berries which hang on all winter. Leaves are a beautiful shade of bright green and turn to crimson red in fall making a hedge of these bushes a most beautiful sight. Set bushes 1 ft. apart for quick hedge effect, and 2 ft. apart for general foundation planting.

½ to 1 ft. bushes, each 10c; 100 for \$ 8.00	} Be express or freight collect
1 to 1½ ft. bushes, each 20c; 100 for 15.00	
1½ to 2 ft. bushes, each 30c; 100 for 25.00	

SPIREA VAN HOUTTE (Bridal Wreath) A very beautiful shrub for porch corners, foundation planting, single specimen on lawn or cemetery and for hedges. Very hardy and a quick growing shrub coming into full flower for Decoration Day when it makes a most beautiful sight. Plant freely of this variety for it will fit into almost any sort of a landscape plan. Fine bushes 1 to 1½ ft. 25 cents each; \$2.00 for 10; 1½ to 2 ft. 40 cents each; \$3.00 for 10; 2 to 3 ft. fine specimens, 75 cents each; \$6.00 for 10 by express or freight collect.

SPIREA ANTHONY WATERER—Very choice low growing shrub bearing clusters of bright red flowers. Mixes in with foundation planting very effectually. 1½ to 2 ft. 50 cents each; \$4.00 for 10 by express or freight collect.

Other hardy shrubs all well suited for general landscape use are: *Snowballs*, *Lilacs*, *Hydrangeas*, and *Honeysuckles*. We have fine stocks of these and offer 1½ to 2 ft. bushes at 50 cents each; or \$4.00 for 10 by express or freight collect.

HARDY ROSES—We have the *Crimson Rambler*, red; *Prairie Queen*, pink; and *Baltimore Belle*, white climbers. In monthly bloomers we have *General Jacqueminot*, red; *Mrs. John Laing*, pink; and

Baby Rambler, red, all at 50 cents each; or \$5.00 for 10 large 2-year-old field grown bushes express or freight collect. The climbing roses are nice for porch corners and for trellis. The monthly bloomers work in with foundation planting and along front walks.

PEONIES, *by express or freight, collect*

These hardy perennials are of great value in landscape planting as their gorgeous flaming flowers make them stand out in any location. We are fortunate in having a small stock of the Japanese Fringe Leaf varieties (*Tenuifolia*), in both double and single flowers. They are very hardy and start growing in the early

spring so that they freeze nights and grow during the day. The leaves are finely cut and are of a bright green color making them more ornamental than the finest cut fern. The deep red flowers show buds when stalks are about 8 to 10 inches from ground and continue to grow until fully opened with stalk about 20 to 25 inches tall. They are about two weeks earlier than the ordinary peonies and have never failed to be ready for Decoration Day with us. The cut flowers sell readily at \$2.00 to \$3.00 a dozen. Some eastern houses are asking as high as \$9.00 each for

these Japanese Peonies, but as long as our stock lasts we will supply the double flowering variety at \$5.00 each for strong 3 to 5 eye plants and \$4.00 each for the single flowering variety.

Our best Peonies are as follows:

TENUIFOLIA (Japanese)—Double, red, as described above and shown in photoplate on outside cover, each, \$5.00.

TENUIFOLIA (Japanese)—Single, red, each, \$4.00.

FESTIVA MAXIMA—White, very fine, each, 50 cts.

OFFICINALIS—Flora plena, red, early, each, 75 cts.

OFFICINALIS—Flora plena, pink, early, each, 75 cts.

ROSEA—Rose shade, fragrant, each, 50 cts.

REINE DES ROSES—Violet rose, each, 50 cts.

Other Perennials Each, 40 cts.; 10 for \$3.50. By express or freight, collect

IRIS—Madam Chereau and Blue. Bloom May to June.

GOLDEN GLOW—Yellow, grow to height of 6 ft. July to Sept

LEMON LILY—Yellow, blooms May to June.

ROCKY MT. COLUMBINE—Large flat flower, many colors.

LILY OF VALLEY—Large clumps.

ORIENTAL POPPY—Brilliant scarlet flowers.

FERNS—Hardy clumps.

VIOLETS—Hardy clump for border planting.

PHLOX—Divided clumps, assorted varieties.

DELPHINIUM—Divided clumps, mixed colors.

Climbing Shrubs and Vines Each, 50 cts. 10 for \$4.00 Express or freight, col.

HONEYSUCKLE—(Scarlet Trumpet) A beautiful climbing shrub with beautiful green leaves and showy scarlet trumpet flowers that are borne all summer long. Suited for porch or under bay window.

ENGELMANNI—(Virginia Creeper) For stone or brick walls.

QUINQUEFOLIA—(American Ivy) Brilliant leaves in fall.

BETA GRAPE—Very fine for porch.

KUDZU VINE—Very rapid grower. Flowers in August.

Gladiolus Each, 8 cts.; 10 for 60 cts.; 50 for \$1.50, all postpaid

America, light pink; Mrs. Francis King, brilliant red; Pendelton, salmon pink; Peace, white; Marshal Foch, new salmon pink; Rainbow Mixture, a fine mixture of all colors.

NORWAY SPRUCE EVERGREENS—The best all around evergreen for windbreak and ornamental use.

	each	10	100
2-year-old seedling trees, 3 to 6 inches..	\$.08	\$.75	\$ 5.00
Transplanted trees, 8 to 12 inches.....	.25	2.00	18.00
Transplanted trees, 1 to 1½ ft.	.35	3.25	30.00
Transplanted trees, 1½ to 2 ft.	.50	4.25	40.00

COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE—The aristocrat of the evergreen family.

	each	10
Transplanted trees, 6 to 10 inches.....	\$ 1.00	\$ 8.00
Transplanted trees, 2 to 3 ft.....	5.00	40.00
Transplanted trees, 5 to 6 ft. Shiners, balled and burlapped.....	20.00	

ARBOR VITAE—Fine for hedges or single specimen use. Transplanted trees, 6 to 10 inches, 50 cents each; \$4.00 for 10.

Double Crop Plant Food

Extra fine mixture for strawberry plants and all sorts of garden truck, trees, ornamentals, etc. Does not burn like regular commercial fertilizer. 10 pounds to a rod square of ground, will work wonders in growth and additional yield of fruits. 5 lbs. \$1.00; 10 lbs. \$1.50 postpaid; 25 lbs. \$2.50; 50 lbs. \$4.00; or 100 lbs. for \$6.00 by express or freight collect.

TERMS Cash with order or where preferred we will ship C.O.D. We guarantee safe arrival of everything we sell but do not in any way guarantee growth or crop. Should anything we ship you prove to be untrue to name we agree to replace same or to refund purchase price, but are not otherwise responsible. Any trees or plants not growing the first season will be replaced at one-half the original price paid for same.

In Closing I hope that you have enjoyed looking through this little catalogue; and, incidentally, have found something in it that you can plant with profit on your place. I promise you that any order you may intrust to us will be carefully and intelligently filled and so packed that it will reach you at planting time in the best of growing condition.

Faithfully yours,

CLARK E. GARDNER, Pres.

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CLARK E. GARDNER

Two Questions for You to Answer

Are your spare funds earning 7 to 10 per cent? Are you entirely satisfied with the safety of the institution now holding your funds?

If you can answer yes to both of these questions, then pay no attention to this message. But if your money is not earning you such an income and you are not entirely satisfied with where it is, or might like to divide your interests, in line with the old saying about "not keeping all your eggs in one basket," then write your name on back of this slip and I will tell you all about an investment opportunity which you can accept or not, as your good judgment decides. *Address, The GARDNER NURSERY COMPANY, President's Office, Osage, Iowa.*

JAPANESE HYBRID PLUM
ORCHARD—At Blossom Time

Yellow Gold

Capt Gardner

JAPANESE FRINGE LEAF PEONIES
See Page 22