and sphagnum moss, mixed in equal proportions.
3. Divide to not less than three growths. Larger plants flower better.
4. Do not over-pot. Leave space for about two new growths to edge of pot.

Pests

1. Slugs and snails should be controlled with bait.

Flowering

1. Plants will flower during winter, so may be taken indoors to bloom and also protect from cold. Do not leave indoors during entire year.
2. Flowers should last from four to eight weeks indoors and up to three months outdoors if protected.

Arboretum Orchid Specialist

WHAT'S THE COMMON NAME?

CATHERINA WENT

The vernacular names recall inestimable memories.
The Latin name may recall the plant—
but not its dearest associations.—JOHN EARLE.

THIS QUESTION, more than any other, interrupted the Home Landscaping Class when the students were introduced to plant materials. That not all plants had a common name and others had many, was not much help. As the eager members of the class discovered more and more plants which would fill their specific needs, the frustration brought about by their unfamiliarity with Latin names and the resulting reluctance to use them, mounted. Spelling was a problem too, but handing out mimeographed lists of the plants to be discussed largely took care of this aspect. The introduction of scientific botanical nomenclature was one that required more thought and work.

Among other "Pros", the class was told that; strawberry geranium was neither a strawberry nor a geranium, poison oak not an oak, Cape chestnut no chestnut, and the African violet not a violet. Their only guarantee to obtain what they wanted was in the correct Latin name on the plant obtainable in the nursery.

An attempt was made to show the class members that the names on plant labels more often than not, is the key to discovery of interesting bits of information, of lore, adventure, explorers, plant breeders, scientists, etc.

From the first class in the spring of 1957 through the sixth class this spring, a portion of each class meeting was devoted to a phase of botanical nomenclature and classification. The discussions were planned to accomplish the following: A—provide a botanical background and workable vocabulary, B—to arouse the student's interest for scientific names through the history and lore of plant name development, C—to convince the student that nomenclature and classification systems suffered a long formative period and that real people, from many walks of life, contributed freely to the task, and D—by example of plant materials and worksheets, guide the student into using the proper terminology in his everyday meetings with plants.

A quiz was used to introduce the discussion series. For example, the class was asked to identify an annual, common to many yards, by its common name (8). Thus: "Bunny-mouth", "Rabbit's-mouth", "Toad's-mouth", "Cow's-mouth", "Dog's-mouth", "Lion's snap"—the last name might bring a twinkle of recognition, but generally the list had to be finished—"Snaplion", and "Snapdragon"—before anyone answered. From this point, books (see list), living plants and the worksheets (Figs. 1 to 4) were employed to carry on the lesson.

* * * *

A sampling of some of the 50 odd books used for background and display material for the classes to familiarize student's with the more critical tools of nomenclature and classification:

1. Bailey, L. H., *Hortus Second*
2. Bailey, L. H., *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*
3. De Candolle, *Prodromus Systematis Naturalis*
4. Greene, E. L. and Albert Kellogg, *West American Oaks*
5. Hertrick, Wm., *Camellias in the Huntington Gardens*
6. Lanjouw, *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature*, rev.
7. Linnaeus, *System of Nature*, Vols. 1 and 2
8. Percival, Olive, *Our Old-Fashioned Flowers*
9. Royal Horticultural Society, *Dictionary of Gardening*
10. Woodward, Marcus, *Gerard's Herball*

FIG. 1 AN EXAMPLE OF BACKGROUND MATERIAL FROM THE FIRST WORKSHEET ON "BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE AND CLASSIFICATION."

Many books have been published to help us identify plants. By looking in their glossaries, we discover that no knowledge of Latin is necessary to use these books. It can be a great thrill when one begins to understand the taxonomic vocabulary. The meaningless names on the labels begin to make sense and many interesting facts are discovered.

At the present time, we are still in the process of increasing our knowledge about plants and consequently at times revise some details of the presently used plant classification systems. All available evidence is used and not only hereditary relationships but many other factors are considered. Other sciences enter into this work, such as plant geography and paleobotany. A classification system is a man-made convenience, it makes the knowledge gained from all parts of the world, available to all.

HERBARIA: A TOOL OF CLASSIFICATION

An "herbarium" is a collection of plant specimens that usually have been dried and pressed. These are arranged in the sequence of an accepted classification and are available for reference or other scientific study. So called "type" specimens are the most treasured possessions of an herbarium. They are the original plant on which the description and name of a particular plant were based.

FIG. 2 DEFINITIONS OF TERMS FROM THE SECOND WORKSHEET.

NOMENCLATURE

Nomenclature is concerned with the determination of the correct name of a plant according to a nomenclatural system. Once the plant has been identified it becomes necessary that it have a scientific name. The naming of plants is a subject of international importance. It is a function of taxonomy that is regulated by what are known as the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature. These rules direct the procedures to be followed for the determination of the name of a plant, or to be followed in situations requiring the selection of a name for a new plant.

SCIENTIFIC TERMS

Scientific terms originate in three ways:

1. Adaptation directly from the Greek, Latin and other languages with appropriate modifications in spelling.
2. Composition and compounding an affixation, and
3. Outright or arbitrary creation, without use of evident antecedent, root, or stem material.

In biology we use the so called binomial nomenclature. Each plant or animal has two names.

FIG. 3 EXAMPLE OF MATERIAL FROM WORKSHEET TITLED "A GLIMPSE AT THE HISTORY OF CLASSIFICATION"

PERIOD 1.

Classification based on habit—300 B.C. till the middle ages.

During this period the dogma of special creation was accepted. It was believed that nature was created by Divine power according to a perfect plan and that man could discover this to a degree. A natural, as then understood, system was one in accord with nature. Numerous systems were devised, considered to represent natural affinities.

Theophrastus (370-285 B.C.) reflected the Aristotelian philosophy and classified all plants on the basis of form and texture: trees, shrubs, undershrubs and herbs. He also distinguished between annual, biennial and perennial duration, and recognized some characteristics which are used today.

Herbalists:

Otto Brunfels (1464-1534) was one of the first of a group of renowned herbalists who described and to some degree illustrated the plants of the world then known. He was first a monk, then a school teacher and ultimately a physician, and produced the first illustrated book about plants, a so-called herbal. He used material largely from the Greek manuscripts; was the *first to recognize the presence or absence of flowers.*

As a group, the herbalists are important, many genera commemorate their names: *Brunfelsia* for Brunfels; *Fuchsia* for the Bavarian physician Leonard Fuchs (1501-1566); *Lobelia* for the Dutch herbalist Mathias de L'Obel (1538-1616); *Gerardia* for the English barber, surgeon and botanist John Gerard (1545-1612); and *Clusia* for the Flemish botanist Charles L'Ecluse (1526-1609).

FIG. 4 A PORTION OF ONE OF THE FOUR PLANT FAMILY WORKSHEETS USED TO ILLUSTRATE THE COMMON NAME, THE USE OF THE SCIENTIFIC DESIGNATION AND DEFINITION OF TERMS.

THEACEAE — TEA FAMILY

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME		INFORMATION
	GENUS	SPECIES	
Tea plant	Thea	sinensis	Tea plant: *Thea sinensis* and its varieties provide us with our commercial tea. Whether the end product is green or black has nothing to do with the botanical variety. There are several other plants in the world whose leaves are brewed in the same manner as those of the tea. They belong to other families, however.
*Australian tea tree or Broom tree (Myrtaceae)	Leptospermum	laevigatum	Australian tea: Name dates back to Captain Cook who treated his crew for scurvy with a brew made from Leptospermum leaves.
*Tea berry or Canada tea (Ericaceae)	Gaultheria	procumbens	Tea berry: So called wintergreen or partridge-berry.
*Oswego tea (Labiatae)	Monarda	didyma	Oswego tea: Belongs to the Mint family. A landscape plant.
Franklinia	Franklinia	alatamaha	Franklinia: William Bartram, our first U.S. botanist of international fame, described this tree and named it in honor of Benjamin Franklin. Native to S. Carolina and Georgia. It is a rare tree, one specimen growing at Descanso Gardens.

At the end of each class, we expressed the hope that the members would be the Arboretum's ambassadors in promoting the use of Latin names.

It was a great satisfaction when in the advanced landscaping class, an oldtimer explained to a newcomer why we try to use no "common names".

BOOK REVIEW

"The Directory of American Horticulture for 1958". Published by the American Horticultural Council. Price $1.50 postpaid.

This new 80 page Directory, edited by Miss Carol Woodward of the Macmillan Company of New York, was published by the American Horticultural Council as a result of the cooperative work of many people and horticultural organizations in every state. The Directory contains the names and addresses of 418 national, regional and state horticultural organizations in the United States together with the name and