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C. H. SMITH

WOODCREST FARM

FARIBAULT : MINNESOTA

Peonies
and
Irises

FALL of 1925
SPRING of 1926
Peony and Iris List

LOCATION. We have a farm of 50 acres two miles north of the court house and one-fourth mile north of the city limits of Faribault. The paved Jefferson Highway runs through our farm and past our home and gardens. More than a thousand cars every week day and more than two thousand every Sunday is the summer time record of traffic on the Jefferson Highway.

Most everyone admires our flowers in passing, and many stop to buy cut flowers or select while in bloom the varieties of peonies, irises, or gladoli they wish to buy later on at the proper planting season. Visitors are always welcome at any time. Our farm is located in the Cannon Valley only one-half mile from the Cannon River, and, while in the beginning we only planned to sell cut flowers, we found, on taking up some of our roots after only two years’ growth, that we had as large and fine roots as on many types of soil can be grown in three years. Also, they were so clean, smooth and light colored that we knew then we had unsurpassed soil for growing the finest kind of peony roots. Our soil is a sandy loam with a sandy gravel subsoil, which allows perfect drainage, and being highly enriched during our many years of market garden, dairy and poultry farming, is now perfection for the production of high class peony roots. Since discovering the wonderful quality of peony roots grown on our soil we have taken them up at two and three years of age in order to get a
good stock as quickly as possible. All our roots this year are two-year-olds or three-year-olds, therefore full of life and vigor, and will give most excellent results with ordinary care.

HOW TO PLANT. Set upright with the little pink or white eyes or buds upward and not covered more than two inches deep. I usually cover so there is only one to one and one-half inches over the eyes when settled and many will then bloom the next year after planting. Pack the soil well around the roots, but not too much around the eyes. Plant in full sunlight if possible, and not too near to buildings. If necessary to plant in sod be sure to remove the sod for a space at least three feet in diameter. Many peonies fail to bloom satisfactorily or not at all because planted too deep, or in the shade of trees or buildings, or in a heavy sod.

It is a good plan to heap 2 or 3 inches extra of loose soil over the top of the root when planting, removing the heap in the spring to ground level. This acts as a mulch and prevents too frequent freezing and thawing of the root the first winter.

FERTILIZATION. Never use fresh manure or manure of any kind next to the roots. It is best to plant on ground that has been fertilized six months or a year before planting. If planted on a lawn or in a garden where the soil is rather poor, place well rotted manure on top of the soil around the plant, but keep it at least a few inches away from the plant. It will work into the top soil when you hoe or cultivate the plant and is an excellent way to fertilize peonies.

HARDINESS. The peony is the hardiest of all perennials. A light covering of straw or litter or a few inches of soil heaped on top as mentioned may be used the first winter after planting in the fall, but after that no covering of any kind is necessary.
TIME TO PLANT. The peony usually ripens its buds the latter part of August, and is then dormant until growth starts in the spring. Any time after September 1, until the ground freezes, is, therefore, the natural and best time to plant the roots. The ideal time to plant is September 15 to October 15. Many varieties will then bloom the next year. They may be planted early in the spring, however, with good results, but will not usually bloom until the following year. They will make considerable growth, though, during the first summer when spring planted and be ready for vigorous blooming the following year; so if for any reason it is impossible to plant in the fall, by all means plant the next spring.

HOW PEONY PRICES ARE DETERMINED. New varieties of peonies, like new varieties of apples, are produced from seeds and seeds never produce the same variety as the plant on which the seeds grew. Only one seedling in thousands is better than the parent or than varieties already in existence. Every named peony root is but a part (a division) of another of the same variety. It follows that a new variety of merit is scarce for some years and therefore high in price. In the hands of skillful growers who take up the new variety and divide the roots every two or three years, it, in time, becomes more plentiful and cheaper. Many of the cheap and moderate priced varieties are among the best in the peony world. Some varieties remain relatively high because they multiply slowly or because they are of wonderful beauty and therefore in great demand.

A WORD TO BEGINNERS IN FLOWER GROWING. My own experience in flower growing has taught me that if you really and truly want some flowers you can easily have them. Start with a few and make up your mind that you will add just a few more each year. If you can only afford
two or three of the cheaper peony roots or a half dozen of iris roots or a dozen or two of gladioli bulbs, never mind. Get the few you can afford this year and add just a few to your collection each year.

In a few years you will be so surprised and pleased that you will be sorry you did not start many years sooner.

SIZE OF ROOT. After several years of careful experimental work with all sizes of roots we find the 3 to 5 eye divisions to be the most satisfactory for general planting. They come into bloom sooner than the small division and make a better blooming plant when three years old than a large clump does. The small one and two eye divisions are only advisable for experienced growers and a large clump will usually develop more or less rot in the center. The 3 to 5 eye divisions well cut back, as we trim them before shipping, will develop an entirely new root system so that when it reaches maturity at three years old you will have a fine strong blooming plant with nearly all new healthy roots.

OUR GUARANTEE. We guarantee all our roots true to name. In any business, however, a mistake is possible. If any customer receives a root from us that eventually proves untrue we will gladly send one that is true. The customer may also keep the one sent by mistake.

SUBSTITUTIONS. We never substitute unless with your permission.

HOW WE SHIP. We prepay postage or express on all shipments anywhere in the United States or Canada on orders of $3.00 or more. On orders for less than $3.00 we will prepay charges if 10 cents for each peony root and 5 cents for each iris root is sent for postage. Otherwise orders for less than $3.00 will be sent by express at purchasers expense.
C. H. Smith, Woodcrest Farm, Faribault, Minn.

PRICES AND DISCOUNTS. Net cash before shipment. A deposit of 25% will hold advance orders till September 15 when balance is to be paid. When all cash is sent with order, $11.00 worth of roots may be selected for $10.00, $28.00 worth for $25.00, $58.00 worth for $50.00, and $120.00 worth for $100.00. No discount will be allowed, however, on small divisions or collections.

HOW TO REMIT. Send remittances by post-office order, express money order, check, or bank draft, payable to C. H. Smith, Faribault, Minn.

A LAST WORD. July 1, 1925. We have had up to date a most peculiar season. A very warm March and April was followed by a cold May. Eight frosts in May, three very hard, killed many of the peony buds so bloom was very light. Unusually heavy rainfall in June has given a wonderful root growth, however, so we shall have extra fine roots for fall planting. Your orders will have my careful personal attention from digging to packing. I shall do everything humanly possible to please you.

Madame De Vernville came through the hard frosts with very little bud injury and bloomed finely. I have a fine stock of 2 and 3 year old roots to divide this fall and will give one root free with every order amounting to $5.00 or more if customer wishes it and will mention it when ordering.

From early inquiries there appears to be a shortage in many of the high class roots so we urge placing your order early to avoid disappointment.
PEONIES

Rating of Varieties

Ratings are given on those varieties receiving 20 or more votes in the symposium. They are based on 100 being perfect.

ADOLPHE ROSSEAU. (Dessert & Mechin). 85. Very large semi-double purple garnet. Tall stiff stems. One of the very best early dark reds. $1.50.


BARONESS SCHROEDER. (Kelway). 90. White Opens blush, changing to pure white. One of the world’s best peonies. $1.50.


BRAND’S MAGNIFICENT. (Brand). Deep dark red with bluish cast. Midseason. $5.00.


CLAUDE DUBOIS. (Crousse). 87. Extra fine globular or rose type. Late. Very large. $1.00.


DELICATISSIMA. 76. Midseason pink. One of the finest and most profuse blooming and best all-around pinks. Fragrant. 50 cents.

DR. BRETTENEAU. Also called Lady Bramwell. A delicate fragrant lilac pink. Vigorous grower and free bloomer. Good keeper as a cut flower. 50 cents.

DUCHESS DE NEMOURS. (Calot). 81. White. Early. Opens few days after Festiva Maxima. Sulfur white, changing to pure white. Large and fine. 50 cents.

E, B. BROWNING. (Brand). 92. White. Late. An immense flower and one of the most beautiful that the world knows. $7.50.
EDULIS SUPERBA. (Lemoine). 76. Pink. Large, loose crown type and deliciously fragrant. Stands up straight and tall, a free bloomer, and the earliest bright pink in peonydom. Beautiful in half opened bud stage, and sometimes open here on Decoration Day. Also sold as L’Esperance. 50 cents.

ELWOOD PLEAS. (Pleas). 87. Pink. Rose type Late midseason. Very large, flat, light shell pink. $5.00.

ETTA. Very fine, very fragrant, very late pink. $1.50.

FARIBAULT. (Brand). 82. Deep pink. A fine late of large size. Free bloomer and good cut flower. $3.00.

FELIX CROUSSE. (Crousse). 84. This is without doubt the finest one-color red in cultivation. Large; deep rose red and a wonderful bloomer. Midseason. No collection should be without this peony. 75 cents

FESTIVA MAXIMA. (Meillez). 93. Every peony grower knows this is the greatest early large white. Strong grower. Long stems. Center petals flaked with crimson. 75 cents.

FRANCES WILLARD. (Brand). 91. White. Opens a beautiful blush with an occasional carmine touch changing later to pure white. As a cut flower it remains pinkish cream. Nothing finer in its season. $3.00.

GRANDIFLORA. (Richardson). 88. Pink. The best very late pink. Very fragrant. If you want peonies when all other kinds are gone, get this one. $1.00.

HARRIET FARNESLEY. (Brand). Pink. A beautiful soft pink. Quite late. $1.00.

HENRY AVERY. (Brand). Light pink. A splendid pinkish creamy white of large size and delicate fragrance. $7.00.


JUDGE BERRY. (Brand). 86. A very early, very large, fine fragrant flower. Opens flat. $9.00.

KARL ROSENFIELD. (Rosenfield). 88. Dark crimson. A very large globular brilliant red. Strong stems and one of the very best keepers as a cut flower. $1.50.
KELWAY'S GLORIOUS. (Kelway). 91. White. One of the largest and best of the new whites. Fragrant midseason. $20.00.


LA FRANCE. (Lemoine). 90. Pink. Rose type, late midseason. La France pink, finishing apple blossom pink, with splash of crimson through outer guard petals. $7.00.

LA TULIPE. (Calot). 75. Pink. Medium large, flat rose type. Lilac white, fading to creamy white. Outer guard petals striped carmine. Most beautiful in half-opened bud stage. Midseason to late. Splendid keeper as a cut flower. Fragrant 75 cents.

LE CYGNE. (Lemoine). 99. White. Rose type, mid-season. Stout stems. The most perfect in form of all peonies. $15.00.

LIVINGSTONE. (Crousse). 81. Pink. A beautiful large, late compact soft lilac rose with central petals flecked carmine. $1.00.

LONGFELLOW. (Brand). 90. Red. A bright crimson with a cherry tone. One of the most brilliant and striking reds of the whole list. Early midseason. Vigorous grower. $5.00.

LORA DEXHEIMER. (Brand). 84. Red. Large flaming crimson. Darker at base of petals. Stiff stems, holding but a single bloom each. Early and very free bloomer. $3.00.

LOVELINESS. (Hollis). 88. Pink. Large, flat hydrangea pink flowers on strong stems. $5.00.

LUETTA PFEIFFER. (Brand). Large semi-double pinkish white blooms. Early. $12.00.

MARIE CROUSSE. (Crousse). 89. Pink. Full globular flower on long stems. $2.50.

MARIE LEMOINE. (Calot). 85. White. The largest and most fragrant late white. Very fine. $1.00.
MARTHA BULLOCH. (Brand). 91. Pink. Late midseason. The finest and largest pink of the original Brand introductions. Mammoth blooms on stout stems. You will be proud to own one. $15.00.

MARY BRAND. (Brand). 87. Red. One of the very finest midseason reds. A great cut flower. It will surely please you. $3.00.


MIDNIGHT. (Brand). 73. Very dark red. Large loose, medium early, very dark red. $1.00.

MONSIEUR DUPONT. (Calot). 83. White. Late midseason. An immense white of great beauty. Center petals tipped carmine. Some yellow stamens add to its beauty. Prolific bloomer every year. $1.00.


MONSIEUR MARTIN CAHUZAC. (Dessert.) 88. Red. Midseason. One of the very finest dark reds. $3.00.

MOSES HULL. (Brand). Pink. A large fragrant midseason flower of much beauty. $1.00.

MME. DE VERNEVILLE. (Crousse). 79. White. If I could have but one white this would be my choice. Central petals open rose white with carmine touches. Deliciously fragrant. A wonderfully free bloomer even on young plants. Our best white cut flower. 75 cents.

MME. FOREL. (Crousse). 77. Pink. A fine large tall glossy fragrant flower. $1.00.

MME. GEISSLER. (Crousse). 79. Pink. An erect, bright pink of massive size. $1.00.

MME. JULES DESSERT. (Dessert). 94. One of the finest of all peonies. White, tinged with delicate pink, splashed carmine. Few golden stamens. $5.00.

OFFICINALIS RUBRA. Deepest bright red and also the earliest. Nearly always in bloom here by Decoration Day. $1.00.

OFFICINALIS ROSEA. Same type of plant and flower as Officinalis Rubra, but dark pink and two days earlier. $1.00.
PHILIPPE RIVOIRE. (Riviere). 92. Red. A very fine bright crimson. The most fragrant of all reds and a fine show flower. Midseason. $20.00.

PHOEBE CAREY. (Brand). 88. Pink. A wonderful fine late fragrant pink that has not yet been fully appreciated. Fine as Therese. $7.50.

PRIMEVERE. (Lemoine). 86. Yellow. The best yellow. $4.00.

RACHEL. (Terry). Red. A medium size midseason dark red usually having but one bloom on a stem. Best red cut flower of its season with us. Has the peculiarity of closing at night for several nights. Not very double and has some yellow stamens, but unexcelled for richness of color and shape for several days. 75 cents.

RICHARD CARVEL. (Brand). 88. Red. Immense globular bomb. The earliest high-grade red of all. Comes with Edulis Superba. Stands erect on stiff stems. Always blooms the first year after setting out. Fragrant; free bloomer. $5.00.

RUBRA SUPERBA. (Richardson). 72. Red. The very best late red. Does not bloom freely till the third year, but is well worth waiting for. $1.00.


THERESE. (Dessert). 98. Pink. Rose type. Late midseason. Enormously large flowers, produced very freely on stout stems. $5.00.

TOURANGLLE. (Dessert). 94. Pink. Rose type, late midseason. A vigorous grower, bearing large flat shaped flowers on long stems. Color nearly white, overlaid with delicate mauve and shades of La France rose. $5.00.

VENUS. (Kelway). Pink. Very large, compact crown, pale hydrangea pink, large petals. Tall free bloomer. A very popular cut flower. $1.00.

WALTER FAXON. (Richardson). 93. Medium size globular bright rose, deepening towards the center Midseason. Extra fine. $7.00.

Winnifred Domme. (Brand). Red. An intense scarlet red on short stems, carrying but one bloom each. The reddest red in peonydom. Destined to become very popular when well known. Every collection should have one. $3.00.
We have a good stock of many of the leading standard varieties and have made up two collections for the benefit of those who want some fine peonies, but who do not care to invest in the newer and higher priced ones. The roots included in these special offers are our regular size 3 to 5 eye divisions. Those who have not grown peonies before will be absolutely safe in planting either collection. We know you will be highly pleased.

Collection No. 1

6 fine peonies for $3.25 postpaid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Edulis Superba (very early)</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Delicatissima (midseason)</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Festiva Maxima (early)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Madame De Verneville (early midseason)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Felix Crousse (early midseason)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Rachel (late midseason)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
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</tbody>
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Our prices are very reasonable for all our roots, yet we offer this fine collection of 6 peonies, which amounts to $4.00, all for $3.25 postpaid.

Collection No. 2

9 fine peonies for $5.00 postpaid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Edulis Superba (very early)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Delicatissima (midseason)</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>La Tulipe (late midseason)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Festiva Maxima (early)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Madame De Verneville (early midseason)</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Couronne d'Or (late)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Felix Crousse (early midseason)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Rachel (late midseason)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Rubra Superba (late)</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When you consider that these roots are from thrifty 2 and 3 year old plants grown on unexcelled peony soil, are clean, light colored and full of vigor, and that we send them to you postpaid anywhere in the United States, we know you cannot get better value in peony roots, anywhere.
IRISES

The iris is becoming more popular every year, and justly so, for it can be planted any time of the year when the ground is not frozen. It is best, however, to plant it in early fall as it then usually blossoms the next season, but it can be planted any time in the fall before the ground freezes, or in the early spring.

It thrives well on any well drained soil, and especially well on those soils having some sand in their makeup.

The past season was very hard on irises in the Northwest, especially on heavy soils. Our soil being a sandy loam we lost but few and those were mostly the newer kinds, the result of crosses with rather tender varieties. Our list is not large, but what we offer wintered finely and are very thrifty. Do not plant too deep. Pack soil well around the roots and let the bulb or rhizome be just below the surface.

The standard (S) is the upright part of the flower and the falls (F) the lower part.

AMERICAN BLACK PRINCE. S. lilac purple; F. rich velvety purple. 25 cents.

CAPRICE. S. and F. light purple blending to lavender at base of petals. 25 cents.

ELDORADO. S. yellowish bronze shaded heliotrope; F. bright purple shaded bronze. 35 cents. 3 for 85 cents.

ARCHEVEQUE. S. purple; F. violet. Fine. 75 cents.

DR. BERNICE. S. bronze; F. crimson. 25 cents.

GAGUS. S. light yellow; F. crimson, white and yellow. 35 cents. 3 for 85 cents.

GERTRUDE. S. and F. same shade of violet blue. A very pleasing early iris. 40 cents. 3 for $1.00.

HER MAJESTY. Late. S. soft rose; F. veined red. General color effect pink. 25 cents. 3 for 60 cents.

HONORABILIS. S. yellow; F. yellow and brown. An early, dependable, free blooming iris. 25 cents. 3 for 60 cents.

IGNATIA. A delicate light mauve of pleasing effect that is always sure to bloom even on small plants the next year after planting. 25 cents. 3 for 50 cents.
KOCHII.  S. and F. are both rich deep purple. Makes a bright spot in any garden. 35 cents. 3 for 85 cents.

LOHENGRIN.  S. and F. light soft mauve. A tall strong growing plant. 40 cents. 3 for $1.00.

LORELY.  S. canary yellow; F. creamy white with purple reticulation, blending to purple blotches near edges. Ends of petals a deep canary. A fine iris. 25 cents. 3 for 60 cents.

MADAME CHEREAU.  S. and F. pure white with frilled lavender edges. A splendid cut flower. Tall and beautiful. 25 cents. 3 for 60 cents.

MONSIGNOR.  Late. S. rich satiny velvet; F. deep purple crimson. Very showy. 40 cents.

MRS. ALAN GRAY.  A most beautiful pink iris of very pleasing color. 50 cents. 3 for $1.25.

OSSIAN.  S. creamy yellow; F. soft rose red, deeply veined. A very showy iris. Tall. 35 cents. 3 for 85 cents.

PERFECTION.  S. lavender, flecked with a deeper shade. F. rich velvety lavender. Free bloomer and a very striking variety. 35 cents. 3 for 85 cents.

QUAKER LADY.  S. smoky lavender, with yellow shadings; F. ageratum blue and old gold; stigmas yellow. Yellow beard. A most pleasing soft color that must be seen to be fully appreciated. 40 cents. 3 for 85 cents.

REV. A. H. WIRTELE.  S. purple bronze; F. rich velvety purple, reticulated light yellow at base and veined brown. Fragrant. 50 cents. 3 for $1.25.

RHEIN NIXE.  S. pure white; F. raspberry purple, edged white. A splendid grower and very free bloomer. Very showy. 25 cents. 3 for 60 cents.

SHERWIN WRIGHT.  Golden yellow. The finest all one color rich golden yellow. 40 cents. 3 for $1.00.

RUBELLA.  S. rose lilac; F. crimson lilac. 25 cents. 3 for 60 cents.

WYOMISSING.  S. creamy white suffused delicate soft rose; F. deep rose base, shading to flesh-colored border. 50 cents. 3 for $1.20.

ZANARDALIA.  A very bright blue. S. some darker than falls. Falls horizontal. Very noticeable at a long distance away. A peculiarly beautiful blue. 50 cents. 3 for $1.20.
A Fine Iris Collection

Honorabilis—Yellow and brown .................. $ .25
Ignatia—delicate light mauve .................. $ .25
Lorely—fine yellow ............................ .25
Madame Chereau—white and lavender ........ .25
Rhein Nixe—white and purple ................ .25
Quaker Lady—Smoky lavender, blue and old gold .40
Zanardalia—A beautiful shade of blue ........... .50

$2.15

One good strong plant (single rhizome) of each of the above will be sent postpaid any where in United States or Canada for $1.50. It will give a pleasing variety of color at a small cost.

GLADIOLI

I also grow nearly 100 varieties of gladioli. My price list will be ready about January 1, 1926. It is free for the asking. If you do not already know this wonderful flower, don’t delay getting acquainted with it. It blooms the same season you plant it and you can have flowers from July 15 to October 15. Your name please for my mailing list.
The Delicious Squash

Originated and introduced by the veteran seedsman, James J. H. Gregory, of Marblehead, Mass., who also originated and introduced the Hubbard squash.

Mr. Gregory spent much of his long life in experimental work on winter squashes. He brought out more than a dozen varieties. In fact, he originated and introduced nearly every variety of good winter squash now in existence. He introduced the Hubbard squash more than 60 years ago. Twenty-two years ago he introduced the Delicious. When introducing it he stated that it carried the blood of about every good winter squash then known.

In color it is similar to the Hubbard, being a dark olive green. In shape it is different, being like the tops we used to make when boys from half of a spool. In quality it is unapproachable, being thick-meated, fine grained, excellent flavor, and absolutely unsurpassed for dryness and quick cooking. It is ideal for those who cook with gas, as it can be steamed or stewed with a small amount of water in twenty minutes. It can be cut in slices one-half inch thick and fried in twenty minutes. It can be baked in thirty minutes.

I began growing the Delicious squash when introduced 22 years ago, and found it all its originator claimed for it. It had the same fault, however, that all winter squashes had at that time. It was too large for most families, being 8 to 15 pounds in weight. Seventeen years ago I began selecting seed from specimens of typical shape that were dry, fine, flavored, and not over 8 pounds in weight. I have continued this selection until now most of the crop weigh but 5 to 8 pounds each. Another advantage of this squash is that it seldom forms a hard shell, but can be easily cut with a sharp knife like a pumpkin. The rind is easily peeled off so it can be quickly prepared for cooking. As a fall and winter squash it is unexcelled. Never keep squashes in a cellar unless it is dry at all times. The best place to store them is on the pantryshelf or on a shelf in the clothes closet, where the temperature is 15 to 20 degrees above freezing. A temperature of from 50 to 60 degrees is best.

I grow every year one-half to three-fourths of an acre of this fine squash and select the most typical shaped two dozen of the entire crop that weigh 5 to 7 pounds
each for my own use. Such as come up to our requirements in thickness of meat, fineness of grain, dryness and fine flavor upon cooking, I save the seeds from, for my own stock seed. I usually have a small surplus of this selected seed above my own requirements and I offer it for 25 cents per package of 50 seeds, postpaid. This will plant 10 to 12 hills, enough for the average family.

I also save a quantity of seed from good specimens of medium size. This seed I offer at 25 cents an ounce, or $2.25 per pound, postpaid.

VARIETIES I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER
THIS FALL