

Culinary Hints and Recipes

BY E. W. PRYOR,
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Mushrooms.

Mushrooms constitute one of the greatest flavoring vegetables known to the scientific cuisinier.

It is the fruit of one of the lowest of the great series of flowerless plants of the classified order Fungi, and not the plant itself as is so commonly supposed.

The plant in its beginning is a network of white threads, which are called Mycelium of fungi or spawn, and it is from the joints of these threads the mushroom develops.

They possess a delicate flavor and one eagerly sought for, yet their nutrient value is slight.

Mushrooms are quick in growth and rapid in decay, therefore they are only suitable for food when fresh and crisp.

They are best from October to May, yet in some sections they can be had any time during the year.

An edible mushroom can be easily distinguished from a poisonous fungi by certain characteristics. With the exercise of a little common sense there is no danger of mistaking the edible variety for those that are poisonous.

A true mushroom grows only in pastures, never in wet, boggy places and never about stumps or trees.

All toadstools, technically speaking, are mushrooms, but all mushrooms are not toadstools.

The difference between a toadstool and a true mushroom is soon apparent when you attempt to remove the skin. You can't skin a toadstool—it will break off in small fragments. The covering of a true mushroom on the contrary, can be removed without the slightest difficulty.

Make it a rule not to touch or use a mushroom whose lower gills are white. If still in doubt use the onion test. Take half an onion stripped of its outer skin and boil it with the mushrooms, if the color of the onion is changed and it becomes bluish or tinged with black it is an evident sign that the poisonous fungi are present. If the onion preserves its color there is no danger.

How to Prepare for Cooking.

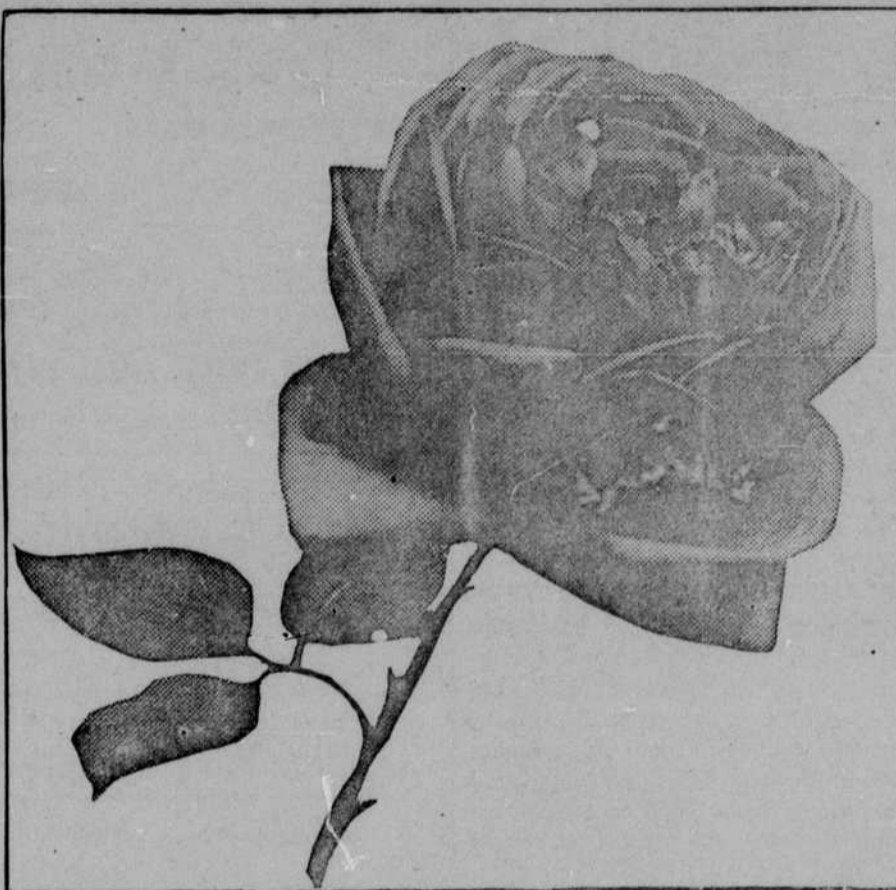
Obtain freshly gathered mushrooms, sort out the buttons, saving them for garnitures and sauces. The large, open ones are most suitable for broiling, stuffing, baking, etc. Trim off the stems, peel the caps, thoroughly wash them in cold water, to which has been added the juice of a lemon. Drain them on a clean towel and they are ready for use as needed.

The stems after being washed can be chopped and used in stuffing and sauces.

A PROSPEROUS SAVINGS BANK.

Norfolk, Va., July 28.—The Brown Savings bank of Norfolk is in a very healthy condition. E. C. Brown is the president and William M. Rich, cashier. Starting six years ago, its total assets in 1909 of \$10,434, has increased to \$67,827.09 in 1914, which is being added to from twenty to thirty thousand each year. The Christmas Saving club feature is very popular. In 1914 the bank paid to the depositors in this club the sum of \$23,000. At the rate the members of the club are now making weekly deposits the outlook is favorable for the return of \$100,000 the forthcoming Christmas week to the fortunate depositors.

The HOME BEAUTIFUL
Flowers and Shrubbery—
Their Care and Cultivation



Francis Scott Key Rose, Named After the Author of "The Star Spangled Banner"—The Flowers Are Usually Large and Double.

IN THE HOME GROUNDS

By EBEN E. REXFORD.

This month will be a busy one for the gardener. There will be plants to put out, weeds to pull, insects to kill—quite enough to keep one at work most of the time.

I do my transplanting on cloudy days, if possible, but if the weather persists in being sunny, I do the work after sundown. Before lifting a seedling, I apply enough water to thoroughly saturate the soil in which it is growing. If this is done, the young plant can be moved without exposure to the roots, and it will receive no check whatever, but will keep on growing as if nothing had happened to it. But allow its tender, delicate roots to be exposed to air for ever so little a time and you run a serious risk of losing your plant.

If this does not happen, it will receive a check from which it will take a long time to recover.

One cannot be too careful with anything as delicate as a seedling plant. In bright weather newly transplanted seedlings will require shading for a day or two. I cut out a circle of coarse brown paper, about a foot across, make a slit to the center on one side of it, and fold the paper over two or three inches, running a wire out and in through the folded part. This wire serves to hold the paper together and acts as a support for the little brown paper umbrella.

It should be at least twelve inches long—long enough to insert in the ground close to the seedling, and hold the paper cone well above the plant it is designed to protect. This kind of a covering keeps the sun away from the plant, but does not interfere with free circulation of air about it.

What kind of a support are you going to give your gladioli? Tying their stalks to sticks gives them such a stiff and prim appearance that I always feel sorry for the poor plants. A stick in the center of a clump does not furnish a really satisfactory support to the stalks on the outside of it, and a hoop supported on sticks is open to the objection of being only a little better than nothing.

Here is my plan—and one that works well, and can be easily carried out. I take a strip of coarse mesh wire netting of the size of the bed

containing the gladioli and stretch it over the plants before they begin to send up their flower stalks. I support it on stout stakes that project about eighteen inches above the surface of the soil, using enough of them to keep the netting level all over the bed.

This is the season for making warfare on the enemies of the rose. If one would have fine flowers he must make up his mind that he's got to fight for them. I use an emulsion of soap and kerosene.

It is very necessary that the application should get to the under side of the leaves and the inside of the bushes, where the insects are likely to hide away; therefore it will be well to have someone assist by bending the bushes over and holding them in that position while the application is being made.

Worms, slugs, green lice and the rose-chaffer can be kept from injuring the bushes if the emulsion is applied thoroughly and frequently.

As soon as my lilacs are past the flowering periods, I go over the bushes and cut away all the seed clusters. The result is—I get a fairly good crop of flowers on what is generally considered the "off year" of this excellent old shrub. If it is allowed to develop seed, it generally has few flowers except on alternate years.

Speaking of lilacs reminds me to say, that I do not indorse what some people say about this plant being a nuisance because of its habit of sending up so many suckers from its roots.

That it is prolific in this respect I admit, but there is no good reason for allowing them to grow until you have a thicket of bushes. Give your hoe blade the sharpness of a knife by filing it to a keen edge, and go over the ground about your lilacs at the sprouting season, and shave off every sprout that shows its head above the grass. You can do this just as easily and rapidly as you can cut off so many weeds, and by doing it you can keep your lilacs from spreading all over the yard.

These bushes are nuisances only when allowed to have their own way. Give them the attention they need and they are easily kept under control. The secret of success consists in not letting them get the start of you.

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