

Mr. Peter Vermeulen made the following presentation:

AWARD OF MERIT
Presented by Peter Vermeulen

This evening we are privileged to recognize by suitable award a person who has, in the eyes of this Society, made noteworthy contributions to the art and science of plant propagation — a person who has a keen interest in plants — their selection, propagation, production and their use in the beautification of home grounds and public areas.

The recognition is that of his/her fellow members by nomination, which only makes the granting of the award that much more esteemed. The award committee functions only to solicit, screen and make final determination, completely separate and *apart from opinions or desires of the officers other than the exercise of their privilege to nominate*, the same privilege accorded to every member. The award is made only, when in the opinion of the committee, it is warranted. The 1979 committee is immensely pleased to say that it has so determined and is much warranted.

Our Award of Merit recipient was born in Providence, R.I., November 13, 1923. With one notable exception his childhood could be considered normal. It seems there existed in the young heart a seeking of the unusual excitement, not normally found or available, for whenever he was late coming home, his family would look for a carnival, and there would find him.

Much to his credit he completed high school, and went off to New London, Connecticut to work for the Electric Boat Company as a pipe fitter on submarines. This was but a step into the navy in which he served two years.

After Leaving the Navy — In 1948 he fell in love — twice — at the same time. He found a wife and his second love, plants. He became a husband and assistant in agronomy and horticulture research at the University of Rhode Island, attaining his B.S. in 1951.

So onto Cornell for graduate studies and research, earning his M.S. in 1954; his thesis was — “The Effects of the Level of Oxygen, Growth Regulator, Temperature and Position on Storage of Hardwood Cuttings”.

There his authorship budded with his paper to this Society in 1957, “The Effects of Daylength on Germination of *Sciadopitys verticillata*”. He has since authored others to the Society, dealing with original works on the photoperiodic effects on propagation and growth of woody ornamental plants; the devel-

opment of the "flashlighting techniques to increase growth of seedlings; the vegetative propagation of *Sciadopitys verticillata*, the rooting of blueberry cuttings under fluorescent light; the relationship of flower bud development to the survival of the 'Cornell Pink' azalea; the propagation of cuttings of white pine witches'-brooms, clonal and seasonal differences in resin production and its relationship to the rooting of umbrella pine.

He has presented papers at the 16th International Horticultural Congress in Brussels, Belgium in 1962; the International Conference on Electromagnetic Radiation in 1965; the Symposium on Propagation in Krogerup, Denmark in 1975, etc., etc.

He was awarded the Jackson Dawson Gold Medal by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and the Award of Merit by the Connecticut Nurserymen's Association.

He was conferred a Ph.D degree at Cornell in 1957 and, in the same year, was appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut where he became Associate Professor in 1962 and Professor in 1978.

Notwithstanding all of these accomplishments he found time to assume the duties of Secretary-Treasurer of this Society in 1962-1965. Personal testimony of this speaker to his keen ability, pleasant manner, and total dedication stems from working with the recipient as Program Chairman, at which time one soon learns the priceless value of a good Secretary.

Our recipient's professional societies are many including: The American Society for Horticultural Science; American Society of Plant Physiologists; International Plant Propagator's Society; American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta; International Association for Plant Tissue Culture; Pi Alpha Xi, Sigma Xi; Phi Kappa Phi; Alpha Zeta; International Society for Horticultural Science; Tissue Culture Association; International Association of Tissue Culturists.

I could go on and on to list reports published in various other media; institutional, organizational, and public.

This is only one portrait of our recipient. On the other face we find a compassionate servant of his fellowman which can be understood in the pen of Edwin Markham who wrote:

"There is a destiny that makes us brothers, none lives to self alone; all that we bring to the lives of others comes back into our own."

He is now teaching Plant Propagation to approximately 80 students in the spring semester, and Advanced Plant Propagation, at the University of Connecticut.

He is continuing his work on witches'-brooms and has recently named and introduced four eastern white pine witches'-

broom progeny — 'Green Shadow', 'Blue Shag', 'Sea Urchin' and 'UConn'. He is also carrying on his work with rooting of Japanese umbrella pine, *Sciadopitys verticillata*.

Probably by now many of you know who our recipient is. He is a person with a sense: A sense of purpose, A sense of dedication, A sense of service, And yes, A sense of humor, but chiefly, A sense of humility.

Friends I am deeply honored to present, in your behalf, the 1979 Award of Merit to — Sidney Waxman.

Thursday Morning, December 13, 1979

The Thursday morning session convened at 8:15 a.m. with Andrew T. Klapis, Jr. serving as moderator.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HARDY NURSERY STOCK INDUSTRY WITHIN THE UNITED KINGDOM

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The aim of this paper is to highlight some of the current trends and developments that have taken place within the nursery stock industry in the United Kingdom. It will be related under three main sections:

1. Contributions by the nurseryman.
2. Contributions by the research stations.
3. Contributions by the advisory (extension) service of the Ministry of Agriculture.

However, one cannot in reality look at them as isolated compartments, as many ideas have been joint efforts within two, or all three sections.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE NURSERYMAN

Specialization and marketing. A major trend has been the movement of nurseries to specialize in a particular crop or production system. This was very much accelerated when the pound sterling was considerably devalued against other currencies as imports of plant material became considerably more expensive from countries such as West Germany, Denmark, France, Belgium and Holland. This encouraged the industry to become more self sufficient.

Today there are nurseries specializing in pot grown liners (young plants), producing for example, conifers, evergreen