

“As a fruit-tree is more valuable than anyone of its fruits singly, or even than all its fruits of a single season, so the noblest object of reflection is the mind itself, by which we reflect. And as the blossoms, the green and ripe fruit of an orange tree are more beautiful to behold when on the tree, and seen as one with it, than the same growth detached and seen successfully, after their importation into other country and different climate, so it is with the manifold objects of reflection, when they are considered principally in reference to the reflective power, and as part and parcel of the same.”

What Mr. Coleridge is saying here in his philosophic treatise is, of course, that we need a connection between the various facets of our life and, in this same light, we need the communication and, most certainly, the connection between production and sales. This can be manifested only by strong communication channels between the production and sales department of any company whether it have two employees or 2,000.

This is what we are on the face of the earth for — to communicate, to understand, and to love one another. When we accomplish this goal, we truthfully will have become a full and complete human being. It could be finally summated with one sentence: Let the states of equilibrium and harmony exist in perfection, and the happy order will prevail throughout heaven and earth, and all things will be nourished and flourish.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION

October 6, 1971

NEW IDEAS AND INNOVATIONS—

William J. Curtis, Moderator

MODERATOR CURTIS: Who will be the first one to present an idea or an innovation? Who would like to come forward and present it to this group?

JOLLY BATCHELLER: Bill, I saw something just last week that I think is most interesting. At the California nursery convention in Palm Springs I saw a new type of pot which I think is excellent. I'm not boosting a product but it answers questions that some of us have. Many of us use a "spaghetti" system for watering and there are many different ways to attach the end of the tube to the container. They vary from a little lead weight you drop in—to a spike that you put the tubing over; and these cost money. The tubing itself isn't too expensive but the little plugs are. Someone has come up with a better idea. I think it's real good. They have taken a plastic pot and they have made a bulge on the side of it. My perspective in drawing these is a little bit difficult, but taking a view from the top, here is a normal pot and on the edge

there is a half round. In that is a peg with a "v" in it so that you take the tubing and put it over that. The water comes out and hits this crescent and throws a beautiful stream all over the pot. All you have to buy is the tubing and the hose to run down to put them in. You cut them to length, warm them and stick them over that and you don't have to have a plug and it gives a beautiful water coverage. I think they cost only about a half cent more than plastic pots normally cost. So here is a real good situation. There are some 6 inch pots, some gallon cans, some 5 gallon cans, and I think they are going to have some 15 gallon cans. It looks like a good deal; it's simple and it's easy.

MR. PERRY: We run into the problem every once in a while of having a small area—say 10 feet square—that we want to fumigate with methyl bromide. If you don't happen to have an applicator, here's a little stunt that we pulled and I'm using it right along. Simply take a piece of 1" board, and get about a ten penny nail—it has to be a good stout one. Put a ten penny nail through that, put a cat food can on here, set your methyl bromide can on the nail and then go ahead and spread the tarp, put the soil around the tarp, get it all sealed in real well, then go over and step on the methyl bromide can and you've got it made.

MODERATOR CURTIS: That's what we want. Fine idea. That's what we're after. Who's got the next idea? Real good—come forward.

VOICE: We had to fumigate about three acres with methyl bromide and we didn't have the proper machine, you know, the one with the tubes and the tines to go down in the soil, etc. So Neil McClain came to our rescue and brought us out one of these outfits—well, the type they use for strawberry fumigation. What we did, it's kind of a simple idea, is to use a blower. Right at the exhaust section was a tube that came out. You just take your 50 pound cylinder of methyl bromide and hook your polyethylene tube into this blower. Before this, of course, you take the polyethylene plastic sheeting and dig the trenches and put the soil over the edges of the poly in the trench. But before you put it all down you want to take an intake tube and then a blower tube that goes the entire length to the other end. Then you just crank up this blower and you blow this thing up like a tent and then put your intake back underneath the plastic and then start injecting the methyl bromide. It does a beautiful job. Strawberry growers have been using it for years and yet I've never seen it used in nurseries. We did quite an acreage and had real good results. We used just a plain type of compression blower, a very simple device. But if you do this quite often I imagine it would pay to own one.

MODERATOR CURTIS: Who has the next idea or innovation to bring forward?

GENE BACIU: There are a couple of things I've observed—one is growing plants in poly bags. I don't know if any of the nurseries here have tried it, but I observed this in Hawaii this year. There are full

gallon sizes as well as 2 gallon sizes. The gallon size is delivered from Hong Kong to Hawaii for less than ¼ cent per bag. This particular nursery was planting directly from the seed flat into the poly bag and, as the roots spread out—the bags were perforated—quite a few holes in them—the roots would grow out and the tap root went through the bottom. When they would pick them up to plant into the yards, they would prune the roots. We cut a couple open and there was very little root curl or anything like that. You could take a tree by the trunk and throw it across the room and the root mass stays intact. Of course, they can't be stacked vertically but they lay them down in a truck when they move them; they stack them in there like cord wood trees. For small containers I think it's something to look into.

Another thing I read about the other day, and I've been trying to tell a few nurserymen about it, is on rooting cuttings of eucalyptus. Now when the eucalyptus seedling gets up to about 4 to 6 inches high, you make a tip cutting and it will root very readily. What rooting hormones they require, I don't recall. But then if you want a flowering eucalyptus you would have to take the original plant in the liner and then grow it on up until you see what color you have. But by taking new cuttings of this first cutting that you took, you can root these tender cuttings very easily. However, if you take a large tree and try to root the cuttings from it, there is a real problem. But using these small, young, tender cuttings and keeping them this way until you find your color, you get about 90% take on the cuttings all the time. So if anybody wants to get a nice red eucalyptus and grow it continuously like that, I think it would be worth looking into.

JOLLY BATCHELLER: Gene, do you know who is doing that in Hawaii?

GENE BACIU: The cuttings are being rooted here in California, at La Canada—Descanso Gardens. And now, on foliage plants, you know you can get a eucalyptus like *E. perriniana* or *E. pulverulenta* from which you can pick out very good foliage in a young stage and get your cuttings started from that; then you have a very uniform growth of trees from which to make foliage cuttings. They do root well when young and tender but when the plants get a little larger they are quite difficult to root.

MODERATOR CURTIS: We will now hear, as an added bonus in our evening program, a talk by Bob Warner describing some of the work he has been doing in Hawaii with citrus rootstocks. Bob Warner: