

Chemical improves plants

Aggie lilies made better

Easter is a time for eggs, bunnies and, in College Station, Aggie Easter lilies.

Contrary to what might be expected, the lilies from the Texas A&M horticulture department aren't maroon and white, but they are stronger and can withstand shipping and handling better than other Easter lilies.

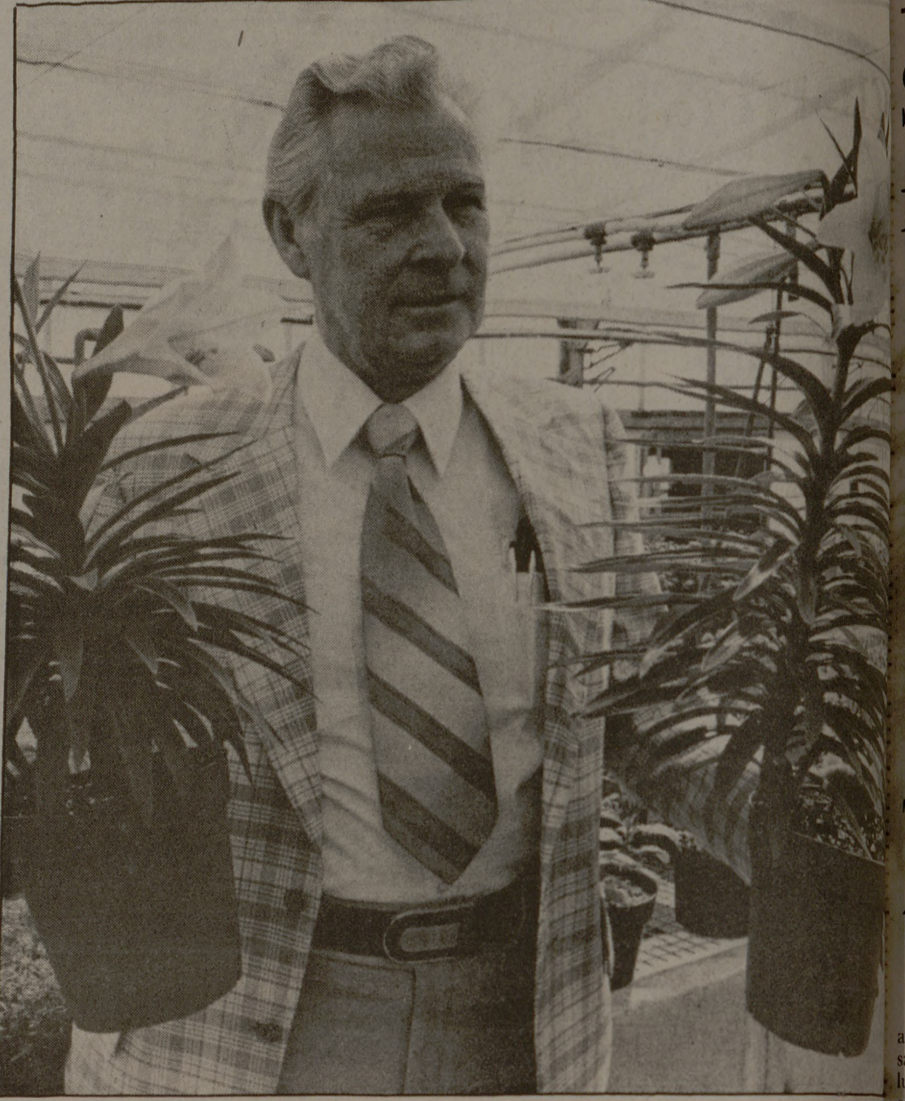
Dr. Arthur E. Nightingale, a horticulture professor, administered a chemical — cytokinen — to the foliage when the plants were young to produce heavier plants, which look better and provide easier shipping and handling. Stem diameters were enlarged and leaves broadened, enhancing the overall quality of the plants.

Cytokinen also increases shelf life by slowing the aging process, he said. Blooms stay full for a longer period than those not treated.

The original tests were made with a trial chemical formula expected to be marketed after it

goes through the government labeling processes.

Nightingale said they are now trying to duplicate the results with a formulation of commercial chemicals that could be made available for growers sooner than the original formula.



staff photo by Gal...

Dr. Arthur Nightingale displays lilies in the floriculture greenhouse.

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Railroaders upset over non-federal pension proposal

United Press International
DENISON — A Reagan administration plan to discon-

tinue federal administration of the Railroad Retirement System is drawing criticism from many of the 65,000 Texans who receive monthly benefits from the pension fund.

The Office of Management and Budget proposal to turn the Railroad Retirement System over to the private sector has split the Railroad Retirement Board, which governs the system, and ignited a letter-writing campaign to legislators by many Texas retirees, particularly in the Denison area.

Under the OMB proposal, many RRB field offices across the country, including three Texas' five offices, would be closed. The nation's 1 million retirees covered by the pension would receive benefits under Social Security.

Opponents of the plan say they fear defederalization of the system might cause retirees to lose benefits they worked hard to get. Those benefits exceed Social Security payments.

11 representatives endorse Temple for Texas governor

United Press International
AUSTIN — Eleven state representatives endorsed Railroad Commissioner Buddy Temple

for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination Monday and accused Attorney General Mark White of mudslinging and distorting issues in his campaign.

Rep. John Sharp, D-Victoria, said the lawmakers will tour 11 cities in the next two days repeating their endorsement of Temple. He also said Temple is rapidly overtaking White in the bid for the Democratic nomination.

A statement read by Sharp said the group backs Temple because he supports "clean, efficient, open government: no frills, no fraud."

It said: "We're for Buddy Temple because he's running a clean campaign on the issues. He's not slinging mud. He's not distorting his opponents' records. He's not ducking the tough issues. He's not trying to be all things to all people."

Sharp said White's characterization of Temple's railroad commission votes as being anti-consumer are unfair and inaccurate.

"If that's the only issue somebody can find, there's something tell-tale wrong in their cam-

paign," Sharp said. "Some is getting close."

Rep. Buck Florence, Hughes Springs, said Temple's closing in on White in Texas district.

"In my area, Mark came out with a big lead beginning, but the quantity that lead is diminishing. People understand that Mark can't be all things to all people," Florence said. "Buddy is gaining ground rapidly."

Sharp said Temple's campaign is most active in the Victoria area.

Sharp, Florence and Robert Saunders, D-La Grange, are the only three of the 11 endorsing the Capitol news conference all said Bob Armstrong, second choice in the gubernatorial race.

Others endorsing Temple were Bill Ser, D-Belton; Hamp, D-New Boston; Bill Hall, Center; Jim Ruid, Brownfield; Dick Burns, San Angelo; John G... Wichita Falls; Elton... Montalba; and Charlie... D-Hurst.

Association of Former Students Spring Senior Induction Banquets

April 14 & 15, 1982
6:30 p.m.
M.S.C.

All May and August graduates are invited to attend. Complimentary tickets will be available April 5-9 in the lobby of the Forsyth Alumni Center. Banquet is free — but you must have a ticket to attend.

TICKETS GIVEN ON FIRST COME — FIRST SERVED BASIS

Wine Lines

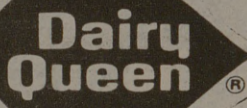
By **IRA M. HELD**
Chevaliers De Sancerre

The aroma of wine is perhaps one of the most important traits of this "Nectar of the Gods" and is often referred to as its "Bouquet". Grape vines are by nature, flowering plants, and the grape begins to grow after the flower has disappeared; however, the aroma of the flower apparently remains in the juices. Thus, at its peak, a fine wine will often possess an aroma described as a bouquet. If this aroma is particularly strong and flowery, as it is in some fine red Burgundys, this is referred to as a "nose". While this aroma will tend to deteriorate with age, the quality of fine wine is actually in the taste itself. Often, when a bottle of vintage wine is uncorked, the bouquet will be present and delightful for as long as five minutes before it begins to completely disappear. For this reason, it is not advisable to allow old wines to "breathe" too long after uncorking in order not to lose too much of what the wine actually has to offer.

Professors and students at Texas A&M — Chevalier Ira will be most happy to put on private wine tastings for your groups and friends. Please call us for more information.

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