

Planting.

All of our Clematis species tend to inhabit well drained places, usually hillsides or river terraces. There may be abundant moisture but this is never stagnant. The plants are usually to be found growing among bushes and trees or scrambling amongst rocks. This should provide us with clues to the plants needs. A cool root run, a well drained site and a position where the plant can climb and flower in the sun.

The plant should be planted in such a way that the roots will not be standing in water for any length of time. A small bed, raised 10 or 15cm above the surrounding soil is enough. The soil should be worked with sand and peat or leafmould added in generous amounts.

Site the plant where the roots will be out of direct sun, the south east side of a shrub is ideal. If the soil around the roots becomes hot and dry the plant will suffer.

The plant should be able to climb into the sun where it will flower at its best. They are at their best climbing through shrubs.

Pests and Diseases.

The main diseases are the various fungal organisms that attack the young cuttings. Clean pots and sterilized composts usually eliminate these problems. A spray every three weeks with Captan or Thiram can be used as a preventative. Once the fungus is present nothing will stop it killing the infected cutting.

Slugs are fond of new growths and slug bait should be used.

Caterpillars of various types are a major pest. Leaf rollers damage the growing points and a large brown caterpillar eats the stems through and kills the upper portions of the plant. Porina eats the roots and stems at soil level and various others defoliate the plants. A search with a torch about an hour after sunset will locate the culprits and a spray every three weeks with Carbaryl will eliminate them.

Stems eaten in autumn and winter will mean fewer flowers in the Spring. Do not underestimate the caterpillars, they can eat off a large plant in a few nights.

Most of our fine Clematis are easy to grow once their needs are understood.

GILL - FUNGI

We are indebted to Dr. Greta Cone for supplying the Guide to Common Genera of Gill-Fungi. This Guide will be very useful to students of Fungi.

GUIDE TO COMMON GENERA OF GILL-FUNGI

FORM	COLOUR OF SPORE / PRINT		
	WHITE	BRICK PINK	BROWN
			PURPLE ~ BLACK
with ring and volva	AMANITA		
with volva only	AMANITA (a few)	VOLVARIELLA	
with ring only	LEPIOTA (gills free) CYSTODERMA (cellular cuticle)		PHOLIOTA (substantial ring) CORTINARIUS (cobwebby ring)
eccentric, lateral or no stem; see also separate key	PLEUROTUS RESUPINATUS	ENTOLOMA } a few RHODOCYBE } spp.	CREPIDOTUS
gills free	LEPIOTA (+ring)	PLUTEUS	COPRINUS (fragile autodigesting)
gills sinuate	TRICHOLOMA		HEBELOMA (often + veil)
gills adnexed	COLLYBIA (rather tough) FLAMMULINA (yellow gills) MARASMIUS (tough + reviving)	ENTOLOMA (spores angled)	GALERINA (small fragile) INOCYBE (cap fibrillose to scaly) GYMNOPILUS (bleaching + KOH)
gills adnate	CRINIPELLUS (tough + shaggy) LACCARIA (mealy gills)		PSILOCYBE (viscid cap) PSATHYRELLA (-fragile) PANAEOLUS (black mottled gills)
gills decurrent	MYCENA (small + fragile) HYGROPHORUS (waxy gills) RUSSULA (brittle flesh) LACTARIUS (+ milky juice)		
	CLITOCYBE OMPHALINA (small, often umbilicate)	LEPISTA (fleshy) CLITOPILUS (spores longitridinate & grooved) RHODOCYBE (spores warty)	PAXILLUS (gills forked)
			GOMPHIDIUS (viscid + ring of fibrils)