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Tree Planter

*He planted trees before he died—
This northern last-line gent—
Ten-thousand pines above the tide,
On slopes where forebears bent
To clear the clay for oats and hay
Before to rest they went.*

*Green, upward-pushing conifers,
His trees came on a-pace;
'Gainst claw and thaw and juniper,
These toughies won the race,
Until one day they'd choked the ferns
And left there not a trace*

*Of hardhack, alder, nuisance wood,
Or any thorny thing.
The master's wood, it grew and stood
And took in birds to sing;
The sloe-eyed deer came stepping here,
Where first appeared in spring*

*The south slope's dainty dancing cups—
Hepaticas at play.
Our last-line man, in the end, gave up—
Signed all his goods away;
His last request: "In my pines I'd rest,
Where they slope off to the bay."*

—EDWIN D. MERRY



UI Exhibit Captures Top Award At Chicago World Flower Show

URBANA — The University of Illinois exhibit captured the Governor's Award as the "most meritorious display of the entire show" at the Chicago World Flower and Garden Show, held at the new McCormick Place, March 20-28.

A silver bowl, was presented to the U. of I. Co-operative Extension Service in the College of Agriculture for its exhibit featuring new varieties of flowering annuals, "Vegetables for Minigardens" and turf grasses.

The educational display focused on acquainting visitors with new varieties of lawn grasses, flowering annuals and vegetables and on providing cultural information to aid home gardeners in the growing of gardens and lawns.

The U. of I. exhibit, coordinated by G. M. Fosler, assistant professor of ornamental horticulture, also won the Garden Club of Toronto award for the best use of annual plants.

In addition, a silver medal given for the most outstanding large exhibit sponsored by a non-profit organization was awarded to the U. of I.

The flower portion of the three-part exhibit, managed by Fosler, showed some of the 1971 All-American Selections in addition to a number of other new offerings for 1971. Visitors received printed material and information concerning how and where new flower varieties are produced, where to purchase seed and data on the new All-America flowers.

The "Vegetables for Minigardens" section, handled by H. J. Hopen and J. W. Courter, horticulture specialists, featured a patio setting with vegetable varieties suitable for growing in small beds, tubs and containers. A new publication, prepared especially for distribution at the show, was another highlight of the vegetable section.

J. D. Butler, associate professor of turf extension, was in charge of the third segment which displayed new varieties of lawn grasses, examples of lawn weeds and disease information. Printed material with facts on starting and maintaining turf was also distributed.

The exhibit was designed and constructed by V. L. Brazle and J. R. Griffith, U. of I. staff members in the Office of Agricultural Communications.