

**WALTHAM GARDENERS' SOCIETY  
FOR WALTHAM AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES**

**HERBACEOUS CLEMATIS  
BY EVERETT LEEDS**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.**

It was a pleasure to welcome back Everett Leeds a renowned expert on the Clematis genus, this time talking to us on Herbaceous Clematis.

Everett explained there are two principal species of herbaceous Clematis Recta and Integrifolia which he covered in some detail, but first he explained propagation from hardwood cuttings by utilizing a cutting with double nodes pushed in up to the neck preferably in neat perlite.

This of course ensured the new plant would be the same as the parent. Propagation by seed would not ensure the new plant being true to its parent and if you were lucky even an award winning variant.

Everett illustrated his talk with a power point presentation and went through the various species and varieties.

Integrifolia varieties included Pangbourne Pink, Tapestry, Twinkle, Alba, Latifolia and Hanajima.

Everett suggested taking cuttings in spring with one leaf joint 4-5 inches long with the pot in a propagator or plastic bag having immersed the cutting in a neat solution of fungicide before planting.

Everett illustrated species Tubulosa, found near the Great Wall of China 3-4ft high flowers late in season July – October. Heracleifolia, the best blue is Alan Bloom but no scent. Buckland Longshanks 4ft, New Love 3ft with lovely scent, Cassandra 3-4ft with a marvelous scent and China Purple 2.5ft flowering late.

Stans is a species from Vietnam which also has a variegated form. Urticifolia he recommended Mrs. Robert Bryden and Joviniana Praecox which attracts bees and Aromatica growing to 3.5ft.

Recta Durandii can be found in most garden centres and to promote a plethora of blooms he recommended pinching out the growing tips once they reached 1ft high. Isphanica has large seed heads and Songarica also has large seed heads and a beautiful almond scent.

Repens has numerous varieties to recommend many crossed with Integrifolia. Buckland Cascades, Coactilis hairy with white flowers, Sander white slightly scented, Arabella blue an excellent ground cover, Pamela with slight scent, Lord Herschel 2ft tall red/blue, Alionushka pink growing to 7-8ft, Gravetye Beauty red. Sir Trevor Laurence red with tulip shaped flowers, Buckland Beauty one of Everett's developments and Princess Diana.

Everett answered many questions on preferred soil, aspect and diseases including the dreaded vine weevil with expert advice. Let us hope the talk will encourage more gardeners to make use of clematis in the herbaceous border.

Our next event will be the **PLANT SALE** on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May** opening at 10.00 a.m. There is usually a queue at the door so to ensure you get the pick of what is on offer be prompt. Plant donations are welcome so if you have surplus plants please bring them along before 10.00 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you at 10.00 a.m on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May at Waltham Village Hall for the Plant Sale.

*All events at 7.30 p.m. at Waltham Village Hall unless stated otherwise.*

See details of the whole year's events on the Society's website at

[www.walthamgardeners.org.uk](http://www.walthamgardeners.org.uk)