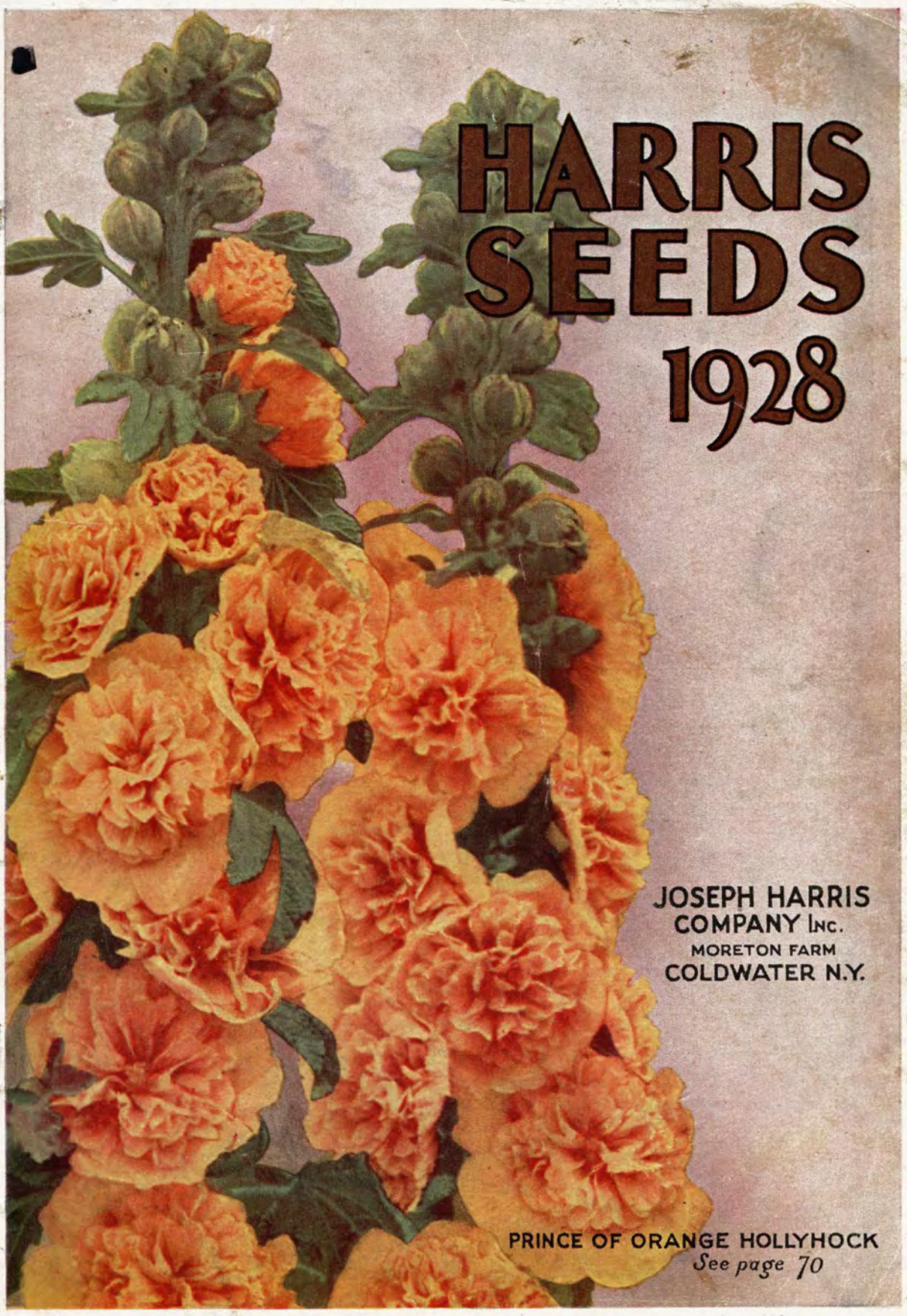
Samples pages
from
Harris Seeds, 1928

The complete catalog from Harris Seeds for 1928 has 120 pages. It has a tight binding so only these few pages were able to be scanned.

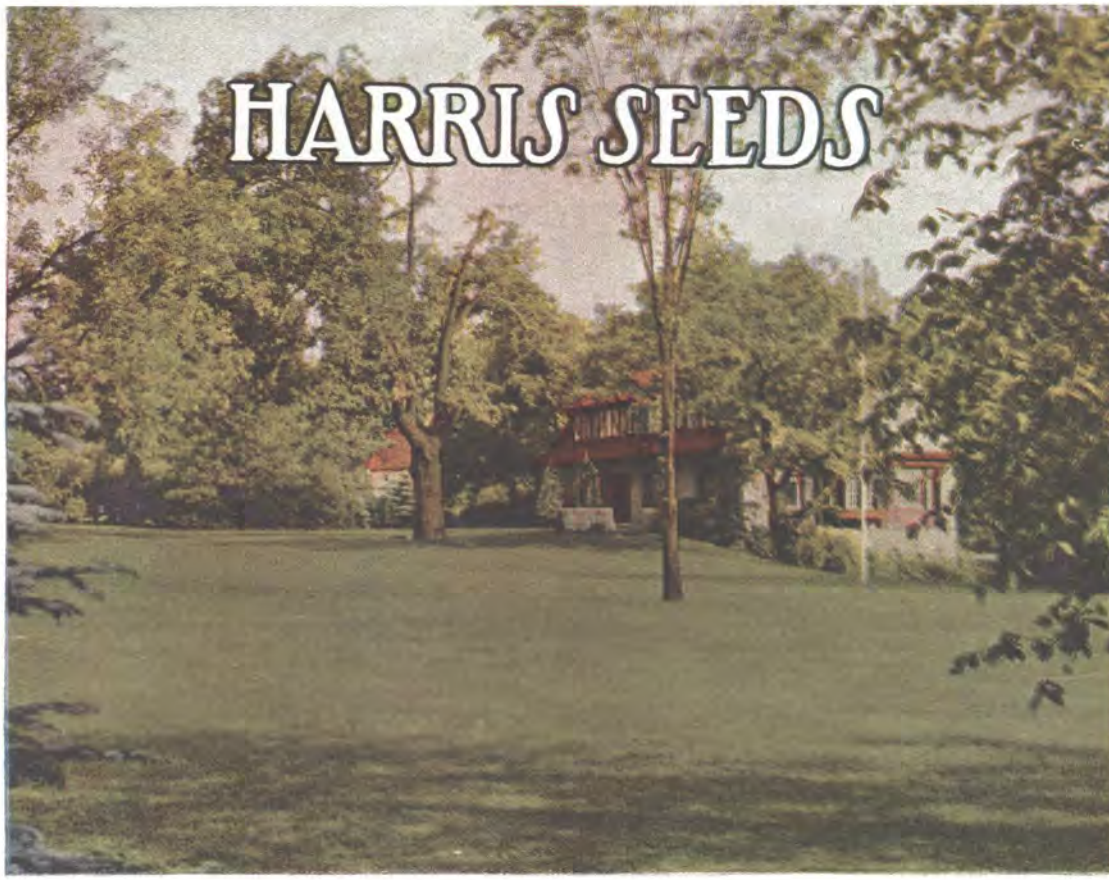
Harris Seeds was located in the Town of Gates, NY in the hamlet of Coldwater. They sold all kinds of seeds including a full line of fruits, vegetables, and flowers.

HARRIS SEEDS 1928



JOSEPH HARRIS
COMPANY INC.
MORETON FARM
COLDWATER N.Y.

PRINCE OF ORANGE HOLLYHOCK
See page 70



Harris Superfine Lawn Grass Seed

THERE are only a very few kinds of grasses suitable for lawns. Seeds of these fine kinds are much more expensive than the seeds of other less desirable grasses, most of which make good hay, but do **not** make good lawns. The cheap seeds will often grow and cover the ground with green, but eventually the lawn will deteriorate and will have to be remade, which is a very expensive and troublesome thing to do.

Harris' Superfine Lawn Grass Seed is composed of the **purest** seeds of the three or four most desirable grasses for lawns. They are all tested for purity and germination before being mixed together and none are used which do not come up to the highest standard of excellence. These grasses will form a thick fine sod that will stand drought well and maintain a thick, soft turf for many years.

Such seed cannot be sold at the low prices charged for the inferior seeds offered by many dealers. If you want **really good** seed we have it, but if you want ordinary "Lawn Grass" seed you can get it at the corner grocery.

The best results are obtained by sowing the seed quite thick—1 lb. or quart to 200 or 300 square feet, but sowing one pound on 400 to 500 square feet will make an excellent lawn although not quite as quickly.

Full directions for making a lawn are contained in a little pamphlet, which will be sent free on request.

Price of Harris' Superfine Lawn Grass Seed.

1 lb. or qt.	enough for 300 to 400 square feet	$ .50
5 lb.	enough for 1500 to 2000 square feet	2.40
10 lb.	enough for 3000 to 4000 square feet	4.50
25 lb.	enough for 6000 to 10 000 square feet	10.00
Each additional pound		.40

We shall be glad to make lowest possible price on lots of 100 lbs. or more. Please write us.

To renew old lawns rake thoroughly, stirring the ground as much as possible without killing the grass. All moss and weeds should be removed as far as possible. Sow half as much grass seed as recommended for seeding a new lawn. After seeding, the lawn should be rolled.

Harris' Superfine Lawn Grass Seed contains White Clover which we consider highly desirable in a lawn, as the roots penetrate deep into the soil and so get water to keep the lawn green during very hot weather. We can furnish the seed without White Clover, if desired, at the same price.

Grass Seed for Shady Lawns

This mixture is composed of the few kinds of grasses that grow best in shady places. These grasses will grow and make a good sod under trees and in the shade of buildings where the common kinds of lawn grass would not do well.

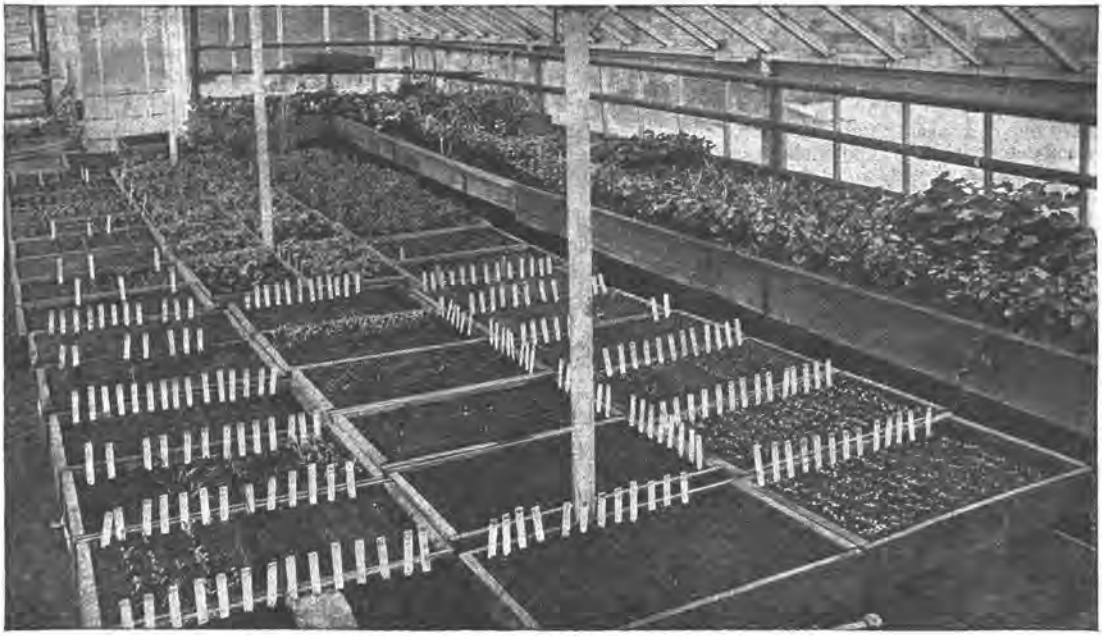
This seed should be sown in the early spring or fall. The ground should be thoroughly stirred up and raked smooth before seeding. Used seed at the same rate as common Lawn grass. See quantities above.

Lawn Grass for Shady Spots. Pound 80c; 5 lbs. $3.75; any greater quantity 70c per lb.

For Seeding Under Trees

There are often places under large deciduous trees and shrubs which the sun cannot reach at any time during the day when the leaves are out. No grass of any kind will grow under such conditions for any length of time. The best thing for such places is to sow some quick growing grasses, either in the autumn when the leaves fall, or in the early spring before the leaves come out. The grass covers the ground and remains green late in the summer. Reseed each year. We can furnish a mixture of grasses suitable for this purpose. Please order by name as follows:

Lawn Grass for Annual Seeding. 1 lb., enough for 500 square feet, 30c; 5 lbs., $1.25; each additional pound, 25c.



A Corner of One of Our Greenhouses where Seeds are Tested.

35 Years of Seed Growing

It is thirty-five years since the writer took the full management of the Harris seed business founded by Joseph Harris. In all that time it has been his constant endeavor to raise better seeds each year. Improvements were first attempted by personally selecting the best plants of tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, melons and many other crops and saving seed from them. In later years this method has been carried further and a regular pedigree is kept of each selected plant so we can tell just what the seed from each particular plant produces. This, of course, applies to what we call "stock seed" or seed from which our regular seed crops are grown.

Results came slowly but surely. Nature cannot be hurried and it took a good many years to establish strains that were distinct improvements, and a lot of work. But it was interesting work and on the whole profitable. It is a satisfaction to know that an increasing number of people each year are using Harris' seeds with satisfaction and profit.

With very able assistants and increased facilities in all departments I feel confident that we can supply better seeds and better service in the future than ever before.

S. M. HARRIS, *Pres. and Gen. Manager.*

Better Vegetables

The writer has felt for some time that something ought to be done to improve the quality of vegetables sold in our markets. Many of them are shipped long distances and arrive in a more or less stale condition. On account of the cost of handling and transportation they have to be sold at prices far above what the grower receives and often for more than they are really worth.

Many people do not know what really good vegetables taste like. Even in our very best hotels good vegetables are rarely served. The result is that canned vegetables are used even when fresh ones are available, because they are nearly as good and much less trouble to prepare.

The very best vegetables can only be obtained from one's own garden where they can be gathered when in just the right stage for maturity and served when fresh. But the man who raises vegetables for market can do a great deal to improve their quality by using the best varieties and taking pains to pick or harvest them at the right time and not after they have become too old. It is often a temptation to let such crops as peas and beans get too large before picking, because they yield more than when young. To put on the market either vegetables or fruit of inferior quality is very poor policy. A person who buys peas that are too old and not fresh, and finds them hard and flavorless does not want any more. While on the other hand if they are young, fresh and delicious more and more will be wanted.

There is almost an unlimited demand for vegetables of high quality that can be delivered to the purchaser in the best condition and of the most desirable variety.

We know from the experience of many gardeners who have tried it that a very profitable business can be established by selling really good vegetables, fruits and flowers direct from the garden to the consumer. The price charged must not be too high and a reputation for having good things must be established by never selling anything that is not of high quality.

Those who have the land can raise their own vegetables and flowers with much satisfaction and pleasure if they have any taste for gardening. It is a most healthful occupation or diversion and yields profitable returns.

Bender's Surprise Muskmelon—Harris' Special Strain

We do not know of any large muskmelon or cantaloupe quite equal to the Bender melon. It has exquisitely fine flavor; it grows to a large size and the melons are very firm and keep for a week after being picked.

The Bender melon ripens medium early. In a favorable season if planted in the open ground the middle of May, the melons will ripen the last of August.

The melons are of oval shape, light green with coarse netting. When ripe the melons turn a golden tint which shows through the netting and gives the fruit a very attractive appearance. The flesh is deep orange colored, very thick, deliciously sweet and of high flavor. The size of the melons averages quite large, many weighing 10 pounds. We have had melons that weighed 16 pounds each.

A valuable point about these melons is that they will keep in good condition five or six days after picking, and actually improve in flavor during that time. The flesh is so firm and thick that the melons remain firm and in good condition much longer than any other large melons of this class. For market and shipping this is an important consideration.

Harris' Special strain of the Bender melon has been bred up on our own farm for ten years, special attention being paid to **quality**—that is, sweetness and high flavor. In this respect as well as good netting and thick flesh, the Harris' strain is much superior to the ordinary strain of this melon.

Pkt. 10c; oz. 30c; ¼ lb. 85c; lb. $2.75; 5 lbs. or more, $2.50 per lb.

Buttercup Sweet Corn—The Sweetest Sweet Corn

Sweeter than Golden Bantam and the ears are larger!

This is the sweetest corn we have ever eaten and it is deliciously succulent and tender.

The kernels are as yellow as June butter. The ears are of good length (8 to 10 inches) and have 8 to 12 rows of large kernels of a rich butter yellow. It is medium early, maturing the same time as Golden Bantam, and is more prolific.

The Buttercup contains more sugar than any variety we have tried. Some people think it is almost too sweet.

For market the Buttercup is a very profitable corn. There is always a good demand for yellow sweet corn, and the large attractive ears of the Buttercup command a premium over other kinds.

We advise all our customers who appreciate good sweet corn to give the "Buttercup" a place in their gardens this season.

Pkt. 10c; ½ lb. 20c; lb. 30c; 2 lbs. 50c; 6 lbs. $1.25; 12 lbs. $2.30; 100 lbs. $17.00.

HARRIS' FLOWER SEEDS

Harris' Crego or Ostrich-Feather Asters **(See page 75)**

Sow Harris' Flower Seeds for Pleasure and Profit

A doctor of national reputation is recommending gardening to many of his patients as a possible cure for some of their ills. Certainly nothing gives greater peace of mind nor is more conducive to a healthy body than growing flowers from seed that can be relied upon to produce beautiful flowers.

Harris' Flower Seeds can be depended upon to give you the most beautiful flowers possible. A number of factors contribute to this. (1) Our seed is subjected to the same tests for germination properties as are the vegetables and only those of a high percentage of germination are sold. (2) Extensive trial grounds are maintained where different strains are grown side by side under the same conditions. Notes are taken on the colors, resistance to insects and disease, character of plant, and other qualities. The best strains are then selected. No flower is listed in our catalog until it has first been in the "trials." (3) More and more of our seed is being grown here on Moreton Farm so that it will be adapted to conditions as adverse as those of North Eastern U. S. (4) The descriptions are accurate, and we try to give such cultural directions, as in our experience, we have found to be best.

We welcome suggestions from our customers as to ways of improving our service, and we take this opportunity to wish all of our friends much happiness and satisfaction from their gardens, planted this year with Harris' Quality Flower Seeds.

Harris' Bargain Collections of Perennial Plants
for Special Uses

For Background Planting

No. 6—Background Assortment—$2.50

We have selected four good tall growing plants which are especially desirable to use for planting at the back of garden or in any other position where tall showy plants are wanted. They are all kinds that grow about 5 feet high and make a splendid showing of bloom without needing as much care as some varieties. Our selection covers a season of bloom from June until November and in four different colors. They can also be used for bouquets.

No. 6—Background Assortment of three plants each of Physostegia virginiana, Delphinium, Moreton Hybrids, Artemisia lactifolia, and Helenium Riverton Gem, for **$2.50** postpaid.

Flowers After Frost

No. 9—Fall Flowering Assortment—$3.50

During late September and October is usually a flowerless period in the hardy garden unless some special plans are made for that season. As winter approaches we wish for a few more flowers in the garden to brighten up some of the dreary fall days after most flowers have been nipped with the frosts.

We have selected for you five very satisfactory varieties for this particular purpose. They are all rather tall growing and include different colors.

No. 9—Fall Flowering Assortment of three plants each, Hardy Chrysanthemums Early Snow, Boltonia latisquama, Salvia azurea, Hardy Aster Climax, Helenium Riverton Gem, for **$3.50** postpaid.

For That Shady Place

No. 10—Shady Spot Assortment—$3.50

There are several good varieties of perennials that will grow better in the shade than in the open sunlight, while some seem to bloom equally well in either location. We have selected six satisfactory kinds of different heights, different seasons of bloom, and including several colors.

No. 10—Shady Spot Assortment of three plants each of Lily of the Valley; Aquilegia, Mixed Colors; Monarda, red; Spiraea palenata; Fox glove, Mixed colors; and Primrose, polyantha, mixed colors for **$3.50** postpaid.

Flowers in Late Summer

No. 5—August Flowering Assortment $3.00

Any one who has grown a large variety of perennials knows how hard it is to find many that will bloom well in August. We have selected the following as outstanding August flowering; and have at the same time kept in mind the demand for a wide range of color for cut flower work.

No. 5—August Flowering Assortment of three plants each of Phlox, Richard Wallace, White with crimson eye; Platycodon, blue; Spiraea Palmata, pink; Veronica spicata, purple; and Monarda, red for **$3.00** postpaid.

Our Fall Catalog
of Dutch Bulbs and Perennial Plants

Tulips, Hyacinths, Narcissus, Crocuses and all other Dutch bulbs in the best varieties for fall planting.

As fall is also a good time to set out hardy perennial plants, our fall catalog offers you a complete assortment of field-grown clumps.

If you wish us to send you a copy this fall, there is a place on back of our order sheet for you to check.

Garden Service

We now have a garden service department for the convenience of our customers. We invite you to let us help you with your garden problems, by submitting plans for advise on arrangement, etc.

For our convenience we ask you to please send us your inquiries in a separate letter from your orders, or if possible, visit our farm.

HARRIS SEEDS

HARRIS SPECIAL
CROSBY'S
EGYPTIAN BEET
A THOROUGHBRED STRAIN
See page 7

HARRIS DOUBLE YIELD PICKLE
See page 11