

YOU CAN ALSO FREEZE THEM FOR WINTER

Candied Flowers Great Way To Preserve Summer

You can make candy out of flowers, according to a Virginia farm woman who revived the ancient Victorian art to start a thriving business selling her candied creations.

Jo Pendergraph, who grows herbs along with her husband Rob, says candying flowers is not a new idea. The colorful confections were popular in Victorian times when flowers were used as gifts on sentimental occasions.

Violets, rose petals, pansies, and many other flowers and herbs can be candied. Following old-fashioned recipes, Pendergraph paints each petal with egg white and then sprinkles it with granulated sugar. Once the sugar has hardened and the flowers have crystallized, she stores them in air-tight containers. It takes about an hour to do a dozen pansies. Edible leaves - such as mint and violet - go a lot faster.

Crystallized flowers keep for months and can be used to decorate cakes or served to surprised guests as an after-dinner treat.

Pendergraph started candying flowers a little over a year ago in an effort to find a

way to produce more income from the family's herb and vegetable business. Area chefs liked the idea and then a buyer from Bloomingdale's in New York City saw the flowers and placed an order. Since then she's been shipping hundreds of candied flowers and herbs to the store for \$45 per hundred pieces.

The Pendergraphs sell their produce directly to local area stores and restaurants. In addition to candied flowers, they sell a vast array of herbs and edible flowers and specialty vegetables such as yellow pear tomatoes. Edible flowers such as blooms from chives, nasturtiums, snapdragons, pansies, and bergamot, which are used to brighten up salads and dinner plates, sell for \$2.50 a dozen. Another popular seller is a blend of salad greens, at \$10 a pound, that consists of endive, arugula, mache, cress and ornamental kale.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jo & Rob Pendergraph, Makintown Herbs, Midlothian, Va. 23113 (ph 804 794-7487).



By pulling one pin per bracket the rain gutter can be turned upside down. "Everything falls out and you can leave them that way till spring," says Wittig.

LET YOU TURN THEM UPSIDE DOWN FOR WINTER

Fold-Down Brackets For Rain Gutters

Once you get a look at these new fold-down brackets for rain gutters you'll wonder why you didn't think of the idea yourself.

The man who invented them, Alfred Wittig of Eau Claire, Wis., says he simply got fed up with the chore of cleaning out rain gutters each spring and fall.

"Once you've got these brackets in place, all you do is pull one pin per bracket to turn them upside down. Everything falls out and you can leave them that way till spring," says Wittig, who makes brackets for any

size vinyl or steel gutter. They fit fascia boards ranging from 4 to 8 3/4 in. high. When turned downward, the brackets hold the gutter up under the eaves where they won't catch snow or provide a spot for ice build-up during winter. The brackets simply mount in place of regular brackets.

They sell for \$9.50 per bracket. For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alfred T. Wittig, 2021 Valmont Ave., Eau Claire, Wis. 54701 (ph 715 834-4053).

New Products Especially For Women And The Farm, Ranch Home.

Wind Chimes For Farmers

"We looked for wind chimes that were made to last and with a tractor or farm animal on them. We couldn't find anything on the market so we decided to build our own," say Jerry and Mary Newton, Anderson, Ala.

The wind chimes consist of a half dozen metal pipes that produce low and high pitched sounds, and a plexiglass ornament in the shape of an animal, plant, tractor, or other machinery that hangs below them.

"Ornaments we offer include 2-WD tractors, 4-WD tractors, antique tractors, pulling tractors, combines, cotton pickers, crop dusters, airplanes, cow, horse, pig, duck, cat, dog, rooster, peace dove, 4-leaf clover, and cotton boll. We'll make ornaments in other shapes on request. The ornaments come in red, white, black, blue, green, yellow, orange, and clear."

Wind chimes sell for \$25 plus shipping. For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry



Wind chimes can be equipped with colorful ornaments in the shape of animals, plants, or machinery.

Newton, Rt. 1, Box 239-A, Anderson, Ala. 35610 (ph 205 247-1535).



The Deans painted two twin beds white and "planted" them over beds of flowers.

Their Flower Beds Are Really "Beds"

"We got the idea two years ago when we saw an old iron bed at an auction," says Mrs. Thomas Dean who together with her husband planted real "flower beds" at the end of their driveway along busy U.S. 50 near Cambridge, Maryland.

The Deans painted two twin beds white and "planted" them over beds of pansies, petunias and roses. There's one bed on

either side of the driveway.

"We've had people stop and ask permission to take their picture by the beds. Some people almost drive off the road when they turn back to look at them," says Mrs. Dean.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dean, Cambridge, Maryland (ph 301 228-6883).