A Geranium Problem

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Daylength Control

Number of flowers *Ace* There was no apparent difference in the number of flowers produced by any of these treatments. Neither the long or the short days had an effect.

Croft This variety also indicated very little effect by either short or long days. The range in variation of flower number was 3.8 to 4.6 less than one flower.

Height *Ace* The special manipulation did show both long and short days would control the height of the lily. To see these effects, we must compare the 9-hour treatments with the 18-hour controls and the 18-hour treatment to the 9-hour controls.

The 9-hour treatment plants were shorter than the 18-hour controls when exposed during the first, second, and third stages, but not the fourth stage. The 18-hour treated plants were taller than the 9-hour controls by 7 inches when exposed during stage 1 and 2 and two inches when exposed during stages 3 and 4.

Croft The 9-hour treated plants were shorter than the 18-hour controls when exposed during stages 1 and 2. The 18-hour treated plants were taller than the 9-hour controls during stage 2 and slightly taller during stage 3.

The effect of the daylength is real as can be seen by comparing the two control treatments. The difference between the 18 and 9-hour control plants for Ace was 10.4 inches, and 7.6 inches for Croft. These same differ-
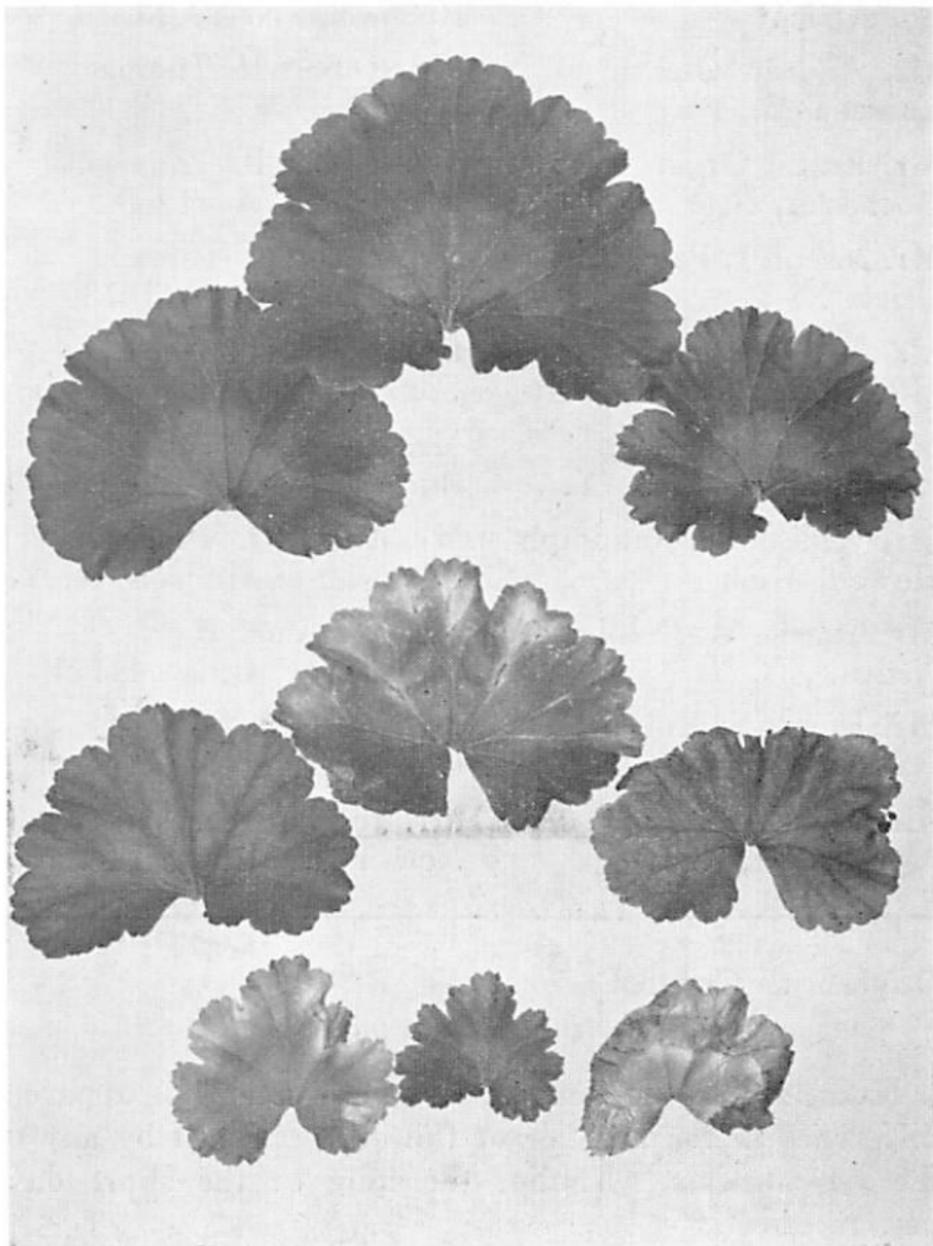
Figure 2. Typical Leaf Symptoms—Leaves on the bottom were from plants in the original soil mix and not fertilized. Leaves in the center were from plants in the original soil mix and fertilized every 7 days. The large dark leaves on the top were from the plants repotted in a new soil mix and fertilized every 7 days.

We are not making any recommendations as to a particular soil mixture you can use or a particular fertilizing program to follow. Rather we are indicating each grower should be extremely careful about the type of soil mixes he uses and the fertilizer programs he follows, for not all problems can be blamed on diseases, even when it looks like a disease.