

Member of the Alpine Garden Society and Royal Horticultural Society

STATION  
AVENMORE,  
E.M.S. & L.N.E.R.  
TEL. KINORATH DC.

**JACK DRAKE,**  
INSHRIACH ALPINE PLANT NURSERY,  
AVENMORE, INVERNESS-SHIRE.

SPECIALITIES:  
GENTIANA,  
SECUNDOPSIS,  
PRIBULAS.

207  
J. Archibald, Jnr., Esq.,  
27 Woodside Gardens,  
MUSSELBURGH.

16th February, 1960.

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter of February 8th enclosing your long article on plants at Inshriach. As I have only just returned from my holiday, I have not been able to give a great deal of time to the study of your article but there are one or two points which I think need clearing up, as follows:-

Page 1. You mention *Geranium Sanguineum* "compact form from the Western Isles of Scotland with their large satin-pink apple-blossoms". So far as I know, none of the Western Isles forms have satin-pink flowers but all are magenta or magenta-crimson. The pink form we have here was purely a seedling from the *Lancastriense* form.

Page 4. *Tricyrtis latifolia* should, I think, be *Tricyrtis macrantha*. From the various descriptions that I can find, our plant is nearer *Macrantha* and I do not think anyone will argue with you if you call it *Macrantha*.

Page 5. *Sedum "pleuricaule"* should read *Sedum pluricaule*. As you may remember, there has been a lot of argument about this plant and it is now considered to be a form of *Sedum ewersii*. I feel it is quite a distinct plant and much superior and so shall continue to list it in the name of *Sedum pluricaule* in my catalogue. I do not know whether you want to explain this in your article. Perhaps it is better to leave it alone.

Page 10. *Polygonum vacciniifolium*. You mention that the form we grow at Inshriach is considered superior to the one in general cultivation. This is not the case as, what was thought to be *vacciniifolium* turned out to be *Affine* and this sentence should therefore be deleted.

I am afraid that we have no black and white photographs to offer you but we do have the following coloured ones, all 35 mm. except one - *Gentiana 'Highlands'* - which is 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  x 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Those available are:-

Lewisid/

Lewisia cotyledon hybrids.  
Calceolaria tenella.  
Sedum pluricaule.  
Arnebia echioides.  
Celsia acaulis hybrid.  
Gentiana 'Kingfisher'.  
Codonopsis convolvulacea.  
Podophyllum emodi - in seed.

The condition we would make if any of these photographs are accepted is that we can have full use of the blocks at any time and that permission must be given by us if ever they are required for further reproduction in the future.

With regard to your coming up for three weeks in the spring, this will be quite in order on the same terms as before. Regarding your cooking, I must leave that entirely to you to arrange. It is really far too early in the year but, nevertheless, we will risk it and hope that the weather will be favourable enough for you to do some spring planting, etc.

As we are under deep snow, I cannot for the moment tell you whether we have a plant of *Silene hookeri* to spare. If there is one, you can certainly have it and you will be able to choose your own when you come up in March.

Thank you for your enquiries about my back. Although not serious, I fear it will hamper me a great deal in the Nursery in the future and, if I should be coming to Edinburgh myself for the S.R.G.C. Show, I should be only too glad to have your assistance in putting up the exhibit and taking it down at the end of the Show and will let you know about that nearer the time.

Yours sincerely,

Jack D. Haller