

Ground Covers Unlimited 2017



Ideas... Random thoughts or purposeful thinking?

Have you had any 100W light bulb moments lately? Were you trying to solve an everyday problem or was it big-picture thinking? What do you do when you get an idea? Do you canvas family, friends and co-workers for their opinions or do you keep it to yourself because you ultimately decide it probably wouldn't work? So many possibilities yet so many pitfalls for such a simple topic.

But wait a minute, everything around us was the product of an idea that someone had once, going as far back as fire to cook our meals. So random thoughts can become practical meaningful solutions to problems. There is just one little detail that shouldn't be forgotten and it's the gauntlet of negativity which every idea must endure, first in our own minds and then from the mouths and pen strokes of others. As you read this catalogue, some of the reasons why ideas don't come to be are presented. Taken all together, it would seem that discouraging an idea is much easier than seeing it come to fruition.

As business owners, what do you do? Every one of the negative comments may actually be a legitimate response and not every idea can or will have a future in the context of everyday operations. But wouldn't it be more beneficial to respond with phrases such as "why don't we think about it like this..." or "how do you think it could be done"? Even if after thorough consideration and fact-checking it becomes apparent that the idea cannot be used, the advocate is comforted by having been taken seriously. And the ideas will keep coming until one day one light bulb will be a game changer.

I would like to think we have pursued the second approach and have recognized the strengths and creativity of staff over the years, as well as customers and industry contacts. Our interactions with people who share this philosophy make for some interesting conversations, not all of which concern the bottom line. Ideas do survive the gauntlet of doubt and our lives are richer for it.

"I have an idea ..."



"A word of caution ..."

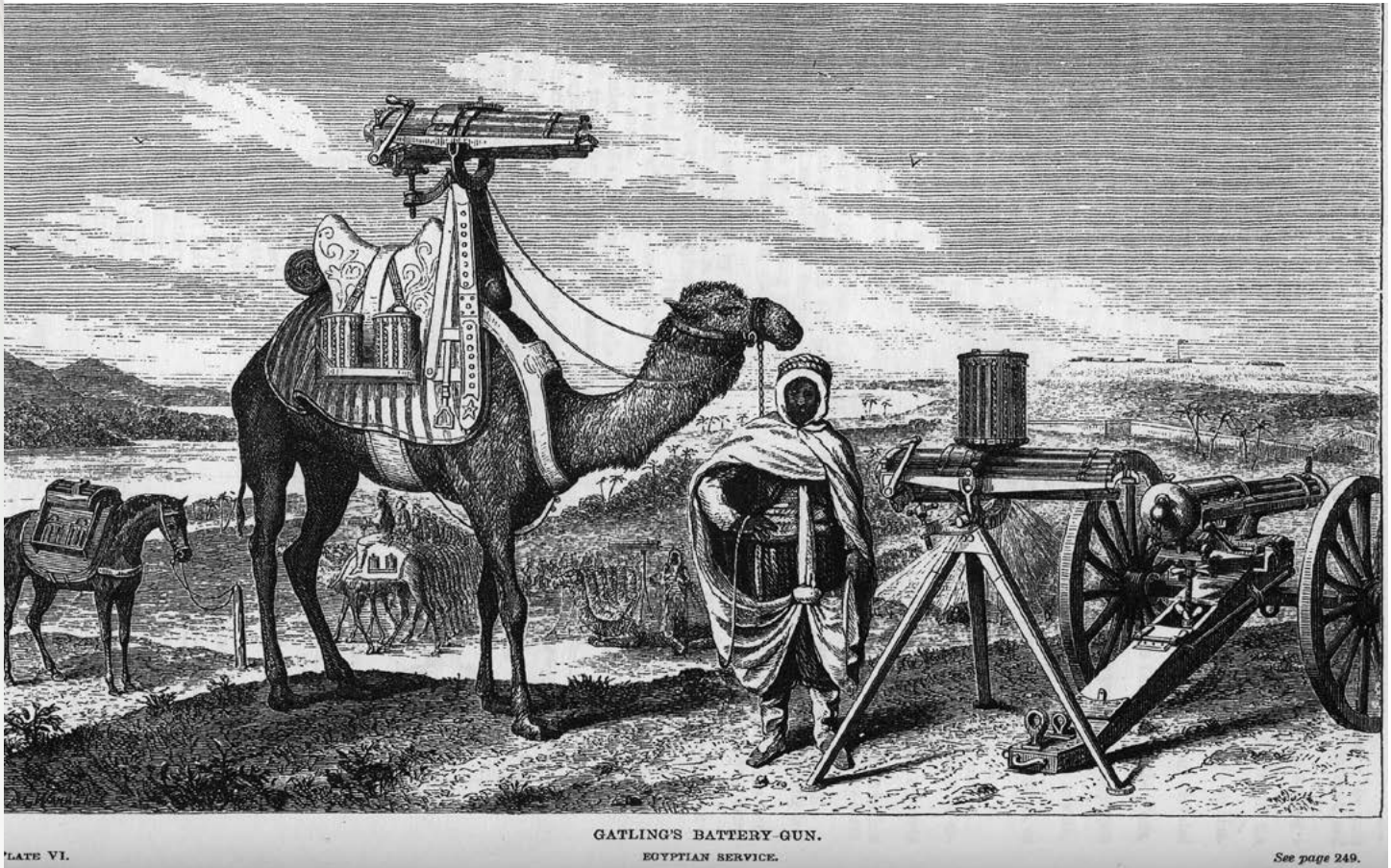


"A little too radical ..."



So for 2017, why not entertain some new ideas with a fair, open-minded, visionary point of view and see where it takes you. Don't expect instant results because that probably isn't realistic, but if that happens it's a bonus. Instead, aim for the long-term team benefit, because once encouraged, a steady flow of ideas becomes the habit. Now that seems like a good idea (unless you are the camel).

Sincerely, Ted Spearing



Illustrated plate VI, page 248 from: Knight, E. H. (2005). *Knight's American Mechanical Dictionary*. Volume 1. Almonte: Algrove Publishing Ltd. (Original work 1874, New York: J.B. Ford and Company).

"I like it myself but ..."



"We tried something like that once ..."



"Let me play devil's advocate..."



An idea is a fragile thing. Turning it off is much easier than keeping it lit.



Good idea! Increasing the Availability of Native Plants

A growing movement of late—thanks to conscientious home gardeners, landscape designers, and public gardens—is using a greater diversity of native plants that function just as good as ornamentals. We believe in a diversity of choice between these two camps for different situations. We are pleased to offer new species when the quality and quantity meets industry expectations (and our own).

NEW! Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*) is one of Ontario's more recognizable ferns thanks to its coarse leaf structure and bright yellow foliage at the first hint of frost. It grows naturally on the outskirts of fens and swamps and can even tolerate full sun where soils are consistently damp. We have seen it called for in rain gardens, bioswales, and low, semi-shaded areas of the garden or near water features. As most ferns do, it benefits from acidic organic matter if not present and adequate watering during establishment. Once settled, it will form a dense colony in several years, but shallow roots and moisture limit its spread. Combines well with other large massing perennials and ferns, and many native shrubs.



NEW! Canada anemone (*Anemone canadensis*) is a tough native ground cover effective for large naturalized areas and woodland edges. We have seen it massed in concrete planter beds downtown Peterborough, trampled during street festivals, yet coming back every season. It does spread quickly by underground rhizomes, and can overtake more timid perennials, but the flourish of bright white flowers and palmate leaves is stunning in late spring. Grows best on moist, rich soils in full sun or part-shade. Combines well with grasses and large shrubs, in wildflower meadows, on shorelines and mid-slope on a bioswale. Provides pollen for bees; deer-resistant.





Good idea! Designing an Electric Chair for Bad Bugs

When it comes to IPM, sometimes you have to get creative! Anyone who likes to tinker would've chuckled at our diabolical idea of electrocuting grubs in containers. Jason Deveau (OMAFRA) who has helped us with troubleshooting nematode application and sprayers in previous experiments, thought it would be a fun experiment too.

It was a well designed plot but even Deveau couldn't believe 15 minutes of high voltage had absolutely no effect on them. We also had to concede to the safety of our staff using any contraption to shock wet containers.

So back to the drawing board and our regular biological control program with nematodes and Met52 beneficial fungus. Toads and shrews do a pretty good job for us too. So perhaps we should give them a raise?

- Fence Energizer^①
- Tester (Voltage drop = current increase)^②
- Trial run:

- For trial run, some small tray filled w/ damp soil + grub in the middle.
- Variables:
 - Distance b/t wires.
 - Soil EC (kept damp, should be ok)
 - Duration
 - low voltage + high current should be a function of wire distance.
 - Temperature (test soil temp. during trials.)
 - Grub dies, or is unable to feed

- If grub is affected, proceed to full testing.
 - Skewer pots on 3" nails. (4 nails).
 - Nails are equidistant from each other & sides of pots.
 - Nails (+) on bottom, sandwiched, Nails (-) on top.
 - Good one side plywood.
 - Insulated 18 gauge wire.

- Duration may affect plant health. Several reps, monitor grub activity + plant health over time.
- Use Controls (no current + no grubs)

Unlimited Ground Covers

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Fax 1-705-277-9213
Email groundcoversunlimited@gmail.com

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Pick-up is welcome during business hours. Delivery and freight will be quoted prior to shipping.

Custom Coloured Tags

Cost of colour tags Add \$0.15/pot

Credits / Refunds for Reusable Materials

Available upon return of our pots and trays; must be in good condition.

Prices

HST Reg. No. R137487849. Prices effective Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2017 and do not include tags, boxing, taxes or delivery. Discounts apply to single orders and are not cumulative.

Spacing Guide

**FOR LANDSCAPE COVERAGE
IN APPROX. TWO SEASONS**

Polite Spreaders

12" / 30 cm O.C.

Using 4" / 10 cm pots

Ajuga	Lily of the Valley
Bunchberry	Sedum
Ferns	Sweet Woodruff
Dwarf Geranium	Thyme
Ginger	Vinca (cultivars)
Goutweed	Viola
Lamium	Wintergreen



Wide Spreaders

12-16" / 30-40 cm O.C.

Using 4" / 10 cm pots

* AVAILABLE
IN 1 GALLON



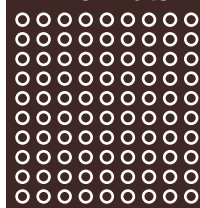
Canada Anemone	English Ivy*
Bearberry*	Lysimachia
Bigroot Geranium*	Pachysandra
Daylilies*	Vinca (species)
Euonymus*	

18-24"
45-60 cm
O.C.

Instant Gratification 1 Gallon

Bearberry	Euonymus
Bigroot Geranium	English Ivy
Daylilies	Hostas

Liner Flats



6-8" O.C. or
15-20 cm

Pachysandra
Vinca (species)

8-10" O.C. or
20-25 cm

Ajuga
Euonymus
English Ivy



2017 Fine print. Apologies to those who need glasses.

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Planting Guide # = number of species within group with that characteristic		Ajuga	Anemone	Bearberry	Bunchberry	Daylilies	Euonymus	Ferns	Geranium	Ginger	Hosta	English Ivy	Lamium	Lily of the Valley	Lysimachia	Pachysandra	Sedum	Sweet Woodruff	Thyme	Vinca	Viola	Wintergreen
Moisture	Dry			+		+	+		+			+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	
	Mesic	+			+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+	+
	Moist	+	+		+	+		+		+	+			+	+						+	+
	Wet to Bog		+		+			3							+							
Light	Full Sun	+	+	+		+	+		+			+					+		+	+	+	
	Part Shade	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+	+
	Heavy Shade				+			+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	+	+
Soil Type	Sandy	+	+	+	+	+			+	+	+	+	+				+	+	+	+	+	+
	Loam	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Clay	+	+			+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+	
	Rocky			+		+		2	+	+							+		+			
	Acidic		+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+		+	+	+
	Neutral	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Alkaline	+	+			+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	
Specific Use	Green Roof			+		+	+		+			+			+		+		+	+	+	
	Xeriscaping			+					+				+				+	+	+		+	
	Naturalizing		+	+	+			+	+	+	+										+	+
	Urban Sites	+	+			+	+		+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Water Sides	+	+		+	+		+		+	+			+	+						+	
	Pollinators	+	+	+	+				+	+			+	+		+	+	+	+		+	+
	Steppable		+												+			+	+		+	
	Cascade			+								+			+					+		
	Evergreen			+	+		+	2	+			+				+			+	+		+

Let's share some ideas.

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