

## NEW PLANT FORUM

Compiled and Moderated by Jack Alexander

### Presenters:

**Jim Ault**, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Illinois 60022 U.S.A.

*Rhus copallina* var. *latifolia* 'Morton', Prairie Flame™ shining sumac  
*Acer miyabei* 'Morton', State Street® Miyabe maple

**Bill Barnes**, Lorax Farms, 2319 Evergreen Ave., Warrington, Pennsylvania 18976 U.S.A.

*Hibiscus* 'Lohengrin'

*Hibiscus* 'Tosca'

*Ilex* 'Clusterberry'

**Alan Jones**, Manor view Farm, Monkton, Maryland 21111 U.S.A.

*Caryopteris* × *clandonensis* 'First Choice' PPAF

*Lagerstroemia* 'Chickasaw'

*Lagerstroemia* 'Pocomoke'

**Tim McGinty**, The Conard-Pyle Co., 372 Rosehill Road, West Grove, Pennsylvania 19390 U.S.A.

*Ilex* 'Centennial Girl'

*Rhododendron* 'Purple Passion' Highland™ rhododendron PP 9981

*Rosa* 'Knockout' PPAF, Canadian PBRAF

**Clement Paquette**, Pepinieri Mont-Yamaska, St-Paul d'Abbotsford, Quebec, Canada

*Spiraea japonica* Golden Elf™ PPAF

**Tom Pinney Jr.**, Evergreen Nursery Co., Inc., 5027 County TT, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin 54235-8899

*Betula papyrifera* 'Renci', Renaissance Reflections™ paper birch

*Betula papyrifera* 'Cenci', Renaissance Compact™ paper birch

*Betula papyrifera* 'Uenci', Renaissance Upright™ paper birch

*Betula papyrifera* 'Oenci', Renaissance Oasis™ paper birch

**Michael Yanny**, Johnson's Nursery, Inc., W180 N6275 Marcy Road, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

*Malus toringo* subsp. *sargentii* 'Select A' Firebird™ crabapple PPAF

### PLANTS:

***Acer miyabei* 'Morton', State Street® Miyabe maple.** A clonal selection of a little-known Asian species, this deciduous shade tree has an excellent branching character, uniform broad-pyramidal habit, superior heat/drought tolerance, clean

dark green foliage, and good yellow fall color. Of medium growth, it will eventually reach 60 ft in height with a 50-ft spread at maturity. State Street<sup>®</sup> Miyabe maple is a more cold-hardy alternative to *A. campestre* (hedge maple) in northern growing conditions, and a more heat/drought-resistant alternative to *A. platanoides* (Norway maple) further south. Adapts to a broad range of soil types and site conditions. Very tolerant of salt and pollution. Its attractiveness, excellent adaptability, and stress tolerance provides for a broad range of landscape applications in commercial, residential, and urban sites. Easily transplanted either B&B or from a container. Hardy to at least USDA Zone 4. Selected from the collections of The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois. The parent tree was accessioned and planted in 1929, and has thrived and developed into a magnificent specimen. A Chicagoland Grows Plant Introduction Program selection.

### **RENAISSANCE (SERIES) PAPER BIRCH**

- Highly resistant to bronze birch borer.
- 30 years of hybridization, testing, and selection.
- Testing done in Wisconsin and Ohio.

#### ***Betula papyrifera* 'Renci', Renaissance Reflections<sup>™</sup> paper birch**

- Appears to have the normal growth habit of species.
- Nonexfoliating clean white bark.
- Fall color yellow.
- Available Spring 2000 in 3.5-inch square pot.

#### ***Betula papyrifera* 'Cenci', Renaissance Compact<sup>™</sup> paper birch**

- Tight compact pyramid form.
- Exfoliating sheets of clean white bark.
- Semiglossy rich green foliage.
- Fall color yellow.
- Available spring 2001 in 3.5-inch square pot.

#### ***Betula papyrifera* 'Uenci', Renaissance Upright<sup>™</sup> paper birch**

- Narrow pyramid with strong central leader.
- Semi-exfoliating clean white bark exposing cinnamon under layer.
- Semiglossy green foliage.
- Available for Spring 2001 in 3.5-inch square pot (limited quantity may be available for Spring 2000).

#### ***Betula papyrifera* 'Oenci', Renaissance Oasis<sup>™</sup> paper birch**

- Appears to have normal growth habit of species.
- Retains good green foliage during drought periods.
- Nonexfoliating clean white bark.
- Yellow fall color.
- Available for spring 2001 in 3.5-inch square pot.

#### ***Caryopteris ×clandonensis* 'First Choice' PPAF**

A new compact form of *Caryopteris* from English breeder Peter Catt of Lis Forest Nursery. The inky-blue buds open to large rich cobalt-blue flowers in profusion on erect stems. Rounded habit 3 ft × 3 ft, 'First Choice' requires less pruning than other caryopteris on the market and does not have the floppy habit most cultivars exhibit. Hardy to Zone 5.



***Hibiscus* 'Tosca' and *H. Lohengrin*'.** These are sister seedlings of a hybrid between *H. syriacus* and *H. paramutabilis*. Both plants are seedless and offer continuous bloom throughout the summer. Easily propagated from softwood cuttings. Hardy to Zone 5.

***Ilex* 'Centennial Girl'**

- A naturally pyramidal holly from Kathleen Meserve.
- Hardy from Zones 5 to 8.
- At maturity 15 ft tall and 6 ft wide.
- Deep green satin foliage, bright red berries that persist well into spring.
- Propagates very well from cuttings.
- Makes up quickly in production and requires very little shearing.

***Ilex* 'Clusterberry'**. This *Ilex* is a complex hybrid that was released by the U.S. National Arboretum about 15 years ago. Surprisingly it has not caught on with the horticulture industry but it should. It is a very compact plant with thick, heavy, glossy dark green leaves. Its name 'Clusterberry' comes from the manner in which the bright red fruit forms in small clusters in the same manner as cherry tomatoes. It can be propagated via cuttings in mid fall or in winter. It is a little harder to propagate than some other *Ilex* which might explain its limited distribution. Hardy to Zone 6 and possibly Zone 5. It is very drought tolerant and seems immune to most pests.

***Lagerstroemia* 'Chickasaw'**. This introduction from the National Arboretum is the first true miniature crapemyrtle growing 2 ft × 2½ ft after 7 years. A small, densely branched, compact plant with foliage that is glossy dark green with maroon new growth. The flowers are lavender to pinkish-lavender from midsummer to frost. 'Chickasaw' is highly tolerant to powdery mildew. Reliably top hardy to Zone 7, root hardy to Zone 6.

***Lagerstroemia* 'Pocomoke'**. This introduction from the National Arboretum is in the miniature hybrid series. It is similar to *L. 'Chickasaw'* but has large, deep rose-pink flowers.

***Malus toringo* subsp. *sargentii* 'Select A' Firebird™ crabapple PPAF**

*Malus toringo* subsp. *sargentii* 'Select A' Firebird™ crabapple PPAF originated from open-pollinated seed collected in 1980 by Michael Yanny at Johnson's Nursery, Inc., Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. It was selected from a block of about 300 seedling plants.

'Select A' showed superior fruiting qualities early on in the selection process. It has small, red crabapples slightly less than ½ inches in diameter. Unlike most *M. sargentii* selections which have small, red fruits that quickly soften in the autumn after a few hard frosts and are taken by birds, 'Select A' fruits remain hard and colorful late into the winter. Its ornamental fruit quality and persistence is better or equal to that of *Malus* 'Donald Wyman' and approaching but not equal to *Malus* 'Red Jewel', in Wisconsin.

'Select A' is a small-scale plant similar to its parent *M. sargentii*, though a more compact version. It grows more upright than the species when young eventually spreading out to 8 ft wide by 5 ft tall after about 18 years.

'Select A' shows much more of a tendency towards annual flowering and fruiting than its parent. Red flower buds open to sweet smelling 1-inch diameter, snow-white flowers at the time *Viburnum carlesii* is in full bloom.

It has excellent resistance to apple scab disease. Fireblight has not infected it.

'Select A' is a patented plant, requiring licensing. Growers interested in becoming licensed should contact: Michael Yanny, Plant Propagator at Johnson's Nursery, W180 N6275 Marcy Road, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051.

***Rhododendron* 'Purple Passion' Highland™ rhododendron PP 9981**

- The first in a ruggedly hardy series of large-leaved evergreen rhododendrons.
- Created and selected by Robert Blough on a wind-swept slope in western Pennsylvania.
- The original plant has survived -29°F without any leaf burn, bud kill, or other die back.
- It is one of the deepest purple rhododendrons on the market.
- Hardy to Zones 4 to 7. Mature height 6 ft × 4 ft wide.
- Maintains foliage to the base of the plant in container culture.
- Very heavy flower set. We have counted as many as 45 buds on a 3-gal plant.

***Rhus copallina* var. *latifolia* 'Morton', Prairie Flame™ shining sumac.** A clonal selection of a native plant, this deciduous, multistemmed shrub has a dwarf compact habit, clean dark green glossy foliage, attractive flowers, and a brilliant red-orange fall color. A dioecious species, this male clone produces attractive greenish-yellow flowers in late July to early August, when few other shrubs are in bloom. No fruit are produced. The plant matures at 4 ft to 6 ft in height and spreads laterally from root suckers, eventually forming a broad dense colony. Useful for naturalizing/colonizing on open slopes, road cuts, and other exposed areas; well adapted to harsh, dry habitats with nutrient-poor but well drained soils. In the formal landscape, excellent as an accent plant with evergreens, or as a companion to other shrubs or perennials. Full sun for optimal growth and fall color. Best planted from a container. Hardy to at least U.S.D.A. Zone 5a. The plant was selected from the collections of The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois, but originated from seed collected in the Iroquois County, Illinois, Conservation Area. A Chicagoland Grows Plant Introduction Program selection.

***Rosa* 'Knockout' PPAF, Canadian PBRAF**

- 2000 AARS winner. Developed by William Radler, a rosarian formerly with the Bournier Botanical Garden.
- Thrives from Manitoba to Texas.
- It is a blooming machine, producing a profusion of cherry-red blossoms. The plant is self cleaning.
- Three-foot-tall mounding habit.
- Drought tolerant once established.
- Mite resistant and not preferred by Japanese beetles.
- It's going to set the standard in blackspot resistance; it doesn't get it.
- A good production plant. It does best on its own roots.

***Spiraea japonica* Golden Elf™ PPAF.** A new and unique golden spiraea that grows 6 to 8 inches tall and spreads 18 to 24 inches. The rich golden leaves provide a carpet of color all summer long. The flowers are insignificant. Requires full sun to maintain gold color. It has not shown any signs of summer leaf burn even in the hot Georgia summers. The rich golden leaves provide a carpet of color all summer. Hardy to Zone 4. An introduction from Mont-Yamaska Nursery, Quebec, Canada.