

New Plant Forum®

Complied and Moderated by Jack Alexander

PRESENTERS:

John H. Alexander III

The Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain MA 02130 USA
Email: jalexand@oeb.harvard.edu

Syringa 'Purple Haze'

H. William Barnes

Lorax Farms, 2319 Evergreen Ave., Warrington, Pennsylvania 18976 U.S.A.
Email: loraxfarms@verizon.net

Camellia japonica 'Beatrix Hoyt'
Camellia japonica 'Margaret Radcliff'
Cercis glabra
Helianthus 'Capenoch Star'

Tim Brotzman

Brotzman Nursery, 6899 Chapel Road Madison, Ohio 44057 U.S.A.
Email: brotzmannrny@ncweb.com

Buxus sinica var. *insularis* Wee Willie™ Korean boxwood

Jeremy Deppe

Spring Meadow Nursery, Inc., 12601 120th Ave., Grand Haven, Michigan 49417 U.S.A.
Email: tim@springmeadownursery.com

Berberis thunbergii 'Maria' pp#18,082, Gold Pillar Japanese barberry.
Berberis thunbergii 'Talago' ppaf, Sunjoy™ Gold Beret Japanese barberry.
Hibiscus. syriacus 'Notwood3' ppaf, cbraf Blue Chiffon™ rose of Sharon.
Hydrangea macrophylla 'Lynn' ppaf, Let's Dance™ Starlight hydrangea.
Hydrangea macrophylla 'Robert' ppaf, Let's Dance™ Moonlight hydrangea
Weigela florida 'Carlton' ppaf, cbraf, Ghost™ weigela.

Yvette Forget

Les Plantons A et P Inc., 1054 Rang 1 Ouest, Ste-Christine, Quebec J0H 1H0 Canada
Email: plantonsaetp@sympatico.ca

Buxus sempervirens 'Mont Bruno'

Charles E. Tubesing

The Holden Arboretum, 9500 Sperry Road, Kirtland, Ohio 44094-5172 U.S.A.
Email: tubesing@holdenarb.org

Magnolia fraseri, mountain magnolia

***Berberis thunbergii* 'Maria' pp#18,082, Gold Pillar Japanese barberry**

Similar in shape to Helmond Pillar, but with bright golden foliage and red new growth. Great garden architecture. Bright orange-red autumn foliage is stunning. Proven to be burn resistant in side by side tests with other yellow leaved barberry. Certified Rust resistant. Size: 3–4 ft. USDA Zone 4. Breeder: Lucjan Kurowski of Poland.

***Berberis thunbergii* 'Talago' ppaf, Sunjoy™ Gold Beret Japanese barberry**

A unique dwarf, low mounding gold barberry with attractive red new growth and red fall color. Proven to be burn resistant in side by side tests with other yellow leaved barberry. Certified rust resistant. Size: 6–12 inches. Hardiness: USDA Zone 4. Breeder: Stan Talago.

***Buxus sempervirens* 'Mont Bruno'**

Foliage:	Dark green, very small leaves, juvenile foliage it light green in spring;
Hardiness:	Zone 4 (Canadian).
Insects:	Repulses insects, as any other boxwood.
Diseases:	It has never shown sensitivity to diseases.
Height / width:	At the age of 8 years old is approximately 5 inches by 5 inches (13 cm × 13 cm). Maximal height of 65 cm at 35 years old.
Exposure:	From sun to shade.
Winter protection:	None, no winter burning tips.
Care / Economic:	Pruning once a year, maybe twice if a long summer.
Quality:	Very economic on maintenance in landscaping.
Uses:	Isolated, small rock garden, trough, low edge, mosaics.
Flyers:	Available bilingual color process.
Available at:	Les Plantons A et P Inc. c/o Yvette Forget 514.983.5075.
Age of plants:	Actually available plants 2 to 4 years old.
Presentation:	Individual pot or in triple already planted in one pot for edge purpose.
Breeder's rights:	COPF and in the process for European breeders Rights.
License:	License to be obtained from the breeder.

***Buxus sinica* var. *insularis* Wee Willie™ Korean boxwood**

This boxwood is a unique and distinct cultivar originated as a branch sport on the variety in 1990. The cultivar is distinguished by its decussate leaf arrangement, with successive pairs of leaves rotated 90 degrees on the stem axis from the previous pair. In this arrangement, its foliage resembles that of box-leave hebe, *Hebe buxifolia*, but we know of no other boxwood that displays this orderly leaf arrangement. Combined with the vertical orientation of the stems, the leaf arrangement gives a unique and attractive texture to this shrub.

Wee Willie™ boxwood is a dense-growing semi-dwarf broad-leaved evergreen with emerald green leaves, retaining this color through winter. The estimated ultimate height and spread are 2 ft by 2 ft. Wee Willie™ Korean boxwood is hardy

in U.S.D.A. hardiness Zone 5; probable hardiness is Zone 4. It has withstood minimum temperature of -20 °F without injury.

***Camellia japonica* 'Margaret Radcliff'**

'Margaret Radcliff' was developed sometime during the late 1940s to the early 1950s. The records are inexact and the precise breeder and origin is not generally known. For years this plant has been found in around Mobile, Alabama, and in California but not elsewhere. It is a sleeper in the classic sense of the word. On a plant collecting trip to the Mobile area I acquired it from Bobby Green, a well known *Camellia* grower just outside of Mobile. He suggested that it was quite hardy and ought to be tested further north. After 2 years in the ground, the plant has proved its merits and it is at least hardy to Zone 6. It has completely hardy flower buds and will bloom in the spring in the Philadelphia area in April. It has a semi-double flower, about 2 to 2-1/2 inches across that is white to pale pink, and bright yellow stamens. As is typical of other *C. japonica* that are cold hardy it should be grown in a protected environment, in acid soil and mulched heavily in fall. Propagation as with other *C. japonica* is best in November with bottom heat.

***Camellia japonica* 'Beatrix Hoyt'**

'Beatrix Hoyt' came from the same breeding program as *C. japonica* 'Margaret Radcliff'. It is wrapped in the same source enigma and it too is offered by Bobby Green, outside of Mobile, Alabama. *Camellia japonica* 'Beatrix Hoyt' is also cold hardy to Zone 6 and has a semi-double flower about 1 to 1-1/2 inches across. It has a deep pink flower and is quite refined. Stamens are not particularly visible on 'Beatrix Hoyt'. It shares the same cultural requirements as *C. japonica* 'Margaret Radcliff'.

Cercis glabra

Cercis glabra is not well known in the U.S.A., although there are a couple of fine plants at the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia. It is a large *Cercis* and rivals its U.S.A. counter part, *C. canadensis* for form and color. It is a robust plant and blooms prolifically with many other *Cercis* in the Philadelphia area. In many respects it is very similar to *C. canadensis* but has much rougher bark. Being from Asia it does not seem prone to the canker problems that afflict *C. canadensis*. Its adaptability in the landscape is good and occupies the same niche as *C. canadensis*. It is easily grown from seed and often shows up in batches of *C. chinensis* seedlings as an interloper. However, due to its fast rate of growth and more tree-like stature it is easily discerned.

***Helianthus* 'Capenoch Star'**

'Capenoch Star' is a hybrid of *Helianthus annuus* × *H. decapetalus*. It is adaptable to full sun and light shade situations, but seems to be a better bloomer in full sun. Flowers are bright yellow and are about 2 inches across. It seems drought tolerant once established and is unaffected by most pest and insects. The leaves are rough and are like sandpaper and are not bothered by Japanese beetle, a rather prominent insect pest during the summer months. The plant gets to be about 3 ft high and produces a multitude of flowers in late August into September. Propagation is by soft cuttings taken soon after breaking bud in early spring.

***Hibiscus syriacus* 'Notwood3' ppaf, cbraf Blue Chiffon™ rose Sharon**

The Chiffon series just got more exciting with the addition of this selection with rich blue flowers. It has the same great Chiffon growth and lacy blooms. Large,

single blue flowers adorned with a lacy center to create an anemone-like bloom. Bold yet delicate Blue Chiffon™ rose Sharon is a star in the garden from July through September.

This is the strongest growing blue cultivar. Each stem is packed with numerous buds giving it superb flower power. Hybridized by Dr. Roderick Woods of England.

***Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Robert' ppaf, Let's Dance™ Moonlight hydrangea**

The Let's Dance™ hydrangea series represents the next generation of reblooming hydrangea. Don't settle for dull drab *Hydrangea* flowers; this series kicks up the quality with vivid flower coloration and attractive foliage. The Let's Dance™ hydrangea series blooms on both new wood and old delivering seasons of flowers and lots of wow. Makes you want to dance.

Moonlight™ hydrangea is strong rebloomer with large, rich pink (or blue depending upon pH) mop-head flowers. Strong stems and beautiful foliage with good bronze red fall color.

U.S.D.A. Zone 5. Size: 3–5 ft. Breeder: Tim Wood, Spring Meadow Nursery.

***Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Lynn' ppaf, Let's Dance™ Starlight hydrangea**

Let's Dance™ Starlight™ hydrangea is the first ever new-wood blooming lace-cape. It's hardy, dependable, and colorful. The massive blooms are vivid pink (or blue) with strong stems.

Magnolia fraseri

Magnolia fraseri, mountain magnolia, is not a new plant, but rather an unappreciated native tree that should be planted more. *Magnolia fraseri* is a 30- to 60-ft tree native to the Cumberland Mountains of southeast Kentucky, the Appalachian Mountains of West Virginia, eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina, and the Blue Ridge Mountains of South Carolina and Georgia. This is truly a mountain tree, occurring at elevations from 500 to 1700 m (1600 to 5600 ft). Its leaves, up to 12 inches in length on mature trees, are often much larger on young, vigorous specimens. The leaf blade of mountain magnolia is obovate to rhomboid in shape, with auricles, or ears at the base, giving the leaf almost a fish shape. The flowers, usually greenish or yellowish as they expand, become white when fully open, and are pleasantly fragrant. The diameter of an open flower is 6–10 inches. In the wild, the flowers often appear before the leaves, but in cultivation flowering occurs after the leaves have fully expanded. Since the flower buds are at the tips of shoots, the leaves provide a nice backdrop for the flowers. Flowering occurs during the 4th week of May in northeast Ohio. Flowers give rise to 3-inch-long, red fruits that add considerable interest in the fall. Fall leaf color is an attractive chestnut brown.

Magnolia fraseri is often listed in references as being hardy only to U.S.D.A. Zone 6, and perhaps this the reason for its scant occurrence in cultivation in the northern U.S.A. We have a 30-ft tree at The Holden Arboretum in Zone 5b, and there are mature specimens growing in the Dominion Arboretum in Ottawa, Ontario, in U.S.D.A. Zone 4. Perhaps its mountain origin is a clue to its unexpected hardiness in the north. *Magnolia fraseri* is chiefly propagated by seeds, which usually germinate in high percentage after 2 to 3 months of cold stratification. Do not allow seeds to dry thoroughly after removal of their fleshy coats, but proceed directly into moist storage. Seedlings begin flowering at 5–7 years of age.

***Syringa* 'Purple Haze'**

Syringa 'Purple Haze' is a cross between *S. oblata* var. *dilatata* and *S. protolaciniata*. It is the result of a cross I made in 1991 in an attempt to answer the question of the parentage of *S. × persica*. It turns out that these species are not the parents of *S. × persica*, but 'Purple Haze' is wonderful consolation.

The original plant of 'Purple Haze' is now about 4 m tall and 5 m wide. Flowers are a pale purple (75-B of the *RHS Colour Chart*, editions 1966 and 1986). It blooms with the early flowering *S. × hyacinthiflora* cultivars. Thyrses are 10 to 14 cm long and, 5 to 7 cm wide; florets are 18 to 19 mm in diameter; corolla lobes are slightly reflexed,

Foliage is somewhat similar to that of *S. × persica* and *S. × chinensis*. Flowers are moderately fragrant and are usually produced not only at branch terminals, but along the stems from several sets of buds below a terminal. It does not set fruit. That trait makes it unnecessary to deadhead spent blossoms. 'Purple Haze' is easily propagated from softwood cuttings and rooted cuttings commonly bloom at one or 2 years of age.

***Weigela florida* 'Carlton' ppaf, cbraf, Ghost™ weigela**

A cool weigela with dark red flowers in spring and remarkable foliage that magically turns to a ghostly, iridescent butter yellow as the summer progresses. Provides seasons of color. Reblooms if lightly pruned after flowering. It's a great impulse plant that easily adds season long color to any garden, container, or landscape. Bloom color: Ruby red. Size: 4–5 ft. Hardiness: U.S.D.A. Zone 4. Breeder: Spring Meadow Nursery.