

New Plant Forum

Compiled and Moderated by Jack Alexander

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Aesculus turbinata 'Marble Chip'

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Abelia × *gradiflora* 'Minduo1', Sunny Anniversary™ abelia ppaf, cbraf
Cephalanthus occidentalis 'SMCOSS', Sugar Shack™ buttonbush ppaf, cbaf
Clematis 'Sweet Summer Love' ppaf, cbaf
Hypericum calycinum 'NCHC1', Golden Rule™ St. John's-wort ppaf, cbraf
Lonicera periclymenum 'Scentsation' ppaf, cbraf
Lycium barbarum 'SMNDS1', Sweet Lifeberry® goji berry

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Chionanthus virginicus 'White Knight'
Ilex 'Rutzam, Red Beauty®' holly pp 14750
Ilex 'Winter Bounty'
Pieris japonica 'Katsura' pp 15,452

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Platanus × *hispanica* (syn. *acerifolia*) 'Morton Circle', Exclamation!™ sycamore

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Monarda bradburiana
Schizachyrium scoparium 'Standing Ovation' ppaf
Sporobolus wrightii 'Windbreaker'

***Abelia* × *grandiflora* ‘Minduo1’, Sunny Anniversary™ abelia ppaf, cbraf**

This incredible new abelia boasts yellow blooms painted with a splash of pink and orange. The beefy, fragrant flowers appear in mid-summer and continue through September. It’s another great plant from Pepinieres Minier. Vive la France!

- Hardiness: USDA Zone 6-9.
- Bloom color: Yellow and pink.
- Bloom time: early summer.
- Size: 2.5-3 ft tall and 3.5 ft wide.
- Exposure: Sun/part shade.



***Aesculus turbinata* ‘Marble Chip’**

‘Marble Chip’ is a variegated form of *A. turbinata* that I selected. Grafting on *A. flava* (*octandra*) produced heavily distorted foliage which was consistent each year (2010, 2011, 2012) it was attempted. Plants died several months later. Using *A. hippocastanum* or *A. turbinata* as the understock is successful with new growth exhibiting leaves consistent with the original selection. New growth emerges pink and green before turning white and green. Sunburn can occur on the leaves.



***Cephalanthus occidentalis* ‘SMCOSS’, Sugar Shack™ buttonbush ppaf, cbraf**

White midsummer flowers have a sweet, heavy fragrance, and its attractive glossy foliage has red new growth and burgundy-red fall color. A distinctive characteristic is its red fall fruit, adding another season of interest to this native plant. This is an excellent plant for supporting pollinator populations. Its rounded habit and resistance to foliar problems make it good for landscaping, particularly in wet locations, where it may grow taller.

- Hardiness: USDA Zone 5.
- Bloom color: White.
- Bloom time: Summer.
- Size: 3-5 ft.
- Exposure: Sun/part shade.



***Chionanthus virginicus* ‘White Knight’**

‘White Knight’ is a new selection introduced by Manor View Farm, Monkton, Maryland. There are currently very few named selections of *Chionanthus virginicus*. This exciting introduction is a male selection which flowers very heavily at a young age. The white flowers offer a very showy display in late May/early June. The leaves are a glossy dark green.

- Size: 12 ft wide × 15 ft tall
- Hardiness Zone: 5
- ‘White Knight’ can be grown as a small tree or large shrub.
- Propagation: Chip budded



***Clematis* ‘Sweet Summer Love’ ppaf, cbraf**

What can be better than sweet autumn clematis? ‘Sweet Summer Love’ of course. This breakthrough gives you the same ease-of-growth and sweet cherry-vanilla fragrance, but also colorful cranberry-violet flowers that start blooming months earlier. ‘Sweet Summer Love’ is still a strong grower, yet more refined than *C. paniculata*.

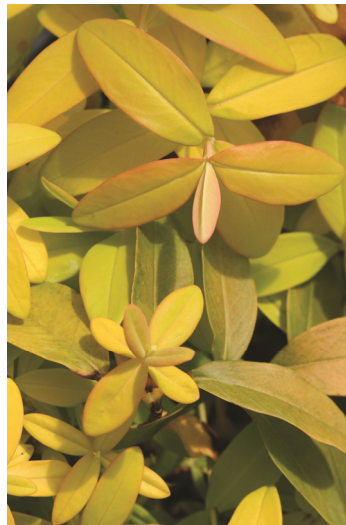
- Hardiness: USDA Zone 4.
- Bloom color: Red/Purple.
- Bloom time: Summer.
- Size: 3 ft wide, 10 ft tall.
- Exposure: Sun/part shade.



***Hypericum calycinum* ‘NCHC1’, Golden Rule™ St. Johns-wort ppaf, cbraf**

This is the solution to many landscape challenges! An excellent ground covering subshrub for shade, Golden Rule™ St. Johnswort has colorful orange new growth and attractive yellow foliage. Unlike ‘Brigadoon’, it does not revert. Yellow summer flowers up to 2 in. across add to its appeal. Although it is not as aggressive as the green-leafed forms, it will benefit from a trimming once or twice each year.

- Hardiness: USDA Zone 5-9.
- Bloom color: Yellow.
- Bloom time: Summer.
- Size: 1 ft tall and wide.
- Exposure: Part shade/shade.



***Ilex* ‘Rutzan’, Red Beauty[®] holly pp 14750**

Red Beauty[®] holly was introduced by the world famous plant breeder, Dr. Elwin Orton. It has a compact growth habit (after 10 years size is 7×4 ft), elegant tight pyramidal shape, and requires minimal maintenance. Ornamental features include dark foliage and red fruit. Hardy to Zone 6.



***Ilex* ‘Winter Bounty’**

Another wonderful Dr. Elwin Orton introduction. A complex hybrid that includes *Ilex ciliospinosa* and *I. latifolia*, with dark green glossy foliage with heavy red fruit display. Mature size is 15×6 ft. ‘Winter Bounty’ did not show any cold damage when *I. opaca* in the same field were killed.



***Lonicera periclymenum* 'Scentsation' ppaf, cbraf**

The name says it all! Scentsation honeysuckle is a very showy vine with extremely fragrant yellow flowers that bloom from mid-spring to late summer, followed by bright red berries. This floriferous honeysuckle has a long bloom time and is a wonderful addition to summer gardens, especially when trained up a trellis or across a fence.

- Hardiness: USDA Zone 4.
- Bloom color: Yellow.
- Bloom time: Summer.
- Size: 10 ft tall, 5 ft wide.
- Exposure: Sun/part shade.



***Lycium barbarum* 'SMNDS1', Sweet Lifeberry® goji berry**

Popular for its health benefits, goji berries are the newest superfruit. Sweet Lifeberry® goji berry has extra-sweet fruit, perfect for snacking. They are easy to grow in full sun, although some staking may be necessary for maximum access to the nutrient-rich fruit.

- Hardiness: USDA Zone 5.
- Bloom color: Purple.
- Bloom time: Summer.
- Size: 10 ft tall, 5 ft wide.
- Exposure: Sun.



Monarda bradburiana

The earliest blooming and cleanest *Monarda* North Creek has ever grown. In late April or by early May, bright pinkish-purple flowers highlight the plant above pubescent, foliage. Foliage emerges a brilliant cranberry, becomes a forest green by mid-season and returns to a warm burgundy in the fall. In our evaluations, the foliage has remained mildew-free for 3 years. Spent flowers remain persistent as globes throughout the growing season and well into fall. This species does not spread as rampantly as its cousins and reaches a mature height of 2-2.5 ft and equally as wide. It can be grown in average to dry, poor to fertile garden soils in full sun to part shade. This central and southern USA native species is hardy in Zones 5-8 and has proven to be deer resistant.



***Pieris japonica* 'Katsura' pp 15,452**

Pieris 'Katsura' was selected for its continuous new growth through spring and summer, large glossy leaves that are wine-red in color before turning green with age, and rose-colored flowers. In late spring, blooms cascade over green foliage, and new growth afterwards comes in glossy red again. The flowers are born on rose-colored racemes of pink to rose red blooms. 'Katsura' reaches 4 ft to 5 ft high in 10 years. *Pieris* 'Katsura' grows best in well-drained, humus rich, lime free soil similar to its native mountain forest habitat in sun or light shade. USDA Zone 6 (-10°F or -23°C). A PlantHaven introduction.



***Platanus* × *hispanica* ‘Morton Circle’, Exclamation!™ sycamore**

Platanus × *hispanica* (syn. *acerifolia*) ‘Morton Circle’, Exclamation!™ sycamore is a tough, durable tree for the Midwest landscape. Its disease resistance and adaptation to many different environments make it a great choice for a street tree.

The selection of Exclamation!™ sycamore began in the early 1990s when Dr. George Ware made the controlled cross of *P. occidentalis* and *P. orientalis*. The *P. occidentalis* parent was a tree found at The Morton Arboretum that showed excellent anthracnose resistance. The *P. orientalis* was also chosen for its natural anthracnose resistance. The resulting cross began its evaluation in 1994, and was introduced into the market in 2007.

Exclamation!™ sycamore has many attributes that make it an excellent tree to be planted in the urban environment. It has uniform upright pyramidal form, clean foliage, and low fruit set make this a choice tree for any homeowner. Its vigor in youth also makes it an attractive tree for homeowners that are looking for some quick shade. Exclamation!™ sycamore has many more attributes that make it an attractive tree for street and parking lot island plantings. This selection has shown adaptability to poor soil conditions, drought, flooding and pollution. This tree’s resistance to anthracnose and powdery mildew also make this a nice, clean looking tree.

The Exclamation!™ sycamore is a tough plant for any urban environment. Its form and adaptability make it an excellent replacement for ash and elm.

***Schizachyrium scoparium* ‘Standing Ovation’ ppaf**

Discovered at North Creek Nurseries and evaluated for nearly a decade, this selection has proven to be the most upright and colorful form we’ve ever observed. Sturdy steel blue foliage blades emerge with highlighted red and purple tips which persist throughout the growing season. By late August through November, blades transition into exceptional purple, orange and fire-red fall color, and maintain an upright form. Plants perform well in dry, poor to richer soils and mature at 3-3.5 ft. and 2 ft wide. For growers, ‘Standing Ovation’ has been production tested - grown in containers under overhead irrigation and fertilized – and it still didn’t lodge! It is hardy Zones 3-8.



April 2012



October 2012

***Sporobolus wrightii* ‘Windbreaker’ (Formerly Known as ‘Mesa Form’)**

This southwestern native species was originally bred to serve as a wind barrier. Known as giant sacaton, this 7-8 ft tall by 5-6 ft wide mature specimen makes a bold statement in any garden. It is the perfect native substitute for pampas or *Miscanthus* grasses. Large 2-3 ft long panicles of cream colored inflorescence appear in mid-summer and persist until winter. This extremely drought tolerant, clump forming workhorse does not seed in, prefers full sun and is hardy Zones 5-9.



