

NEW PLANT FORUM, JACK ALEXANDER, MODERATOR

PETER VERMEULEN: Rhododendron (azalea) 'Whitestone' was selected and later named by the late Paul Vossberg when Horticultural Research Director for the Westbury Rose Co., Westbury, NY. Paul selected it sometime in the 1940s, I believe at a hobbyist garden in Whitestone, Long Island, NY. He frequently extolled its virtues but did not find an opportunity to introduce it. Cuttings given to Peter Vermeulen in the late 1970's were propagated and then inadvertently neglected and left growing in flats set in open beds with no cover. They stayed there two winters along with other less important surplus liners. In the spring of 1980 I believe 'Whitestone' was the only survivor after a rigorous winter. We decided it worthy of further attention and introduction.

We believe 'Whitestone' to be hardy in Zone 5b and 5a with protection. The plant is a strong grower with a medium to tall bushy habit. Leaves are large, medium green. Flowers are full hose-in-hose pure white with light greenish throat, prominent stamens and about 2 in. in width. They are borne profusely in dense clusters completely covering the plant.

Propagation is by softwood cuttings. It is available this year in limited quantities primarily to prove its worth over a wide area.

TIM BROTZMAN: *Acer* 'White Tigress' is most likely a hybrid of garden origin, presumedly with *Acer tegmentosum* as one of the parents. 'White Tigress' has reached a height of 25 to 30 ft and 20 ft wide with three primary trunks after 30 years.

The outstanding ornamental quality of this plant is the green bark with white striations that develops on 2nd year wood and lasts for many years. Other outstanding ornamental features include: an annual growth rate of 2 to 4 ft, winter color of new growth a maroon-red; autumn leaf color a rich butter yellow, and winter hardiness is at least -20° F without twig damage. Our 30 year old tree still has pronounced stripes, though reddish-brown colors begin to replace the greens and whites. Without the formation of corky bark, this tree is prone to sun scald when used in exposed sites. However, 'White Tigress' has extremely rapid overgrowth of wounds and can heal up as fast as any tree we have grown.

Cuttings taken in late June/early July, wounded on two sides and treated with 0.8% IBA take root easily in sand. Soft terminals are usually removed.

WAYNE MEZITT: *Cornus kousa* 'Ed Mezitt' was selected in the early 1970's by Edmund V. Mezitt from a 5 to 6 year-old seedling block of *C. kousa*. The seedling block resulted from open-pollinated seed of *C. kousa* × *C. kousa* var. *chinensis*.

When planted in a sunny location, the new shoots are distinctly purple. The new leaves remain a bronze color until about the time flower bracts open in June. Foliage gradually turns to a normal dark green in June and all summer until changing to orange-red in October. Lower sun levels result in less colorful spring foliage.

The white flower bracts are well-overlapped and persist for about 3 weeks in June. The flower is about 2½ in. across and flowering is profuse. The red fruit in October is ¾ to 1 in. in diameter.

Plant stature is wide and upright, attaining about 20 ft at maturity. Bark exfoliates attractively once the stems grow large enough—3 to 4 in. diameter.

We have grafted on seedlings of *C. kousa* understock and are now rooting with high percentages in mid-July in a fog house. We direct-stick in a sand-perlite mix in Rootrainer 32's. Rooting is similar with treatments of 1, 2, 3, or 4% Hormoroot and Dip'N'Gro 1:10, v/v. We overwinter undisturbed in a 32 ° F hoop house and plant in open field beds the next spring.

This spring we decided to change the name from 'Terrace' (for its planting location) to 'Ed Mezitt' because it has proven so consistently superior to other cultivars/seedlings we grow. We expect to offer it for sale in 1993. For more information contact Chris Rogers at 508-435-3414 weekdays.

MARK WIDRLECHNER: Russian peashrub, *Caragana frutex*, is worthy of greater use in the Upper Midwest and Great Plains, where Siberian peashrub, *C. arborescens*, has performed well. Native from southern Russia to Siberia and hardy to Zone 3, Russian peashrub is shorter than the better known Siberian peashrub, growing 6 to 8 ft tall and 10 ft wide.

It has larger flowers and darker green foliage than Siberian peashrub. The bright butter-yellow, pea-shaped flowers grow to 1 in. long and appear in May and June. They also attract hummingbirds. Each leaf consists of four leaflets, which have a smooth upper surface and measure about 3 to 4-in. long.

According to the late Dr. Donald Hoag of North Dakota State University, Fargo, in his book *Trees and Shrubs for the Northern Plains*, Russian peashrub is also apparently more resistant to insect attack than *C. arborescens*.

This plant's only disadvantage is its strong tendency to sucker, which is a problem when it is used as a specimen. However, when used in mass planting with turf maintained to the base of the plants, this suckering tendency is not a serious problem.

Suckers developing within the shrub add to its fullness, those that develop outside the plant's perimeter can be removed during routine mowing. Drastic renewal pruning, which requires cutting back all branches close to the ground, may occasionally be needed for long-established plants and should be performed when plants are dormant.

The shrubs growing on the Iowa State University campus in Ames appear fuller and more showy in flower than other Russian peashrub plants we have seen. We are not sure whether this effect is due to genetics or to the site on which the shrubs are growing.

Russian peashrub is easily propagated from seed, which can be scarified mechanically or by using sulfuric acid and then soaking them in water for 24 hours. We have collected seeds from the population on the ISU campus. Seed samples are available from ISU's North Central Plant Introduction Station, Ames, IA 50011 at no charge upon written request.

GARY KOLLER: *Tilia japonica* subsp. *insularis* (*T. insularis*) There is a need to continually test new species of trees as potential candidates for urban or street tree use. One worthy of a review is *T. japonica* subsp. *insularis* which has attracted attention for the following reasons. The tree at the Arnold Arboretum (AA 10859-A) was introduced in 1919 by E.H. Wilson and is the oldest tree of this species in North America. It stands 45 ft in height and the first limb arises at six ft above soil level. The branches arise with a horizontal spread or slightly uplifted angle from the main trunk and are spaced in such a way that the tree is more thin and open than is typical for a linden. This openness allows ample light to reach soil level providing a good

environment for grass which grows directly to the trunk and would allow many herbaceous perennials to compete as plants of the under-story. Unlike most lindens there is no evidence of basal sprouts. This tree is distinctive because of the way it retains delicate beige colored fruiting bracts into early winter and for a light tan-brown colored trunk which is very different than *T. cordata* which tends to be a brownish-black. In winter the light bark color and decorative fruit stalks provide the tree with a delightful visual appeal making it stand out among the other lindens with which it grows at the Arnold Arboretum.

DAVID R. DUGAN: *Euonymus fortunei* 'Moonshadow' United States plant patent #6127 is a selection of variegated *Euonymus* that has better yellow leaf color and lower growing habit than any other hardy variegated *Euonymus* cultivar available. It was discovered at Dugan Nurseries, Inc in Perry, Ohio. 'Moonshadow' was selected from a chance sport found growing on *E. fortunei* 'Sunspot'. It was observed that two nodes growing in the middle of a branch on 'Sunspot' showed much more yellow area and far thinner green leaf margins than the parent plant. From a single cutting made from these 2 nodes, the original plant of 'Moonshadow' was rooted. The original plant of 'Moonshadow' was observed for several years and exhibited genetic stability and did not tend to revert to 'Sunspot'.

The leaves of 'Moonshadow' are a lighter yellow than 'Sunspot'. The leaf margins are rimmed with a very thin band of green. The leaf margins are wavy, giving the plant an overall textured effect that is very ornamental. The stem internodes are very short, from ¼ to ½ in. causing the plant to be very short and dense. The stems are the same light yellow as the leaf centers, but are generally hidden by the dense foliage. The growth habit of the plant is slightly broader than it is tall. 'Moonshadow' matures at 1 to 2 ft wide and tall. Neither flowers nor fruit have been observed on 'Moonshadow'. This is a broadleaf evergreen and the leaves from previous years are very persistent.

This plant can be used as an accent or border plant. It maintains good leaf color in full sun to partial shade. If planted by a wall, the branches do tend to climb but they do not fasten securely. Plant 'Moonshadow' where its bright color and low growing habit will be an asset to the landscape the year round.

'Moonshadow' has exhibited excellent winter hardiness. It has tolerated temperatures to -20° F in Perry, Ohio. When planted in a windy location the leaves may be stripped away above the snow line in winter but the buds are winter hardy. I can safely recommend this plant for all climates in the United States, and those areas in Canada within the old U.S.D.A. hardiness Zone 4 (or new U.S.D.A. hardiness Zone 4-A).

'Moonshadow' is easy to propagate, as are most of the evergreen *Euonymus*. Stick cuttings in a well-drained medium such as perlite. Rooting hormone is not required, but Hormodin #2 may enhance the results. Rooting of greater than 90% is typical. Cuttings may be taken any time the plant is not covered with soft new growth. Avoid the period between April 1 and June 1. In summer, root the cuttings outdoors under intermittent mist with 30% shade. Remove them from the prop house as soon as roots are formed to avoid fungus problems. In winter, root the cuttings at 70° F. Water sparingly to keep the medium moist to avoid fungus problems.

Euonymus fortunei 'Thunderbolt', United States plant patent #6128 is a selection of variegated *Euonymus* that exhibits more vigor and better flower and fruit character than any other hardy variegated *Euonymus* available. It was discovered at Dugan Nurseries, Inc. in Perry, Ohio. 'Thunderbolt' was found as an entire plant growing among a block of 2 year old *Euonymus fortunei* 'Sunspot'. The plants were growing their second summer in a 2 gallon container. The 'Thunderbolt' plant was more than twice the size of the surrounding 'Sunspot' plants. The 'Thunderbolt' plant was heavily covered with flowers while none of the surrounding 'Sunspot' plants had any flowers. In fact, flowers are rarely found on 'Sunspot' until the plants are 6 to 7 years of age, and then, only a few flowers can be found on a plant. The original plant of 'Thunderbolt' was observed for several years and exhibited genetic stability and did not tend to revert to 'Sunspot'.

'Thunderbolt' has a smaller area of yellow variegation in the center of each leaf, and the leaves were 2 to 3 times larger than 'Sunspot' leaves. The leaves are 2 to 2½ inches long and appear to be mostly green with a ragged "bolt" of yellow along the center vein. The texture is very thick and glossy. The stems are very thick and are yellow striped with green. The internodes are from 2 to 4 in. long giving the plant an open texture which shows off the variegated stems nicely. The growth is slightly broader than it is tall. 'Thunderbolt' matures at 3 to 6 ft wide and tall. This is a broadleaf evergreen and the leaves from previous years are very persistent.

The flowers of 'Thunderbolt' are effective from May 15 to June 15 in Ohio's climate. The compound flowers are born profusely all over the plant and are light yellow-green in color. The fruits ripen to bright orange in September and are ornamental through December in Ohio's climate. The contrast in color between the dark green leaves and the bright orange fruit is especially striking.

'Thunderbolt' can be used as an evergreen hedge, a windbreak, a screen, or may be planted as a specimen where there is a large area where its flower and fruit character may be enjoyed. If planted by a wall, the branches do tend to climb but they do not fasten securely. Plant 'Thunderbolt' wherever you need a colorful, vigorous, broadleaf evergreen.

'Thunderbolt' has exhibited excellent winter hardiness. It has tolerated temperatures to -20° F in Perry, Ohio. When planted in a windy location the leaves may be stripped away above the snow line in winter but the buds are winter hardy. I can safely recommend this plant for all climates in the United States, and those areas in Canada within the old U.S.D.A. hardiness Zone 4 (or new U.S.D.A. hardiness Zone 4-A).

'Thunderbolt' does not root as easily as most evergreen *Euonymus*. Stick cuttings in a well-drained medium such as perlite. Rooting hormone such as Hormodin #2 is recommended. Rooting of 50% to 70% is typical. Cuttings may be taken any time the plant is not covered with soft new growth. Avoid the period between April 1 and June 1. In summer, root the cuttings outdoors under intermittent mist with 30% shade. Remove them from the prop house as soon as roots are formed to avoid fungus problems. In winter, root the cuttings at 70° F. Water sparingly to keep the medium moist to avoid fungus problems.

ALAN JONES: *Amelanchier laevis* 'Majestic' Plant Patent 7203. The Allegheny shadblow is the best of all the *Amelanchier* species for landscape and street tree use. The large, clean foliage resists foliage diseases and the fall color is excellent. Majestic Shadblow was selected from a large nursery population of *Amelanchier laevis* seedlings for its many superior qualities.

It bears trusses of very large, wide petaled flowers creating a cloud of pure white flowers in early April. The large, leathery foliage is red when it opens and then expands to become dark green at maturity. It is not affected by the leaf spot diseases which cause other species to defoliate in humid summers. The leaves turn a rich scarlet color in the fall.

Majestic is an exceptionally vigorous grower reaching 20 to 25 ft and young trees develop twice the height of ordinary trees in the same period of growth. Its strong, vigorous growth make it exceptionally good for street tree use where growing space is limited. Grown in clump form, it makes a showy flowering tree beautiful both in the spring and in the fall.

With the disease problems affecting our native flowering dogwood in many areas, shadblows are rapidly increasing in popularity. No seedling strain can match the vigor and beauty of the Majestic Shadblow. It is hardy to Zone 4.

Malus hupehensis 'Cardinal' Plant Patent #7174. This hybrid crab apple is one of the few red flowering crab apples which is truly resistant to apple scab fungus and mildew that defoliate other red crabs growing in humid areas. It is a cross between 'Strawberry Parfait' crab apple and 'Crimson Cloud'. It forms a broad headed small tree 15 ft tall. It is covered with bright red flowers in late April. The foliage is red and remains unblemished on the tree throughout the summer.

The tree is flat topped at maturity like *M. hupehensis* and the foliage is glossy and attractive. It bears small deep red fruits in the fall. Red crab apples are among the most beautiful of all the spring flowering trees but their landscape use is limited by summer foliage problems.

DALE E. HERMAN: Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) is a very winter-hardy tree species (USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 2b), which is native from southeastern Canada into Florida and from east-central Texas into eastern Saskatchewan, Canada. This species is adaptive to soils varying in texture, structure, degree of compaction, moisture availability and pH. Green ash also tolerates wind exposure and is less susceptible to 2,4-D herbicide injury than such winter-hardy species as *Acer ginnala* (Amur maple), *A. negundo* (boxelder) and *Ulmus pumila* (Siberian elm).

Over fifty green ash collections were made in the Northern Plains in 1972-73. Plants were collected with the goal of introducing male, seedless clones with superior growth habit, foliage quality, growth rate and adaptation to the stressful climate of the Northern Plains. Each accession was propagated by whip grafting, field-planted in 1974 and data collected for ten years (1975-85). The trees were established under clean cultivation, grown in red fescue sod for the ten year data collection period and received no supplemental water or fertilization. Three final selections with markedly different growth habits and other superior landscape qualities were made in 1986. These were named and the Department of Horticulture and Forestry in collaboration with the NDSU-Research Foundation have made application for trademarking.

Although evaluations did not involve direct research on pest susceptibility, the three introductions have been essentially free of pests to date. All three male, seedless cultivars are readily propagated asexually by T-budding, whip or bark grafting. They are available from several northern nurseries. Average annual growth rate comparisons in the ten year study include: control green ash seedling trees (1.6 ft), Marshall's Seedless ash (1.4 ft), and average mean growth rate of the 73 ash accessions in the study (1.63 ft).

Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Wahpeton', Dakota Centennial™ Ash, is a male, seedless fast-growing green ash cultivar with a growth rate of 2.4 ft annually over a ten year period. This cultivar produces an elliptical-pyramidal shaped tree, widening with age. It tends to maintain terminal dominance with uniform scaffold branch arrangement. Bright, glossy green foliage becomes dark green and semi-glossy as it hardens. Fall color is a deep yellow. USDA hardiness Zone 3.

Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Rugby', Prairie Spire™ Ash, is a male, seedless green ash cultivar with an intermediate growth rate of 1.8 ft annually over a ten year period. It is characterized by a striking, narrowly erect growth habit with terminal dominance and dense lateral branches, becoming narrowly pyramidal-elliptical with age. Bright, glossy green foliage becomes dark green and semi-glossy as it hardens, changing to an intense golden-yellow in autumn. USDA hardiness Zone 3.

Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Leeds', Prairie Dome™ Ash, is a male, seedless green ash cultivar with a moderate growth rate of 1.4 ft annually over a ten year period. It is characterized by a very dense, distinctly oval form gradually becoming globose with age. Terminal dominance is not as strong as for the cultivars described above. Thick, leathery, glossy green foliage becomes dark green and semi-glossy as it hardens. Leaves are retained six to nine days later in autumn than the above cultivars and become a deep yellow. USDA hardiness Zone 3.

Ussurian pear (*Pyrus ussuriensis*) (sometimes listed as Chinese pear) is native to northeast Asia and is the hardiest pear species. Sources of this species were grown in North America by N.E. Hansen (South Dakota) and F.L. Skinner (Manitoba) in the early 1900s. Over the years, hardy seed sources, particularly from the vicinity of Harbin, Manchuria, have been distributed in the northern United States and Canada, often referred to as Harbin pear. In 1990, the USDA-SCS Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, North Dakota, released a hardy cultivar seed strain under the name 'McDermid', particularly for use in shelterbelt, wildlife and recreation plantings. However, no clonal introductions have been made for use in landscape settings. Ussurian pear and Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana* Decne.) are reported to be the least susceptible species to fireblight.

It is important to note that Callery pear, as represented by numerous superior landscape cultivars, is very popular in the commercial landscape trade. However, it is not winter hardy beyond USDA hardiness Zone 5. A hardy substitute pear for landscape use in the Northern Plains and Canada is needed and this accounts for the introduction of the attractive seedling selection of Ussurian pear described below. The Department of Horticulture and Forestry in collaboration with the NDSU-Research Foundation have made application for trademarking.

Pyrus ussuriensis 'MorDak' Prairie Gem™ pear, is a superior selection for landscape planting. Characteristics and qualities include a growth rate of 1.3 ft annually over a 16 year period (1973-89), densely and evenly branched; distinctly oval growth habit becoming globose with age, and clean, bright green, semi-glossy orbicular-ovate to ovate leaves. The thick, leathery-textured leaves display excellent foliage quality throughout the growing season. The superior quality of the scion cultivar is very noticeable when shoots arise below the graft from seedling Ussurian pear rootstocks. The cultivar displays good resistance to fireblight, but it is undoubtedly not immune. White flowers blanket the tree in spring. Trees do not fruit unless a pollinator pear is nearby. This is advantageous, since the 1.3 in. rounded yellow fruits are not of culinary value. Readily propagated asexually by T-budding, whip or bark grafting. USDA hardiness Zone 3. A limited number of plants will be available from a northern nursery in spring, 1991.

GALEN D. GATES: *Spiraea fritschiana*, although first introduced into cultivation in 1919, is a relatively unknown plant. A native to central China and Korea, it develops into a full-bodied mound reaching a height of 3 to 4 ft. It sports large white corymbs up to 5 in. across and blooms in June when other small-statured, pink-flowered spireas are flowering.

The fall color is excellent. Being tolerant of shade, Fritsch spirea exhibits a bright yellow autumn color with only 4 to 5 hours of direct sunlight. In full sun it becomes more orange-red. Most fall color on *Spiraea* in the Midwest comes from the *S. × bumalda* group which is a dark red and not as showy. Bright colored foliage has greater eye appeal and is more dramatic in the landscape.

This plant is also tolerant of a wide range of soil types. It performs well in both well-drained and heavier soils. It thrives in our climate where temperatures regularly dip to -20° F and where snow cover is fleeting due to our strong winds and fluctuating temperatures. In fact this plant has survived -30° F with negligible damage. It performs equally well in landscapes receiving high maintenance and areas of little or no care. The plant propagates easily from fresh seed or softwood cuttings treated with IBA in talc at 4,000 ppm.

Allium thunbergii 'Ozawa', Ozawa onion, is a unique flowering bulb. Unlike other bulbs which have foliage that turns brown shortly after flowering, this little gem sports its blemish-free foliage from March to October. It is one of the earliest perennials to emerge, keeping pace with *Narcissus*, and is relentless in hanging on to its foliage into the fall.

In addition to a high-quality, season-long leaf display, 'Ozawa' continues to flower into winter. The globe-shaped purple flowers start blooming in September, brush off early frosts and maintain their color into January. The scapes (or flower stalks) also take on a translucent orange glow starting in November. All these qualities in addition to its strong structural winter presence makes this truly a year round perennial.

The plant is easily used to perk up a drowsy perennial bed in early spring and to extend its life at the end of the season. It grows 12 to 15 in. tall, which is shorter than the species' 2-ft height. The bulbs are best planted in spring at a depth of 3 in. Being an "onion" there is little that will bother it—from rodents to disease.

The species *A. thunbergii* is native to northeast Asia with 'Ozawa' originating in Japan. For a short period of time, this plant was incorrectly labeled 'Ozoke' but that seems to have been cleared up.

The plant multiplies very rapidly through bulblet production which makes it an excellent candidate for commercial use. It is also diploid, so seed is a possibility for perpetuation of a similar plant, but this requires a mild fall and winter with the presence of a pollinator in order to develop viable seed.

Allium thunbergii 'Ozawa' is a remarkable plant which has numerous favorable traits and as yet no undesirable qualities that I have noticed.

BRUCE BRIGGS: *Rhododendron* 'Scarlet Romance' is an outstanding new F₁ hybrid from Dr. G. Mehlquist. The parentage is 'Vulcan' × 'Chocolate Soldier'. Original testing of the plant was by Jim Wells (NJ) and by Jeremy Wells (NC).

The plant is flower-bud hardy to at least -25 ° F. 'Scarlet Romance' flowers in the first week of June, with 6½ in round trusses of 15 to 16 light red florets. Medium green leaves are 4 to 6 in long. The plant is a dense grower and reaches a mature size of 4 ft tall by 7 ft wide.

The plant is being jointly introduced by J Wells Nursery (NC) and Briggs Nursery (WA).

SIDNEY WAXMAN: *Tsuga canadensis* 'Wind's Way' originated as a witches'-broom seedling. This selection, now 19 years old, grows at a more rapid rate than most of the more dwarfer forms I have named. It is 13 ft tall, and 11 ft wide and has an annual growth rate of 6 in.

It is densely foliated and has horizontally arranged branches that start from the ground up. Its branch tips curve slightly down. 'Wind's Way' is dark green and oval-shaped, requiring no shearing.

It was named 'Wind's Way' because of its swaying movement on windy days.

This selection would serve well as an accent plant or with a group as a highly effective screen.

Tsuga canadensis 'Cotton Candy' originated as a witches'-broom seedling whose growth rate is approximately seven inches annually. Its form could be described as a truncated pyramid lacking the upper point. It is symmetrical and very densely foliated by layered branches that radiate uniformly outward. The slightly pendulous twigs have, in addition to its paired leaves, a third row of tiny leaves pointing forward along the top of each shoot. The leaves, which are twisted, show their whitish undersides giving the appearance of whitish lines on each twig.

'Cotton Candy' is a rugged plant with thick branching. Because it is widest at its base, its lower branches are not likely to die because of shading by the upper branches.

Pinus densiflora 'Low Glow' is a witches'-broom seedling with an annual growth rate of approximately five inches. It is a low mound with short needles (1¾ in long). After five years it has grown 19 in high and 45 in wide.

Whorls of needles at the tips of each shoot are distinct and with its bright yellow-green foliage 'Low Glow' offers a bright contrast when planted with other conifers.

Pinus strobus 'Old Softie' is a witches'-broom seedling that can, perhaps, best be described as looking like a miniature 'Sargent's' weeping hemlock. This white pine grows four to six inches annually and, at the age of 27 years, is four feet high and seven and one half feet wide. It has a soft green texture and is densely foliated and cloudlike with billowy branching.

Pinus resinosa 'Ragamuffin' is a low, broad ground-hugging bundle of long needles. It has an annual growth rate of five and one half inches and has grown to a height of two feet and a width of five feet in eight years. Its foliage is bright green and along with its shaggy form offers an excellent contrast alongside other conifers. This selection was also obtained from a witches'-broom. Giving plants a good descriptive name can be quite difficult, but with this selection, I had no problems.

ELWIN ORTON: The six cultivars I wish to present are F₁ interspecific hybrids of *Cornus kousa* × *C florida*. They are being propagated for introduction to

commerce as Rutgers University's answer to "dogwood decline." The first five listed have been patented and the sixth has "patent applied for" status. Plants of these six hybrids are very floriferous, with a floral display period intermediate to that of plants of the parental species, all are exceptionally vigorous and are reliably winter-hardy in U S D.A Plant Hardiness Zone 6A (-10 to 0° F); are highly resistant to infestation by the common dogwood borer, and exhibit moderate to very high field resistance to *Discula*, the incitant of dogwood anthracnose. These six hybrids constitute our Stellar™ series of large-bracted dogwood. Five of the six hybrids bear white floral bracts, and one produces pink bracts. The first four listed below are more nearly similar to plants of *C. kousa*, being upright in habit. However, they do not exhibit the marked vase-shape typical of many plants of *C. kousa* when young, as the hybrids are fully branched and uniformly wide close to the ground. The last two hybrids listed below are more nearly like plants of *C. florida*, as they are low and spreading in habit and flower earlier in May than do the other four hybrids. Trees of all six hybrids exhibit flat leaves of a rich, dark green color.

Cornus 'Rutban' Aurora™ A highly vigorous, upright form with large, rounded, velvety, overlapping floral bracts. Floral display commences mid-May in New Jersey.

Cornus 'Rutgan' Stellar Pink™. A highly vigorous, upright form with flower heads exhibiting rounded, overlapping bracts of moderate size and a beautiful, light pink, coloration.

Cornus 'Rutdan' Galaxy™ A highly vigorous tree of upright habit that bears flower heads with beautiful rounded, overlapping bracts of heavy texture. At the start of the floral display, the bracts form a cup with a slight tinge of green, but the bracts soon become flattened and pure white.

Cornus 'Rutcan' Constellation™ A highly vigorous upright form with the earliest period of floral display of the upright hybrids. The bracts are long and separate, and provide a brilliant, white display even when observed from a considerable distance.

Cornus 'Rutfan' Stardust™. A small, low and spreading form that is heavily branched and foliated right to the ground. The showy, white, floral bracts are rounded and non-overlapping.

Cornus 'Rutlan' Ruth Ellen™ A vigorous, low and spreading tree that is considerably larger than those of Stardust™. The floral display of this cultivar commences about the time the floral display of most plants of *C. florida* ceases, and one day ahead of Stardust™, two days ahead of Constellation™, and five to seven days ahead of Aurora™, Galaxy™, and Stellar Pink™. The floral bracts of Ruth Ellen™ provide a brilliant white display even when viewed from a distance.