

WOODY PLANTS THAT EXPAND YOUR GARDEN'S SEASONAL APPEAL

R. Wayne Mezitt, Hort-Sense

Connecticut Horticultural Society

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New England's **Cary Award** Program (www.CaryAward.org):

1. A woody shrub, tree or vine, easy to grow and pest resistant
2. Winter hardy to New England's USDA Hardiness Zones, 5 or colder
3. A season-extender, with priority given to notable winter features
4. Underutilized in landscapes, and specially appropriate for New England
5. Readily available on the market.

IMAGES

Earliest-Spring (February – Mother's Day)

- Hamamelis cvs. 'Brevipetala', 'Arnold Promise', 'Diane', 'Pallida' (Cary Award), 'Peaches & Cream'
- Cornus mas (Cary Award); Prunus 'Okame' and subhirtella pendula
- Magnolias: 'Leonard Messel' & 'Centennial' (Cary Award); denudata
- *The "Early Rhododendrons"*: mucronulatum & 'Cornell Pink', 'Weston's Pink Diamond', 'Milestone'; 'April Snow', 'Red Quest', 'Midnight Ruby'; 'Caronella', 'Olga Mezitt' (Cary Award), 'Weston's Aglo', 'Landmark', 'Blue Baron' (Zone 7)
- Cercis canadensis & cvs.: 'Appalachian Pink/Red', alba; chinensis 'Don Egolf'

Mid-Spring: May-June (selected plants with extra features)

- Sewartia pseudocamellia koreana (Cary Award), Chionanthus virginiana (Cary Award), Syringa reticulata (Cary Award), Magnolia macrophylla ssp. Ashei
- Enkianthus campanulatus cvs. (Cary Award), Abelia mosanensis (Cary Award)
- Hydrangea anomala petiolaris (vine) (Cary Award), Kalmia latifolia cvs. and myrtifolium (Connecticut Miniatures) = Cary Award
- Cornus kousa cvs. (Cary Award) & Hybrids: 'Heart Throb'®, 'Venus'®
 - 'Lustgarten Weeping'

Summer (starting about June 15 in Hopkinton):

- *The "Summer Azaleas"*
 - June: 'Weston's Innocence', 'Ribbon Candy', 'Pink and Sweet'
 - July: 'Golden Showers', 'Weston's Sparkler' (Cary Award), 'Weston's Lemon Drop', 'Millennium', 'Framingham', 'Pennsylvania', 'Henry's Triumph'
- C. kousa (Cary Award) foliage: 'Samaritan', 'Gold Star', 'Summer Games', 'Ed Mezitt'
- Redbud (Cercis canadensis cvs.) foliage and form
 - Weeping: 'Covey' (Tim Brotzman), 'Ruby Falls', 'Whitewater'
 - Foliage: 'Forest Pansy', 'Black Pearl', 'Hearts of Gold', 'The Rising Sun'

Autumn (Late August -- Thanksgiving) (selected plants with extra features)

- The maples: *Acer rubrum*, *palmatum* cvs., *japonicum* 'Aconitifolium', *pseudosieboldianum*, *triflorum* (Cary Award)
- *Oxydendrum arboretum*, *Fothergilla major* (Cary Award), *Clematis paniculata*, *Enkianthus campanulatus* cvs. (Cary Award), *Rhus aromatica* 'Gro Lo' (Cary Award), *Heptacodium miconioides* (Cary Award)
- Korean Chrysanthemums: 'Sheffield', 'Venus', 'Will's Wonderful', 'Bronze Elegance', Red October
- *Hamamelis virginiana* & cvs., 'Harvest Moon', 'Mohonk Red', 'Vincent's Red'

Winter (December – February)

- Colorful foliage: *Sciadopitys* vert. 'Wintergreen' (Cary Award), *Fagus grandifolia*, *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Crippsii' (Cary Award), *thyoides* 'Ericoides'; *Microbiota miconioides* (Cary Award), *Rhododendron* 'PJM', 'Landmark' and others
- Persistent fruit: *Ilex verticillata* cvs ('Red Sprite' (Cary Award)), *Ilex opaca*, *Malus* cvs. ('Donald Wyman' (Cary Award)), *Crataegus* 'Winter King'
- Evergreen architectural form: *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* 'Pendula' (Cary Award), *Pinus strobus* *pendula* and *nana*, *Buxus sempervirens* 'Graham Blandy', *Taxus* vertical and tree-form
- Deciduous branching: *Acer japonicum* 'Aconitifolium' (espalier), *Acer palmatum* *dissectum*, *Salix matsudana* 'Tortuosa';
- Bark/stems:
 - *Acer palmatum* 'Sangokaku', *Betula nigra* 'Little King' (Cary Award), *Heptacodium miconioides* (Cary Award), *Cornus alba* 'Westonbirt'
 - *Acer griseum* (Cary Award) and *triflorum* (Cary Award), *Acer* 'White Tigress'
 - *Cornus kousa* (Cary Award), *Pinus bungeana* 'Silver Ghost' and *densiflora* 'Umbracilifera', *Stewartia pseudocamellia koreana* (Cary Award)

"A garden is never so good as it will be next year."

Thomas Cooper