

Landscape Plant Recognition

Plant Descriptions – Field Day #3

Pinus contorta ssp. *contorta* (PINACEAE)

shore pine

Coastal PNW



Leaves

Needles (linear leaves)
Fascicles (bundled at base)
2 needles per fascicle
Needles twisted
Deep green
1-3" long (*Much shorter than Pinus nigra*)

Cones

Cone ovoid to 2"
~ **Pointing forward**
~ w/prickle

Other

Evergreen tree
Short - < 45 ft
~ **Round crown**
Bark dark brown to grayish-black
Invasive plant in New Zealand
ssp. *contorta* much shorter
ssp. *latifolia* = lodgepole pine

Trachycarpus fortunei (ARECACEAE)

fan or windmill palm

E. Asia



Leaves

Fan shaped
Round but deeply lobed
Extremely large, 2-4 ft.
Leathery (coriaceous)
Long petioles with teeth along margin

Flowers

Radial
3-parted
Stamens 6, styles 3
Small, yellow flws in large hanging clusters

Fruit

Fleshy drupe
Looks like grape clusters

Other

Tree to 60 ft or shrub
Unbranched trunk
Fibrous hairs on trunk from petioles, great for rope or sack material
One of the few palms that are hardy here
Trachycarpus = rough fruit
T. wagnerianus – small leafed variant
In cultivation for thousands of years
Can be grown as far north as Bulgaria and has withstood temperatures reaching -27 degree Celsius

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Plant Descriptions – Field Day #3

Pyrus sp. (ROSACEAE)

pear

Europe, W. to E. Asia, N. Africa



Leaves

Alternate, Simple
Serrate to Entire

Flowers

Flowers in an inflorescence
White with purple pollen, outside of petals the same shade as inside
Perfect
Calyx reflexed or spreading
Sepals 5, fused at base.
Petals 5 Stamens 20-30.
Pistils 5 w/5 (sometimes fewer) styles.
Ovary inferior.

Fruit

Pome (pear shaped)
Many woody cells and 1-2 soft seeds in each carpel.

Other

Trees to 60 ft or shrubs.
Deciduous.
Often has spiny branches.
Flowers appear before leaves.
Some taxonomists lump *Malus* and *Pyrus*

Prunus Xyedoensis (ROSACEAE)

Yoshino cherry

Japan



Leaves

Alternate
Simple
Serrate
Stipluate
Broadly ovate to lanceolate
Narrows to slender point at apex
hair on veins below
Lvs vivid green

Flowers

Infl – 4-6 fls
5 petals
Long calyx tube
Larger than *P. subhirtella*
Pink or white

Fruit

Shiny black globose drupes

Other

Small tree to 50 ft
Hairs on new branchlets
Hairs on inflorescence and calyx
Flowers before or with leaves (*P. serrulata* x *P. subhirtella*) – and intermediate in characters to both

Xanthocyparis nootkatensis (CUPRESSACEAE)
(formerly *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*)

Alaskan cedar

Alaska to Oregon



Leaves

Scale-like
Closely appressed
Laterals & facials similar length (lats barely longer)
Foliage has a slightly rotten potato odor
No markings on back
(*C. lawsoniana* has a white Y or X)
(*C. lawsoniana* laterals larger than facials)

Cones

Cones subglobose
”soccer ball”
Male cone yellow
(red for *C. lawsoniana*)

Other

Tree to 130 ft
Evergreen
Branches ascending of spreading, forming narrow pyramid
Branchlets ~ pendulous

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Plant Descriptions – Field Day #3

Rubus (ROSACEAE) raspberries, blackberries Cosmopolitan

Leaves	Flowers	Fruit	Other
Alternate, Simple Lobed or compound (usually palmate or ternate) Has stipules.	In inflorescence, frequently hanging. Sepals 5, fused at base Petals 5, (some small or absent) Petal color red, white, pink or dark maroon. Stamens many. Pistils many, separate, with one ovule each. Ovary superior.	Aggregate of single-seeded drupelets	Shrubs to 10 ft Often climbing with hook-shaped prickles and peeling bark Evergreen or deciduous.

Rubus spectabilis (ROSACEAE) salmonberry W. North America



Leaves	Flowers	Fruit	Other
Alternate Ternately compound Terminal leaflet stalked and largest Doubly serrate	Solitary Fls Pink, purplish red Petals delicate Nodding Many pistils	Aggregate of drupelets, ranging in color from salmon to red “Salmonberry”	Rhizomatous shrub Deciduous Hummingbird pollinated

Pieris japonica (ERICACEAE) E. China, Taiwan, Japan



Leaves	Flowers	Fruit	Other
Alternate (looks whorled but is simply compressed) Simple Oblanceolate to lanceolate Serrulate Glabrous Above- shiny green Lower – duller green	Infl – pendulous panicles (branched racemes) 6-12 cm long Fls urn shaped, white 5 sepals & petals, fused 10 stamens 5 carpels, fused	Dry capsules	Shrub to 8-9 ft Evergreen Flowers early in year New growth orange to red (some cultivars are selected for this)

Landscape Plant Recognition

Plant Descriptions – Field Day #3

Hamamelis (HAMAMELIDACEAE)

witch-hazel

E. Asia, E. North America



Leaves

Alternate, Simple
Short petiole
Base oblique
Margin deeply undulate or toothed
Parallel veins asymmetric at base (*all the way up on many*).
Secondary veins go all the way to the margins.
Deciduous stipules
Leaves soft

Flowers

Clusters on short shoots in leaf axils
Perfect
Sepals 4, small and persistent
Petals 4, long and linear, colored yellow, orange or red, most like crinkled tissue paper
Stamens 4
Stamenoids w/nectar, 4
Styles 2

Fruit

4-lobed capsule
Fuzzy looking
Splits open to eject 2 seeds

Other

Shrubs or small trees to 35 ft
Deciduous
Buds brown and fuzzy
Bark gray
Nice fall color
Flowers before leaves, usually in late winter/early spring

MAGNOLIACEAE

magnolia family

Asia, eastern N.A., Central & S. America

Leaves

Alternate
Simple
Pinnate venation
Entire
(rarely lobed or toothed)
Large stipules (sometimes none but this is uncommon)

Flowers

Solitary, Radial, Large & showy, Perfect (~imperfect)
Sepals 3
Petals 6 to many
(undifferentiated sepals and petals are usually called tepals – four in some)
Stamens & carpels numerous
~ separate and spirally arranged
~ Laminar stamens (anther and filament undifferentiated)

Fruit

Follicle, samara or berry

Other

Woody trees or shrubs
Evergreen or deciduous
Some with aromatic oils
Important ornamentals
Stipules protect buds, leaf scars at node that circle the stem

Magnolia (MAGNOLIACEAE)

magnolia

Asia, eastern N.A., Central America

Leaves

Alternate, Simple
Pinnately veined
Leaf shape ovate to obovate
Can be large (up to 25 in.)
Large deciduous stipules protect buds, leaving a ring around stem.

Flowers

Solitary on ends of branches
Perfect, Large and showy
Radial
Tepals 6 to 9 (or up to 33) in whorls of 3.
Stamens many, often with red filaments
Stamens spirally arranged around the many pistils
White, pink, purple, green, rarely yellow, Often scented

Fruit

Follicle
Seeds embedded in an elongate receptacle
The hard, brown seeds are enclosed in a fleshy colored (red, orange, or pink) aril
Seeds suspended by threads

Other

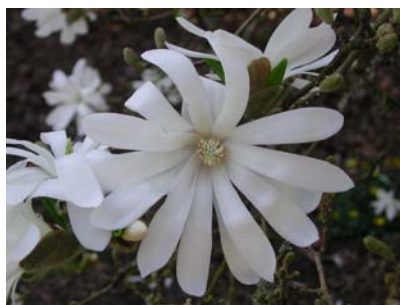
Trees to 60 ft, or shrubs
Evergreen or deciduous
One of the most primitive genera of flowering plants
Large buds with furry scales often noticeable in winter
Flowers appear before leaves in many species

Landscape Plant Recognition

Plant Descriptions – Field Day #3

Magnolia kobus var. *stellata* (MAGNOLIACEAE) star flower magnolia

Japan



Leaves

Alternate
Simple
Entire
Large stipules
Obovate
To 5" long

Flowers

Solitary & terminal
Radial
Perfect
Lots of tepals (8-25) that are 3"-5" long
Tepals reflexed back
Many stamens & carpels, spirally arranged

Fruit

Follicles
(Reminiscent of a pine cone)

Other

Shrub or small tree
Deciduous
Flowers appear before leaves
Flowers early in spring
(a.k.a. *M. stellata*)

Corylus avellana 'Contorta' (BETULACEAE)

Harry Lauder's walking stick

Garden origin



Leaves

Ovate
Deep pinnate venation
Acuminate tip
"Contorted" leaves

Flowers

Monoecious
Male - Golden catkins
Female – tiny purple flower found above catkins
Late winter

Fruit

Nut (filbert)
Edible – not often found on 'Contorta'

Other

Deciduous shrub to 10 ft.
Twisted, corkscrew branches
Flowers before foliage emerges
Used in flower arrangements
Slow growing

Azara microphylla (SALICACEAE)

(formerly FLACOURTIACEAE)

S. America



Leaves

Alternate
Entire
Obovate or round
Lvs of two different sizes paired at nodes.

Flowers

Stalked clusters in leaf axils
Tiny non-showy flowers
Yellow (due to stamens)
Vanilla or chocolate scented
Sepals 5, No petals
Numerous stamens
Style 1

Fruit

Round fleshy red to orange berry w/ persistent style.

Other

Small tree to 30 ft, upright
Can be good for narrow areas but form is often a bit untidy
Can be coppiced to control growth
Slender twigs
Evergreen

Landscape Plant Recognition

Plant Descriptions – Field Day #3

Garrya elliptica (GARRYACEAE)

silk-tassel bush

W. U.S.



Leaves

Opposite, Simple

Elliptic to elliptic-oblong
2-3 in. long
Base rounded
Stout petioles (0.2-0.5 in. long)

Leathery

Margin undulate

Lower – pubescent

Flowers

Infl – Pendulous racemes (catkin-like)

Imperfect

Dioecious

Males have longer, more pendulous inflorescence

Flowers inside cup-shaped bracts.

No sepals, small petals

Stamens 4

Female – 2 styles

Fruit

Densely aggregated fruits

Capsule w/1-2 seeds

Hairy

Other

Shrub 6-12 ft tall

Evergreen

Young branchlets hairy

Garrya X issaquahensis (GARRYACEAE)

silk-tassel bush

Garden Origin



Leaves

Same as above, but
Lower - glabrous

Flowers

Infl. deep mauve when fresh,
longer than those of parents

Fruit

Other

Cross between *G. elliptica* and
G. fremontii that occurred in a
garden in Issaquah

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

honeysuckle family

Leaves

Opposite Simple

Entire to serrate
No stipules

Flowers

Infl-axillary or terminal clusters

Determinant cyme

Flowers often paired - Corolla fused at base & tubular

Perfect

Mostly bilateral, some radial
symmetry

Carpels 3-5 fused

Ovary inferior (~ partly)

Stamens 4-5

Fruit

Berry, capsule, drupe

Other

Shrubs, vines, some trees
Deciduous or evergreen
NOTE: this family used to
include *Viburnum* and
Sambucus, but they are now in
the Adoxaceae

Lonicera (CAPRIFOLIACEAE)

honeysuckle

Europe, Asia, N. America



Leaves

Opposite
Ovate to elliptic
Often an acuminate apex
Entire margin

Flowers

In pairs or whorls or umbel like, located in leaf axils or terminally.
Bilateral, some radial
Perfect
Colors from white, purple, red, yellow
Often scented
Often subtended by large, colored bracts
Sepals 5, tubular
Petals 5, fused at the base to form a tubular corolla
Stamens 5
Carpels 2-5 fused, w/one style
Ovary inferior

Fruit

Berry
Few to many seeds

Other

Upright or arching shrub, rarely small trees to 10 ft, or climbers to 25 ft.
Evergreen or deciduous
Fragrant
Some invasive

Corylopsis pauciflora (HAMAMELIDACEAE)

hazelnut

Japan and Taiwan



Leaves

Alternate
Simple
Obovate
Short-awned teeth
Prominent veins
Large, deciduous stipules
Lvs soft
No hairs on leaves (*C. spicata* has hair on lower)

Flowers

Infl – pendulous racemes
1-3 fls.
Flowers perfect, light yellow
5 parted
Stamens 5.
Anthers yellow or reddish.
2 Styles

Fruit

Woody capsule

Other

Tree or shrub
Deciduous
No hair on young branchlets (compare *C. spicata* which has hair on young branchlets)

Stachyurus (STACHYURACEAE)

Himalayas, E. Asia



Leaves

Alternate, Simple
Linear-lanceolate to ovate
Acuminate apex
Serrate
Stipules

Flowers

**Bell shaped flowers on stiff
pendulous spikes** from axils
Sepals 4
Petals 4, yellow, cream or
pink
Stamens 8 in two whorls
Carpels 4 fused, w/1 style

Fruit

**Berries with persistent style
and many seeds**

Other

Shrubs or small spreading trees
to 15 ft
Deciduous or partial-evergreen
Stiff twigs
**Flowers before leaves very
early – usually in February**