

flocks of robins—sometimes 40 or 50 birds—are not an uncommon sight. Some authorities have suggested that these robins nest further north and have migrated only that far south for the winter. Large flocks of cedar waxwings, purple finches, and starlings also take advantage of the winter crabapples. During some winters, pine and evening grosbeaks visit the region and they, too, go to the Arboretum crabapple collection.

When the merits of this tree were realized, it was decided to name it in honor of Dr. Donald Wyman who was about to retire from the staff of the Arnold Arboretum. Scions or budwood will be provided to those wishing to propagate *Malus* 'Donald Wyman'.

## NEW PLANTS FROM MANITOBA

WILLIAM A. CUMMING

*Research Station, The Canada Dept. of Agriculture  
Morden, Manitoba, Canada*

The Research Station of the Canada Department of Agriculture at Morden, Manitoba, is located 75 miles southwest of Winnipeg and 13 miles north of the 49th parallel. The following chart lists a few statistics on growing conditions:

Temperature extremes . . . . .	−41° F to +111° F
Frost-free period . . . . .	125 days average
Precipitation . . . . .	21 inches average (15 as rain and 55 as snow)
Soil . . . . .	highly calcareous with a high salt content
pH . . . . .	6.1 to 7.9 in the A horizon; higher in the lower soil levels

Research in ornamentals at this institution consists of breeding and evaluating hardy ornamentals, as well as propagational and taxonomic research. The Arboretum contains over 1800 species and cultivars of trees and shrubs representing 120 genera.

<sup>1</sup> *Rosa* 'Cuthbert Grant' was introduced in 1967 by H. H. Marshall of the Brandon Research Station. It is a repeat bloomer with brilliant dark red, fully double flowers. The plant is a complex hybrid of the native prairie rose, *R. arkansana* X ('Donald Prior' X 'Crimson Glory') X *R.* 'Assiniboine'. It won the Award of Merit from the Western Canadian Society for Horticulture in 1970.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ed. Note:

Dr. Cumming showed slides illustrating the five new plants described here.

*Malus* 'Kelsey' was introduced in 1969 by the Morden Research Station. It is an upright tree to 20 feet which blooms annually. This cultivar is a Rosybloom hybrid between two Morden numbered selections. It was named for Henry Kelsey, an early explorer of Manitoba's northland, to commemorate Manitoba's Centennial year in 1970.

*Syringa* 'Miss Canada' was introduced by the Morden Research Station in 1967. It is a bright pink, late flowering lilac on a compact bush which resulted from crossing *S. josiflexa* 'Redwine' X *S. prestoniae* 'Donald Wyman'.

*Weigela* 'Centennial' was introduced by the Morden Research Station in 1967. It is a hardy bush attaining 9 feet in height which flowers to the tips of its branches most years at Morden. In contrast, *W.* 'Vanicek' only stays alive and flowers on the lower branches which are protected by snow. Flowers are erythrite red. The female parent is *W.* 'Dropmore Pink', which was selected by Dr. F. L. Skinner from seedlings grown from Manchurian seed. The pollen parent was *W.* 'Profusion'.

*Juniperus horizontalis* 'Prince of Wales' is a native clone collected in southern Alberta and named at the Morden Research Station in 1967. This cultivar forms a very thick, low ground-hugging carpet. It is very dense, colored medium green, and turns pale purple in the winter.

RALPH SHUGERT: At this time I would like Pete Vermuelen to explain our "Host Plan" for the visiting members of the G.B. & I. Region.

PETE VERMUELEN: It hardly seems possible that it was only a year ago that I was at Hadlow in England and talked with Dick Martyr after one of the sessions. Dick mentioned that it would be nice if we had some type of plan where some of their group could visit in America; later after we came back we conceived the "host plan" and wrote about it in "The Plant Propagator" and then talked to the Eastern Region about it last December. Lo and behold, a year later we have this very fine representation from the G.B. & I. Region with us. I just want to state publicly, for the record, that it has been amazing to me the cooperation that we had from all of the members on this host plan. Thirty-three of you indicated your interest to host the British guests. All of you have not had an opportunity to do so because of the vast distances that divide our country. Primarily those in the Eastern Region have had the opportunity and pleasure to be able to host our British members. We have arranged for the group to tour nurseries, arboreta, and college facilities, starting at D. Hill Nursery on Saturday evening, continuing into Sunday morning, Morton Arboretum in the afternoon, then going to Purdue, Cunningham Gardens, Siebenthaler Garden Center and Nurseries, Spring Hill Nurseries, Ohio Agriculture



Research and Development Center, Warner Nursery and other Lake County nurseries, Fairview Nurseries in Pennsylvania, J.C. Bakker, and Creekside Gardens in St. Catherines, Ontario, the Niagara Park system and back on home, stopping at Cornell Plantations. The last week of their stay here, September 20 to 26, is completely open; we haven't arranged any formal plans, but there will be nurserymen in the area — in the east — and any of you that have not signed up for the host programs but would like to, please see me. I am sure that some of these gentlemen from G.B. & I. would like to travel up and down the East Coast and we have them billeted, so to speak, for this last period only in our immediate area, all in New Jersey. They may like to go north or south and so anybody in New England, in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, or the Washington, D.C. area who would like to host one or two people for an evening or two and see that they get public transportation, would be most welcome.

I would like to see all the members of the G.B. & I. Region immediately prior to the Question Box this evening so that we can get the final details for our tour lined up. It is quite important and again, thank you everyone and all, for your cooperation in this host plan.

While I have this opportunity, there is another guest here today from Boskoop, Holland. He is a student of horticulture and presently working for 11 or 12 months in our nursery. He is here at this meeting and probably many of you have already met him, but please take this opportunity to talk with him and, of course, visit with all our British guests because they are only going to be here another day and a half; you may not have the opportunity again for some time. Here is Adriaan C. Boere. Adriaan would you stand up so that every one can see you?

**RALPH SHUGERT:** Thank you very much, Pete. We will now have a critique of the preceding session by Bill Curtis and Tom Pinney.

**BILL CURTIS:** This afternoon we heard about some of the plants in the past, the men who discovered these plants, who sent these plants back to us, and we heard about plants for the future; I think we find that all must have some of the same characteristics. They must have hardiness to be of value to us. They must have a desirable habit of growth. The plants must have ease of propagation, or we don't mess with them. They must have sales appeal; if they don't, the nursery is soon going to be filled up with plants that you like but you can't sell, so then you would go out of business. I think you all know of people who have been tremendous plantsmen, but sooner or later they have gone out of business because they were plantsmen and not businessmen. The successful nurseryman is a man who is both a businessman and a plantsman. The hybridizer in the future must look for all these qualities in the plants he produces. That is all I have to say. Tom?

**TOM PINNEY:** It was interesting to listen this afternoon to the various approaches the speakers had in helping to create new plants

for the future. Certainly plant collection is something quite familiar to all of us — explorations and so on, but I guess the presentation that really fascinated me and, perhaps, finding a personal preference here, was the interesting talk concerning programming and planning genetically for the plants in the future. It seems as though we still have to depend upon genetic pools, as well as people who will go out and collect these various plants — explorations; certainly to put these together in some sort of planned formulation so that we can come up with the kind of plants we need seems exciting and fascinating to me. Personally, I can think of a lot of plants that I might foresee improved in various ways and perhaps, I will live long enough to see this. I guess we are ready for questions at this point.

JAMES WELLS: There is one thing we haven't talked about this afternoon and I realize that I am getting on dangerous ground here; that is the cost of putting plants on the market. Some years ago at the New Jersey meeting a few of us got together and talked about problems of putting a new plant on the market, and I was horrified that some people considered \$20,000 as a minimum figure to put a new plant on the market. Now, the point of all this is not to bring out commercialism in the meeting, but the only way you really get a good plant on the market is for somebody to fight for it. One man has got to keep pushing, pushing and talking, and pushing. This is the only way you can get these plants spread around.

WILLIAM FLEMER: There is a great difference in the costs of putting a new plant on the market. What is included in the costs of putting a new rose on the market is the cost of the hybridizing program, of having geneticists on the staff, doing the color advertising in gardening magazines and that sort of thing; all of this is necessary to get a new rose into the trade and there is no question that \$20,000 is a very modest expenditure where there is large national advertising. Our experience with new trees has been more modest than that but certainly by the time you are done, you have spent at least \$10,000 and sometimes more in getting new trees across—the selection process, propagation, throwing away of that which is not suitable. It is a long, slow process; you have to do more than putting it in your catalog. The best short cut is to bring new plants to the attention of landscape architects and to their societies, and advertising in landscape architect journals, landscape horticulture journals, or other professional journals. So it is expensive, it does take time and it requires, I believe, a patent system in order to recover costs. I do think that we have an opportunity here, Jim; I know you and I talked about it many times that the Plant Propagators' Society could perform a very real service to the industry in general, and to the hybridizer, in particular in our publicly supported institutions, in getting some very good creations into the trade and replacing some of the inferior older varieties. I would like to see this taken on as a project for our Society and I would like to see,



perhaps, a committee appointed to think it over this year and come up with a rational plan to be considered and adopted, perhaps, at next year's meeting.

JAMES WELLS: We used to have a Field Trials Testing Committee. It existed for a few years during the beginning of our organization and then just faded away. Why, I don't know; but here is a splendid proposal to reactivate our Field Trials and Testing Committee. I believe this is a fine idea, and as I may not be able to be here at the business meeting tomorrow, I will put my two cents worth in now and say that I urge bringing it before the meeting and getting some action.

RALPH SHUGERT: I would like to direct a question to Bill Curtis. On your *Pieris flamingo*, what testing to your knowledge has this plant or clone been exposed to here in the Midwest? Number 2 — in your opinion what hardiness does this clone have?

BILL CURTIS: I don't think it has been introduced in the Midwest. When you say Midwest, you mean the prairie states, don't you? I don't believe it has been sent to anybody in the Midwest, although I have sent this plant to the eastern United States — there are several large plants in that part of the country. Al Martin has one in his nursery that he bought last year for a garden show. We had such a mild winter and fall that before he could show it, the *Pieris flamingo* plant was all bloomed out. I believe that it would be an excellent parent for some hybridizers. Dr. Ticknor used this as a parent and he has the most beautiful pink plant that doesn't fade. Most of the pinks that I have seen do fade. *P. flamingo* sets buds early thus less danger from early frost damage, a desirable characteristic in our area. The Dutch last year gave *P. flamingo* a high award and it walked off with all of the first prizes in a show in Holland.

Going back to the question of putting new plants into the trade I would like to say this. There are shrubs and trees that have sufficient sale volume to warrant the expense of taking out a patent but the smaller propagator or nurseryman does not have sufficient capital to spend from \$10,000 to \$15,000 to introduce new plants to the trade. He has several choices; i.e. to sell outright to a large nursery, grow a large block of the new plant, selling it through modest advertising in the trade journals, or sell the liners to a large nursery with the privilege of selling this new plant in his own local area. I chose the latter method with the *Pyracantha* 'Red Elf'. For several years I furnished Monrovia Nursery with liners until they had a large stock block built up. Monrovia copyrighted the name 'Red Elf'. They have spent a great deal of money promoting this new plant yet they have permitted me to sell it with no restrictions.

Many of us have shrubs and trees that should be introduced to the trade. Why be selfish? Get your friend, the large nurseryman, to introduce and promote it; you can get your percentage of the sales and

besides you are putting a new plant in the yards of your neighbors and friends.

TOM PINNEY: Thank you, Bill. There are numbers of ways to attack this problem. We are not going to solve it here in this room this afternoon. I think that our officers — I notice that Ralph is making a few scribbles — will take this back to the Executive Board for at least a review and perhaps get some action. I don't want to belabor the point but I have a feeling that we have gone far enough on the subject.

RALPH SHUGERT: Doug Weguelin, from the G.B. & I. Region, has asked for a few moments to give some personal comments and remarks on behalf of the G.B. & I. members who are attending this meeting. Doug, would you please come up at this time? This is not a paper, as such, but just some comments that Doug would like to make.

DOUG WEGUELIN: First of all, I would like to thank our hosts. We arrived out of the air about 3 hours after they expected us. They took us back to their homes after most of us had 20 to 24 hours traveling, terribly tired. We went to bed which was very, very welcome. We woke the next morning to find ourselves part of an American family. They just accepted us as if they had known us all their lives. I just can't thank you enough on behalf of everybody that came from the British Isles on how you allowed us to settle in. You not only accepted us into the family but you spent a lot of your valuable time taking us around — Sunday, Monday — and then to the airport on Tuesday; I would like to ask all of you who were our hosts, when you go back home, to thank your wives and families for the wonderful time you have given us.

It has been really great meeting everybody here. We are learners; we are just getting into the Plant Propagators' Society. You have given us a wonderful welcome. We have really appreciated coming here. There are two people from England I would particularly like to mention. These two people have helped the G.B. & I. Region of the Society terrifically; without their help, I don't think we could have gotten off the ground. One, who was unable to attend this meeting, is our Secretary, Bruce McDonald. I can't speak too highly of the work this young man has done in England. The other gentleman, who has just gone out to take some photographs, is Richard Martyr. He is our Editor. He has gone all the way to help us. He has just kept the whole thing going. It was through him that it started and I don't know how we could carry on without him. He really got the whole thing going well. I would like, in his absence, to say how grateful we are in England for the work he has done.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in England, perhaps in 1973.