

POTOMAC  
BONSAI  
ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter

ISSN 0160-9521



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 9 November NORTHERN VIRGINIA (703)938-0683: Green Springs Horticultural Center at 10:00 am. Tips on HOW TO WINTER BONSAI, followed by talk on CARE OF INDOOR BONSAI.
- 10 November BOWIE (301)496-5195 - work, 262-9633 - home Jim Sullivan: Bowie Community Center at 2:00 p.m. COLLECTING NURSERY STOCK and club business.
- 14 November BROOKSIDE (301)871-5768: Argyle Community Center at 7:30 p.m. THURSDAY TRIDENT MAPLE ROOT-OVER-ROCK WORKSHOP: Bring your own rock and container. BEGINNERS' COURSE at 7:00 pm. - topic to be decided.
- 16 November WASHINGTON (202)232-6126: National Arboretum at 2:00 p.m. Saturday
- 17 November BALTIMORE (301)557-9399: Cylburn Nature Center at 2:00 p.m. Sunday THREE RING CIRCUS, participants and materials to be announced. Tree of the Month:- SPRUCE. Remember - BEGINNERS' WORKSHOP, PROBLEM TREES and RAFFLE.
- 22 November ANNAPOLIS (301)263-3995: West Street Library at 7:00 p.m. Friday

## WEDDING BELLS

Mary Holmes was married on 20 October to Peter L. Bloomer. Both are avid bonsai enthusiasts. Mary's forte is collecting bonsai and she is looking forward to doing just that in and around the Flagstaff, Arizona, area where they will reside. Peter is an expert photographer and hopefully we'll see some spectacular photos of collected bonsai in the near future appearing in one of the national bonsai magazines. Mary's departure from the Washington, D.C., area leaves a big void in PBA which will be hard to fill. She will long be remembered for the bonsai auction which she organized and managed in behalf of the National Bonsai Foundation which netted over \$ 10,000.00! We all wish the newlyweds much happiness and super bonsaiing.

P.S. The above all began at the Seattle convention.

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# DEVELOPING MAPLE BONSAI

BY DR. RICHARD M. MESZLER

(Note: Dr. Richard M. Meszler is an old hand at developing maples as well as other plant species into very fine bonsai. The following is a synopsis of his lecture which was delivered before the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society at the regular meeting of 13 July, 1985 and recorded by Jules Koetsch. It is with Richard's kind permission that the following is printed.)

Selecting a species of maple for bonsai involves the following. First and foremost, the maple species which is selected should not have large leaves, - the leaves should be in proportion such that they fit in with the eventual height of the bonsai to be created. For example: sugar maple leaves are large and do not readily reduce in size even when the tree has been growing in a pot. Furthermore trident maple although not as hardy as Japanese maple, has for the most part, a smaller leaf, and can tolerate full-sunlight all Summer long. Japanese maples on the other hand require some protection from the full sun during the Summer months. This can prevent leaf-tip burn or scald due to the leaves losing water too rapidly. Also it is advisable to insure that the soil contains sufficient water. Do not get water on the leaves when the sun's rays are focused on them because the droplets will act as miniature lenses to concentrate the sun's rays like a burning glass thereby creating unsightly burn spots. In addition most lace-leaf maples, acer palmatum dissectum, are slow growers, - as you already know, and that's why they are so high priced in nurseries.

Whether your bonsai starter material came from a nursery or you dig it up in the wild, - by and large any starter material that has a decent thickness at the base of the trunk will also have a trunk with a height that extends beyond the desired height for the finished bonsai. As a consequence there will be very little noticeable taper to the trunk which is a definite shortcoming in bonsai starter material. One might be tempted to reject the material because of the lack of taper. However, there are ways to overcome that dilemma.

## For a Tree Collected in the Field or Nursery Stock with Thick Trunks:

Initially these are rough pruned and preferably put into a box or similar large container rather than in the ground. The resulting warmer soil temperatures will stimulate root growth thereby giving the root system a better chance to more rapidly develop replacement roots for those lost when the plant was dug-up. The collected maples in the area around Washington, D.C., have grown in ground where the upper 5 to 10 inches is a humus layer over a hard-pan which is usually clay. The tree grows fibrous roots in the humus layer and sends a taproot into the hardpan. The taproot is removed provided there are fibrous roots. The plant should not be dug-up if there isn't a sufficient amount of fibrous roots to sustain the amount of tree left after the rough pruning. A good soil mix in which to plant the tree is 2-parts pine bark mulch, 1-part Turface, and 1-part Gran-I-Grit. Except for the pinebark mulch, the other components are screened and only that which passes through 3/8 inch mesh screen but not 1/4 inch mesh is used.

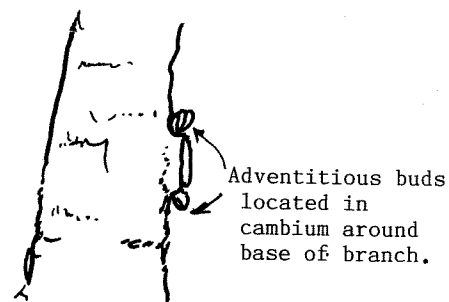
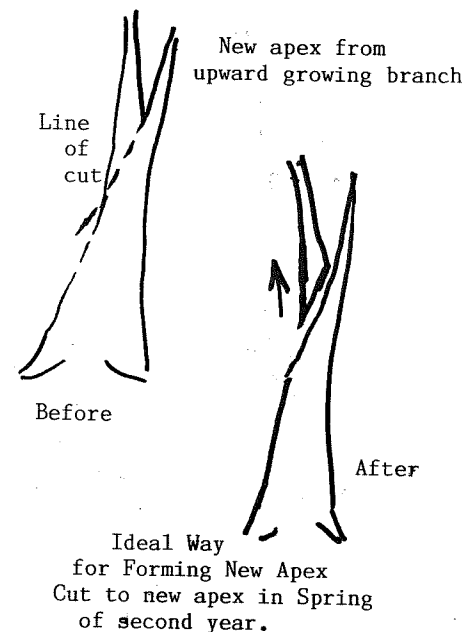
## Development of Trunk Taper:

Depending upon the size of the starting material, there are a number of methods for producing bonsai with thick trunks and reasonable taper.

### Trees Collected in the Field or Large Nursery Stock:

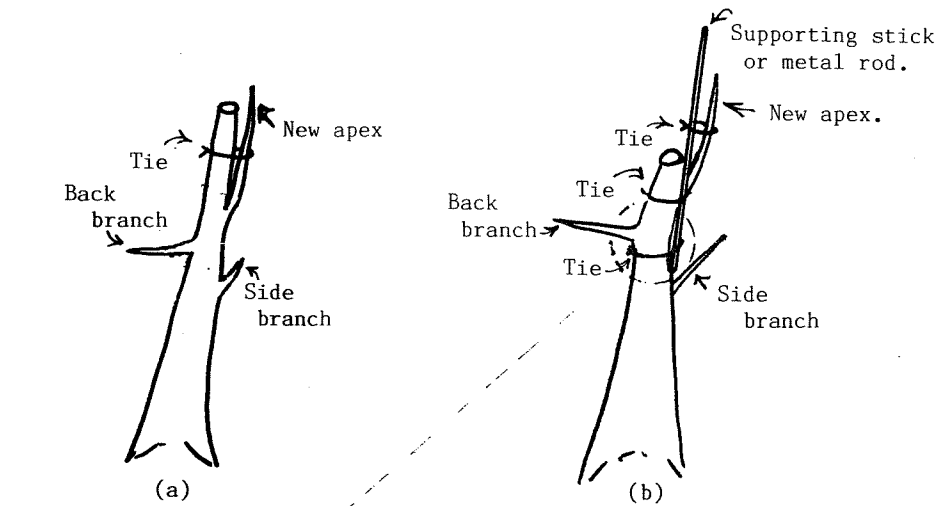
The ideal combination is a trunk with an upward growing branch in an appropriate place to develop a new apex. Cut back to that branch and trim off all remaining branches to leave a bare trunk with its new apex.

If you are not so lucky to find a tree with a built-in apex, then cut the trunk back to about 1/2 the ultimate height of the planned bonsai and remove all branches to allow new buds to sprout from the trunk. Leave a small stump when pruning branches in places where you want new branches to grow. These will preserve the adventitious buds concentrated at the bases of the pruned-off branches. Make the usual concave cuts to remove the remaining branches where no new branches are desired.



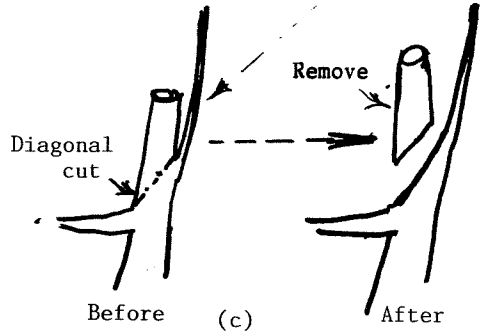
Method for Creating New Branches, New Apex.

When branches form, you can then decide on the front of the tree based on root structure and all the usual rules. Select a branch for the apex somewhat below where the trunk was topped, see the top of the next page. Gently guide its growth upward by tying it with string to the trunk or to a stick or metal rod (well-padded from the bark) tied to the trunk. Also select a branch to serve as the first branch and another for a back branch. Remove the remaining branches.



Side Views for Developing Trunk Taper

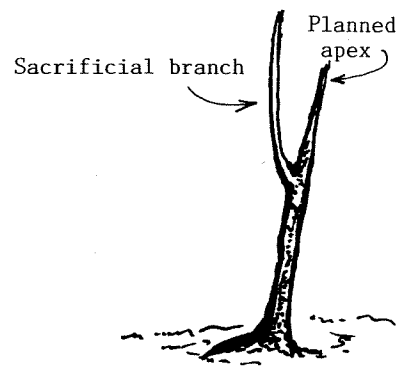
- (a). Enough trunk was left to tie the branch to.
- (b). The top of the trunk was not long enough to tie the branch.
- (c). Second year, - before and after trimming-off unwanted portion of the trunk.



on the diagonal between the apex and the back branch. The apex should be allowed to grow without pruning to permit it to thicken and to promote healing of the wound below it. When it is sufficiently thick, it may be pruned to establish the upper 1/2 to 2/3 portion of the bonsai. Be careful not to damage the new branches.

Seedlings or Small Nursery Stock:

Plant the tree in the ground to achieve maximum growth. Select one branch for the future apex and another on the reverse side of the trunk for a sacrificial branch to thicken the trunk. The sacrificial branch should come from the trunk at a point that is equal to about 1/3 to 1/2 of the ultimate height of the planned bonsai. If the seedling is too tall, cut the trunk back to about 1/2 of the ultimate height of the planned bonsai. The best time to do this is in the early Spring. When the tree sprouts, select one branch to be trained as the apex and another somewhat lower down on the reverse side of the trunk for a sacrificial branch. Let these new shoots

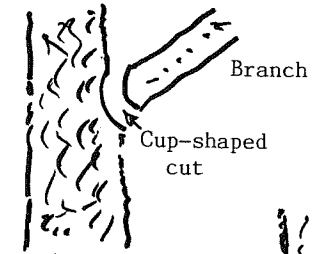


Seedling or Small Nursery Stock

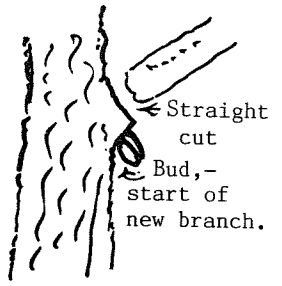
harden before you attempt to wire. You may tie the branches to stakes placed alongside the tree to guide their initial directions of growth. Keep the apex trimmed to from the desired branching while letting the sacrificial branch grow unrestricted to produce a thicker trunk. Trim the lower leaves off of the sacrificial branch to prevent shading of the rest of the tree. When the trunk reaches the desired thickness, remove the sacrificial branch. Place the tree in a training pot and continue to develop the branch structure of the bonsai.

Development of Branch Structure:

During the early years in the development of a bonsai, especially a fast growing maple variety, the growth in the upper portion occurs at an accelerated rate over the growth in the lower portion. As a consequence one finds branches on the top growing faster and thicker than those on the bottom. The remedy is a simple one. Remove any unwanted upper branch by cutting it off with concave pruners to produce a cup-shaped hollow so that the bark will seal over the cut without leaving any bump. On the other hand, if a branch is desired in that location, remove the branch to leave a very small stub remaining as shown in the accompanying sketch. Adventitious buds will develop from the cambium at the base of the old branch and be the start for the new, shorter, thinner branch that is desired at that location. If the new branch grows too fast, it can be cut-off and the whole process started all over again.

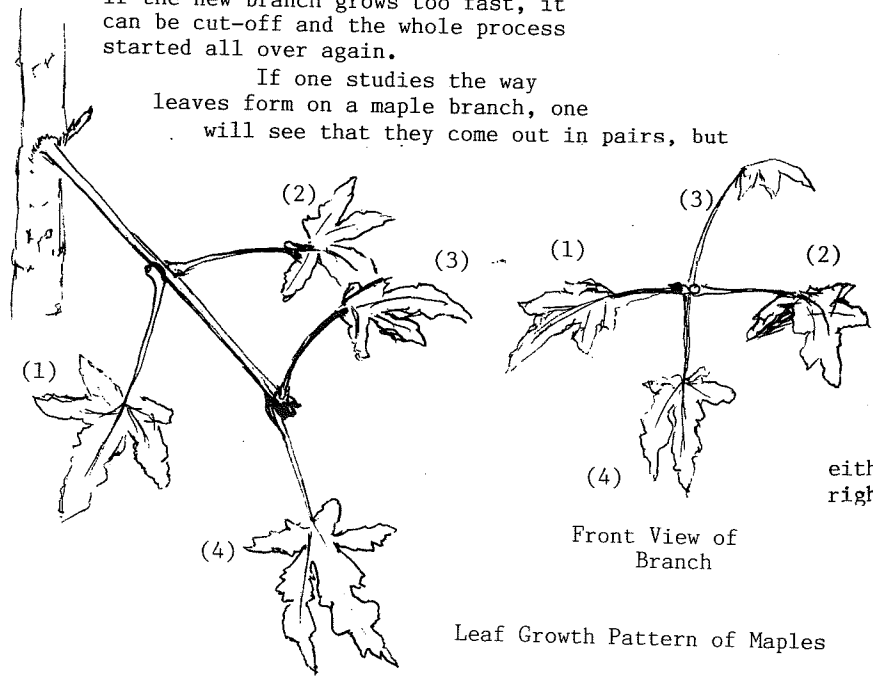


Branch Removed So That No New Branch Will Form At This Location



Branch Removed So That Bud Appears To Start A New Branch.

If one studies the way leaves form on a maple branch, one will see that they come out in pairs, but

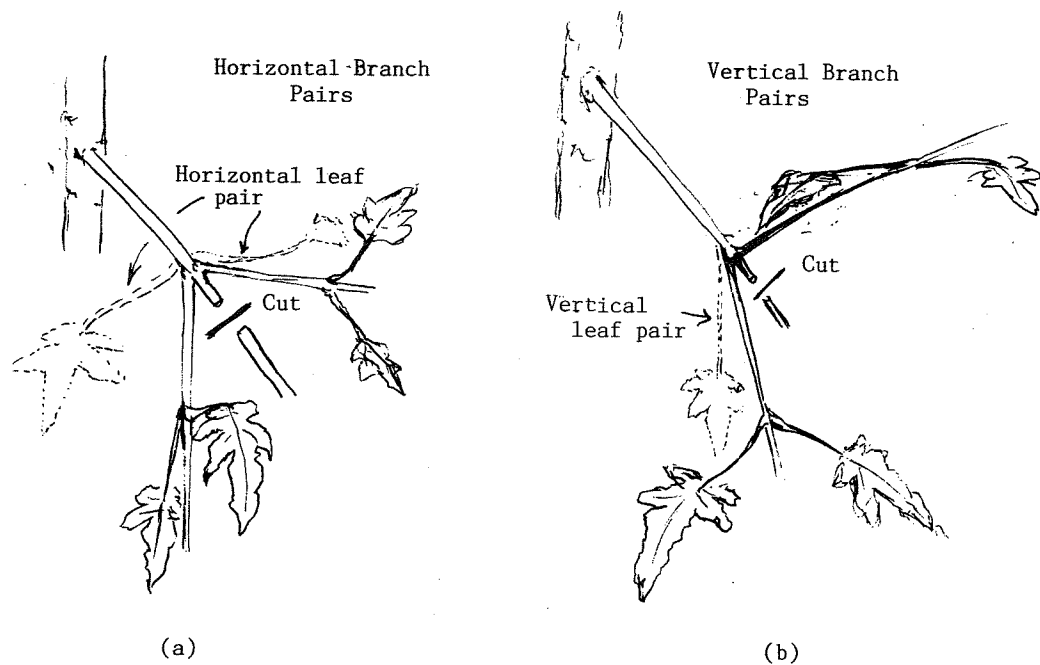
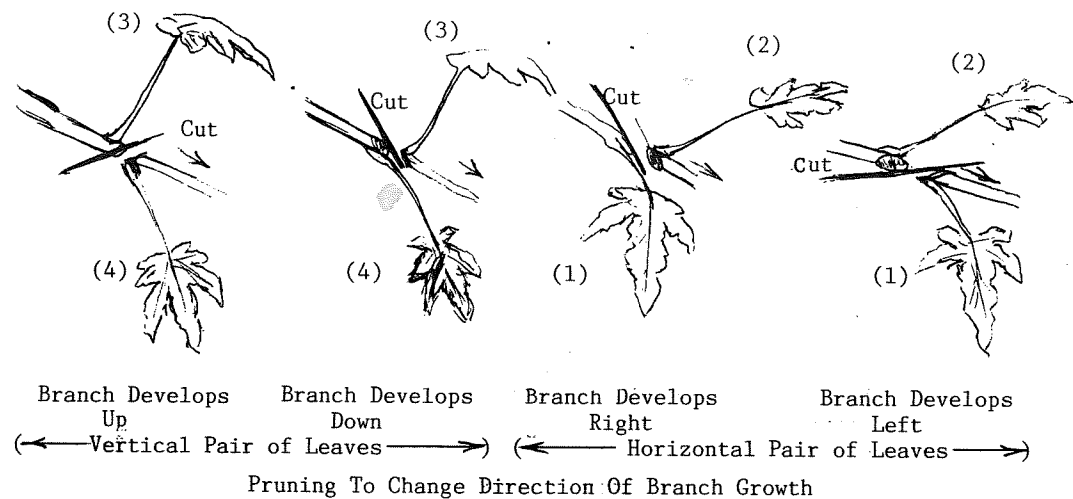


Front View of Branch

Leaf Growth Pattern of Maples

each alternate pair is 90° offset from the previous pair. This makes it easy to direct growth by pruning, so that the branches will change direction either up or down or left or right. The sketches on the next page illustrate how that can be done.

Leaves are numbered to correspond with the previous sketch.



If the center branch is cut back to a horizontal leaf pair, the branches will grow out horizontally as shown in (a) above and the next pair of leaves

on each new branch will be vertical. Conversely, if one cuts the branch back to a pair of vertical leaves, see (b) above, the branches will come out vertically and the next pairs of leaves on those branches will be horizontal.

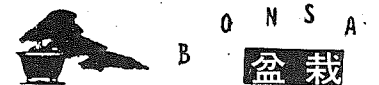
Method For Maintaining Branch Structure:

Once the primary branch structure has been established, it is necessary to keep pinching the secondary and tertiary growth to retain the shape of the bonsai. This results in a great density of small branches generally with smaller leaves and shorter internodes. Each Spring one must reduce and thin out by pruning the profusion of branches. This may be done by removing excess branches and cutting the remaining ones back to a pair of buds closest to the base of the branch. Chose buds that are oriented in the desired direction of growth. Thus, the foliage mass can be maintained within the desired volume by annual reduction to proximal buds to make room for the new season's growth and then by continuous pinching. Should oversized leaves grow on the bonsai, it is best to remove them selectively rather than leaf pruning the entire tree. Leaf pruning tends to weaken the tree.

Wiring should be done very carefully since it can easily break through the thin bark of many maples. Also wire can quickly bite into the trunk or branches and scar them since the growth rate is very rapid in the Spring and early Summer. Keep a sharp eye out to not let that happen, - remove the wire before it digs into the bark. Rewire if deemed necessary. However, wiring of the branches can be kept to a minimum by judicious pruning to develop the branch structure, i.e. the Chinese "Grow and Clip" technique. Wiring should be done with paper-wrapped copper wire or bare aluminum wire.

Do not prune the fine branch structure in the Fall in an effort to maintain or re-establish the tree's shape. Let die-back occur and remove the dead branches in the Spring.

J. D. Vertrees in his book "JAPANESE MAPLES, Momiji and Kaede" does list in a table in the rear of the book, various Japanese maples and their characteristics including whether or not they are good for bonsai. Many maples have leaves that are too large or internodal spacings that are too long to consider them as good bonsai material. They stand in stark contrast to Shishigashira which has close-packed leaves that do not exceed 1½ inches in length. Hence, choose your bonsai maple species carefully.



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# WINTER STORAGE

Within the next six weeks or so, we will have to get our trees ready for the coming winter. A good time, therefore, to review what will, if not assure, then at least not hinder them seeing another summer.

It will help to know a little bit about the mechanics of dormancy. It is triggered by the shortening days of late summer and accelerated by the cold night temperatures of early fall. The change in day-length causes plants to set terminal buds, thus eliminating any further vegetative growth. The drop in the mean temperature causes changes in the plant's chemical make-up. In that way, plants become ever more frost resistant as fall progresses. The important point to note here is that exposure to cold temperatures in the fall is absolutely necessary to prepare the plant for the coming winter. Later on, in November or December, that will include exposure to freezing temperatures.

There are two different types of dormancy - a biologically programmed one and an environmental one. Biologically programmed dormancy can only be slowed by otherwise perfect growing conditions, it cannot be stopped. To break this dormancy, trees native to our area require varying lengths of freezing temperatures, after which they are ready to resume active growth. The length of time the freezing temperatures are required is, alas, a lot shorter than what we are commonly blessed with, so that afterwards the plants can be said to be in a state of environmental or enforced dormancy. They can be brought to grow by giving them advantageous conditions, as is commonly done with bulbs.

It is evident from the above that the critical time for the survival of our trees is not so much during their biological dormancy, but during their environmental or enforced dormancy. I am confident that more trees die in March and April than in December and January.

Many measures can be taken to make sure plants get through the winter undamaged. Here are most of them:

1. Stop using fertilizers rich in nitrogen towards the beginning of August to avoid new growth.
2. Do not prune trees between the middle of August and the time they enter dormancy, because late pruning could result in new growth that will not have a chance of maturing before the onset of winter.
3. Do not water quite as generously in the fall, because a reduction in moisture will beneficially influence hardening of new shoots. Be careful with this one, though - I would rather suffer some winter damage on new shoots than lose the tree because of underwatering.
4. Do not protect your trees against normal cold or freezes in the fall. Exposure to such conditions is very necessary for the tree to get up its own defence mechanism. (A different set of rules applies, of course, to plants that are not winter-hardy at all, such as Ficus Benjamina)

5. During dormancy, protect them against strong winds and sun.
6. Try to arrange their winter-quarters in such a way that they stay dormant for as long as possible.
7. Make sure they have lots of moisture at their roots before freeze-up. Even deciduous trees lose moisture during dormancy.

Winter-storage can take many forms. Here, again, are most of them:

1. Dig the trees, still in their pots, into the ground, with the garden soil just covering the top level of the soil in the pot. To keep the pot and moss neat, wrap the pot in pantyhose prior to digging in. The best spot for digging in your trees is one that gets the least amount of sun and wind. Both can be kept out or reduced significantly by artificial methods, such as surrounding the storage area with a snow fence or burlap.
2. Window wells are good wintering spots. Ideally, they would have north or east exposure. If they face south or west, shading should again be provided by artificial means. Make sure, however, that the method of shading does not prevent snow from falling on your wintering area. Amongst all the survival aids, snow is by far the best. It provides protection from sun and wind, insulates against cold air temperatures, and increases the humidity around the plant. Besides, it's free. The only disadvantage I can think of is that a heavy load of wet snow could result in broken branches - so watch it.
3. Cold-frames are the window-wells of the sophisticated. Three to four feet deep, with a layer of pebbles at the bottom for drainage, a cover on top, they are an almost sure-fire way of wintering bonsai. While they take a lot of work to establish, they make child's play out of putting your trees away for the winter - no peatmoss to wet, no pots to be pantyhosed, no digging on a cold and rainy November weekend.
4. Bonsai can also be overwintered in garages or tool sheds. While the problem of drying winds is effectively eliminated by this method, total lack of air movement is not desirable either, because it encourages fungus growth. A small fan, not blowing directly at your trees, will overcome this. A more serious problem with this method of overwintering is that the trees will generally start to grow when outside conditions are still less than ideal, because the air in the garage or shed will warm up quickly once the sun gets strong again from late February on. Since temperatures will definitely go as low as -10 or -15, rootballs should be insulated, ideally by putting the trees in containers filled with moist peatmoss.
5. A cold-room in the basement is an ideal way to winter trees that are marginally hardy in this area, such as some Japanese maples, elms and azaleas. In my cold-room, temperatures last winter ranged from a low of -2 to a high of 7 in the period from the middle of December to the end of March, with the average being just a shade over 3. In a cold-room, root balls do not have

to be insulated against the cold - it never gets cold enough - although care has to be taken that roots don't dry out. In a cold-room plants also tend to start growth earlier than desirable in spring.

Reiner Goebel

The above article was printed in the "Journal of the Toronto Bonsai Society" issue of October 1984. Reiner Goebel described how they handle outdoor bonsai in what is a much harsher Winter environment than encountered in the Washington, D.C., area.

#### PECKING ORDER FOR BEGINNING WINTER PROTECTION

First - subtropical bonsai if kept outdoors during the warm months, should be brought indoors to winter at a temperature of 40° Fahrenheit. Tropical bonsai should be put indoors when the temperature drops below 65° Fahrenheit. From "BONSAI für die Wohnung" by Paul Lesniewicz.

Next follow the advice given by Bill Valavanis in "BILLBOARD, THE BONSAI SOCIETY OF UPSTATE NEW YORK", Vol. XIII Number 2, October 1984.

Bill Valavanis tells us:

The first bonsai I put under cover are the rock plantings and miniatures. Rock plantings do best if they never freeze solid, as the roots may become detached from the stone. The soil temperature for miniatures changes rapidly -- just like air temperature, so they are put away first.

Next to go under cover include deciduous species and broadleaf evergreens (Azaleas, Holly, Box, Camellia).

Flowering and fruiting bonsai are placed under protection next, so a sudden blast of cold temperature does not injure the buds.

Finally, the conifers are placed under protection, but they, too, have a sequential order. The first conifers to protect include Juniper, False cypress, Hemlock, and Yew. The pines are the last bonsai to be protected.

Of course, bonsai which require transplanting or those which did not grow vigorously during the last growing season and may be weak are always protected first. Be sure to cut the wire on deciduous species. I do not remove the wire from other species.

Be sure to spray the bonsai with a fungicide and insecticide after placement in the winter storage area. If it is warm, use Benomyl; if cold, use Captan for fungicides. Remember that Benomyl is a systemic and requires a vigorous sap flow to become effective, while Captan is a contact spray. The same goes for the insecticide; use Isotox if warm, and Malathion if cool.

Miniature and small-size bonsai are often buried in wooden boxes containing equal parts of perlite and moist sphagnum moss. It is alright to bury the small specimens completely. Be sure to remove all dead foliage and fruit before putting the bonsai "to sleep" -- hopefully not permanently!

## FLOWERING BONSAI - THROUGH THE YEAR

At the 11th Annual PBA Symposium on 12 and 13 October, 1985, Chase Rosade gave a slide-talk on "Seasonal, Year-Round, Bonsai Color". Chase has been working on this subject for many years, and his presentation covered all the elements in a bonsai planting from the seasonal color variations in foliage, to texture/color of the bark on the trunk and limbs as well as rocks in root-over-rock or root-on-rock plantings, color of the fruit and different colors that moss takes on during the seasons. In the course of his program, Chase showed slides of various bonsai material capable of producing impressions in color both year-round and on a seasonal basis.

Chase's talk stimulated this little bit of literature search to create what I've been interested in having for a long time, - a list of bonsai material that would be blooming at any one time throughout the year. In other words, always have some bonsai in bloom. I'm just as guilty as most everyone else in being captivated by a plant in bloom. Hence accepting the self-imposed challenge, the accompanying listing and table were developed. The sources of information were some of the species Chase mentioned in his talk, mainly from the Order of Bloom listing in "WYMAN'S GARDENING ENCYCLOPEDIA" by Donald Wyman, MacMillan Publishing Co., Inc. New York, and cross-checked against the species found in the Japanese text "DRAWINGS AND DESIGNS FOR FLOWERING BONSAI" with articles by different authors.

One must recognize that the dates for blooming on the accompanying table are not ironclad. Since the time for a plant to bloom each ensuing year is closely allied to the weather before the plant blooms, the dates are as unpredictable as the weather. Local changes such as very high, unseasonal temperature changes followed by normal or sub-normal temperatures, very dry or very wet spells can alter the blooming dates by as much as weeks. In fact even the mini-climate around your home where you keep your bonsai may be different enough to change the dates for the flower buds to pop-open. Of course for those who have greenhouses, the plants can be tricked into blooming earlier by raising the temperature and possibly augmenting it with artificial lighting. On the other hand, I've heard of cases where people have placed bonsai in a refrigerator or a cool, dark place to retard the opening of the flower buds before the bonsai is to go in a show a week or two away. My own experience with Japanese flowering apricot (Ume) and Winter blooming jasmine is that they will only bloom in this area (Washington, D.C.) if kept out of freezing, subfreezing temperatures during January and February. Mine bloom in my makeshift greenhouse where an electric-heater maintains the temperature around 40° Fahrenheit.

On scanning the species of plants listed on the table, one might note that many are shrubs and not trees and also some might have leaves that are large and somewhat out of proportion to the size of the bonsai. The Japanese tend to overlook those factors if one is looking to enjoy the bonsai only when it is in bloom. Furthermore, the table shows that for certain months of the year only a few plants are listed and for November and December there are no plants listed. This points out the problem of finding plants for bonsai that will provide an ever present show of flowers.

In conclusion, if any of the readers have any thoughts, experiences, or additions/deletions to the below listing please let me know so that they can be passed along to the other readers.



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BONSAI TREES  
ORDER OF BLOOM

Tree or Shrub	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. Wintersweet	xxxxxxx											x
2. Japanese flowering apricot	xxxxx											
3. Winter blooming jasmine	xxxxxxx											
4. Japanese witch-hazel	xxxxxxxxxxx											
5. Chinese witch-hazel	xxxxxxxxxxx											
6. Pussy willow		xxxxx										
7. Japanese cherry			xxxxxx									
8. Alder			xxxxx									
9. Forsythia			xxxx									
10. Birch				xxx								
11. Winter-hazel				xxx								
12. Camellia				xxx								
13. Honeysuckle				xxx								
14. Andromeda				xxx								
15. Azalea				xxxxxxxxxxx								
16. Apricot				xxx								
17. Hawthorn				xxxx								
18. Enkianthus perulatis				xxxx								
19. Crab apple				xxxxxxx								
20. Plum				xxxxx								
21. Lilac				xxx								
22. Dogwood					xxxxx							
23. Common quince					xxx							
24. Flowering quince		xxxxxxx										
25. European mountain ash				xxx								
26. Chokeberry				xxx								
27. Yulan magnolia				xxxx								
28. Tamarisk				xxx								
29. Blueberry				xxx								
30. Wisteria				xxx								
31. Japanese wisteria							xxx					
32. Ilex						xxxx						
33. Beautybush						xxx						
34. Cotoneaster						xxx						
35. Mountain laurel						xxx						
36. Privet						xxx						
37. Pyracantha						xxx						
38. Linden						xxxxx						
39. Stewartia						xxxx						
40. Albizia (Silktree)						xxx						
41. Chrysanthemum parthenium						xxx						
42. Chrysanthemums								xxxxxxxxxxx				
43. Crepe myrtle							xxxx					
44. Witch-hazel (Hamamelis)									xxx			
45. Bohea tea										xxx		

LISTING  
of  
FLOWERING BONSAI MATERIAL

The following listing of flowering bonsai material is arranged in alphabetical order of the plant's common name. The numbers correspond to their location on the table. The scientific names of the plants are given along with the adult height of the plant in nature, the lower limit of the hardiness zone and the color and size of the blooms. Note that the hardiness zone for the Washington, D.C. area is Zone 7 and any plants with a higher hardiness zone number would not be able to survive an outdoor winter in this area unless they are put in a greenhouse or possibly a coldframe.

40. Albizia, julibrissin (silktree), 36 feet, Zone 7. Pink and white ball-like flower clusters, about 2 inches across.
8. Alder, alnus. Zones 5 to 3, male and female catkins.
14. Andromeda, pieris, Zones 7 to 4, heights range from 6 to 9 feet, Flowers are upright or pendulous clusters or panicles of tiny, white buds.
19. Apple, crab: malus, 15 to 45 feet high, Zones 5 to 2. Flowers range in size from 3/4 to 2 1/2 inches in diameter and in color from white to red to pink.
16. Apricot: prunus armeniaca, 30 feet high, single white or pinkish flowers about an inch in diameter. Zone 5.
2. Apricot, Japanese flowering, prunus mume sieboldi et succ., pink or white flowers about 1/2 inch in diameter. Zone 7.
25. Ash, European Mountain: fraxinus excelsior, 120 feet high. Zone 3
15. Azalea: rhododendrum numerous species, 1 1/2 to 15 feet, Zones 7 to 2. Colors range from white to red, pink, orange, yellow, violet and in diameter from 1 1/2 to 3 inches.
33. Beautybush: kolkwitzia, 10 feet high, Zone 4, Pale pink flowers.
10. Birch: betula, 30 to 90 feet, Zones 5 to 2, flowers are catkins.
29. Blueberry: vaccinium, 8 inches to 18 feet, Zones 7 to 2. Small, urn shaped flowers.
12. Camellia: 15 to 45 feet high, Zones 9 to 7, large blooms around 4 inches in diameter with colors that are waxy, white, pink, red or variegated.
7. Cherry, Japanese: prunus, 20 to 25 feet high, Zones 6 to 5, white or pink flowers, 3 to 5 in a cluster, about one inch diameter per flower.
26. Chokeberry: aronia, 1 1/2 to 12 feet high, Zone 4, small, white, five petalled flowers.
42. Chrysanthemums: There may be some question as to why what many people may classify as neither a shrub or tree but a flowering plant, is included in this listing. Every Autumn in Japan various places hold chrysanthemum shows with the mums in magnificent full-bloom. A cascade chrysanthemum is a popular style in Japan which comes closest to being bonsai. 15 inches to 5 feet high, Zones 5 to 2. Flower heads range in size from less than an inch in diameter to over 6 inches. Colors are varied.
41. Chrysanthemum parthenium: 1 to 3 feet, Zone 4, white-rayed flower heads 3/4 inch in diameter. This mum blooms early in August.
34. Cotoneaster: 1 to 12 feet high, Zones 7 to 4. White flowers.
43. Crape-myrtle: lagerstroemia, 21 to 60 feet, Zones 10 to 7, flowers in cluster 4 to 9 inches long, - colors range from pink to red, lavender, bluish and white.
22. Dogwood: cornus, 9 to 60 feet high, Zones 8 to 2, flowers are small and yellow surrounded by four large white, pink or red bracts which are often

- erroneously referred to as the flower. The bracts are about 2 inches in diameter.
18. Enkianthus: a member of the heath family, 6 to 30 feet high, Zones 7 to 5, Flowers are bell-shaped clusters of 10 to 12 blossoms.
  9. Forsythia: 2 to 10 feet, Zones 5 to 4, yellow flowers about 3/4 inch diameter.
  17. Hawthorn: crataegus, 5 to 36 feet, Zones 5 to 3, white or pink to red flowers about 3/4 inch in diameter.
  13. Honeysuckle: lonicera, 3 to 50 feet as a vine, Zones 9 to 2, flowers range from white to pink, yellow or red, trumpet shaped flowers 3/4 to 2 inches in length.
  32. Ilex, holly: 9 to 36 feet, Zones 7 to 3, inconspicuous flowers.
  3. Jasmine, Winter Blooming: jasminum nudiflorum, 15 feet vine, Zone 5, flowers are solitary, bright yellow, about 3/4 to one inch in diameter.
  21. Lilac: syringa, 6 to 20 feet high, Zones 5 to 2, flowers range in color from deep purple, to white, pink and even yellow in clusters.
  38. Linden: tilia, 12 to 120 feet high, Zones 5 to 2, yellowish, fragrant flowers.
  35. Mountain laurel: kalmia latifolia, 30 feet high, Zone 4, pink and white and sometimes even red flowers in large clusters.
  20. Plum: prunus blireiana, 24 feet high, Zone 5, double, light-pink flowers about one inch in diameter.
  6. Pussy Willow: salix gracilistyla, 6 to 10 feet, Zone 5, flowers are catkins with slightly pinkish tinge.
  36. Privet: ligustrum, 6 to 15 feet, Zones 7 to 3, clusters of small creamy-white ill-smelling flowers.
  37. Pyracantha: 6 to 18 feet, Zones 8 to 5, flat clusters of small, white flowers.
  23. Quince, Common: cydonia oblonga, 24 feet high, Zone 4, flowers are 2 inches across and pink or white in color.
  24. Quince, Flowering: chaenomeles, 3 to 6 feet, Zone 4, flowers range in size from 1 to 2 inches and in color from red to white to pink to orange.
  39. Stewartia: 15 to 45 feet, Zones 7 to 5, white flowers which are camellialike in shape and from one to 3 inches in diameter.
  28. Tamarisk: tamarix, 4 to 30 feet high, Zones 8 to 4, light, fluffy pink flowers.
  45. Tea, Bohea: thea sinensis, 30 feet, Zone 9, white fragrant flowers borne singly or in 2 to 5 flowered clusters.
  1. Wintersweet: chimonanthus, 9 feet high, Zone 7, fragrant flowers which are yellow and about one-inch.
  11. Winter-hazel: corylopsis, 6 to 18 feet high, small, fragrant yellow flowers on pendulous racemes an inch or so long. Zones 7 to 5.
  30. Wisteria: usually grows as a vine but can be self-sustaining, Zones 7 to 4, flowers are in cluster from 6 to 48 inches in length and are pink, white, varying shades of lilac.
  31. Wisteria, Japanese: wisteria floribunda, twining vine, Zone 4, see 30. above.
  44. Witch-hazel: hamamelis virginiana, 15 feet high, Zone 4, yellow or red flowers 1 1/2 inches wide.
  5. Witch-hazel, Chinese: hamamelis mollis, 30 feet high, Zone 5, flowers see 44.
  4. Witch-hazel, Japanese: hamamelis japonica, 30 feet high, Zone 5, flowers are purplish or reddish near the base, about 1 1/2 inches wide.

Note: Where more than one height and more than one Zone are given, this indicates that a range of cultivars are available in that species from which one should select a suitable variety based on growth characteristics.

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