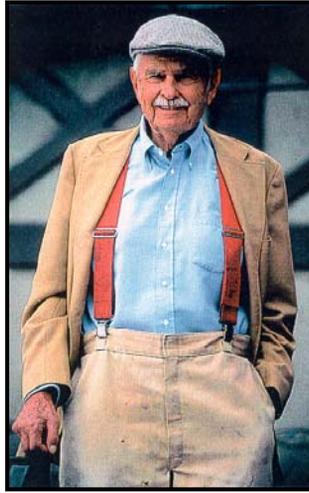


# Theodore Klein Plant Awards

Promoting New and Superior Plants for Kentucky Landscapes



## *Picea orientalis* Oriental Spruce

is a pyramidal conifer that develops pendulous branches with age. It is hardy to zones 4 to 7. The foliage is unique; needles are relatively short at 1/4" to 1/2", stiff, and shiny dark green. The tree averages 50-60 feet in the landscape. The dense foliage and tight, sometimes pendulous, habit is superior to other spruces frequently found in Kentucky. Cultivars are propagated by grafting onto seedlings or *Picea abies* rootstock.

# 2004

## *Helleborus x hybridus* (*H. orientalis*)

### Lenten Rose Hybrids

are easy-to-grow, winter or early-spring flowering evergreen herbaceous plants that are exquisite in flower and foliage. The large bell-shaped white to purple flowers hang down; some call it drooping. Breeders have created new cultivars that provide a diversity of colors including dark purple, almost black, red and even yellow. The blooms average 3-4 inches wide and have a relatively long bloom duration of 8-10 weeks. Hardy to zones 4-9; hellebores grow 15-18 inches tall. Tolerant of a wide range of environmental conditions, it prefers a partial to full shade site and a moist alkaline soil. The species is grown from seed; the cultivars are divided.

## *Taxodium distichum*

### 'Mickelson'

### Shawnee Brave™

baldcypress is a strongly pyramidal deciduous conifer that was introduced by Earl Cully of Heritage® Trees, Inc., Jacksonville, Illinois. While baldcypress tend to be very tolerant of environmental conditions Shawnee Brave™ is known to be extremely hardy. Very nice plantings of the species next to a water feature with knees can be seen at Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati and the planting of mixed *Taxodium* cultivars, including Shawnee Brave™, around the lake at Bernheim Arboretum is a beautiful frequently-photographed scene. Fall color is a "worthy" bronze-orange.



## *Cladrastis kentukea*

### Yellowwood or American Yellowwood

is a medium-sized flowering Kentucky native tree. The fragrant 1-1.5 inch white flowers found on 8-14 inch pendulous panicles are a delight in May. The leaves are alternate, odd-pinnately compound. The yellow fall color comes at a time when many other trees are already defoliated for winter. The bright yellow beacon of the yellowwood in the gray fall-winter scene found in most woodlands and gardens is a wonderful sight.



The Theodore Klein Plant Award is sponsored by the University of Kentucky, Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association, Yew Dell Gardens and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

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