# **Theodore Klein Plant Awards**

Promoting New and Superior Plants for Kentucky Landscapes



Baptisia australis

false indigo, one of our long-lived North American natives, is grown for its lavender-blue spring flower spikes. In full sun plants will grow to 2.5'-3.5' tall. The plant combines excellent pest resistance with drought and heat tolerance that make it an excellent choice for both the urban and country garden. Breeding programs like that of Yew Dell Gardens have some exciting new plants with incredible flower colors and size characteristics. The seed pods can be attractive, certainly musical, for the cut-dried stem market.



### *Cornus kousa* 'Wolf Eyes'

Variegated chinese Dogwood, 'Wolf Eyes', is a shrubby, broad spreading kousa dogwood. It is considered among the best of

the *C. kousa* variegated forms. The creamy white margined leaves hold up well in sun or shade. Blooms of four, pointed white bracts last for several weeks and in late summer the plant is covered with red-orange raspberry-like fruit. 'Wolf Eyes' was discovered at Manor View Farm, Monkton, MD. See at Yew Dell Gardens.



## Rohdea japonica –

sacred lily This uncommon, evergreen perennial is one of the most overlooked hardy foliage plants available. Long, strap-like evergreen leaves to about 15" in height form small clumps that increase slowly. The fruit is showy all fall and winter. Best grown in shade, and once established, *Rohdea* is quite drought tolerant. See at Yew Dell Gardens & UKREC.





 $\mathbf{2006}$ 



## Nyssa sylvatica

**black gum**, is a Kentucky native tree grown for its brilliant burgundy, red, orange and yellow fall foliage and tremendous adaptability. Summer foliage on the

better forms is deep lustrous green, changing to beautiful mixed color displays in autumn. Some improved forms include 'Hayman's Red' (Red Rage<sup>™</sup>) with great glossy leaves and good leaf spot resistance introduced by Mike Hayman of Louisville's Seneca Gardens Arboretum, 'Wildfire' with burgundy new summer foliage, and even contorted and weeping selections such as 'Autumn Cascade'. Cultivars can be found in Louisville's Cherokee Park, White Hall, Seneca Gardens, Yew Dells Gardens and UKREC Botanic Garden Gardens. The picture above is a cultivar selection named 'McNiel's Weeper' after UK Horticulture Professor Dr. Robert McNiel.

#### Vibunum x burkwoodii 'Mohawk'

Mohawk Viburnum has long been one of the gold standards of fragrant garden shrubs. This outstanding selection will grow to approximately 7' tall and wide with foliage of dark glossy green in summer, changing to a rich redorange in autumn. In spring, rich cherry-red flower buds put on a display for 10-14 days before opening to gleaming white, spicy scented, snowball-like blooms. This viburnum is perfectly at



home in full sun or partial shade and is adaptable to a wide range of soil types. This is one of the great plant breeder Dr. Donald Egolf's introductions known for their flowers and pest resistance; for more information see http://www.usna.usda.gov/Newintro/mohawk.html





The Theodore Klein Plant Awards were created to promote superior plants for the Kentucky landscape. The program is sponsored jointly by the University of Kentucky, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association and Yew Dell Gardens. For more information on the Klein Awards and for a downloadable version of the 2006 poster, go to UK's Dr. Win Dunwell's web site:

http://www.ca.uky.edu/HLA/Dunwell/TKleinPA.html