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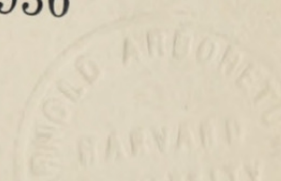
SUMMER BLOOMING VINES

**Trumpet creepers.** The trumpet creeper, *Campsis radicans* (*Bignonia* or *Tecoma radicans* in the trade) is one of the common summer flowering vines. Widely used, this lovely vine is a native of the southern United States. Even as far north as Boston, the trumpet creeper is hardy, though occasionally it does suffer somewhat during the most severe winters. Having been introduced into cultivation as early as 1640, it is only natural that numerous special forms and hybrids have crept into the trade, so that a short discussion of this group does not seem to be amiss.

There are two important species in the north, *Campsis radicans* or the native American type, and *Campsis grandiflora* (*C. chinensis*), the Chinese type. Unfortunately, this latter is not hardy at the Arboretum, but it has been grown successfully on Long Island. The Chinese form has more attractive flowers than the American one. Although the flower tube is shorter, the flare of the corolla is wider, thus making the individual bloom more conspicuous than in its American relative. Also, the flowers are not borne in a tight cluster as in the American type, but more loosely, making a much better display. Fortunately, there are hybrids between the two species which are fairly hardy in New England. These hybrid forms are usually known as *C. Tagliabuana* or *C. hybrida*. When introduced from seeds, there is naturally considerable variation in both flowers and in hardiness. One of the forms which has proved best at the Arboretum over a long period of years is the variety Madame Galen, which can be asexually propagated either by hard-wood cuttings or by top grafting on the native *C. radicans*.

The trumpet creepers climb by clinging with small root-like hold-

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fasts similar to those on the common English ivy. Though some claim that they need additional support for clinging to stone work, this is not always the case. Two good examples of this vine clinging to the perpendicular walls of buildings without any support whatsoever are on the administration building at the Arnold Arboretum and also on the administration building at Vassar College. The vines have climbed to the roofs of both of these buildings and have never needed additional wire supports of any kind. Where these vines are grown near their northern limits, some of the branches may unfortunately die back at their tips. However, since they always bloom on the current year's growth and respond to pruning readily, they may be cut back rather heavily with little appreciable reduction in flowering.

A list of the important differences between the two species is interesting because it aids in the understanding of some of the variations appearing in the hybrids.

American Trumpet creeper ( <i>Campsis radicans</i> )	Chinese Trumpet creeper ( <i>Campsis grandiflora</i> )
Leaves hairy beneath, along the veins	Leaves smooth beneath
Flower tubular	Flower bell-shaped
Sepals relatively short	Sepals relatively long
Corolla lobes small	Corolla lobes large
Flowers usually orange-red	Flowers usually scarlet-red
Flower cluster compact	Flower cluster open
Aerial roots common	Aerial roots rare
Vines up to thirty feet long	Vines up to ten feet long

**Clematis.** There are at least five species of clematis which are outstanding for their summer bloom, and many more species and varieties which have not yet attained wide popularity. The first of the five species is *Clematis Jackmanni*, that large, purple-flowered clematis which was introduced into the United States about 1866 and now is common in cultivation even as far north as Boston. There are pale gray and reddish-flowered varieties.

The sweet autumn clematis, *C. paniculata*, introduced by the Arnold Arboretum in 1877, may not bloom until September, but in some places starts to bloom by the end of August. Its small, starry, white flowers are borne in the greatest profusion. Unlike Jackman's clematis, it is not killed to the ground except in the most severe winters. Neither of these are natives of America, but were introduced from abroad, Jackman's clematis as a hybrid from England (its parents



from eastern Asia), and the latter, *C. paniculata*, from Japan.

A native clematis, common in many places in the eastern United States along fence rows and the edges of woods is the virgin's bower, *Clematis virginiana*. Its European relative, *Clematis Vitalba* or traveller's joy, is a rank growing, small flowered vine, blooming profusely in the summer. Though the individual flowers are not large, they literally cover the plant and, for this reason, make an excellent show. Both can be used extensively in naturalistic plantings.

One lovely native, which should be given considerably more attention in northern gardens, is that little, scarlet-flowered *Clematis texensis*, the scarlet clematis. It is hardy as far north as Bar Harbor, Maine. It was first collected in Texas, about 1850. The urn-shaped flowers are a bright scarlet to a rose-pink, and although the plant dies to the ground each winter, it comes up very vigorously in the spring. It has been used a great deal in hybridizing work, but should be in greater demand by gardeners who like the unusual.

**Honeysuckles.** Everyone is familiar with the sweet-scented Hall's honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica Halliana*, the flowers of which are white, gradually changing to yellow. They begin to open in June and continue into July. The less floriferous and less vigorous Henry honeysuckle, *Lonicera Henryi*, also blooms in the summer and has smaller, reddish flowers. A very interesting native species is the trumpet honeysuckle, *Lonicera sempervirens*, which is common in certain parts of New England, in the Adirondacks in New York, and further south. The flowers are long and trumpet-shaped, varying from orange-yellow to scarlet, with yellow and brilliant scarlet forms. An interesting fact regarding this plant is that the leaves are "connate" or joined together at the stem, so that it appears as if two opposite leaves formed a single one with the stem coming through the center. A good summer bloomer, conspicuous because of its bright colored flowers, but often injured by severe weather, this vine is not as vigorous a grower as the Hall's honeysuckle, and is often almost shrub-like. *Lonicera Heckrottii*, the ever-blooming honeysuckle, is even more shrubby in growth. The tubular flowers are purple on the outside and yellow within, a very interesting combination. Unfortunately, both of these plants are susceptible to severe infestations of plant lice and should not be grown unless this pest be kept in check by proper spraying.

**Fleece vine.** *Polygonum Auberti*, the fleece vine, has proved the better vine at the Arboretum when compared with its near relative, *P. baldschuanicum*. It commences to bloom the latter part of July. Introduced into cultivation in 1899, it has had a rather late start in



gaining popularity among other summer blooming vines. It produces foot-long masses of small, greenish-white flowers at the end of each branch. In New England and northern New York, the plant dies to the ground each winter, but grows so vigorously in the spring that it makes an excellent showing with its dainty flowers in the summer-time. Being a twining vine, it readily ascends almost any kind of support given it and can be used to advantage in combination with the later blooming *Clematis paniculata*.

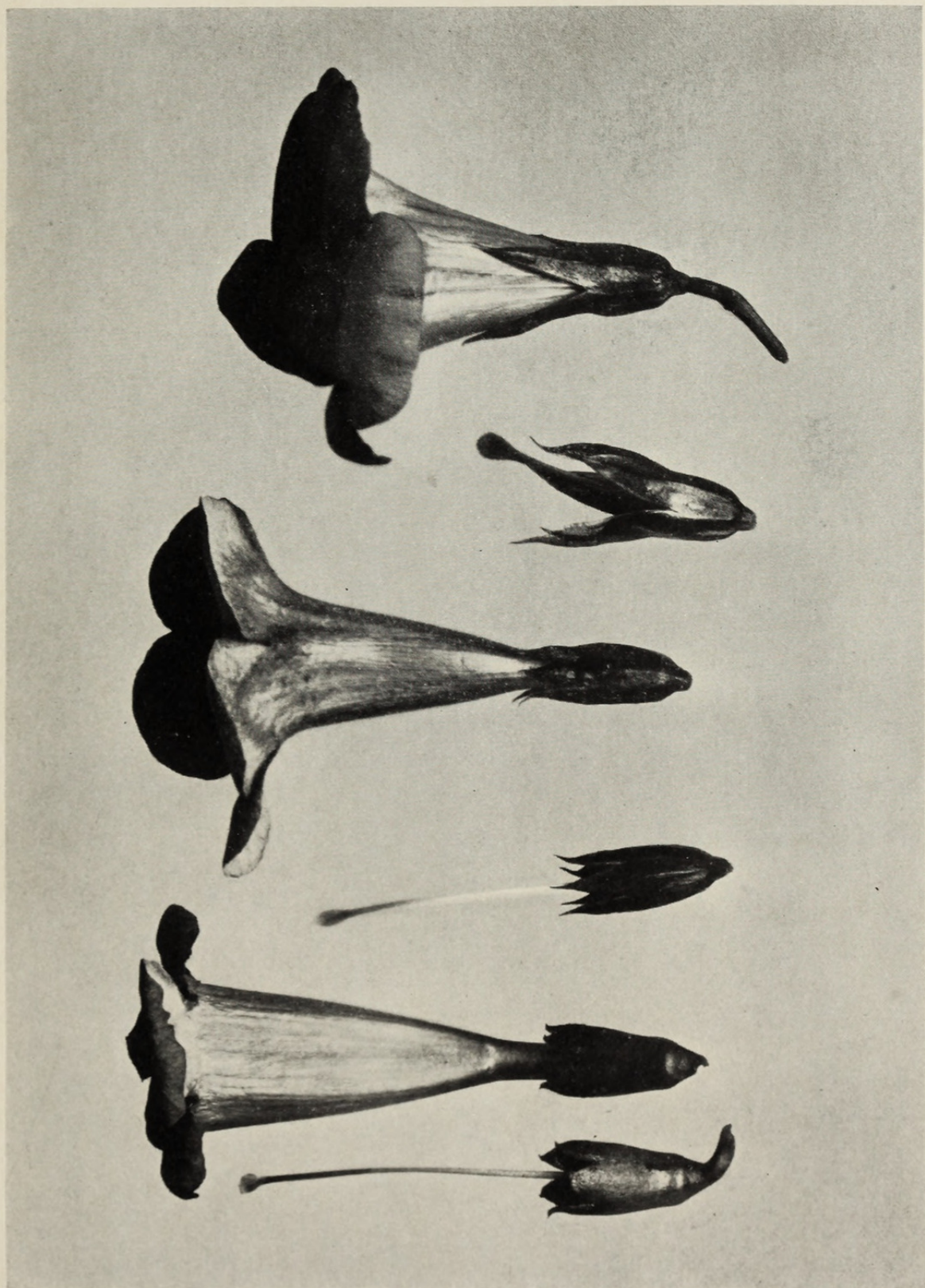
**Schizophragma hydrangeoides.** Classed as a summer blooming vine, this is somewhat similar to *Hydrangea petiolaris* which blooms in June, and, in fact, is much confused with it. However, it is inferior in habit and flower to the former. Though it may be good in some sections, it seems that the climbing hydrangea might well be given the preference.

**Memorial rose.** Though many rambler roses might be termed summer blooming vines, only one rose species will be mentioned here, namely *Rosa Wichuraiana* or the memorial rose. This is a low growing, trailing vine, best used as a ground cover. The leaves are small and a bright shiny green, the flowers small and white. The plant is best used on banks, for it not only makes an excellent display, but at the same time tends to keep the soil from washing.

**Tripterygium Regelii.** Mentioned in the last issue of the Bulletin, this plant is also considered a summer blooming vine, although it is shrubby by habit and forms an excellent shrub if properly restrained.

DONALD WYMAN





Flowers illustrating the three forms of Campsis.

Reading from left to right: *Campsis radicans*, *C. tagliabuana*, *C. grandiflora* (formerly *C. chinensis*).

Note the difference in the calyx lobes and corollas.



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