

**Vitex Negundo incisa**, the Chaste-tree, may now be seen in full blossom in the Shrub Garden. This member of the Verberna family would be well worth cultivating for its leaves alone. These are long petioled, palmately five-lobed, each lobe being deeply dissected. The flowers are borne in erect, much branched paniced masses, each from 6 to 10 inches long, at the end of the current season's shoot; they are pale blue in color, prominently lipped and decidedly verberna-like in appearance. This Chaste-tree is native of northern China, Mongolia and Korea and is also found naturalized in the temperate regions of both hemispheres. In severe winters it suffers but although it has been cultivated in the Arboretum since 1890 it has not been killed outright. Each year it puts forth a great number of shoots forming a broad, rounded shrub 12 feet high and as much in diameter. It will grow in almost any soil but prefers a sunny, well drained situation. The typical *V. Negundo* has not proved hardy in the Arboretum.

**Campsis radicans**, otherwise known as *Tecoma radicans* and *Bignonia radicans*, the Trumpet-vine, is one of the most familiar of native climbing plants, having been cultivated since 1640. It is a handsome strong growing vine but its flowers are of a rather harsh shade of red. Much more pleasing in color are those of *C. hybrida* *Madame Galen*, which is a hybrid between the American species and the Chinese *C. chinensis*, alas! not hardy in New England. In the hybrid the flowers are a pleasing orange-red. This year owing perhaps to excessive heat these plants are flowering uncommonly well on the trellis in the Shrub Garden.

**Lespedeza bicolor** is in flower in the Shrub Garden and is well worth growing for the multitude of rose-purple blossoms it produces. Like the other Pea-bushes it is a plant of twiggy growth with three-foliolate leaves and pea-shaped flowers in abundance at the end of the current season's shoot. These August blooming plants are useful and may be well associated with herbaceous plants in a border. Of the several sorts in gardens *L. bicolor* and the late blooming *L. formosa*, better known under the erroneous name of *Desmodium penduliflorum*, are the best. Like other members of the tribe they are not particular as to soil and are valuable for clothing gravelly banks.

**Hibiscus moscheutos**, the Swamp Rosemallow, is a handsome suffruticose plant well suited for planting by the side of ponds and streams. The leaves are dull green, more or less ovate with three long-pointed lobes, dull green on the upper and hoary on the under surface. The flowers are handsome pale pink and borne singly in the axils of the upper leaves. A native of eastern United States, being found in swampy places from Massachusetts to Florida, it was in years past more popular in gardens than at the present time. On the margin of the small ponds several plants may be seen in bloom.

E. H. W.



Wilson, Ernest Henry. 1930. "Hibiscus moscheutos." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 4(15), 60–60.

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