

# Past Cary Award Winners

Trees	Year Awarded
<i>Abies koreana</i>	Korean Fir '05
<i>Acer griseum</i>	Paperbark Maple '03
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i> 'Morioka Weeping'	Weeping Katsuratree '06
<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> 'Pendula'	Weeping Alaska Cedar '97
<i>Cornus kousa</i>	Kousa Dogwood '02
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry Dogwood '99
<i>Magnolia</i> 'Elizabeth'	Elizabeth Yellow Magnolia '04
<i>Magnolia kobus</i> var. <i>stellata</i> 'Centennial'	Star Magnolia '97
<i>Magnolia x loebneri</i> 'Leonard Messel'	Magnolia 'Leonard Messel' '98
<i>Malus</i> 'Donald Wyman'	'Donald Wyman' Crabapple '01
<i>Sciadopitys verticillata</i> 'Wintergeen'	Japanese Umbrella Pine '06
<i>Stewartia pseudocamellia</i>	Japanese Stewartia '97
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Japanese Tree Lilac '00

Shrubs	Year Awarded
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> 'Ruby Spice'	Ruby Spice Summersweet '00
<i>Enkianthus campanulatus</i>	Redvein Enkianthus '97
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	Large Fothergilla '97
<i>Hamamelis mollis</i> 'Pallida'	Pallida Chinese Witchhazel '01
<i>Heptacodium miconioides</i>	Seven Sons Flower '02
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> 'Red Sprite'	Winterberry Holly '98
<i>Ilex x meserveae</i> 'Blue Princess/Prince'	Bl. Princess/Bl. Prince Holly '99
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i> (5 types)	Little Leaf Laurels '03
<i>Pieris x 'Brouwer's Beauty'</i>	Brouwer's Beauty Andromeda '00
<i>Pinus strobus</i> 'Soft Touch'	Soft Touch White Pine '04
<i>Rhododendron vaseyi</i>	Pinkshell Azalea '98
<i>Rhododendron yakusimanum</i> 'Ken Janek'	Ken Janek Rhododendron '02
<i>Syringa pubescens</i> 'Miss Kim'	Korean Lilac '05
<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	Lowbush Blueberry '05

Vines & Groundcovers	Year Awarded
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry '99
<i>Hydrangea anomala</i> subsp. <i>petiolaris</i>	Climbing Hydrangea '98
<i>Microbiota decussata</i>	Russian Carpet Cypress '98
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i> 'Green Sheen'	Green Sheen Pachysandra '01
<i>Sibbaldiopsis tridentata</i>	Three-toothed Cinquefoil '04

## The Program

Each year, the Worcester County Horticultural Society, caretaker of the Tower Hill Botanic Garden in Boylston, Mass., announces woody plant selections for Cary Award distinction. A joint promotional effort between the New England Nursery Association and the Society is designed to make home gardeners more aware of these ideal plants for New England gardens. For more information, or to order promotional materials, contact Michael Arnum, WCHS, P.O. Box 598, Boylston, Mass. 01505-0598, call 508-869-6111 ext. 11, or visit the web at [www.caryaward.org](http://www.caryaward.org).



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# Cary Award

Distinctive Plants  
 ——— for ———  
 New England



Photo courtesy of Weston Nurseries

2007 Cary Award Winners

[www.caryaward.org](http://www.caryaward.org)

## The Cary Legacy

Born at the turn of the last century in central Massachusetts., Edward A. Cary experimented with plants throughout his life. Among friends and colleagues, Cary and his family became known for an unusual collection that invariably contained plants that others assumed were too tender for the harsh New England winters.

He lived a simple life with his brother and sister in a modest home next to a tiny nursery on Route 9 in Shrewsbury, Mass. When Edward



became the last of the Carys to pass away in 1987, at age 86, he left his estate to the Worcester County Horticultural Society. An endowment fund, for horticultural gifts and awards, was

created in Edward Cary's name.

A decade after his death, the Society created a prestigious horticultural honor – The Cary Award for Distinctive Plants for New England.

Aimed at drawing attention to the types of unusual and underused plants that Edward Cary held so dear to his heart, the Cary Award has become a name synonymous with New England hardiness. Gardeners can purchase Cary Award winners at local nurseries, confident the plants will thrive in New England's unique climate.

To Cary's friends, this is a distinction worthy of the man whose name it bears.

“Ed was a true plantsman, who lived year by year to grow plants, to experiment with new plants, and to share his plants with others,” said Richard Bemis, Cary's friend and fellow nurseryman. “I think you probably have to be a plantsman yourself to appreciate Ed's true passion for horticulture.”

## 2007 CARY AWARD WINNERS



Photo courtesy of Weston Nurseries

### TREE *Betula nigra* 'Little King' Dwarf River Birch

Also known by its trade name, Fox Valley™, 'Little King' is a compact version of our native river birch. Introduced by King Nursery in Oswego, Ill., in 1991, this shrubby birch grows 10 to 12 feet tall and nine to 12 feet wide, making it perfect for smaller gardens. It also can be used as a deciduous hedge. The tree's bark features colorful patches of cream and apricot that gracefully peel, revealing hues of salmon and brown. Darker twigs offer contrast in the snow. The species grows in eastern North America in moist to wet soil, but can adapt to most soil types as long as it receives adequate moisture until it is well established. Hardy to Zone 4, it prefers full sun/partial shade.

### TREE *Chionanthus virginicus* Fringe Tree

This large shrub or small tree often reaches 15-20' tall with a similar spread. It's usually multi-stemmed, broad and spreading. Large oblong leaves to 8" are borne on coarse twigs and branches. While its winter aspect can be a bit coarse, its spring appearance is anything but - in late May and early June it is covered in delicate clouds of fragrant white flowers borne in long panicles. As the blooms fade the petals drop like snow underneath. Most often dioecious – that is the male and female flowers occur on separate plants, male flowers bear slightly longer petals than the females do and so are showier. The females are endowed with lovely blue fruit in late summer and early fall. This sturdy, pest and disease resistant native plant, occurs in the eastern US. Hardy in zones 3-9. Plant in full sun or partial shade in a rich, moisture retentive soil.



Photo courtesy of Weston Nurseries

### Shrub *Rhododendron* 'Olga Mezitt'

This is a tried and true, small-leaved, early rhododendron that ushers in spring with bright clear pink flowers with interiors freckled with deep red spots. Flowers occur in early May. Grown in full to partial sun in good garden soil, 'Olga Mezitt' will reach 4-5' tall and 3' wide in ten years. This highly prized Weston Nurseries (Hopkinton, MA) introduction is named for the wife of Peter J. Mezitt, whose name is memorialized in Rhododendron 'PJM'. It is reliably hardy to zone 4 and, in addition to its abundant floral display in spring, it provides lustrous green, aromatic, disease resistant foliage in summer. The leaves deepen to coppery-burgundy shades in winter months providing interest all year long.



Photo courtesy of Virginia Blais

