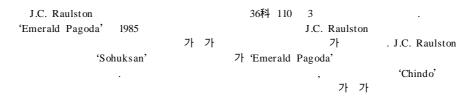
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# Korean Native Landscape Woody Plants planted at JC Raulston Arboretum in USA

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# **JC Raulston**

JC Raulston Arboretum of the North Carolina State University houses 113 species of Korean native landscape woody plants. Synax japonicus 'Emerald Pagoda' [formerly 'Sohuksan'] is native to Korea, China, and Japan. 'Emerald Pagoda' is a special cultivar found by Dr. J.C. Raulston during the United States National Arboretum plant collection expedition of the island of Sohuksan at the western end of the Korea in 1985. Incredible thick, glossy, large-leafed form of this beautiful white flowering tree found in Korea in 1985. It was probably the most outstanding ornamental plant to come from the expedition after his trip to Sohuksan and Chindo in the harsh peribus islands of the coast of Korea. He brought this one back in his suitcase. Vibumum awabuki 'Chindo' is an evergreen broadleaf shrub. It is for screening and as fire resistant trees in the southern region of Korea, because of its compact, leathery leaves. 'Chindo' was discovered on the island of Chindo by the U.S. National Arboretum plant exploration team including J.C. Raulston during its 1985 Korean trip. Cuttings were taken from this plant, and liners were produced over subsequent years. These liners are now being evaluated for hardiness and fruit production throughout the Southeast of USA.



**Key words**: Styrax japonicus 'Emerald Pagoda', Vibumum awabuki 'Chindo', JC Raulston Arboretum, Korean native landscape woody plants

### . INTRODUCTION

Korean native plants, such as Styrax japonicus 'Emerald Pagoda' (formerly 'Sohuksan')

and Viburnum awabuki 'Chindo' grow in the JC Raulston Arboretum of North Carolina State University. Also, Korean native plants are found on campus, at garden and in public parks in USA. How many Korean plants are planted in North America gardens? And why are they planted there?

Dr. Raulston was a member of the United States National Arboretum plant collection expedition team who traveled to Korea in 1985. Dr. Kim Tripp, who worked at the North Carolina State University Arboretum from 1990 to 1993 reported in her book, 'The Year in Trees,' "Lots of excellent cuttings and seeds plants came back to America from that expedition, and many interesting plants have matured and are showing value for production in the trade. Over the next several years some of these plants will become available to gardeners and they are plants well worth waiting and watching for, such as Styrax japonicus 'Emerald Pagoda', Viburnum awabuki 'Chindo' and Euscaphis japonica." These plants were gifts from J.C. Raulston, who had a clear philosophy that was diametrically opposed to idea of rarity for rarity's sake. This study was carried out to investigate the information of Korea native landscape plants introduced and cultivated at J.C. Raulston arboretum.

### . MATERIALS AND METHODS

Korean native trees, shrubs and vines used in American landscapes were confirmed through reviewing 'Anderson Horticultural Library's Source List of Plants' (Isaacson, 1996), 'Collections field data - Plant exploration on the Southwest coast and islands of Korea' (Barry, Dudley and Raulston, 1985), 'Propagation Guide for Woody Plants in The NCSU Arboretum' (Raulston, 1996), and 'The Plant Finder' (Lord, 1995).

## . RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The North Carolina State University

Arboretum houses 113 species of Korean native plants (Table 1). Also, many Korean native woody plants tolerate seaside conditions and can be used in coastal landscaping. Coastal North Carolina is in a transition zone between the cold North and the subtropical South, and has a diverse flora. Examples of good Korean plants for coastal gardens include Albizia julibrissin (Silk tree, Mimosa), Albizia coreana (Korean silk tree), Euscaphis japonica (Euscaphis), Viburnum awabuki 'Chindo' (Sweet viburnum, Evergreen viburnum) and so on.

The followings are some Korean native plants which grow beautifully in south eastern of USA. Some are "Old friends," well known plants introduced over 100 years ago. Others are extremely new and rare, but are poised to become important new landscape plants.

#### Albizia julibrissin (Silk tree, Mimosa)

Mimosa is very popular throughout the southern states. It has an unusually long flowering period, and its leaflets fold up at night. For this reason in oriental region including Korea, China, and Japan they often called it, "nuptial tree" and plant it in the garden nearby the bedroom window. E.H. Wilson first introduced *A lbiz ia j ulibriss in* to America from Seoul, Korea in 1918.

#### Albizia coreana (Korean silk tree)

The Korean silk tree only grows on Yudal Mountain in Mokpo, which rises to about 200 m altitude along the southern coast of the Korea. Its flowers are pure white. At first, the Korean silk tree also grew in the wild on Cheju island, Huksan island, and Eochung island along the southern and western coast of Korea. But today it seems to be extinct in the wild unless there is proper conservation. A lbizia coreana hybridies in the wild with the more vigorous A. julibrissin, and it is being lost through "genetic dilution." This beautiful

Table 1. Korean native plants in the JC Raukton Arboretum in USA

Family name	Scientific name	Introduced year	Collected place
Oleaceae	A beliop hy llum distichum	1924	Central Korea
Pinaceae	A bies koreana	1908	Korea
Aceraceae	Acer mono		
Aceraceae	A cer palmatum	1820	Korea, China, Japan
Aceraceae	A cer tegmentosum	1829	Korea, Manchuria
Aceraceae	A cer triflorum	1923	Korea, Manchuria
Mangiaceae	A lang ium p lananif olium var. macrop hy llum		
Alangiaceae	A lang ium p latan folium		
Leguminosae	A lbiz ia coreana		
Leguminosae	A lbiz ia j ulibriss in	1745	Central China, Iran
Betulaceae	A lnus jap onica		
Araliaceae	A ralia elata		
Cornaceae	A ucuba jap onica		
Betulaceae	Betula platyphylla var. jap	1872	Western China
ux ace ae	Buxus microphylla var. kore	1860	Japan
erbenaceae	Callicarpa dichotoma	1857	China, Japan
erbenaceae	Callicarp a jap onica		-
heaceae	Cam ellia jap onica	1742	China, Japan
Betulaceae	Carp inus coreana		-
Betulaceae	Carp inus lax flora		
Jlm aceae	Celtis sinensis		
Lauraceae	Cinnam om um jap onicum		
/erbenaceae	Clerodendrum trichotom um	1880	China, Japan
Cornaceae	Cornus controversa	1880	China, Japan
Cornaceae	Cornus kousa	1875	Korea, China, Japan
Cornaceae	Cornus macrophylla	1827	China, Japan
Hamamelidaceae	Corylopsis koreana		•
Euphorbiaceae	Dap hnip hy llum macrop odum		
Leguminosae	Echinos op hora koreens is		
Elaeagnaceae	Elaeagnus umbellata	1830	Korea, China, Japan
Aquifoliaceae	Euonymus alatus	1860	Korea, China
Aquifoliaceae	Euonymus japonicus	1804	Japan
taphyleaceae	Eus cap his jap onica		•
Araliaceae	Fatsia japonica	1838	Japan
Oleaceae	Forsythia koreana		•
Dleaceae	Forsythia ovata	1917	Korea
Dleaceae	Fraxinus sieboldiana		
/I alv aceae	Hibiscus syriacus	1600	China, India
Aquifoliaceae	Ilex cornuta	1846	Korea, China
Aquifoliaceae	Ilex crenata	1864	Korea, Japan
Aquifoliaceae	Ilex macropoda		, 1
Aquifoliaceae	Ilex rotunda		
Supressaceae	Juniperus rigida	1861	Korea, China, Japan
Araliaceae	Kalopanax pictus	1865	Korea, China, Japan
Cosaceae	Kerria japonica	1834	China
Sapindaceae	Koelreuteria paniculata	1763	Korea, China, Japan
Leguminosae	Lesp edeza bicolor	1837	China, Japan
Dleaceae	Ligustrum japonicum	1845	Korea, Japan
Lauraceae	Lindera glauca		, - m <sub>F</sub>
auraceae	Lindera obtusiloba	1880	Korea, China, Japan
ardizabalaceae	Lonicera japonica	1806	Korea, China, Japan
eguminosae	M aackia amurensis	1864	Manchuria
auraceae	Machilus thunbergii	2001	
I agnoliaceae	Magnolia sieboldii	1908	China
lutaceae	Phellodendron amurense	1856	China, Japan
Saxifragaceae	Philadelphus schrenkii	10.50	ciinia, sapan
Pinaceae	Pinus densiflora	1854	Korea, China, Japan
inaceae inaceae	Pinus koraiensis	1861	Korea, Japan Korea, Japan
maccac	Pinus koratensis Pinus parviflora	1861	Japan

Table 1. Korean native plants in the JC Raulston Arboretum in USA

Family name	Scientific name	Introduced year	Collected place
Pinaceae	Pinus thunbergii	1855	Japan
Pittosporaceae	Pittosporum tobira	1804	Korea, China, Japan
Rutaceae	Poncirus trifoliata	1850	Korea, China
Rosaceae	Prunus padus		Korea, Japan
Rosaceae	Prunus X yedoensis	1902	Japan
Rosaceae	Pyrus calleryana	1908	Korea, China
Fagaceae	Quercus acuta	1878	Japan
Fagaceae	Quercus acutissima	1862	Korea, China, Japan
Fagaceae	Quercus dentata		
Fagaceae	Quercus myrsinifolia	1807	China, eastern Asia
Fagaceae	Quercus variabilis	1861	Korea, China, Japan
Rosaceae	R hap hiolep is um bellata	1864	Korea, Japan
Rosaceae	Rhodotyp os scandens	1866	Japan, China
Anacardiaceae	Rhus chinensis	1784	China, Japan
Rosaceae	Rosa multiflora	1868	Korea, Japan
Rosaceae	Rosa rugosa	1770	Korea, China, Japan
Liliaceae	Smilax sieboldii		, , ,
Rosaceae	Sorbaria sorbifolia		
Rosaceae	Sorbus alnifolia	1892	Korea, China, Japan
Rosaceae	Spiraea miyabel		
Rosaceae	Spiraea prunifolia	1864	Korea, China
Rosaceae	Spiraea salicifolia		,
Lardizabalaceae	Stauntonia hexaphylla		
Rosaceae	Stephanandra incisa	1827	Korea, Japan
Theaceae	Stewartia koreana	1917	Korea
Styracaceae	Styrax japonicus	1862	China, Japan
Styracaceae	Styrax japonicus 'Emerald Pagoda'	1985	Korea
Styracaceae	Styrax obassia	1897	Japan
Oleaceae	Syringa patula 'M iss K im'	1902	Korea, China
Oleaceae	Syringa reticulata	1876	Japan
Oleaceae	Syringa wolfii	1070	Japan
Taxaceae	Taxus cuspidata	1853	Korea, Japan
Cupressaceae	Thuja orientalis	1737	Korea, China
Taxaceae	Torreya nucifera	1757	Korea, Ciliia
			China Ionan
Apocynaceae Pinaceae	Trachelospermum jasminoides		China, Japan
	Tsuga sieboldii	1704	V I
Ulmaceae	Ulmus parvifolia	1794	Korea, Japan,
Ulmaceae	Ulmus parvifolia coreana		
Ericaceae	Vaccinium bracteatum		
Lardizabalaceae	Viburnum awabuki	1005	77
Lardizabalaceae	Viburnum awabuki 'Chindo'	1985	Korea
Lardizabalaceae	Viburnum carlesii	1812	Korea
Lardizabalaceae	Viburnum dilatatum	1845	Eastern Asia
Lardizabalaceae	Viburnum erosum	,	
Lardizabalaceae	Viburnum sargentii	1892	Northeastern Asia
Verbenaceae	Vitex rotundifolia		
Lardizabalaceae	Weigela coreana		
Lardizabalaceae	Weigela florida	1860	Japan
Lardizabalaceae	Weigela subsessilis		
Leguminosae	Wisteria floribunda	1830	Japan
Ulmaceae	Zelkova serrata		
Rhamnaceae	Z iz ip hus j uj uba	1640	eastern Asia

tree is virtually unknown in cultivation. The U.S. National Arboretum plant exploration team collected it to establish genetically pure populations in cultivation on September 1985 and a large specimen grows at the NCSU Arboretum at the right of the Visitor's entrance. It flowers in late May in the North Carolina.

### Clerodendron trichotomum (Harlequin glory-bower)

Harlequin glory-bower is native to Korea, China, and Japan. Koreans sometimes call its fruit 'brooch fruit', because its shape is similar to the beautiful brooch used on the Korean woman's traditional custom, 'Han-Bok'. And we abstract dye from it for coloring textiles. Its summer blooms are strongly fragrant, and with a soft white color mixed with a red calyx at the base of each flower. The U.S. National Arboretum plant exploration team collected it on Sobaek Mountain and Sorak Mountain in Korea on August 10 and October 5, 1985. Kim Tripp and J.C. Raulston(1995) reported in their book, 'The Year in Trees,' "Clerodendron trichotomum makes a good choice to include in a planting of blue conifers, where its shiny blue fruits and bold foliage add a change of interest and texture to the garden."

# Euonymus alatus (Korean winged Euonymus, Burning bush)

Michael Dirr (1990) reported in his 'Manual of Woody Landscape Plants', "Burning bush is unlimited and, therefore, overused; excellent for hedging, in grouping, as a specimen plant, borders, screening, massing; plants used near water are very effective in the fall where the brilliant red foliage color is reflected off the water; still one of the finest landscape plants for American gardens." Koreans call it 'arrow tree' because its stem characteristics remind them of the feather of an arrow. In Korea it is used to accent the entrance of restaurants because its fall color is enough to attract passerby. The U.S. National Arboretum plant

exploration team collected it along the southern and western coast of the Korea on September 9 and 26, 1985, and 10 new cultivars were selected from them.

#### Euscaphis japonica (Euscaphis)

Euscaphis is a small deciduous tree with large clusters of leathery heart-shaped fruits as if bouquets of brilliant valentines. Euscaphis was collected by the U.S. National Arboretum plant exploration team on the southern island of Chindo in Korea in October 6 and 10, 1985. Dr. Kim Tripp reported in 'The Year in Trees,' "one of the most unusual and delightful the plants introduced from Korea in 1985 is Euscaphis japonica, a plant heretofore so little known in the United Stated that it has no common name in English, although it is sometimes referred to by its fans as Korean sweetheart tree." The fruit are the most showy part of the plant and turn bright pink to red as they mature in the fall. Euscaphis is extremely ornamental and is hardy throughout North Carolina. The N.C. nursery industry is 2-3 years from having stock of this outstanding plant to release to the public.

# Syrax japonicus 'Emerald Pagoda' [formerly 'Sohuksan'] (Japanese snowbell)

Japanese snowbell is native to Korea, China, and Japan. A long time ago, Koreans used to stun fish in the stream by throwing in bruised fruits, because they have a poisonous principle, ego-saponine. Nowadays S. japonicus is planted in urban areas to purify polluted air because it can endure acid rain. 'Emerald Pagoda' is a special cultivar found by Dr. J.C. Raulston during the United States National Arboretum plant collection expedition of the island of Sohuksan at the western end of the Korea in 1985. It is an upright form with much larger leaves and flowers than the species or other cultivars. Incredible thick, glossy, large-leafed form of this beautiful white-flowering tree found in Korea in 1985. J.C. Raulston wrote

probably the most outstanding ornamental plant to come from the expedition after his trip to Sohuksan and Chindo in the harsh perilous islands of the coast of Korea. He brought this one back in his suitcase. According to Andersen Horticultural Library's source list of Plants and Seeds (1996) 'Emerald Pagoda' is already sold by Yucca Do Nursery, Texas.

# Vibumum awabuki 'Chindo'(Sweet vibumum, Evergreen vibumum)

Viburnum awabuki is an evergreen broadleaf shrub. It is for screening and as fire resistant trees in the southern region of Korea, because of its compact, leathery leaves. 'Chindo' was discovered on the island of Chindo by the U.S. National Arboretum plant exploration team during its 1985 Korean trip. According to Dr. J.C. Raulston, the former director of NCSU Arboretum, the large, pendulous masses of bright red fruit looked like giant Christmas tree ornamental hanging from the tree. Cuttings were taken from this plant, and liners were produced over subsequent years. These liners are now being evaluated for hardiness and fruit production throughout the Southeast of USA.

Although new or underused, the plants discussed above offer a variety of interesting characteristics. Whether used as accents, specimens, screens or they are outstanding choices for Mid-Atlantic Southeastern Landscapes. Also, There are lots of Korean native plants in North Carolina and many are naturalized and "seem at home" in USA. The naturalized Korean plants to southeastern region of USA are not just exotic plants any more to Americans.

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