

TED and MARY GREIG RHODODENDRON GARDEN 50 Trees and Shrubs of Interest



1 *Acer griseum*



Acer griseum is not a typical maple. It has a leaf that does not look like what one expects when thinking of a maple leaf – like the one on the Canadian flag. Instead, it has compound leaves, made up of three leaflets that are green on top and

silvery blue-green on their undersides. Its most striking ornamental feature is its flaky, peeling, reddish-brown bark, which gives it its common name, paperbark maple.

2 *Albizia julibrissin*

A fast-growing deciduous tree, mimosa has large bipinnately compound leaves that are up to half a metre long, but each of which is made up of very small, finely textured individual leaflets. In the summer, it produces unique fuzzy pink flowers that give way in the fall to bean-pod type fruit that persist into winter, even after the leaves have fallen. It is native from Iran to central China, but has become naturalized in several regions in the southern United States.

3 *Buddleja alternifolia*

Buddleja alternifolia is commonly known as fountain butterfly bush for its long, slender wands of fragrant, light purple flowers. These flowers are produced in the spring, earlier than those of its more common relative *Buddleja davidii*. It is attractive to both butterflies and hummingbirds, but like *Buddleja davidii*, may be invasive.

4 *Buddleja globosa*



Orange butterfly bush is a lanky deciduous shrub that has small orange flowers arranged in 2 cm-wide round heads. These fragrant flowers appear in mid-May and later in the summer develop into dry, brown, rounded seed heads. It is native to

the Andes of Chile, Argentina and Peru.

Buddleja globosa is also a relative of *Buddleja davidii*, the fragrant, purple butterfly bush that is commonly found naturalized in British Columbia and considered an invasive weed in Greater Vancouver, Southern Vancouver Island and on the Sunshine Coast. *Buddleja globosa* is significantly less invasive, and should be considered by gardeners as an alternative to *Buddleja davidii*.

5 *Camellia* 'Donation'

This camellia is an excellent, large specimen. Unlike most cultivated camellia hybrids, the flowers of *Camellia* 'Donation' do not remain on the shrub as they begin to turn brown. These flowers, instead, fall to the ground immediately after they have passed their prime, giving *Camellia* 'Donation' a much cleaner look than that of many camellias.



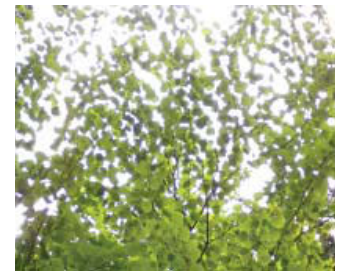
6 *Camellia sinensis*

Camellia sinensis is the plant that tea leaves come from. White, green, black and oolong tea are all made from the young leaves of this evergreen shrub. It produces small camellia-like flowers, and is also used to make some food colourings. Tea camellia is native to South and Southeast Asia.



7 *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*

This katsura tree, located along the western edge of the pitch and putt course, is perhaps the largest in Vancouver. It had a dense, wide-spreading crown of small heart-shaped leaves, which turn a lovely warm apricot colour in the fall and, interestingly, develop a faint burnt sugar smell. In the spring, the katsura's new leaves emerge purple and mature to a bluish-green.



8 *Clerodendrum trichotomum*

Harlequin glorybower, as *Clerodendrum trichotomum* is commonly known, is a small, coarse, deciduous tree that has soft, hairy leaves. Small white flowers are produced in late summer and early fall and eventually give way to bright blue fruit, each of which is framed by a bright red star-shaped calyx. *Clerodendrum trichotomum* also goes by a second common name, peanut butter tree, because of the scent its leaves give off when crushed, although this smell is considered quite unpleasant by some.

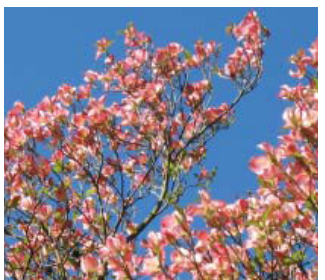
9 *Cornus alternifolia* 'Argentea'



Pagoda dogwood is a small, deciduous, multi-stemmed tree that has a relatively small, variegated green and white leaf. It has a distinctively horizontal branching pattern and produces fragrant, yellowish-white flowers in the May. The cultivar name of this specimen, 'Argentea,' means silver, referencing the foliage variegation. The leaves of dogwoods are typically arranged oppositely, but those of the pagoda dogwood are unique in that they are arranged alternately.

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10 *Cornus florida* 'Rubra'



Cornus florida 'Rubra' is a pink-flowered cultivated variety of flowering dogwood, which is native to eastern and central North America. In the wild it grows as an understory tree and thus in cultivation prefers cool, moist soil. Its flowers appear in the

spring before the leaves develop and persist for about two weeks. In the fall, the leaves of pink-flowering dogwood turn a striking purplish-red.

11 *Corylopsis sinensis*



Throughout the month of March, Chinese witch hazel is covered with fragrant, pale primrose yellow flowers. In April, it begins to develop dark green, bristly serrated leaves.

12 *Daphne mezereum*

February daphne is a semi-evergreen shrub with nar

row blue-green leaves, and which produces extremely fragrant lilac-coloured flowers in late winter. In the summer, it develops pea-sized green berries that eventually turn red as they ripen. This particular specimen is quite old and larger than most. Its leaves and berries are highly



toxic if ingested.

13 *Davidia involucrata*

Davidia involucrata is a delightful tree. From late spring to mid-summer, the underside of its canopy appears to drip with what looks like hundreds of white handkerchiefs. These are bracts (leaf-like parts located just above the downwards hanging flower), two of which surround each flower, giving it the fitting common names of handkerchief tree or dove tree. The bracts first appear in May and persist until the end of July, by which time the flowers they flank have matured into tan-coloured, oval-shaped fruit.



14 *Decaisnea fargesii*

Decaisnea fargesii is a rather unusual plant, a hint about which should be taken from the names by which it is commonly known – dead man's fingers or blue sausage fruit. These names come from the striking blue broad bean-like fruit that the plant produces in the fall. Surprisingly, the beans inside these pods are edible, and although sweet, they are quite bland.

15 *Enkianthus campanulatus*

Enkianthus campanulatus is a medium-sized deciduous shrub that produces clusters of white, bell-shaped flowers with fine red veins in May. It gets its common name, redvein enkianthus, from these flowers. In the fall, its dark green leaves turn bright shades of yellow and orange, or scarlet if the shrub is situated in a sunny location.



16 *Garrya elliptica*

Also known as silk tassel bush, *Garrya elliptica* is a deciduous shrub native to the Oregon coast that, most notably, produces abundant clusters of long catkins of creamy white flowers in the summer. It is unique in that it is one of only a few plants that will grow in the dry

shade below cedars.

17 *Ginkgo biloba*



Ginkgo biloba is commonly known as maidenhair tree or, simply, ginkgo. It is an ancient species, and may have been around, in the same form as it exists today, when the dinosaurs roamed the earth. With age, ginkgo can grow to be enormous,

although this specimen is still young and small. Its leaves are fan-shaped and are arranged in clusters of 3-5 individuals; in the summer they are medium green but turn bright golden yellow in the fall. Female plants produce a small round orange fruit that is malodorous and can be very messy if planted above a sidewalk or patio. Ginkgo has been used in traditional medicine to improve memory and circulation; modern scientific research indicates that ginkgo may be particularly useful in improving circulation to the brain in elderly patients.

18 *Kalmia latifolia*



Mountain laurel, as *Kalmia latifolia* is commonly known, is a broadleaf evergreen shrub. Although this specimen is small - only about a metre and a half in height - *Kalmia* can grow to be up to 4.5 metres tall. It has fairly small, leathery dark green

leaves and pale pink, five-sided, cup-shaped flowers borne in terminal clusters. The flower buds have pleated edges, and open to look like miniature upside-down petticoats. Mountain laurel's native range is across the east coast of North America from Quebec to Florida and west to Ohio and Tennessee. All parts of the plant are toxic, particularly its leaves.

19 *Koelreuteria paniculata*



Golden raintree, as *Koelreuteria paniculata* is commonly known, is a deciduous tree that produces dry, papery, orange lantern-like fruit. These fruit persist through the fall as the tree's compound leaves turn a beautiful bright golden yellow

colour, into the winter all the way up until new leaves are produced. This *Koelreuteria* is a very large specimen. While its exact age is unknown, it is probably at least 60 years old. When *Koelreuteria*'s leaves first appear in the late spring,

they are a pale salmon pink, and later mature to green.

20 *Laburnum anagyroides*

Golden chain tree is an interesting tree with green bark and long, hanging clusters of bright yellow flowers that are produced in May. *Laburnum anagyroides* is in the pea family (Fabaceae), something that is apparent by the presence of the bean-like fruit produced on the tree in late summer. All parts of the plant can be toxic when ingested.

21 *Liriodendron tulipifera* 'Variegata'

This tulip tree is a lovely specimen with variegated leaves, which are at their peak in the late spring or early summer. It gets its name from the beautiful yellowish-green and orange tulip-like flowers that it produces in the spring. It is native to eastern North America, from Massachusetts west to Wisconsin and south to Florida and Mississippi. Another enormous, non-variegated tuliptree is located in the grassy area northeast of the tennis courts.



22 *Lithocarpus densiflorus*

Tanbar oak is a small broadleaf evergreen tree with thick, leathery, oblong leaves with a wavy-toothed border. It has chestnut-like flowers, but oak-like acorns with a saucer-shaped cup covered with dense bristles.



The Magnolia Walk is a special section of the Ted and Mary Greig Garden where a variety of unique magnolias are featured. This part of the garden was developed by Greig Rhododendron Garden head gardener Gerard Picher in the early 1990s. A few of the most striking specimens are described below.

23 *Magnolia dawsoniana*

This specimen is probably the largest *Magnolia dawsoniana* in Greater Vancouver. It was donated to the park in the 1970s by Vancouver resident Ellen Haley who was moving to Nanaimo and was unable to move her plant collection with her. Dawson's magnolia can be identified by its rough bark, which is unique amongst magnolias. Its flowers appear in early spring and are white, tinged with pink. This magnolia is located slightly east of the Magnolia Walk.

24 *Magnolia* 'Barbara Cook'

Magnolia 'Barbara Cook' is a hybrid magnolia named after the wife of former Greig Garden head gardener, Alleyne Cook. Vibrant pink hanging flowers are produced in the spring before its dark green leaves emerge.

25 *Magnolia hypoleuca*



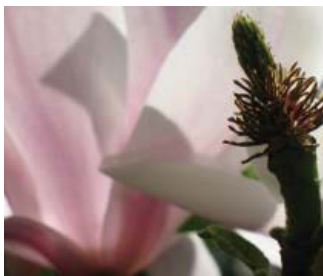
Japanese white-barked magnolia is, as its name suggests, native to Japan. This species has enormous, highly-ornamental and strongly scented flowers with cream-coloured petals and crimson-pink stamens which bloom in June. The young leaves and flower buds are edible and in Japan *Magnolia hypoleuca* is grown for its medicinal bark. Interestingly, it is also highly tolerant of atmospheric pollution.

26 *Magnolia sieboldii*



Oyama magnolia is a rather small tree, reaching a height of only about 3 to 7 metres. It has unique cup-shaped, downwards-hanging white flowers with rose centres that appear in early summer, later than most magnolias. It will, however, continue to produce the odd flower sporadically throughout the summer.

27 *Magnolia x soulangiana*



Saucer magnolia is a small deciduous tree that only ever reaches a height of about 5 metres. It has a multi-stemmed habit and produces perfectly bell-shaped pale pink flowers tinged with purple in the spring before its dark green leaves appear.



28 *Magnolia tripetala*

Magnolia tripetala, or umbrella magnolia as it is commonly known, has enormous apple-green leaves that may grow to be up to 60 cm long. It produces large, upright, creamy white flowers

in June. These are some of the only fragranced magnolia flowers, although the scent produced by *Magnolia tripetala* is quite unpleasant.

29 *Magnolia virginiana*

Sweetbay magnolia is a pyramidal, evergreen tree that is native along the east coast of North America from Massachusetts to Florida to Texas. It has creamy-white, faintly lemon-scented flowers that are produced throughout the summer, even into early fall. They are reminiscent of water lily flowers. This magnolia is not located within the magnolia walk, but at the northwest corner of the pitch and putt course.

30 *Magnolia wilsonii*

Magnolia wilsonii is a rather unique magnolia with large, showy, pendulous flowers. These flowers are pure white with a purple centre and have a sweet, almost lemony scent. During its peak blooming period in the late spring, Wilson's magnolia is best viewed from immediately below, where one can gaze directly up into the downwards-hanging flowers.



31 *Magnolia* 'Yellow Lantern'

Yellow lantern magnolia produces beautiful pale yellow coloured flowers, which are unique in that they emerge at the same time as the leaves do, whereas most magnolias flower before they leaf out. The specimen on the Magnolia Walk is being steadied by a chain attached to a maple on the other side of the path.



32 *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*

Dawn redwood is a deciduous conifer, a characteristic that is rather unique. Dawn redwood is also distinctive in that rather than shedding individual needles in the fall, it sheds entire branchlets. The contrast of its nearly lime green needles and reddish bark is quite striking. It likes moist soil and will tolerate boggy conditions; this pair of specimens thrive off of the low-lying, moist ground beside Lost Lagoon. The tree is native to Szechuan, China, and was only introduced to the rest of the world in 1948.



33 *Nothofagus antarctica*

Antarctic beech is a small deciduous tree. It has attractive, scaly bark, and small, finely toothed leaves, and it produces small, highly fragrant flowers in the spring. It is native to South America, and can be found growing from Cape Horn north to the Andes.

34 *Osmanthus delaveyi*



Delavey osmanthus, or Delavey tea olive, as it is sometimes known, is a fairly large broadleaf evergreen shrub. It has small, glossy green leaves and produces blue-black fruit in the summer. Its most notable feature, however, is the fragrance produced by its plentiful small, white flowers that bloom in early spring. Its name comes from the Greek *osme*, fragrance, and *anthos*, flowers. *Delaveyi* is the Latinized name of Abbe Jean Marie Delavey, who was a missionary in China and who first introduced the species to France in the late 19th century.

35 *Paulownia tomentosa*

The empress tree is a large, fast-growing tree that produces large panicles of powerfully scented flowers that are reminiscent of lilacs, in May before the leaves appear. The underside of the Paulownia's leaves are densely covered with fine hairs. In youth, the empress tree grows extremely quickly and produces very large leaves that are significantly bigger than those of the adult tree. A mature *Paulownia* can be cut to the ground and will re-sprout from the trunk, again producing large leaves. It is tolerant of most conditions and has 'escaped' from cultivation in the eastern United States and is considered an invasive species there.

36 *Phellodendron amurense*

Amur corktree, as *Phellodendron amurense* is commonly known, has a short main stem and thick, wide, horizontally spreading limbs. It has furrowed grey-brown bark and large, dark green pinnately compound leaves that in the autumn turn a lovely bright golden colour. In the late summer, the tree produces yellowish grape-like fruit that eventually turn black and remain on the tree into late fall.



37 *Pinus jeffreyi*

Often confused with ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine has long (5-11 inches), flexible needles, and thick, scaly bark and a tall, straight crown. When crushed, its

needles have a surprising, but pleasant scent, reminiscent of vanilla and lemon to some, or violets, pineapple or apples to others. Each of the scales on its very large cones has a distinct recurved prickle on it.

38 *Pinus ponderosa*

Ponderosa pine is one of British Columbia's native conifers, and can also be found in the wild all the way south to Mexico and east to South Dakota and Texas. It has long needles that are arranged in clusters of three. Mature ponderosa pines have thick, scaly grey or cinnamon-coloured bark that provides protection against damage from wildfires. *Pinus ponderosa* can become quite a large tree, growing to be up to 30 metres tall, although this particular specimen is still quite small.



39 *Prunus serrulata* 'Ukon'

The flowers of this ornamental cherry are very unusual. The petals of the Ukon flowering cherry are a variegated combination of white, pink and green, giving a surprising overall impression of being pale green.



40 *Quercus frainetto*

Italian oak, or Hungarian oak, as *Quercus frainetto* is also known, has a unique leaf that usually has about seven lobes on each side and that taper towards the stem. It can become a large tree, growing up to 30 m, and will withstand drought. Acorns are grouped in clusters of 2-5 and are edible, having traditionally been used in Italy and eastern Europe, where the plant is native, as a coffee alternative, as bread flour or as a thickener in stews.



41 *Sambucus racemosa*

Red elderberry is a leggy, deciduous shrub native to British Columbia, as well as much of North America, Europe, Siberia and Asia Minor. Its most striking feature is



the conical clusters of bright red berries that it produces in July. These berries are inedible when raw, but can be made into a tasty jam, pie or cordial. *Sambucus racemosa* has pinnately compound leaves and soft, pithy wood.

42 *Sorbus vilmorinii*



Vilmorin's mountain ash has finely textured, almost fern-like compound leaves which are made up of many small leaflets. It develops rose-red berries during the summer that gradually fade to pinkish-white during the winter.

Sorbus vilmorinii is attractive to birds and insects as a food plant, and its pink berries on bare branches are striking during the fall and early winter months.

43 *Stachyrs praecox*

Early spiketail is an upright, arching, deciduous shrub that is native to Japan and the Himalayas. It produces pendulous clusters of pale yellow, bell-shaped flowers in early spring, followed by glossy dark green ovate leaves.

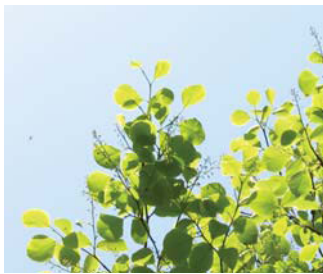
44 *Stewartia pseudocamellia*



Japanese stewartia is a fairly small deciduous tree that has two distinctive features. It has interesting flaky, multi-toned bark that gives the tree year-round interest, while in the early summer it produces delicate white camellia-like flowers with yellow-orange centres.

As its common name suggests, *Stewartia pseudocamellia* is native to Japan.

45 *Styrax obassia*



Fragrant snowbell is a fairly small deciduous tree native to Japan, that will reach a maximum height of 9 metres, although this particular specimen is less than half that height. It has 20 cm-long, broadly ovate leaves that are dark green on top

and have fine hairs on their undersides. It produces pendulous clusters of fragrant white flowers in mid to late May and then small, dry ovoid fruit that are about 2 cm in diameter.

46 *Taxodium distichum*

Common baldcypress is another unusual deciduous

conifer. Its leaves are yellowish green and needle-like and sometimes turn a rich brown in the autumn before they fall off the tree. It is highly tolerant of a variety of soil conditions, and will adapt to wet or dry soil. It is native to parts of eastern North America.

47 *Trochodendron aralioides*

Trochodendron aralioides is a small broadleaf evergreen tree that produces interesting small, lime-green, spoked flowers. These flowers give way to dry, brown wheel-shaped fruit in mid-summer, which give *Trochodendron* its fitting common name, wheel tree. The name *Trochodendron* is derived from the Greek *trochos*, wheel, and *dendron*, tree.



48 *Umbellularia californica*

Umbellularia californica, also known as California bay or Oregon myrtle, is a broadleaf evergreen tree native along the west coast of North America from southwest Oregon to southern California, as suggested by its two common names. It has elliptical, dark green, leathery leaves, which are very fragrant, particularly when crushed. This is not the plant that bay leaves used in cooking come from. The leaves of California bay, in fact, can sometimes cause sneezing and headaches if inhaled or ingested.



49 *Viburnum plicatum* 'Lanarth'

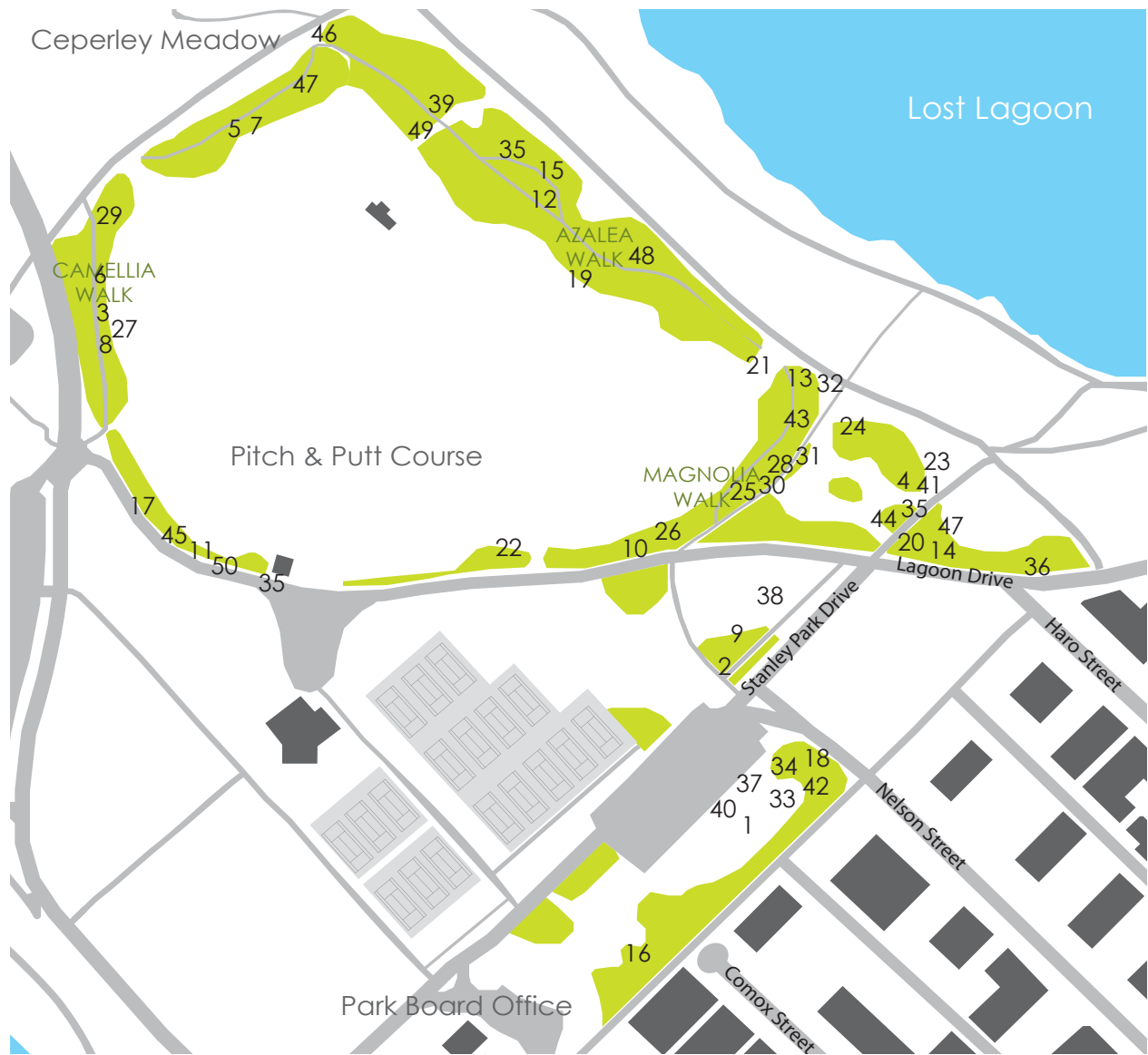
This viburnum is highly floriferous, producing prolific flat clusters of pure white flowers in May. The entire shrub appears to be horizontally tiered.



50 *Viburnum carlesii*

Korean spicebush is often mistaken for a lilac, as it has tubular, white, lilac-like flowers that are arranged in tight, rounded clusters, and which have a magnificent scent. These stunning flowers first emerge in late April or early May and are blush pink as the buds open, but gradually fade to pure waxy white as they mature.





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| 8 | <i>Clerodendrum trichotomum</i> | 33 | <i>Northofagus antarctica</i> |
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