



*Osteomeles schwerinae*. Thorny Apple. Adapted as hedge up to 6 feet. Relative of pyracantha. No spines. Relatively fast growing.



*Acacia Abyssinica*. Mature, 20 year old tree, with jacaranda-like foliage, approximately 30 feet tall.



## TRY THESE

# Trees

and

# Shrubs

By J. S. Folkner  
Department of Horticulture

## They've Been Tested In the Southwest

The Department of Horticulture of the University of Arizona, together with the Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum, present new promising plants for consideration by homeowners, nurserymen, and landscape architects for use in the lower elevations (3000 feet or below) of Arizona. They have been observed and evaluated at the Arboretum for a period of years under varying conditions.

Here are some of the best:

### For Color

*Pistachio chinensis* trees, adapted relatives of the commercial Pistachio nut, are growing at the Arboretum, at the University Experimental Farm in Yuma, and on the campus at Tucson. The tree is of medium height, deciduous, and its leaves turn scarlet in the autumn. They retain their attractive color for the season, thus adding an accent to the landscape. Plants of this species are available at nurseries.

*Acacia abyssinica* is a tree of tropical appearance similar to the Jacaranda. Seed was obtained in 1928 from La Mortala, a botanical garden in southern Italy. It is adapted to the warmer areas of the State



*Cassia wislizeni*. Native to Southern Arizona, Douglas area. Yellow summer blooms. Good in combination with Texas Sage. Both prefer a minimum of water. (Photo July 12.)

and is a valuable addition to the landscape.

A medium sized, vase-shaped tree of a single trunk, this species is appropriate with the current ranchhouse style of architecture. It is evergreen at minimum temperatures of 29°; semi-deciduous below 20°. It has an attractive yellow bloom in May, is clean in habit with no objectionable litter, and requires less water than the widely grown fruitless mulberry.

### It's Tough

The tree is alkali tolerant and apparently resistant to one of the most troublesome diseases, Texas root rot. The wood of the tree is not brittle and will not break during the period of high winds accompanying the summer rains.

*Myrtus boeticus*, a myrtle obtained from a botanical garden in Palermo, Italy, in 1931, is more resistant to alkaline soil than other species now in use. It is useful for foundation planting and as an individual specimen.

Contrasted to the common usage of myrtle, this plant is more satisfactory as an individual plant or in groups than as a hedge. It does not tolerate continued shearing. The plant is a medium grower, attains a height of 12 feet in 26 years. It has some drought resistance and does not require heavy watering.

The plant is dark green with larger leaves than the common myrtle, and is more dense. It has fragrant foliage and white blooms an inch in diameter. Propagation is accomplished by cuttings rather than by seed as the myrtle hybridizes naturally.

The long warm growing season of the desert areas of Arizona encourages more rapid growth than in other areas. High temperatures have limited the number of plants for landscape use where a low shrub at maturity is required.

### A Shrub From China

*Buxus harlandii*, introduced into the Arboretum from China, may be added to this limited group of shrubs. This boxwood is slow growing, attaining a maximum of 4 feet in height. It is very cold resistant, and is not chlorotic even under excess water.

The plant retains its compactness without pruning. It appears insect free and is easily propagated by cuttings.

Plants introduced for specific use in landscaping require several growing seasons before a recommendation may be made. This period allows for adaptation to varying climatic and soil conditions. In Arizona a program of research in this field has been carried on since 1924 by the Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum at Superior.