

good working relationship with utilities. They are businessmen, and good ones. If possible they will buy any idea which will make for better community beautification and public relations. These poles on the median strip were unsightly. It was the consensus that something should be done. Going underground was neither feasible nor economically possible. It seldom is. To place them in the tree lawn meant mutilation of the trees. Placing them on the property side of the trees meant taller poles. The utilities could not cover these expenses in their budget, but they were able to work out a cost-sharing basis with the city. This resulted in immediate aesthetic improvement. The continuing development of this median strip is an example of utility and municipal cooperation.

Your nurseryman is also a good businessman, and it is essential that you work with him in your beautification programs. He will help keep your feet out of the grease and will find what you want even if he doesn't have it. One nurseryman helped me in selecting these red-veined crabapples. They have never blighted and have required very little maintenance. A sterile variety, Spring Snow, is also a hardy and beautiful tree.

This street of *Sophora japonica* was colorful, but the working men living on that street objected to the blossoms falling on the sidewalk. There are times when I would rather switch than fight. We removed them with the understanding that they would not be replaced with any species of tree as long as I was arborist.

Over-arching streets are beautiful, cool, and inviting. Maintenance of this street is not a

great deal more expensive than for this street of Kwanzan cherries and purple-leaved plums. Expensive or not, a street of Kwanzan cherries will raise your grade points.

It is essential that you accent your centers of interest, such as bodies of water. You can plant trees so large that they will cover up rather than accentuate the beauty of such a spot, so use discretion. Sometimes you may not want to use trees at all. Azaleas are perfect in some locations.

In malls, azaleas are beautiful but they take a beating. Kwanzan cherries do surprisingly well and *Sophora japonica* are beautiful. They thrive in planters, too. The goldenrain tree is also a thing of beauty. In large planters, where growing anything is difficult, native trees such as the willow oak in Virginia are a must. We found that they would grow where flame ash would seem to thrive, but doesn't.

The same operations will not be considered essential in all cities. For instance, some cities have discontinued spraying; others regard that as a very necessary part of their operation. Some municipalities find large equipment essential and economical in their work, while others get along without it, either through choice or necessity. The observations and suggestions described in this paper are, in my opinion, the essentials of municipal arboriculture.

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ABSTRACT

Shigo, A. L. 1972. **The beech bark disease today in the northeastern U.S.** J. Forestry 70(5): 286-289.

The beech bark disease, as it exists in the northeastern United States, is caused by fungi infecting minute feeding wounds made by scale insects in the bark of beech. The principal fungus is *Nectria coccinea* var. *faginata*. The beech bark disease was known in Europe before 1849, and except for a few outbreaks, little damage was caused by it. The beech scale was introduced into Halifax, Nova Scotia, about 1890. But the first recorded outbreak of the disease was not until 1920. Many beech trees are killed and weakened in infected stands, although some trees seem to have a natural resistance to the disease. There was little real concern about the disease in the U.S. until the last few years, when industries learned to use beech profitably. Now there is a need for better understanding of the disease.