

United States Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation Service
Ecological Sciences and Technology Division
Washington, D.C.

and

Soil Conservation Service
Columbia, Missouri

Notice of Release of 'Cling-Red' Honeysuckle

The Ecological Sciences and Technology Division of the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and the E sberry, Missouri, Plant Materials Center (SCS) announce the release of 'Cling-Red' Amur honeysuckle, Lonicera maackii podocarpa Rehd.

Amur honeysuckle was introduced into the United States from eastern Asia in about 1860. The accession MI-4701, which resulted in the release of the cultivar 'Cling-Red', was received from the Rochester, New York, Bureau of Parks in 1934. 'Cling-Red' is a large shrub that grows to a height of 12 to 15 feet with dark green leaves. It has conspicuous fragrant white flowers which appear in mid-April. Fruit develop slowly and are not mature until mid-September compared to early summer maturity of Lonicera tatarica. 'Cling-Red' produces an abundance of red berries one cm in diameter which are retained through most of the winter if not consumed by wildlife. The name 'Cling-Red' was selected for persistence of the red fruits on the plants well into the winter making food available for wildlife. The branches of 'Cling-Red' honeysuckle are spreading, less upright, and the growth more vase-shaped than most honeysuckles.

Plantings of 'Cling-Red' honeysuckle have performed well in plant hardiness zones 3b, 4, 5, 6, and 7b. This represents Iowa, Illinois, north-eastern Texas, Kansas, Missouri, New Jersey, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Indiana and southern portions of Michigan and Wisconsin. Establishment and performance of 'Cling-Red' have ranged from good to excellent. It grows well on most soils but prefers well-drained, fertile soils; it is also shade tolerant and competes well with other vegetation. 'Cling-Red' is recommended for wildlife habitat improvement, roadside beautification, screen or border plantings in recreational developments and as a living snow fence.

'Cling-Red' Amur honeysuckle is released as an open-pollinated seed propagated cultivar. It exhibits excellent uniformity in size and form

from seed. Propagation by commercial nurseries will be from open-pollinated seed. Breeder seed is maintained by the Plant Materials Center, Elsberry, Missouri. Seed and stem cuttings to establish seed orchards of 'Cling-Red' Amur honeysuckle are available from the Elsberry, Missouri, Plant Materials Center.

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