

THE RUSSIAN MULBERRY

A Rich Product That Could Be Grown With Profit
In The Coos Bay Country
With Ease

Form and Size.

The characteristic of the Russian mulberry is low and bushy. When grown in the open very little of the trunk is free from branches, and even when grown in close-spaced plantation severe pruning is required to produce a straight undivided trunk. On good soil the Russian mulberry usually attains a size of 30 to 40 feet in height and one foot in diameter.

Range.

The Russian mulberry is a hardy variety of the Asiatic white mulberry. It was introduced into the United States by the Russian Menonites about 1875, and was subsequently distributed widely throughout the middle Western States. The range for its economic planting is southern Nebraska, southern Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Indian Territory. It can not endure the severe winters of the Dakotas; the leading shoots are occasionally frozen back in Kansas.

Where it has escaped from cultivation it occurs with the oaks and maples, preferring the bottom to the upland.

Habits and Growth.

The Russian mulberry will grow on both sandy and on clay soils, but does best on rich loam where the water table is from 10 to 15 feet below the surface. It will endure almost any amount of drought and neglect. Even in dry situations growth is fairly rapid. These qualities adapt it to both upland and valley situations in the semi-arid regions. It is decidedly tolerant of shade, and can therefore be used to advantage for underplanting or for mixing with a more rapid growing species to increase the height growth and to induce natural pruning of the latter.

Height and diameter growth are fairly rapid. On favorable sites a height of 20 feet and a diameter of 8 inches are not unusual for a tree 10 years old.

The tree has comparatively few enemies. It is not in any degree susceptible to the attacks of fungi, but the foliage is sometimes attacked by defoliating insects.

Economic Uses.

The Russian mulberry serves a number of useful purposes. If close-planted, the Russian mulberry is useful for the production of posts and fuel. On favorable sites it will produce fence posts in from ten to fifteen years. The wood is rather heavy, elastic, coarse-grained, and moderately strong. It splits easily, and when seasoned, makes a durable fence post, which is probably its most valuable use. The fuel value of the wood is high.

While the fruit is of an inferior quality, it is much used for domestic purposes in the absence of better kinds. Many horticulturists have established mulberry windbreaks around their orchards. The natural form of the tree makes it well suited to form a low, dense windbreak, if left unpruned. The windbreak, aside from its protective value, furnishes food greatly relished by birds, and they are thus less likely to eat more valuable fruit in the orchard.

In addition, the leaves of the Russian mulberry form an excellent food for silk worms (*Bombyx mori*), and is somewhat used for this purpose in the more northerly portions of the United States, where the broader-leaved varieties of the mulberry are apt to be winterkilled. The quality of the leaf for feeding purposes is fully as good as that of the broader-leaved varieties, but its much divided form makes the labor of feeding somewhat greater. The Bureau of Entomology has been for several years past distributing mulberry seedlings in connection with silk-culture investigations.

Propagation.

Reproduction of the Russian mulberry takes place both by stump

sprouts and by seed. Renewal after cutting is a simple matter; all that is necessary is to remove the surplus sprouts and give the best one a chance to develop. A quick-growing stump sprout will have better form than the original tree. Plantations can be started from cuttings, but propagation from seed is easier and produces better plants.

Fruit is borne abundantly. The seed may be separated by crushing and washing the berries. After drying the seed should be kept in a cool dry place, until a week or ten days previous to sowing. The seed may be sown as soon as it ripens, but generally the better practice is to wait until the following spring, so that the seedlings will have an entire season in which to grow before the coming of cold weather. The seed should be sown in fresh, fertile soil, and covered not more than one-half inch. About one to two weeks are required for germination. Better results are obtained by mixing the seed with moist sand and keeping the mixture in a warm place until germination begins. The sand and seed can then be sown together on a well-prepared bed. The bed should be covered with one-eighth inch of sifted loam. The growth during the first season will be enough to bring the trees to proper size for transplanting to the permanent site the following spring.

Planting.

The Russian mulberry should be spaced close in a plantation, in order to overcome, as much as possible, its inherent tendency to branched and crooked growth. For windbreaks, consisting of one or two rows, the trees may be planted at 2 or 3 foot intervals, and in plantations they may be spaced 4 by 4 feet or 4 by 6 feet. The Russian mulberry is found more often in mixed than in pure plantations. Its ability to thrive under partial shade makes it well suited for planting with light-demanding species, such as black locust, honey locust, black walnut, and green ash.

Cultivation and Care.

Cultivation should be thorough and continued until the ground is rather fully shaded. When the trees begin to crowd, the plantation should be heavily thinned. The trees remaining should then be pruned to a height of 8 or 10 feet.

SUNSET LODGE HOLDS INSTALLATION

Officers For Coming Year Are Installed—List of Those Who Will Serve.

Sunset Lodge, No. 51, I. O. O. F., held installation services at their lodge room on Front street Friday night. The officers for the ensuing year are: N. G., Thos. Cake; V. G., R. D. Hazen; Secretary, I. O. Lando; Treasurer, John F. Hall; Cond., Altus Kingstor; O. G., J. W. Mauzey; I. G., Julius Manal; R. S. N. G., Wm. Buck; L. S. N. G., E. A. Anderson; R. S. V. G., Max Timmerman; L. S. V. G., Chas. Jensen; R. S. S., W. Richards; L. S. S., L. T. Storey; Chaplain, A. Hagemeister.

THE McCLELLAND INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of The McClelland Investment and Development Co. will be held in the office of J. M. Blake in The Times Building, Marshfield, Coos County, Oregon, on Wednesday the 10th day of July, A. D. 1907, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the election of Directors and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before said meeting.

Dated at Marshfield, Oregon, the 7th day of June, A. D. 1907.
ALVA DOLL, Secretary.

PERSONAL NOTES

C. A. Goss, of the University of Portland, will sing at the Methodist Episcopal church today.

Dr. A. C. Render, of Guthrie, Okla., arrived on the Bay and will visit for three weeks or thereabouts as the guest of Mrs. S. E. Painter and family.

Mrs. S. E. Painter and family, accompanied by Dr. A. C. Render, will leave tomorrow for an outing in the Ten Mile country.

Lester Smith, of Coos River, was in Marshfield yesterday.

Mr. O. W. Briggs and family have moved into the Geo. Ferry residence on Broadway.

Mrs. Rood, of Coos River, was in Marshfield shopping yesterday.

Mrs. Witte, of Coos River, was in Marshfield yesterday.

Mrs. Rodgers and daughter Mildred were in this city yesterday.

A. E. Seaman and family left yesterday for their home, "The Orchard," on Coos river.

Messrs. W. A. Toye, B. M. Richardson and Dorrian departed for Ten Mile country yesterday afternoon. They will spend a week in hunting and fishing.

Mr. and Mrs. V. Pugh were Marshfield visitors yesterday.

Mrs. J. W. Russell, of Coos River, was in Marshfield yesterday.

Mrs. McIntosh, of Coos River, was here shopping Saturday.

Mr. Shupice is in Marshfield again, after a short visit to Myrtle Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tuttle and Mrs. A. M. Wilder left yesterday morning for Coquille.

Miss May Magee, of Empire, is visiting in Marshfield as the guest of Miss Edna Weeder.

Mrs. E. O'Connell and daughter Stella left this afternoon for Coos

River.

Wm. Waters, of Ten Mile, is in Marshfield for a short visit.

Messrs. J. F. Hope and J. B. Hope, of North Inlet, are in town.

Mrs. McGann, of the Creamery, was in town yesterday procuring medical treatment for her daughter.

BRIEFS

Calls on Patrons.—J. F. Quirk, representing Haas Bros, of San Francisco, is calling on his Coos county customers.

Alliance Leaves.—The Alliance will leave Marshfield this afternoon at 2 o'clock for Portland.

Arrigo Here Sunday.—The steamship Arago of the U. S. E. D. is up at Marshfield, and will remain over Sunday.

Fred. B. Rowe, of Guthrie, Oklahoma, arrived in yesterday on the Coos Bay wagon road.

MILLINGTON COUPLE ARE MARRIED

Ceremony Takes Place at Home of Rev. D. W. Thurston—They Will Reside Here.

Seth D. Bidwell and Miss Gertrude Fisher, of Millington, were joined in matrimony Friday afternoon by the Rev. D. W. Thurston at his home. Mr. Bidwell is an employee of the courtenay mill. Both the groom and bride came to Coos Bay from California.

DAILY TRANSFERS.

Furnished by the Title Guaranty and Abstract Company, Henry Sengstacken, Manager.

J. S. Lawrence et ux, to Isaiah Hacker, lots and blocks in Portland. Add to Bandon; \$5.

Josephine M. Rennie and husband to J. W. Berry, lots 7 and 8, block 8, Coos Bay Plat A, Division 1; \$100.

William Hood et al. to E. E. Johnson, lots 3 and 4, E 1/2 of SW 1/4, Sec. 31, Twp. 30, R. 11, S 1/2 of S 1/2, Sec. 36, Twp. 30, R. 12, NW 1/4 of Sec. 6, Twp. 31, R. 11; lots 2, 3, 1, S 1/2 of N 1/2 and S 1/2 of Sec. 1; SE 1/4, SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, Sec. 2; NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 and lots 6, 7, 8, 9, Sec. 13, N 1/2 of N 1/2 and lot 9, Sec. 12, Twp. 31, R. 12; \$100.

Robert J. Dean to O. C. Rice, lots 3 and 4, Sec. 4, Twp. 28, R. 12; \$10.

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COOS BAY TIMES

Are You Looking for REAL ESTATE BARGAINS?

We have good properties for sale at reasonable prices and would be pleased to talk with you about them.

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