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February 3, 2017

Urban Tree Selection for a Changing Climate

Long-range climate projections confirm what many urban tree managers already know. A general trend toward a hotter, drier climate will be accompanied by temperature extremes as well as severe weather events including flooding, windstorms and periods of severe drought.

An important step in choosing climate-resilient trees is to identify species that have already proven adaptable across a wide range of growing conditions. Scientists refer to this broad adaptability as

“phenotypic plasticity,” according to Dr. Bert Cregg of Michigan State University. Results of his ongoing research on street tree performance under varied growing conditions are shared in the October 2016 issue of *Arborist News*, “Urban Tree Selection in a Changing Climate.” Dr. Cregg and co-author Nancy Buley will co-present on the topic on Friday, February 3 at the iLandscape Show in Schaumburg, IL. Find climate change and tree selection information here: <http://jfss.co/iLand-sa>



American Dream® Oak

Our carefully chosen and rigorously trialed selection of Swamp White Oak offers the best attributes of this widely grown and adaptable North American native tree. Like seedlings of the species, it performs well in wet, compacted soils and also weathers drought and heat. Vigorous growth and predictably symmetrical form, plus strong resistance to anthracnose and powdery mildew recommend it as a top pick for the future.



Redpointe® Maple

Embraced by growers, this heat and drought tolerant tree is rapidly becoming the Red Maple of choice for landscapes across the continent. In addition to superior heat resistance, it appears to have the best chlorosis resistance of the red maples. Thanks to its symmetrical form, a strong central leader, uniform branching and open branch angles, it's an easy-care tree in the nursery and beyond.



Espresso™ Kentucky Coffee Tree

Kentucky Coffee Tree has proven over the years to be a widely adaptable shade tree and a tough urban performer with good tolerance of cold, heat and drought. Our seedless selection offers predictably upright, arching branches and a handsome mature form. A stalwart performer in landscapes stretching from California to Boston, it exemplifies a species with “phenotypic plasticity.”



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