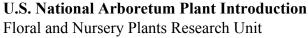
## Viburnum plicatum var. tomentosum 'Shasta'



The U.S. National Arboretum presents *Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum* 'Shasta', the first doublefile viburnum cultivar to result from a breeding program. A magnificent profusion of extra large, pure white flowers in May plus a shorter, more horizontal growth habit make 'Shasta' a spectacular garden shrub. Bright red fruits are a brief ornamental attraction in late July before providing a summer treat for robins and other fruit-eating birds.

Winner of a Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Gold Medal Plant Award, 1991.









## 'Shasta' doublefile viburnum

Botanical name: Viburnum plicatum var. tomentosum 'Shasta'

(NA 36800; PI 427119)

Family: Viburnaceae

**Hardiness:** USDA Zones 5–8

**Development:** 'Shasta' is the first doublefile viburnum cultivar to result from a breeding

program for viburnum improvement. In 1954 a select *V. plicatum* var. *tomentosum* plant was crossed with *V. plicatum* var. *tomentosum* 'Mariesii'. From the 2nd generation of this hybrid population, a superior plant was

selected in 1968, and named and released in 1979.

**Significance:** The abundant, large, lacecap inflorescences have sterile marginal florets that

are 1.5 times larger than those found on other cultivars, and often have 5-15 inner sterile florets dispersed among the center fertile flowers. The growth

habit is strongly horizontal, twice as wide as high.

**Description:** Height and Width: 6.5 feet tall and 11.5 feet wide in 10 years.

**Habit:** Strongly horizontal, large shrub; twice as wide as high.

Foliage: Dark green, deciduous leaves with 8-12 pairs of nearly straight

veins. Fall coloration is dull purplish-red to maroon.

**Flowers**: Abundant, large (4-6 inches), flat to mounded cymes in double rows along branches with 5-7 outer marginal florets larger than a half dollar, additional 5-15 inner sterile florets dispersed among inner fertile flowers. **Fruit:** A drupe. Bright red, upright fruit clusters ornamental for several

weeks in late July.

**Culture:** 'Shasta' is readily cultivated under diverse climatic and soil conditions. It

grows well in many exposures and soils, but does best in full sun with moderate moisture and well-drained soils. Requires light shade in more

southern areas.

**Propagation:** Roots easily in 2-4 weeks under mist from semi-hardwood cuttings treated

with 1000 ppm IBA.

Landscape use: Specimen plant; massed group; shrub border; a good horizontal element in

the landscape; particularly effective planted so as to be viewed from above.

**Availability:** Readily available from mail-order firms and retail and wholesale nurseries.

## U.S. National Arboretum Plant Introduction

Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit

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