



photograph © Philippe de Spoelberch

Cornus kousa 'Xanthocarpa' at Solingen Botanic Garden in Germany.

Two yellow-fruited *Cornus*

55

SUSYN ANDREWS writes about unusual forms of dogwood that may deserve to be better known.

Cornus kousa 'Xanthocarpa' first came to my attention from a note by Philippe de Spoelberch (2012), who saw it in the Botanischer Garten Solingen. "*Cornus kousa* aux fruits jaunes dont tout le monde a goûté la chair et ainsi nettoyé quelques graines. Ce fut le doux de la visite et, bien sûr, on se demande si les semis éventuels donneront des arbustes à fruit jaunes." This was the first time I had heard of this cultivar and there is no material in the Kew herbarium. Mary Forrest (1985) apparently saw it at Mount Congreve, Co Waterford in Ireland, a garden which has just passed into the hands of the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin. Gerd Krüssmann (1984) described it as having light green foliage and yellow fruit. Howard (1961) in his registration list of *Cornus* noted that *C. kousa* 'Xanthocarpa' originated in Holland and it was first listed by Krüssmann (1960). No additional information was given in Krüssmann (1984).

Apparently, there is also a yellow-fruited *C. florida*, which was first described from material collected in Saluda, North Carolina in 1919. In the Kew herbarium, we have a sheet collected by Miss L. C. Wilcox on 21 October 1919, from the above location. This taxon was described by Alfred Rehder (1921) as *C. florida* f. *xanthocarpa*. At the same time Rehder reported another



The distinctive yellow fruit of *Cornus kousa* 'Xanthocarpa' at Solingen Botanical Garden in Germany.

sighting near Oyster Bay, Long Island by the nurserymen, Hicks & Co. of Westbury, New York.

56

According to Cappiello & Shadow (2005), f. *xanthocarpa* usually has yellowish twigs, pale foliage and yellow fruit. They do note, however, that "there are some standouts floating around that warrant considerable evaluation effort." Unfortunately, they illustrate the flowers and not the fruit!

H. W. Haynes of the Packhorse Farm Nursery, Tansley, Matlock in Derbyshire did stock f. *xanthocarpa* [as 'Xanthocarpa'] for several years and it was listed in the *RHS Plant Finder* from 2004-2008. As it did not perform well, Mr Haynes deleted this taxon from his catalogue. If anyone else has seen good specimens of the above two taxa, could they please let me know, care of the editor at carolineboisset@btinternet.com.

Acknowledgments

My thanks to Philippe de Spoelberch for providing the photographs and James Armitage and H. W. Haynes for providing information.

References

- Cappiello, P. & Shadow, D. (2005). *The genus Cornus Dogwoods*. 224pp. Timber Press.
- Forrest, M. (1985). *Trees and shrubs cultivated in Ireland*. 209pp. Boethius Press.
- Howard, R. A. (1961). Registration lists of cultivar names in *Cornus* L. *Arnoldia* 21 (2): 9-18.
- Krüssmann, G. (1960). *Handbuch der Laubgehölze*. Vol. I. p. 345.
- Krüssmann, G. (1984). *Manual of cultivated broad-leaved trees & shrubs*. Vol. I A-D. 448pp. Batsford.
- Rehder, A. (1921). New species, varieties and combinations from the herbarium and the collections of the Arnold Arboretum. *J. Arn. Arb.* 2: 174-180.
- Spoelberch, P. de (2012). Botanischer Garten Solingen 7 octobre 2010. *Belgische Dendrol. Belge* 2010: 197, ill. 74.