

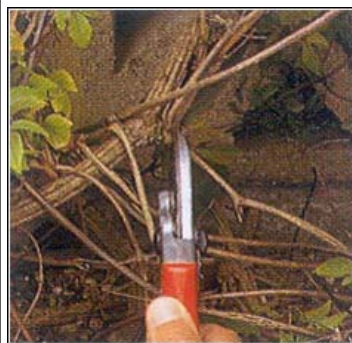
**Vine**  
**Deciduous**

**Map #13, 14**

# Clematis

(*Clematis* spp.)

Family: *Ranunculaceae*



**Leaves:** pinnately compound, with a unique vein pattern that varies with species, clasp or fold over objects they encounter as a means of climbing.

**Buds:** opposite.

**Stems:** slender, light brown, ridged, twine around objects to climb.

**Flowers:** 4 - 6 showy petal-like sepals, single or in small clusters, June until frost depending on the species and cultivar.

**Fruits:** clusters of flower styles which develop long silky hairs.

**Habit:** vine which twines by means of stems and leaves, to 18' on the proper structure such as a trellis but also fences, rock walls and other shrubs and trees.

**Culture:** "heads in the sun, feet in the shade", but not hot and sunny all day, prefer a little shade at some point every day; light, loamy, moderately moist, well-drained soil, preferably alkaline; mulch to retain cool, moist conditions. Plant deeply burying 6" of stems with rootball a bit away from the structure. Pests/ Problems: clematis wilt causing an entire stem or stems to suddenly wilt and die. Treatment:: cut back to ground or below and allow new stems to grow.

**Cultivars:** Most popular hybrid is *C. x jackmanii*. May be grouped:

**Jackmanii** - flowers on new growth in July & August or until frost! Cutback as buds swell in spring developing a woody framework by leaving some of the old canes.

'Comtesse de Bouchard' - pink with and overlay of purple June—August. 'Alba' - white.

'Rubra' - deep red and may flower double on old wood. 'Superba' - large, purple violet.

**Florida** - semi-double to double flowers on 1 year old wood, prune after flowering.

'Duchess of Edinburgh' - large, double, rosette-like flower white with green shading, fragrant.

**Lanuginosa** - flowers lightly on old wood (can be double) or prune in spring to produce new wood to flower more profusely on (single flowers); 'Nelly Moser' - pale mauve pink with a deep pink stripe.

**Patens** - flowers on previous years wood so prune only dead and broken in spring and then after flowering to produce new wood for next years flowering. 'The President' - large, deep violet flowers with pointed sepals.

**Viticella** - prune hard in spring to produce new wood to flower on; can develop large woody structure by leaving some portion of old woody stems. 'Ville de Lyon' - bright carmine red with golden stamens.

### **Related species:**

**Anemone C. (*C. Montana*)** - scrambles 20—30'; several cultivars available.

**Golden C. (*C. tangutica*)** - 3 - 4" lantern-shaped flowers in June and July; seedheads have long silky hairs which twirl; 'Bill MacKenzie' - larger, sturdier flowers.

**Sweet Autumn C. (*C. terniflora*—formerly *C. maximowicziana* and *C. paniculata*)** - leaves with 3 - 5 leaflets and a grayish mottling; stems straw-colored with 12 - 18 ridges; flowers small, white, fragrant, in many-flowered clusters covering the entire plant in August and September and October; rampant engulfing things in its path.

**Virginsbower (*C. virginiana*)** - Native. 12 - 20' with small white flowers in clusters in July through September.

**Italian C. (*C. viticella*)** - flowers purple, rosy purple or violet, 1 - 2" in diameter, with 4 sepals shaped like bells and dangling, singly or in 2s and 3s; grows to 10'. 'Betty Corning' - pale blue bells with recurved petal tips.



Jackmanii



'Nelly Moser'



'Comtesse de Bouchard'



'Ville de Lyon'



Golden Clematis



'Betty Corning'



*Clematis montana var. rubens*



Sweet Autumn Clematis



(c) 2002 Gary J. Kling



Virgin's Bower

Credits: Photos from: [www.midwestlandscapeplants.org](http://www.midwestlandscapeplants.org) and various other .edu websites unless noted. Text from: "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants" by Michael Dirr; "Tree Identification Characteristics (abridged)" from the University of Illinois Extension; [www.midwestlandscapeplants.org](http://www.midwestlandscapeplants.org); and misc. other sources. This publication may not be sold except to cover the cost of reproduction when used as part of an educational program of the University of Wisconsin-Extension.