

VanDusen Botanical Garden

Guide Weekly Update #10: June 2 to June 8, 2019

Brought to you by Ashley Lambert-Maberly (ashley.lm@ubc.ca), Sunday walking guide.

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06 June 2019 Thursday: Garden Walk

Led by Cynthia Sayre, our Curator of Collections. She will take us around the garden and give us an overview of current projects.

08-09 June 2019 Saturday & Sunday: Desert Plant Society Show & Sale

In the Floral Hall, so when hapless guests approach your trolley and ask “Where are the desert plants?” you’ll know what they mean and where to point them!

Errata: there was an autocorrect fail in the last update. Sap oozing out of pinecones resembles “sequins,” not “sequence!”

PERFECT PAIRINGS

► Near the ginkgos by the Plaza is a Beautybush in flower (*Kolkwitzia amabilis*) from Central China, and now rare and threatened in the wild. Turn around, and behind you (and all through the woodland as well) is this seemingly super-sized Heuchera—it’s really a Fringecup (*Tellima grandiflora*), the only plant in the *Tellima* genus, and a native to BC. ► The nearby Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) just north of the Visitor Centre is also blooming. It’s in the Magnolia family. There is a Tulip Tree in New York City’s Alley Pond Park which is 400 years old, called the “Queen’s Giant,” and regarded as the oldest thing in New York! Opposite it on the path is a Carolina Allspice bush (*Calycanthus floridus*) whose bark when scraped emits a strong camphorous smell. ► In the Mediterranean Garden, on the path between Cedars, are two much smaller plants. The Mediterranean Sea Holly (*Ergyngium bourgatii*) has striking variegated foliage, and was named for a Dr. Bourgat who accompanied plant collector Antoine Gouan when he discovered it in the Pyrenees. Nearby, the teensy Lamb’s-Tail or Gold Drop (*Umbilicus oppositifolius*), a saxifrage found on the shady slopes of the Caucasus Mountains in Georgia, and a good choice for crevices and rockeries.



You can normally DOWNLOAD all my photos from Flickr. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/VanDusenUpdate>, and each week I’ll keep adding more shots.