



The Herb Society of America, Inc.

ANNOUNCES

2012 NOTABLE NATIVE HERB SPICEBUSH, *LINDERA BENZOIN*

November 21, 2011, Kirtland, Ohio—

Native shrubs, trees and perennials are a hot horticultural topic, but left out of much of the discussion is another group of natives—herbs.

To bring attention to the vast selection of plants which can trace their origins to North America, The Herb Society of America, Inc. announces its new initiative: Notable Native Herbs.

Each year The Society will choose a native herb as its focus; the selection for 2012 is spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), an open-branched shrub native to the Eastern US and much of the Midwest. It's clear yellow leaves in fall will brighten any landscape, and the scarlet fruits attract wildlife. Gardeners appreciate this adaptable shrub, which will grow further north and west than its native range.



Fitting the definition of a herb for its past and present useful properties, spicebush made a tea with a mellow, fruity flavor, and is currently used in a number of recipes. It was first known for medicinal properties valued by Native Americans.

Educational material is available on The Herb Society website and nurseries across the nation will be encouraged to propagate and offer these plants. Sample nursery tags and plant signs are available on the website.

For more information, contact The Herb Society headquarters at herbs@herbsociety.org or call 440-256-0514.

...DEDICATED TO PROMOTING THE KNOWLEDGE, USE AND DELIGHT OF HERBS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, RESEARCH, AND SHARING THE EXPERIENCE OF ITS MEMBERS WITH THE COMMUNITY.

www.herbsociety.org

9019 Kirtland Chardon Road
Kirtland, OH 44094

Email: herbs@herbsociety.org