

Scientific name: *Kirengeshoma palmata*

Family: Hydrangeaceae

Common Name: Yellow Wax Bells

Native Habitat: Woods and native lowlands of Japan and Korea.

Hardiness zone: Zones 4-10

Exposure: Part shade, but can also tolerate more sun if adequate moisture is provided.

Form: Clump-forming, graceful herbaceous perennial.

Soil Requirements: Prefers cool, moist, humus-rich soil. Perfect for the woodland garden.

Growth Rate: Slow to medium.

Height: Approximately to 5 feet.

Leaf: The leaves of *K. palmata* can become quite large, approximately 4 to 8 inches wide, decreasing in size as they near the top. They are maple-like in appearance, borne in opposite pairs, sharply-lobed, and light-green in colour.

Flower: In late summer, the Yellow Wax Bells begin their show. Tight, bell-shaped, pendulous, pale yellow flowers begin to bloom atop stems produced from the leaf axils. Five-petalled, waxy flowers hang in terminal clusters of 3 to 5.

K. palmata is showcased every year at the Members' Garden Party with its blooms lasting long into September. In late October, our Woodland Garden is lit up when the foliage turns a vibrant yellow.

Kirengeshoma palmata can be propagated by cuttings taken in early summer, by division of mature plants in the spring, or by seed which is offered in our Index Rarium.

Kirengeshoma with its unique blooms and grand stature makes a bold statement. A "must have" plant particularly for the woodland garden.

