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(photo from Penn State University)

Persian Parrotia (*Parrotia persica*)

Origin: Seed-grown (except cultivars), native to Northern Iran and the Caucasus

Mature Size: Medium to Large (30-40' Tall)

Description: Persian Parrotia (aka Persian Ironwood) is a relatively slow-growing tree in the witch-hazel family, with pyramidal form in youth becoming rounded with age. It prefers good soil with adequate moisture, and protection from strong winds. It tends to grow with low branches or multiple stems, but can be trained as a single stem tree. The bark of mature trees develops interesting patterns. Persian Parrotia is hardy in our area, but holds its leaves late into the fall and therefore doesn't always produce good fall color. Given favorable fall weather, it can develop orange, red, or purple fall color. It has no serious insect or disease problems, although Japanese beetles can damage the foliage. Vanessa is an improved variety with upright form.