and Bug Blasters,” by Dr. Donald L. Schuder, of Purdue.

Panel discussions on “Safe Operations of Aerial Lifts” and “Growth Retardants” are also among arborist activities at the upcoming meet.

Ralph Carmichael, president, Midwest Chapter, International Shade Tree Conference, is a featured speaker on the program for nursery interests. He’ll discuss “Landscape Design and Application.” Nurserymen will also hear talks on “Selling Up in Landscaping”; “Labor—Its Price, Availability, and Relation to Profit”; and “Keeping Old and New Customers Sold on Plant Material.”

For further information, write Dr. Donald L. Schuder, Secretary, Indiana Assn. of Nurserymen, Agriculture Hall, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.; or Kenneth B. Flaig, Executive Secretary, Indiana Arborist Assn., 6509 Birchdale Drive, Fort Wayne, Ind.

January Tree Planting to Mark N.Y. Arborists’ Meet

A tree planting ceremony, unusual for January, will take place when the New York State Arborists Assn. meets at the Concord Hotel, Kiamesha Lake, N.Y., Jan. 15-17. Not just a ceremony, it will show participants the proper techniques for winter plantings.

Moderated panel discussions on “Community Appreciation of Shade Trees” and “Legislation Affecting Arborists” will lead off on Sunday, Jan. 15, educational program. Monday will feature a look at “The Arborist Through Consumer Eyes,” and a round-table discussion, to be chaired by Professor Carl F. Gortzig, of Cornell University, Ithaca, on “Trees and Their Care in 1967.” Also planned are sessions on work procedures and safety, which are to be developed both by commentary and audience participation.

For more information, contact William H. Schwab, Secretary, Hudson Valley Chapter, New York State Arborist Association, P.O. Box 321, Millbrook, N.Y.

Know Your Species

**LADYSTHUMB**

*(Polygonum persicaria)*

Ladysthumb smartweed is also known as persicaria, heartweed, and spotted knotweed. A seed-producing annual, ladysthumb is a common weed in the northern United States and southern Canada.

The plant is most frequently found in waste places, along roadsides and ditches, and in cultivated ground, particularly in low, wet areas.

Stems of ladysthumb are smooth and fleshy and are sometimes slightly hairy. Widely branched stems grow 6 inches to 3 feet tall.

Leaves, shown in (1), are alternate and pointed at both ends. A triangular dark spot is usually found in the middle of the leaves. Smooth-edged and 1 to 6 inches long, leaves are attached at the base to a sheath that extends around the stem (2). Sheaths are smooth and fringed with short bristles.

Flowers are pink to purple and are borne on dense, round spikes, ½ to 2 inches long, at the ends of the stems. The plant flowers in the period, June to October.

Seeds (3) are heart shaped and may be flattened or 3-sided. Shiny, black seeds are about 3/32 inch long and are produced from July to November. Seeds are frequently found in clover and small grain seeds.

Ladysthumb can usually be partially controlled by mowing when the flowers first appear. Good control may be obtained by using low-volatile esters of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T at the rate of 1 pound per acre. For maximum results, chemicals should be applied when plants are small. Under favorable conditions, first application will kill young weeds. Otherwise, further application is necessary for control.

Prepared in cooperation with Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland

(DRAWING FROM NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PUBLICATION NO. 36, USDA EXTENSION SERVICE)