



WEST LODGE PARK  
YOUR COUNTRY RETREAT



## Beale Arboretum News ~ Autumn 2018

This is a strange year for the thousands of trees in the Beale Arboretum.

As I write on the 8<sup>th</sup> October, there has been barely any rain for months and months, and the trees have suffered the longest and hottest summer since records began.

The ground is heavy Thames clay which is cracked, and the little rain has barely penetrated the surface.



**Acer saccharum 'Newton Sentry' and  
Acer rubrum 'Autumn Blaze'**

Despite this, and despite the brown lawns this summer, the trees are in remarkably fine form, and we have barely lost any trees thanks to the intensive watering programme of the gardens team of Paul and Andrew.

Only the more ericaceous shrubs like rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias have suffered particularly badly from the hot dry conditions.

The first photo shows **Acer saccharum 'Newton Sentry'** in the foreground and **Acer rubrum 'Autumn Blaze'** in the background – both stunning early autumn trees.

The second photo shows **Decaisnea fargesii**, more commonly known as the **Blue Sausage Tree** – this unusual leguminous tree has these bright blue seed pods, apparently edible!



**Decaisnea fargesii**



The third photo is of **Eucalyptus viminalis**, just 20 years old but already a County Champion tree for Greater London. It is currently in its autumnal shedding mode, when great strips of bark fall off.

The fourth photo is of one of the best autumn trees, **Nyssa sylvatica** or the **Tupelo tree**, not very well known in the UK, but what beautiful glossy foliage, and so many different colours



**Eucalyptus viminalis**

Our two mulberry trees, **Morus nigra**, and **Morus alba** are stunning at this time of year and are shown in the fifth photo.

And finally the stunning **Liquidambar styraciflua** trees lakeside are at their best right now.



**Nyssa sylvatica**



**Morus nigra, and Morus alba**



**Liquidambar styraciflua**

Do come and visit, it is a stunning time of year!

Andrew Beale  
Managing Director