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The leaves are 1.5-2.5 inches long with a short point. Usually with three characteristic lobes, the base of the leaf is slightly notched. Coarsely saw-toothed, the leaf turns scarlet and orange in autumn.

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Crataegus phaenopyrum

Washington Hawthorn

Washington-thorn

Crataegus phaenopyrum

Washington Hawthorn

Washington-thorn



The swordlike spines are an immediate identifier for the unwary. In late spring look for clusters of white rose-like flowers. The fruit is the prize of this variety.

About a quarter inch in diameter, they are seen in bright shiny red clusters in autumn, and remain until spring, giving color to the winter landscape.

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A small tree with a short trunk, its upright branches spread to form a full rounded shape.

The bark is light brown and thin, becoming scaly with age. The shiny brown twigs are armed with a slender spine, 2-13 inches long.

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Crataegus phaenopyrum

Washington Hawthorn

Washington-thorn

Crataegus phaenopyrum

Washington Hawthorn

Washington-thorn

The Hawthorn is represented in the United States by a very large number of varieties, and distinguishing among them is a challenge even for the expert botanist.

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