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Three Maples now in bloom are valuable as flowering plants. The first, *Acer tataricum*, a small tree of eastern Europe and western Asia, although rarely seen in American collections, is an old inhabitant of gardens. The flowers are white and are produced in erect clusters longer than broad. More conspicuous even than the flowers are the scarlet wings of the fruit which are brightly colored in summer and remain a long time on the branches. The second of these Maples, *Acer ginnala*, is a small shrubby tree of eastern Siberia where it is abundant in the valley of the Amoor and in the neighborhood of Vladivostock. The flowers are pale yellow and, unlike those of most Maples, are very fragrant. The great value of this plant, however, is in the color of its autumn foliage. The leaves drop early but before withering assume tints of scarlet which are not surpassed in brilliancy by the dying foliage of any American tree. These Maples can be found in the Maple Group near the north end of the Shrub Collection. As a flowering plant *Acer spicatum* deserves attention. This shrub, or small tree, of our northern forests is now covered with its long erect racemes of yellow flowers which do not open until the yellow-green lobed leaves are fully grown. There are several plants of this beautiful Maple near the first of the ponds on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road, and in other parts of the Arboretum.

Among the Hawthorns which are planted between the Shrub Collection and the Parkway bordering the Arboretum are a few interesting trees still in flower. Of American species the handsomest is now *Crataegus nitida* with wide-spreading branches arranged in flat open layers and lustrous foliage. This belongs to a southern group of these trees which bear small flowers in crowded clusters and small red fruit. Another handsome species is *Crataegus fecunda*. This is a round-topped tree with long lower branches spreading over the ground and large flowers followed by oblong dull red fruit. These two trees, first cultivated in the Arboretum, were raised from seeds gathered thirty years ago in the neighborhood of St. Louis. *Crataegus aprica* from the foothills of the southern Appalachian Mountains is also in flower. This is a small-leaved tree with large flowers in few-flowered clusters and large, dull, orange-red fruits. It is interesting as the only representative of a large natural group confined to the southeastern United States which has flowered in the Arboretum. Beyond the American species, and between them and the Willow plantation, are several foreign species of *Crataegus*. The handsomest of these now in bloom is *Crataegus pinnatifida*, with large, lustrous deeply-divided leaves and large flowers in many-flowered clusters. There are large orchards of this tree in the neighborhood of Peking where it is cultivated for its oblong, scarlet and lustrous fruits.

In the third of these bulletins attention was called to *Lonicera syringantha* var. *Wolfii* from western China. Next to this plant in the Shrub Collection *Lonicera syringantha* itself is now in bloom. It is a taller shrub than the variety with more gracefully disposed branches and pale pink or nearly white very fragrant flowers, and in this climate is a garden plant of real value. The pure white flowers of *Lonicera Maackii* from the valley of the Amoor River in eastern Siberia are larger than those of any other Bush Honeysuckle in the Arboretum, and their beauty is increased by the dark green leaves of this hardy plant. The fruit, however, is

small and uninteresting. Next to it in the Shrub Collection there is a specimen of the form of this species from western China, the var. *podocarpa*, which is in every way a less desirable garden plant.

In the fourth of these bulletins attention was called to *Diervilla praecox*, a native of Japan. Some of the hybrids of this plant raised in France are now flowering in the Shrub Collection. Hardier than some of the other garden races of *Diervilla*, these are valuable for the spring gardens. The handsomest variety in the collection is perhaps the one called *Le Printemps*; other varieties now in flower are *Gracieux* and *Conquérant*.

The *Deutzias* are generally not very satisfactory garden plants in this climate, and several of the species and varieties suffer here from the cold of severe winters. The exception is a hybrid between the Japanese *Deutzia gracilis* and *Deutzia parviflora* from northern China, called *Deutzia Lemoinei* for the great French hybridizer by whom it was produced a few years ago. This plant resembles *Deutzia gracilis*, but it grows into a taller and broader shrub, and the flowers are larger. It is certainly one of the best garden plants of recent introduction. With the other species, varieties and hybrids which are grown here it can be seen in full flower in the Shrub Collection. The number of Chinese species of *Deutzia* is now known, largely through the investigations of the Arboretum, to be thirty-two, although twenty-five years ago only five Chinese species had been described. Many of these new species are now growing in the Arboretum nurseries, but it is too soon to speak of their value as garden plants.

Spiraea Van Houtii is a hybrid raised in Europe between *Spiraea cantoniensis*, a rather tender Chinese species, and *Spiraea trilobata* of Siberia. It is easily propagated and grows rapidly into a tall broad shrub, and has been largely advertised and distributed in recent years. It suffers, however, in cold winters and is less valuable than *Spiraea trilobata*, which is a dwarfer plant with spreading and pendant branches, and is perfectly hardy and as free flowering as its offspring. Although first brought to this country at least eighty years ago, *Spiraea trilobata* is now rarely found in American gardens. These two *Spiraeas* can now be compared in the Shrub Collection where they are in flower side by side, and where there are many other species of this genus.

Enkianthus is an eastern Asiatic and Himalayan genus, with drooping clusters of small, bell-shaped flowers, and dry capsular fruits, and is related to *Andromeda*. Three Japanese species are well established in the Arboretum and can be seen in the Shrub Collection and in a large group on the right-hand side of Azalea Path. The handsomest of the three species, *Enkianthus campanulatus*, is a tall shrub with slender erect stems and branches, and light yellow or rose-colored flowers. It is found in every Japanese garden where it is valued for the bright scarlet color the leaves assume in autumn, and where it is often cut into balls and other fantastic shapes. This *Enkianthus* is a garden plant here of real value. The other species, *Enkianthus japonicus* and *Enkianthus subsessilis*, are smaller plants with smaller yellow flowers and are less valuable ornaments of the garden.

Roses are already beginning to flower. The earliest in the Shrub Collection is *Rosa cinnamomea*, the old-fashioned Cinnamon Rose. A more beautiful plant now in flower in the Shrub Collection is a Siberian form of the so-called Scotch Rose known as *Rosa spinosissima* var. *altaica*.

This is a very hardy plant which grows here into a tall wide bush and every spring covers itself with numerous large single white flowers faintly tinged with yellow. Of the single-flowered Roses which are hardy in New England this is one of the most valuable.

Of the early flowering Rhododendrons in the collection at the eastern base of Hemlock Hill the most interesting is now *Rhododendron Smirnowii*, a native of the Caucasus. This is a shrub with pale, gray-green leaves clothed below with a thick, felt-like rusty brown covering and light pink flowers in large clusters. It is very hardy but the leaves suffer from the summer sun, and half-shaded positions are favorable to its greatest beauty. Hybrids of this species with forms of *Rhododendron catawbiense* promise to be valuable garden plants.

Vaccinium corymbosum, the High-bush Blueberry of New England swamps, has been largely planted in different parts of the Arboretum and is now covered with its white bell-shaped flowers. This is one of the most beautiful shrubs of eastern North America. The habit is good; the flowers and fruit are beautiful, and no other plant has a more splendid autumn color. The High-bush Blueberry, however, is rarely cultivated. Attention, however, has been recently called to it by a Bulletin of the Department of Agriculture in which the results of Dr. Coville's experiments in propagating and cultivating this plant are published.

Of the Viburnums with palmately lobed and veined leaves, and a ring of showy sterile flowers surrounding the flower-clusters, three species are cultivated in the Arboretum, *Viburnum Opulus* of northern and central Europe, *Viburnum Sargentii* of northeastern Asia, and *Viburnum americanum* of northeastern North America. The first is the largest plant of the three, with larger and thicker leaves late-persistent in the autumn, and dark red fruit. The old-fashioned Snowball of gardens is a form of this species with all the flowers sterile, and there is a very dwarf form which rarely flowers. The flowers of *Viburnum Sargentii* are more showy than those of the other species, but the fruit is small and inconspicuous. The habit of *Viburnum americanum*, the so-called High-bush Cranberry, is less compact than that of the other species. The flowers, however, are beautiful, and the fruit, which is translucent and very lustrous, remains on the branches through the winter; in the autumn the leaves turn bright orange-red before falling. The three species are all very hardy. *Viburnum americanum* and *Viburnum Sargentii* have been generally planted in the Arboretum, and very large plants of *Viburnum Opulus* can be seen on the Parkway and in some of the other Boston parks.

An illustrated guide to the Arboretum containing a map showing the position of the different groups of plants has recently been published. It will be found useful to persons unfamiliar with the position of the different groups of plants. Copies of this guide can be obtained at the Administration Building in the Arboretum, from the Secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, from The Houghton, Mifflin Company, 4 Park Street, Boston, and at the Old Corner Bookstore, Bromfield Street, Boston.

The Arboretum will be grateful for any publicity given these Bulletins.



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