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SHRUBS ATTRACTIVE IN LATE WINTER AND EARLY SPRING. FEW, indeed, are the shrubs which are as attractive the first week in March as they were at Christmas time. As cold waves come and go, berries shrivel and lose their color, leaves reputedly evergreen turn brown and wither, or drop off altogether. Of all the shrubs planted for their winter effect only two classes hold their own as winter advances towards early spring; those few species which flower in the winter and secondly those such as the willows and osiers whose winter interest is due to the color of the young twigs. These actually brighten as spring approaches and by the first week of March even the bare branches of the Forsythia bushes lend a distinctly yellow tone to the landscape.

The great bulk of shrubs which at one time or another have been recommended for their winter effect owe that recommendation either to evergreen leaves or attractive fruits. A few of these species do not properly belong on any such list, as far as New England is concerned, since they lose their beauty with the first killing frost. The great majority cease to be effective after a severe cold wave. By early March only a few are left with unblemished reputations. The following list was made on March 13, 1933. It does not pretend to be complete though an attempt has been made to include all the outstanding "winter shrubs" in the collections of the Arboretum. It is an attempt to give a vigorous spring house cleaning to the list of berried and evergreen shrubs. Too much weight should not be given to this single rating, however. No two winters are alike and while that of 1932-33 may be taken as near the average, many of the shrubs on these lists would behave differently in another winter, or if planted in a different position.

The author will be glad to hear from any readers of the Bulletin whose experience with any of these shrubs does not agree with the rating on the present lists.

SHRUBS WITH ATTRACTIVE FRUITS.

Rosa Helenae. Fruits practically uninjured, very attractive.

Rosa multiflora. Fruits attractive but not quite so effective as *R. Helenae*.

Rosa canina. Fruits attractive, a few discolored.

Aronia. Fruits badly withered, particularly the varieties with red fruits. Varieties with black fruits not unattractive.

Viburnum Wrightii. Fruits withered but a clear dark red.

Viburnum Wrightii var. *Hessei*. Like *V. Wrightii* but the fruits slightly more conspicuous.

Viburnum Sargentii. Fruits very badly faded, color practically gone.

Viburnum Sargentii var. *calvescens*. Fruits very badly faded, color practically gone.

Viburnum trilobum. Fruits very badly faded, color practically gone.

Crataegus. Fruits all fallen.

Berberis vulgaris. Fruits withered but attractive.

Berberis Thunbergii. Fruits bright and attractive, partly fallen.

Ribes fasciculatum var. *chinense*. Fruits slightly faded, but persistent and attractive.

The list of berried shrubs which were really effective by reason of the color of their berries can be reduced to three, the Multiflora Roses, the Chinese Currant, and *Viburnum Wrightii*. Many of the other rose species were more or less attractive; the wild European "Dog Rose", *Rosa canina*, had kept a goodly proportion of its bright fruits and many of them were still a clear and attractive red, but on *R. multiflora*, and to an even greater extent on the closely related species, *R. Helenae*, the fruits seemed quite as attractive as they had been in the fall. *Rosa Helenae* is a remarkable little rose worth growing for its flowers and foliage as well as for the persistent fruits. The flowers are such a pale pink in color as to be practically white; they are small, scarcely larger than one's thumb nail, but they are profusely borne in large corymbs. *Viburnum Wrightii* and its more dwarf variety *Hessei* are excellent shrubs and should be better known. Although it was introduced from Japan over forty years ago, *V. Wrightii* is not at all commonly grown. It has clean foliage, an attractive shape, and the abundant white flowers are followed by dark red fruits which contrast sharply with the black branches.

SHRUBS WITH EVERGREEN LEAVES.

Buxus sempervirens. Tips burned, leaves partly browned.

Buxus microphylla var. *koreana*. Leaves somewhat reddish in general tone, but not unsightly.

Buxus microphylla var. *japonica*. Leaves tinged with yellowish red.

Evonymus japonica. Leaves brown and yellow, unsightly.

Evonymus radicans var. *vegeta*. More or less browned, depending upon situation.

Evonymus radicans var. *Carrierei*. Leaves brownish green, not unattractive.

Evonymus radicans "Little Gem". Unsightly.

Evonymus radicans var. *minima*. Brown at tips of branches.

Evonymus radicans var. *picta*. Some leaves fallen.

Ilex rugosa. Foliage undamaged. (Specimen low and probably entirely protected by the snow).

Ilex crenata var. *convexa*. Attractive, an occasional yellow tip here and there.

Ilex yunnanensis. Ragged appearance, leaves partly fallen, others dark brown.

Ilex opaca. (All old, well established specimens) clear and attractive foliage.

Ilex glabra. In excellent condition, quite as beautiful as when it entered the winter.

Kalmia angustifolia. Leaves unharmed, attractive in color.

Kalmia latifolia. Leaves in good condition.

Leucothoë Catesbaei. An occasional leaf fallen, foliage attractive.

Berberis Julianae. Foliage attractive, purplish green and red, some leaves fallen but apparently no more than had fallen by Christmas time.

Berberis verruculosa. Foliage absolutely undamaged, upper sides of leaves a little darker than in the summertime, thereby contrasting effectively with the grayish green lower surfaces.

Berberis triacanthophora. Foliage red and green, attractive.

Mahonia repens. Foliage burned somewhat above the snow line, but in better condition than the next on the list.

Mahonia Aquifolium. Foliage badly burned in places, unsightly.

X *Mahoberberis Neuberti*. Branches practically bare.

Pachistima myrsinites. Badly browned above the snow line.

Rhododendron hirsutum. Leaves unblemished.

Andromeda glaucophylla. Leaves dark purple-green above, a little ragged.



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