

Diervilla Middendorffiana var. **Maximowiczii** is flowering this year on Hickory Path near Centre Street. This is the Japanese variety of the yellow-flowered *Diervilla* of eastern Siberia and northern Japan, and a common shrub on the mountain slopes of central Hondo where it grows from five to fifteen feet tall. The large pale yellow or yellowish green flowers are attractive but not as showy as those of the species with more highly colored flowers. The Siberian form just lives here, and has resisted the efforts of more than twenty years to induce it to bloom in the Arboretum.

American Azaleas. These begin to bloom about two weeks later than the earliest Asiatic species, and of the sixteen species only seven with several varieties are hardy in New England. These in the order of their flowering are *Rhododendron canadense*, the Rhodora, *R. Vaseyi*, *R. roseum*, *R. nudiflorum*, *R. arborescens*, *R. calendulaceum*, and *R. viscosum*. The other species are confined to the extreme southern states; with one species endemic in Florida, another in Alabama, one in the Arkansas-Texas region, and one in California. It is interesting that eight species, one-half of all the species which have been found in America, grow in the state of Georgia which contains a larger number of species of these plants than any other region of equal extent. Plants of all the American species are in the Arboretum nurseries or have been raised here with the exception of *Rhododendron alabamense* of which seeds have not yet been collected; and some of the southern species, although not for northern gardens, like *R. prunifolium* with crimson flowers, the scarlet flowered *R. speciosum* and the yellow flowered *R. austrinum*, may be expected to become popular garden plants wherever they find a suitable climate. The handsomest of the species hardy at the north, and when in flower one of the most beautiful shrubs of the North American flora, is the Appalachian *R. calendulaceum* with its yellow or flame-colored flowers which do not open until the leaves are nearly fully grown. Another species of the southern Appalachian Mountains, *R. Vaseyi*, with pure pink flowers which have already opened has proved a good garden plant at the north. Of the species, however, with rose-colored or pink flowers *R. roseum* is even a handsomer plant than *R. Vaseyi*. Although first distinguished and named in France as early as 1812, it has always been confused in this country with other species until quite recent years, and has never received the attention which it deserves. It is a shrub from three to fifteen feet tall with rose-colored flowers which open after the leaves begin to unfold, and are more fragrant even than those of *R. viscosum*. This Azalea is common in southern New England and southward to Virginia; it grows in western New York, northeastern Ohio, southeastern Illinois and the adjacent part of Missouri, that is in regions of limestone soil, and the fact that it can grow in lime makes it possible to cultivate it in parts of the country where other *Rhododendrons* cannot grow. There is a group of these plants on the right hand side of the Meadow Road in front of the Lindens.

Lilacs are fast opening their flower-buds. There will not be as many flowers as usual this year on many varieties of the common Lilac, but the plants of the New Chinese species are well covered with buds.



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