

walks. Few of our native trees grow so well in the immediate neighborhood of the seacoast. The seedlings of few trees have shown a greater tendency to variation, and many of the varieties of the Norway Maple have been largely propagated by European nurserymen. There are a dozen or more of the most distinct of these varieties in the Arboretum collection, and among them are some handsome plants. The variety *columnare* is one of the best of the trees with fastigiate branches although it is broader and less columnar than the form of the Sugar Maple with erect growing branches (*Acer saccharum* var. *monumentale*), or the fastigiate Red Maple (var. *columnare*). One of the handsomest of dwarf trees is the variety *globosum*, a round-topped bush branching from the ground. The large and symmetrical specimen of this plant which had been growing since 1888 in the Arboretum was badly injured by the heavy snow and high winds of the severe winter of 1919-20. It has now made new branches and will soon be as handsome as ever. Forms of this tree with deeply divided leaves are var. *dissectum* and var. *cucullatum*, the Eagle Claw Maple. These are small trees which are more curious than beautiful. The most popular of the varieties of the Norway Maple is the var. *Schwedleri*. Early in the season this tree has bright red leaves which before summer turn dark dull green. The color of the spring leaves attracts nurserymen, and this tree has been planted largely in the neighborhood of eastern cities. The dull unnatural color of the mature leaves makes this, however, an undesirable tree for general planting. More attractive is the variety *Stollii* with large three-lobed leaves, purple as they unfold but later dark green. This is one of the most distinct of all the forms of the Norway Maple in the Arboretum collection.

Acer saccharum, the Sugar Maple and one of the great trees of eastern North America, will also soon be in bloom. The flowers are paler in color than those of the Norway Maple, and arranged in gracefully drooping clusters do not make the tree as conspicuous in the spring. The individual flowers are more delicate, however, and better worth close inspection by the lovers of beautiful flowers.

Amelanchiers. Shad Bushes, as Amelanchiers are often called because they are supposed to bloom when the shad begin to ascend the rivers from the sea, add much to the beauty of the Arboretum in the month of May. Amelanchier is a genus in which North America has almost a monopoly; one small shrubby species grows on the mountains of central Europe, and there is another shrubby species in China and Japan. All the other species are natives of North America where Amelanchiers grow with many species from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Newfoundland to the Gulf States. Some of the species are trees and others large or small shrubs; they flower in the spring before the leaves appear or when they are partly grown, or, in the case of a few species, when the leaves are nearly fully grown, the period of flowering of the different species extending through several weeks. The species all have handsome flowers, with long delicate white petals, and small, dark blue, or nearly black pome-like fruit open at the top, with flesh which in most of the species is sweet and edible. It is these edible fruits which probably have earned for these plants



1922. "Acer saccharum." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 8(3), 10–10. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321188>.

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