

to the neighborhood of Stone Mountain in central Georgia and always to be shrubby in habit. It is now known to range northward in the Piedmont region of North Carolina and to grow into a small tree, and the oldest plants in the Arboretum are beginning to assume a treelike habit. *Aesculus discolor* var. *mollis* is also well covered with flowers. The type of this species has red and yellow flowers, but in the variety *mollis*, which is the only form in the Arboretum, the whole flower is bright scarlet. It is a common plant from northern Georgia to central Alabama, and westward to the valley of the Guadalupe River in Texas, ranging west of the Mississippi River northward to southeastern Missouri, and appearing in southwestern Tennessee. In the southern states no other plant is more brilliantly conspicuous, and its unexpected hardiness in New England is an important discovery. *A. Harbisonii*, which is a hybrid of *A. discolor* var. *mollis* and *A. georgiana*, is the last of the Buckeyes, with the exception of *A. parviflora*, to bloom in the Arboretum and probably will not open its flowers for a couple of weeks. It is a shrub with broad clusters of large flowers each with a rose-colored calyx and canary yellow petals tinged with rose toward the margin. Still extremely rare, it deserves to be better

*data* which for several days has been covered with cup-shaped, bright canary yellow flowers unlike in color those of any other *Magnolia*. This tree was discovered by the French botanist and traveler Michaux on one of his journeys from Charleston, South Carolina, up the valley of the Savannah River and was introduced in French gardens by him. For more than a century every attempt to rediscover this tree failed, and it is only within the last ten years that it was found by the Berckmans brothers growing in the woods not many miles distant from Augusta, Georgia, where plants only a few feet high flower profusely. Grafts from Michaux's trees preserved this species in cultivation, and the large plants in the Arboretum were raised from grafts taken from old trees in the Harvard Botanic Garden for which they were imported from Europe when the Garden was laid out, that is more than a century ago. With these species bloom the Umbrella-tree, *M. tripetala*, a bushy tree thirty to forty feet high with large pure white flowers, widely distributed in the Appalachian Mountain region, but nowhere very abundant, from the valley of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania to southern Alabama, middle Kentucky and Tennessee, growing westward to southwestern Arkansas and southeastern Oklahoma; and the Cucumber-tree, *M. acuminata*, the tallest of the American *Magnolias*, sometimes ninety feet high, with green or greenish yellow flowers covered with a glaucous bloom. This fine tree is a native of mountain slopes and rocky banks of streams from southern Ontario and western New York, to Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois and along the Appalachian Mountains to northern Georgia and to central Kentucky and Tennessee, northern Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. It is the largest and most widely distributed of the American *Magnolias*, and grows to its largest size at the base of the high mountains of the Carolinas and Tennessee. Later *Magnolia macrophylla* and *M. virginiana* will bloom. The first has the largest leaves and the largest flowers of any North American tree, and the latter, which is perhaps the most attractive of the group, has the smallest flowers. The size, however, is made up by their delightful fragrance and by the beautiful leaves lustrous above and silvery white below which remain late on the branches. As they flower attention will be called later to these two species.

**The Way to grow Wisterias.** Wisterias which do not climb naturally are usually supported on trellises or grown on rods or frames attached to buildings. This means that they have to be more or less pruned every year and in this way lose much of their flowering wood and often have a stiff and unnatural appearance. How to grow them naturally can be seen from a plant of the white Japanese Wisteria growing close to the Centre Street gate of the Arboretum. This was planted many years ago in what was then a nursery and has been allowed to grow naturally over some tall bushes close to the drive into the Arboretum; it now extends over a large area and this year, as in many past seasons, the whole plant is loaded down with its long racemes of flowers. It is now one of the most beautiful and interesting objects in the Arboretum, and well worth the attention of all persons who like to see plants growing naturally and as they grow in their native countries as wild plants.



1925. "American deciduous-leaved Magnolias." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 11(8), 31–32.

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