

of the most important of the eastern groups, common with many species in Canada and the northern states; it does not occur in the southeastern states, the coast region of the east Gulf States and Louisiana, and is extremely rare in eastern Texas and Arkansas. The fruit of some of the northern trees of this group is perhaps more beautiful than that of the plants of any other group. The Douglasianae are black-fruited trees and shrubs of the northwestern and interior parts of the continent, with one species in the Lake Superior region of northern Michigan. All the species are growing well in the Arboretum, as are those of the Anomala, a northeastern group related to the Macracanthae and Douglasianae by the presence of longitudinal cavities on the inner faces of the nutlets of the fruit. Some species of the Molles Group are the first of the American Hawthorns to flower. The distribution of this group is peculiar. It is represented in the valley of the St. Lawrence River, in Maine, eastern Massachusetts and northern Delaware; from western Vermont and Massachusetts and from western Pennsylvania it is common westward to eastern Nebraska and Kansas; it occurs in middle Tennessee, northeastern Mississippi and in northern Alabama. It is well represented in Missouri and in Arkansas, and in eastern Texas several species are widely distributed, abounding in the valley of the lower Brazos River and extending westward to that of the San Antonio. The largest trees among American Hawthorns are found in this group; they have large leaves more or less covered with hairs, especially early in the season, large flowers in many-flowered clusters, and large, scarlet, rarely yellow, usually dry and mealy, often edible fruit. American Hawthorns will be opening their flower-buds here during the next five or six weeks. For those parts of the country in which the soil is impregnated with lime, and in which the climate is severe, no other genus can furnish such handsome small trees and shrubs with such conspicuous flowers and fruit.

Azaleas. Several of these plants are blooming on Azalea Path, the most conspicuous being the Japanese *Rhododendron (Azalea) japonicum* with flame-colored and occasionally bright yellow flowers (var. *aureum*). Long confounded with the hybrid *Rhododendron (Azalea) mollis* of gardens, little attention has been paid to it, and it is only lately that its specific character has been understood. *R. (Azalea) roseum* is also in bloom, with deep rose-colored flowers, the fragrance of which is only equalled among Azaleas by that of the summer-blooming *R. viscosum* of northern swamps, and by many persons this southern shrub is considered the handsomest of American Azaleas with the exception of *R. calendulaceum* with its yellow and flame-colored flowers. *R. nudiflorum*, a northern shrub, with rosy pink flowers which open before the unfolding of the leaves, is also now in full bloom. *R. calendulaceum* is beginning to flower, and a few plants are already in bloom. It is an inhabitant of the mountain regions from southern New York to Georgia, and is extremely abundant on the lower slopes of the high mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee, and is a shrub with erect stems, sometimes from six to eight feet tall, and probably the handsomest of all American Azaleas.



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