

parently no real harm was done. Both the white and pink forms of *Prunus Davidiana* opened their blossoms early in April only to be destroyed by frost. This tree is too precocious for these latitudes. It rarely happens that a Spring passes without its flowers being partially or wholly destroyed. Where the climate is less changeable it should be a valuable early flowering tree. In the Middle West as a stock on which to graft Peaches it is well appreciated but it ought to be grown widely as an ornamental.

Apricots. For the climate of Massachusetts the Manchurian Apricot (*Prunus mandshurica*) is likely to prove a first-class Spring flowering tree. During the last week-end a tree on the right hand side of Meadow Road, on the edge of Robina group, has been a beautiful picture. About 20 feet tall, with a flattened, irregular crown spreading full 25 feet, every branch of the tree was studded with deep pink flower buds which as they opened became pale colored. We noticed that bees were particularly busy and on Sunday last the tree was alive with them. This Apricot is native of Korea and Manchuria, where it grows some 30 feet tall and has a short massive trunk covered with thick corky bark which shows red beneath the surface. It has been growing in the Arnold Arboretum since 1906 but this year has flowered much more profusely than ever before. At the moment the Siberian Apricot (*Prunus sibirica*) is a mass of white and, so too, is a Japanese form of the Common Apricot (*P. armeniaca*) known as *mikado*. These three Apricots are well worth the attention of tree-lovers and nurserymen. They are suited for planting on lawns and near houses; also they would be valuable for town gardens and small parks in the heart of cities.

Forsythias. The bank of Forsythias by the Lilac collection is now strung with yellow bells and in a day or two will be a blaze of rich yellow. These Oriental shrubs are everywhere great favorites but it is regrettable that their care, especially the matter of pruning, is so little understood. As one sees them in gardens generally they are shorn of beauty through ignorant pruning. If people would only cut them immediately after their flowering is passed they would have graceful bushes hugging the ground instead of the broom-like masses one so frequently sees. It cannot be too often stated that all shrubs which flower on the past season's growth should be pruned immediately after flowering and thus be given a long season for making and ripening new flowering wood. All the Forsythias are good. The best is, undoubtedly, *F. intermedia spectabilis*, which has larger and richer yellow blossoms than the others. Massachusetts is about the northern limit of the Chinese Forsythias and their hybrids. The Korean species (*F. ovata*) with small pale yellow flowers is much the hardiest and although the flowers are smaller and the color not so deep it promises to be a valuable shrub for northern New England and even the valley of the St. Lawrence. It is native of the Diamond Mountains in north-central Korea and was introduced into the Arnold Arboretum by Wilson in 1917. As a screen for draping walls and large boulders the old *F. suspensa* with its long, whip-like branches is still the best.



Wilson, Ernest Henry. 1927. "Apricots." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 1(1), 2-2. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321761>.

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