

(*atrocaulis*) introduced from central China in 1907 is remarkable for its blackish purple shoots and extremely large flowers; unfortunately this does not blossom so freely as the type.

Forsythia viridissima was the second species introduced, being sent to England from China by Robert Fortune in 1844. This is a bush with ascending-spreading stems some 5 to 6 feet tall and bright yellow flowers. It is not so hardy as *F. suspensa* and blossoms a little later. More handsome than the type and likely to be of greater hardiness is the variety *koreana*, a common plant in the neighborhood of Seoul, the capital of Korea. This has spreading, arching branches and deeper yellow, more abundant blossoms than the Chinese type. It was introduced by the Arboretum in 1919 through seeds received from the Department of Forestry in Korea. These two Chinese species are much confused in gardens but may be readily distinguished one from the other by splitting a shoot down the middle. In *F. viridissima* the pith will be seen to be arranged in plates one above another, whereas in *F. suspensa* there is no pith and the center of the stem is hollow. Interestingly enough the hybrid between these two species, *F. intermedia*, partakes of both characters. In some shoots or parts of the same shoot lamellate pith will be seen, whereas in others no pith is present.

Forsythia intermedia, a hybrid between the two Chinese species, which originated in Europe some time before 1880, is superior to either of its parents. The variety *spectabilis* with rich, pure yellow flowers, each 1½ inches across, is probably the most handsome of all the Goldenbells. It is extremely floriferous and stems 6 to 8 feet long are crowded throughout the whole length with large clusters of blossoms. If only one Forsythia can be grown it should be this. Another variety of this hybrid with deep yellow flowers is *vitellina*. The variety *densiflora* has spreading and pendulous branches, much crowded, pale yellow, rather flat flowers with slightly recurved corolla lobes. The best of the pale yellow Forsythias is var. *primulina*, which originated in the Arboretum about 1910 as a chance seedling.

Forsythia europaea was discovered on the mountains of Albania by Dr. A. Baldacci in 1897, and was introduced into cultivation by means of seeds which he sent to Kew in 1899. It is of upright habit with pale gray shoots and yellow blossoms each about 1¼ inches in diameter. Of somewhat ungainly habit, growing 10 feet tall, it has proved more bud-hardy in the Arboretum than the Chinese species.

Forsythia japonica in its typical form is not represented in the Arboretum. This species is said to be abundant in the province of Bitchu in western Japan and to be related to *F. suspensa*. In central Korea grows a variety (*saxatilis*), a rather slender stemmed plant and this is now growing in the Arboretum collection.

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