

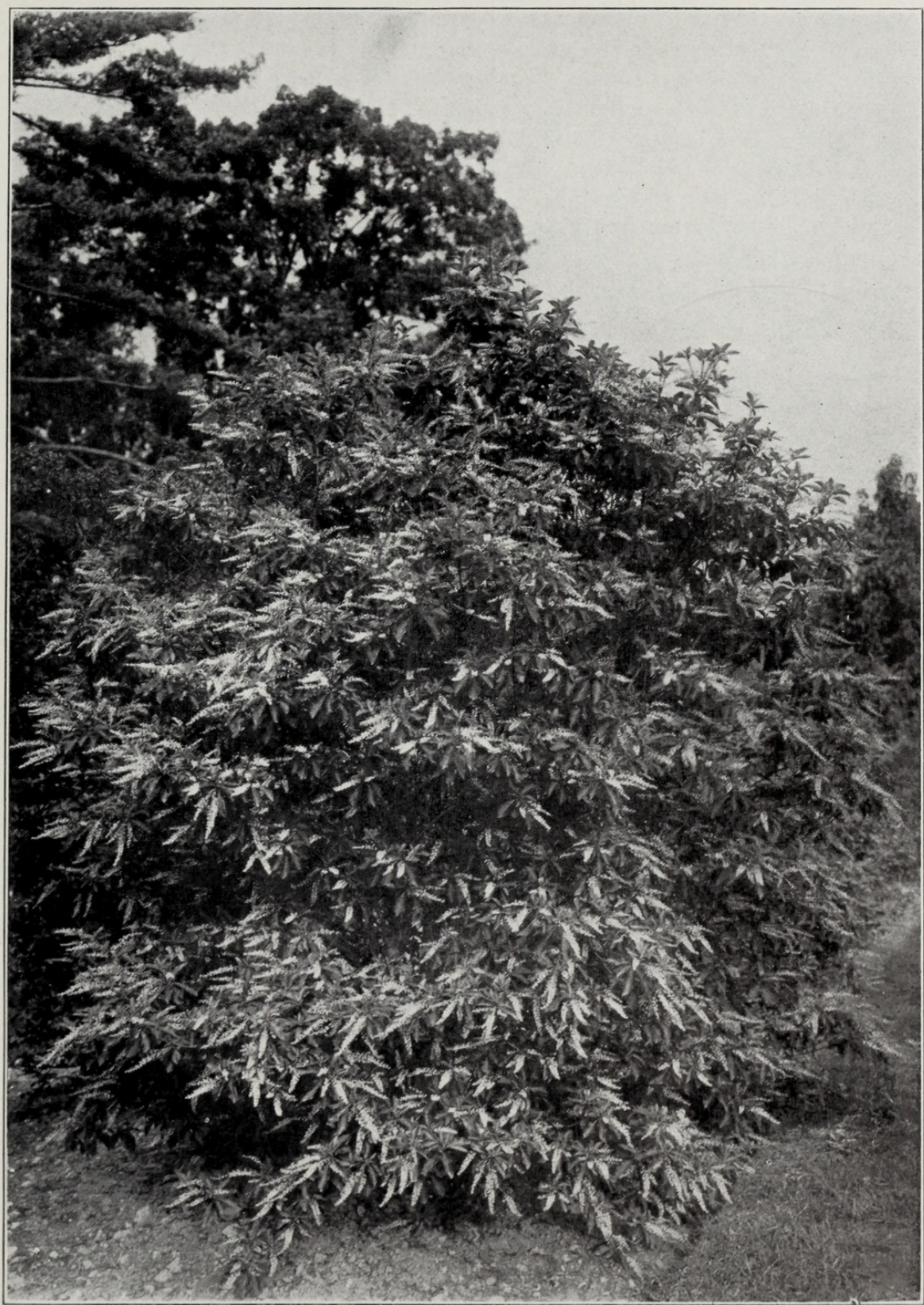
the upper surface. The flowers are white with prominent yellow-brown anthers and are borne many together in erect terminal racemes which may be simple or paniced. Usually this plant suffers from the attacks of red spider but this year for no apparent reason it is remarkably free of this pest.

*Clethra acuminata*, a native of the southern Appalachian Mountains, while less conspicuous in blossom than other species that are hardy in the Arboretum, is worth growing for its polished smooth, cinnamon-brown stems. In this respect it is not a bad substitute for the Madrona of California. It is a bush or small tree of rather open habit sometimes 20 feet tall. The leaves are long-pointed, dull green, prominently nerved, serrate and vary in shape from lanceolate to lanceolate-ovate. The racemes spread horizontally and the flowers are so arranged as to point downward; the calyx, pedicel and peduncle are covered with a grayish woolly tomentum.

*Clethra barbinervis*, the first of the Pepperbushes to open its blossoms is past blooming. This, the handsomest of the species hardy in the Arboretum, is a native of Japan, where it is found widespread on the mountains and more especially on the margins of woods and in thickets as a large bush or slender tree sometimes 40 feet tall with a trunk 5 feet in girth clothed with smooth, gray-brown bark. The leaves are long-pointed, more or less oblong-obovate in shape, each from 3 to 5 inches long, sharply serrate and pubescent on both surfaces. The flower clusters are paniced and spread horizontally and the individual blossom is larger and the panicle more showy than those of other species.

*Buddleia Davidii* in its several forms is an extremely useful August and September flowering shrub. In the Arboretum where it has not proved perfectly hardy the stems winter-kill each year, nevertheless, with a little protection the plant throws up stout shoots each spring. In a way winter killing is not a bad fault since it obviates the necessity for hard pruning absolutely essential in this plant for otherwise it becomes weedy in appearance. Planted in rich soil in a situation where it can enjoy abundance of water this plant will produce shoots 5 to 8 feet in length each terminating in a tail-like panicle of blossom from 18 to 30 inches in length; every lateral shoot also ends in a panicle of lesser size. Of the several forms *magnifica* with dark purple flowers and crinkled petals is perhaps the best; another excellent form is *superba*, characterized by its thick and very dense inflorescence. A native of central and western China where it is common in the stony beds of mountain torrents and in thickets, this plant was introduced into cultivation by E. H. Wilson in 1900. It quickly attained popularity and owing to the ease with which it can be propagated it is now found in gardens the world over. Butterflies are exceedingly partial to this plant and the fact has given rise to its being called the Butterfly-bush.





Japanese Pepperbush (*Clethra barbinervis*)



Wilson, Ernest Henry. 1930. "Clethra barbinervis." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 4(15), 58-59.

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