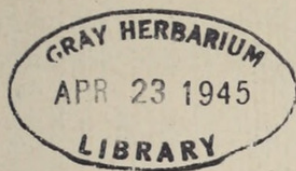


ARNOLDIA



A continuation of the BULLETIN OF POPULAR INFORMATION of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University

VOLUME 5

April 20, 1945

NUMBER 4

SPRING RUSHES ON

THE LILACS in the Arnold Arboretum will be in full bloom on April 24, nearly a full month earlier than normal. Unprecedented and continued warm weather, in which several weather records have been broken, has advanced spring this year to a point where it is so early that many of the "oldest residents" have difficulty in remembering a similarly advanced period. Our records of actual blooming dates during the last fourteen years, are represented in a table in this issue of *Arnoldia*: this shows far better than many words of explanation just what has happened over a period of fourteen years.

The early lilacs bloomed well. *Syringa oblata* and its derivatives have been in flower for a week, and with unusually warm weather many of the *S. vulgaris* varieties are in bloom today with the best of the flowering display to appear by the middle of the week of April 22, unless very cold weather intervenes to retard them. Crab apples are now in full bloom.

There has been very little winter injury in the Arboretum apparent up to now. Some damage by rabbits and mice has been done to plants in the nursery, as is usually the case when the snow cover persists for an appreciable length of time. Those who are interested in the redwoods will be sorry to learn that the last of our *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (*Sequoia gigantea*) died this winter. These were what remained of an original shipment of six plants, collected especially for the Arboretum at the upper limits of this species in the Sequoia National Park. They were selected from sites on Mount Whitney because of their apparent resistance to cold. All six were carefully planted in a nursery adjacent to the greenhouse that is protected on all four sides with a seven foot board fence. They were given every attention at planting time and really pampered during the hot summer months. Three of the plants died in the second and one in the third winter, leaving two plants which thrived without much noticeable injury until the spring of 1944. One of these was planted in a protected place in the Arboretum in 1944, and the other was left in the nursery. Both plants died in the past winter for no apparent reason, since the temperatures were not unusually low, and the snow

Blooming Dates of Plants Growing in the Arnold Arboretum

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<i>Abeliophyllum distichum</i>	—	—	—	21	17	1	—	1	24	m 1	17	—	—	24	M 29
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	10	—	1	9	18	M 30	14	M 23	20	m 1	6	—	18	12	M 28
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	M 1	J 15	J 24	M 17	M 11	M 17	J 14	M 23	M 5	—	M 28	M 9	M 18	M 14	M 10
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	12	20	21	18	20	12	17	14	28	m 1	15	—	27	30	M 29
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	30	m 1	28	—	m 1	m 7	—	m 5	m 20	—	30	—	—	—	15
<i>Cornus florida</i>	m 3	m 10	m 4	—	m 9	m 8	m 14	m 13	m 22	m 17	m 19	j 5	—	—	22
<i>Cornus mas</i>	7	3	1	13	17	16	10	1	20	m 1	15	3	—	22	M 31
<i>Corylopsis pauciflora</i>	25	23	29	22	19	3	—	15	25	m 1	17	—	—	29	6
<i>Daphne Mezereum</i>	5	—	9	1	M 25	—	8	M 25	20	28	15	5	—	20	M 28
<i>Dirca palustris</i>	3	10	9	7	21	M 30	14	14	20	m 1	19	20	—	23	M 28
<i>Forsythia ovata</i>	10	17	—	18	19	1	4	1	20	m 1	—	—	—	22	M 28
<i>Hamamelis mollis</i>	F 25	J 15	J 25	—	M 7	M 20	J 11	—	—	—	—	M 5	—	M 11	M 3
<i>Hamamelis vernalis</i>	N 29	D 3	N 28	N 21	D 12	D 13	D 19	N 21	—	—	M 27	D 31	D 20	—	M 3
<i>Lindera Benzoin</i>	—	21	29	19	—	19	19	15	28	m 3	18	—	—	m 2	1
<i>Lonicera praeflorens</i>	2	2	M 30	7	10	M 27	9	1	13	22	14	3	—	22	M 29
<i>Lonicera Standishii</i>	12	J 21	19	18	18	—	—	1	22	m 2	18	5	—	22	1
<i>Magnolia denudata</i>	17	21	—	19	20	22	25	15	29	m 4	20	24	28	m 1	2
<i>Magnolia Kobus borealis</i>	17	20	29	19	—	19	19	15	m 1	m 4	—	—	—	—	2
<i>Magnolia Soulangiana speciosa</i>	18	24	—	21	25	23	23	m 1	m 10	m 12	m 1	24	28	m 3	10
<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	10	17	19	15	19	M 31	12	14	29	m 1	14	21	26	29	M 28
<i>Malus baccata mandshurica</i>	27	m 3	26	—	m 2	30	m 6	m 25	m 18	m 11	30	m 30	—	m 9	8
<i>Prunus Armeniaca</i>	20	21	—	—	—	22	25	16	m 10	m 6	19	23	—	m 2	5
<i>Prunus concinna</i>	22	29	29	—	—	23	m 1	19	m 13	m 9	20	22	—	m 3	5
<i>Prunus Davidiana</i>	10	6	9	—	—	M 30	9	1	22	26	—	—	—	—	M 28
<i>Prunus incisa</i>	22	28	m 1	26	27	24	m 1	20	m 13	3	—	24	—	m 4	11

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<i>Prunus mandshurica</i>	17	20	—	20	—	14	17	13	m 6	—	18	—	—	m 29	5
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	30	m 1	—	m 1	m 1	—	m 7	20	m 13	—	—	m 1	—	m 5	16
<i>Prunus Sargentii</i>	20	29	m 1	22	26	22	m 1	20	m 13	m 5	20	24	—	m 2	5
<i>Prunus subhirtella</i>	22	29	21	—	27	25	m 1	20	m 13	m 6	—	24	—	m 4	8
<i>Prunus subhirtella pendula</i>	22	29	29	—	27	—	m 1	20	m 13	m 7	20	24	—	m 3	8
<i>Prunus tomentosa</i>	20	21	—	25	27	23	25	16	m 9	m 8	19	20	—	m 5	6
<i>Prunus triloba multiplex</i>	22	m 1	—	—	28	m 1	m 1	20	m 13	m 10	—	27	—	m 6	8
<i>Rhododendron carolinianum</i>	m 6	m 10	m 5	m 8	m 10	m 12	m 10	m 8	j 2	m 18	m 19	m 12	—	m 18	—
<i>Rhododendron dauricum</i>	—	J 13	—	—	—	—	10	M 27	20	26	15	5	—	29	M 28
<i>Rhododendron obtusum Kaempferi</i>	m 6	m 12	m 7	m 6	m 10	m 12	m 10	m 8	m 27	m 16	m 19	m 2	—	m 17	23
<i>Rhododendron Schlippenbachii</i>	—	—	—	—	m 1	—	m 5	28	—	m 12	—	—	—	—	16
<i>Rhododendron Vaseyi</i>	m 9	—	—	m 6	—	m 8	m 13	m 1	—	m 18	—	—	m 20	—	18
<i>Rosa Hugonis</i>	m 15	m 22	m 26	m 15	m 20	m 22	m 19	m 18	j 2	m 25	m 19	m 15	—	m 20	—
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	m 15	m 24	m 26	m 16	m 21	m 22	m 21	m 17	j 2	m 25	m 14	m 21	—	m 23	24
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	3	3	—	3	1	M 29	M 13	M 23	M 20	—	13	6	7	11	M 20
<i>Viburnum Carlesii</i>	27	30	25	—	28	m 3	m 3	m 3	m 18	m 7	30	m 2	—	m 11	14
<i>Viburnum fragrans</i>	5	J 14	8	15	19	M 30	J 15	10	20	m 1	14	5	—	20	M 28

Note: All dates given are for **April** unless otherwise noted. Many of these figures have been supplied by Mr. W. H. Judd, Propagator of the Arnold Arboretum. The dates represent the first day each species could be considered to be in full bloom. A study of them shows that the spring of 1945 is unusually early.

N = November	M = March
D = December	m = May
J = January	j = June
F = February	

cover was unusually deep, the latter being a favorable condition for this species. This is not the first time redwoods have been planted in the Arboretum, several attempts having been made before, but eventually all the plants have succumbed. It was hoped that this last trial would result in success since the plants had been carefully selected for this purpose.

The shrub collection is worthy of special inspection this spring. For many years the thousand different shrubs growing here have been allowed to encroach on the walks and it has been increasingly difficult to maintain grass walks between every line of shrubs. During the past year every other walk was removed and this ground will be kept continually cultivated, thus giving the plants a better soil in which to grow. Last fall all the plants were heavily pruned in order to induce them to grow into convenient size at a reasonable distance from the walk. This heavy pruning, in some cases, resulted in removing the greater part of certain plants, but such an operation often becomes necessary even in the home garden. Much can be learned by the careful observer now, just from an inspection of these rows of shrubs, for, in cases where it is obvious that the plant was heavily pruned, its response to such pruning is most interesting. As an example, on one or two of the overgrown honeysuckles and pearl bushes, only a few very large branches were left on the plants. These now have many small shoots coming directly from the few remaining large woody stems. Other shrubs, pruned similarly, are not responding in that fashion, showing clearly that they should be pruned in a different manner. A close scrutiny of these shrubs will disclose many interesting facts about pruning.

After the pruning, the soil was limed and thirty cords of cow manure were spread around the plants. This should result in excellent growth during the present season. All the labels have been set back closely against the plants to enable us to cultivate the soil between plants and walks with a rototiller. With a minimum amount of hand hoeing around the plants and most of the work to be done by machine, the maintenance of the shrub collection should now be on a much more economical basis.

One other change should be noted in the Arboretum this spring and that is the radical reduction of the large nursery at the rear of the greenhouse. Two thousand plants had to be moved on very short notice this spring because the University is to construct a new wing to the State Antitoxin Laboratory, for use in certain recently developed phases of blood investigations. This projected construction has a high priority and the building will probably be erected immediately. However, the plants had to be moved at this time, because of the unusually advanced season, in order to save them. Some have been planted in a new nursery within our grounds between South Street and the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad tracks, and the remainder have been planted on the recently acquired Case Estate at Weston.

It should be emphasized once more that the peak of the blooming season for azaleas, lilacs, crab apples and many other plants will be the week of April 22 this year, and not the latter part of May as is normally the case.

DONALD WYMAN



Wyman, Donald. 1945. "Spring Rushes On." *Arnoldia* 5(4), 21–24.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/217388>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/249312>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

BHL-SIL-FEDLINK

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.