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The Chinquapin, *Castanea pumila*, is in flower about a week before the flowers of the northern Chestnut-tree appear. The Chinquapin is a native of the coast region of the Atlantic States from New Jersey to Florida. It is found also in the Gulf States and in the region west of the Mississippi River from southern Missouri to Texas. In the Atlantic States it is usually rather a low shrub spreading into thickets, but west of the Mississippi, especially in southern Arkansas and Texas, it grows into a large, round-headed tree, although it never becomes as large as the northern Chestnut-tree. A tree of this western form and a large group of the dwarf form originally from Virginia are established in the Arboretum and can be seen with the other Chestnuts on the right-hand side of the Valley Road just beyond the Hickory Group. The nuts of the Chinquapin are produced freely in the Arboretum every year and, unlike those of the northern Chestnut-tree, they are cylindrical, not flattened, as only one nut is produced in a bur, and are bright and shining and of even better flavor than those of the common Chestnut. The silvery under surface of the leaves, which is covered with fine hairs, also distinguishes the Chinquapin from the Chestnut-tree.

The black-fruited Elder, *Sambucus canadensis*, is the last of the native shrubs which make a conspicuous show of flowers in the New England landscape. It is just coming into flower in the neighborhood of the small ponds at the end of the Meadow Road and in the Shrub Collection where there are also some interesting varieties of this handsome plant. Among them the most conspicuous now is perhaps the variety with finely divided leaflets, var. *acutiloba*. This plant was found growing wild a few years ago in one of the western states and has been propagated by Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, New York. Another variety, var. *chlorocarpa*, with yellow-green fruit, was found recently in southern New Hampshire. The variety *maxima*, which originated in a European garden, is a remarkable plant as it produces flower-clusters at least three times as large as those found on the wild plants and these are followed by such large and heavy bunches of fruit that the branches are hardly able to support them. The European *Sambucus nigra* and its variety with yellow leaves is also in flower, and the fruit of some of the early flowering species is already ripe. The bright red berries of *Sambucus pubens* from the northern part of this continent now make a fine show. There is in the collection a yellow-fruited form of this plant, var. *leucocarpa*, which although less beautiful is interesting. Interesting, too, although not so full of fruit this year as usual, is the Japanese form of the red-fruited *Sambucus racemosa* (var. *Sieboldii*) which is well established in the collection.

The Arboretum is indebted for no small part of its early summer beauty to four shrubby species of native Viburnums which have been planted in large numbers through its border plantations. The first of these to flower, *Viburnum dentatum*, has already shed its flowers which during the summer will be followed by great clusters of bright blue fruits. This is a common roadside and meadow shrub in the northeastern part of the country and, like several of the other American Viburnums, it improves with good cultivation, growing larger and producing better foliage and handsomer flowers and fruit. The second of this group of four species, *Viburnum cassinoides*, is also out of flower. This is a native of swamps and of the northeastern part of the country where it sometimes grows

twenty feet high. In cultivation this has proved one of the handsomest of all the *Viburnums* introduced into the Arboretum. The leaves, which are thick and lustrous, vary greatly in size and shape. The flowers are slightly tinged with yellow and are borne in large slightly convex clusters. The fruit is larger than that of the other species mentioned in this bulletin and, at first yellow-green, later becomes bright pink and finally blue-black and covered with a handsome pale bloom, fruits of the three colors at a certain period occurring together in the same cluster. The third of these species, *Viburnum venosum*, is now in full flower. This resembles *Viburnum dentatum* but it blooms a couple of weeks later and the young branches and the under surface of the leaves are covered with a thick coat of stellate hairs. This species is found growing naturally only in the neighborhood of the coast from Cape Cod and Nantucket to New Jersey. A larger and handsomer plant, with larger leaves, more showy flowers and larger, later-ripening fruits, is our fourth species, *Viburnum Canbyi*. This plant appears to be confined to eastern Pennsylvania and to northern Delaware where it is by no means common. This is the last of the *Viburnums* to open its flowers in the Arboretum where there are large specimens along the Meadow Road and in front of the Administration Building.

The Silky Cornel, *Cornus Amomum*, is now opening its small white flowers. This has been much used in the Arboretum borders but in cultivation it is not a satisfactory plant unless it can be given sufficient room for its wide-spreading branches to extend out freely and spread over the ground. When well planted it forms a handsome and symmetrical single specimen, and it is well suited for the front of groups of larger plants or for the margins of streams and ponds where its long branches can hang gracefully over the water. The purple stems are attractive in winter, and the bright blue fruits which ripen in the autumn add to the attractions of this native shrub. It is in the Cornel Group at the junction of the Meadow and Bussey Hill Roads where there are two southern species which will not be in flower for a week or two, *Cornus asperifolia* and *Cornus stricta*. The flowers of a Cornel useful as a flowering plant and of no little scientific value, *Cornus Arnoldiana*, are just beginning to fade. This is a hybrid between two native species and sprang up naturally in the Arboretum. The oldest plants are now ten feet high and nearly as broad with erect stems, and this year have been covered with flower-clusters which are handsomer than those of its parents, *Cornus racemosa*, or as it is still more often called, *Cornus paniculata* and *Cornus obliqua*. The flowers, however, are its chief beauty for this hybrid bears little fruit, and in the autumn it is less interesting than *Cornus racemosa* which is as beautiful in October when it is loaded with its white berries on bright red stalks as it is when the flowers open the middle of June.

The flowers of the earliest of the Azaleas, or Rhododendrons as botanists now call these plants, were open two months ago. Those of the last to flower in the long procession of these plants which can be cultivated in the Arboretum are just appearing. This last species is *Rhododendron (Azalea) viscosum*, the Clammy Azalea or, as it is often called, the Swamp Honeysuckle. This is an inhabitant of swamps in the eastern part of the United States, and is chiefly valuable as a garden plant in the delightful fragrance of the white, long-tubed, clammy, viscid flowers and in the

fact that it blooms late in the season. A mass of these plants can be seen on the edge of the native woods on both sides of the Meadow Road; it is also established on Azalea Path, and is scattered through the borders in different parts of the Arboretum. A handsomer plant and one of the most beautiful of all Azaleas is *Rhododendron (Azalea) arborescens*. This is an inhabitant of the Appalachian Mountains from Pennsylvania southward and is a tall shrub with leaves dark and shining above and pale below, with clusters of large white flowers the beauty of which is increased by the bright scarlet filaments of the stamens and styles which rise above the corolla. The fragrance of these flowers is like that of newly mown hay. This plant was introduced into English gardens more than a century ago but it appears to have been soon lost from them and from cultivation until 1880 when seeds were first sown in the Arboretum and from the Arboretum sent to Europe. A mass of this Azalea is established on the right-hand side of the Valley Road in front of the group of Hickories.

From the Valley Road and in other parts of the Arboretum may be seen the spikes of the yellow flowers of the Woad Wax, *Genista tinctoria*, as they rise among Wild Roses and other shrubs. This *Genista* is to admire but not to plant, for as the farmers of Essex County in Massachusetts know to their cost it may become a dangerous weed; as it has ruined many hundreds of acres by plants spread from those brought from England and first planted in Governor Endicott's garden in Salem.

The first of the shrubby Hydrangeas to bloom, *Hydrangea Bretschneideri*, is just opening its flowers. This is a large and hardy shrub from northern China and Manchuria, and in this climate is one of the best plants of the genus. It can be seen in the Shrub Collection and there is a large shrub near Mr. Dawson's house on Centre Street.

Attention is called to *Clematis tangutica* which is planted on one of the trellises on the east side of the Shrub Collection. This very hardy climber from the extreme western part of China has been in bloom for the past three weeks and the flowers will continue to open for sometime longer. They are vase-shaped and bright clear yellow, and as they fade are succeeded by heads of fruits with long, glistening hairy tails. As the flowers open gradually through several weeks flowers and fruits are on the plant at the same time. Among perfectly hardy vines recently introduced this is one of the best.

Of the plants now in flower in the Arboretum, however, there is not one more beautiful or more worthy of a place in every garden than *Magnolia glauca*, which is sometimes called the Sweet Bay. For nearly three weeks its cup-shaped, creamy white flowers have been opening and fading and they will continue to open for several weeks. Their fragrance fills the air, especially at sunset, about the Jamaica Plain entrance.

An illustrated guide to the Arboretum containing a map showing the position of the different groups of plants has recently been published. It will be found useful to persons unfamiliar with the position of the different groups of plants. Copies of this guide can be obtained at the Administration Building in the Arboretum, from the Secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, from The Houghton, Mifflin Company, 4 Park Street, Boston, and at the Old Corner Bookstore, Bromfield Street, Boston.

The Arboretum will be grateful for any publicity given these Bulletins.



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