

years ago. The var. *pallida* has pale straw-colored flowers which are paler than those of other Forsythias. The flower-buds of these hybrids appear to suffer less from extreme cold than those of either of their parents, at least in the Arboretum, and the buds of the different forms of *F. intermedia* have never been injured by cold.

Salix blanda. This is the general name for the group of hybrid Willows which has come into existence by the natural hybridization of the yellow-barked *Salix viminalis* with the Chinese Weeping Willow, *Salix babylonica*. These hybrids are large, hardy and vigorous trees, with branches as slender and pendulous as those of *Salix babylonica*. What may be considered the typical form of *S. blanda* has light olive green branches. On other forms the branches are more or less tinged with yellow. The handsomest of them has bright yellow branches, especially at this season of the year, and is still without a proper name, although it is sold in nurseries as *Salix babylonica aurea*, *S. babylonica ramulis aureis* and sometimes as *S. vitellina pendula*, although there is a weeping form of the true *S. vitellina* to which this last name belongs. The yellow-barked variety of *S. blanda* is the handsomest of the Weeping Willows which can be successfully grown in the northern states where *S. babylonica* is not always hardy. At this time with its pale yellow unfolding leaves and yellow spikes of flower-buds this tree is an object of great beauty and one of the most attractive plants in the Arboretum. *Salix blanda* is not common in the neighborhood of Boston and probably has not been much planted in any part of the United States.

It is much less well known than the hybrid of *S. babylonica* and the European *S. fragilis* for which the general name is probably *S. sepulcralis*—probably, for it is often impossible to decide what is the correct name for hybrid Willows as there is still much confusion about their origin and history. To the *S. fragilis babylonica* hybrid belong the so-called Wisconsin Weeping Willow which has been largely planted in the northern states, and is a hardy and valuable tree. Its origin is not known at the Arboretum. Thurber's Weeping Willow, named for the Massachusetts nurseryman by whom it has been distributed, is probably of the same parentage. Another hybrid known as *Salix Salamonii* is of the same parentage or is the result of the crossing of the European *Salix alba* with *S. babylonica*. This tree is highly esteemed in Europe but in this country is little known. It is a large, vigorous and hardy tree, with ascending branches and gracefully drooping branchlets, the whole forming a broad head of great beauty. This is a good time to examine the Willow Collection for many of the species, hybrids and varieties are flowering or just coming into bloom, and the flowers of Willows are often very beautiful. The Willow Collection is arranged along the northeast border of the north meadow, and is most easily reached from the Jamaica Plain entrance of the Arboretum.



1917. "Salix blanda." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 3(2), 8–8. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320649>.

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