with handsome, long, narrow leaves and small clusters of beautiful pink and white flowers. It is the last of the *Rhododendrons* to bloom here, and the flower-buds do not open until the new branchlets have nearly finished their growth, so that the flower-clusters are a good deal hidden by them.

The varieties and hybrids of the dwarf *Rhododendron caucasicum* bloom before the *Catawbiense* Hybrids, and the flowers have already faded. The latest of this race to flower, and perhaps the best of them all here, is a low, broad, compact plant with pure white flowers called *Boule de Neige*. This is a perfectly hardy, free-flowering plant which might to advantage be more generally planted in Massachusetts.

***Rhododendron carolinianum*.** Another year increases our admiration for this native of the slopes of the southern Appalachian Mountains which is the handsomest of the small *Rhododendrons* in the Arboretum collection. It is perfectly hardy, the habit is excellent, and the leaves are very dark green above and rusty below. It flourishes in the full sun or in deep shade, and never fails to produce abundant crops of its clusters of pale rose-pink flowers. This is one of the best of the broad-leaved evergreens recently introduced into our gardens.

Rhododendron Smirnowii is a plant with which Americans interested in the cultivation of *Rhododendrons* would do well to become acquainted, for it is not only a beautiful plant but may prove exceedingly valuable in the production of a new race of hybrid *Rhododendrons* better suited for this climate than any which we now have. It is a native of the Caucasus and a large shrub with pale gray-green leaves coated below with a thick mat of pale felt, and large pink or rose-pink flowers in medium-sized clusters. The leaves are not as handsome as those of *R. catawbiense* and its hybrids, and when the plants are fully exposed to the sun the leaves sometimes curl up in very hot weather. The felt on their lower surface, however, protects them from the attacks of the lace-leaf fly from which other *Rhododendrons* suffer so seriously here. By crossing this *Rhododendron* with *R. catawbiense* or with some of the hardiest of its hybrids it may be possible to obtain plants superior to any now in our gardens. A Japanese species,

***Rhododendron brachycarpum*,** may also prove valuable for crossing with *R. Smirnowii* or *R. catawbiense*. This is a species of the high mountains of Japan, with large, dark green leaves and large clusters of very pale yellow flowers; it is an exceedingly rare plant in western gardens and does not appear to have been much cultivated by the Japanese. It was one of the plants brought from Japan in 1862 by Mr. Gordon Dexter of Boston and it grew to a large size and flowered for many years in Francis Parkman's garden in Jamaica Plain. This specimen was later transferred to the Arboretum and is no longer alive. There are now seedling plants here, and there is no reason why this handsome species should not become common in American gardens.

Chinese Cotoneasters. All the deciduous-leaved species of Chinese *Cotoneasters* have come through the winter without injury, and many of them are now covered with flowers. As a flowering plant *C. hupehensis* is perhaps the most beautiful, and of all the shrubs introduced by Wilson from China it is the handsomest or one of the handsomest when in flower. It is a broad, tall shrub with very slender arching branches which are now so covered with flowers that at a distance it

1917. "Rhododendron Smirnowii." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 3(9), 35–35. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320699>.

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