

always flowered as well as it has this spring it would be one of the most valuable of the whole group for it blooms early, and the pale lilac-colored flowers in short compact clusters are very fragrant. The large broad leaves which are thick and leathery and are not disfigured by mildew turn in the autumn to handsome shades of orange and red. One of the first hybrid Lilacs was obtained by crossing this Chinese species with the common Lilac (*S. vulgaris*). The plant obtained by this cross is called *S. hyacinthiflora*. It is a large, compact, round-topped shrub with leaves resembling in shape those of its Chinese parent and with small clusters of extremely fragrant, pale lilac-colored double flowers. As a garden plant this Lilac is more interesting than beautiful. *Syringa pubescens* is covered with clusters of opening flower-buds. Attention cannot be too often called to this native of northern China. It is a tall shrub with erect stems, small leaves and short broad clusters of pale lilac-colored flowers remarkable for the long tube of the corolla and for their pungent and delightful fragrance. For this fragrance, if for no other reason, this Lilac should be found in every northern garden; indeed some persons consider it the most valuable of all Lilacs. Although *S. pubescens* was first raised at the Arboretum thirty-six years ago, it is still rare in this country, for it never produces seeds here and is not as easily propagated by cuttings as other Lilacs. It is in bloom nearly four weeks earlier than it was last year. Indeed all the Lilacs are early this year, and by the time this Bulletin reaches its Boston readers many of the varieties of the common Lilac will be in full bloom.

**Early-flowering Hawthorns.** The earliest Hawthorn this year to bloom was *Crataegus nigra* from western Europe. This is a handsome tree with pale bark and deeply lobed leaves. The flowers have twenty stamens with anthers faintly tinged with pink and are arranged in compact clusters; they are followed by handsome black shining fruits which give greater value to this tree than the flowers which are less beautiful than those of many American Hawthorns. There is a large plant of *Crataegus nigra* in the old Hawthorn Collection at the end of the Willow Collection. Several American Hawthorns of the Mollis Group, distinguished by their large flowers, large leaves and large scarlet fruit, have been in bloom during the past week. The most conspicuous have been *C. Arnoldiana*, *C. mollis*, *C. arkansana* and *C. submollis*. These trees have never flowered more profusely. *C. Arnoldiana*, which was first found growing wild in the Arboretum, has been especially handsome. The fruit of this tree begins to ripen late in August or early in September and this makes *C. Arnoldiana* valuable also for the decoration of the summer garden. The largest plants of this tree in the Arboretum are on the left-hand side of the road near the Centre Street entrance. There are a number of good trees in the old *Crataegus* Collection and on the Valley Road in front of the White Oaks. Large plants of the other early-flowering Mollis species can be seen at the South Street entrance. In the *Crataegus* Collection on the eastern slope of Peter's Hill many plants are already in bloom and for the next six weeks it will be possible to see in the Arboretum Hawthorn flowers of many native and foreign species.



1918. "Early-flowering Hawthorns." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 4(4), 15–15. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320808>.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/216946>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320808>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/320808>

#### **Holding Institution**

Harvard University Botany Libraries

#### **Sponsored by**

BHL-SIL-FEDLINK

#### **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

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>.