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Hawthorns handsome in the autumn. Some of the American Hawthorns are more beautiful when their fruits ripen in the autumn than they are when the white flowers cover the branches in the spring and early summer, and there are great horticultural possibilities in these plants which are particularly valuable in those parts of the country where the soil is impregnated with lime. Indeed American Hawthorns, although they do not require lime, are lime-loving plants, and the largest number of species and the handsomest plants are found where lime abounds. In the parks of cities like Chicago, St. Louis and Pittsburg, where the smoke of bituminous coal is fatal to many plants, it has been found that American Hawthorns grow better than most trees and shrubs. It is impossible in one of these Bulletins to do more than mention briefly a few species which are exceptionally beautiful at this season and have shown themselves well suited for general cultivation.

Crataegus arkansana. This tree is a native of the valley of the White River in central Arkansas and was first raised in the Arboretum in 1880. It belongs to the Molles Group of the genus which is distinguished by its large usually tomentose leaves, large flowers and large scarlet, or rarely yellow, edible fruit. Like the other species of the group, *C. arkansana* is a tree which in the deep rich soil of Arkansas bottom-lands sometimes grows to the height of forty feet. The fruit of many of the species of this group, like *C. Arnoldiana* and *C. mollis*, ripens in August and September and soon falls; that of *C. arkansana* does not ripen until the middle of October when the leaves are still green

and remains on the branches until the end of November. This late ripening of the fruit after that of the other large-fruited species has disappeared makes *C. arkansana* one of the interesting and valuable species. The largest plant in the Arboretum is on the left-hand side of the South Street entrance just outside the gate where it is growing with a plant of *C. submollis*, a species of the same group, which loses its fruit early in September.

Nearly all the species of the Tomentosae Group, named for one of the species, *C. tomentosa*, and distinguished by the longitudinal cavities on the inner faces of the nutlets, have lustrous and showy fruits with the exception of *C. tomentosa* itself and some of the species closely related to it. *Crataegus prunifolia* is one of the handsome plants of this group. It is a large, compact, round-topped shrub or small tree with brilliant scarlet fruit and lustrous leaves which turn bright orange and scarlet in the middle of October. Although this plant was cultivated in England more than a hundred years ago and is certainly a native of North America, it is still unknown in this country as a wild plant. For at least a century botanists have considered *C. prunifolia* a variety of the Cockspur Thorn (*C. Crus-galli*) because the leaves somewhat resemble in shape the leaves of that tree, no one apparently having taken the trouble to examine the nutlets. *Crataegus succulenta* is another beautiful member of the Tomentosae Group with drooping clusters of scarlet fruits which remain hard until late in the autumn and then suddenly increase in size and become soft, succulent and translucent. It is a small tree not rare in the region from Massachusetts to Illinois and one of the handsomest species of the group. *Crataegus macracantha*, another species of this group, is remarkable for the long stout spines which thickly cover the branches and which would make it a good hedge plant. This species is particularly showy when the flowers in large, round-topped compact clusters open in June, but the fruit is less beautiful than that of *C. succulenta*. Species of this group are abundant in the neighborhood of Toronto and other parts of southern Ontario, and some of these Canadian plants, although they are not old enough yet to produce fruit here, promise to become important additions to the collection.

Crataegus nitida from the bottom-lands of the Mississippi River in Illinois near St. Louis, a member of a southern group (Virides), is, as has often been said in these Bulletins, one of the handsomest of the American species cultivated in the Arboretum. It is a wide-branched, flat-topped tree sometimes thirty feet high with narrow, dark green shining leaves which late in October assume the most brilliant shades of orange and scarlet, rather small flowers in numerous crowded clusters, and drooping, oblong, brick-red fruits marked by small white dots. Very different in appearance is another tree from the neighborhood of St. Louis, *C. coccinioides*. This has broad, deeply-lobed leaves which also become orange and scarlet late in October, but the flowers are an inch in diameter with twenty stamens and deep rose-colored anthers. The flowers are arranged in compact from five- to seven-flowered clusters, and are followed by subglobose, dark crimson, lustrous fruits

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