been injured by the cold of the past week. The Arboretum collection contains specimens of all the species and varieties, and of many hybrids, and is interesting as indicating possibilities in plant breeding, when hybridizers enter a broader field than the one to which they have generally confined their efforts. The natural crossing of species of Forsythias has produced plants with handsomer flowers than those of their parents. This is true of some Lilacs and Crabapples, and of many Spiraeas, Deutzias and Rhododendrons, and it is not improbable that from the new material which has come into gardens in recent years handsomer garden shrubs and more valuable trees than those we now possess will reward the patient labors of the plant breeder. To the hybrid Forsythias the general name of *intermedia* has been given. The parentage of these plants is not perfectly clear, although one of their parents is certainly the Chinese *F. suspensa* var. *Fortunei*, the plant which is most often cultivated in American gardens. The handsomest of these hybrids and the handsomest Forsythia in the Arboretum collection, *F. intermedia spectabilis*, came here several years ago from a German nursery. The flowers of this form are bright yellow. Other handsome hybrids are var. *primulina*, with primrose-colored flowers, and var. *pallida*, with pale straw-colored flowers. The former appeared spontaneously in the Arboretum a few years ago. The flowerbuds of all Forsythias are often killed in severe winters, but those of these hybrids were for a long time believed to be hardier than those of the species, although in the winter of 1917-18 they suffered even more than those of their parents.

Prunus persicoides. This is a hybrid between the Peach and the Almond, which also produces handsomer flowers than its parents. The plants of this hybrid were in full bloom during the excessive cold of last week which did not injure them. The flowers are an inch and a half in diameter, with a bright red calyx, pale pink or nearly white petals blotched with deep rose at the base, and bright red filaments. This hybrid as a flowering plant is, perhaps, the handsomest of all the Peach-Apricot-Almond group. It originated in Europe more than a hundred years ago, but if it has never been common in American gardens it is no longer so; and it is doubtful if it is known to any American nurseryman.

The earliest Pear to flower, *Pyrus ussuriensis*, has been in bloom for more than a week and the flowers are untouched by frost. This is probably the largest of all Pear-trees as specimens occasionally occur in Korea sixty feet or more tall, with trunks 14 feet in circumference. The flowers are not as large as those of some of the other Chinese Pear-trees, and the fruit is small and of no value. This tree, however, is exciting much interest among American pomologists who believe they have found in it a blight resisting stock on which to graft garden pears.

1919. "Prunus persicoides." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 5(1), 3-3. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320893>.

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