Malus cerasifera. This is another of the early flowering Crabapples and is believed to be a hybrid between *M. baccata* and *M. prunifolia*. Planted in good soil and allowed sufficient room for development it will grow into a large shapely tree with a broad, round-topped, irregular head of spreading often drooping branches. The flowers are fragrant and larger than those of the other Asiatic Crabapples, with pure white or occasionally greenish petals; and the fruit, which varies in size on different plants, is globose and dull red.

Malus micromalus, which is also an early flowering plant, is one of the least known of the Crabapples. It was first sent to Europe from Japan by Von Siebold in 1856 under the name of "Kaido," a name which in Japan belongs to *Malus Halliana*. In Japan this tree is rare and known only in gardens, and by Japanese botanists is believed to have been introduced into their country from China and to be a hybrid possibly of *M. baccata* with *M. spectabilis*. The habit of this plant is more pyramidal than that of other Crabapples and this habit makes the plants conspicuous in the collection. The largest plants are covered this year with their small, pale pink, delicate flowers which will be followed by light yellow fruit, often rose color on one cheek. A plant of *Malus micromalus* first came to the Arboretum from the Paris Museum in 1888 and the plants now growing here are descendants of that plant. It is still one of the rarest of the Asiatic Crabapples in western gardens.

Malus Halliana, with its form *Parkmanii* which has double flowers, is perhaps the most distinct of all Crabapples in the color of its rose-red flowers. It is a shapely small tree, with erect and spreading stems forming a narrow vase-like head, and dark green leaves. The globose reddish fruit is not larger than a small pea. The Parkman Crab was among the first Japanese trees to reach this country direct, having been sent by Dr. George R. Hall in 1862 to Boston where it was first planted in Mr. Francis Parkman's garden on the shores of Jamaica Pond. This Crabapple is a favorite in Japanese gardens where it is known as "Kaido," but has not been found in a wild state. Whatever its origin the Parkman Crab is one of the most distinct and beautiful of the small trees which flower here during the early days of May.

Malus theifera from central and western China is closely related to Hall's Crab. It is one of Wilson's introductions through seeds sent to Veitch in 1900 and in 1907 to the Arboretum where it is now twelve feet high. It has upright, spreading, rather zigzag branches which are densely studded with short spurs which bear numerous clusters of flowers rose-red in the bud, becoming pale and almost white when fully expanded. In central China the peasants collect the leaves and from them prepare the palatable beverage which they call red tea. From this fact the specific name is derived.

Malus floribunda, by many persons considered the most beautiful of Crabapples, was introduced into Holland by Von Siebold in 1853 from Nagasaki, Japan. The place where it grows wild still remains unknown, although probably it is one of the high mountains of Kyushu. Japanese botanists and nurserymen confuse it with the Parkman Crab, and

Wilson has not seen it in Japanese gardens. It is a broad, round-topped, treelike shrub sometimes twenty-five feet tall with stout branches and slender arching and pendent branchlets. The clustered flowers are white when fully expanded, rose-red in the bud, and as they open in succession the two colors make a beautiful contrast. The fruit is about the size of a pea, yellowish or yellowish brown; from some plants it falls in the early autumn, on others it remains on the branches during the winter or until devoured by birds who are particularly fond of it. Several plants with persistent fruit are growing close to the Administration Building in the Arboretum, and during the winter are filled with numerous species of birds, including pheasants who are fond of these Crabapples. A hybrid between *M. floribunda* and perhaps *M. cerasifera* appeared in the Arboretum among a lot of seedlings of *M. floribunda* in 1883 and has been named *M. Arnoldiana*. It has the habit and abundant flowers of *M. floribunda*, but the flowers and fruit are nearly twice as large. It is a handsomer plant than *M. floribunda* and one of the most beautiful of the Crabapples in the Arboretum.

Malus Sieboldii is another of the species introduced from the gardens of Japan into Europe by Von Siebold in 1853. It is a low, dense shrub of spreading habit with the leaves on vigorous branchlets three-lobed, small flowers white tinged with rose in color, and small yellow fruits. A good specimen may be seen on the left hand side of the Forest Hills Road. Von Siebold's Crab is really a dwarf form of a species common on the Korean Island of Quelpaert, and on the mountains of central Japan and Hokkaido, to which the name var. *arborescens* has been given. This is a tree often thirty feet or more tall, with ascending, wide-spreading branches, twiggy branchlets and minute fruit yellow on some and red on other individuals. Although the flowers are small, they are produced in immense quantities, and this species has the advantage of flowering later than the other Asiatic Crabapples. Another variety of Von Siebold's Crab (var. *calocarpa*), raised in the Arboretum from seed sent in 1890 from the Nikko mountains of Japan by Dr. W. Sturgis Bigelow of Boston, has bright red fruits each half an inch in diameter. When in fruit this is the handsomest of the Japanese Crabapples.

Malus Sargentii from salt marshes in the neighborhood of Muroran in northern Japan, where it was discovered by Professor Sargent in 1892, has qualities which give it a field of usefulness peculiarly its own. This species is a dwarf with rigid and spreading branches, the lower branches flat on the ground; it is well suited for covering slopes and banks. The flowers are in umbel-like clusters, saucer-shaped, round and of the purest white, and are followed by masses of wine-colored fruit which is covered by a slight bloom and unless eaten by birds remains on the plants well into the spring.

Malus spectabilis, cultivated by the Chinese from time immemorial and introduced from Canton in 1780, was the first of the Asiatic Crabapples cultivated in Europe. Like several other species it is not yet known in a wild state but is probably of hybrid origin. It is a tree

1919. "Malus floribunda." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 5(4), 14–15. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320917>.

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