cause of this discoloration is not evident, although it may have been caused by the cold of Easter Monday following several days of unseasonably hot weather. At that time, however, the inflorescence-buds of *Cornus florida* had scarcely begun to swell. Whatever the cause of the injury its occurrence this year, when there is an unusual bloom, is doubly unfortunate, for the Flowering Dogwood often loses its flower-buds entirely in New England as we are close to the northern limit of the range of distribution of this tree, which further south flowers more profusely and develops larger bud-scales. Forms of this tree with the scales which surround the flower-clusters varying in color from light to dark red (var. *rubra*) occasionally occur in southern woods, and some of these forms have been propagated by nurserymen and are popular garden plants, especially in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, where there are many specimens of the "Red-flowered Dogwood." Several plants of this variety are now blooming by the shores of Jamaica Pond in Boston where they are flowering more abundantly than usual, for the flower-buds of this variety appear to be less hardy than those of the typical form. This is unfortunate, for when the red and white-flowered trees are planted together in masses they produce when in flower a brilliant effect. There is a form of *Cornus florida* with pendulous branches, and another on which the flowers are called double from the presence of an inner row of white inflorescence-scales. These abnormal forms, however, have little to recommend them to the lovers of handsome trees. *Cornus florida* is as handsome in the autumn as it is in the spring, for the upper surface of the leaves turns bright red, the lower surface retaining its pale summer tint, and the abundant clusters of scarlet lustrous fruits are conspicuous and beautiful. Not less beautiful in autumn are two trees with bright yellow fruit which have recently been found, one near Oyster Bay, Long Island, and the other in North Carolina.

Cornus Nuttallii. This inhabitant of the coniferous forests of the coast region of the Pacific states is a near relative of *Cornus florida* and a much larger and handsomer tree, and the largest probably of all the Dogwoods, as specimens one hundred feet high occur in the Redwood forests of northwestern California. The cup under the flower-clusters formed by the scales is sometimes six inches across and therefore larger than that of any of the other Flowering Dogwoods. These scales do not, like those of *Cornus florida*, enclose during the winter the whole inflorescence but surround only its base. The unprotected flower-buds are therefore more liable to injury from cold than those of the eastern tree, and it would hardly be possible to obtain flowers anywhere in the eastern states, even if the tree could be kept alive. In England it has proved difficult to grow, although small trees have occasionally flowered there and in France.

Cornus kousa is the "Flowering Dogwood" of Japan and China, differing from the American tree in the coalition of the fruits into a solid mass, and in the inflorescence-scales which do not enclose the bud even in part, but stand out below it at right angles to the stem. They enlarge and turn creamy white before the flower-buds open, and are sharp pointed with edges which do not overlap and are smaller than those of

the eastern American tree. *Cornus kousa* blooms three or four weeks later than *Cornus florida*, and the flower-buds have not been injured here in the coldest winters. The leaves turn scarlet in the autumn when the plants are conspicuous from the red clusters of fruit hanging on long stalks. This small Japanese tree is still too seldom seen in our gardens. The best specimen in the neighborhood of Boston is in Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge; on a Long Island estate there is a grove of perhaps a hundred trees which in the autumn when covered with fruit make a wonderful display of color. The form of *Cornus kousa* discovered by Wilson in western China has now flowered in the Chinese Collection on Bussey Hill for three or four years and promises to be even a handsomer plant than the Japanese type, for the scales of the inflorescence are broader and closer together, and so form a more complete involucre cup. The Arboretum plant has already produced fertile seeds and this beautiful tree will probably in a few years be more common in American gardens.

Azaleas. The large orange red flowers of *Rhododendron* (*Azalea*) *japonicum* are fast opening, and although the plants on the lower side of Azalea Path are not as full of flowers this spring as usual there are flowers enough to show their beauty. *Rhododendron japonicum* is a common shrub on grass-covered foothills of the mountains of central Japan where it is a vigorous shrub from three to six feet high with stout erect stems and clustered flowers from an inch and a half to two inches in diameter which open as the leaves unfold. More beautiful is the hybrid Azalea Louisa Hunnewell (*Rhododendron Kosterianum* var. *Louisa Hunnewell*) which was raised at Wellesley by crossing *R. japonicum* with *R. molle* (the *R. sinense* of many authors), and is the handsomest of the hybrid Azaleas. A number of plants of this hybrid are now in flower on the lower side of Oak Path near its junction with Azalea Path, and opposite a group of plants of *Rhododendron japonicum*. On the lower side of Oak Path, near the junction with Azalea Path, plants of a hybrid between *Rhododendron obtusum amoenum* (the well known *Azalea amoena* of gardens) and *R. obtusum Kaempferi* (*Azalea Kaempferi*) are now in bloom. This hybrid was raised at the Arboretum several years ago by Jackson Dawson and has been named *Rhododendron Arnoldianum*. The plants are dwarf in habit and the flowers on the different plants vary in color between that of the flowers of the two parents. A few of the plants in this group are worth propagating for the edges of beds and for the rock garden.

Two American Azaleas. Plants of *Rhododendron nudiflorum* and *R. roseum* are in bloom on the lower side of Azalea Path, and the groups of these plants which are now side by side afford opportunity for the study of these two New England Azaleas. The flowers of *R. nudiflorum*, which are pale pink and open a few days earlier than those of *R. roseum*, have not the fragrance which adds so much to the value of the rose-colored flowers of *R. roseum*. The fact that this plant can grow in soil strongly impregnated with lime will make its cultivation possible, it is hoped, in parts of the country where, on account of lime in the soil, no other *Rhododendron* can be kept alive.

1921. "Cornus kousa." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 7(5), 19–20. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321112>.

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