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Crataegus nitida belongs to the Virides Group of the genus. This is one of the most distinct of the natural groups into which the genus is divided, well marked by its small flowers in many-flowered corymbs with twenty or rarely ten stamens and yellow or occasionally rose-colored anthers, small usually red fruit and leaves with rare exceptions pointed at the ends. The species are trees with the exception of two or three which grow only in western Texas, and descriptions and figures of thirteen of them are found in the new edition of Sargent's Manual of the Trees of North America. The plants of this Group are distributed from the extreme southeastern part of Virginia, southward in the region east and south of the Appalachian Mountains to northern Florida, through the Gulf States to Texas and up the valley of the Mississippi River to Iowa and southern and western Illinois. Of the type of the Group, *C. viridis*, there are probably more individuals now growing than of any other Hawthorn in the world, for it is pretty generally distributed over the whole region in which species of this Group grow, and although rare in the Atlantic and east Gulf States it covers with dense thickets great areas of swampy ground in western Louisiana, the coast region of eastern Texas, southern Arkansas, and all the region adjacent to the Mississippi to the northern limits of its range. Its pale gray bark nearly as close as that of a Hornbeam and scarlet or orange fruit mostly persistent on the branches during the winter, and from an eighth to a quarter of an inch in diameter, make it an easy species to recognize. The large plants of *Crataegus nitida*, raised from seed gathered in 1880 on the bottom lands of the Mississippi in the neighborhood of East St. Louis, and growing in the

old *Crataegus* collection near the Forest Hills gate, are as handsome as any Thorns in the collection. They are trees some twenty feet high with horizontally spreading branches forming a rather flat-topped head broader than the height of the tree. The leaves are thick and coriaceous, very dark green and lustrous on the upper surface, from two to three inches long and from an inch to an inch and a half wide, and in the autumn turn bright scarlet and orange. The flowers are produced in broad, many-flowered clusters which cover the branches from end to end, and are about three-quarters of an inch in diameter with from fifteen to twenty stamens and yellow anthers. The fruit, which does not ripen until the end of October, hangs in drooping clusters, and is dull red, thickly covered with a glaucous bloom, and occasionally nearly half an inch in length. *Crataegus nitida* must find a place among the six most beautiful Hawthorns which can be grown in Massachusetts.

Crataegus punctata is the type of the Group which takes its name from this tree, and is represented by at least a dozen species. Of these five species are found in the region east of the Mississippi River and the others in the territory extending from Missouri to eastern Texas. The species are distinguished by short-stalked leaves wedge-shaped at the base, with prominent veins, flowers of medium size in wide, many-flowered clusters, with twenty or in the case of two species ten stamens, and yellow or rose-colored anthers, and by short-oblong to subglobose often punctate fruit. The type of the Group, *C. punctata*, is a tree often thirty feet high with a trunk occasionally a foot in diameter, and stout horizontally spreading branches forming usually a round-topped or flat head occasionally fifty feet across. The flowers are about three-quarters of an inch in diameter and are arranged in many-flowered hairy clusters; there are twenty stamens, and on some trees the anthers are rose-colored, and on others they are yellow. The fruit, which ripens and falls in October, is short-oblong to subglobose, flattened at the ends, marked by numerous white dots, up to an inch in length and dull red on some trees and bright yellow on others, the trees with yellow anthers producing the yellow fruit. *Crataegus punctata* is one of the most distinct and generally distributed Thorns of the northeastern states, although it has not been found in eastern Massachusetts. In Canada it is common from the valley of the Chateaugay River in Quebec to that of the Detroit River in Ontario, and westward in the United States to central Iowa, the only place where it has been found west of the Mississippi River; it is very common in the middle states, ranging southward along the Appalachian Mountains, and ascending in North Carolina and Tennessee to altitudes of nearly six thousand feet. Although one of the most distinct and perhaps more easily recognized at a glance than any other American Hawthorn, it escaped the attention of early American botanists or was entirely misunderstood by them, and was first distinguished by an Austrian botanist from plants cultivated in Europe. There are a number of plants on the southern slope of the Bussey Hill overlook.

Crataegus succulenta. This is a native of a large and widely distributed group now called the *Macracanthae*, although until recently

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