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 possibly 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 pendant 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. robusta* appeared in the Arboretum in 1883 among a lot of seedlings of *M. floribunda* 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 in 1853 from the gardens of Japan into Europe by Von Siebold. 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. 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.

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 prunifolia var. **rinki** is the wild parent discovered by Wilson in western China of the race of apples long cultivated in the Orient, and since it fruits freely in the hot moist valleys of central China as well as in the cold regions of northern Korea it may prove of value to pomologists in breeding new races of hardy Apple-trees.

Other species and hybrids well worth the attention of plant lovers who find pleasure in surrounding themselves with hardy trees and shrubs are the Japanese *Malus micromalus*, the Chinese *M. toringoides* and *M. transitoria*, and *Malus sublobata*, a hybrid of uncertain origin, which is now the tallest of the Crabapples in the collection, and promises to become a large tree. This hybrid is particularly attractive in the autumn when it is covered with bright yellow fruits.

Rhododendron Schlippenbachii opened its first flowers this year on Azalea Path May 5th and earlier than those of any other Azalea in the collection. It is one of the commonest shrubs of Korea and is often the dominant undergrowth in open woods. From Korea it crosses into northeastern Manchuria where it grows on the shores of Possiet Bay; it occurs, too, in two localities in northern Japan. Wilson found it extremely abundant in Korea on the lower slopes of Chirisan and on the Diamond Mountains, which were when he visited this region early in July "a wonderful sight with literally miles and miles of the purest pink from the millions of flowers of this Azalea." In Korea this Azalea on the wind-swept, grass-covered cliffs of the coast grows less than a foot high and is covered with flowers. In the forests of the interior it often grows to a height of fifteen feet and forms a tall and slender or a broad and shapely shrub. The leaves are large for those of an Azalea, being from three and a half inches to four inches long and sometimes nearly three inches wide, and are arranged in whorls of five at the end of the branches. This plant grows further north than any other Azalea with the exception of the North American *Rhodora*. The thermometer in the region of Diamond Mountains usually registers every winter a temperature of 35° to 40° below zero Fahrenheit. There is therefore no reason why this Azalea should not flourish in the coldest parts of New England. It has flowered now for several years in the Arboretum, and planted in an exposed sunny position has never suffered. Its hardiness and the beauty of its flowers make it one of the most valuable shrubs if not the most valuable, which northeastern North America has obtained from northeastern Asia. The flowers are perhaps more beautiful than those of any other Azalea. The plant and the flower-buds are hardy but young plants grown in frames start to grow so early that if they are transferred to the open ground in the spring the young growth is often killed by frost. It is therefore wise to move them from the nursery to the open ground in the autumn; slightly protected the young plants come safely through the winter and do not start to grow in the open ground until the danger of frost has passed. Even better results are obtained by potting young plants in the autumn, keeping them in a deep frame or pit during the winter and allowing them to finish their year's growth in the pots before they are planted out. The young plants make only one growth during the season and are certainly more difficult to manage than most Azaleas, but this Korean plant is worth a great deal more trouble than it takes to get it started.

Virburnum Carlesii is already in bloom in the collection on the Bussey Hill Road. This hardy Korean shrub with white, delightfully fragrant flowers in small, compact clusters, opening from rose-pink buds, always attracts attention and is fast becoming known in American gardens. With the exception of the American Hobble Bush, it is the earliest of the Viburnums to flower.

1923. "Malus prunifolia var. rinki." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 9(4), 15–16. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321331>.

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