

length and not much more than half an inch in width, and small flowers in few-flowered clusters. The flowers do not make much show when seen from a distance, but on close examination show that they are green on the outside, dark purple, with a five-lobed crown at the base on the inside, and that they are pleasantly fragrant. The plants in the Arboretum occasionally produce their slender pod-like fruits, but the plant can be easily propagated by root suckers and it might become common if better known.

**Genista tinctoria.** Of the small, yellow-flowered shrubs of the Pea Family, which are such a feature of the flora of southern and south-eastern Europe and are so highly valued in the gardens of western Europe, the best known in Massachusetts is the Woad Wax *Genista tinctoria*. Brought early from England as a garden plant it long ago escaped from a Salem garden and has spread over and ruined hundreds of acres in Essex County. Planted in the Arboretum it has spread among the native plants like dwarf Roses and Goldenrods which form a considerable part of the ground cover among the Hickories and Oaks, and now enlivens the valley through which the Valley Road extends from Centre to South Street. There is a taller variety with larger flowers (var. *elatio*r). Much more beautiful and the handsomest of these plants which have been tried here is *Cytisus nigricans*, a native of northern Italy, Austria and Hungary, and now in bloom in the Shrub Collection. No small plant now in the Arboretum is more distinct and beautiful. As it grows here it is a compact, round-topped bush from two to three feet tall and broad, differing from most of the related plants in the arrangement of the flowers which are borne in long erect racemes terminal on branches of the year; they are bright yellow and produced in great profusion.

**Rosa Helenae**, by some persons considered the handsomest of the Roses discovered in China by Wilson, has never flowered as well here as it is flowering now. It is a large shrub with slender arching stems furnished sparingly with small red spines and many-flowered clusters of pure white delicately fragrant flowers an inch and a quarter in diameter. It can be seen to advantage now in the Shrub Collection and well deserves a place in every collection of single-flowered Roses however small. Growing near it is a white-flowered form of a native Rose, *Rosa suffulata alba*, which came to the Arboretum several years ago from Minneapolis near which place it was discovered. The pink-flowered type is a common western plant widely distributed over the prairies from Minnesota to Montana and southward to Missouri and Texas. It is a comparatively recent discovery and was first called *Rosa pratincola*. Little cultivated it is well worth the attention of Rose lovers.

**Magnolia virginiana**, or as it is more often called *M. glauca*, opened its fragrant cup-shaped flowers a few weeks ago and will continue to open them until midsummer. The dark green leaves, silvery white below, are more beautiful than those of any other plant which is hardy in this climate, and remain on the branches without change of color until the beginning of winter. The flowers of no other native tree



1924. "Genista tinctoria." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 10(12), 47–47. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321499>.

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