or shrub have a more penetrating or delightful odor. A plant for every garden great or small, how often is the Sweet Bay found in those of modern construction? The town of Magnolia in Essex County, Massachusetts, which is the northern station for this plant was named for it. At the north and in the middle states it is a shrub or small tree rarely more than twenty or thirty feet high, but southward it is replaced by the variety *australis*, differing in the silky white pubescence on the pedicels and branchlets, and becoming a tree sometimes ninety feet high with a trunk occasionally three feet in diameter and the common form from North Carolina to southern Florida and westward to the valley of the Nueces River, Texas. *Magnolia major* or *Thompsoniana*, a probable hybrid between *M. virginiana* and *M. tripetala*, which was raised in an English nursery a century ago and is still a favorite plant, is in the Arboretum and is intermediate in character between these two American species; it has the general appearance of *M. virginiana* but has larger leaves and larger and equally fragrant flowers.

Magnolia macrophylla flowers a few days later than *M. virginiana* and is now in bloom. It is a wonderful southern tree with leaves silvery white on the lower surface and often thirty inches long and ten inches wide, with flowers a foot in diameter; it is perfectly hardy in eastern Massachusetts, although here as elsewhere the great leaves are often torn by the wind unless a sheltered position is selected for it. It is an interesting fact that its leaves and flowers are larger than those of any other tree which grows in an extra tropical region.

The latest **Azaleas** are now in bloom. There are two North American white-flowered species, *Rhododendron* (*Azalea*) *arborescens* and *R. (Azalea) viscosum*. *R. arborescens* is a handsome plant and the beauty of its pure white fragrant flowers is increased by the bright red color of the long filaments and style. It is an Appalachian plant, and sometimes at an elevation of five thousand feet covers with dense thickets only a few feet high and sometimes acres in extent the treeless summits of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and in their sheltered valleys sometimes grows into arborescent bushes twenty feet tall. A variety is known in which the white flowers are faintly tinged with rose color.

Rhododendron (Azalea) viscosum blooms a little later and is now also in flower in the Arboretum. It is a common plant in the swamps of southern New England where it is known as the Swamp Honeysuckle. The pure white clammy flowers which continue to open during several weeks are hidden by the new shoots of the year which are often fully grown before the first flowers open, and the great value of this Azalea is found in the fragrance of the flowers which makes the neighborhood of an Azalea swamp delightful. Although it grows naturally in swamps, this Azalea grows equally well transferred to a garden border or to a hillside, as on the southern slope of Bussey Hill where many of these plants are now covered with flowers.

1924. "The latest Azaleas." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 10(12), 48-48. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321503>.

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321503>

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