

flowers (var. *pallidiflorum*) were also open this year as early as the 20th of March when many species of Alder, Willow, Poplar and Hazel were blooming. The Chinese Cherry, *Prunus Davidiana*, and its white-flowered variety were in full bloom before the end of March.

Forsythias, which have never bloomed more profusely in the Arboretum and generally in the neighborhood of Boston, are still in good condition and are most effective when planted in a large crowded mass on a sloping hillside, as they have been in the Arboretum just where the Meadow Road joins the Bussey Hill Road. The recently introduced *Forsythia ovata* discovered in 1918 by Wilson on the Diamond Mountains in northern Korea was in flower as early as March 26th or nearly two weeks earlier than the other Forsythias. It is a large shrub with light yellow branches, broad, long-pointed, coarsely toothed leaves from four to five inches in length and from three to four inches in width, and clear primrose colored flowers rather smaller than those of *F. Fortunei* or of any of the forms of *F. intermedia*. This Korean Forsythia promises to be an extremely valuable introduction as it will be possible to grow it much further north than the other species of the genus, and in this climate the flower-buds will probably never be injured as they often are on other species, especially on the hybrids of *F. intermedia* of which several forms are in the collection. They were obtained by crossing the flowers of *F. suspensa* var. *Fortunei* with those of *F. viridissima* which is the most tender and southern species. As a flowering plant one of these hybrids called *spectabilis*, which originated in Germany, is the handsomest of all the Forsythias, but in severe winters many of the flower-buds are killed. Other handsome hybrids are var. *primulina* with primrose colored flowers and var. *pallida* with straw-colored flowers; the former appeared spontaneously in the Arboretum a few years ago. In the crowded mass of Forsythias which makes the great show in the Arboretum it is hard to distinguish the species and hybrids, but all of them with the exception of *F. ovata* can be studied in the Shrub Collection as individual plants. *

Pyrus ussuriensis has been in bloom since April 17th. This tree is a native of Korea, north China and northern Japan, growing further north probably than any other Pear-tree, and sometimes forming forests of considerable extent. It is, too, the largest of all Pear-trees for Wilson photographed in 1918 a tree growing near Shinan in the province of Nogen, Korea, sixty feet tall with a girth of trunk of fourteen feet and a head of branches seventy-five feet across. The small fruit varies in size and shape, and, judging by American standards, has little value. It is believed that the hardiness of this tree may make it valuable as a stock on which to grow some of the European garden pears, and experiments with it as stock are being made in Dakota. There are several plants now in bloom in the Arboretum but the most easily seen are those on the southern slope of Bussey Hill where they are growing in the collection of Chinese pear-trees.

Prinsepia sinensis is again covered with clusters of bright yellow flowers which spring from the axils of the half grown leaves. This *Prinsepia* is a tall broad shrub with long gracefully ascending and spread-

ing branches and stems armed with many spines. This member of the Rose Family is perfectly hardy and the handsomest shrub Manchuria has yet contributed to western gardens. The two specimens in the Arboretum were sent here from St. Petersburg in 1903 and 1906, and have been found difficult to propagate. In recent years fortunately one of the plants has produced a few seeds, and as these have germinated there is reason to hope that if the Arboretum plants become more fruitful this shrub may become a common ornament in northern gardens. It has much to recommend it as a hedge plant. The species from northern China can be seen to most advantage in the Shrub Collection. *Prinsepia uniflora* from western China is a spiny shrub with small white flowers, and though it has little beauty its value for forming impenetrable hedges may prove considerable.

Corylopsis Gotoana bloomed this year on the 3rd of April and has never before been so full of flowers which, however, are now beginning to fall. *Corylopsis* is an Asiatic genus of the Witch Hazel Family with fragrant yellow flowers in long drooping clusters and leaves which have a general resemblance to those of the Witch Hazel. *C. Gotoana* was introduced into the Arboretum from central Japan and is the largest and handsomest species, growing from five to six feet tall in this climate, and can be considered one of the handsomest of the early spring flowering shrubs. In the Arboretum it can best be seen on the Centre Street Path. The other Japanese species, *C. pauciflora* and *C. spicata*, are also hardy but in very severe winters the flower-buds are often injured, and they are neither of them as desirable garden plants in this climate as *C. Gotoana*. There are several Chinese species in the Arboretum but their flower-buds are usually killed here.

Rhododendron mucronulatum, a native of northern China, which has been growing in the Arboretum for more than forty years, has been covered with fragrant rose-colored flowers this year since the 1st of April and as usual has proved one of the most beautiful and satisfactory of the early flowering shrubs introduced by the Arboretum. It is not easy to explain why this plant, which has so much to recommend it and is so easily propagated, has remained so uncommon in American gardens. The variety *ciliata* discovered by Wilson in Korea is flowering for the first time and promises to be as hardy as the type and even a handsomer plant as the flowers are darker colored. The plants, however, are too young to form any proper estimate of their garden value. They are planted with the type on the lower side of Azalea Path.

Asiatic Cherries. When this copy of the Bulletin reaches its readers in eastern Massachusetts the most interesting display of flowers will be made by some of the Cherry-trees of eastern Asia and by early flowering Apricots and Plum-trees. As in previous years, the earliest of these trees to flower is *Prunus concinna*, a native of the mountains of China where it was discovered by Wilson. It is a small tree less than three feet high; the flowers, which are white with a bright red calyx, are less beautiful than those of several of the other Asiatic



1925. "Prinsepia sinensis." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 11(1), 2-3. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321528>.

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