data which for several days has been covered with cup-shaped, bright canary yellow flowers unlike in color those of any other Magnolia. This tree was discovered by the French botanist and traveler Michaux on one of his journeys from Charleston, South Carolina, up the valley of the Savannah River and was introduced in French gardens by him. For more than a century every attempt to rediscover this tree failed, and it is only within the last ten years that it was found by the Berckmans brothers growing in the woods not many miles distant from Augusta, Georgia, where plants only a few feet high flower profusely. Grafts from Michaux's trees preserved this species in cultivation, and the large plants in the Arboretum were raised from grafts taken from old trees in the Harvard Botanic Garden for which they were imported from Europe when the Garden was laid out, that is more than a century ago. With these species bloom the Umbrella-tree, M. tripetala, a bushy tree thirty to forty feet high with large pure white flowers, widely distributed in the Appalachian Mountain region, but nowhere very abundant, from the valley of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania to southern Alabama, middle Kentucky and Tennessee, growing westward to southwestern Arkansas and southeastern Oklahoma; and the Cucumber-tree, M. acuminata, the tallest of the American Magnolias, sometimes ninety feet high, with green or greenish yellow flowers covered with a glaucous bloom. This fine tree is a native of mountain slopes and rocky banks of streams from southern Ontario and western New York, to Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois and along the Appalachian Mountains to northern Georgia and to central Kentucky and Tennessee, northern Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. It is the largest and most widely distributed of the American Magnolias, and grows to its largest size at the base of the high mountains of the Carolinas and Tennessee. Later Magnolia macrophylla and M. virginiana will bloom. The first has the largest leaves and the largest flowers of any North American tree, and the latter, which is perhaps the most attractive of the group, has the smallest flowers. The size, however, is made up by their delightful fragrance and by the beautiful leaves lustrous above and silvery white below which remain late on the branches. As they flower attention will be called later to these two species.

The Way to grow Wisterias. Wisterias which do not climb naturally are usually supported on trellises or grown on rods or frames attached to buildings. This means that they have to be more or less pruned every year and in this way lose much of their flowering wood and often have a stiff and unnatural appearance. How to grow them naturally can be seen from a plant of the white Japanese Wisteria growing close to the Centre Street gate of the Arboretum. This was planted many years ago in what was then a nursery and has been allowed to grow naturally over some tall bushes close to the drive into the Arboretum; it now extends over a large area and this year, as in many past seasons, the whole plant is loaded down with its long racemes of flowers. It is now one of the most beautiful and interesting objects in the Arboretum, and well worth the attention of all persons who like to see plants growing naturally and as they grow in their native countries as wild plants.



1925. "The Way to grow Wisterias." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 11(8), 32–32. https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321583.

View This Item Online: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/216996

DOI: https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321583

Permalink: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/321583

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

BHL-SIL-FEDLINK

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/

Rights: https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org.