

of food-crops for the human race, and especially the production of rubber to meet the demands which are made on it by the increased and rapidly increasing number of automobiles now in use. Such a world-wide exploration will require many years to accomplish, possibly a century, and will cost a great deal of money.

**Koelreuteria paniculata.** This Chinese tree is just beginning to open its yellow flowers which are perhaps the most conspicuous of those of any of the summer-flowering trees which are hardy in this climate. It is a round-headed tree rarely more than thirty feet high, with large, compound, dark green leaves and large erect clusters of golden yellow flowers which are followed by great clusters of bladder-like fruits. This tree, which is hardy in Massachusetts, has been a good deal planted in this country, especially in the gardens of the middle states. In American nursery catalogues it often appears under the name of "Japanese Lacquer-tree," although it is not a native of Japan and has not lacquer-producing sap.

**The Sorrel-tree (*Oxydendrum arboreum*).** This tree is the only representative of a genus of the Heath Family and one of the few genera of eastern American trees which is not represented in eastern Asia. The Sorrel-tree is a common tree of the forests of the Appalachian Mountains from southwestern Pennsylvania southward. It grows also but less abundantly from southern Ohio and Indiana to northern Florida, southern Alabama and Mississippi, and in eastern Louisiana. Growing under the most favorable conditions the *Oxydendrum* is a tree from fifty to sixty feet in height with a tall straight trunk sometimes twenty inches in diameter. The leaves are dark green, very lustrous and seven or eight inches long, and their bright color in the autumn is not surpassed by any other American tree; they are pleasantly acidulous, a character to which the tree owes its vernacular name. The flowers, which are shaped like those of an *Andromeda*, are erect on the branches of spreading or drooping clusters, and these are followed by pale capsular fruits which are conspicuous in contrast with the brilliant autumn foliage. Here at the north the Sorrel-tree begins to flower when only five or six feet high, and it is not probable that it will ever grow here to the size this tree attains on the lower slopes of the high southern mountains where many of the trees of eastern North America grow to their greatest size. There is a group of these trees among the Laurels (*Kalmia*) at the northern base of Hemlock Hill.

***Cornus asperifolia*.** This Cornel flowers a week or ten days later than the Silky Cornel and is still covered with its small cream-colored flowers in loose, broad or narrow, often paniced pubescent cymes, the peduncles an inch in length; these are followed by red-stemmed clusters of subglobose white fruit tipped with the remnants of the style and about a quarter of an inch in diameter. This is a widely distributed plant from southwestern Ontario southward to Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi to western Florida, and westward to southeastern South Dakota, southeastern Nebraska, central Kansas, northwestern Oklahoma and western Texas. It is the tallest here of the American Cornels, with the exception of *Cornus florida*, often growing



1925. "The Sorrel-tree (*Oxydendrum arboreum*).". *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 11(15), 59–59.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321622>.

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