

is found in great quantities in the markets of northern Japan. This species has never produced fruit in the Arboretum and occasionally has been killed nearly to the ground in severe winters.

Beech Trees. Of the northern genus *Fagus* the Arboretum now contains eight of the ten species which have been recognized by botanists. They inhabit eastern North America, eastern Europe, the Caucasus, western China and Japan. The leaves of most of the Beeches turn yellow in the autumn, exceptions being forms of *F. sylvatica* and its varieties.

The great Beech tree of the world is the European *Fagus sylvatica* which is distributed over a large part of Europe except in the extreme north growing to great perfection in England, Denmark, parts of Germany, and on the mountains of the Balkan peninsula, often forming pure forests and growing to the height of one hundred feet. It is a hardy and handsome tree in New England, where perfectly at home, growing faster and making a handsomer tree than the American species, it is probably the best European tree to grow in this climate. There is no record, unfortunately, of the date of the introduction of this tree into the United States, but, judging by the size of some of the trees here, it must have been at least one hundred years ago. The finest European Beeches in the neighborhood of Boston, and probably the finest collection of these trees in the United States, are on Longwood Mall, a strip of turf extending east from Kent Street and between Chatham and Beech Streets in Brookline. This Mall was laid out by David Sears at the time he was engaged in developing his Longwood property between eighty and ninety years ago, and it is probable that these Beech trees were planted at about that time. They are all short-stemmed specimens from sixty to seventy feet tall, with wide-spreading branches which on some of the trees sweep the ground. Several varieties of the European Beech have been found growing naturally in the woods in Europe and are propagated and sold by nurserymen. The best known of these varieties is the so-called Purple Beech with leaves which are pale red in early spring and deep red at maturity, falling in the autumn without change of color. This tree was found originally growing in the forests in three or four places in central Europe, and the first account of it was published in 1680. Seedlings raised from the Purple Beech sometimes have purple leaves and often different shades of color, and to some of these forms names have been given. The Purple Beech unfortunately is more generally planted than the typical green leafed form, and with many tree-planters has been a favorite in the northeastern states. An interesting form of the European Beech (var. *pendula*) is a comparatively low tree with horizontal and slightly pendulous branchlets from which hang almost vertically secondary branches, all forming a tent-like head almost as broad as high. This tree was at one time somewhat planted in this country, and the largest specimen known to the Arboretum is growing on what was once a part of the Parsons Nursery in Flushing, Long Island, which has recently been obtained for a park by the city of Flushing. The variety *remillyensis* is usually classed among the weeping Beeches but is really a shrub as broad or broader than it is high.

The Fern-leaf Beech (var. *heterophylla*) distinguished by its variously shaped leaves which on the same branch are long and narrow and usually more or less deeply lobed, pinnate or laciniate, is growing well in the Arboretum where it promises to become a handsome tree. The Arboretum knows two fine specimens of this variety in the United States. One of these grows on Bellevue Avenue, in Newport, Rhode Island, on the grounds of the Redwood Library and Reading Room. This tree was planted in 1834 and has a trunk nearly four feet in diameter, and a spread of branches about seventy feet across. The second is growing on Mr. Hendon Chubb's estate, in Llewellyn Park, near Orange, New Jersey, and is supposed to be seventy-five years old. This tree, which has branches drooping to the ground, is forty feet high with a head forty-five feet in diameter. A form of the European Beech (var. *fastigiata*) on which all the branches grow erect and form a narrow pyramidal head, promises to be a useful addition to trees of this habit, like the fastigiate Red and Sugar Maples, the fastigiate European Oak, and the fastigiate Tulip-tree. There is a great difference here in the time the different forms of the European Beech assumes its autumn colors. On some trees the leaves are still entirely green and on others the green is slightly tinged with yellow or a general brownish color. The leaves of the purple-leaved forms retain their color until they fall.

Climbing Plants. The Ivy, which is perfectly hardy forty miles south of Boston in the City of Providence, has been kept alive with difficulty in a sheltered place in the Arboretum; raised from seeds gathered at Riga in Russia, probably as cold a place as it grows in naturally. Its only substitute in this climate is *Evonymus radicans* var. *vegeta*, the handsomest form of this Japanese species which readily clings to the walls of a brick building and can be grown as a shrub by a little cutting or made into a low hedge, and when not too closely cut is thickly covered in the autumn with abundant and beautiful fruit. Further south, as on Long Island, this useful plant is badly injured by a scale insect.



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