

plants such as are found in the Arboretum, can be kept properly labeled, there being approximately 7000 named species and varieties in the collections. Labels disappear, either because of age or sometimes because of vandalism. However, if collections are mapped properly, plants with missing labels can be immediately identified by reference to the map; and, because the registration number of each plant also appears on the map, not only the name of the plant but also its complete record can be located immediately, even though the label is lost. Consequently, this mapping program, which is now practically completed, is a great boon to the Arboretum and is the means by which accurate labeling will be coordinated with permanent records in the future.

Early Magnolias: All of the early flowering magnolias were in splendid condition at the Arboretum last week. Most of these have white flowers, and, though the flower buds of *Magnolia stellata rosea* are pink, the flowers themselves eventually fade white. Of course, *M. soulangeana* and its several varieties are not considered in this group since they bloom after the early flowering white species and varieties.

A new hybrid, *M. proctoriana* has recently been named by Professor Rehder. Occurring in 1928 in a batch of seedlings grown from seed collected on the Proctor estate at Topsfield, Massachusetts, it is a cross between *M. salicifolia* and *M. stellata*. It differs from *M. salicifolia* in the number of petals being 6-12 instead of 6 as in *M. salicifolia* and in the pubescent leafbuds while those of *M. salicifolia* are glabrous; it differs from *M. stellata* in that the number of petals in the flower are 6-12 rather than 12-18 as is the case with *M. stellata*. Also, it is apparently growing to be an upright tree, vigorous of growth, and not slow-growing and mound-like as *M. stellata*.

The following notes on the white flowering magnolias appearing in early spring may be of assistance as identification aids.

MAGNOLIAS WITH EARLY WHITE FLOWERS

Name	No. of Petals	Diameter of Flowers	Shape of Petals
M.denudata	9	4½''-6''	Oblong-obovate
M.kobus	6	4''	Oblong-obovate
M. kobus borealis	6	4¾''	Oblong-obovate
M.proctoriana	6-12	4½''	Narrowly oblong-obovate
M.salicifolia	6	4¾''	Narrowly oblong-obovate
M.stellata	12-18	3''	Narrow-oblong

The **shadblows** also have been unusually beautiful during the past week. Much has been written in other issues of the Bulletin concerning the beauty of *Ame-lanchier grandiflora*, a large flowering hybrid between *A.laevis* and *A.canadensis*. Its "pink" flowering variety, *rubescens*, has also been discussed. However, *A.*



PLATE III

Showing the differences in the flowers of three early magnolias.
From left to right: *Magnolia kobus borealis*, *M. kobus*, *M. stellata*.

grandiflora rubescens, as it is now growing in the Arboretum, does not show any horticulturally outstanding characters that would warrant its being grown instead of the species. It is true that the flower buds are slightly pinkish, though at a distance of a few feet this color is practically unnoticeable and as the flowers open they fade to white. Consequently, the "pink" flowering *A. grandiflora rubescens* is relatively unimportant after all, and need not be substituted for the species in landscape work.

This week the **Japanese flowering quinces** are in full bloom. Over 30 species and varieties are planted in the shrub collection where they can easily be observed and studied.

The **bush honeysuckles** are also coming into bloom, the greater number of which are located in the shrub collection and across the road from the lilacs.

The **largest displays of the week** are the azaleas on Bussey Hill and the oriental flowering crabapples. *Rhododendron schlippenbachii*, the royal azalea, came into full bloom about the first of the week, but *R. yedoense* and its variety *poukhanense* should be in full bloom by the time this Bulletin reaches its readers. *Rhododendron obtusum kaempferi* has been showing a little color on its flower buds, and during the week of May 19 it should be in full bloom. Hundreds of these excellent shrubs have been planted in the woods in various parts of the Arboretum, the planting having been done years ago under the direction of Professor Charles S. Sargent and Mr. E. H. Wilson, both of whom were justly fond of this gorgeous, fiery red azalea.

NEW PLANTS FROM ABROAD

Despite the European war, over 200 living plants have been received from Europe during the past few weeks. None of the species and varieties are in the Arboretum collections, many of those in these shipments being first introductions into the United States. Over 100 distinct species and varieties are represented. In spite of the fact that they were about six weeks in transit, all arrived in good condition and are now growing in the nursery.

From the other side of the world, where another war is being waged, comes an important shipment of seeds. This lot, containing about 150 packets, comes from the Lu-Shan Arboretum, Likiang, China, the seed having been collected in 1939 at higher altitudes in northwestern Yunnan Province. The package was actually shipped about six months ago. This accession came as the result of a small grant made by the Arboretum last year to support cooperative horticultural-botanical field work in China. More recently the corresponding botanical material has been received in the form of twenty-three large parcel post packages.

With wars being waged on opposite sides of the globe, it is interesting to note that the Arboretum is continuing to import seeds and living plants from both war-torn areas.

DONALD WYMAN



Wyman, Donald. 1940. "Early Magnolias." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 8(4), 22–24.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322284>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/216992>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.322284>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/322284>

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>.