

Malus spectabilis is said to have been cultivated by the Chinese from time immemorial. Like several of the other Asiatic Crabapples it is not known in a wild state, but is probably of hybrid origin. It is a tree from twenty-five to thirty feet tall with a wide vase-shaped crown and short branchlets. The flowers are pale pink, more or less semi-double and fragrant. The fruit is pale yellow, subglobose and about three-quarters of an inch in diameter. *M. spectabilis* is a perfectly hardy and free-flowering plant, and well worth a place in gardens where space can be allowed for its development. What is probably a hybrid of *M. spectabilis* and some unknown species, possibly *M. micromalus*, is *M. Scheideckeri* and is also worth a place in a collection of these trees.

Early Flowering Viburnums. *Viburnum alnifolium*, the Hobble Bush or Moosewood of cold northern woods, one of the handsomest of the American species, is now in bloom, as is *Viburnum Carlesii*, one of the hardiest and most beautiful shrubs which the gardens of America have obtained from eastern Asia. It is a dwarf, compact shrub with white flowers in small globose clusters which open from rose-colored buds and are delightfully fragrant. Fortunately it has at last been taken up by American nurserymen and can now be obtained by lovers of beautiful plants.

Double-flowered Japanese Cherries. There are now growing in the Arboretum thirty-two double-flowered forms of *Prunus Lannesiana* and eighteen forms of *Prunus serrulata sachalinensis*. These are arranged on the southern slope of Bussey Hill and the handsomest of them are the following forms of *Prunus serrulata sachalinensis*: *Alboresea*, *Fugenzo*, *Sekiyama*, *Kirin*, *Horinji*, and *Hisakura*. The best six double-flowered forms of *Prunus Lannesiana* are, *Jonioi*, *Miyako*, *Sirotai*, *Amanogawa*, *Ojochin*, and *Ochichima*.

Early Azaleas. Two or three of the early Azaleas are beginning to open their flowers and during the next week *Rhododendron* (*Azalea*) *Schlippenbachii* will have opened its pale pink flowers which are about three inches in diameter and are marked with red-brown spots, and are perhaps more beautiful than those of any other Azalea which has proved hardy in the Arboretum. It is one of the commonest shrubs in Korea and often forms the dominant undergrowth in open woods. This plant grows further north than any other Azalea with the exception of the North American *Rhodora*, and there is no reason why it should not flourish in the colder parts of New England. Two flowering plants can be seen on Bussey Hill on the upper side of Azalea Path. Still rare in gardens it seems safe to predict that the time is not far distant when this inhabitant of the Diamond Mountains will be one of the chief ornaments of American gardens during the early days of May.



1925. "Early Flowering Viburnums." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 11(3), 12-12. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321549>.

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