

occurs as far north as Raga (39°55'N), but this region is characterized by bright, sunny winters and is influenced by the cold Oyashio current which flows down from the Kuriles to the 38th parallel bringing cold winds from the Pacific Ocean. In these northern areas, C. japonica flowers as late as mid-May. Until the current series of USDA-Longwood explorations were undertaken, none of the camellias from these localities had been introduced into cultivation. As a result of our efforts, more than 33 collections of cuttings and seeds have now been established in the United States.

A final observation on the woody plants of Japan concerns the general northward distribution of broadleaved evergreen species into environments seemingly beyond their scope of adaptation. Certain plants occur in Hokkaido and northern Honshu and survive only because they grow as decumbent plants covered by snow during most of the winter. The most striking of these are the dwarf or decumbent forms, such as:

Aucuba japonica var. borealis Miyabe  
Daphniphyllum humile Maxim.  
Ilex crenata var. radicans Tatewaki  
Skimmia japonica var. repens Makino

Whether these varieties will maintain their habit under conditions of little or no winter snowfall can only be determined after we have observed them in less severe climates. Essentially, this will determine if these taxonomic entities are true genetic segregates or merely responses to local environmental conditions.

#### Literature Cited

1. Wilson, E. H. and A. Rehder. A Monograph of Azalea. Cambridge. 1921.

MODERATOR MARCH: The next topic is "Horticultural Paintings" by Mr. James S. Wells of Red Bank, New Jersey.

#### HORTICULTURAL PAINTINGS

James S. Wells  
 Red Bank, New Jersey

I don't know how far from propagation this association is going to allow its members to wander, but I think this is pretty far, and I hasten to add that I am not responsible for the paintings. I wish I were. The man who does them I had hoped would be here to explain the method by which he does the paintings.

The story very briefly is this: I go every summer to a little island off the coast of Maine for a holiday, called Monhegan Island. This last summer I met the man who does these paintings. He is a Dutchman with the unique name of Tecco Slagboom, a most charming and unassuming man, who lives for the most part of the year on the island

in a little home way off from the crowd. He produces paintings of all kinds, but I was particularly taken with the clarity and fidelity of the botanical part of his drawings. I thought that in these days of mass production and kidochromes it was rather pleasant to see craftsmanship of rather a high order, and so I asked him if he would make three drawings and come and explain how he does them. He was unable to be here, but the three drawings are here. He tells me that he works entirely in water colors. In order to get the clarity and depth of effect which I think you see most clearly on this picture, he uses colored ink in addition to water colors, to etch out the finer details of the flowers and plants.

I think that this is a very fine example of real craftsmanship and that is the only reason it is here.

MODERATOR MARCH: Thank you, Mr. Wells.

Our next speaker will be Mr. William Flemer, III, of Princeton Nurseries, Princeton, New Jersey, and his topic is: "Further Experiences in Propagating *Sciadopitys verticillata* from Cuttings."

#### FURTHER EXPERIENCES IN ROOTING *SCIADOPITYS VERTICILLATA* CUTTINGS

William Flemer, III  
Princeton Nurseries  
Princeton, New Jersey

Like many other members of the Plant Propagation Society, I was greatly intrigued by Sidney Wasman's report in the 1960 meeting on his work rooting cuttings of *Sciadopitys verticillata*, which had always been a plant we considered impossible to root. We had always taken these cuttings in the mid fall, and although all cuttings calloused heavily and lived for long periods, they never rooted although we kept them in flats for up to one year. The sole result was a gradual enlargement of the callus. However, when we took cuttings in the late winter and early spring following Sidney's suggestions, the picture improved very greatly. This little report summarizes our results.

As Sidney noted last year, a great problem in cutting experiments with *Sciadopitys* is the very limited amount of wood available. Unlike working with Junipers or *Taxus* you cannot set up experiments with hundreds of cuttings for each treatment, and hence the results in this report must be viewed with some scepticism as only 10 cuttings were involved in each treatment reported. Briefly, we attempted to elucidate the effect of three factors in rooting; time of taking the cuttings, strength of hormone used in treatment, and variations in wounding. All our cuttings were taken from a single 38 year old tree to rule out differences in the rooting ability of various clones. All cuttings were of the past season's growth, and all were taken from the lower half of the tree, which is 15 feet tall. The rooting medium used was 50% peat, 50% perlite.