



DWARF MUME TREES AS GROWN IN JAPAN.

(*Prunus mume* Sieb. and Zucc.)

The mume, or Japanese apricot, normally a tree 15 to 20 feet high, is sometimes trained by Japanese horticulturists in the dwarf form shown above. The flowering cherry is the favorite flower of the Japanese people, whereas the flowering mume is the favorite of the Japanese poets and artists because of its more picturesque branching habit and its fragrance. It has been confused by many with the flowering plum, but it is really allied to the apricot. In the latitude of Washington, D. C., 15 varieties of mume have been planted, and 10 of them have survived the severe winters of the past 15 years. The trunk seems peculiarly resistant to the attacks of the peach borer and to crown-gall; while the fruits, which are among the sourest known, yield when pickled one of the staple relishes of the Japanese menu. (Photographed by K. Tamari, Kagoshima, Japan.)