



# Newsletter

of the **American Magnolia Society**

President: John M. Fogg, Jr., Director,  
Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia 18, Pa.

Secretary-Treasurer: D. Todd Gresham,  
103 Frederick St., Santa Cruz, Calif.

## A Year Later

JOHN M. FOGG, JR., *Director*  
*The Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia, Pa.*

IT HAS BEEN APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR since the first issue of this NEWSLETTER was mailed to the members of our Society. In my "editorial" which appeared in that initial number I indicated that the future of our publication would depend in part upon the response of our membership in submitting material for succeeding issues.

It is gratifying to be able to report that, although no bills for dues were sent out in 1964, our budget is in a very satisfactory condition. This is due in large measure to the kindness and generosity of our publisher and fellow-member, Mr. George Slankard, who is printing this NEWSLETTER at what he terms "cost," but what I should judge is considerably less.

With respect, however, to the contribution of articles, queries, notes, ideas, etc., we are unbelievably poor. I would not have believed a year ago that my appeal for material for future issues would have passed so unheeded or have fallen, apparently, upon such sterile ground. Certainly, among our 250 members there must be many of you who have had experiences with Magnolias worth communicating to the rest of us or who have questions which some members of the Society can answer or who are looking for some particular form which perhaps someone else can supply. In said in our first issue, and I repeat the conviction here, that this NEWSLETTER can serve as a clearing-house for a great variety of matters and a forum for the asking and answering of a wide diversity of questions.

The silver lining to this otherwise sombre cloud is provided by the inclusion here of the single manuscript which has been submitted to me, namely, the first part of Phil Savage's very informative account of "Magnolias in Michigan." May the example which he has set inspire many other member to share with us the results of his or

her own experiences in growing Magnolias. If this is done than our NEWSLETTER may become not only an annual, or a semi-annual but perhaps even a quarterly publication. What that day dawns then perhaps many of our members who publish their observations in other journals may turn first to their own Society's sheet as a medium for the dissemination of their writings.

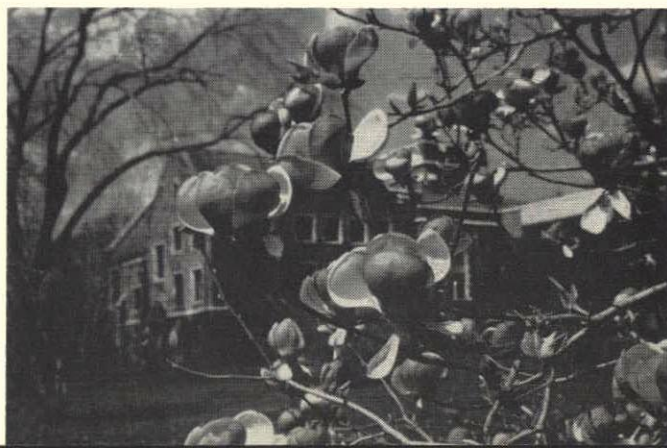
In this connection may I point out that it would be a relatively easy matter to fill our columns by reprinting articles on Magnolias which have already appeared in other periodicals. I, for one, hesitate to do so for I should be somewhat reluctant to have our NEWSLETTER become a mere reprint organ. I would far rather see it inspire original ideas and primary releases. I have, however, retreated from this position in the current issue to the extent of obtaining permission to reprint Dr. J. C. McDaniel's splendid paper on "Securing Seed Production in *M. acuminata* and *M. cordata*," which appeared originally in the Proceedings of the International Plant Propagators Society. I believe that relatively few of our members read that publication and I feel that Dr. McDaniel's account is a highly significant contribution. Incidentally, he has promised to do an article on the relationship between *M. virginiana* and its supposed variety *australis* for an early issue of this NEWSLETTER.

I earnest hope that another year will not elapse before the appearance of Number 3, but this will depend entirely upon your cooperation in submitting material for publication.



*Magnolia Soulangeana* 'André LeRoy', Scott Arboretum,  
Swarthmore, Pa.

Photo: Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.





# Magnolias in Michigan

## PART I

PHILIP J. SAVAGE, JR.

SOMEWHERE, SOMEHOW IN EARLY CHILDHOOD, the lasting strong interests of our lives are formed. I clearly remember the deep impression made upon me by the blossoms of a *Magnolia Soulangeana* on either my third or fourth birthday. I remember my delight at finding furry little "pussy-willow" buds expanded into magnificent pink vases, heavily-textured and with a strange, exotic scent. I remember how clean and smooth and perfect were the inside of the lovely chalice. As Conrad Lenz would say, I was "imprinted" with Magnolias. Imprinted I have remained.

Southern Michigan does not have the worst climate in the world, but it tries hard. Twenty miles north of Detroit, where I live, we see fifteen below zero just about every winter. The last frost is around May fifth, and the stingy thirty inches of rain we average per year, would only support Jack pines and poplars if it weren't for the fact that we receive less sunshine to evaporate it than does foggy London, England. For all this lack of climatic hospitality, it is surprising to find the number of Magnolias that live, bloom and grow old here. Enough of them, in fact, that their description is better broken down into groups, the first, and really most spectacular of which, has been named by Mr. J. E. Dandy, the section Yulania.

The typical form of *Magnolia denudata* found, all too sparingly, in the American nursery trade, has remained unchanged for many years. The blossoms are a creamy white with no trace of pink or purple, are beautifully presented and hold their shape well. This clone arrived in America from either England or Holland. There are specimens of this lovely magnolia in Detroit that are over fifty years old, and they are exactly like the plants the Holland nurseries sell today.

Another Yulan clone from Mr. Wada, in Japan, and called by him *denudata elongata* is reasonably distinct. Its flowers are larger, but more lax in substance, and the tree itself seems a strong grower in its vigorous youth.

A third form of Yulan, called Lacy's *denudata* by Mr. Tom Sawada of Overlook Nurseries, Semmes, Ala., has a flower color similar to the *Soulangeana* variety 'Alba Superba'. In other words, a pure bone white with a pink spot and stripe on the outside base of the tepals. Leaves and wood are typically *denudata*, but here at least a more wayward grower, more inclined to fork and to have a less persistent leader. Said to have been brought from France, it is not an improvement over the trade form, but interesting and pretty in its pink and white color.

Also from Mr. Sawada I have *denudata purpliana*, in which the wood and leaves are typical *denudata* but the flower, here at least, is a rather uniform pinkish purple outside, and somewhat lighter inside. It lasts very well, and has a rigid, upright presentation worthy of a more unusual color.

The fifth *denudata* clone deserves a chapter (or a book) in itself. I am not at all sure that it is a variety of *denudata*, and not a species of its own. It is aptly named 'Wada's Picture', and to me this strongly treelike, upright, tough-wooded and very hardy Magnolia is the most im-

pressive flowering plant that can be grown in the northern United States. The huge flowers are roughly similar in pattern of color to the familiar hybrid *Soulangeana*, but there is less purple and more spectrum red in the colored parts of the tepals. On the average, 'Picture's' flowers are twice as large as good *Soulangeana* blooms. When fully expanded I have measured them fourteen inches across, yet the substance is so great the blooms never become floppy. This magnificent magnolia would bear investigation to determine if it may indeed be a species distinct from *denudata* — perhaps *M. amoena*, so tantalizingly but, alas, briefly described in Mr. Johnstone's wonderful book. My plants are only eight feet tall, but give the impression of growing into a much larger tree at maturity than typical *denudata*, or any of the *Soulangeana* cultivars. I am grateful to Mr. H. Lem, the well known Rhododendron authority of 19215 Aurora Ave., Seattle, Wash., for calling my attention to 'Picture', and furnishing fine plants which he had imported from Mr. Wada a few years earlier.

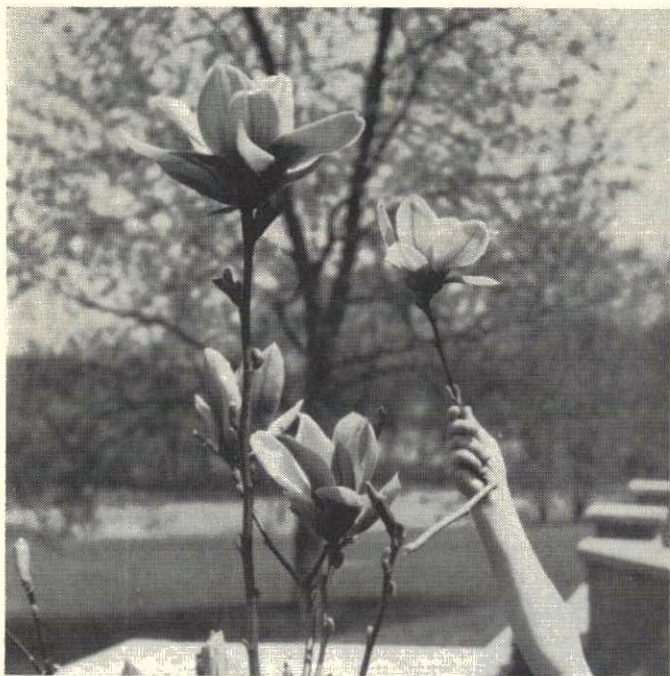
The good hybrid *Veitchii* will not winter here at all and I have tried it several times. Since *Veitchii* and the species *Sprengeri* are both listed as Zone 7 or even 8, I was delighted to find that a small plant of *Sprengeri* var. *diva*, obtained from the west coast has survived the worst Michigan can offer for three full winters. True, it is planted close to an unheated garage wall and has not produced flower buds, but not a leaf bud or branch tip has killed back, even after -18° F. A similar aged plant of *liliflora* var. *gracilis* planted a few feet away against the same wall killed to the ground in each of the three winters. The twigs of *Sprengeri* var. *diva* are bright green all winter, and have a waxy smoothness and wiry strength even greater than the twigs of rough and ready *Kobus borealis*.

Strictly speaking, *Magnolia liliflora* does not belong in the section Yulania, and is not entirely hardy in Michigan anyway. *Liliflora nigra* kills to the ground nearly every winter at my home, but twenty-four miles to the south, where my office is located, it survives and blooms quite well, even though damaged. Although most writers describe *liliflora* flowers as odorless, I have noticed a refreshing scent to *nigra's* newly opened blooms that is reminiscent of a freshly cut watermelon. There are many nondescript, very shrubby *liliflora* clones in the trade, some as dark as



*Magnolia acuminata*, Morris Arboretum,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Photo: J. M. Fogg, Jr.





Left: *M. denudata* 'Wade's Picture'; right: *M. Soulanguiana*  
Photo: Philip J. Savage, Jr.

*nigra*; others with almost as much white as *Soulanguiana*. The six petaled, short-lived flowers and the continuous production of rush-like basal sprouts to kill back in winter, has served to give the public in many areas a skeptical view of the value of magnolias in northern landscaping.

I have grown about all the named *Soulanguiana* selections at some time or other, and some plants of the typical variety have matured to a really large size in Detroit. Commercial nurserymen are generally interested only in "commercial" plants. That is to say the kind that propagate easily, grow quickly, tolerate adverse soils and bloom like mad. Typical *Soulanguiana* is therefore the only magnolia most nurserymen grow and sell. Many of the named varieties of the *Soulanguiana* cultivar group are inferior to it. Others are so similar as to have no "reason for being" at all, and just a few are really different.

The true form of *Lennei* is a splendid and distinct magnolia. The flowers are huge, the massive concave tepals are "crisp as frozen lettuce," the rich reddish purple of the outside contrasts beautifully with the velvety white lining of the flower, and the scent is refreshing and attractive. I make a point of mentioning the "true" form of *Lennei* because I have received plants as *Lennei* from a west coast nursery that are inferior to the true variety in every way.

A few years prior to War II I saw a young sapling called 'White *Lennei*' that had the identical goblet shaped flower in a pure white. This seems to be gone from the trade, as the plants sent out under this name now are neither pure white nor 'Lennei'-shaped. The real white sport is worth an effort to recover.

If you want to demonstrate to yourself how badly a Magnolia Registry is needed, try ordering the variety 'Alexandrina' from five different commercial nurseries. It would seem 'Alexandrina' is not a clone, but an assortment. At least two of the plants you receive will be good old *Soulanguiana* itself. I personally consider the form

grown by the nurseries around Mobile, Ala., and New Orleans, La., to be the true French 'Alexandrina'. Its growth is balanced and upright, with firm, notably leathery leaves. It blooms a full week after *Soulanguiana*'s peak, and the individual flowers last at least twice as long, retaining a beautiful "tulip" shape almost until the petals fall. The outside of the large flower is a uniform, unstriped mauve, the inside white, and the perfume the pleasantest of this entire section, rich and notably roselike. Although half the catalogs describe 'Alexandrina' as "earlier" than *Soulanguiana*, the extra week of safety given the above clone makes it just about frostproof. A fine magnolia like this should be given the identity it deserves.

'Brozzoni' is a fine big buxom grower that blooms ten days after *Soulanguiana*, opens its less tidy and larger flowers wider, but otherwise is very similar in color and every other way to *Soulanguiana*. It happily extends the flowering season.

I bought plants of 'San José' from Clark Nursery about eighteen years ago, and have since sold the property on which they were growing. The flowers of 'San José' retain a tall, narrow vase form for over a week each. The entire bloom is pure marble white except for a striking "thumb-print" of dark pink, almost red, at the very base of each tepal. A beautiful, distinctive and in the east, too little known hybrid Magnolia. I have read 'San José' described as "deeper colored than most forms," which must be a misprint.

The clone 'Speciosa' and typical *Soulanguiana* have become hopelessly confused in the nursery trade, and this true and valuable variety should be re-established from the Arnold Arboretum's fine specimens.

If a plant is happy, has plenty of room and an excellent soil, its flowers, habit of growth and garden usefulness may be vastly different from a neglected specimen of the same variety. *M. Soulanguiana* 'Verbanica' can produce surprising illustrations of this difference. When growing well its flowers appear clean pink and white and their cuplike shape unique and pleasing. Growing poorly, its branches are gnarled and warty, and the shape and color of its overcrowded flowers is unexceptional. The lateness of 'Verbanica's' blooming season is a real advantage.

The patented hybrid 'George Henry Kern' is not a spectacular magnolia. It looks like a dwarfish, stemmy seedling of *Soulanguiana* with a rather nondescript but "good enough to keep" flower. What makes it worthy of garden room is that it blooms and blooms and blooms. It starts with *denudata*, and still looks good when the last petal is gone from *liliflora nigra* and summer leaves are full size.

Classifying and evaluating the species and varieties of the Magnoliaceae in the world will be the "labor of love" of our new Society. We must discipline ourselves against the naming and introduction of seedlings that are not an obvious improvement over existing clones. The hopeless clutter of names in the *Obtusum* and *Luteum* *Azalea* hybrid groups should be a pointed lesson to us to restrain our nascent eagerness. We should ignore and thereby eliminate all but the really worthwhile of the old, and then slowly, objectively, and with deliberation, name the distinct and improved varieties that our plant breeders and plant explorers will produce through the interest-filled years ahead.





# Securing Seed Production In *Magnolia Acuminata* And *Magnolia Cordata*

Reprinted With Permission of the Author from Proceedings of the  
International Plant Propagators Society, Eastern Region  
Thirteenth Annual Meetings, 1963.

JOSEPH C. McDANIEL  
Department of Horticulture  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, Illinois

THE CUCUMBER TREE, *Magnolia acuminata* L., ranges from the north shore of Lake Erie in Ontario to Louisiana and Georgia, attaining 90 feet in the Great Smoky Mountains. It is the largest growing deciduous magnolia in America, probably second to *M. grandiflora* as a timber source, and one of the hardiest magnolias in the world, succeeding in northern Europe up to southern Norway. It has sometimes been used as an understock for grafting other magnolias, but in recent decades has lost favor particularly to *M. Kobus*, whose seeds seem more readily available from trees in cultivation. With the rise of mist propagation in recent years, relatively few of the deciduous Asian Magnolias now are grafted. *M. acuminata* understocks may still offer the most feasible means of multiplying select clones of the closely related but smaller *M. cordata*, sometimes regarded as merely a variety of *acuminata*. (The Chinese *M. liliflora* is more distantly related, and through it, *M. Soulangeana*.)

Cultivars of *M. acuminata*, itself, have seldom been propagated. A variegated leaf form has been grafted occasionally, but as with so many variegated forms in broad leaf woody plants, the normal green leaf tends to take over. Varieties described by botanists include one, var. *ludoviciana* Sargent, from West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana, with broader leaves and larger flowers (3½ - 4" long, compared to the usual 2½ - 3" petals.) Ashe described a more pubescent variety from Alabama. Forms with all yellow petals (forma *aurea* Hardin) have been described, and one or more of them now have been grafted a little. In the usual *M. acuminata*, however, the green to greenish yellow flowers that appear after the leaves are not nearly as showy as those of the earlier flowering Asian kinds, nor do they have the fragrance of the later, white-flowered Sweet Bays (*M. virginiana* L. and *M. australis* Ashe) and Southern magnolia (*M. grandiflora* L.) It is as hardy, relatively pest-free, large growing shade tree with gray branches that *M. acuminata* now has its principal landscape use.

It would rate higher as a tree with decorative fruits in late summer, if the August-September maturing dark red gynoecia (or cones) were more consistently or abundantly retained. I believe we now have the knowledge and materials to make this improvement, and also to obtain worthwhile seed crops from cucumber trees.

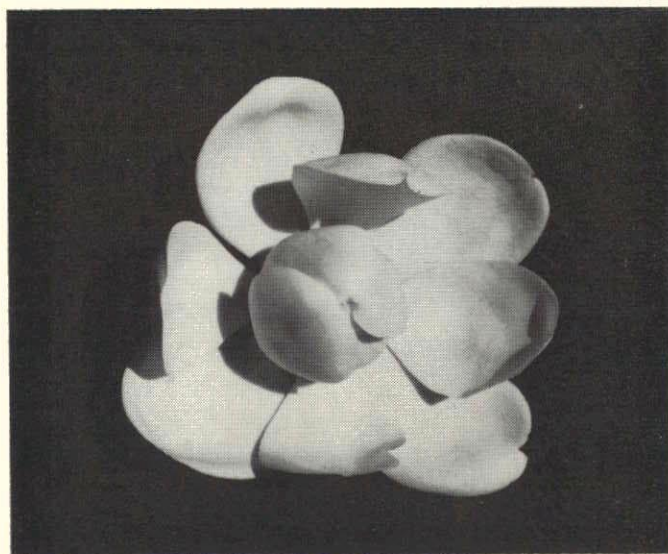
In cultivation, at least in a wide area of the Midwest, in Tennessee, Alabama and southwest Virginia and probably elsewhere if *M. acuminata* is planted as a single specimen, the trees usually have appeared to be highly

sterile. They flower abundantly, but by mid-August, year after year, all or nearly all their gynoecia (cones) have failed to develop any seeds, and have dropped off without becoming showy. Occasionally we do see a tree with some gynoecia in which one seed or more have developed. It was surprising to me, therefore, after watching this sequence on several trees in and near Champaign-Urbana for ten years, to see an exceptional one, two or three years ago with a heavy crop of seeds for its size, these developing throughout the flowering branches of the tree. After 90 days of stratification, the seeds produced thrifty seedlings. Why should the American native cucumber tree, growing thriftily in good soil, and flowering abundantly after the spring frost season, produce so few seeds on trees in Central Illinois, Indiana and eastern Iowa, where other native American species like *M. tripetala*, *M. virginiana* and *M. grandiflora* (when it was to free flowering stage) had good seed crops, and where even the exotic hybrid *M. Soulangeana* (presumably partially sterile because of its unbalanced chromosomes) had fair seed crops in most years? What was the particular weakness of *M. acuminata*, or its weak link in regard to setting seed and how had this one particularly fruitful tree overcome it?

I applied a little detective work which is not yet completed, but I think I now have the answer, or a major part of it. It appears that *M. acuminata* trees in general (and this apparently applies to the related *M. cordata*) are incompatible with their own pollen, but will set seeds when properly pollinated with pollen from a different clone of the same species. The one very fruitful tree in Urbana is exceptional, though probably not unique, in being a clone of *M. acuminata* that is fertile when self-pollinated.

The self-fertile condition is usual with most other species of Magnolia grown in Illinois, including *M. tripetala*, *M. virginiana*, *M. australis*, *M. grandiflora*, *M. salicifolia*, *M. Kobus* (including its varieties *stellata* and *Loebneri*) and several of the hybrids of the *M. Soulangeana* group. It may not be true with the clones we have of *M. denudata* and *M. liliflora*, which produce very few seeds at Urbana.

American Magnolias in general cannot set seeds on their earliest flowers of the season. Without exception their



*M. Mollicomata* 'Maharanee'  
Photo: D. Todd Gresham





*Magnolia* × *Thompsoniana*, The Morris Arboretum,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Photo: J. M. Fogg, Jr.

flowers, so far as I have observed, are protogynous. Their pistils are receptive when the flowers first open, or shortly before that stage, but do not remain receptive for the day or so longer that it takes a flower to begin to shed its own pollen. But later flowers on the same trees, of such species and varieties as are not self-incompatible, can generally receive from their own earlier-opening flowers, pollen carried either by certain beetles, bees and other insects, or even by gravity from flowers higher on the tree.

I bagged a few dozen unopened flower buds on three *M. acuminata* trees in Champaign and Urbana for pollination experiments last spring, and wasted most of them, as it turned out, in attempts to cross with *M. grandiflora* pollen from farther south. (That is a perhaps impossible cross, as two subgenera are represented.) Where the bags were left over the uncrossed flowers through their flowering period, too, no seeds were set. But two of three intra-specific cross-combinations involving these three clones of *M. acuminata* were highly successful. Pollen from tree "K," the self-fertile one, was placed in pistils of one flower of tree "B," the largest in Urbana. That flower developed a gynoeceium with 87 good seeds, and those were the only seeds seen on the whole tree this year. Pollen from tree "M," the largest of its species in Champaign, resulted in three nearly as well filled gynoecea from controlled crosses on tree "K." Two that were saved from the squirrels had a total of 137 seeds. On a few flowers of tree "M" where pollen of "K" was applied, nothing developed, and no fruits developed on the rest of that tree, in this or other recent years. My timing may have been off, when pollinating that tree, and I plan to test it more extensively another year.

While conducting a pecan grafting demonstration last spring on the farm of Mr. Roy Vick, near Thebes in Alexander County, Illinois, I noted that his woods contained several small flowering trees of *M. acuminata* which are native in a few counties at the southern end of our state. Mr. Vick was later able to collect for me a quantity of ripe fruits, from which seeds are being germinated. Vick's fruits were smaller than the average gynoecea developed on tree "K" in Urbana, but do indicate that the species is reasonably fertile where a few seedling trees are near enough together that cross-pollination by insects can be effected. Dr. J. Nelson Spaeth, head of our Forestry

Department, who formerly was at Cornell, tells me that seedling trees in the Cornell forest planting of *M. acuminata* near Ithaca, N. Y., also were regularly productive of seeds. I have recently heard of another lone *M. acuminata* that is self-fruitful in a Northeastern state.

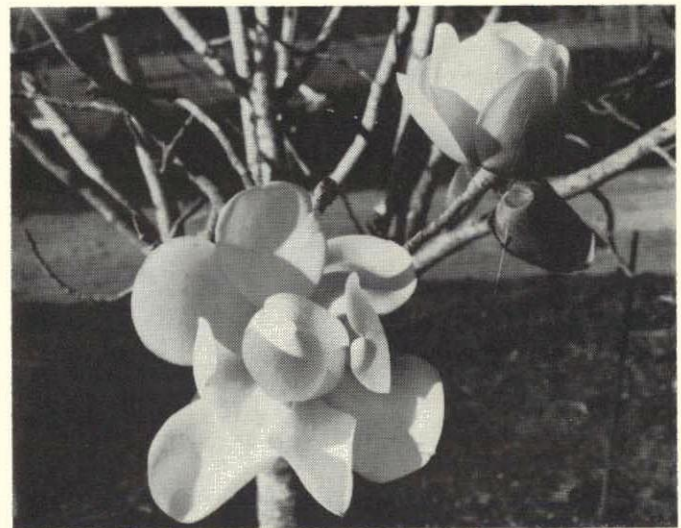
*M. acuminata*, though it tends to have large buds and thick pith, can be readily budded by the chip bud method in August, at Urbana, if the buds are wrapped completely over with polythylene plastic. They can be handled thereafter like any dormant bud. I have budded a large seedling in its first year of growth, and also have top worked by this method onto branches of tree "M," which must be at least seventy years old.

While ordinarily we would bud only onto young understocks, it appears that buds of such a self-fertile clone as tree "K" might be worth inserting to produce pollen-source branches high in any seedling *M. acuminata* on which it is desired to increase the production of seeds or ornamental fruits. This particular one, tree "K," might be worth extensive bud propagation in nurseries as it has a good sized flower for the species, with better than usual color; it is known to be fruitful, and its fruits are decorative. At maturity, under Urbana conditions, the fruits are taken off and the seeds consumed mainly by gray squirrels, which seem to find them both delicious and nutritious.

Coming after hazelnuts and before most of the walnuts, acorns and hickory nuts, an abundance of *Magnolia acuminata* seeds might fill a niche in the food economy of squirrels in suitable woods and many towns where such rodents are encouraged.

Some of my slides show *M. acuminata* trees around Champaign County, Illinois, at different times of the year, and indicate variations in growth habit of various clones. Seed harvest by use of a truck-mounted power ladder is shown.

The last few slides show a tree of the rare yellow flowered *M. cordata*, that may be the oldest grafted magnolia, and the largest of its species, now in cultivation in America. It was grafted on *M. acuminata* some 120 years ago, and the graft line is still visible. Donald J. Hillenmeyer showed me this tall tree, which was originally planted at a farm residence outside Lexington, Kentucky.



*M. Mollicomata* 'Maharajah'  
Photo: D. Todd Gresham



With the growth of the city, the area now is incorporated in Woodland Park. *M. cordata* is not native in the Lexington area. As well as Mr. Hillenmeyer can reconstruct this tree's history, it was probably included in a landscape plan drawn by the naturalist Rafinesque, who taught for several years at Transylvania College in Lexington. The actual propagator may have been a Frenchman who had a nursery at Lexington for several years around 1830-1840.

Michaux, who discovered it, had introduced *M. cordata* to France from the vicinity of Augusta, Georgia, about 1880. The Lexington tree very likely is from one of the clones first taken to France and later brought back to America. The species was unknown in the wild for more than a century, until L. A. Berckmans rediscovered it in 1910-1913 at three Georgia and South Carolina locations near Augusta. Still later some more wild trees were found also in eastern Alabama by W. W. Ashe and others.

Like most of the isolated *M. acuminata* trees, this *M. cordata* specimen failed to produce any seeds in 1963, but Don tells me it sometimes matures a few.

*Magnolia cordata* was crossed with *M. acuminata* in 1944 by Oliver M. Freeman, and his hybrid seedlings are being grown by the U. S. National Arboretum at Washington. Mr. Freeman, now at Tryon, North Carolina, tells me that he got a good yield of seeds from this cross, and a considerable variation among the hybrid progeny. Both *M. cordata* and *M. acuminata* are tetraploid species, and are much nearer to each other in kinship than to any of the other North American species, which are mainly diploid, except for the generally hexaploid *M. grandiflora*. Their nearest relative is the Chinese *M. liliflora*, also a tetraploid, which is widely cultivated in its variety *nigra*. Further hybridizations, with these and other Magnolias, are discussed in another paper in this volume.

#### POSTSCRIPT (FEBRUARY, 1965)

The best-informed opinion now is that typical *M. acuminata* and *M. cordata* are varieties of the same species. Since the above paper was first published, I have read James W. Hardin's definitive 1954 article, "An Analysis of Variation Within *Magnolia Acuminata* L." (Elisha Mitchell Sci. Soc. Jour. 70(2):298-312.) Dr. Hardin, a botanist now on the staff of North Carolina State College, suggested that "A thorough cytological study of the species . . . is long overdue. Dr. J. J. Westfall of the University of Georgia has made some cytological observations of *acuminata* and *cordata* (correspondence, 1954) finding that they are indistinguishable so far as meiotic chromosomes are concerned." Hardin, after thorough study of herbarium materials, reduces the *acuminata-cordata* complex to three varieties and one form. The varieties are:

1. *M. acuminata* L. var. *ozarkensis* Ashe, Elisha Mitchell Sci. Soc. Jour. 41:269. 1926. (Most glabrous, smallest and darkest flowered, found in the Ozarks.)

2. *M. acuminata* L. var. *acuminata*

(This is the common variety, with a development of pubescence intermediate between Nos. 1 and 3, and may have developed from interbreeding between them. It is widely distributed over a range from southern Ontario to Louisiana.)

3. *M. acuminata* var. *cordata* Sarg., Amer. Jour. Sci. Ser. 3, 32:743. 1886. (This variety is most clearly distinguished by first-year twigs pubescent throughout. It is distributed over a relatively narrow range from central



*Magnolia cordata*, Morris Arboretum,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Photo: J. M. Fogg, Jr.

North Carolina to Tuscaloosa and Baldwin Counties, Alabama, and Walton County in northwest Florida.)

The former, *M. acuminata* forma *aurea* (Ashe) Hardin has twigs like No. 2 (above) and is separated only on its more yellow flowers. "This color form is found scattered in the mountains and upper Piedmont of the Carolinas, Tennessee, Georgia and possibly Alabama."

Hardin includes the previously published var. *ludoviciana* Sargent under var. *acuminata*, and places the greenish flowered var. *alabamensis* Ashe with var. *cordata*. "The pubescence of the twigs in the Alabama collections is essentially identical with *cordata* collections in Georgia and South Carolina. The variety *alabamensis*, therefore, appears only as a western extension of *cordata*. . . . The greenish flowers are by no means found only in the western populations of *cordata*, but may appear in any area where *acuminata* [the variety] and *cordata* overlap in range. The Alabama populations thus represent a somewhat intermediate condition between *cordata* and *acuminata*."

My 1964 pollination results with *M. acuminata* included good sets of seeds on tree "M" when pollinated by tree "K," though grackles destroyed all developing fruits on "M" except those I covered by wrapping with kraft paper through June, July and August. Reciprocal crosses between tree "K" and a good form of *M. liliflora* also were obtained in 1964. Late in the fall, another isolated and apparently self-fertile *M. acuminata* tree, larger than any in Champaign or Urbana, was located in a farmstead planting between Philo and Broadlands, Champaign County, Illinois.



## Report From Salem, Oregon

ERNEST IUFER

MY FIRST ACQUAINTANCE with magnolias goes back fifty-five years. When I was a small boy in Switzerland my parents took me to visit in a neighboring town. While there we passed a large garden with a beautiful *Magnolia Soulangeana* in full bloom. I stopped at once to admire this tree and my father had to give me a shove to get on my way with the rest of the family. But I decided then and



there I would grow a tree like that some day. Now many years later I'm still convinced the magnolia is an outstanding tree, both in interest of foliage and the various bloom forms—some small, some as much as sixteen inches across. Forty years ago we started a nursery here in Salem, Oregon. Among the first trees we planted was a *Magnolia denudata*. Since then I have propagated, by seed and grafting and importing seeds and small trees, some now almost forty years old. We enjoy them all.

I have tried all the methods and find I have better luck with seed than any other way. Second best was layering. Third was cuttings. One year I grafted 1,300 in gallon cans with only fifty of these successful. But I am still as interested as ever and delighted anew when a variety is blooming for me for the first time.

Welcome to the Society, all Magnolia enthusiasts!



## Some Recently Described Magnolia Cultivars

AT A MEETING of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, held in 1961, the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, Pa., was officially designated as the national authority for all new cultivar names in the genus *Magnolia*. During the sessions of the 17th International Horticultural Congress, which took place in Brussels in September, 1962, this responsibility was extended to cover all countries, so that the Arboretum is now the International Registration Authority for this genus.

A natural consequence of these actions has been that the Morris Arboretum Bulletin, a quarterly journal, has come to be regarded as an appropriate medium for the publication and description of new *Magnolia* cultivars. Since 1961 twenty-three such names have appeared in this journal and as a service to the members of the Magnolia Society a complete list of them, with volume and page references, is reproduced here. Reprints of several of these descriptions are available and may be obtained by addressing a request to the Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia 18, Pa.

- M. grandiflora* 'Bronze Beauty'. H. H. Hume. Vol. 12 : 15. 1961.
- M. grandiflora* 'Celestial'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 14 : 25. 1963.
- M. grandiflora* 'Charles Dickens'. Jewel Templeton. Vol. 16 : 8. 1965.
- M. grandiflora* 'Ocean Wave'. H. H. Hume. Vol. 12 : 16. 1961.
- M. grandiflora* 'St. Mary'. H. H. Hume. Vol. 12 : 16. 1961.
- M. grandiflora* 'Sunset'. H. H. Hume. Vol. 12 : 16. 1961.
- M. Lennei alba*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Crimson Stipple'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.
- M. Lennei alba*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Delicatissima'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 49. 1962.
- M. Lennei alba*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Rouged Alabaster'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.
- M. Lennei alba*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Royal Flush'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.

- M. Lennei alba*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Spring Rite'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 49. 1962.
- M. Lennei alba*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Sulphur Cockatoo'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 49. 1962.
- M. liliflora*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Dark Raiment'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 47. 1962.
- M. liliflora*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Peppermint Stick'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.
- M. liliflora*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Raspberry Ice'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.
- M. liliflora*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Royal Crown'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.
- M. liliflora*  $\times$  *Veitchii* 'Vin Rouge'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 13 : 48. 1962.
- M. macrophylla* 'Holy Grail'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 14 : 24. 1963.
- M. mollicomata* 'Maharajah'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 15 : 30. 1964.
- M. mollicomata* 'Maharanee'. D. T. Gresham. Vol. 15 : 31. 1964.
- M. Proctoriana* 'Slavin's Snowy'. B. Harkness. Vol. 12 : 19. 1961.
- \**M. Soulanguiana* 'Adral'. R. H. Smith. Vol. 15 : 64. 1964.
- M. Soulanguiana* 'Highland Park'. B. Harkness. Vol. 12 : 19. 1961.

\*Briefly characterized in this issue.



IT HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY SUGGESTED that a Finding List for species, hybrids, varieties and cultivars of *Magnolias* would be of considerable value for all who are interested in this incomparable group of plants. The Morris Arboretum, as the International Registration Authority for Cultivar Names in this genus, is often asked where this or that particular form may be obtained and it therefore seemed incumbent upon us to attempt to compile this information.

In the meantime we urge all of you who are aware of the whereabouts of unusual magnolias or who know of nurseries which specialize in this group of plants to transmit this knowledge to your president so that it may be incorporated in his files.

—J. M. F., JR.



*Magnolia stella* 'Water Lily', Scott Arboretum,  
Swarthmore, Pa.  
Photo: Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.





*Magnolia grandiflora*, Morris Arboretum,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Photo: J. M. Fogg, Jr.

## Dues For 1965

ANNUAL DUES in the amount of \$2.00 are now payable to our Treasurer, Mr. D. Todd Gresham, 103 Frederick Street, Santa Cruz, California. If, upon reading this statement, you will be so kind as to remit to him directly, you will avoid the cost of billing you and the pennies thus saved can be applied toward the publication and mailing of future numbers of the NEWSLETTER.

## New Members

THE SOCIETY IS HAPPY TO WELCOME the following members who have been enrolled since March 1, 1964:

- Brown, Mrs. Hillyer, 3045 Ralston Avenue, Hillsborough, California.  
Callaway, Mr. William C., 375 Coleridge Ave., Palo Alto, California.  
Cheston, Mrs. James, Dawesfield, Ambler, Pennsylvania.  
Clark, Mr. James, Dept. of Grounds, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.  
Clarke, Mr. James F., J. Clarke Nursery Co., P. O. Box 343, San Jose, California.  
Darts, Mrs. E. C., 1606 Coast Meridian Road, R. R. 4, White Rock, B. C., California.  
Dintenfass, Mrs. Benjamin, Lantern Lane, Penllyn, Pennsylvania.  
FitzSimmons, Edward R., 14th & Franklin Sts., Suite 815, Financial Center Bldg., Oakland 12, California.  
Galeener, Mr. Edwin, Vienna Nursery, Vienna, Illinois.  
Grier, Miss Helen, 315 East Nutwood Ave., Fullerton, California.  
Hanscam, Mr. Carl, 60 Washington Park Avenue, Mill Valley, California.  
Hume, Mr. Edward P., Physical Plant Office, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois.  
Janson, Mrs. C. H., 58 7 North Garfield Court, Kansas City 18, Missouri.  
John James Audubon Foundation, Baton Rouge 2, Louisiana.  
Lamond, Mrs. Kathryn B., 509 Mulberry Lane, Haverford, Pennsylvania.

- Los Angeles State & Co. Arboretum, Box 688, Arcadia, California.  
Mallet, Mme. André, 12 Boulevard de Courcelles, Paris 17EME, France.  
Mallozzi, Mrs. Louis, 345 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Ambler, Pennsylvania.  
Noble, Hon. Michael, Cairndow, Argyllshire, Scotland.  
Nordine, Mr. Roy M., The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois.  
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 325 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19106.  
Phetteplace, Dr. Carl H., 634 Eugene Medical Center, Eugene Oregon.  
Pierce, Mrs. Samuel S., 110 Ruggles Lane, Milton, Massachusetts.  
Poniatoff, Mr. Alexander M., 141 Tuscaloosa Avenue, Atherton, California.  
Rowe, Mrs. Stanley M., Sr., 4500 Muchmae Road, Cincinnati 43, Ohio.  
Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, London, S.W. 1, England.  
Schneider, Mr. Gerd K., P. O. Box 474, Aptos, California.  
Smart, Mrs. Alice F., P. O. Box 4, Leesburg, Florida.  
Smith, Mr. J. Andrew, 27 Williams Street, Princeton, New Jersey.  
Spreter, Mrs. Roy F., 28 W. State Road, Gladwyne, Pennsylvania.  
Stephenson, Mr. J. W., 14878 Heather Drive, San Jose 24, California.  
Sugawara, Mr. Peter, 1325 Freemon Ave., Los Altos, California.  
Templeton, Mrs. Jewel W., 600 S. High Street, Winchester, Tennessee.  
N.B.—A conscientious effort has been made to send a copy of our FIRST NEWSLETTER to each newly enrolled member of the Society. If, through some oversight, you failed to receive yours please notify Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr., Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia 18, Pa.

## Corrections

- Allen, Mrs. John M., 3645 Crestline Way, Soqual, California.  
Amason, Mr. Carl R., 922202 R.F., Calion, Arkansas.  
Brantley, Mr. Bill, The Muncie Star, Muncie, Indiana.  
Buckley, Dr. A. R., Plant Research Institute, Ottawa, Canada.  
Darden, Mr. Roy W., Route K, Cedar Hill, Tennessee.  
Gray, Mrs. Irma, 1136 Parker Nursery, Panama City, Florida.  
Hunter, Mr. Isaac R., Route 3, Dowagiac, Michigan.  
Huntington Library & Art Gallery, San Marino, California.  
Moudry, Mr. Gerald J., Park Horticulturist, Cylburn Park, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore 9, Maryland.  
Parsons, Mr. Henry, 1200 California Street, San Francisco, California.  
Serrit, T. M., 4781 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Long Beach, California.  
Shride, Mr. C. L., Oakford, Illinois.  
Sommer, Mr. Samuel C., 534 Hauser Blvd., Los Angeles, California.  
Williams, Mrs. Olive H., Box 544, Eustis, Florida.