Magnolias in my London Garden

by A. W. MASSEY

(This list of Magnolias thriving in a London town-garden was part of a personal letter from Mr. Massey to myself. His fine selection of species seemed well worth sharing with the membership, and I trust he will not object to the letter being published as an article). P.J.S.

Here is a list of the Magnolias in my garden:
M. X ‘Watsonii’ - Two big plants. Far and away the finest flowers of any!
M. X ‘Thompsoniana’ - Two big plants. Always full of fragrant flowers from June 'till August.
M. virginiana - Three big plants. Two bloom well, but one has never bloomed.
M. salicifolia - Two big plants, and always plenty of flowers.
M. obovata* - One young plant, no bloom.
M. officinalis - Good sized tree but no flowers yet.
M. liliflora ‘Nigra’ - Two plants of fair size have flowered.
M. macrophylla - One plant two feet high.
M. kobus var. stellata - Two plants in tubs, one the ordinary white, the other ‘Rosea’. I am not fond of stellata, but my wife likes them.
M. X soulangiana - One plant of ordinary form. Good
  Two ‘Picture’ from Pickard. Excellent.
  One ‘Burgundy’ from Pickard. Nice pink.
  One ‘Broozzoni’. Not bad.
  One ‘Rustica Rubra’. Big shrub, few flowers.
  Two ‘Lennei’. Good.
  One ‘Alba Superba’. Very good.
M. gloiosa - Two plants that grow very slowly. Not good.
M. denudata - One magnificent tree, a real sight every spring! Have also ordered from Treseder’s of Truro; M. ashei and M. X ‘Charles Coates’.

How’s that for being an optimist!

* = M. hypoleuca.