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- COVER -

This beautifully backlighted photo of a flower of *Magnolia wilsonii* was taken by M. S. member Mr. Brian F. Savage at his home in Rushwick, Worcester, England.

Flowers of *M. wilsonii* average much larger than those of its close relative *M. sieboldii*, and when open face downward (rather than outward as do those of the latter species).

M. wilsonii would seem to grow particularly well in Britain and northern Europe, and several writers there have noted prolific self-seeding. Seeds are quite small and often remain dormant until the year after planting. They have great vitality and you can count on a good crop. Member Karl Flinck grows it well in both Switzerland and Sweden and in the latter country it not only thrives but has been crossed with *M. hypoleuca* by Dr. Tor Nitzelius at the botanical garden at Goteborg, Sweden.

A fine plant of this species having more than the usual number of tepals bloomed for many years at Westcroft Gardens in Michigan, and appeared indifferent to below zero cold in mid-winter only to be killed stone dead by a freakish October frost of seventeen degrees.

M. X highdownensis is a putative hybrid of this species and *M. sinensis*, also of western China. They are very closely related members of section Oyama, and the hybrid, if it is one, breeds true to type. — Ed.