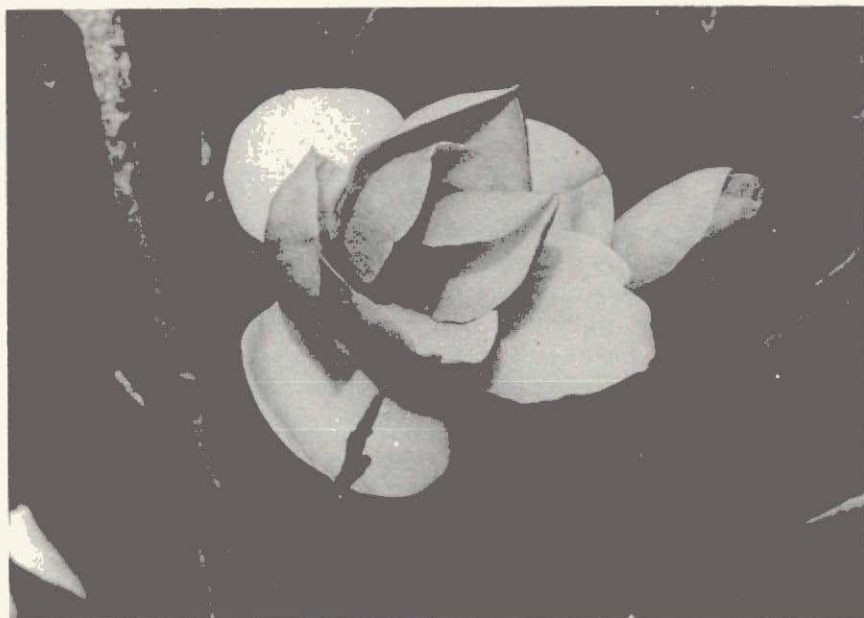


Magnolia X 'Iolanthe' and M. Nitida in New Zealand

Mr. Os. Blumhardt of R.D. 9, Whangarei, New Zealand is not quite our southernmost member. He's on North Island, and we have another nurseryman, Trevor Davies, at New Plymouth, North Island, N.Z.



M. X 'Iolanthe' photo copyright, Northern Advocate.

Blumhardt has been propagating the hybrid *M. X 'Iolanthe'*, an origination of another New Zealander, Felix Jury, and in 1976 has tried crossing 'Iolanthe' with other magnolias. He writes "I made some pollinations with 'Iolanthe' this year. No seed set on 'Iolanthe', although Felix Jury says it does set seed . . . I did get sets from 'Iolanthe' onto *liliflora*, *liliflora* 'Nigra', 'Lennei' and 'Alexandrina', but was loath to sacrifice the blooms to get pollen so few crosses were made.

"My main tree of 'Iolanthe' is now in its fifth year from grafting and has flowered twice. At its first flowering it neither set seed nor had any pollen. This year it had pollen in most blooms . . . I expect with more maturity it will also seed. I would expect it to be reasonably hardy as it has a reasonably long dormancy, coming into flower and leaf about the same time as 'Lennei' (its seed parent) . . .