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A Note About This Issue

This box is where we usually comment on the
cover illustration, but Magnolia kobus 'Merrill'
needs no help from an editor to capture both at-
tention and affection, so we'll take this space to
talk about our noble experiment of dropping in
distribution maps of 8 American magnolias
throughout Phil Savage's article, "Gathering
Gold Dust," within. M. acuminata, grandiflora,
and virginiana appeared in Vol. 1, Atlas of U.S.
Trees (1971), by E. M. Little, U.S. Forest Ser-
vice. The other five appeared in Vol. 4, Atlas of
U.S. Trees - Minor Eastern Hardwoods (1977) by
the same author and publisher. The question is
whether the drastic reduction in size of these
maps in our reproduction will still give AMS
members a reasonably good idea of the distribu-
tion pattern of each species. On the M. virgi-
niana map we shaved off one small part of the
range at Cape Ann, Massachusetts.