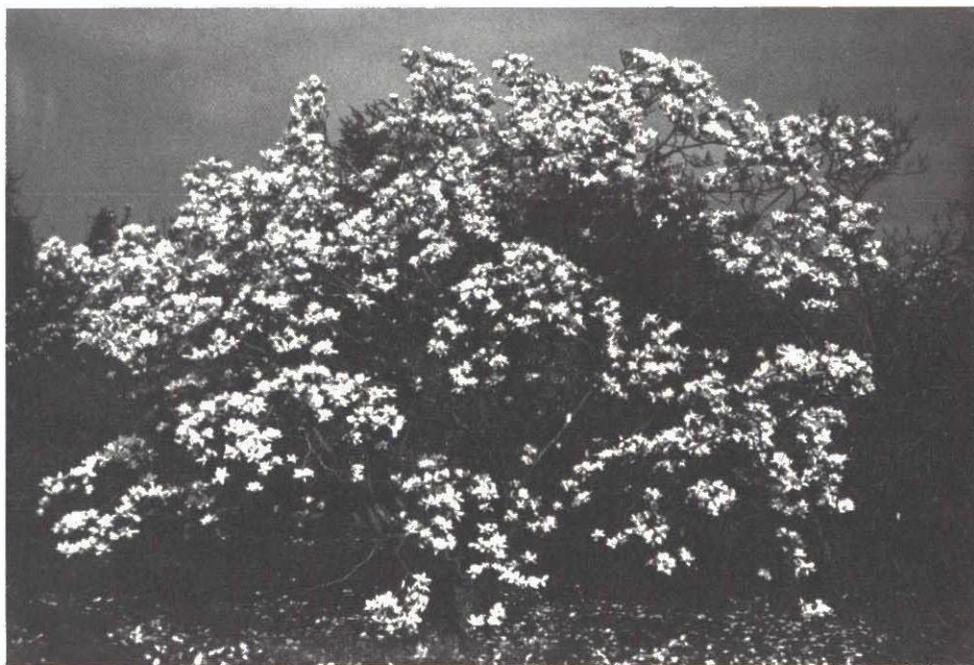


Magnolia Wilsonii var. Nicholsoniana Wilson in¹⁹ ____

This Magnolia is distinguished from the parent species by its leaves, which on adult trees are glabrous or virtually so, except on the primary nerves of the lower surface. The year-old shoots are often pale colored but this is by no means a constant character. At one time I thought the assemblage of differences sufficient to distinguish it as a separate species and my colleague, Alfred Rehder, and myself described it as *M. nicholsoniana*. My mature judgement now, however, is that it is doubtful if it should be distinguished

even as a form. Confusion has been caused in gardens by an error on my part. The type of this plant is my #838, but the seeds sent under this number belong not to this species but to *M. globosa*. Seeds of Nicholson's Magnolia were sent mixed with those of *M. wilsonii* and those who have a number of plants of this species growing in their gardens should watch out for the glabrescent form. It certainly is in cultivation somewhere and will sooner or later crop up. As a matter of fact, some of the plants



Magnolia denudata 'Japanese clone' at Domoto Nursery in Japan, said to be the source of U.S. plants of this clone name.

The Round Robin

The chairman of the Round Robin Program will be very pleased to hear from any Society member who would like to write in a Robin group or who would like to know more about the program than is explained in the following paragraphs.

The editor explained what a Round Robin is in the last issue of *MAGNOLIA*. You may be interested in how it works. A Round Robin is a group of 8 to 10 members who circulate letters via a route list. In addition to the informative and friendly letters, slides, colored prints, copies of articles from other publications, technique instruction

sheets, and so forth, are frequently shared.

Your experiences in growing magnolias are of interest too. Your questions stimulate thought—sometimes research—and answers are shared with the group.

The packet of Robin letters makes two or occasionally three flights a year, so participation does not become a burden. On the other hand, the information and the good fellowship shared in these small groups means added pleasure from your A.M.S. membership. Why not let the Robin chairman hear from you?—Virginia Melnick, Rt. 6, Box 347A, Jackson, Tenn. 38301.

growing in Kew Gardens under the name of *M. wilsonii* would appear from what Stapf says in the Botanical Magazine to represent our form of *Nicholsoniana*.²⁰

19. Wilson left this entry incomplete and without a reference, suggesting that he planned to publish the variety as a new combination. Rehder and Wilson had previously published *Magnolia nicholsoniana* in Sargent, *Plantae Wilsonianae* 1: 394.1913. In 1939 Rehder did publish *Magnolia wilsonii* forma *nicholsoniana* (Rehder & Wilson) Rehder, *Jour. Arnold Arb.* 20: 91.1939. Spongberg (*Jour. Arnold Arb.* 57: 277.1976) does not accept forma *nicholsoniana* in a clear-cut manner and indicates the mixtures in the trade by citing "*M. nicholsoniana* Hort. not Rehder & Wilson" under *M. sieboldii* subsp. *sinensis*.

20. Wilson did not finish this entry, and the manuscript has a gap followed by two unassociated sentences regarding *Magnolia taliensis*. The significant statement here is Wilson's admission that "confusion has been caused in gardens by an error on my part."

Grandiflora x Coco

This cross (*Magnolia grandiflora* × *M. coco*) was made about 12 years ago. I was able to raise about a dozen seedlings of which most were very scraggly and unattractive. Of the lot, two were somewhat interesting, yet basically like *M. grandiflora*. One was scraggly to the extent of being like a vine. Unfortunately, I lost this plant. The other (from which came the seed offered in 1980 by the Society Seed Counter) is a very compact, well shaped tree which is fast growing. The leaves and flowers are of only moderate size....

Although the original cross was bagged, I cannot be sure of what transpired. The seedlings could be some sort of apomicticism of one type or another. I would be happy to submit vegetative material for those interesting in making a chromosome count...—S. Christopher Early, Atlanta.