I have been growing magnolias at Green Bay Area more than ten years and have observed many plantings here. Contrary to many beliefs, magnolias are hardy and make excellent garden plants if windswept areas are avoided.

Here in Green Bay our average winter low is -15 to -20°Fahr. (zone 5a) and low of 26 below was set in the record cold winter of 1978-79. Magnolias that have survived our very cold winters of 1977-78 and 1978-79 bushy tree 30 feet high in the nursery of fellow member Ken Durio. I sent Ken scionwood of *M. × foggii* last winter, and he reported good success in grafting different clones onto understocks of *M. figo*. I am sure that in another year Ken will be able to supply grafted plants of the best hybrid clones at a reasonable price. You can check by writing Ken Durio Jr., Sunset Road, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, Louisiana, 70570.

The largest plants of the original seedlings are over 12 feet tall, with a couple of hundred flower buds each, and should be quite pretty next spring in the coolhouse. I have no plans to try them outdoors in Michigan!

*M. figo* is, surprisingly, about the only species of this beautiful genus in widespread cultivation outside the Asian continent. The yellow flowered *M. champaca* is widely grown in India and down through the Malay peninsula. A white flowered form is thought by some to be a sport of typical *M. champaca* propagated by grafting. Other tropical botanists feel it may be a natural hybrid of *M. champaca* and another Malayan species, *M. montana*. A photo of a fine tree of this ‘Alba’ form is in “Wayside Trees of Malaya,” by E.J.H. Corner.

The drawings on this and the next page are sketches of a proposed plaque and certificate of the first annual D. Todd Gresham awards (in memory of D. Todd Gresham) to those who have done most to further the objectives of the American Magnolia Society. Presentations were made at the Harvard meeting to Jack Fogg and Joe McDaniel, who helped found the Society and are active in its affairs.
include *M. × soulangiana*, *M. × loebneri ‘Merrill,’* *M. virginiana*, *M. quinquepeta nigra,* and *M. × ‘Pinkie.’* I have added many new varieties to my collection, but am unable to speak for their hardiness at this time.

I find a great variation in the hardiness of *M. × soulangiana,* some trees here in Green Bay growing and flowering well and attaining a height of 20 to 30 feet, while others fail.

Since local nurseries sell only *M. stellata* and *M. × soulangiana,* one must order named cultivars from out-of-state nurseries. Because of this, few named cultivars of *M. × soulangiana* have been tried in this area. My *M. quinquepeta nigra,* *M. virginiana,* and *M. × ‘Pinkie’* have grown to a height of 8-10 feet in the past five years and seem to be tolerant of Green Bay winters, although they do suffer some tip kill in cold winter.

In the Twin Cities area of Minneapolis-St. Paul (zone 4a) there is a nice collection of magnolias in the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Plants that appear to be doing well there include *M. tripetala,* *M. acuminata,* *M. × kewensis ‘Wada’s Memory,’* *M. × loebneri ‘Merrill,’* *M. stellata ‘Centennial,’* and *M. × ‘Ricki’* (the hardiest of the 8 ‘Little Girls’).

... Short Takes

A simpler pollen collection method than the one he recommended in *Magnolia* a year ago has been suggested by August E. Kehr, who operates the Society’s magnolia Pollen Bank (his address is on page 2):

“Remove the anthers from 2-10 freshly opened flowers (using tweezers) and dry them about 24 hours in a warm, dry place, such as the kitchen. Then tap the pollen out on a sheet of onionskin paper and fold it up. Send the pollen to me this way in thin paper—not plastic or aluminum foil. The latter two methods encourage molds and spoilage—no air.” August notes that the lack of adequate supplies of pollen for the Pollen Bank may result from the procedures he outlined a year ago, and commented: “It’s perhaps better to have more member participation at a level short of perfection than little or no participation at a perfection level.”

- Brian Savage has been asked to do an article on Magnolias for the Royal Horticultural Society’s next *Rhododendron, Camellia,* and *Magnolia Annual.*