

the excessive callus, the necrotic line, and the eventual clean break) all points to long term incompatibility.

But this doesn't *completely* rule out the potential for a compatible union between magnolia and tuliptree. This latter possibility seems enhanced by the robust growth exhibited by the *M. tripetala* graft. A good vascular connection had to exist for this high rate of growth to take place. Growing so fast so quickly could have contributed to the excessive callus buildup as well as to the eventual destruction of the graft by making it topheavy and overly susceptible to windload.

I hope this article encourages more members to experiment with this and other *Magnolia/Liriodendron* graft combinations. Those in the eastern United States may yet find a use for all those unwanted tuliptrees that appear in our gardens year after year.

**Epilogue.** In the fall of 1984 the author tried 4 buds of *M. hypoleuca* on *L. tulipifera*. All failed to take.

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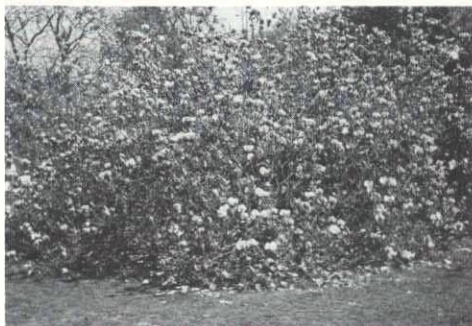
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## Shaping Magnolias

By Charles E. Main

In late April 1984, I took off for England several days before I joined the Missouri Botanic Gardens tour of villas and gardens of Italy.

I landed at Gatwick Airport and



Wide *M. × soulangiana* in England.

took the train to Victoria Station and from there to my hotel via taxi. The taxi route from Victoria to Piccadilly goes by Buckenham Palace. The windows in the taxi were down, for the weather was fabulous—the finest spring since they have been keeping records. So many flowers were in bloom that I could smell them.

On Sunday I took the train to Kew and I enclose a picture of a *Magnolia × soulangiana*, a plant possibly 20 feet wide and 10 feet tall, with limbs resting on the ground. I don't know whether this plant had been trained to grow this way or whether the northern latitude caused it, but there were hundreds of blossoms at eye level. In my garden I just let this magnolia grow naturally and it grows into a large tree.

Another photo enclosed shows a clipped *Magnolia grandiflora* in front of the CIGA Hotel in the lake Como district of northern Italy. This is at Hotel Grand des Iles Barrorumees on Lake Maggiore where Ernest Hemingway wrote "A Farewell to Arms" after World War I. This tree must have been 20 to 30 feet wide and about as tall. I imagine it would be a spectacle when in bloom. Most trees of *M. grandiflora* that I saw (in Italy) were severely trimmed, almost always in pyramidal form. Trees 20 years old and in nurseries would be 8 feet tall and the trunk 36 inches wide at the base. These too would be fabulous when in bloom, but were handsome trees even without bloom.

I would like to know more about pruning magnolias. I just permit them