

bud grafts on *M. acuminata* rootstock (after unsuccessful attempts with northern *M. virginiana* rootstock). It's not now available commercially but I will try to make plants available when my plant gets big enough to hack away enough scion material.

*Magnolia splendens* and *M. portoricensis*. Plants of these Puerto Rican magnolias were germinated in our home from seed in 1982 and 1983. Both species are known for their shiny dark green leaves when growing in their native habitats. The only discernible differences between the 2 species are in the shape and pubescence of the leaves. *M. splendens* leaves are narrowly ovate/elliptic and *M. portoricensis* leaves are broadly elliptic. *M. splendens* has satiny white indumentum on stems, flower pedicles, and leaf undersides, whereas on *M. portoricensis* these parts are completely glabrous.

Although originally I was optimistic about cultivating these two species indoors, they seem much more difficult than the previously described indoor magnolias. There are frequent problems with mildew or fungus or both on the leaves. If that weren't enough, spider mites and other leaf-sucking insects love to invade the foliage. We've had some success with drenching the plants periodically with the usual fungicides and insecticides. The plants also are somewhat intolerant of direct summer sun, which often burns the leaves and buds. Both species have a hard time recovering from any of these setbacks.

Despite all this, I plan to persevere with the Puerto Rican magnolias in the hope that some day we'll be rewarded with a flower or two. When Puerto Rican magnolias are healthy, their fine foliage is really attractive and ficus-like. In fact, *M. portoricensis* bears a striking resemblance to—what else?—*Ficus magnoliifolia*.

## Once in a lifetime

More and more members are opting to enter into that exalted state conferred by lifetime membership in the Magnolia Society. If you're satisfied your affair with magnolias will remain unshaken through thick and thin, a lifetime membership can't be beat, as a smart move, and that goes double or triple if you're young. Just multiply the cost of annual membership times the years you expect to be carrying on with magnolias, and it'll give some idea of the advantages of going for the big brass ring.

Here's a roster of that enviable company so far:

Phelan Bright, Ponchatoula, Louisiana; Rainer Callies, M.D., Essen, West Germany; Tom Dodd, Jr., Semmes, Alabama; Kenneth G. Durio, Opelousas, Louisiana; John T. Gallagher, Dorset, England; Sara Gladney, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Lennarth Jonsson, Emmaboda, Sweden;

Tetsuo Magaki, Ibarski-Ken, Japan; Mary Nell McDaniel (honorary), Urbana, Illinois; Mikinori Ogisu, Tokyo, Japan; Jerry Rogers, Wakefield, Virginia; Quentin C. Schlieder, Jr., Morristown, New Jersey; Peter Sugarawa, Los Altos, California; Tina Durio Boudreaux, Crowley, Louisiana;

Alice H. Callaway, LaGrange, Georgia; R.D. Campbell, Niagara on the Lake, Ontario, Canada; Albert Durio, Opelousas, Louisiana; David P. Earnshaw, Doylestown, Pennsylvania; Dr. Frank B. Galyon, Jr., Knoxville, Tennessee;

J. Bon Hartline, Anna, Illinois; Roy Klehm, Arlington Heights, Illinois; Dan Mayer, Sussex, England; Carl Ferris Miller, Seoul, Korea; Cal Partes, Jr., Magnolia, Arkansas; Philip J. Savage (honorary), Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; George O. Slankard, Sesser, Illinois; Charles E. Tubesing, Richmond, B.C., Canada.