

*proctoriana* scatteredly hairy, and those of *M. salicifolia* quite bald. This could be confirmed by the odor of the bruised wood. *M. salicifolia* and *M. x proctoriana* smell somewhat like anise, quite different from *M. stellata*.

The two species could obviously be identified in the field while still dormant from (1) the indumentum on the pedicles, (2) the altitude at which they grew, and (3) the odor of the bruised wood. I took the examined twigs home with me and put them in a vase. After a week or so the buds of *M. salicifolia* opened and the petals were pure white, although only 2-2½ inches across. When *M. salicifolia* had finished, *M. x proctoriana* started, and *M. stellata* did not open until *M. x proctoriana* was over. All were white and rather alike, though there are many pink flowering *M. stellatas* in the wild.

Their flowering displays did not overlap in time, but were very close, which seems to suggest that *M. salicifolia* is the pollen donor in the wild. My family appreciated this display and the clean, Oriental scent. Unfortunately, no flower lasted longer than two days at room temperature of 70-75° F. Perhaps my wife changed her mind about them when the flowers shed their yellow pollen on her white tablecloth. I regret not testing its viability. This could have determined whether it is possible, when the cut is moist but the buds are kept dry, to ship dormant twigs like orchard shipments and then force them to shed viable pollen for hybridizing purposes. The flowers indoors didn't shed pollen immediately upon opening.

On the hillside all three kinds of Magnolia had the same habit, a slender, one-trunk tree about 7-8 meters high. The bark was bright-greyish but at the bottom *M. stellata* was dark to black.

My friends told me that wherever *M. stellata* grows one also can find *Acer pycnanthum* and *Chionanthus*

*retusum*. These three species are obviously companion plants and each is worth growing as an ornamental. I don't know if they are less hardy than their respective American relatives, *Acer rubrum* and *Chionanthus virginicus*. I obtained some small seedlings for testing in my garden.

Too soon I had to leave my friends and *M. stellata*, but I hope that before long Mr. Ogisu will publish his article on *M. stellata* in the wild. He regrets that American and European botanists too often rely on cultivated instead of wild specimens in their publishing studies on Far Eastern species. In his opinion there have been many mistakes because of this. However, he also pointed to some mistakes in Japan.

For example, it was not long ago that Japanese botanists became aware that the native *Magnolia sieboldii* is a high mountain form that does not thrive in the lowlands, and that the form of *M. sieboldii* generally cultivated in Japan originates from Korea. Even in Korea it's thought that the cultivated *M. sieboldii* is the Japanese, not the Korean form. Such misinformation occurs when field work is inadequate, Mr. Ogisu feels. Personally, I believe he will clear up many botanical uncertainties. We look forward to reading his study on *M. stellata*.

## Call for papers, 1987

Dr. August E. Kehr, host for the Magnolia Society's meeting next year at Hendersonville, N.C., on April 24-26, 1987, has issued a call for the titles and subjects of papers intended to be presented at the meeting. To prepare a program schedule, he asks that those who intend to present papers please send the titles and a brief description of the subject as soon as possible to the following address: August E. Kehr, 240 Tranquility Place, Hendersonville, N.C. 28739.