

until the inner tepals opened. In some cases there was no sign of pollen shedding until the tepals began to drop and the stamens did not ripen fully until all of the tepals had fallen. The same sequence of development was noticed with flowers which developed normally on the trees, but this might vary according to season."

I considered these remarks with the information under the heading, "Forcing," where Treseder says that flower buds may be forced to open at a temperature of 75-80° F. Opening may also be delayed.

Lola Koerting said in a later letter that buds should not be cut more than one day before opening. In March 1984, I had the opportunity to examine flowers at every stage of opening. To my surprise, I found that even the inner four tepals could have unfurled and the stamen boss could be completely exposed, and still the anthers would be far from dehiscing. In fact, the stigmas were still receptive. Such flowers brought in the day before had shed their pollen the next day.

I also tried some flower buds. After a couple of days indoors in a vase with water the pollen was shed from many, but not all. The ones that didn't shed, I believe, were too far from opening (sometimes 3 to 4 weeks). At times the pollen lots were rather poor from buds that were tight when cut. Those flowers that were almost finished yielded the best pollen lots and were, without any doubt, the easiest to handle at all stages, from cutting the flowers to collecting the pollen into the envelopes. All considered, it did not take me more than an hour. It was all suspiciously easy and I now wonder if this could have been due to an exceptional season.

The false *M. biondii*

by Karl Flinck

In issue 41 August Kehr raises the question about the occurrence of *M. biondii* in cultivation before the introduction 1977 by Dr. Ting.

As I might be the only person, who has the answer, I give a brief summary of this as follows:

More than 20 years ago I visited Kew Gardens, where I found a magnolia labeled *M. biondii*. I have always been interested in what I consider hybrids between *M. kobus* and *M. salicifolia* and I considered that the Kew plant belonged to this hybrid group.

I then visited Harold Hillier and mentioned my observation. I also at the same time talked about the *M. biondii* that he was offering at that time. Hillier then informed me that his nursery had made a mistake with regard to plant identity and agreed with my conclusion. He also undertook to have the plant at Kew which he had supplied, removed.

In 1976 I visited Joe McDaniel and he showed me scions from Horsmann's plant in Germany. It was the same plant that Hillier had previously distributed. I had written Horsmann when I found *M. biondii* listed from his arboretum and informed him of Hillier's error.

In 1985 I gave a Swedish magnolia grower a graft from my *M. biondii* plant. He then said that he had received a seedling of *M. biondii* raised from seeds obtained by Lennarth Jonsson from Hamilton botanic garden. I concluded from his description that here again was a progeny from Hillier's plant.

It is important that if possible all the false *M. biondiis* be traced down, as such an error has a tendency to stay alive for a long time.