Magnolia grandiflora ‘Harold Poole’
Originator: Harold Poole (Louisiana)

by Ken Durio

Original tree found among a group of gallon can seedlings. Harold noticed that it was very different and planted it near his pond about 13 years ago. He recognized that it was very compact and had long narrow lance-shaped, glossy, dark green leaves. Limbs and leaves were closely spaced and it looked more like Viburnum japonicum than a Magnolia grandiflora.

It is now (1987) 8 or 9 feet wide and 12 to 15 feet tall at 15 years of age. Very compact and very attractive. It produced the first blooms in 1987. These were about 6 to 8 inches across with 9 tepals.

It is more shrub-like than tree-like and a very compact upright grower. The narrow strap-like leaves average 1½ inches wide and 8 inches long. Glossy dark green above and medium green felting underneath.