



*M. sieboldii* in Ås, Sweden

## Sieboldii of the North

Evert Nilsson gardens in conditions most of us fortunately only experience in our nightmares. With temperatures frequently dropping to  $-40^{\circ}\text{F}$  in January and average summer temperatures only reaching  $55^{\circ}\text{F}$ , it can truly be said that his situation is less than ideal. Nevertheless, as the photo attests, magnolias or, rather, a magnolia can be grown even within 250 miles of the Arctic Circle. Ås (in Jämtland at  $63^{\circ}15'\text{N}$ ) is located at approximately the same latitude as Trondheim, Norway. In a letter to Lennarth Jonsson, Mr. Nilsson stated that "My *M. sieboldii* has grown better

this summer than ever since you told me to water it with warm water early in the spring. And in the unusually warm summer, it has been watered quite often. The leaves have never been as large as in this summer. Unfortunately, it did not flower as it was badly damaged as the maturing never occurred in the record cold and rainy summer in 1987. It has been damaged sometimes before but never so bad as in the winter 1987-88. This year it seems to be doing well, and the leaves are by now turning yellow (mid-October, 1988)."

With congratulations to Mr. Nilsson for his forbearance, goes a request to our members to determine if anyone further north (or south) grows magnolias.

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