

in his *Magnolias* (1927)<sup>1</sup> and by G. H. Johnstone in his *Asiatic Magnolias in Cultivation* (1955). Even Dandy avoided their use in his "Survey of the Genus *Magnolia*" (1950), referring to them only as early synonyms for *M. denudata* and *M. liliiflora* respectively. He had obviously observed a strict moratorium on *Magnolia* nomenclature.

But it was probably only a matter of time before one of a younger generation of botanists would decide to apply rigidly the rule of priority<sup>2</sup> which has led to so many changes in the plant nomenclature of the past.

Originating as they do from the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, an establishment recognized from the time of Sargent, Rehder and Wilson as one of the leading world authorities on *Magnoliaceae*, it seems certain that these changes in nomenclature will eventually be adopted, no matter how unpalatable they may seem.

My comments bear no criticism of Dr.

Stephen Spongberg, for whom I have the highest regard and pleasant recollections of his visit to Cornwall in 1975.

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<sup>1</sup> Curtis's Botanical Magazine describes this plant under *Lycium japonicum*: "The flowers are somewhat like jasmine, but without scent, as is the whole plant if not bruised. But if you strongly squeeze a flower bud or the tip of a young shoot betwixt your thumb and finger you will perceive a smell highly disgusting, which Kaempfer likens to human ordure."

<sup>2</sup> In 1926 Dandy was working in the Herbarium at Kew and had prepared an up-to-date "Key to the Species" for publication in the Millais book.

<sup>3</sup> Editor's Note: How this rule works and its relative inflexibility were discussed in an article on "new" names in *Magnolia* by J. C. McDaniel in Vol. XII No. 2 (Fall-Winter 1976), page 4.

## Review: Hortus Third

*Hortus Third*: by staff of the Bailey Hortorium and selected collaborators. MacMillan Co., N.Y. pp. 1304. 1976 (second printing 1977).

This large volume, now in its second printing, is still worth the \$99.50 list price, despite some imperfections. The descriptions of 20,397 species and subspecific taxa in 3,301 genera will give the nonspecialist a quick summary of predominantly accurate data on most plants now cultivated in the United States and Canada, including hybrids and cultivars. No other work covers so many plants so well for North American conditions. It is an enlargement and improvement from *Hortus Second* (1941) by L. H. Bailey and Ethel Zoe Bailey, and follows the tradition set by L. H. Bailey's massive *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture* first published in two volumes in 1914. In *Hortus Second's* 778 pages there were very few illustrations (a total of 22 figures under "graftage," "propagation," and "pruning"). *Hortus Third* omits the "pruning" illustrations, but has numerous drawings that illustrate characteristics of horticulturally important plant families.

Other valuable new features include author citations to botanical names, a large appendix of common names, a list of botanical authors, a

hardiness zone map, and hardiness zone ratings for many woody and other perennial plants.

The book is well printed on good paper and well bound. What is perhaps inevitable in a compilation of this kind, with its numerous collaborators, is that some articles lack a few years being completely up to date in nomenclature and in lists of cultivars. In *Magnolia* (pp. 694-697), for which as a collaborator I had some responsibility, I find no serious omissions but the nomenclature does not reflect Dr. Stephen A. Spongberg's recent conclusions on some taxa because *Hortus Third* went to the printer before the issuance of the 1976 number of the *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* in which his article appeared on *Magnoliaceae* hardy in North America. The second printing has corrected the word "intersubgeneric" used in the first printing to apply to intersubspecific hybrids in *Magnolia campbellii*.

As David M. Bates, director of the L. H. Bailey Hortorium, writes in his preface: "It is inevitable that in a work of this scope, errors and omissions should occur. It is hoped that they are minimal, and that they will be brought to the attention of the Hortorium." Even with its imperfections, *Hortus Third* is an indispensable and monumental work. \_\_\_\_ J. C. McDaniel.