

Newly Described Chinese Magnolias

The following descriptions and illustration of unfamiliar magnolia species appeared in a book published in the Peoples Republic of China. The translations, by Judy Young of Seattle, are from *Iconographia Cormophytorum Sinicorum, Tomus 1*, also titled *Zhongguo Gaodeng Zhiwu Tujian Diyi Ce*, edited by the Botanical Research Institute of Academia Sinica, published by Kexue Chubanshe (Science Press), Beijing, 1972.

This is part of a five-volume illustrated handbook of the most common or useful plants of China.

Magnolia amoena Cheng

tianmu mulan, "Tianmu magnolia"

Deciduous tree, 8-12 meters tall; bark gray or gray-white; branchlets purplish; buds clad with soft long white hairs.

Leaves alternate, membranaceous, broadly oblanceolate-oblong or oblong, 10-15 cm long, 3.5-5 cm broad, apex long-acuminate or short-caudate, base cuneate or rounded, margin entire, veins of the lower surface hairy to the vein axils; petiole 8-11 mm long.

Flowers open before the leaves, solitary at the branch tips, cup-shaped, fragrant, about 6 cm in diameter; tepals 9, of similar shape, oblanceolate or subspatulate, about 5-5.6 cm long,



Magnolia amoena.

pink or pale pink; stamens numerous, about 9-10 mm long, filaments purplish red.

Aggregate fruit cylindrical, about 4-6 cm long; follicles few, woody, tuberculate, round or blunt at the apex.

Found on Xitianmu Shan in Zhejiang Province. Grows in the forest at an altitude of 700-1000 meters.

Magnolia zenii Cheng

baohua yulan, "Baohua yulan"

["yulan": *Magnolia denudata* Desr.]

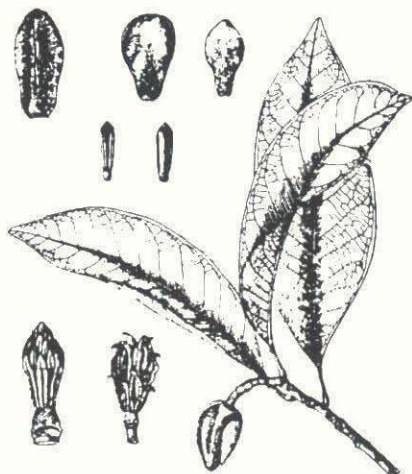
Deciduous small tree, 5-7 meters tall; bark gray or gray-white; branchlets purplish; winter buds long-elliptic, clad with long soft silky hairs.

Leaves membranaceous, oblong-ovate or oblong, 7-16 cm long, 3-7 cm broad, apex abruptly acute, base cuneate or nearly rounded, margin entire, upper surface glabrous, lower surface pale; veins hairy, lateral veins 10-12 pair, slightly prominent on the lower surface; petiole about 6-15 mm long.

Flowers open before the leaves, solitary at the branch tips, fragrant, about 12 cm in diameter; pedicel 2-6 mm long, densely white-hairy; tepals 9, spatulate, about 7-8 cm long, the upper part white, the lower half and veining



Magnolia zenii.



Magnolia albosericea.

purple; stamens numerous, filaments red.

Aggregate fruit cylindrical, about 5-7 cm long; follicles woody, tuberculate.

Found on Baohua Shan in the Jurong area of Jiangsu Province. Grows in the forest.

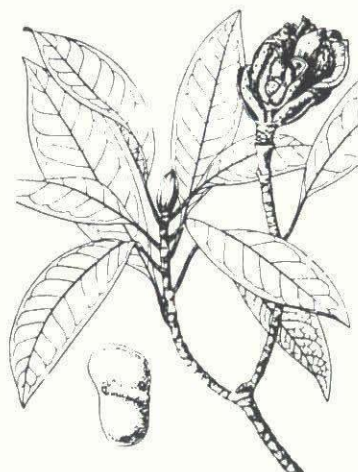
Magnolia albosericea Chun et C. Tsoong
juanmao mulan, "silky-haired magnolia"

Evergreen small tree, to 8 meters tall; bark gray, the immature portions densely clad with silky white hairs.

Leaves coriaceous, elliptic or narrowly elliptic or oblanceolate-elliptic, 18-40 cm long, 6-15 cm broad, apex acuminate but blunt-tipped, base cuneate or narrowly cuneate, upper surface dark green and lustrous, lower surface pale and clad with soft white hairs; lateral veins 15-20 pair; petiole stout, 1-3.5 cm long; stipule adnate to the petiole, the stipule scar extending to the top of the petiole.

Flowers solitary at the branch tips, the flower bud wrapped in a spathe-like bract of 3 sections which drop off one after another; pedicels stout, 1.5-2 cm long, with dense silky hairs; tepals 9, white, arranged in 3 whorls, the 3 lobes of the outer whorl longest, long-elliptic, 4.6 cm long, the other lobes obovate, the 3 lobes of the inner whorl shorter, about 3 cm long.

Aggregate fruit long-obovoid, about



Magnolia lotungensis.

4.5 cm long; follicles coriaceous, with a reflexed beak at the tip.

Endemic to Guangdong Province (Hainan). Grows in mixed forest mountain slopes or beside streams.

Magnolia lotungensis Chun et C. Tsoong
ledong mulan, "Ledong magnolia"

Evergreen tree, to 20 meters tall, 90 cm in diameter, the entire plant glabrous; bark gray-white, branchlets coarse, dark brown.

Leaves stiff-coriaceous, elliptic or narrowly elliptic, 6-11 cm long, 2.5-3.5 cm broad, apex acute, base cuneate, margin cartilaginous, entire, and somewhat revolute, upper surface lustrous, dark brown when dried; petiole 1.5-2 cm long, stipule not adnate to the petiole, with no stipule scar.

Scar about 2-3 cm long remaining on axis of the fruit after stamen bundle drops; pistil stalk about 4-5 mm long.

Aggregate fruit obovoid or ovoid-oblong, 3.5-4 cm long, about 3 cm in diameter; follicles 10-12, elliptic, 18-22 mm long, 12 mm broad, the apex mucronulate; 1-2 seeds within each carpel, red, flat, oblong or elliptic-ovate.

Distributed in Guangdong Province (Hainan) and Hunan Province.

[Ledong is a town on Hainan Island.] Grows in open areas of mountain-valley forests. Wood is used in construction.