

Magnolia Cultivar Registrations 1992

by DOROTHY J. CALLAWAY, Registrar

'Albatross' (*Magnolia cylindrica* x *Magnolia* x *veitchii* 'Peter Veitch') This plant, which has by now become known to many magnolia enthusiasts, originated at Trewithen in 1970. *M. cylindrica* is the seed parent. 'Albatross' flowered ten years later and was introduced by Peter Borlase, Head Gardener at Lanhydrock Gardens, Cornwall. It is fully described in Kew Magazine volume 2, part 1, by Christopher Grey-Wilson and Michael Lear. The flowers are 23-30 cm across, white inside flushed with green towards the base on the outside. The stamens have crimson anthers and pink filaments.

'Flamingo' (*Magnolia acuminata* 'Fertile Myrtle' x *Magnolia sprengeri* 'Diva'). This hybrid was produced by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, using 'Fertile Myrtle' as the seed parent. The hybrid bloomed at about 14 years of age. It is a very symmetrical, pyramidal tree with dense foliage resembling the pollen parent. The flowers are brilliant, unfading flamingo pink, and are borne slightly before the leaves are produced. The flowers have a tulip shape which is retained until shattering. Phil reports that this tree was unhurt by -29°F. Zones 4-7.

'Gold Crown' (*Magnolia* x *brooklynensis* 'Woodsman' x *Magnolia* 'Sundance') This hybrid was created by August Kehr,

Hendersonville, North Carolina, in 1984, using 'Woodsman' as the seed parent. The hybrid first bloomed 7 years later. The flowers are 9-10 inches in diameter, have 8-9 tepals of a deep yellow color (deeper than that of 'Sundance' or 'Elizabeth'). The plant is upright in habit, blooms late in the flowering season. Zone 5(4).

'Lanhydrock' (*Magnolia sprengeri*) This seedling of *M. sprengeri* 'Diva' was registered by Peter Borlase, Head Gardener at Lanhydrock Gardens, Cornwall. It originated at Trewithen in 1969 and was introduced in 1989 by David Clulow, Surrey. 'Lanhydrock' has a deeper flower color than 'Diva' and flowered at 11 years from seed.

'Laura Saylor' (*Magnolia* 'Sawada's Pink' x *Magnolia sprengeri* 'Diva') This hybrid was created in 1976 by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, using 'Sawada's Pink' as the seed parent. It is a tall, erect tree with a single leader, smooth pale gray bark, and brown, glabrous twigs. The leaves are similar to those of 'Diva' but are about one quarter smaller. The flowers are large and upright, have 9-12 tepals that are bright pink outside, white shaded with pink inside, and do not open below horizontal. Zones 4-7.

'Mary Slankard' (*Magnolia sprengeri*) This seedling of an open-

pollinated *M. sprengeri* 'Diva' was selected by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. It is described by him as "best by far of 72 seedlings from seed picked from George Slankard's 'Diva' by Joe McDaniel, and given to me at the first Philadelphia meeting." The tree and leaves are much like those of 'Diva'. The flowers have 9 tepals, the bottom half of which are rich pink, the top half pure white. The fruits are bright crimson, 14 inches long and very slender. Phil suggests that the pollen parent may be *M. denudata* and that the hybrid will probably do well in Zones 5-8. Flowered at about ten years from seed.

'Peter Borlase' (*Magnolia campbellii* var. *mollicomata*) This seedling originated at Lanhydrock Gardens, Cornwall, in 1967 and flowered in 1985, at which time it was selected by Peter Borlase, Head Gardener at Lanhydrock. It was introduced into commercial trade in 1989 by David Clulow, Surrey. It has an unusual deep rose colored flower that is smaller than the seed parent. Open-pollinated; pollen parent unknown.

'Pink Nightie' (*Magnolia fraseri* x *M. hypoleuca*). This hybrid was created by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan in 1979 using *M. hypoleuca* as the seed parent. The hybrid first bloomed in 1987. It is a straight, symmetrical tree with shiny red-brown twigs. The leaves are similar to those of *M. fraseri*, but are smaller. The flowers are tall and vase-shaped with pale pink tepals of a satiny texture; the fragrance is strong and very pleasant in early evening. Phil suggests that this

hybrid does not like dry conditions, and is hardy in Zones 4-8.

'Ridgecrest Green' (*Magnolia virginiana* var. *australis*) This hardy selection of the sweetbay has the typical upright pyramidal form, evergreen leaves and typical flowers. It has survived -12°F with no foliage damage. The original tree is 8-10 years old, 15 feet tall with a 5-6 foot spread. The tree was selected and registered by Larry Lowman, Ridgecrest Nursery, Wynne, Arkansas from a seedling purchased from Tom Dodd Nursery. It probably originated along the Gulf Coast of southern Alabama or Mississippi. Consistently evergreen and hardy.

'Rosy Cheeks' (*Magnolia hypoleuca* x *Magnolia x wieseneri*) This hybrid was created by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, in 1979 using *M. hypoleuca* as the seed parent. The hybrid first bloomed in 1988. It is a straight, symmetrical, evenly branched tree with a single leader. The bark is gray-brown and the twigs are reddish brown. The flower buds are pink, opening to flowers with 8 inner tepals of white, and 4 outer tepals of rich pink. The stamens are crimson, and the fragrance is that of *M. x wieseneri*. Zones 4-8.

'Sawada's Cream' (*Magnolia denudata*) Registered by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, this cultivar has tepals of the opening flower buds which are bright butter yellow, flowers of a particularly elegant form, and fruits which are profuse and bright crimson in color. It also sets seed heavily. This cultivar has been used by Phil Savage in his breeding program, and he suggests hardiness

to be Zones 4-8.

'Virginia Watson' (*Magnolia virginiana* x *Magnolia* x *wieseneri*) This hybrid was created by Phil Savage, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, in 1980, using *M. virginiana* as the seed parent. The hybrid bloomed at 5 years from seed. It has a habit similar to, but more spreading than, typical *M. virginiana*. The leaves are also similar to the seed parent, but are broader. The flowers open to cup-shape with eight pure white tepals. The stamens are bright crimson, as in the pollen parent. The flowers are borne upright at the end of the twig, and have a strong, pleasant fragrance intermediate between the parents. Phil reports that this hybrid is fairly shade tolerant.

'Willowleaf Bay' (*Magnolia virginiana* var. *australis*) This cultivar is selected from the evergreen variety of *Magnolia virginiana*. It has a habit which is typical of that variety, but with noticeably narrower leaves which appear to be densely clustered near the ends of the branches, giving the tree a more refined foliage texture than typical. The tree is floriferous, with flowers typical in size. The flowers continue to appear in small numbers after the main flush of bloom. The original tree is about 10 years old, 20 feet tall with a 5-6 foot spread. It was planted in an exposed location, yet survived -12°F with no foliage damage. It has also survived severe early fall and late spring freezes with no damage. 'Willowleaf Bay' is reported to grow rapidly under nursery conditions, and cuttings from juvenile plants root well after treatment with 5000 ppm

IBA quick dip. This selection was made by Larry Lowman, Ridgecrest Nursery, Wynne Arkansas, from seedling nursery stock purchased from Tom Dodd Nursery that probably originated along the Gulf Coast in southern Alabama or Mississippi. It is registered by Larry Lowman and specimens have been distributed to Shadow Nursery, Winchester, Tennessee, Shaw Arboretum, Gray's Summit, Missouri, and to the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. ■

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