

## New Cultivar Registrations

**Dorothy J. Callaway, Registrar**

### **'Anticipation' (open-pollinated *M. cylindrica*)**

This very vigorous growing tree produces white flowers up to 10 inches (25.5cm) in diameter. It flowers early in the season and should be planted where there are few or no spring frosts. 'Anticipation' may be similar to 'Albatross' in growth habit and appearance of flowers. Grown by August Kehr from seed he acquired from the Magnolia Society Seed Counter. The seed was listed as *M. cylindrica*, but this plant is probably a hybrid. Previously known as *M. cylindrica* Kehr Form and #3-18 in Kehr's collection. Selected in 1990 and registered in 1999 by August Kehr. Offered by Eisenhut, Switzerland.

### **'Daisy Diva' (*M. sprengeri* 'Diva' × *M. soulangeana* 'Lennei Alba')**

This upright tree [19 1/2 feet (6m) tall in 14 years] flowers mid-season with flowers all along the branches. The flowers are white with a basal stain of purple, fading toward the tips of the tepals. The flowers have 12-14 tepals, each reflexing on maturity to a "daisy." The flowers are 9 1/2 to 11 1/2 inches (25-30 cm) across; the tepals resemble a white *M. sprengeri* 'Diva,' and the leaves also resemble 'Diva.' 'Daisy Diva' does not appear to root easily. Originated as seed from the Magnolia Society seed counter. Selected in 1986 and registered in 1999 by Dr. M. L. A. Robinson, England. Dr.

Robinson will swap scions (contact him at mlarob@hotmail.com) and plants are available from Wim Rutten ([www.magnoliastore.com](http://www.magnoliastore.com)). (See photo.)

### **'Eskimo' (*M.* × *soulangeana* 'Lennei' × *M. kobus* 'Norman Gould')**

This very vigorous tree produces flowers of a very light lavender that appear white from a distance. The open flowers will withstand 4-5 degrees of frost. It is fertile as a seed parent in crosses. Previously identified as tree #R11-17. Selected in 1990 and registered in 1999 by August Kehr, who created this hybrid. Hardy in zones 4-7.

### **'Golden Endeavor' (*M. acuminata* 'Miss Honeybee' × *M. acuminata* 'Sundance')**

This spreading tree produces flowers of a very deep yellow. Flowers appear early May in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Tree is 14 feet (4.3 m) tall at 12 years of age. Hardy in zones 5 to 7. Created by August Kehr and selected by him in 1988, registered in 1999. (See photo.)

### **'Hot Flash' (*M.* 'Woodsman' × *M.* 'Elizabeth')**

This hybrid produces very deep yellow flowers and is hardy in zones 5-8. It was created by August Kehr, selected in 1992 and registered in 1999.



M. L. A. ROBINSON



AUGUST KEHR

**Top:** 'Daisy Diva.' Flowers mid-season with flowers all along the branches; The flowers are white with a basal stain of purple, fading toward the tips of the tepals.

**Bottom:** 'Golden Endeavor.' Deep yellow flowers appear early May in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

**'March Til Frost' [(*M. liliiflora* × *M. cylindrica* hybrid) × *M. 'Ruby'*]**

This hybrid, created and registered by August Kehr, flowers continuously throughout the summer; the peduncle is upright, holding the developing seed structure upright like candles. The fruit become reddish in the fall and are somewhat ornamental. Most flowers are produced from axillary buds (proleptic flowers) before the leaves appear. Hardy in zones 5-7, this plant is probably a polyploid. Previously known as tree #R19-63. Selected in 1997 and registered in 1999.

**'Mystery' (*M. grandiflora* 'Little Gem' × *M. sieboldii* 'Genesis'—parentage questionable)**

The flowers of this hybrid are white and typical of *M. grandiflora*. The plant is small in stature and roots very easily from green wood cuttings. It is very cold tolerant for a hybrid with *M. grandiflora* in it (at least to zone 7, possibly 5-6) as it withstood temperature conditions that killed back a "hardy" *M. grandiflora* next to it. The selection has unusual secondary netting of the leaves, typical of that found on *M. sieboldii* × *M. virginiana* hybrids. The hybrid was made by August Kehr, selected in 1995 and registered in February 2000. It is commercially available from Taylor's Nursery, Raleigh, North Carolina. Previously described in *Magnolia*, issue 28(1). In a letter accompanying the registration, Dr. Kehr states: The name 'Mystery' refers mainly to the parentage, which is a mystery.



DNA evaluations only raised more questions because there was only a 2% chance that parentage given is correct. Despite this, it was shown to be a hybrid and not a self of 'Little Gem.' It definitely is very hardy because it was untouched by cold, while a plant of *M. grandiflora*, '24 Below,' was killed to the ground. *M. sieboldii* is very hardy. In spite of the DNA evaluations, I am inclined to believe the parentage is correct, based on secondary veining on the top surface of the leaves. It is identical to that found in the hybrid of *M. sieboldii* 'Genesis'  $\times$  *M. virginiana*. In addition, the reciprocal cross (that is, *M. sieboldii* polyploid female  $\times$  *M. grandiflora* 'Sweet Summer') is typical of *M. grandiflora* in having evergreen leaves despite its *M. sieboldii* seed parent.

**'Pastel Beauty' (*M. acuminata*  $\times$  *M. veitchii* 'Peter Veitch')**

This selection, made and named by August Kehr, is a spreading tree with light pink flowers and yellow undertones. The flowers appear late, after frost. The tree is about 20 feet (6m) tall at 10 years of age. Hardy to at least zone 6. Registered by August Kehr, March, 2000.

**'Pink Perfection' (*M. \times loebneri* 'Encore')**

This was selected by August Kehr, the result of a self-cross of *M. \times loebneri* 'Encore.' It is a very bushy tree, slow-growing to almost dwarf; flowers are lilac-pink with more pink coloration in cool weather. Flowers have 42-48 tepals

PHILIPPE DESPOELBERCH



**'Purple Breeze.'** A very early flowering plant—flowers before *M. sprengeri* 'Diva' and 'Charles Raffill' and at the same time as 'Leda.'

and the tree is very floriferous. Selected in 1987 and registered in 1999 by Kehr. Previously known as tree #R14-29. Hardy in zones 5-7.

**'Purple Breeze' (*M. sargentiana* open-pollinated?)**

This selection, registered by Philippe de Spoelberch of Belgium, is described by Philippe as follows: The tree grew to 23 feet (7m) in 16 years; very early flowering—before *M. sprengeri* 'Diva' and 'Charles Raffill,' at the same time as 'Leda.' Massive flowering with purple tone on unopened flowers in the shade. Not very reminiscent of *M. sargentiana* 'Robusta'—more *M. sprengeri*-like.

Using the RHS Color chart, the flower is Purple 75A outside on a closed flower in the shade, with lighter purple (75B to 75D) inside from edge to center; colors are lighter in sun and on opening. Each flower has 12 to 13 tepals 4 1/2 inches  $\times$  2 inches (12cm  $\times$  5cm)

apparently small as measured in 2000), and are thin and floppy on opening. The flowers are scented (like *M. sprengeri* 'Diva'), and have an elongated gynoecium [1.8 inches (45mm)] with a narrow ring (unopened androecium) of long, purple stamens [0.98 inches (25mm)]. Unopened flower buds are held perfectly in the axis of the shoot be it vertical or horizontal (no angle to the shoot). Outstanding cut flower when brought inside; good parent of several crosses at Herkenrode (that is, fertile).

The plant was purchased in 1984 from Esveld, as *Magnolia sargentiana* var. *robusta*. It has been in this location since 1986, on good loamy soil in the arboretum. In 1985 it withstood a minimum of  $-2^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-19^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), and in 1987 a long winter and a minimum of  $-1^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-17^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). It has also withstood many late spring frosts during the following 16 years without damage to its stem or wood. It is one of the first magnolias to flower every year and flowered in 2000 (a very early season), from 12 to 30 March. Its flowers are quite resistant to morning frosts. Registered in April, 2000. (See photo.)

**'Serenade' (*M.*  $\times$  *soulangeana* 'Lennei'  $\times$  'Jon Jon')**

This medium upright tree, about 10 feet tall at 10 years of age, is floriferous, producing white flowers 8 inches (20cm) in diameter. Hardy in zones 5-8, it was selected in 1996 and registered in 1999 by August Kehr.

**'Sunburst' [*M.* 'Woodsman'  $\times$  ('Gold Star'  $\times$  *M. stellata* 'Rubra')]**

This hybrid produces flowers that are a deep yellow on a very floriferous tree, somewhat upright in habit. Hardy in zones 5-7, the tree was previously identified as #R16-22. Selected in 1997 and registered in 1999 by August Kehr. It is available from Taylor's Nursery in Raleigh, NC.

**'Sunsation' (*M.* 'Woodsman'  $\times$  *M.* 'Elizabeth')**

This very late flowering form has deep yellow flowers on a vigorous, somewhat spreading tree. Formerly #R18-60, this was bred by August Kehr, selected by him in 1997 and registered in February 2000. A fellow magnolia breeder tells Augie that this is his best yellow selection.

**'Sun Spire' (*M.* 'Woodsman'  $\times$  *M.* 'Elizabeth')**

Created by August Kehr, 'Sun Spire' has very deep yellow flowers which appear late, after frost. Thought to be hardy in zones 5-8, the tree has a very distinct fastigate growth habit. Selected in 1997 and registered in 1999 by Kehr.

