

2. MAGNOLIA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 535. 1753.

木兰属 mu lan shu

Trees or shrubs, evergreen. Bark usually gray and smooth or sometimes coarsely deeply furrowed. Twigs with annular stipular scar. Stipules membranous, free or adnate to petiole and leaving a stipular scar on petiole. Leaves spirally arranged, folded in bud, erect when young; leaf blade thickly papery or leathery, margin entire. Flowers terminal on terminal brachyblasts, solitary, bisexual, large, usually fragrant. Tepals 9–12, in 3 or 4 whorls, subequal. Stamens caducous; filaments flat; connective elongated, forming a short or long tip; anthers dehiscing introrsely. Gynoecium linked to androecium, without a gynophore. Carpels few to many, distinct; styles curved outward; ovules 2 per carpel or rarely in basal carpels 3 or 4; stigmas papillate, located in adaxial side of carpel. Fruit usually ovoid; mature carpels distinct, leathery or woody, dehiscing along dorsal sutures, apex long or shortly beaked. Seeds 1 or 2 per carpel; testa orangish red or bright red, fleshy, oily; endotesta rigid, hilum connected to placentation by filiform funiculus.

About 20 species: Central America, E and S North America, including Mexico and Antilles; one species (introduced) in China.

1. **Magnolia grandiflora** Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., ed. 10, 2: 1802. 1759.

荷花木兰 he hua mu lan

Trees, to 30 m tall but usually shorter when cultivated. Bark pale brown to gray, thinly scaly fissured. Twigs, vegetative buds, petioles, and leaf blade abaxial surfaces densely brown to grayish brown shortly tomentose but abaxial surface of young leaf blades glabrous. Twigs thick and strong. Petiole 1.5–4 cm, deeply furrowed, without a stipular scar; leaf blade elliptic, oblong-elliptic, or obovate-oblong, 10–20 × 4–7(–10) cm, thickly leathery, adaxially deep green and glossy, secondary veins 8–10 on each side of midvein, base cuneate, apex obtuse

to shortly mucronate. Flowers 15–20 cm in diam., fragrant. Tepals 9–12, white, obovate, 6–10 × 5–7 cm, thickly fleshy. Stamens ca. 2 cm; filaments purple, flat; connective exerted and forming a mucro; anthers introrse. Gynoecium ellipsoid, densely long tomentose; carpels ovoid, 1–1.5 cm; styles reclinate. Fruit terete to ovoid, 7–10 × 4–5 cm, densely brown to pale grayish yellow tomentose; mature carpels abaxially rounded, dehiscing along dorsal sutures, apex long beaked. Seeds ovoid, ca. 1.4 × 0.6 cm; testa red. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Sep–Oct. $2n = 114$.

Cultivated in provinces south of Chang Jiang [native to SE North America].

This species is widely cultivated as an ornamental and for timber.

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