

Southern Magnolia

Latin name: <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Texture: Smooth, leathery evergreen leaves ^{10,12}
Common name: Southern Magnolia	Growth rate: Slow to medium ^{6,13}
Flowers: White, 8-12" diameter ^{6,15} , showy and fragrant ¹² , bloom April- June or late spring ^{10,12}	Light: Full sun or part shade ^{6,10,12}
Fruit: 3-5" long cone that mature late summer to early fall ^{12,13}	Moisture: Prefers medium to moist soil and occasionally tolerates wet soil ^{10,19} . Intolerant of soil extremes ¹²
Height & Width: 60-80' tall with a width of 30-50' ^{6,10,13,15,19}	Soil*: Rich, porous, acid soils pH 5.5- 6.5 and well drained ^{10,19}
Type: Evergreen ^{10,12,13}	Zones: 7-9 ^{12,13}
Habit: Pyramidal ^{10,12}	Origin: Southeastern United States ^{12,16}
Wetland indicator category**: FAC, FACU ¹⁷	Ecosystem benefits: Provides food and wildlife for birds, butterflies, and hummingbirds ¹⁹

(Numbers identify sources listed on page 2-3)

Features: Magnolias flourish into expansive, lush specimens, adorned with captivating deep green foliage and extremely fragrant white blossoms^{12,13,15}. Their glossy dark green leaves, complemented by pale green to gray-brown undersides, enhance the landscape with vibrant hues and varied textures¹².

Siting: Plants thrive in locations with full sun or partial shade, and they prefer soil that is moderately to consistently moist^{10,12}. They typically do not tolerate extremely dry or waterlogged soil, so well-drained, moist soil is ideal¹³. Magnolias are excellent choices for hedges, border accents, and shade trees^{6,10}. To ensure their health, it's best to plant them in sheltered spots, away from direct wind, as strong winds can harm their glossy 4-inch leaves¹².

Care: Plant so root flare is visible at soil surface¹⁴. At planting, water the root ball daily with two gallons of water per inch of trunk diameter for two weeks, every other day for two months and then weekly until established. Modify water recommendations to reflect site drainage and rainfall. Apply 3" of mulch over the planted area. Do not allow mulch to touch the trunk¹⁴.

Pests: Plants are relatively pest resistant if cultural preferences are met^{6,12}.

This plant does not appear on the following invasive plant lists on (10-23-23): *enter date searched and check the lists that were examined*

X USDA SC Invasive Plant Species Web site at <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/main.shtml>

X SC Exotic Plant Pest Council Web site at <http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/>

Image:



Image source:

- Gardenia Creating Gardens, *Magnolia Grandiflora*, <https://www.gardenia.net/plant/magnolia-grandiflora>

Sources:

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*Soil pH is determined using a professional soil test. Contact your Clemson University County Extension service for assistance www.clemson.edu/extension/. Click on "local offices".

**2012 Plant Wetland Indicator categories (quantitative derived) <http://plants.usda.gov/wetinfo.html>

Indicator Code	Indicator Status	Comment
OBL	Obligate Wetland	Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands

Woody Plant Profile: *Magnolia grandiflora*
Choosing the Right Plant for the Right Place

FACW	Facultative Wetland	Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands
FAC	Facultative	Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte
FACU	Facultative Upland	Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands
UPL	Obligate Upland	Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands