

Magnolia x soulangeana

Saucer Magnolia, Chinese Magnolia



Magnolia x soulangeana (Saucer Magnolia, Chinese Magnolia) was marketed in 1826 as a cross-breed between *Magnolia denudata* and *Magnolia liliiflora* by Soulange-Bodin Nurseries near Paris, France. The Saucer Magnolia reaches heights of up to 6 metres - even more under favourable conditions - and has a dense vase-shaped crown, which turns into a flattened, round crown later on that can grow as wide as it is tall.

The large, grey-silver, slightly hairy buds of the Saucer Magnolia are a sight to behold and herald the gorgeous blooms all winter long. *Magnolia x soulangeana* is the tree that everyone recognises as a magnolia because of its bell-shaped, standing, whitish and pink-coloured tulips that abundantly bloom with a powerful fragrance in late April, early May. Late night frost can damage the flowers, but will not damage the tree. The thick, glossy, obovate leaves bud bright green and turn yellow-brown in autumn. The tree rarely bears fruit.

Magnolia x soulangeana is great for use in parks and gardens. But it is also great for use in squares, roof gardens, industrial locations and in tree planters - if the habitat is improved. Furthermore, the species is suitable for planting in food forests. According to Chinese herbal medicine, tea steeped from the flower petals and bark of this tree not only tastes good; it also has a healing effect. The flowers petals can also be eaten raw. *Magnolia x soulangeana* can handle wind and air pollution just fine, but it will not tolerate draught. Place the tree in an environment with nutrient-rich, moist soil, preferably in direct sunlight for an optimal result, though this species tolerates shade quite well.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, characteristic trees, solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** multi-stem umbrella

USE

Location: square, park, in containers, roof garden, large garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones | **Pavement:** none, open | **Planting concepts:** food forest

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: flattened spherical, wide vase-shaped | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 5 - 6 m | **Width:** 5 - 6 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 6A - 9B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, peaty, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic, neutral (4.5 - 6.8) | **Extreme environments:** tolerates air pollution

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: tulip-shaped, striking, singular, big, scented | **Flower colour:** white-pink, pale pink | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** bright green | **Leaves:** deciduous, obovate, thick, polished | **Autumn colour:** yellow-brown | **Fruits:** striking, rarely fruits | **Fruit colour:** red, pink | **Bark colour:** grey | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** grey-brown | **Twigs:** bare | **Root system:** deep, shallow, fleshy roots