



'Leonard Messel'



Small Flowering Tree
Deciduous

Map #

Loebner Magnolia
(*Magnolia X loebneri*)
Family: *Aceraceae*

Leaves: 4—6" long, oval with the base and tip both rounded.

Buds: alternate; both vegetative and flower are fuzzy; flower buds wider at the base and larger than the vegetative buds.

Stems: brown-purple-green and slender with gray, vertical lenticels.

Bark: older trunks, gray and sculptural.

Flowers: 9—15, long, narrow sepal-like petals; pink (varies with the cultivar). Open in mid- to late April. Often fragrant. Easily frozen by spring frosts if opens too early.

Fruits: insignificant and very sporadic.

Habit: a broad rounded small tree 20' - 30' and slightly wider at maturity.

Culture: magnolias have fleshy roots with few laterals and should be transplanted balled and burlapped or as container grown plants. Prefer deep, moist, slightly acid soils with lots of peat moss or compost. Full sun but will tolerate some light shade. Avoid microclimates that encourage early spring flowering since late freezes can damage flowers. Loebner M. and Star M. tolerate late freezes better than Saucer M.. Most Magnolias flower at a very young age.

Miscellaneous: A hybrid cross between the Kobus M. (*M. kobus*) and Star M. (*M. stellata*) made in Germany shortly before WWI.

Cultivars: 'Leonard Messel' - flowers are fuschia pink on the back and have a purple-pink line along the center of the insides; 4 - 6" across; very lovely fragrance; 15—20' tall. 'Merrill' - flowers are white and 3 - 4" across; 25—30' tall; very fast grower.

Related species: Saucer Magnolia (*M. soulangiana*) has large tulip-like flowers and Star Magnolia (*M. stellata*) which has numerous strap-shaped sepal-like petals in creamy whitish or very light pink.



Fall color



'Merrill'



'Ballerina'



'Spring Snow'



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