PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Magnolia denudata* Desroursseaux

**GENUS** *Magnolia* **FAMILY** Magnoliaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Jade orchid, Lily tree

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Buds, Flowers

The flower buds are pickled after the calyx is removed and used to flavour rice.
They are also used for scenting tea. The fresh petals of the partly opened flower are dipped in batter, deep fried and served while hot as a delicacy.

## DESCRIPTION

A deciduous shrub or tree. It grows 5-9 m high and spreads about 9 m wide. The leaves are large and leathery and blue-green. The flowers are white and have a smell. They are cup shaped. The flowers appear on bare wood before the leaves.

## HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It cannot tolerate strong winds or heavy frosts. In China it grows between 500-1,000 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 6-9. Arboretum Tasmania. Melbourne Botanical garden. In Yunnan.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

The plants can be grown from seed. They can also be grown from cuttings.

### Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants flower within 3 years.

## NOTES

There are 128 Magnolia species. There are 15 species in tropical America. The flowers of most Magnolias are edible.

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