

# Southern Magnolia

## *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem'

This cultivar of southern magnolia has a compact, upright growth habit more typical of a multi-stemmed shrub than a single-trunked tree. It grows at a slow rate and flowers at two or three years old. 'Little Gem' forms a dense, dark green oval or pyramidal shape, making it suited for screen or hedge planting. They are tolerant of pruning and can be shaped into a screen or hedge of almost any form. This is a nice southern magnolia for residential properties since it stays small, has small leaves and flowers early. In late spring and sporadically throughout the summer, huge 8-inch-diameter, waxy, fragrant, white blossoms open to perfume the entire garden. Its ease of growth and carefree nature make southern magnolia ideal for the low-maintenance landscape.

**Type:** tree

**USDA hardiness zones:** 7a through 10a

**Uses:** container or planter; deck or patio; hedge; screen; specimen; espalier

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Height:** 30 to 35 feet      **Spread:** 8 to 12 feet

**Light requirement:** full sun to part shade

**Soil tolerances:** sand; loam; clay; acidic; slightly alkaline; well-drained; occasionally wet

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Aerosol salt tolerances:** moderate

**Invasive potential:** low

**Pest resistance:** resistant to pests/diseases

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INFORMATION**

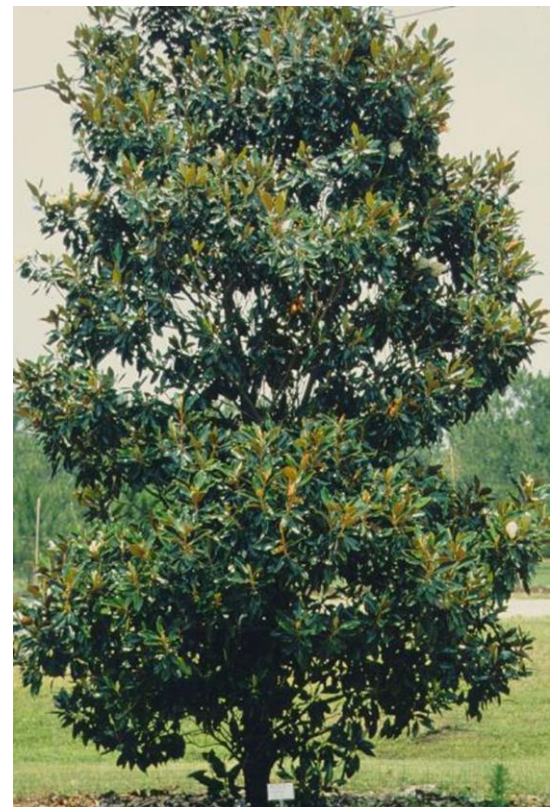


Photo: Ed Gilman, UF/IFAS