Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia

Magnolia x soulangeana 'Alba Superba'



Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: White Tulip Magnolia Tree

Description:

This compact magnolia tree has large, fragrant white flowers in spring before the leaves emerge and a large, spreading habit of growth; an ideal feature in the average home landscape, flowers are sensitive to late spring frosts



Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia is covered in stunning fragrant white cup-shaped flowers held atop the branches in early spring before the leaves. It has attractive dark green deciduous foliage which emerges burgundy in spring. The large pointy leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding yellow in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia is an open multi-stemmed deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Alba Superba Saucer Magnolia will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.