

MEMBERS' FORUM

NO GOLD STAR FOR US

I thoroughly enjoyed the article on native magnolias in the September/October issue. However, I am not sure the magnolia pictured on the left hand side of page 43 in that issue is correctly identified. The caption indicates the magnolia is 'Gold Star', but that cultivar, a star magnolia cross developed by breeder Phil Savage, usually has 14 strap-shaped tepals.

Don Ridley

Cornwall, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Editor's note: We asked Paul Cappelletto, director of Yew Dell Gardens in Crestwood, Kentucky, and a member of the Magnolia Society International, to take a look at the image and he concurs with Don Ridley that it is not 'Gold Star', noting that the tepals of that cultivar rarely attain such a deep yellow color. Cappelletto suspects it is 'Butterflies'. Cappelletto sent us a photo of 'Gold Star', below, which you can see compared with the magnolia pictured in the September/October issue.



The photograph above, identified as 'Gold Star' in the September/October issue, is likely 'Butterflies'. The true 'Gold Star' is shown to the right.



PLEASE WRITE US! Address letters to Editor, *The American Gardener*, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308. Send e-mails to editor@ahs.org (note Letter to Editor in subject line). Letters we print may be edited for length and clarity.

Member Services

We love to hear from our members! If you have questions about your American Horticultural Society membership, would like to become a member, renew your membership, give a gift of membership, or update your mailing or e-mail address with the AHS, please call (800) 777-7931 ext. 119 or e-mail us at membership@ahs.org.

New Website Password

The members-only section of the AHS website, www.ahs.org, provides convenient access to membership benefits as well as the contents of each issue of *The American Gardener* since 2001. To access the section, the user name is **ahs**. The password changes at the beginning of each year. Effective February 2, 2009, the new password will be seeds. The password will also be listed on page 4 in each magazine issue. (Both the user name and password must be entered in lowercase letters.)

PRAISE FOR AHS ADVOCACY

At 56, after a long career as a registered nurse, I am back at school completing my Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. As part of an English composition class, I recently wrote a paper on the benefits of community gardening, and one of my nursing classes is currently discussing health promotion—as opposed to disease curing—and the US "Healthy People 2010" program. When I got your e-newsletter describing how the AHS has joined the No Child Left Inside Coalition that is seeking increased funding for outdoor education programs for children, I was delighted to know that as AHS members, we are doing our part to make individuals and communities more healthy.

I am so proud to be a part of this organization. Keep up the good work.

Eugenia Anne Cox
Toledo, Ohio

Editor's note: If you would like to receive the monthly *e-Bulletin*, the AHS's e-mail newsletter, please send a request to membership@ahs.org and include "Newsletter" in the subject line.

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USA Office: 125 Chenoweth Ln. · Louisville, KY 40207
Phone (502) 895-08 07 · Fax (502) 895-39 34 · <http://www.jelitto.com> · maryv@jelitto.com
German Headquarters: P.O. Box 1264 · D-29685 Schwarmstedt
Phone 01149-5071-98 29-0 · Fax 01149-5071-98 29-27 · www.jelitto.com · info@jelitto.com

