



In the wild this tree grows in the eastern part of the United States where it grows from a shrub into a multiple-stemmed tree with a loose crown. The smooth, grey bark has shallow furrows. The young twigs are light to red brown and at first they are softly hairy. The large, shiny leaf is smooth underneath, young foliage is hairy underneath. The, for a magnolia inconspicuous, tulip-shaped flowers on short, thick flower stalks are faintly fragrant. After the flowering short-stalked, oblong, thick fruits appear. These have the shape of small cucumbers but appear, due to incomplete pollination, only in small numbers. Inside the fruits there are bright-red seeds. The fleshy roots grow both shallow and deep. In earlier times troughs were often shaped from *Magnolia acuminata*'s straight trunk. The light wood was also used for inlays in decorative furniture.