

PYRAMID MAGNOLIA

Magnolia pyramidata Bartr.

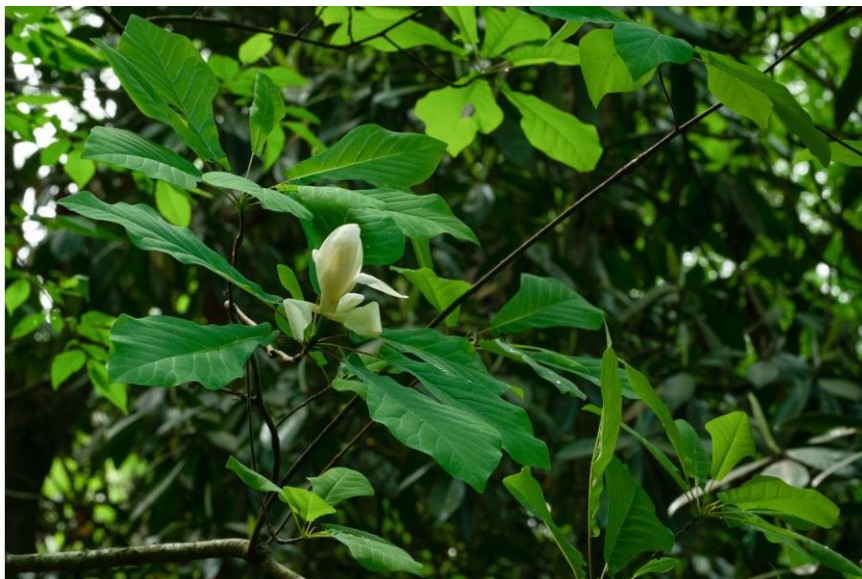
Synonyms: none

Family: Magnoliaceae (magnolia)

FNAI Ranks: G4/S3

Legal Status: US-none FL-Endangered

Wetland Status: US-none+ FL-UPL



Large creamy white flowers; leaves alternate and distinctly spathulate-shaped; leaf base cordate to auriculate and with glabrous buds and twigs. Photo taken at Joe Budd WMA by Kelly Anderson.

Field Description: A small to medium-sized tree, sometimes approaching 50' tall. Easily identified in growing season by large green and glabrous leaves (<10" long) with strongly auriculate leaf bases. Identifiable all year by the large glabrous terminal buds.

Similar Species: Most similar to Ashe's magnolia (*Magnolia ashei*). Ashe's magnolia has large leaves with strongly whitened, pubescent undersides and large, hairy terminal buds.

Related Rare Species: Most similar to Ashe's magnolia. Pyramid magnolia (*Magnolia pyramidata*) is distinguished from Ashe's magnolia (*M. ashei*) by having leaves with green and glabrous undersides, and glabrous terminal buds. Both

pyramid magnolia

Magnolia pyramidata

species have strongly auriculate leaf bases.

Habitat: Mesic hammocks, upland hardwood forests, bluff forests, and slope forests.

Best Survey Season: Spring.

Range-wide Distribution: A southeastern coastal plain endemic ranging from SC to north FL and west to east TX.

Conservation Status: Almost half of the known populations occur on protected land and are under active management.

Protection and Management: Protect mesic hammocks, upland hardwood forests, bluff forests, and slope forests from conversion to urban, suburban, and agricultural uses. Conserve upland habitat adjacent to slope forests or upland hardwood forests from conversion to pine plantation.

References: Godfrey, R. K. 1988, Weakley 2020, Wunderlin and Hansen 2011



Large creamy white flowers; leaves alternate with distinctive rhombic-spatulate shape; leaf base cordate to auriculate. Photo taken at Joe Budd WMA by Kelly Anderson.