

Global Trees Campaign

<http://www.globaltrees.org>

A global assessment of the conservation status of the Magnoliaceae family has been completed, led by Global Trees Campaign, under the auspices of the IUCN/SSC Global Tree Specialist Group. As a result of this global assessment – **The Red list of Magnoliaceae** was published in April, 2007.

In China, there are 160 species of Magnoliaceae from a world total 300 species. Since 2005, FFI China Programme has carried out a project to conserve the most endangered Magnolias, aiming to ensure the survival of these highly threatened species in their primary habitat.

Actions for Threatened Magnoliaceae in China

Action 1 In June 2004, an expert workshop was organized by the IUCN/SSC Global Tree Specialist Group (GTSG) to assess the conservation status of the Chinese Magnoliaceae. During the assessment workshop, 42 species of magnolia were assessed. Five species mostly distributed in Yunnan Province were identified as priorities for immediate conservation action: *Manglietia sinica*, *Manglietia grandis*, *Magnolia sargentiana*, *Magnolia phanerophlebia*, *Michelia coriacea*.

Action 2 A more thorough assessment of these five priority species in the wild through a programme of field surveys, in partnership with the Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB). Notable results from the surveys include the discovery of much larger population of *M. sargentiana* in Yunnan than were previously known, with an estimated 20,000 trees found.



Manglietia sinica
Zhang/Yu/FFI



Distribution map of five threatened species of Magnoliaceae, FFI

Map of China



Habitat degradation. Yan Lu/FFI



Illegal logging for banana plantation. Yan Lu/FFI



Protected Magnolia in forest. Yan Lu/FFI



Manglietia grandis in backyard of village. Yan Lu/FFI

Action 3 Increasing awareness of the conservation status of these rare plants amongst local nature reserve field staff, through their participation in the field surveys, as well as in local communities where surveys were conducted. A colorful booklet on ten threatened Magnolias in Yunnan Province has been developed for government agencies and local communities.



Booklet cover of conservation of magnolias



Field survey. Sun Weilang



Manglietia sinica saplings in nursery. Yan Lu/FFI



Manglietia sinica. Yan Lu/FFI

Next steps:

The Global Trees Campaign, FFI China and the Kunming Institute of Botany are now working to supplement the wild population of one of the most threatened species, *M. sinica*, through careful planting out of saplings (all of known provenance) found in various nurseries during the field surveys. The species is currently reduced to 10 wild individuals, so is on the very brink of extinction in the wild. Plans to improve the conservation status of other species through practical conservation actions will also be developed.



Fruit of *Manglietia sinica*. Sun Weilang

Your attention and help is urgently needed to save these gems of the forest!



Founded in 1903, **Fauna & Flora International (FFI)** is the world's longest established international conservation body. We act to conserve threatened species and ecosystems worldwide, choosing solutions that are sustainable, based on sound science and take into account human needs. As such we are one of the few organizations whose remit is to protect the entire spectrum of endangered plant and animal species on the planet. We provide support to conservation initiatives throughout the world, in the form of partnerships, technical assistance, direct funding and consultancy. Renowned for our science-based approach, FFI has pioneered sustainable conservation work that tackles problems

holistically, providing solutions that simultaneously conserve wildlife and the environment while meeting human needs. Today, FFI is working on conservation projects in over 40 countries. <http://www.fauna-flora.org/>

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