

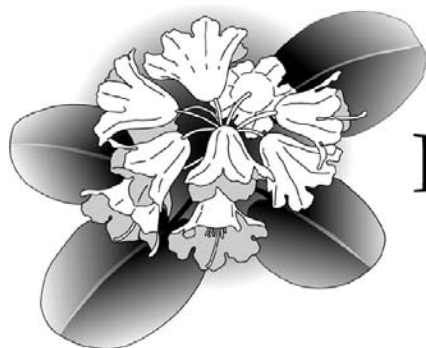
# AtlanticRhodo

[www.AtlanticRhodo.org](http://www.AtlanticRhodo.org)

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# Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

## Positions of Responsibility 2004 - 2005

<b>President</b>	Penny Gael	826-2440	<b>Director - Social</b>	Sandy Brown	683-2615
<b>Vice-President</b>	Available		<b>Director - Horticulture</b>	Audrey Fralic	683-2711
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<b>Secretary</b>	Lyla MacLean	466-449	<b>Newsletter</b>	Mary Helleiner	429-0213
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chris Hopgood	479-0811	<b>Website</b>	King Butler	542-5805
<b>Membership</b>	Betty MacDonald	852-2779	<b>Library</b>	Shirley McIntyre	835-3673
<b>Past President</b>	Sheila Stevenson	479-3740	<b>Seed Exchange</b>	Sharon Bryson	863-6307
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<b>Director - Communications</b>	Mary Helleiner	429-0213	<b>May - Public Plant Sale</b>	Duff & Donna Evers	835-2586

## Membership

Fees are due on January 1, 2005. Annual dues are \$ 15.00 for individuals or families. Make cheques payable to Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society. Send them to **ARHS Membership Secretary, Betty MacDonald, 534 Prospect Bay Road, Prospect Bay, NS B3T1Z8**. Please renew your membership now. When renewing, please include your telephone number and e-mail. This information will be used for Society purposes only (co-ordination of potluck suppers and other events) and will be kept strictly confidential.

The Website address for the American Rhododendron Society is **[www.rhododendron.org](http://www.rhododendron.org)** for those wishing to renew their membership or become new members of the ARS.

*AtlanticRhodo* is the Newsletter of the Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society. We welcome your comments, suggestions, articles, photos and other material for publication. Send all material to the editor.

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Cover Photo:

*R. cumberlandense* (syn *R. bakeri*). [Photo Don Craig]



## Calendar of Events

All ARHS meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month, from September to May, at 7:30 p.m. in the Nova Scotia Museum Auditorium, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, unless otherwise noted. Paid parking is available in the Museum lot. Friends, guests and anyone interested in rhododendrons, azaleas or companion plants are always welcome at meetings or events.

**Tuesday January 4**      **Sheila Stevenson: Our Garden: Learning as we Go.** Sheila's home is in Ferguson's Cove in a very natural woodland landscape. She will share with us her hopes and concerns in carving out a managed space while retaining the essential character of the place.

**Tuesday February 1**      **Jamie Ellison: Evergreen.** Jamie is part owner of Bunchberry Nurseries, a respected wholesale enterprise that has a distinct bent for heathers and unusual evergreens, as well as alpenes and native plants.

Slides of plants available in the May Sale

**Tuesday March 1**      **Audrey Fralic: Care of Tissue Culture Plants.** Many of us have started our rhodie collections with these cheap little beauties. Audrey has been in charge of the Tissue Culture Program for many years. She will share with us the what, how to and long term care of these tiny treasures.

**Tuesday April 5**      **Chris Helleiner: Wisley Garden in May.** Wisley Garden in southern England is the showcase of the Royal Horticultural Society, a mecca for many of us. Chris will show his slides featuring the trials of rhododendron yak hybrids.

**Tuesday May 3**      **Maria Galletti: How to be Successful Growing Alpines.** Maria runs a nursery in Quebec featuring alpenes, those diminutive but demanding gems of the garden. She will also bring lots of alpenes for sale.

Members' Plant Sale

**Please Note:** Some members, who have environmental sensitivities, are asking their fellow members please to use no perfumes, scented soaps, etc., on the days or evenings of ARHS events, in order to minimize the risk of allergic reactions.



A very warm welcome to our new and returning ARHS members who have joined since the October 2004 Newsletter:

Amanda Crabtree  
Linda Crowell  
Janice Henderson  
A. Maynard & T. Kelly  
Marion MacLaughlin  
George MacPhail  
Donald Martyn  
Jocelyn Ternan  
Milo Stening-Riding  
David Veinotte

Dartmouth  
Upper Tantallon  
Wolfville  
Williamstown  
Milford Station  
Elmsdale  
Chilliwack BC  
Herring Cove  
Halifax  
Mahone Bay

# Special Notices

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## Tissue Culture Pickup

The date for pickup of the 2005 tissue culture plants is April 9 at 2:30 p.m. The place is St. Andrew's Centre, 6955 Bayers Road, Halifax.

This year volunteers should arrive at 12:30 p.m. For more information contact Audrey Fralicat [alfralic@excite.com](mailto:alfralic@excite.com).

## ARS Annual Conference in Victoria

The American Rhododendron Society's Annual conference will be held this year in Victoria, British Columbia, from **April 27 to May 1, 2005**.

There will be visits for public and private gardens, lectures by speakers from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Sikkim, Scotland and the United States, a reception in the Royal British Columbia Museum as well as access to all of Vancouver Island at the height of spring bloom.

For more information, see the ARS website [www.rhododendron.org](http://www.rhododendron.org) with links to the Victoria Rhododendron Society, the host organization.

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## Plant Portraits

By Sandy Brown

### Himalayan Blue Poppy (*Meconopsis betonicifolia*)

It is a difficult thing to choose my favourite perennial. This year I had success in producing one blue poppy. I first saw the blue poppies at Bayport Plant Farm, beautiful and dramatic, and was instantly enchanted with them. I saw them growing in glorious groupings in Walter Ostrom's garden, a surreal and impossible colour. The most amazing place to see them, though, is in the late Elsie Reford's garden, Les Jardin de Métis, on the Gaspé coast. We were fortunate to travel there with Captain Steele's plant hunters, and we had inside information from Patricia Gallant, the head gardener. We learned that part of the success is the extreme snowy winters and cool summers along the St. Lawrence River.

Reading Sterling Levy's article in the May 2003 issue of AtlanticRhodo and his encouraging belief that they are easy to grow, I tried again two years ago. I remembered to NOT let them bloom the first year, and was rewarded by a veritable fountain and succession of bloom. The colours, size and presence in my garden brought visitors in from the street.

My goal now is to have a grouping of poppies, myself, next year.

### Native Hollies

My favourite native plants at this time of year are our native hollies. Sometimes I wonder if we take the beauty of nature for granted. Right now our native hollies, of which there are two, come to importance in the winter landscape. We all know *Ilex verticillata*, winterberry, which we use in our Christmas decorations for their wonderful red berries.

The other holly, *Ilex glabra*, is a fascinating shrub that grows in profusion along Highway 103 in Queens county. There are great drifts of these shrubs, about four feet tall, maybe four to eight feet across, growing in our rocky gravelly soils. It is a remarkable plant in that it keeps its leaves all winter, shaped like blueberry leaves, on a much taller shrub. In the sunshine and even on rainy days, these plants make a statement because of the glossiness of their leaves. Its common name is inkberry and this year there seems to be an abundance of berries. I combine the two native hollies when I dress the front of the Port Mouton Post Office in its winter decorations, *Ilex glabra* for its glossy greenery and *Ilex verticillata* for its red berries.

Winter greetings to everyone.

### Golden Vicary Privet revisited

I did a write up about my golden vicary privet in a past issue of our Newsletter. At that time I had great hopes that this plant, which adds so much sparkle to my otherwise dark garden, would reward me by keeping its leaves all winter, and be part of my winter bouquets. Alas, winter took its toll and not only did my plant lose its leaves but the extreme winter weather killed most of the top of both shrubs to the lowest branches. It was a devastating winter for many plants. I am pleased to report that following a thorough pruning in the spring, these plants have bounced back and recovered to their full height of last fall. The leaves are now turning golden and leathery, and as of November 28, are at least giving me autumn interest in my garden. I'm hoping for a kinder, gentler winter this year. ☺

## MAY 2005 ADVANCE PLANT SALE FOR MEMBERS

Members may pre-order plants from the nursery grown stock to be brought in for the public May Plant Sale. This years selection of rhododendrons and azaleas includes many seldom available Delp hybrids and more of John Weagle's new evergreen azalea hybrids. Some have been offered in the last few years and will only be available at the public sale in May. These are indicated as 'Public Sale Only' and cannot be pre-ordered. In the "companion" plant selection you will find a wide selection of choice plants. Amongst them are several rare japanese maples and a good selection of ornamental grasses.

Quantities of some items are small and others we may not receive at all. You may list substitutes for specific plants on the order form. (i.e. You are ordering plant #1, and if it is not available, you would like to receive plant #3 - enter the number '3' in the 'sub' column beside plant #1.)

You may order more than one plant per variety. However, plants will be allocated in the order in which they are received on the basis of one plant per variety per membership. Following this allocation, an adequate reserve will be retained for the public sale. Any surplus will be divided up amongst multiple orders. Please complete the enclosed order form and return it no later than March 15, 2005.

Plants are to be picked up at 5 Sime Ct., Halifax, NS on Saturday, April 30, 2005 between 10:00 am and 2:00 p.m. Sime Ct. is in the Kingswood subdivision off Hammonds Plains Rd. Take Kingswood Dr. (between Kearney Lake Rd. and Farmer Clem's) to Brenda Dr. (the first street on the right) and follow it to the first left which is Sime Ct. Plants are to be paid for when they are picked up. Do not send payment with your order form. Plants will not be shipped. Any plants not picked up will be offered for sale at the public May Plant Sale.

Return your order form to: Ken Shannik, 1421 Edward Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3H5

### LEPIDOTE RHODODENDRONS

Please note that plants listed as "Year Olds" in this section should be grown on in nursery beds or coldframes until they reach a size where they can safely be planted out in the garden.

**R. 'April Mist'** - [(*carolinianum* v. *album* x *mucronulatum* 'Cornell Pink')F2 x (*dauricum* v. *album* x *dauricum*)F2] Soft pink double flowers with darker pink edges. Flowers seem to glow in the fog. Very early. Dark green foliage turns burgundy in the fall. Can be almost deciduous. Vigorous. Compact upright-rounded habit to 4'(1.2m) high and wide. A beautiful Mehlquist hybrid. Zone 5. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'April Rose'** - [(*carolinianum* v. *album* x *mucronulatum* 'Cornell Pink')F2 x (*dauricum* v. *album* x *dauricum*)F2] A floriferous and very early Mehlquist hybrid. Strong reddish-purple double flowers provide a brilliant early splash of colour. Compact broad-upright habit to 5'(1.5m) high and wide. Reddish-bronze fall colour. Retains a few leaves over winter. Zone 5. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **(2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. *augustinii*** - Long considered to be too tender here, these are propagations left over from last year of seed grown plants happily growing in the Meagher garden on the Northwest Arm in Halifax. It is a dense upright growing species growing up to 6'(1.8m) high in 10 years. Flowers are usually shades of pale lavender-blue and can vary greatly from year to year. Elongated, pointed foliage is dark green. For Zone 7 or Zone 6b microclimates. Now well established plants in pots. **A few only. (4" pots - \$12.00)**

**R. 'Azuray'** - (*Russautinii* x *dauricum* Sempervirens Group) A free flowering bright sky blue hybrid blooming in mid-May. Yellow new growth maturing to olive green. Narrow, upright and open habit growing to 6'(1.8m) high x 3'(0.9m) wide in 13 years. Plant hardy to at least -30°F(-34°C), buds to -15°F(-26°C). A Brueckner hybrid and a sibling of R. 'Bluenose'.

**Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'Bluenose'** - (*Russautinii* x *dauricum* Sempervirens Group) 2"(50mm) funnel-shaped, clear blue flowers in lax trusses of 3-5. Upright, open habit to 7.5'(2.3m) high and wide in 15 years. Olive green foliage. Plant hardy to -25°F(-31°C), buds to -17°F(-27°C). A Brueckner hybrid bred in New Brunswick. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'Bob Danik, Junior'** - ('Bob Danik' x self) = [( 'Achiever' x 'PJM' Group) x self] Trusses of 8 mauve-purple flowers on a dense plant to 3'(0.9m) high and wide in 10 years. A Delp hybrid hardy to Zone 5. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Butter Yellow'** - ('Crest' x 'Golden Yellow') A charming hybrid for only the mildest of gardens. Large, deep yellow flowers in good trusses. Compact habit to 5'(1.5m) high in 10 years. Hardy to at least 0°F(-18°C). **(1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. *carolinianum* 'Achiever'** - ("Delp's Pink *carolinianum*") A good mauve-pink selection of this tough species - usually the flowers are white tinged with pink. Flowers are borne in small loose rounded trusses. Dark green elliptic foliage to 4"(100mm) long. Dense rounded habit to 6'(1.8m) high and wide. Requires excellent drainage and preferably on the dry side in summer once established. Will tolerate part shade but habit and bud set will be better in full sun. Zone 5. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Delp's Munchkin'** - [( 'Achiever' x *valentinianum*) x self] Coral pink and yellow-green buds open open to pale pink and white flowers with pale yellow-green spots. Open funnel-shaped flowers with very wavy edges. Will need excellent drainage. To 3'(0.9m) high and wide in 5 years. Zone 6b. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Delp's Showoff'** - ['Epoch' x ('Achiever' x *pemakoense* Patulum Group)] Pale mauve-pink buds open to the palest of lilac-purple flowers. To 4'(1.2m) high x 3'(0.9m) high in 5 years. Zone 6 or lower. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Dora Amateis'** - (*carolinianum* x *ciliatum*) A very floriferous white (with a touch of pink) hybrid. Every spring it smothers itself in flowers, hiding its dense, dark green foliage. Mounded habit. To 2.5'(0.75m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Best in full sun with excellent drainage. Zone 6. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **(1 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Ginny Gee'** - (*keiskei* 'Yaku Fairy' x *racemosum* Forrest #19404) Bright pink buds open to blush pink then fade to white tinged pink on this Berg hybrid. Multiple trusses of 4-5 flowers create a sheet of bloom. Early. Dense, dark green foliage. To 1'(0.3m) high x 1.5'(0.45m) wide. Perhaps one of the best dwarf hybrids. Zone 6. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'Goldstrike'** - [(*oreotrephes* x Royal Flush) x self] Another charming hybrid only for the mildest of gardens. Large and thick, buttercup yellow tubular bell-shaped flowers are held in lax trusses of 8. 4"(100mm) long glossy olive green leaves grace a plant with a stiff upright habit. To 4'(1.2m) high in ten years. Hardy to at least 0°F(-18°C), probably colder. **(1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. *impeditum*** - A very dwarf species to 12"(.3m) high x 20"(.5m) wide. A parent of 'Ramapo' and 'Purple Gem', it has the same tiny, silvery-grey foliage. Most plants offered as this species are, and these are likely to be as well, *R. fastigiatum*. Early, royal purple flowers. Zone 5b or colder. **Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. 'Manitau'** - A 'Conestoga' (*carolinianum* x *racemosum*) hybrid. Golden orange buds open to clear, light pink & fade to creamy white. This one covers itself in bloom. Early. Bronzy coloured foliage in winter. A semi-dwarf with a dense, compact habit. To 18"(45m) high. Zone 5. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **Public Sale Only (1 gal.-\$20.00)**

**R. *orthocladum* Knighshayes** - A selection of the type species (as opposed to the white v. *microleucum* listed below). Lavender-purple flowers. Zone 6. Rare and choice. Custom propagated.

**A Few Only (Year Olds - \$12.00)**

**R. *orthocladum* v. *microleucum*** - A beautiful species with tiny narrow dark green foliage which emerges dark rusty brown. Its tiny pure white flowers are borne in small trusses of 3-5. Dense compact mounded habit to 2'(6m) high. Zone 6. A choice species custom propagated for ARHS. Back by popular demand. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

**R. 'Patty Bee'** - (*keiskei* 'Yaku Fairy' x *fletcherianum*) A very floriferous clear yellow Berg hybrid. Early. Dense foliage turns maroon-red in winter. Very dwarf - 8"(2m) high x 12"(3m) wide in 6 years. Zone 6. An ARS Superior Plant award winner. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. *rubiginosum* Ostrom** - A species with funnel-shaped pinky-lavender flowers held in loose trusses. Open, upright habit to 6'(1.8m) tall. Purplish new growth, exotic narrow leaves. Zone 6b. Custom propagated. **A Few Only (Year Olds - \$12.00)**

**R. 'Sharp Impressions'** - ('Jenny' x *dauricum* 'Arctic Pearl') Similar to 'PJM' in habit but with beautiful soft lavender pink flowers. Zone 5b. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Spotlighter'** - [*carolinianum* Yellow x (*dauricum* x 'Vinestar')] Bright pink and yellowish-white buds open to large white flowers with pink striping. To 2'(6m) high and wide in 5 years. A Delp hybrid. Zone 5b. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Tickley'** - ('Achiever' x *polycladum* Scintillans Group) A pale purple-pink Delp hybrid with foliage more resembling *R. carolinianum*. Zone 5b. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Weston's Aglo'** - (*minus* var *minus* Compact Form x *dauricum* hybrid) "Aglo" is a sister seedling of the more common 'Olga' (and 'Olga' spelled backwards). Its flowers are registered and more commonly described as medium purplish-pink but the overall effect is an unusual pale peach-pink. Flowers are borne in ball-shaped trusses early in the season slightly later than 'PJM'. Dark green foliage turns burgundy in the fall. To 5'(1.5m) tall. Hardy to -25°F(-32°C). **(1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. 'Woodland's Miss Muffet'** ('Little Miss Muffet') - (*carolinianum* x *impeditum*) An early lavender Hancock hybrid with a compact mounding habit and very small leaves. One of Ostrom's best mounds. Zone 5. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

**R. 'Yellow Hammer'** - (*sulfureum* x *flavidum*) Small upright tubular flowers of clear yellow grace this hybrid in trusses of 2-3. Its habit is narrow, upright and open. It will benefit from pruning

after flowering to encourage a more shapely habit. To 5'(1.5m) high. Again only for the mildest gardens, rated hardy to -4°F(-20°C), but possibly colder. **(1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. "Mislabelled Blue"** - Grown in Ontario as 'Iam Violet', it was surprising hardy. Alas when more were ordered, it proved to be an imposter. In any case this is an excellent hardy dark purple-blue. Bronzy fall colour. Upright habit. Zone 6b. (May be 'Mood Indigo' a Brandt *augustinii* hybrid). **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

## ELEPIDOTE RHODODENDRONS

**R. 'Big Deal'** - (un-named white x un-named pale yellow) Large ball-shaped trusses of 18-20 large creamy-white with a yellow-green blotch flowers. Dense rounded-spreading habit to 3'(9m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide in 10 years. A very showy Mezitt hybrid. Zone 6. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Big-O'** - [(*Catalpa* x 'Pink Twins') x self] Pink buds open to wavy-edged white flowers flushed pink and fade to white with a purple-red flare. To 4'(1.2m) high and wide in 15 years. A Delp hybrid. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. [(*brachycarpum* x *aureum*) x *caloxanthum*]** - An as yet un-named Ostrom hybrid with early trusses of yellow flowers. Floriferous. Dark green and glossy foliage. Very dense, low-growing mounded habit. Zone 6, possibly colder. **A Few Only (Year Olds - \$12.00)**

**R. 'Calsap'** - (*catalpa* x 'Sappho') Lavender buds open into large conical trusses of snowy white flowers with a large dramatic burgundy blotch. Dense emerald green foliage. Vigorous. Broad, upright habit to 5'(1.5m) high in 10 years. Zone 5. An ARHS "Top Ten" elepidote and a real showstopper. **Public Sale Only (1 gal.-\$15.00)**

**R. 'Capistrano'** - A complex Leach hybrid reported to be his best yellow. Its clear, pale yellow flowers are borne on a compact well-branched plant with excellent dark green foliage. To 5'(1.5m) high and wide. Zone 6. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. *degronianum* ssp. *heptanerium* v. *micranthum* - (*metternichii* v. *micranthum*)** - Formerly known as *R. metternichii*, this species is closely related to *R. yakushmanum* which also has become a subspecies of *R. degronianum*. It differs from *yakushmanum* in having flatter leaves, a larger stature and usually seven-lobed flowers. Var. *micranthum* has exceptional thick reddish-brown indumentum, a compact habit and pink fading white flowers. Zone 6. Very choice. **A Few Only (Year Olds - \$15.00)**

**R. 'Dexter's Victoria'** - Of unknown parentage, this is one of the harder Dexter hybrids. Its large frilled flowers are lavender-pink and held in conical trusses of 12 to 15. Foliage is glossy olive green. Upright, rounded habit to 6'(1.8m) high in 10 years. Parent plant is 12'(3.6m) high and wide after 50 years. Zone 6, probably colder. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Fantastica'** - ('Mars' x *yakushmanum* 'Koichiro Wada') Bicoloured flowers with bright red margins and light pastel pink centres in large trusses. Vigorous & floriferous. Compact, low mounding habit to 3'(9m) high. Long, narrow indumented leaves. A Hachmann hybrid. Zone 5b. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'Haaga'** - (*brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* x 'Dr. HC Dresselhuys') Dark pink buds open to bright medium pink flowers with a darker blotch. Excellent, rich glossy green foliage. Well-branched rounded-upright habit to 7'(2.1m) high. An extremely hardy hybrid from Finland. Hardy to -33°F(-36°C). **Public Sale Only (1 gal.-\$20.00)**

**R. 'Harrisville'** - (Newport F4) A Delp hybrid with large purple-pink flowers with a white flare and yellow-green spotting. Flowers are held in conical trusses of 16. Original plant was 9'(2.7m) high and wide after 40 years. Zone 5. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**



**R. 'Helliikki'** - (open pollinated seedling of a *R. smirnowii* hybrid) Dark red-violet flowers on a plant to 5'(1.5m) high with a dense rounded habit. New leaves are indumented turning green with age. An extremely hardy hybrid from Finland. Hardy to -34°C(-29°F).  
**Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Helsinki University'** - (*brachycarpum* v. *tigerstedtii* x *smirnowii*) Bright pink flowers flecked orange-red. Red tinged new foliage matures to glossy green. Upright habit to 6'(1.8m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Hardy to -38°F(-39°C). Another very hardy Finnish hybrid.  
**Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Henry's Red'** - A very hardy Mezitt hybrid with dark blood-red flowers held in tight trusses against dark green foliage. Free-flowering. Broad, irregular open habit to 5'(1.5m) high and wide in 10 years. Zone 5.  
**Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'Hot Mix'** - [(Mars' x 'America') Vineland V6238-7 x 'Cindy Lou'] A dark red hybrid with 22 flowers per truss. Bred by Al Smith in Ontario. Raised and named by Delp. Zone 6, possibly colder. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. 'Janet Blair'** - Large, pale pink, flowers with ruffled edges and a large gold-green flare. Fragrant. Dark glossy green foliage. Vigorous with a rounded, dense, well-branched habit. To 6'(1.8m) high, wider than tall. Zone 6. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. ('Jock' x *fortunei*)** - This is the dwarfest selection of of an Alex Muntz cross. Pink bell-shaped flowers on a compact mounded plant to 5'(1.5m) in 20 yrs. Zone 7, possibly colder. **A Few Only (Year Olds - \$12.00)**

**R. 'John T. Meagher'** - (*brachycarpum* Tigerstedtii Group x 'Mrs. T.H. Lowinsky') Large trusses of white flowers with a dark brown blotch sit on top of lush shiny dark green foliage. Dense habit to 5'(1.5m) high x 8'(2.4m) wide in 10 years. Grown by the late John Meagher from a cross by Dave Hinton. Buds are hardy to -10°F(-23°C), possibly colder if brief. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. *morii*** - A species for the collector with white or white/flushed pink flowers - with or without dark burgundy-red spotting which sometimes forms a large blotch. Long narrow dark green foliage. Upright, open habit to 6'(1.8m) or more high. Free-flowering. Hardy to at least -5°F(-21°C). (1 gal. - \$15.00)

**R. 'Pink Twins'** - (red *catwbiense* x *haematodes* hybrid) Shrimp pink hose-in-hose frilled flowers with heavy substance are held in large trusses. Dark green foliage with yellow petioles. Compact low-growing habit to 4'(1.2m) high. A early Gable hybrid. For Zone 6b or milder. **A few only. (1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. 'Polaris'** - (*yakushmanum* 'Koichiro Wada' x 'Omega') Purple-pink ruffled flowers with paler centers are held in dome-shaped trusses on the foliage. A strong budder at an early age. Dense, compact, spreading habit with light indumentum. To 4'(1.2m). A Hachmann hybrid. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

**R. 'Ritchie'** - ('Calsap' x self) Vivid purple buds open very pale purple with a strong purple edge and a dark purple flare. Large foliage on a broad plant to 3'(9m) high x 6'(1.8m) wide in 15 years. A Delp hybrid. Zone 5. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. 'Schneekrone'** - ('Humboldt' x *yakushmanum* 'Koichiro Wada') Pink buds open to white tinged pink flowers with red spotting and fade to white. Grows to 3'(9m) high and 4'(1.2m) wide in 10 years with a rounded densely branched habit. A Hachmann hybrid. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. 'Slippery Rock'** - (Newport F4) Vivid red-pink buds open to strong pink flowers edged with vivid red-pink and a white flare. To 7'(2.1m) high and wide. A Delp hybrid. Zone 6, possibly colder. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. 'Smirbur'** - (*smirnowii* x *bureavii*) A Vineland cross of two species with excellent indumented foliage. Sure to have beautiful indumentum and foliage. Flowers likely to be pink fading white. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. *smirnowii*** - A species with foliage similar to *R. yakushmanum*. It is however taller and more open growing. Flowers are pink to purple-pink and ruffled. Foliage is dark green with fawn indumentum and persistent tomentum. To 6'(1.8m) or more high - more compact in sun, taller and more open in shade. Zone 5. **A Few Only. (1 gal. - \$20.00)**

**R. 'Sumatra'** - ('America' x 'Gertrude Schale') A hardy cardinal red Leach hybrid with a dense, spreading, dome-shaped habit to 3'(9m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide in 15 years. Zone 6. **Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. 'Susan'** - (*campanulatum* x *fortunei*) Cool bluish-mauve flowers with darker edges and purple spots in rounded trusses. Dark, glossy green foliage with purple petioles. Vigorous. Forms a large well-shaped plant to 10'(3.0m) high. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

**R. 'Teddy Bear'** - (*bureavii* x *yakushmanum*) Exceptional foliage is dark lustrous green with incredible thick rust coloured indumentum. Flowers are white blushed pink in large dome-shaped trusses. Free-flowering and early. Dense foliage on a compact, rounded, spreading plant. To 5'(1.5m) high. Zone 5. Back by popular demand! A must have plant. (1 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. 'Tennessee'** - ['LaBar's White' x ('Ole Olsen' x 'Fabia')] Pale bluish-pink flowers fading to a unique pale yellowish-pink with a dark blotch. Good foliage on an upright plant, growing 4-6'(1.2-1.8') high in 10 years. A Leach hybrid. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. 'Vinecrest'** - {(['LaBar's White' x *fortunei*) x *wardii*] x *wardii* Litiense Group} Peach buds open to yellow flushed with peach and fade to yellow in dome-shaped trusses. Stunning. Olive green foliage. Upright, rounded habit to 4'(1.2m) high and wide in 12 years. A Vineland Station hybrid. Hardy to at least -16°F(-27°C). **Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. 'Virginia Delp'** - ('Kristen' x 'Calsap') Large tall tusses of very large, pale lavender-pink flowers with a yellow blotch. Impressive very large flower buds. To 4'(1.2m) high in 10 years. An Al Smith hybrid hardy to -20°F(-29°C). (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. *yakushmanum* 'Ken Janeck'** (*degronianum* v. *yakushmanum*) A superb species (or possibly a hybrid) for our climate. Long narrow leaves with a tan-white indumentum. New growth is covered in silver tomentum. Dense foliage covers a plant which is symmetrical and broadly mounded in shape. Slow growing and floriferous. Rosy-pink buds open to form large appleblossom pink flowers fading to white. Similar to 'Mist Maiden' (see below) but more upright in habit growing 4-5'(1.2 - 1.5m) high and 11'(3.5m) wide. Best in a half day of sun. Zone 5.

**Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. *yakushmanum* 'Mist Maiden'** - Possibly even better than Ken Janeck' and also possibly a hybrid. Grows to 4'(1.2m) high and 11'(3.5m) wide. Paler rosy-pink buds open to form large appleblossom pink flowers fading to white. If you were to grow only one rhododendron, this should probably be the one. Zone 5. An ARHS "Top Ten" elepidote.

**Public Sale Only (2 gal. - \$25.00)**

**R. *yakushmanum* "Shady Lady"** - A seed grown selection by Walter Ostrom that does well in considerable shade - maintaining a compact habit and blooming respectably. Zone 5. **A Few Only (Year Olds - \$15.00)**

## EVERGREEN AZALEAS

**Azalea 'Alexander'** - (*nakaharai* x 'Kin no sai') A Polly Hill North Tisbury hybrid with large, deep reddish-orange flowers and a prostrate, irregular mounding-creeping habit. Late July blooming. To 8'(2m) high x 3'(9m) wide in 10 years. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Boudoir'** - A tough Gable hybrid of unknown parentage. Flowers are large and described as "watermelon pink" with a dark blotch. Early blooming. Can grow to 5'(1.5m) high and wide. Zone 5b. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Corsage'** - Large, pale lavender pink flowers with a dark blotch. Fragrant and late-blooming. Vigorous dense habit to 4'(1.2m) high and wide in 10 years, spreading wider with age. Zone 6, possibly colder. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Joseph Gable'** [(Rose Greeley' x 'Nadine') x 'Nadine'] Large white hose-in-hose flowers with red spotting. Rounded habit to 6'(1.8m) tall or more. A very hardy Pride hybrid. Zone 5. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. *kiusianum* 'Alba'** - Perhaps the best suited evergreen azalea species for our coastal climate provided it is given good drainage and plenty of sun. Densely branched and twiggy, they have a spreading, somewhat tiered habit and remain relatively low. Very floriferous. Excellent fall colour. This is a selection with pure white flowers and a smaller stature. Zone 6 but worth a try in Zone 5. An ARHS "Top Ten" evergreen azalea.

**Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**R. *kiusianum* 'Joe's Broom'** - A very slow growing dwarf congested form with white flowers. Choice and perfect for the rock garden. Zone 6 but worth trying in Zone 5. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea "Meagher Tall"** - A tall, nose-high evergreen azalea in the Meagher garden. A pink-flowered hose-in-hose if we recall correctly. Probably a *kiusianum* hybrid. Zone 6, possibly colder. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Marilee'** - (*nakaharai* OP) Large, dark salmon pink flowers with a darker blotch grace this Polly Hill hybrid late in July. Foliage is glossy dark green, dense and winter persistent. Dense, spreading habit growing to 20'(5m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide. Plant hardy to Zone 6b but may lose its buds in colder winters in Z6a. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea (*nakaharai* Orange x *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji') #1-1** - An early John Weagle hybrid and one that has played prominently in his subsequent breeding. Small bright pinkish flowers are borne in profusion on a knee high horizontal spreading plant. July blooming. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**R. *poukhanense* 'Rosea'** - A tough species which seems to tolerate both wind and salt spray. Soft clear pink flowers are borne in profusion. Dense habit to 3'(9m) high and wide. Zone 5b. (Year Olds - \$12.00 / 2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Pride Red'** - ('Nadine' OP) A tough Pride hybrid. Dark red flowers on a tall growing plant. Late blooming. Zone 5b. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea "Regatta Point"** - Propagation of a plant grown from seed by John Meagher growing in his Regatta Point planting. Bright pink flowers cover the very dense low mounded plant. Possibly a cross by John Weagle. Zone 6b, possibly colder. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Scotian Breeze'** (Formerly E-90-3) - (*kiusianum* Berg x 'Lady Louise') A Weagle hybrid similar to Kolmo Kulshan but less strident and blooming several weeks later! Flowers are bicoloured with cool soft pink tips and white centres. Compact spreading habit. To 2'(6m) x 4'(1.2m) wide in 10 years. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Scotian Mirage'** - {'(Lady Louise)' x [(Lady Louise' x (*nakaharai* Orange Form X *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji') #1-1)]} Large flowers of the very palest white-lavender. Dense horizontal spreading habit to 16'(4m) high x 32'(8m) wide in 12 years. A late July blooming Weagle hybrid. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Scotian Picotee'** - {'(Lady Louise)' x [(Lady Louise' x (*nakaharai* Orange Form X *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji') #1-1)]} Dense horizontal spreading habit to 16'(4m) high x 32'(8m) wide in 12 years. White with strong pink tips. A July blooming Weagle hybrid. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Scotian Reef'** - {'(Lady Louise)' x [(Lady Louise' x (*nakaharai* Orange Form X *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji') #1-1)]} Flowers vary from medium coral pink to white. Dense horizontal spreading habit to 16'(4m) high x 32'(8m) wide in 12 years. A July blooming Weagle hybrid. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

**Azalea 'Stewartstonian'** - An early blooming bright red Gable hybrid. Early and very floriferous. Glossy dark green foliage turns dark red in autumn. Upright, broad, twiggy habit. Grows 4-5'(1.2-1.5m) high. Hardy to -20°F(-29°C). An ARHS "Top Ten" evergreen azalea. **Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$15.00)**

**Azalea 'Wombat'** - (*nakaharai* 'Mariko' x 'Gaiety') An excellent Cox hybrid which produces a carpet of bright pink flowers with a slight blotch. Dense, very low spreading plant habit growing only 6'(1.5m) high. Zone 6. (2 gal. - \$20.00)

## DECIDUOUS AZALEAS

**Azalea 'Cannon's Double'** - An excellent Exbury hybrid with ball-shaped trusses of double flowers - creamy-white with yellow flushed centres and salmon-pink tips. Foliage has a soft red tinge. To 6'(1.8m) high. Zone 6 or lower. An ARHS "Top Ten" deciduous azalea. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

**Azalea 'Coccinea Speciosa'** - A very old (pre-1850) and highly regarded Ghent hybrid that is seldom offered. Flowers are brilliant orange-red and held in tight ball-shaped trusses. To 8'(2.4m) high. Zone 5. An ARHS "Top Ten" deciduous azalea. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

**Azalea 'Silver Slipper'** - Large flowers are white/flushed pink with a large yellow-orange flare. Floriferous and fragrant. Good copper red fall colour. To 6'(1.8m) high and wide. A beautiful Knap Hill hybrid, no longer easy to find. Zone 5b. (2 gal. - \$25.00)

## OTHER ERICACEOUS SHRUBS & TREES

***Andromeda polifolia* 'Blue Ice'** (Bog Rosemary) A selected form of this evergreen native with glaucous blue leaves and rich pink bell-shaped flowers in spring. Grows to 1'(3m) high x 3'(9) wide with a spreading-suckering habit. Does well in moist well-drained soil in sun or part shade. Zone 3. **Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$15.00)**

***Andromeda polifolia* 'Kiri Kaming'** (Bog Rosemary) A Japanese form with very narrow needle-like dark blue-green tinged red foliage and pink flowers. Lower growing. Zone 3. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

***Erica spiculifolia* 'Balkan Rose'** - Until recently this heath was known as *Bruckenthalia spiculifolia*. Summer-blooming, this selected form has short racemes of rose-pink flowers. Grows to 6'(1.5m) high and spreading. Needs full sun and good drainage. Probably the toughest of the heaths being hardy to Zone 5, possibly colder. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

***Oxydendron arboreum*** - (Sourwood) A slow growing deciduous tree with large arching panicles of white lily-of-the-valley-like flowers in summer. Beautiful glossy deep green narrow foliage. Incredible persistent maroon, scarlet or plum fall colour. Slow growing pyramidal habit to 25'(7.5m) high x 20'(6m) wide with a rounded top and drooping branches. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Pieris 'Brouwer's Beauty'*** - (*floribunda* x *japonica*) This light green, evergreen shrub is much harder than *P. japonica* and intermediate between its parents in appearance. Its large upright-nodding panicles of white lily-of-the-valley type flowers resemble *P. floribunda*. Airy, red panicles of buds are held above the foliage over the winter. Spring blooming. New foliage is glossy yellowish-green. Broad, upright, dense habit to 6'(1.8m) high and wide. Zone 5b. **Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$15.00)**



***Zenobia pulverulenta*** – (Dusty Zenobia) A deciduous rhododendron relative with lily-of-the-valley like flowers. It has an arching habit growing to about 4'(1.2m) high and wide. Bluish-green leaves. The white anise-scented flowers, much larger than those of the Pieris, are borne in drooping clusters from the leaf axils in spring. Requires moist well-drained soil and is best in full sun. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

## CONIFERS

***Cedrus libani* 'Nana'** - (Dwarf Cedar of Lebanon) A slow growing selection of the famed Cedar of Lebanon. May reach 2-3'(.6-.9m) high and wide in 10 years. Irregular, squat pyramidal to mounded habit with short dark green needles densely borne in thick bundles on short shoots. Best in full sun with good drainage. Great for the rock garden in Zone 6b or the mildest spots in Zone 6a. **A few only.** (1 gal. - \$30.00)

***Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* 'Snow White'** - (Snow White Lawson's False Cypress) A slow growing dwarf cultivar with a broad conical habit. Maintains its fine-textured juvenile blue-grey foliage. New growth is tipped with white. To 6'(1.8m) high. Great for the small garden. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Larix kaempferi* 'Diana'** - (Diana Japanese Larch) A stunning specimen curiosity with twisted and contorted stems, branches and needles. Bright green needles turn yellow in the fall before dropping. Unique branching provides winter interest. Vigorous upright habit to 20'(6.0m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide. Zone 5. Choice. (1 gal. - \$30.00)

***Picea glauca* 'Jean's Dilly'** - This Dwarf Alberta Spruce has shorter and thinner needles with the shoots ending in a twist. Very slow growing with a denser, narrower habit reaching a height of 5'(1.5m). Best in full sun. Zone 4. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Picea pungens* 'Blue Pearl'** - (Blue Pearl Colorado Spruce) A witches broom of 'Fat Albert', this very dwarf cultivar may reach 2'(.3m) in height after many years. Its silver-blue needles clothe a very compact bun-shaped to globose shrub. An excellent specimen for the rock garden. Zone 4. (1 gal. - \$30.00)

***Pinus sylvestris* 'Hillside Creeper'** - (Hillside Creeper Scots Pine) A choice groundcover selection with a dense undulating horizontal-spreading habit. Short medium green needles. Vigorous. To 18"(4.5m) x 8'(2.4m) wide. Zone 4. (1 gal. - \$25.00)

***Tsuga canadensis* 'Jacqueline Verkade'** - A dwarf selection of the Canadian Hemlock with tiny needles and a much stiffer appearance. It has an extremely dense habit forming a rounded to squat conical shape. Can grow to 3'(.9m) high and wide in 10 years. Ideal for the larger rock garden or shrub border. Will need some sun to keep its compact shape. Resent drought and winter wind. Zone 5. Very choice. **A Few Only** (6" pots - \$12.00)

## SHRUBS

***Berberis thunbergii* Golden Nugget™** - (Golden Nugget Barberry) A great dwarf selection with golden yellow foliage often with an orange cast. Grows to only 1'(.3m) high x 1.5'(4.5m) wide with a very dense mounded habit. Needs full sun to maintain best colour. Zone 5. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Corylopsis glabrescens*** - (Fragrant Winterhazel) A very early spring blooming deciduous shrub and an excellent alternative to Forsythia. Small pale yellow flowers are borne in pendant clusters of 8-12 and are very fragrant. Grows 8-15'(2.4-4.5m) high and wide with a multi-stemmed spreading habit. Golden-yellow fall colour. Full sun to part shade. Zone 6, possibly colder. The hardiest of the genus. (1 gal. - \$20.00)

***Corylopsis gotoana*** - Also known as *C. glabrescens* v. *glabrescens*, neither name is now valid as it has been lumped in with the above listed. It varies little from *C. glabrescens* except for a few botanical details. Some references suggest it may be a tad hardier. (1 gal. - \$20.00)

**Cotoneaster 'Little Gem'** - Probably a form or hybrid of *C. adpressus* and may be the same as 'Tom Thumb'. It forms a densely branched spreading mound. Its tiny deciduous leaves are shiny dark green with undulating margins. Excellent red fall colour. Shy to flower and fruit. To 6'(1.5m) high. Great for the rock garden or as groundcover. Zone 5b. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Daphne mezereum* 'Alba'** - A white flowered variety of the deciduous February Daphne. The highly scented flowers are borne along the bare stems in early spring and are followed by yellowish fruit. Fruit are poisonous. Zone 5b. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Eleutherococcus sieboldianus* 'Variegatus'** (Variegated Fiveleaf Aralia) Drought tolerant, does well in shade and variegated - what more can you ask for in a deciduous shrub? Small compound leaves - maple-like in appearance - are bright green with creamy edges. Grows 6-8'(1.8-2.4m) high and wide with an suckering dense upright-arching habit. For sun to shade and tolerant of poor soils. Great for brightening up that shady corner! Zone 5. Better known (and more pronounceable) as *Acanthopanax sieboldianus* 'Variegatus'. Back by popular demand. (1 gal. - \$25.00)

***Fothergilla major* 'Mount Airy'** - A selected form of this deciduous shrub with dark blue-green foliage and beautiful fall colour. Erect spikes of fragrant, bottlebrush-like creamy flowers in early spring. Red, orange and yellow fall colour last late in the season. Upright, mounded habit. To 6'(1.8m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Hardy to -32°C(-25°F). (1 gallon - \$15.00)

***Hydrangea anomala* ssp. *petiolaris* 'Mirranda'** (Variegated Climbing Hydrangea) Most are familiar with the climbing hydrangea, a most serviceable plant in our climate whether climbing a tree, growing on a substantial trellis or scrambling over a bank or retaining wall. This variety has the same large flat clusters of white flowers in spring. What makes this variety unique is that it is variegated! Leaves have broad irregular golden yellow margins. Zone 5. **Public Sale Only** (1 gal. - \$25.00)

***Mahonia nervosa*** - (Dwarf Oregon-Grape) A low growing evergreen species for sun to shade growing only 1-2'(3-.6m) high. Pinnate compound leaves are glossy dark green with spiny teeth and are borne in whorls at the tops of branchless stems. They emerge with a purple tinge and may have a reddish tinge in winter. Long spikes of bright yellow flowers are borne in spring and may be followed by purple berries (grapes). Tolerant of dry poor soils when established but will probably colonize better in moister, richer soils. Stolonerous in habit but not rampagous. Has much more character than the more common *Mahonia aquifolium*. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Syringa vulgaris* 'Aucubaefolia'** - An unusual selection of the common lilac in that the leaves are heavily splashed and streaked with golden yellow - much like an Aucuba. Flowers are pale lilac-blue and are borne in large 10" panicles. Can grow to 12'(3.6m) high x 10'(3.0m) wide but is easily pruned to maintain a reasonable size. Any shoots with all green foliage should be removed. Will benefit from the occasional application of lime or bonemeal. Much admired in Bob Pettipas garden at the potluck last spring. Zone 4. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Yucca filamentosa* 'Bright Edge'** - (Adam's Needle) A striking variegated selection. The 18"(4.5m) sword-shaped arching leaves are dark green edged with creamy yellow. Stalks of large creamy-white flowers rise above the foliage in summer. Requires excellent drainage and full sun. Zone 6, possibly colder. (2 gal. - \$25.00)

## **TREES**

***Acer palmatum 'Beni otake'*** - ("Big Red Bamboo" Japanese Maple) A Linearilobum Group cultivar with large 7-lobed deep purple-red foliage which holds its colour well throughout the summer. The narrowly lobed foliage and layered habit give it a bamboo-like appearance. Leaves on vigorous juvenile shoots can have broader lobes. Vivid crimson fall colour. Vigorous, upright habit, possibly reaching 25'(8.0m) high. Zone 6. **(1 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum 'Korean Gem' ('Koreanum')*** (Korean Gem Japanese Maple) A lovely Palmatum Group selection with green leaves and red petioles and bark. Red bark intensifies in the fall and autumn. Yellow, orange and sometimes red fall colour. Grows to 15'(4.5m) high with an upright, round-topped habit. Vigorous. Zone 6. **(1 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum 'Koto-no-ito'*** ("Harp Strings" Japanese Maple) A Linearilobum Group selection with broad, nearly toothless, 7-lobed leaves. Leaves emerge tinged with crimson quickly changing to rich green, turning various shades of yellow in fall. Bark is bright green. Unlikely to reach 10'(3.0m) in height with an upright very twiggy habit. Zone 6. **(1 gal. liner - \$20.00)**

***Acer palmatum 'Omure yama'*** - An absolutely incredible weeping Japanese maple in the Matsumurae Group. Upright with arching branches when young. With age the branches become weeping. To 15'(5m) high & wide in many years with a rounded crown. Brilliant green, 7-lobed, deeply cut leaves have an orange cast in the spring and turn gold, orange and red in fall. Vigorous. Zone 6. Stunning. **(1 gal. liner - \$20.00)**

***Acer palmatum 'Saoshika'*** - An Amoenum Group selection. Delicate, star-shaped, 5 or 7 lobed leaves grace this Amoenum group variety. Dark green foliage emerges bright yellow-green with red tips. Golden-yellow fall colour. Forms a broad layered shrub to 10'(3m) high & wide. Zone 6. **(1 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum 'Shishigashira'*** - (Lion's Head Japanese Maple) A Palmatum Group selection with dark green, 7-lobed crinkled leaves densely borne on upward-outward spreading branches. Brilliant orange to orange-red late fall colour. Vase shaped habit to 10'(3m) tall. A unique specimen plant. Zone 6. **(1 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum 'Villa Taranto'*** - A delicate Linearilobum Group variety with spidery 5-lobed leaves. They emerge reddish-green and mature bright green. Golden yellow fall colour. To 8'(2.4m) high with an upright-rounded open bushy habit. Very delicate and airy. Zone 6. **(1 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum ssp. dissectum 'Red Dragon'*** - Reputedly the best red-leaved dissected leaf Japanese Maple for colour retention - in both sun and shade. Its leaves emerge bright scarlet becoming dark burgundy as they develop. In fall they turn bright scarlet. Cascading, mounding habit growing to 8'(2.4m) high. Requires a sheltered spot and is intolerant of summer drought. Zone 6. **(1 gal. liner - \$20.00)**

***Cornus kousa v. chinensis 'Satomi'*** - (Korean Dogwood) A small, shrubby tree, 15-20'(4.5-6.0m) tall, for light shade with a dense horizontal habit. This cultivar has breath-taking bright rose-red flowers with a creamy yellow eye. Blooms in early August, lasts for weeks, and is followed by raspberry-shaped red fruit. Bronze or crimson fall colour. Beautiful bark with age. Disease resistant but requires good drainage. Hardy to -32°C(-25°F). **A Few Only (Potted 125cm - \$80.00)**

***Gymnocladus dioica*** - (Kentucky Coffee Tree) A large stately tree in the legume family and only for large gardens. Huge compound bipinnate leaves can reach 3'(9m) in length. Bark is dark brown and deeply ridged. Dioecious - either male or female - these are unsexed seedlings. Slow growing, it forms a upright tree with a rounded crown growing to 60'(20m) high x 40'(12m) wide. Natives and early immigrants used the roasted seeds to make a coffee-like drink. Raw seeds are poisonous. Zone 4. **(pot grown 100cm - \$30.00)**

***Liriodendron tulipifera*** (Tulip Tree) A fast-growing aristocratic tree related to magnolias. Unique leaves have a single lobe on each side & an almost flat tip. The cup-shaped, 2-3"(50-75mm) flowers, face upright on the branch tips. Slightly fragrant, they are yellowish green with an orangeish base and emerge in late spring after the foliage. Yellow fall colour. Massive tall straight trunk with deeply furrowed bark and an oval to rounded crown. Grows 40-100'(12-30m) tall and 20-40'(6-12m) wide. Best in full sun in moist well-drained soil. Zone 5. Not for the small garden. **A Few Only. (B&B 150cm - \$75.00)**

***Magnolia 'Galaxy' (liliiflora 'Nigra' x sprengeri 'Diva')*** Fragrant, 9"(275mm) pale red-purple flowers grace this very floriferous and vigorous hybrid. A fast-growing single stemmed tree to 25'(7.5m) high with an upright pyramidal habit. Lower branches may be pruned up to free up space underneath. An exceptional hybrid from the US National Arboretum. Zone 6. **(2 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Magnolia 'Spectrum' (liliiflora 'Nigra' x sprengeri 'Diva')*** A sister seedling to 'Galaxy'. Dark reddish-purple flowers, candle-like in bud, on a small tree. Freely branching from the ground up from a single leader. More open, upright-spreading habit with a rounded crown. Late. Floriferous. Zone 6. **(2 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Stewartia monadelpha*** - A pyramidal to rounded, somewhat shrubby species usually single-trunked with a layered branching structure. Bark on young trees is rich brown and scaly becoming smooth and rich cinnamon-brown with age. Flowers are 1-1.5" wide, white with yellow stamens, and do not open as flat as *S. pseudocamellia*. Blooms for close to a month in early summer. Smaller, dark green leaves turn reddish-maroon in winter. To 20'(6.0m) tall. Zone 7, possibly 6b. **(1 gal. - \$30.00)**

## **TENDER TUB PLANTS**

***Phormium 'Amazing Red'*** (Amazing Red New Zealand Flax) A tender evergreen New Zealand native which makes a superb tub plant either by itself or in combination with other plants. This reddish-brown cultivar has narrow, upright, sword-shaped 1.25"(30mm) wide leaves growing 2-3'(6-9m) high in a dense clump. Best in full sun. Pot in a well drained mix and keep moist but do not overwater. Store indoors in winter in a frost-free, cool (preferably) bright location and let dry out between light waterings. A stunning addition to your patio. **(1 gal. - \$20.00)**

***Phygeliu x rectus 'Sunshine'*** (Sunshine Cape Fuschia) A shrubby stoloniferous plant with coarse golden yellow foliage which sets off the yellow-throated brick red flowers nicely. The drooping long narrow tubular flowers emerge along 3'(9m) tall spikes in late summer. Great for adding late colour in mixed perennial planters. Store frost-free in a cold room and cut back just above the ground in spring. It has survived planted out in Zone 6b but likely to get killed during very cold winters. **(1 gal. - \$10.00)**

***Phygeliu aequalis Sensation™ ('Sani Pass')*** - A recent collection and colour breakthrough, this cultivar has bright violet-pink flowers on burgundy stems and dark green foliage. Habit as above but probably a bit more tender. **(1 gal. - \$10.00)**

## **PERENNIALS**

***Aconitum fischeri*** - (Monkshood) Also listed as *A. carmichaelii* v. *fischeri* or lumped into *A. carmichaelii*. A fall blooming species with large dark violet-blue flowers on strong stems to 3'(9m) or more high. Attractive, glossy dark green dissected foliage. Best in moist well-drained soil in full sun or part shade. Zone 4. (1 gal. - \$12.00)

***Anemone x hybrida*** - (Windflower, Japanese or Fall Anemone) A striking fall blooming perennial with tall stems of flat faced flowers rising from long-petioled, maple-like foliage. Best in full sun or part shade in light, rich, moist well drained soil where they will quickly form large spreading clumps. Hardy in Zone 6 and possibly colder but plant or divide in spring as those planted later in the year may not be sufficiently established to survive the winter. Two varieties are offered.

**'Andrea Atkinson'** - A vigorous sport of 'Honore Jobert' with 2-3" sparkling white flowers with orange-yellow stamens on a lower growing, darker green plant. To 3'(9m) high. (1 gal. - \$12.00)

**'Pamina'** - A semi-double selection with masses of purple-pink flowers. Particularly nice when back-lit by the setting sun! To 3'(9m) high. (1 gal. - \$12.00)

***Armeria maritima* 'Rubrifolia'** - (Sea Thrift) A new twist on this common perennial. Its evergreen blue-green grass-like foliage has a purple cast and turns dark red in fall and winter. Balls of rich magenta pink flowers are held above the foliage in spring. Foliage forms a broad 4" high tufted bun. Salt tolerant. Great for the rock garden or trough. Best in full sun with good drainage. Zone 4. (3.5" pots - \$4.00)

***Coreopsis* 'Crème Brûlée'** - Probably a hybrid between *C. grandiflora* and *C. Moonbeam*. This new cultivar is being touted as an improved 'Moonbeam' with larger flowers and more vigour. Flowers are pale yellow and are borne from summer to fall. Foliage is coarser than 'Moonbeam' and more lacy than *C. grandiflora*. Can be sheared in late summer to stimulate better fall bloom. To 2'(6m) high. Best in full sun. Zone 5. (1 gal. - \$10.00)

***Geranium* 'Expression'/'Tanya Rendall'** - An exciting new geranium with two names and foliage that emerges purple maturing to dark green. Flowers are bright pink splashed with white and are borne from early summer to fall. To 15"(4m) tall and spreading. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Iris wilsoni*** - A Siberian type iris with soft yellow flowers spotted brown and borne two to a stalk. Early blooming to 2'(6m) high. Foliage is narrow and glaucous blue-green. Best in full sun in well drained moist soil. Enjoys extra moisture during bloom time. Zone 6. Rare! (1 gal. - \$8.00)

***Kirengeshoma palmata*** - (Yellow Wax-Bells) A beautiful tall-growing perennial for part shade. Large lush maple-like leaves give rise to 4'(1.2m) high stems of tubular yellow flowers in late summer. Forms a bushy clump in time spreading by rhizomes. Best in moist rich soil. Resents disturbance. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$12.00)

***Ligularia przewalskii*** - Love Ligularias but are looking for something more interesting in foliage than large rounded leaves? This is the one. Flowers are similar to 'The Rocket' in being dark yellow and borne in tall, slender panicles to 6'(1.8m) high. The foliage however is deeply and irregularly lobed with darker veining. Summer blooming. For shade to part shade in rich moist soil. Zone 5. **A Few Only** (2 gal. - \$20.00)

***Paeonia tenuifolia*** - (Fern-leaf Peony) A very unusual and rare peony and usual very expensive. It has distinct finely dissected feathery green foliage and single red flowers with yellow stamens. Grows 18-24"(45-6m) high. Appreciates an annual top dressing of manure and a bit of lime. Resents bark mulch. Zone 4. Very choice. (1 gal. - \$25.00)

***Primula japonica* 'Miller's Crimson'** - An easy and persistent candelabra-type species with crimson red flowers atop stems to 18"(45m) high. Best in moist light shade where it may self sow into large colonies! Zone 5. (3.5" pots - \$4.00)

***Pulsatilla vulgaris* 'Red Cloak'** - (Pasque Flower) A dark red selection with cut petals held above a mound of silver-green, finely dissected foliage. Late spring blooming followed by ornamental fuzzy seed heads. To 12"(3m) high. Best in full sun in moist well-drained soil. Zone 5. (3.5" pots - \$4.00)

***Tricyrtis* 'Tricolor'** - A striking Toad Lily with foliage striped with cream and red in spring with the red fading in summer. Small yellow flowers spotted brown appear on top of the 20" arching stems in the fall. Zone 6. (3.5" pots - \$10.00)

## **ORNAMENTAL GRASSES**

***Calamagrostis x acutiflora* 'Avalanche'** - (Variegated Reed Grass) A variegated sport of the ever-popular 'Karl Forster'. Its dark green foliage has a broad white stripe up the middle. Feathery plumes of purplish-green flowers in summer. Typical narrow upright habit to 5'(1.5m) high in bloom. Zone 5. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Carex elata* 'Bowles Golden'** - (Bowles Golden Sedge, Tufted Sedge) A striking grass with arching bright golden-yellow foliage narrowly edged with green. Flowers briefly in spring. Requires a constantly moist location in sun or part shade - will grow in shallow water. Forms a dense tuft to 2'(6m) high and wide. Zone 5. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

***Deschampsia caespitosa* 'Northern Lights'** - (Tufted Hair Grass) Narrow blades are green variegated with cream and tinted purple-pink in spring and fall. Forms a dense slightly arching clump to 16"(4m) high. Panicles of flowers in gold, silver, purple and green tones rise to 3'(9m) high in early summer. Best in part-shade in moist well-drained soil. Zone 5. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

***Elymus magellanicus*** - (Blue Wheatgrass) A loose tufted, arching evergreen species with very blue foliage. Supposedly the bluest of the grasses! Clump forming to 20"(5m) high. Sparsely blooming. For sun to part-shade in moist well-drained soil. Zone 6, possibly colder. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

***Fargesia rufa*** - An exciting new bamboo species well suited to our climate and perhaps the most exciting plant on this year's list. As with *F. murielae* and *F. nitida* it is a non-invasive clumper and unlike them, it is reportedly tolerant of both sun (with adequate moisture) and shade! Arching canes to .5"(13mm) in diameter are densely clothed in lush foliage. Vigorous - quickly forms large clumps. Grows 6-8'(1.8-2.4m) tall. Best in light shade, in moist well-drained soil and protected from winter winds. Growing gangbusters in Yarmouth County! Hardy to Zone 6 and probably colder. (2 gal. - \$65.00)

***Festuca glauca* 'Elijah Blue'** - (Blue Fescue) Forms a spiky tufted dome to 8"(2m) high of fine needle-like silver-blue blades. Flowers are pale green with a purple tinge and insignificant. Colour best in full sun. Drought tolerant. Requires good drainage. Great for the rock garden. Zone 5. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

***Festuca glauca* 'Golden Toupee'** - (Golden Blue Fescue) Similar to above but blades golden yellow and slightly arching. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

***Helictotrichon sempervirens* 'Blue Sapphire' ('Saphirsprudel')** - (Blue Oat Grass) A striking species which forms a large spikey dome. Flowers insignificant. 'Blue Sapphire' has better and slightly wider blue-grey foliage. To 18"(45m) high and wide. Sun to part shade in dry to moist well-drained soil. Colour is better in dryer soil. Can be evergreen but best to cut foliage back in late winter before new growth begins. Great for perennial borders or the larger rock garden. Zone 5. (1 gal. - \$12.00)

***Millium effusum* 'Aureum'** - (Golden Wood Millet) A loosely tufted, laxly arching grass emerges vibrant golden yellow in spring aging to greenish-yellow in summer. Can be cut back in summer for a fall encore. Best in part-shade. To 9"(2m) high. Zone 6. (3.5" pots - \$5.00)

*Molinia caerulea* ssp. *arundinacea* 'Skyracer' - (Purple Moor Grass) A clump-forming grass growing 2-3'(.6-.9m) tall with narrow, slightly arching blue-green foliage. The flower spikes erupt in profusion in mid-summer and grow 6-8'(1.8-2.4m) tall. The loosely arranged flowers are tiny and purple, and quiver in the breeze. Best in moist well-drained soil in full sun. Golden yellow fall colour. Takes a few years to gain steam. Zone 6 (1 gal. - \$15.00)

*Saccharum ravennae* (*Erianthus ravennae*) - (Hardy Pampas, Ravenna Grass, Plume Grass) An impressive clump forming species with an upright arching habit. Broad 1"(2.5cm) foliage is grey-green with a white central stripe. Plumes of purplish-bronze flowers up to 2'(.6m) long appear in late summer and turn silver-grey in fall. Can grow to 12'(3.6m) high in flower x 4'(1.2m) high but unlikely to reach these proportions in our climate. A heat-lover it may not flower every year here, but the specimen in the AR Historic Gardens puts on a respectable show most years. Best in full sun in lean, dry to moist soil. Soil that is too rich and moist will result in floppy plants. Zone 6. (1 gal. - \$15.00)

## 2005 Seed Exchange ... Onward and Upward

By Sharon Bryson

Welcome to the 2005 Seed Exchange for the Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society. This year is another example of interesting and challenging seed choices. Our current list is the largest to date and may necessitate a bit of homework. We wish to thank the many contributors who have made this possible. Plant enthusiasts outside of our regional society have again made contributions to our annual exchange. When you look over the list, say a thank-you to those contributors.

We urge you to try some of the interesting rhododendron species and to note the varied selection of native azaleas offered. We hope you will consider growing many of these and add to the diversity of azalea species being grown in Atlantic Canada.

The deadline for submitting your order is Feb 28, 2005. Please remember that the seeds go out on a first come, first served basis dependent on seed quantity. Get your orders in early and you have a very good chance of getting everything on your list. It is VERY helpful to list second choices on the order form. If none are listed, we have to read your mind!

We are again anxious to encourage people to try growing rhododendrons and azaleas from seed. We hope our recent "tutorial" on growing rhododendrons from seed will encourage some newcomers to try their hands at growing. A copy of that program is available on CD through the Society's library or by contacting me. To this purpose we are offering TWO FREE packages of seed to anyone interested, whether or not you order any other seeds. They are noted in the seed list. Please send the order form and \$2 to cover postage in the usual way. If you need planting instructions, please ask.

At the end of each Seed Exchange there are inevitably left-over seeds. Should any of you be affiliated with gardening groups in your local areas and wish to share these please contact me and we can make arrangements. There is no predicting what may be left, but it could be interesting.

Once again we will post the Seed List on the Internet and insert some images and links to help in your decision-making. Check this out at [www.infinitymedia.ns.ca/willowgarden](http://www.infinitymedia.ns.ca/willowgarden). Follow the links for "growing rhododendrons". A link to the list will be inserted on the AtlanticRhodo site. [www.atlanticrhodo.org](http://www.atlanticrhodo.org)

Last year the Exchange was opened to the world at large after our Feb.28 closing date. This resulted in some orders for seeds from afar. If seed quantities warrant, we will do this again.

Stories of your past successes and/or failures with seed growing will be most welcome. Remember this need for feedback! Comments or suggestions regarding the Seed Exchange are also encouraged. You can send a note with your order or email me at [sbryson@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:sbryson@ns.sympatico.ca)

Have a fun time planning and planting from this year's list! ☺

# ARHS 2005 SEED EXCHANGE

## INSTRUCTIONS

Seed packets are \$2.50 CDN each for collected wild, \$2.00 CDN each for hand-pollinated and \$1.50 CDN each for open-pollinated seed. One packet per lot per person. More may be ordered but are subject to availability. **All orders must be on the form provided and should be received by February 28, 2005.** Save this seed list for some of the footnote information.

Send all orders to: Sharon Bryson, #407 Old Maryvale Rd., RR#3 Antigonish, Nova Scotia B2G 2L1 CANADA Please make your cheque or money order payable to **Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society**. Add \$2.00 CDN for postage & padded envelope. Please list substitutes as quantities for some lots are small.

US regulations now require an import permit and a phytosanitary certificate. Seeds sent to the US will be shipped without a phytosanitary certificate and at the orderers' risk.

**DONORS:** **BIR** - Jens Birck, Copenhagen, Denmark **BRU** - Joe Brusso, Hopkinton, Mass, USA **CHA** - Margaret Charlton, N. Vancouver, BC **CLY** - Bruce Clyburn, New Waterford, NS **CRA** - Donald Craig, Kentville, NS **CRE** - Mike Creel, Columbia, S.C., USA **DOI** - Yasuyuki Doi, Ishikari, Hokkaido, Japan **HAR** - Joe Harvey, Victoria, BC **HEL** - Mary Helleiner, Halifax, NS **HIN** - Dave Hinton, Orono, ON **LEV** - Sterling Levy, Fall River, NS **MAR** - Don Martin, Chilliwack, BC **NIE** - Jens Nielsen, Glendoick, Scotland **REI** - Wolfgang Reich, Germany **SAN** - Jenny Sandison, Mahone Bay, NS **SHA** - Ken Shannik, Halifax, NS **SIN** - June Sinclair, Port Ludlow, WA, USA **STA** - Barry Starling, Exeter, Devon, England **SUL** - Anita Sulley, Hammonds Plains, NS **WAL** - Patricia Walton, New Jersey, USA **WEA** - John Weagle, Halifax, NS **WIL** - Bill Wilgenhof, Antigonish, NS

## Rhododendron Species – Collected Wild - \$2.50

- 001 NIE *adenogynum* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 4100m
- 002 NIE *aganniphum affinity* - thin indumentum form cw 2003 North Sichuan, China 4000 m.
- 003 NIE *aganniphum affinity* - thin indumentum form cw 2003 Northwest Sichuan, China 4100 m
- 004 NIE *aganniphum affinity* - thin indumentum form cw 2003 West Sichuan, China 4200 m
- 005 NIE *argyrophyllum* ssp. *hypoglaucum* cw 2003 East Chongqing, China 2200m
- 006 NIE *aureodorsale* cw 2003 South Shaanxi, China 3000m. Described in 2003 as *R. clementinae* ssp. *auredorsale* the collector believes this deserves its own species status and that it is more closely allied to *R. galactinum*. †1
- 007 NIE *balangense* cw 2003 Northwest Sichuan, China 2500m.
- 008 NIE *capitatum* cw 2003 Northwest Sichuan 3900m †1
- 009 NIE *clementinae* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 4000m
- 010 WEA *faberi* AC4806 cw Zheudo Shan, Ganzi Prefecture - W. of Hangding 3800m †1 (2001 seed)
- 011 HEL *ferrugineum* cw Switzerland
- 012 NIE *ficulacteam* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 3650m
- 013 HEL *hirsutum* cw Switzerland
- 014 WEA *lapponicum* GMNW#1 cw Cape Norman, Nfld
- 015 WEA *lapponicum* GMNW#2 cw Cook's Harbour, Nfld. Biggest and best plant.
- 016 NIE *maculiferum* cw 2003 East Chongqing, China 2200m
- 017 CHA *maddenii* ssp. *crassum* PW 153 cw Phan Si Pan, Vietnam, 2620 m - fragrant. (Tender Tub Plant)
- 018 NIE *oreodoxa* (v. *oreodoxa* ?) cw 2003 Northwest Sichuan, China 3500m
- 019 NIE *przewalskii* - unusual glabrous form - cw 2003 Dabanshanense, North Sichuan, China 4100m

- 020 NIE *roxieanum* - interesting form intermediate between *globigerum/roxieanum/cucullatum* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 4100m
- 021 NIE *rufum?* - very good indumentum better than typical form! cw 2003 Northwest Sichuan, China 3600m

## Rhododendron Species - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 022 WEA *aureum* x *aureum* - selected for good yellow flowers †1
- 023 DOI *brachycarpum* Roseum Group x *brachycarpum* Roseum Group - selected for dwarfness, egg-shaped foliage and good pink flowers †1
- 024 CRA *calendulaceum* #1 - Sunnybrook selection, orange, 4x5'
- 025 CRA *calendulaceum* #2 - Georgia State Trooper selection. Orange-red, compact 4.5'x4'
- 026 BIR *camtschaticum* Kaernehuset red - op but does not hybridize (2003 seed)
- 027 CRA *cumberlandense* (*bakeri*) 'Top of the Mountain' - From Beasley Nursery, GA orange-red, late, 3.5'x 4'
- 028 CRE *eastmanii* x *eastmanii* from layers
- 029 CRA *luteum* - seedlings from Goteborg Botanical Garden, Sweden, yellow, scented, 6'
- 030 WEA *mucronulatum* ('Woodland Pink' x 'Cornell Pink') x self
- 031 WEA *oreotrephes* Bayport Hardy x *oreotrephes* RSF70-054
- 032 REI *pachysanthum* ARS91-344 (Cox)
- 033 CRE *prunifolium* 'David Ellis' x *prunifolium* 'Early Prune'
- 034 CRE *prunifolium* 'Woodlanders' x *prunifolium* 'David Ellis'
- 035 BIR *roxieanum* v. *oreonastes* x *roxieanum* #502
- 036 CRA *schlippenbachii* - white-pink, early, parent very floriferous, good fall color
- 037 CLY *schlippenbachii* - pink, parent from Kentville
- 038 BIR *wiltonii* #1 x *wiltonii* #2

## Rhododendron Species - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 039 CRE *atlanticum* 'Cottingham' - colonial split petal

040	WEA	<i>aureum</i> Ostrom Compact (only <i>roxieanum</i> ( <i>globigerum</i> ) in bloom nearby)	089	DOI	( <i>dichroanthum</i> ssp. <i>apodectum</i> x <i>brachycarpum</i> Roseum Group) x ( <i>taliense</i> x <i>lactum</i> ) (2003 seed)
041	WEA	<i>brachycarpum</i> Bayport#1 (isolated plant)	090	REI	'Dorte Reich' x <i>concinnum</i> P.C.5061 †8
042	CLY	<i>calendulaceum</i> - compact form, orange, probably selfed	091	BIR	('Fantastica' x <i>proteoides</i> R151) x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850
043	WEA	<i>calophytum</i> JS9023 - dark red buds (2003 seed)	092	BIR	<i>finckii</i> Type Form RBGE x <i>pachysanthum</i> WB
044	CRE	<i>cumberlandense</i> ( <i>bakeri</i> ) - seedlings from We-Du OP group, pure	093	BIR	<i>finckii</i> Type Form RBGE x <i>strigillosum</i>
045	WEA	<i>dauricum</i> - Ostrom good white	094	WEA	'Francesca' x 'Tantramar'
046	WIL	<i>kiusianum</i> - pink forms	095	BIR	'Gold???' (true yellow hybrid) x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850
047	WIL	<i>kiusianum</i> - white	096	BIR	'Gold Prinz' x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850
048	SIN	<i>lanatum</i> cw Sikkim (2003 seed)	097	WEA	'Henry's Red' x ('Fantastica' x <i>proteoides</i> ) Doi
049	CLY	<i>luteum</i> - yellow, fragrant, probably selfed	098	WEA	'Henry's Red' x 'Tantramar'
050	CLY	<i>maximum</i> - typical, full truss after -28°C, probably selfed	099	REI	'Honeymoon' x <i>pachysanthum</i> †1
051	WIL	<i>maximum</i> Red Form seedling - reddest selection	100	DOI	'Hotei' x <i>aureum</i> †16
052	WIL	<i>minus</i> Carolinianum Group - pink/white	101	REI	'Hotei' x <i>pachysanthum</i> †16
053	CRE	<i>minus</i> Carolinianum Group - prostrate, pure white, usually selfs.	102	BIR	<i>insigne</i> SHH x <i>proteoides</i> R151 RBGE †1
054	BRU	<i>mucronulatum</i> - semi-dwarf white, isolated	103	CLY	'Janet Blair' x 'Dexter's Honeydew' †9
055	SHA	<i>mucronulatum</i> v. <i>chejuense</i> - true seedlings will be small with rounded leaves, others likely crossed with taller form	104	CLY	'Janet Blair' x 'Dexter's Peppermint' †9
056	MAR	<i>pentaphyllum</i> Don Armstrong - likely selfed (2003 seed)	105	CLY	'Janet Blair' x 'Glenolden' (Wister)
057	CRE	<i>perichymenoides</i> 'Flat Creek Fuschia' - <i>R. canescens</i> nearby	106	CLY	'Janet Blair' x 'Great Eastern'
		<b>Rhododendron Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00</b>	107	WEA	('Lath House Red' x <i>yakushimanum</i> ) x <i>insigne</i> Birck
058	BIR	<i>adenogynum</i> x <i>kesangiae</i>	108	WEA	('Lath House Red' x <i>yakushimanum</i> ) x <i>kesangiae</i> RSF#91-070
059	REI	[Alfeld Eos' x ( <i>discolor</i> hybrid x <i>schyphocalyx</i> )] <i>cinnabarred</i> x [ <i>makinoi</i> 'red' x ( <i>yakushimanum</i> x <i>gymnocarpum</i> )] †2	109	WAL	('Maxine Childers' x 'Anna Delp')#4 x 'Wheatley'
060	REI	[Alfeld Eos' x ( <i>discolor</i> hybrid x <i>schyphocalyx</i> )] <i>cinnabar red</i> x <i>ochraceum</i> †2	110	REI	<i>minus</i> Carolinianum Group x <i>dekatanum</i> †1
061	REI	'April Gen' x <i>mucronulatum</i> 'Mahogany Red' (2003 seed)	111	BIR	'Mrs. Furnival' x <i>proteoides</i> R151 RBGE
062	BIR	[(Bambi x <i>proteoides</i> )#4 x ('Bergs Yellow' x <i>proteoides</i> )] WB0031 x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850	112	BIR	x <i>nikomontanum</i> SHH x <i>repens</i> SOF †1
063	WAL	'Barbara Cook' x 'Head Honcho' †3	113	BIR	x <i>nikomontanum</i> SHH x <i>sutchuenense</i> pink †1
064	WEA	'Barbara Hall' x [( <i>brachycarpum</i> x <i>aureum</i> ) x <i>caloxanthum</i> ] †4	114	BIR	<i>oreothrepes</i> x <i>dendrocharis</i> CCH4012 †1
065	WEA	'Barbara Hall' x <i>insigne</i> Birck †4	115	HAR	<i>pachysanthum</i> RSF78/064 x <i>proteoides</i>
066	WEA	'Barbara Hall' x <i>kesangiae</i> RSF#91-070 †4	116	HAR	<i>pachysanthum</i> RSF78/064 x <i>pseudochysanthum</i>
067	WEA	'Bellefontaine' x <i>kesangiae</i> RSF#91-070	117	BIR	<i>pachytrichum</i> x <i>strigillosum</i>
068	WEA	'Bellefontaine' x <i>roxieanum</i>	118	BIR	'Paprika Spiced' x <i>proteoides</i> R151 RBGE
069	REI	('Blue Wonder' x <i>dauricum</i> v. <i>album</i> ) x <i>dekatanum</i> †5	119	REI	'Pintail' x <i>dendrocharis</i> C.5106
070	WAL	'Bosutch' x 'Hypermax' †6	120	BIR	<i>proteoides</i> 'Ascreavie' x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850
071	WEA	<i>brachycarpum</i> Bayport #1 x <i>erosum</i>	121	BIR	[( <i>proteoides</i> x <i>dichroanthum</i> )#1 x ('Bergs Yellow' x <i>proteoides</i> )] WB0036 x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850
072	WEA	<i>brachycarpum</i> Bayport #1 x <i>kesangiae</i> (pink)	122	HAR	<i>proteoides</i> x <i>roxieanum</i> v. <i>oreonastes</i> †1
073	WEA	<i>brachycarpum</i> Bayport #1 x ( <i>mallotum</i> x <i>macabeanum</i> ) Berg	123	REI	('Razorbill' x 'Laurin') x <i>cinnabarinum</i> ssp.
074	WEA	<i>brachycarpum</i> Bayport #1 x 'Sir Charles Lemon'	124	REI	( <i>xanthocodon</i> Concatenans Group †12
075	WEA	[( <i>brachycarpum</i> x <i>aureum</i> ) x <i>caloxanthum</i> ] x sibling			( <i>Razorbill</i> x <i>Laurin</i> ) x ( <i>cinnabarinum</i> ssp. <i>xanthocodon</i> Concatenans Group x <i>Pink Drift</i> ) †11 †12
076	WEA	<i>brachycarpum</i> pink x ( <i>mallotum</i> x <i>macabeanum</i> ) Berg	125	REI	'Razorbill' x ( <i>racemosum</i> SSNY47 x <i>spinuliferum</i> ) intense pink †1
077	DOI	<i>brachycarpum</i> Roseum Group x <i>proteoides</i> Ascreavie	126	BIR	<i>recurvoides</i> x <i>strigillosum</i> †1
078	WEA	'Bravo' x <i>insigne</i> (Birck)	127	CLY	'Red Brave' x 'Henry's Red'
079	WEA	'Bravo' x <i>kesangiae</i> RSF#91-070	128	BIR	Rosa Regen' x <i>fortunei</i> - for improved rootstock
080	REI	[( <i>calostrotum</i> ssp. <i>keleticum</i> Radicans x 'Radistrotum') x <i>dekatanum</i> †1 †10	129	REI	( <i>sanguineum</i> ssp. <i>didymum</i> x <i>roxieanum</i> 'dark red') - late x <i>ochraceum</i> - early †1
081	REI	[( <i>calostrotum</i> ssp. <i>keleticum</i> Radicans x 'Radistrotum') x <i>dendrocharis</i> C.5106 †10	130	CLY	'Scintillation' x 'Haaga'
082	DOI	( <i>campylogynum</i> 'Claret' x <i>dauricum</i> v. <i>nanum</i> White Form) x 'St. Merry'n' †18	131	DOI	'Snipe' x <i>dendrocharis</i> †17
083	DOI	[( <i>campylogynum</i> 'Claret' x <i>dauricum</i> v. <i>nanum</i> ) x <i>dendrocharis</i> ] x 'St. Merry'n' †18	132	WEA	'Spellbinder' x <i>kesangiae</i> RSF91-070
084	BIR	( <i>campylogynum</i> x <i>hypolepidotum</i> ) x ( <i>campylogynum</i> x <i>hypolepidotum</i> )	133	WEA	'Spellbinder' x ( <i>mallotum</i> x <i>macabeanum</i> )
085	DOI	'Carmen' x <i>brachycarpum</i> 'Roseum Group' †1	134	CLY	Steele's 'Catalglia F2' x <i>macabeanum</i> RSF
086	REI	<i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> hybrid x <i>wardii</i> hybrid - light yellow with reddish-purple buds †7	135	BIR	<i>taliense</i> v. 'cuculataoides' SBEC 350 x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850 - hybridizer thinks this is his best cross of the year
087	REI	<i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> hybrid x 'Honeymoon' ( <i>wardii</i> hybrid) †7	136	WEA	'Teddy Bear' x <i>mallotum</i> 'Wisley' Best (Berg)
088	HAR	<i>degronianum</i> ssp. <i>yakushimanum</i> 'Exbury' x <i>argyrophyllum</i>	137	BIR	[(Top Banana' x <i>antheiense</i> ) x ( <i>aureum</i> x <i>apodectum</i> )] x <i>citriniflorum</i> ssp. <i>horeaum</i> F21850
			138	WAL	('Top Banana' x 'Janet Blair') x 'Paula' - 'Paula' is a hardy cream Mezitt hybrid
			139	CLY	'Wareham' (Dexter) x 'Forcat' (Steele)
			140	BIR	<i>watsonii</i> Hummel x <i>pratti</i>
			141	BIR	<i>watsonii</i> Hummel x <i>sutchuenense</i> pink
			142	WEA	'Wyandanch' x <i>insigne</i>

143	WEA	'Wyandanch' x <i>kesangiae</i> RSF91-070	184	SHA	nodding bell-shaped flowers, a sprawler. - Perennial
144	REI	( <i>yakushmanum</i> x <i>chamaethomsonii</i> ) x <i>haematodes</i> ssp. <i>chaetomallum</i> †13	185	SHA	<i>Clematis koreana</i> - similar to <i>C. alpina</i> , dark purple flowers - Vine
145	REI	( <i>yakushmanum</i> x <i>chamaethomsonii</i> ) x <i>ochraceum</i> †13			<i>Clematis species</i> cw Lake Bakal - very similar to <i>C. integrifolia</i> - Perennial
146	WEA	<i>yakushmanum</i> 'Mist Maiden' x <i>erosum</i>	186	SHA	<i>Clematis viorna</i> - Small fleshy, pink-purple urn-shaped flowers, herbaceous. - Vine
147	DOI	( <i>yakushmanum</i> x <i>pseudochrysanthum</i> ) x <i>haematodes</i> FCC (2003 seed)	187	WIL	<i>Clematis recta</i> 'Purpurea' - purple foliage, white flowers, herbaceous - Perennial
148	DOI	( <i>yakushmanum</i> x <i>pseudochrysanthum</i> ) x <i>mallotum</i>	188	SHA	<i>Clethra tomentosa</i> (Woolly Summersweet) - sim. to <i>C. alnifolia</i> , white fragrant flowers, woolly foliage. - Shrub
149	BIR	<i>yakushmanum</i> 'Schneekissen' x <i>nikomontanum</i> Kaernehuset †1	189	SHA	<i>Crocasmia paniculata</i> - orange-red, reliable bloomer, seemingly hardy - Bulb
150	BIR	<i>yakushmanum</i> 'Schneekissen' x <i>rex</i>	190	SHA	<i>Crocasmia 'Solfatare'</i> - yellow flowers, grey-brown foliage, a reportedly tender hybrid - Bulb
151	REI	'Yellow Dane' x <i>dekatanum</i> †1	191	SHA	<i>Crocasmia</i> - orange-red seedlings - Grown from seed mislabelled as another genus. Hardiness not known. - Bulb
<b>Rhododendron Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50</b>					
152	BIR	'Charmant' - can yield plants similar to parent	192	SHA	<i>Crocasmia</i> - yellow - Bulb †1
153	WIL	'Gloxineum' - large conical pink trusses	193	SHA	<i>Cyclamen coum</i> 'Bicolour' - Bulb †19
154	WIL	'Haaga' - extremely hardy Finnish hybrid, dark rosy-pink	194	SHA	<i>Cyclamen coum</i> 'Florescent' - Bulb †19
155	WEA	( <i>maximum</i> x <i>aureum</i> ) F2	195	SHA	<i>Cyclamen coum</i> - mixed - Bulb †19
156	WIL	'Nepal' - hardy, pink buds opening white	196	SHA	<i>Cyclamen coum</i> 'Silverpoint' - Bulb †19
157	WIL	'Peter Tigerstedt' - extremely hardy Finnish hybrid, white with dark blotch	197	SHA	<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i> 'Bowles Hybrid' †19
158	WIL	'Red River' - very late red	198	SHA	<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i> 'Fairy Rings' †19
159	HIN	Sandra Hinton - [ <i>brachycarpum</i> Tigerstedt Group x ( <i>snimowii</i> x <i>yakushimanum</i> )] - extremely hardy (2003 seed)	199	SHA	<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i> 'Ruby' - Bulb †19
160	WIL	seedling aka 'Ivory Cloud' from ARS92-608 - large out-facing ivory blooms, no winter damage in last 2 harsh winters †14	200	SHA	<i>Cyclamen pseudoibericum</i> 'Roseum' - tender, requires a bright, cool, frost-free winter location - Bulb †19
161	WIL	best yellow seedling from ARS92-608 - good non-fading yellow †14	201	SHA	<i>Cyclamen purpurascens</i> - Bulb †19
162	WIL	Mix of many <i>Rhododendron</i> hybrids from HP & OP seeds. <b>FREE</b>	202	SHA	<i>Cyclamen purpurascens</i> 'Silver Leaf' †19
<b>Azalea Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00</b>					
163	CRA	( <i>bakeri</i> x <i>arborescens</i> ) Craig hybrid selection, orange-red, 3-5', late.	203	SHA	<i>Cyclamen trochopetanthum</i> - tender, requires a bright, cool frost-free winter location †19
164	CLY	'Chelsea Reach' x <i>luteum</i>	204	SHA	<i>Cyrtanthus brachystylus</i> - Easy, tender amaryllis relative with small tubular orange-red flowers in late spring & summer. Evergreen. Over winter in a bright, cool frost-free location. - Bulb
165	STA	'Puddington' x 'Ambush'	205	HEL	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> ex 'Sutton's Apricot' (Foxglove) - pale pink, selected over several years. - Biennial
166	STA	'Spital' x 'Ambush'	206	WIL	<i>Erenurus robustus</i> (Foxtail Lily) - show-stopping tall spikes of white/pink flowers in July, 7-9' - Perennial
167	CRE	'Summer Lyric' x <i>arborescens</i> 'Judd's Arb' †15	207	SHA	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> - Narrow upright yucca-like foliage, green sea holly type flowers. - Per.
168	STA	'Thingwall' x 'Ambush'	208	WIL	<i>Exochorda x macrantha</i> (Pearlbush) - white blooms in late spring, ~4' - Shrub
<b>Azalea Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50</b>					
169	WIL	Seedlings from a 'Homebush' cross, many pink forms	209	MAR	<i>Gaultheria miqueliana</i> Beaver Creek #13447 - prostrate evergreen shrub with white urn-shaped flowers and white berries. - Shrub †20
170	WIL	Unnamed large white with yellow blotch	210	SHA	<i>Gentiana asclepiadea</i> (Willow Gentian) - blue tubular flowers on arching stems to 2'. Great for cut flowers. - Perennial
171	WIL	Unnamed pale yellow, large flowers	211	SHA	<i>Gentiana asclepiadea</i> 'Alba' - (White Willow Gentian) - as above but white. - Perennial
172	WIL	Unnamed bright yellow, small flowers	212	SHA	<i>Hippeastrum (Rhodophiala) elwesii</i> - charming & diminutive Amaryllis with creamy flowers - green, peach, pink & yellow tones, evergreen, repeat blooms in our frost-free greenhouse, tender. - Bulb
173	WIL	Deciduous mix - corals, white, pinks & yellows <b>FREE</b>	213	SHA	<i>Hippeastrum species</i> (Amaryllis) - red flowers on stems to 2', blooms several times a year as a houseplant with no dormancy required, tender - Bulb
<b>Companion Plants - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50</b>					
174	HAR	<i>Aconitum camichaelii</i> 'Arendsi' - Monkshood species from China, deep blue flowers - Perennial	214	SUL	<i>Hosta 'Party Favour'</i> - ruffled blue/green leaves, mid-size. - Perennial
175	SHA	<i>Aquilegia alpina</i> - dk. purple-blue flowers, 2' tall, Seems to come true. - Perennial	215	SUL	<i>Hosta 'Abiqua Recluse'</i> - golden yellow, shiny dimpled leaves, large - Perennial
176	WIL	<i>Buddleia davidii</i> (Butterfly Bush) - best purple, easy from seed, blooms in the first year, arching habit, late. - Shrub	216	WIL	<i>Hosta sieboldiana</i> - large crinkled blue leaves, white flowers - Perennial
177	HEL	<i>Campanula barbata</i> cw Switzerland (Bearded Bellflower) - Per./Biennial	217	WIL	<i>Iris variegata</i> (Bearded Iris) - yellow with brownish-purple stripes, ~18' - Perennial
178	SHA	<i>Cardiocrinum giganteum</i> - Lily relative, very fragrant large tubular flowers, large spade-shaped leaves. Tender but has been overwintered in south end Halifax with protection - Bulb	218	WIL	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i> 'Pinwheel' (Mountain Laurel) - evergreen - Shrub †20
179	WIL	<i>Catalpa ovata</i> (Chinese catalpa) - creamy-white flowers, blooms at young age, 35-40' - Tree			
180	WIL	<i>Ceratostema triloba</i> (South African Foxglove) - white to pale mauve flowers, 3'+/- (via S. Stevenson '04) - Annual			
181	SHA	<i>Clematis campaniflora</i> - white - Vine			
182	SHA	<i>Clematis heracleifolia</i> - Small, pale violet-blue hyacinth-like flowers in clusters, fragrant - Shrub			
183	SHA	<i>Clematis integrifolia</i> - herbaceous with soft blue			



- 219 MAR *Ladum palustre* ssp. *diversipilosum* Beaver Creek #13457 †1 †20  
 220 CRE *Leiophyllum buxifolium* (Box Sandmyrtle)  
 - low-growing evergreen shrub †20  
 221 SHA *Leucojum autumnale* - a delicate Snowflake with small white flowers  
 and grass-like foliage. Needs good drainage. Late spring. Borderline  
 hardy. -Bulb  
 222 WIL *Leucothoe fontanesiana* (Drooping Leucothoe) - handsome evergreen  
 spreading shrub, good winter color - Shrub †20  
 223 SAN *Lilium martagon* (turk's Cap Lily) - purple - Bulb  
 224 WIL *Magnolia x loebneri* 'Leonard Messel' - pink - Tree †21  
 225 SHA *Magnolia sieboldii* from cw. Korean seed, white with pink stamens.  
 Large flowered and vigorous - Tree †21  
 226 LEV *Meconopsis betonicifolia* (Himalayan Blue Poppy) - Perennial  
 227 SHA *Manziesia ciliacalyx* 'Dwarf Form' - deciduous shrub with attractive  
 dark green foliage, pink to purple pendant urn-shaped  
 flowers. - Shrub †20  
 228 SHA *Mitraria coccinea* - a tender shrubby trailing gesneriad from Chile  
 suited to hanging basket, tubular orange-red flowers, overwinter in a  
 bright, cold, frost-free location - Shrub †1  
 229 WIL *Paeonia lactiflora* (Garden Peony) - OP seeds  
 from many named cultivars - Perennial  
 230 SHA *Paeonia parviflora* (officialis ssp. *villosa*) - Single bright fuchsia pink  
 flowers with blue-green foliage 18-24' - Perennial  
 231 MAR *Phyllodoce aleutica* Beaver Creek #13455 †20  
 232 WIL *Pieris japonica* - white flowers in early spring, evergreen - Shrub †20  
 233 LEV *Primula sieboldii* - mixed - Perennial  
 234 LEV *Saxifraga* - encrusted mix (Silvers) - Per.  
 235 SHA *Serratula coronata* Dwarf Form - late blooming 'Thistle' with showy  
 creamy-white flowers late in summer. To 12' high. - Per.  
 236 SHA *Smilacina racemosa* - Solomon's Seal relative, arching stems with  
 terminal racemes of fluffy white flowers followed by red berries. Full to  
 part shade. 3' - Perennial
- †9. Pollen and Seed parents are highly fragrant Dexter  
 hybrids. Goal is for fragrant hybrids.  
 †10. (*calostrotum* ssp. *keleticum* Radicans x  
 'Radistrotum') = purple pink, very dense, 25cm high  
 x 40cm wide in 15 years  
 †11. Pollen parent = red purple grp 65 b/c, base orange-  
 red 35c, inside yellow orange 23c/d; tubular funnel  
 shape up to 7 flower/truss, 140cm high x 60cm wide  
 in 20 years  
 †12. 'Lauren' = 'Purpur-Geisha' x *pemakoense* Patulum Grp  
 'Purpur-Geisha' = *minus* Carolinianum Group x  
*campylogynum* Myrtillloides Group  
 †13. (*yakushimanum* x *chamaethomsonii*) = red group  
 53 a/b indumented 22 x 36cm in 8 yrs  
 †14. ARS92-608 = {[('Big Deal' x 'Donna Hargrove')  
 x ('Golden Star' x 'Catalglia')]} x *wardii*  
 †15. 'Summer Lyric' = *prunifolium* x *arborescens* and is  
 registered as 'Jeff'  
 †16. 'Hotei' = [(*soulei* x *wardii*) x 'Goldsworth Orange']  
 †17. 'Snipe' = *pemakoense* x *davidsonianum*  
 †18. 'St. Merryn' x = *impeditum*  
 'St. Tudy' (*augustinii* x *impeditum*)  
 †19. Cyclamen germination - Stratification not req'd, seed  
 germinates best at 55-60F. Surface sow & cover with  
 a thin layer of grit. Keep in the dark. May take a year  
 or two to germinate.  
 †20. An Ericaceous shrub - sow as per rhododendrons.  
 †21. Magnolia seed has been partially stratified. Store in  
 fridge in plastic packet as received until March/April  
 then sow in warm soil.

## FOOTNOTES

- †1. Very limited quantity - please list substitutes.  
 †2. 'Alfeld Eos' = [*yak* x (*discolor* hybrid x *scyphocalyx*)] -  
 orange-pink fading to yellow  
 †3. 'Head Honcho' = (*yakushimanum* 'Siouxon' x 'Mrs.  
 J.G. Millais') 2.5' x 3' Large 4' wide white flowers  
 with twin rays of deep orange-yellow spotting on  
 the dorsal lobe. ~16 flowers/truss. Raised in Ohio.  
 †4. 'Barbara Hall' = 'Road Red' x 'Prelude'  
 †5. Seed parent has flowers similar to Cheju but earlier  
 and plant is dwarfer.  
 †6. 'Bosutch' = ('Boule de Neige' x *sutchuenense*)  
 'Hypermax' = (*hyperythum* x *maximum*) Delp 5' x 4'.  
 Early bloom, esp. for a *maximum* hybrid. Large  
 flowers, white with red speckles on the upper lobe.  
 Full rounded truss. Compact, hardy, lusty grower.  
 Large leaves, very dark blackish-green.  
 †7. *citriniflorum* ssp. *horaeum* hybrid = very dwarf Cox  
 hybrid RHS84/4c  
 †8. 'Dorte Reich' = *minus* Carolinianum Group x  
*cinnabarinum* ssp. *xanthocodon* Concatenans  
 Group

## NOTES

1. Open-pollinated species, with the exception of a very few,  
 may not come true from seed. Cultivars, with the exception of a  
 few perennials do not come true. Plants from these seeds should  
 not be labelled as being that species or cultivar. Be sure that  
 you label the plants as being 'OP' in the case of species and 'ex'  
 in the case of cultivars.
2. See the RSCAR Members' Handbook for an article on growing  
 rhododendrons from seed. The article can also be found on our  
 website.
3. When sowing rhododendrons on peat we recommend you  
 sterilize it first. Microwave it for 15 minutes or pour boiling water  
 through it several times and allow to cool.
4. We would like to thank the seed donors for their time and effort  
 making crosses, collecting and cleaning seeds. We would also like  
 our membership to take note of the types of seeds donated this year.  
 We highly encourage members to attempt their own hybridization  
 of rhododendrons. Seed of uncommon trees, shrubs and perennials  
 is always most welcome.

# The Cumberland Azalea

*Rhododendron cumberlandense* syn. *bakeri*

By Jamie Ellison

One of the most common misconceptions about the genus *Rhododendron* is that all the members come into bloom around the same time. Many of our large retail sites further perpetuate this by keeping limited selections on hand, massing large floriferous hybrids with similar parentage in colourful yet deceiving displays. When this display is finished, the genus is soon forgotten and replaced with something else that is colourful. Those of us that collect the myriad of species and hybrids see floral displays commencing in May and lasting into July.

*Rhododendron cumberlandense* syn. *bakeri* deserves more attention and has great potential for our climate. The Cumberland Azalea is a deciduous species native to the Blue Ridge Mountains, specifically to the Cumberland plateau, hence the name. The species can also be found in Kentucky, south to Tennessee and into Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina.

*Rhododendron cumberlandense* is a member of the subgenus *Pentanthra* under the section and subsection *Pentanthra*. It is included with other familiar American species like *R. calendulaceum*, *arborescens* and *viscosum*.

## Attributes

The Cumberland Azalea is an elegant plant with forest green foliage. The flowers are very showy, tubular, red to burnt orange numbering 4-7 per truss. The flower resembles *R. calendulaceum* but is smaller and appears when *calendulaceum* is finishing. The flowers also appear when the leaves are fully expanded. The leaves can have blue-glaucous undersides.

This species is quite hardy surviving low temperature down to -26 C (-15 F). The height is variable from 1 m. – 2.5 m. They like a moist rich soil and do best in high shade to full sun in Nova Scotia.

Many of the commercial azalea hybrids have magnificent floral displays but some of the Asian species and hybrids have tremendous mildew problems in our climate. Not so with the American species. *R. cumberlandense* is no exception. The dark foliage remains pristine throughout the season showing no signs of mildew. The floral display on this species seems to be consistent in colour and reliability. However, the main attribute is the bloom time. This is one of the last species to bloom in its native haunts with displays lasting well into July.

## Named Selections

There don't seem to be many selections named. Two selections are registered. *R. bakeri* 'Camp's Red' is a compact selection noted for its intense red flowers. Plants

are mature at 1.5 m. A new Polly Hill selection called *R. bakeri* 'Sunlight' blooms earlier than the species and has a mix of orange, rose and gold in the truss. Both have been listed at a hardiness of -32 C (-25F)

## Plant History and Breeding in Nova Scotia

In 1953 seed was received by Don Craig at Kentville Research Station. The seed was donated by none other than David Leach who did a controlled cross with his best "fiery red" species, according to his correspondence with Dr. Craig in 1953.

In 1986 Dr. Craig crossed these with *Rhododendron arborescens* and grew 93 seedlings from the cross. The seedlings appeared to be slow growing and some started to decline as they matured. The best of the lot have a compact habit with large tubular, burnt orange flowers that are very showy. They have kept the Cumberland's late flowering habit and clean foliage. They consistently flower in mid to late July and are truly spectacular as they are then more or less the only rhododendrons in flower.

I personally see great potential for the species and late flowering hybrids in our region. Aside from extending the rhododendron bloom period in collections, these have great potential as border plants, adding a burst of colour to a hot summer border or a well lit woodland garden. The clean dark foliage will also provide a nice backdrop for other flowering material when out of bloom. Look for seed donations from Don Craig on this year's seed list. These are selected from some of his best. I anxiously await the next generation from this cross.

For additional information on the species see East Coast Azaleas at <http://www.tjhsst.edu/~dhyatt/ars/orangechoice.htm>

## Additional comments on the Kentville Plants from Andrew Jamieson

Hello Jamie,  
Yes, the *R. bakeri* (*cumberlandense*) are still on the bank behind the pond and they are doing very well. They typically flower in the first week of July about a week or two after *R. calendulaceum*. Although both plants of *R. bakeri* are orange-red in color, one is redder than the other. I decided to cross them to see what would segregate out with regard to flowering time and flower color. (Actually, I mainly wanted to get a couple of nice plants for my garden!)

Lots of seedlings were produced and I gave a couple of flats to Dick Steele who gave them to someone in the Milton area to grow on for eventual planting at Pine Grove. I'm not sure

of the fate of these but if all went well, they should be substantial plants by now. Since my back yard seedling area was full at the time, I planted a row (32±) at the Sheffield farm in a rather challenging site—full sun, heavy soil, and pH close to 6. Needless to say, the plants didn't thrive but they did survive and many flowered. Their toughness impressed me. Eventually, I selected four plants and tucked them in some spaces in a rhododendron seedling planting in my back yard. They put on excellent growth last summer in response to the more favourable environment.

There wasn't a wide range of variability in this cross. Some seedlings were a bit redder than others and they pretty much matched or fell in between the parents in colour and time of flowering. There is something to be said for doing the initial selection in a harsh environment rather than an ideal one. The resulting selections are bound to be less finicky about their requirements for growth and development.

Finally, it would be interesting to learn something about the mechanism that instructs the *R. bakeri* flower buds to wait and wait and wait before opening. While all of the other azaleas are flowering away, *bakeri* is patiently waiting for its predestined time. Seeing this species for the first time, one would think something has gone awry and the buds will never open—but patience is rewarded! ☐

## Hardy Evergreen Azaleas for Coastal Nova Scotia

By John Weagle

*This article started as a message posted by John Weagle to the Yahoo Rhodie Group\* and an edited version was subsequently printed in The Rosebay, the newsletter of the Massachusetts chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. John eventually plans to use it as a basis for an article in the Journal of the Azalea Society of America, but in the meantime he has allowed us to print it here*

On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 2004 when it would seem that global warming is failing us, a re-evaluation of the evergreen azaleas may well be in order.

*Caveat emptor*: azalea names are a minefield of duplications and inaccuracies. Be certain you have the right plant before any pronouncements are made.

Orlando Pride's 'Pale Lilac' may well be the hardiest of all evergreen azaleas. Last October Jens Birck and I collected seed from a plant 1 m (3') high by 3 m (10') wide at Dave Hinton's in Orono, Ontario. This garden is in a very cold area far from the moderating effects of Lake Ontario. 'Pale Lilac' has been the only evergreen azalea to bloom reliably in Dave's garden after -35° C (-31° F). Since the late 1970's here in coastal Nova Scotia the other Pride azaleas were as hardy as 'Pale Lilac' but it never gets cold enough here on the coast to rate them reliably for temperature alone, at least not the way Dave can. We certainly get prolonged cold but not the extreme lows Dave gets. 'Nadine' (a Gable cross which Pride grew on), 'Pride's Pink', 'Pride's White', 'Pride's Red', 'Pride's Pride', 'Sam Greer', 'Winnie Greer', 'Marjorie', 'Joe Gable' and others I tried were entirely satisfactory. Dick Steele wrote an article in the Rhododendron Society of Canada *Bulletin* 1979, Volume 8 Number 1 entitled "What About Evergreen Azalea Hardiness"; it was subsequently reprinted in the *ARS Journal* Spring 1980, Volume 34 Number 2. It documents Pride's work with evergreen azaleas with the letters Steele received from Lanny and is well worth reading.

Here in Nova Scotia there are areas with very cold low temperatures and late frosts where very hardy Pride azaleas would be most welcome. On Nova Scotia's southern coasts the problem(s) with evergreen azaleas is more complicated. American azalea breeders Pride, Tolstead, Gable, Shamarello and Parks all had rather similar climates – blistering hot summer days and warm nights (i.e. tomato country). Many of these azaleas need heat to harden off and so they ripen reliably in such climates. The hardiness reports based on temperature alone from these fellows should be fairly reliable for their respective areas. Here on our coast of Nova Scotia we have 2-5 days of 30° C (86° F) a year and rarely a night over 20° C (68° F). After Christmas it gets cold and stays cold. Looking solely at the lowest temperature on the coast would suggest a milder climate; let me assure you that most New Englanders would think they were experiencing a Siberian winter here in New Scotland. To compound the problem the growing season for evergreen azaleas starts after June 21<sup>st</sup>, the summer solstice, perilously late for an area where summers are cool and short. We rely solely on the August drought and long autumns to slow things down and ripen wood. Last summer was cool and then it got wet in late August and September, and wetter still in October. In early November we had a sudden plunge to -7°C (19 F), not particularly cold or unusual but when preceded by no hardening, a disaster. With shoots still soft or green, barksplit resulted almost immediately on many azalea hybrids, most frequently on the least hardened top portions; some were plants that had braved -27° C (-17° F) in our longest and coldest winter of 1992/3 – this with little snowcover but surprisingly no damage to evergreen azaleas. Even the Glendale 'Glamour' bloomed after that winter and it's rated at -21° C (-5° F); that is not a recommendation however. Last autumn (2003) the North Tisbury azaleas produced by Polly Hill on Martha's Vineyard took a beating but looking at the parentage this is not surprising: by mid-summer they were looking fine – azaleas have amazing recuperative powers. In our experience both *R. kiusianum* and *poukhanense* seem to impart the genes for the most adaptable azaleas for this coastal climate.

## Hardest Species

The hardest species that has never barksplit here is *R. kiusianum* and it may very well be the hardest of all the evergreen azalea species – some reckon -27° C (-17° F), but I'd say lower. All forms are equally tough so any that suffer barksplit are imposter-hybrids; 'Komo Kulshan' is the most famous of these imposters. *R. kiusianum* self sows here; even tiny seedlings sail through the winter. *R. poukhanense* is unquestionably the next hardest (selected forms 'Rosea' and 'Shizanko' are outstanding) with flower buds hardy to -25° C (-13° F) or slightly lower. There is also a very dwarf form in the USA. The best *kaempferi* for hardness here has been 'William Tritt'; it survived 1992/3 (flower bud to -23° C (-9° F)) while v. *latsepalum* and 'Eastern Fire' froze to the snowline. This *kaempferi* came to me as a seedling from Les Hancock of Woodland Nursery, Mississauga, Ontario circa 1973 and was presumably from high altitude wild collected seed or from Les' *kaempferi*s crossed with one another. It was recently registered and named 'William Tritt' after the Canadian pianist and it is a typical salmon colour. Another good selection is *kaempferi* 'Pink Joy', again from Woodland Nursery. The other selections, 'Lady Liberty', 'Robert T. Brown', 'Dorsett', Gable's autumn bloomer 'Indian Summer' and the countless Japanese selections with wildly shaped flowers and forgettable names gradually faded away in my care. *R. tschonoskii* is reputed to be the toughest of all but I've not tested it. Seed may be available in our 2005 exchange.

The Diamant (Diamond) hybrids of the German breeder Fleischmann are totally reliable here in coastal Zone 6 - 'Diamant Rot', 'D. Purpur', 'D. Weiss', 'D. Rosa' etc. While straight *kiusianum* has as wide a colour range, it is a bit harder and not all that different; however the Diamants do have a slightly different habit. The low habit of both almost assures snow coverage. 'Kermesina' (sometimes labeled 'Kermesina Rosea') – and please note there is a tender Kurume hybrid called 'Kermesina'! – is quite a hot pink and is touted as a *kiusianum* but to me appears to be a *kiusianum* hybrid. It is a very good doer and already there are sports: 'Kermesina Rosea' (aka 'Kermesina Rose'), a nice two-tone pink; 'Kermesina Alba' a white.

## Well-known Hybridizers

*Hybrids and Hybridizers – Rhododendrons and Azaleas for Eastern North America* (ed. Livingston & West, Harwood Books, Newtown, PA, sponsored by the ARS 1978) is probably the best source of information on the very important work of the next two hybridizers. No one tackling this group should miss the wealth of information in this book, which can be found in our library.

The late Joe Gable of Stewartstown, Pennsylvania produced hybrids more than half a century ago and these are probably next in line for hardness; his lilac 'Big Joe' and 'Old Faithful' are F1's of (*poukhanense* x *kaempferi*) and his pink flowered F2 of the same crossing, 'Springtime', (not to be confused

with 'Spring Time') all seem close seconds to 'Pale Lilac' in hardness. His 'Boudoir' is one very tough plant and almost as hardy and has been in Owen Holland's garden in Bedford, NS since the late 1970's. 'Rosebud' (again two in the trade so be careful), 'Stewartstonian' (its parentage would indicate a hardness problem), 'Purple Splendour' and its compact form, Gable's 'Kathleen' (and the Dutch 'Kathleen') were all reliably hardy on the coast. 'Corsage' has a good reputation but I can't remember its performance. Our inland rhododendron breeding station, Kentville Research Station, considered 'Mildred Mae' to be the hardest Gable and 'Herbert' was next in line in their findings. Dick Steele propagates one he calls 'Gable's Electric Pink', true name unknown, and it has to be tough if he propagates it.

The late Tony Shamarello in Ohio bred good tough azaleas. His hardest are 'Hino White', 'Hino Red', 'Cascade' (a white and not to be confused with the Glendale hybrid 'Cascade' which is pink), 'Elsie Lee', 'May Belle' and 'Hino Pink'; they come to mind as being pretty reliable to -26° C (-15° F). 'Hino Red' is not for extreme climates. His 'Helen Curtis' is less reliable but does well only until the deadly cool summer / wet autumn scenario strikes. The smashing 'Red Red' is thoroughly unreliable here. 'Cascade', the best of all white azaleas, is both very hardy and beautiful. One of my all time favourites, it figures in many of my own azalea hybrids.

The late Doc Tolstead, who gardened in an area of West Virginia that was very prone to late June frosts, bred some very tough hybrids. One has to wonder what has become of those very important plants; if it is not too late they certainly should be preserved. At the ARS Hyannis fall meeting in November 2004 Joe Parks, up in New Hampshire, showed one or two of his tough new selections; his area is very cold – too cold for the ironclads! – and prone to late frosts. I recall one nice hybrid of *R. poukhanense* x 'Martha Hitchcock' somewhat resembling the pollen parent, white with a brilliant purple edge. Our own Kentville Research Station also produced the very hardy 'Kent', which was never been registered but looks like a big flat-topped pinky-lavender *poukhanense* hybrid. It has endured everything and we should get it propagated for our sales.

Weston Nurseries of Hopkinton, Massachusetts has produced a few azalea hybrids. Their 'Pink Clusters', an F7 hybrid of *R. kiusianum* 'Texas Pink', is extremely hardy. In the back of a speeding cab to the Cleveland airport the late Ed Mezitt, originator of the legendary rhododendron PJM, wrote the correct parentage on the top of my box of rhodos; I saved that piece of cardboard for years. The "Texas" part was always disturbing but according to Wayne Mezitt a *Clematis texensis* grew nearby! Their very handsome 'Majesty' and 'Viking' are okay in downtown Halifax but their limit is close. 'Bixby' is a very compact growing bright red; while we have had it only a few years it was unscathed in last autumn's carnage. Wayne says many of their azaleas are too tender for most of Massachusetts, puzzling but western Massachusetts can get very cold at times. There are certainly other Westons we should try.

The Girard azaleas from Ohio are not that hardy; when grilled Peter Girard personally recommended 'Girard's Chiara' as the hardiest. "Try Chiaaaaaarra," he would say with that memorable accent and wonderful rolling "r". We obtained it from the west coast and it was hurt in November 2002 – I'd say it's not that hardy. 'Girard's Hotshot' is catchy but a tender disaster. Perhaps I should have taken a more critical look at the parentages of the Girards and tried more.

The North Tisbury azaleas are unique – late blooming and very flat and wide-spreading. 'Alexander' (salmon), 'Michael Hill' (pink with a red throat) and its sister 'Pink Pancake' (comparable but not as handsome as 'Michael Hill'), 'Late Love' (salmon pink) and 'Marilee' (salmon-orange) are the hardiest of the lot but on the very edge here. I would say the salmon 'Alexander' is the "hardest" or should I say least tender? 'Wintergreen' was reputed to be in this "hardy" group according to Polly but again November 2002 proved otherwise.

The only Robin Hill azaleas produced by the late Bob Gartrell when he lived in New Jersey worth a try here in the mildest area are 'Lady Louise', 'Verena', 'Watchet', 'Frank Arsen' and 'Jean Weeks' but be prepared for the occasional disaster. My 'Watchet' has been thoroughly neglected in a miserable location and always seems to bloom; I can not call it hardy, just puzzling or a reaffirmation of how little we know. These are sumptuous azaleas with muted pastel flowers in July – a thoroughly cooling effect and on the top of my favourite list; a pity they are tender.

The Cox-Glendoick hybrid 'Wombat' (a flat spreading late pink) is reliable here but their other hybrids bark-split badly – 'Squirrel', 'Panda', 'Lemur' etc. Jens Birck's white 'Baby Dane' appears to be a more reliable substitute for 'Panda' based solely on the parentage – 'Panda' x white *kiusianum*. The German Aronenses of George Arends sounded promising for cold areas but those tried – Takako, Fumiko, Hiroko, Kumiko and a few other –ko's – were not hardy long term inland but they may be fine on our coast; cold was the limitation inland. The Dutch hybrid 'Karens' is reputed to be very tough but I lost it; others think highly of it.

## Weagle Hybrids

Inspired by Polly Hill's results with the prostrate *R. nakaharai* I decided to start breeding evergreen azaleas. *Nakaharai* is not particularly cold hardy so my first cross in 1980 was of *nakaharai* x *kiusianum* 'Mt Fuji' – all 104 of the F1 cross were set out in the spring of 1981. All were late bloomers and lilacpurple, the best, #1-1, is now 3 m (10') across by 30 cm (12" high). None have ever bark-split, been cold damaged or failed to bloom without snow cover. The extremely dwarf F2's of a crossing of the best two F1's were very slow to start budding but offer colours from coral, pink, white, lilac to a good purple and similar hardiness. Other hardy ones are *nakaharai* x 'Springtime', mid to late June hybrids, flat-topped and about knee height. The colour is a stronger pink than 'Springtime' itself. A Gartrell times a Gable, 'Frosty' x 'Springtime', blooming hot on the heels of 'Springtime' itself, produced two corals and a good pink, all with similar but larger flowers and a slightly more compact habit than 'Springtime'. Florally they are a vast improvement but 'Springtime' is a dynamite plant in its own right.

Pride hybrids crossed with *nakaharai* 'Mt. Seven Star' gave low spreading bloomers for late June in various colours. Our best compact, orange-red is 'Pink Clusters' x *nakaharai* 'Mt. Seven Star' and will soon be registered as 'Scotian Fire'. *R. kiusianum* 'Berg's Best Pink' crossed with 'Lady Louise' is now 'Scotian Breeze', a cool pastel for late June – a small dainty flower, pearly white with a soft pink picotee, the occasional flower a solid pink or white. Other Gartrells crossed with *kiusianums* should be reliable here and more are on the way. What seemed like a good cross, *poukhanense* 'Rosea' x *nakaharai*, had poor roots but a possible exception is one I call 'Big Violet'. It's low and compact with a big shiny violet flower in early July. The flowers of my *kaempferi* x *kiusianum* burn even in our near non-existent spring sun but the plants, useless as they are, are tough. An unnamed *kaempferi* v. *latiseptum* (at this time I thought it was extra hardy) x *nakaharai* has been very good but it demands part shade to again prevent flower scorch; the problem may improve on less mineral soils. I believe Polly Hill told me she did the cross earlier and it was good but named 'Flaming Mamie'. The colour of my hybrid is very similar to *kaempferi* but a bit of the *nakaharai* colour brashness is discernible – call it a late and low *kaempferi* or a more vigorous and taller, slightly earlier *nakaharai*. *R. nakaharai* hybrids here require lots of sun and beware – they are rabbit magnets.

Our findings indicate that 50% hardy species in the parentage – be it *R. poukhanense*, *kaempferi* or *kiusianum* – seems to be a prerequisite for our conditions. The other 50% should be a near hardy hybrid. Hybrids are easy to produce and bloom within a year or two of seeding. There is no excuse for complaining about the lack of hardy evergreen azaleas for your area. If you are busy or just lazy, grow some 'Pale Lilac' seed.

## Culture

The cultural recommendation from here is this:

- grow them in full sun to ripen the wood.
- larger plants are hardier than rooted cuttings but this is not the case if the larger plant was container grown and pumped up in a warmer, milder climate or greenhouse.
- grow them slowly and feed sparingly.
- never mulch with more than 2-3 cm (about 1") of bark.
- never, but never, mulch in the fall.

Occasionally driving through hostile Zone 5's – the Annapolis Valley, Antigonish, parts of Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island – we see the odd evergreen azalea growing in the most trying conditions, an indication that coddling is to be avoided and that we don't know everything yet about these plants.

I hope this helps and that more will discover azalea hybridizing.

\*Yahoo Rhodie Group – a chat group and an excellent forum on rhododendrons and azaleas used by growers all over the world. To join go to Rhodo Group Main Page: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rhodo>. ☺

# Magnolias in Atlantic Canada

By Captain Dick Steele

Magnolias are proving to be superb ornamental trees in our climate. They are excellent plants for the beautification of our properties and for the overall enhancement of our communities, as well as for the whole general landscape.

There were hardly any magnolias in the Atlantic provinces before 1950. Somewhat after that, the progressive, forward thinking Dr. Don Craig planted two *Magnolia* 'Dr. Merrill' at the Kentville Research Station and a *Magnolia soulangeana* at his home. A few private gardeners began acquiring various magnolias at the same time. Since then the numbers have steadily increased.

In the past forty years most of these magnolias have been undamaged and have bloomed well after our coldest winters. Because of this fine performance they are now highly prized ornamentals. These easy to grow, long life, low maintenance and relatively pest free plants are truly garden treasures.

Species magnolias are those that retain only the same genetic characteristics that their ancestors had in the wild. Hybrids are the plants that have resulted from breeding between two different species or with or between other hybrids.

Magnolias suggested for trial in the Atlantic provinces:

Species: *stellata*, *kobus*, *sieboldii*, *salicifolia*, *acuminata*, *tripetala* and *denudata*

Hybrids: 'Leonard Messel', 'Merrill', 'Jennifer Robinson', 'Spring Snow', 'Ballerina', 'Debutante', 'Judy', 'Betty', 'Pinky', 'Randy', 'Ann', 'Jane', 'Rickii', 'Susan', 'Wada's Memory', 'Ivory chalice', 'Legacy', 'Galaxy', 'Yellow Bird', 'Butterflies', 'Yellow Lantern'.

## Planting and Care

Site: Consider the ultimate height and spread of the plant and remember that the roots will spread as well. Shade will make the plant leggy and bloom-shy until it reaches full light. Although the plant will live and perform in quite dry areas, it will perform much better with adequate moisture. Wind protection is an advantage, but magnolias are surprisingly tolerant of wind, although those with very large leaves will get a bit tattered. Although they prefer neutral to acid soil, they tolerate alkaline conditions quite well. Rich loamy well drained soils that are moist but airy are best. Poor soils can be amended by adding peat, leaves, bark, sawdust, manure, etc. This helps to establish the plant but remember that the roots will extend beyond the amended area and that this area should be fertilized each year to provide nutrient to the roots.

Planting: It is safest to transplant magnolias in May or June when the earth has warmed up as the soft roots of magnolias damaged in the move may rot in cold soils.

Mulch and attention to moisture in the first three years assures the plant of prime performance.

## Propagation

This can be accomplished most easily by layering. Cuttings root quite well if taken when quite soft but require frequent application of mist.

Many magnolias grow readily and easily from seed. In the fall, if nobbly pods have appeared on the plant, they will swell and split to show the reddish ripening seed. Eventually the seeds will hang out of the pods on slender threads and then drop to the ground. They can be collected at any time from the time they turn reddish, if squirrels, chipmunks or birds don't get them first.

The seed is covered with a thick protective coating. To remove this, place it in a container of water and leave at room temperature for several days. Then squeeze between thumb and forefinger and the black true seed will pop out, free from its coating. (I squeeze them into a small pan of water and thus they don't bound about the room.)

Wash these freed seeds with water and a light detergent and rinse in clear water. Place the seed in a poly bag in damp (not soggy wet) sphagnum, refrigerate at 40 F (5 C) for 90 days, then remove and plant one and a half inches apart in a large pot or flat at 70 F (21 C). When the young plants have their first true leaves they can be moved to their own six inch pots.

I often use a short cut that works well for me: I take the poly bag from the fridge and leave it sitting in a warm place at 70°F, then as I see the seeds germinating with their little white spiky roots sticking out I remove the sprouted seeds and plant them in a six inch pot or in flats at two inch spacing.

Protect the seedlings from freezing in their first winter but store them in a cold temperature for at least three months. When they are three or four years old transplant them to permanent locations, preferably fifteen or more feet apart.

Grow many and plant them in many places to create more beautiful and peaceful surroundings. ☺

# My Wild Garden

*Notes from a novice*

By Penny Gael



The Gael Garden with its terrific ocean view. [Photos Penny Gael]

When we decided to pick up and move to the sea, I never realized that this would not only continue a long love affair with the ocean but also start a passion for gardening. I had been brought up in the wilds of Devon, England, and part of my rebellion had been to choose to live in big cities most of my adult life. The call of the sea had always been there and so, in 1985 we decided that rushing down to the coast of Maine from Montreal just wasn't cutting it. We moved to Halifax and six months later we bought a house – never having owned a house before and with little money, we fell in love with a broken down Cape Cod style cottage in Boutilier's Point with a fabulous view of St Margaret's Bay. It was a miserable day in February and we were oblivious to the mould and even thought the fog added to the romance of the place. Many of our city visitors shook their heads in disbelief and wondered “what we had done now”!!

We spent the first summer living in a garden shed on the property, while the cheapest contractors we could find “fixed up” the house. (Some of it fell down in the process but that is another story!)

The gardening adventure took a while because playing by the ocean became the first preoccupation – that and visiting auctions to furnish the house (previous to this I had prided myself on my lack of worldly possessions!)

The garden consists of four acres of what used to be an old Boutilier homestead – we have a very old photo that shows that the land was once cleared and there is some kind of animal (horse or cow?) in the picture. However, when we moved in, the territory was returning to nature and most of the property is what I would call scrubland. The house sits on a knoll and has a commanding view down the Bay. The front garden slopes away from the house down to a huge patch of blackberries and then to an area that we euphemistically call The Orchard. Admittedly there are old apple trees down there but also all the typical regrowth one would expect to see, as well as an unaccountable amount of barberry. The amelanchier and the apple blossom are a delight in the spring, but apart from clearing some of the brush and maintaining a path out through the orchard and down to Cowlow Cove, we have done very little in the front garden. (Cowlow Cove is so named because the fishermen coming in through the fog used to find their way by the lowing of the cows.) We reasoned that the eye is so drawn to the view that any efforts there would be wasted. My next door neighbour is a lobster fisherman, so there is lots of activity to watch. One day I would like to create a "Walter Ostrom" style garden there – but it remains a dream as yet.

The approach to the house is down a long lane to what is essentially the back of the house. There must be an acre or more at the back and sides of the house that we have gradually cleared and made into a garden. Further back, there is another other couple of acres that remain wild, but another dream is to create walks through the bush with rhododendrons dotted throughout – there is a stream and a pond full of peepers and toads and it would be a small boy's (and my) delight.

The garden originally sloped down to an old stream bed to the right of the back door. We built a stone wall from the boulders scattered around the property and filled the area so that we have more of a plateau. First lesson learned – all "topsoil" delivered in Nova Scotia is not equal. Nothing would grow on this first stuff, not even weeds!! Second lesson learned – cute little shrubs put into a bed to add structure may grow into gigantic nuisances! Especially when planted on top of a wall so that their roots are hopelessly ensnared in the wall!



Another caveat to anyone gardening in the area: check out the presence of goutweed. We had never noticed that it lurked along the edges of the property. However, as soon as a bed was created and the soil amended it totally took over. We now have at least two acres of goutweed! I don't have a cure for this either. It was so bad that my partner gave up gardening altogether, whereas I have just learned to live with it.

The garden has been gradually developed as a series of projects. (So far I have diligently managed to keep the goutweed out of the latest projects, but it may be just a matter of time.) I try to create a different kind of feeling in each project, (my interpretation of the "series of rooms" gardening philosophy). There has been a great deal of trial and error and some heartbreak. The hurricane finally took away my beloved *Cornus kousa*. It had been severely damaged in a previous wet snowfall but it had been lovingly splinted and bandaged (I am a nurse after all!) and was beginning to recover. The plants that survive have done so with very little coddling. I don't have time nor inclination I'm afraid.

When we moved in, there had not been much of a gardening tradition here on the Point. I hope that my garden is now helping to influence those around me. The magnolia (Leonard Messel) is a source of wonder to many of my neighbours (the pussy willow tree, they call it) and many come to look at the rhodos in the spring.

One thing I have learned is that it was too big a project for a beginner to take on. I'm just glad I didn't know that from the beginning!

As a result, progress has been slow but a delight. My approach has been very subjective but I am learning to be more objective. My mentors have been Jenny Sandison and Anitra Laycock, and the garden that has most influenced me is Walter's. However, I have the Rhododendron Society to thank for almost all my adventures with the plants. ☺

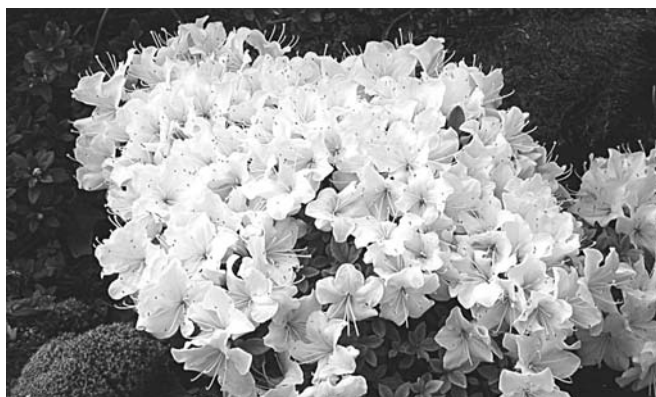
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## Tissue Culture 2004

Some of the volunteers who helped to process the orders. [Photos by Audrey Fralic]



## 2005 May Sale - A few of the many plants available in this year's sale.



'Baby Dane' [Photo Jens Birck]



'Wombat' [Photo Jens Birck]



'Scotian Breeze' [Photo John Weagle]



'Silver Slippers' [Photo Don Craig]



'Scotian Fire' [Photo John Weagle]



'Scotian Clouds' [Photo John Weagle]



'Scotian Reef' [Photo John Weagle]



'Calsap' [Photo Don Craig]