

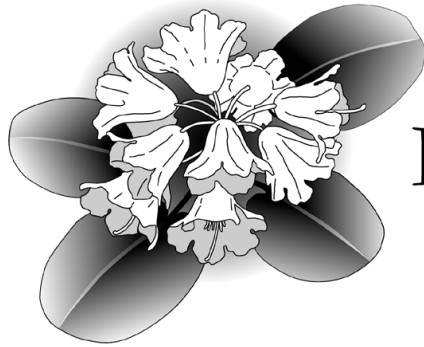
AtlanticRhodo

www.AtlanticRhodo.org

Volume 30: Number 1

February 2006





Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

Positions of Responsibility 2005 - 2006

President	Penny Gael	826-2440	Director - Social	Sandy Brown	683-2615
Vice-President	Ruth Jackson	454-4861	Director - Horticulture	Audrey Fralic	683-2711
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Past President	Sheila Stevenson	479-3740	Seed Exchange	Sharon Bryson	863-6307
Director - Education	Jenny Sandison	624-9013	May - Advance Plant Sale	Ken Shannik	422-2413
Director - Communications	Mary Helleiner	429-0213	May- Public Plant Sale	Duff & Donna Evers	835-2586

Membership

Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society.

Fees are \$ 15.00 per year, due January 1, 2006. Make cheques payable to Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society. ARHS is a chapter in District 12 of the American Rhododendron Society. For benefits see ARHS website www.atlanticrhodo.org

American Rhododendron Society

Fees are \$50.00 Canadian per year and include ARHS membership. Make cheques payable to American Rhododendron Society District 12. For benefits see www.rhododendron.org

Cheques should be sent to ARHS Membership Secretary, **Betty MacDonald, 534 Prospect Road, Prospect Bay NS B3T1Z8**

Please include name, address with postal code, e-mail address and telephone number (for organizational purposes).

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.

Published three times a year. February, May and October.

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Cover Photo: *R. elegantulum*. [Photo Jens Birck]



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 3** **Halifax Public Gardens. Jeff Bray, Landscape architect.**
- Tuesday February 7** **The Hopgood Garden.** Back in the old days when Chris only played golf he asked Ken Shannik to help him plan and plant his garden. Together they will take us through the process and we will appreciate how over the years, inevitably the owner becomes an enthusiast and then an expert.
- Tuesday March 7** **Woodlands and Meadows.** Jane Blackburn owns and operates a small nursery under this name near Truro. She will talk about creating meadows and their maintenance and the native plants she finds successful in this habitat.
- Tuesday April 4** **Water gardening the naturalistic way.** John Bueglas of Dube Botanical Gardens and Aqua Scape will show us how to create a water feature that blends into the garden, will talk about water quality and will discuss the plants that enhance this kind of area.
- Tuesday May 2** **The Flowers of Mount Halla.** Lloyd and Barbara McLean have spent many years working in Asia. Lloyd will show us the flowers he photographed on the volcanic mountain of the Korean island of Jeju.
- Members Plant Sale.** An annual event where members are invited to bring plants to sell. These plants should be unusual varieties that are not commonly available. Please save any ordinary plant material you may have for our later public fund-raising 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 2005 Newsletter:

Linda Cochrane
Judi Fisherman
Catherine Holman
Bev MacPhail
Helen MacLean
Gail McGee

Halifax
Halifax
Lower Sackville
Middle Sackville
Dartmouth

Joanne Redgrave
Donna & John Silver
Raymond Smith
Mary Stevenson
Barbara Tanner
Jack & Jacqui Warkentin

Halifax
Prospect Bay
Dartmouth
Halifax
Blockhouse
Halifax

Special Notices

Tissue Culture Pickup

Tissue culture plants will be available for pickup on Saturday April 8, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. at St. Andrews School, 6955 Bayers Road, Halifax.

For more information contact Audrey Fralic at alfralic@excite.com.

2006 Seed Exchange

Welcome to the 2006 Seed Exchange for the Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society. This year is another example of interesting and challenging seed choices. 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 all of the contributors. We would like to draw your attention to the very interesting contributions made by Kristian Theqvist from Finland. He has kindly sent us seeds from several of his interesting crosses. He has been continuing his hybridizing work on elepidotes aiming at super hardy hybrids. All of his crosses are cp, i.e. controlled pollination, where stigmas have been protected before and after pollination. Very good information regarding the plants involved is available via his website. www.rhododgarden.com. Links will be included with the online version of the list.

Several seed lots of Azalea species from last year's list are being re-offered to further encourage the addition of some of these plants to our gardens in Atlantic Canada.

The deadline for submitting your order is February 28, 2006. 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. Anyone who needs information on growing rhododendrons from seed is encouraged to check out the CD from the ARHS library. Online information is available at both the Atlantic Rhodo and the Willow Garden websites. To this purpose we are offering ONE FREE package of seed to anyone interested, whether or not you order any other seeds. This is noted in the seed list. Please send the order form and \$2 to cover postage in the usual way. If you need further 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 <http://www.willowgarden.net>. Follow the links for ARHS Seed Exchange. A link to the list will be inserted on the Atlantic Rhodo site, www.atlanticrhodo.org.

The Seed Exchange will be open to the world at large after our Feb. 28 closing date. This has resulted in orders for seeds from afar, Indonesia being the most remote! Stories of your past successes and/or failures with seed growing are most interesting and welcome. Try contributing to the interest factor this year. Comments or suggestions regarding the Seed Exchange are also encouraged. You can send a note with your order or email at sbryson@ns.sympatico.ca

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

– Sharon Bryson, Seed Exchange Chair

ARHS 2006 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, 2006.** 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 orderer's risk.

SEED LIST

DONORS: **BIR** - Jens Birck, Copenhagen, Denmark **BRE** - John Brett, Halifax, NS **BRT** - Peter Brett, Morris Island, NS **BRU** - Joe Brusso, Hopkinton, Mass, USA **CLY** - Bruce Clyburn, New Waterford, NS **COR** - Wendy Cornwall, Halifax, NS **CRA** - Donald Craig, Kentville, NS **CRE** - Mike Creel, Columbia, S.C., USA **DUF** - Rosylyn Duffus, Fall River, NS **EVE** - Donna Evers, Hammonds Plains, NS **HAR** - Joe Harvey, Victoria, BC **HAU** - Finn Haugli, Tromso, Norway **HEL** - Mary Helleiner, Halifax, NS **JAN** - Harry Jans, Loenen, The Netherlands, **LOO** - Jack Looye, Niagara-on-the-Lake ON, **NIE** - Jens Nielsen, Glendoick, Scotland **POD** - Maria Podor, Halifax, NS **REI** - Wolfgang Reich, Germany **SAN** - Jenny Sandison, Mahone Bay, NS **SHA** - Ken Shannik, Halifax, NS **STA** - Barry Starling, Exeter, Devon, England **THE** - Kristian Theqvist, Finland **WEA** - John Weagle, Halifax, NS **WEI** - Barbara Weinz, West Bath, ME **WIL** - Bill Wilgenhof, Antigonish, NS

Rhododendron Species - Collected Wild - \$2.50

- 001 NIE *adenogynum* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 4100m
- 002 NIE *clementinae* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 4000m
- 003 NIE *fictolacteum* cw 2002 Haba Shan, Yunnan, China 3650m
- 004 HEL *hirsutum* cw 2004 Switzerland
- 005 NIE *oreodoxa* (v. *oreodoxa* ?) cw 2003 Northwest Sichuan, China 3500m
- 006 NIE *przewalskii* - unusual glabrous form - cw 2003 Dabanshanense, North Sichuan, China 4100m

Rhododendron Species - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 007 CRA *calendulaceum* #1 - Sunnybrook selection, orange, 4'x5' 2004 seed
- 008 CRA *calendulaceum* #2 - Georgia State Trooper selection. Orange-red, compact 4.5'x4' 2004 seed
- 009 BIR *camtschaticum* Goteborg - will come true
- 010 BIR *camtschaticum* Kernehuset red - op but does not hybridize 2003 seed
- 011 CRA *cumberlandense* (bakeri) 'Top of the Mountain' - from Beasley Nursery, GA orange-red, late, 3.5' x 4' 2004 seed
- 012 CRE *eastmanii* x *eastmanii* from layers 2004 seed
- 013 CRA *luteum* - seedlings from Goteborg Botanical Garden, Sweden, yellow, scented, 6' 2004 seed
- 014 BIR *roxieanum* v. *oreonastes* x *roxieanum* #5
- 015 WEA *schlippenbachii* - large flowered form
- 016 WEA *vaseyi* - pink form, do not fertilize seedlings
- 017 BIR *vernicosum* aff. cw F2
- 018 BIR *wiltonii* #1 x *wiltonii* #2 2004 seed

Rhododendron Species - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 019 WEA *brachycarpum* Bayport#1 (isolated plant) 2004 sd
- 020 CLY *calendulaceum* - compact form, orange, probably selfed 2004 seed
- 021 WIL *canadense* (Native Rhodora) - fuchsia
- 022 WIL *kiusianum* - pink forms
- 023 WIL *kiusianum* - white
- 024 WIL *maximum*
- 025 WIL *minus* Carolinianum Group - pink/white.
- 026 WIL *mucronulatum* Pink form
- 027 BRU *mucronulatum* - semi-dwarf white, isolated
- 028 SHA *mucronulatum* v. *chejuense* - true seedlings will be small with rounded leaves, others likely crossed with taller form

Rhododendron Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 029 CLY 'Arctic Snow' x *rex* †1
- 030 BIR [('Bambi' x *proteoides*)#4 x ('Berg's Yellow' x *proteoides*)]WB0031 x *citriniflorum* ssp. *horeaum* F21850 2004 seed
- 031 WEA 'Barbara Hall' x [(*brachycarpum* x *aureum*) x *caloxanthum*] 2004 seed †4
- 032 WEA 'Barbara Hall' x *insigne* Birck 2004 seed †4
- 033 WEA 'Barbara Hall' x *kesangiae* RSF#91-070 †4 2004 seed
- 034 REI ('Blue Wonder' x *dauricum* v. *album*) x *prostratum* †2 †3
- 035 WEA 'Bravo' x *insigne* (Birck) 2004 seed
- 036 BIR *bureavii* Reuthe x *pachysanthum*
- 037 BIR (*campylogynum* x *hypolepidotum*) x (*campylogynum* x *hypolepidotum*) 2004 seed
- 038 WEI 'Chesterland' x 'Harold Amateis'
- 039 REI (*cinnabarinum* Concatenans Group x 'Pink Drift')

- 040 REI *cinnabarinum* Concatenans Group x *rigidum*
041 REI *cinnabarinum* Roylei DF#86059 x 'Dörte Reich' †5
042 REI *cinnabarinum* Roylei DF#86059 x *oreotrephes*
043 REI *cinnabarinum* Roylei DF#86059 x *rigidum*
044 REI *cinnabarinum* Xanthocodon Group x *rigidum*
045 BIR 'Cunningham White' x *fortunei*
046 THE *dichroanthum* 'Böhmen' x *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* 2003 seed †6
047 THE [(*dichroanthum* x *proteoides*) x 'Berg's Yellow'] x 'Goldsprengl'
048 HAR *degronianum* ssp.*heptamerum* 'Enamoto' x *bureavii*
049 HAR *degronianum* ssp.*heptamerum* 'Enamoto' x *pachysanthum*
050 HAR *degronianum* ssp.*heptamerum* 'Enamoto' x *pseudochrysanthum*
051 HAR *degronianum* ssp.*heptamerum* 'Enamoto' x *smirnowii*
052 HAR *degronianum* ssp.*heptamerum* 'Enamoto' x *tsariense*
053 HAR *degronianum* ssp. *yakushmanum* 'Exbury' x *argyrophyllum* 2004seed
054 REI ('Dora Amateis' x *moupinense*) x *dendrocharis* C.#5106 †7
055 REI 'Dörte Reich' x *oreotrephes*
056 REI 'Dörte Reich' x *rigidum*
057 REI 'Dörte Reich' x *russatum* hybrid (blue)
058 THE 'Falling Snow' x 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' †8 †10
059 BIR 'Fantastica' x *pachysanthum*
060 BIR *flinckii* Type Form RBGE x *pachysanthum* WB 2004 seed
061 WEA 'Francesca' x 'Tantramar' 2004 seed
062 BIR 'Goldsauber' x ('Norph' x 'Goldprinz')
063 THE 'Haaga' x 'Hydon Velvet' †9 †11
064 CLY 'Haaga' x *williamsianum* †9
065 THE 'Hachmann's Charmant' x *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* †12
066 REI 'Hotei' x (*wardii* x *macabeanum*)
067 THE 'Kullervo' x 'Hydon Velvet' †11 †13
068 CLY 'Kullervo' x *fortunei* †13
069 BIR 'Lucinda' x (*wardii* x *dichroanthum* v. *schyphocalyx*)
070 BIR 'Lucinda' x ('Norph' x 'Goldprinz') †14
071 BIR *makinoi* x *bureavii*
072 WEI 'Orange Honey' x 'Bali'
073 BIR 'Paprika Spiced' x *proteoides* R151 RBGE 2004 seed
074 THE 'Pekka' x 'Hydon Velvet' †11 †15
075 THE 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' x *campylocarpum* v. *elatum* †10
076 THE 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' x *haematodes* hybrid †10
077 THE 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' x 'Hydon Velvet' †10 †11
078 THE 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' x *rex* †10
079 BIR 'Preusans Gloria' x *fortunei*
080 LOO 'Purple Reign' x 'Blue Baron'
081 REI [(('Razorbill' x 'Laurin') x (*concatenans* x 'Pink Drift')) x *cinnabarinum* Roylei DF#86059 †16
082 REI [(('Razorbill' x 'Laurin') x (*cinnabarinum* Concatenans Group x 'Pink Drift')) x *rigidum*
083 REI [(('Razorbill' x 'Laurin') x (*cinnabarinum* Concatenans Group x 'Pink Drift')) x *russatum* hybrid (blue) †17
084 BIR *recurvoides* Windsor x *sutchenense*
085 WEI 'Summer Snow' x 'Cloud Nine'
086 BIR 'Top Banana' x 'Lucinda'
087 REI *wardii* L&S#5679 x (*yakushmanum* x *dichroanthum*) orange
088 BIR *watsonii* Hummel x *pratti* 2004 seed
089 WEI 'Wheatley' x (*bureavii* x yak)
090 REI (*yakushmanum* x *chamaethomsonii*) red smalled leafed clone - selfed
091 BIR *yakushmanum* 'Schneekissen' x *nikkomontanum* Kernehuset
092 BIR *yakushmanum* 'Schneekissen' x *rex*
Rhododendron Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50
093 REI (*cinnabarinum* Xanthocodon Group x *primuliflorum* Cephalanthoides Group)
094 WEA *R. mucronulatum* ('Woodland Pink' x 'Cornell Pink')
095 WIL 'Haaga' - extremely hardy Finnish hybrid, dark rosy-pink
096 WIL 'Nepal' - hardy, pink buds opening white
097 WIL 'Red River' - very late red, *R. maximum* hybrid
098 CHI 'Sandra Hinton' - [*brachycarpum* Tigerstedii Group x (*smirnowii* x *yakushmanum*)] - extremely hardy
099 WIL seedling aka "Ivory Cloud" from ARS92-608 - large outfacing ivory blooms, no winter damage in recent harsh winters † 18
100 WIL best yellow seedling from ARS92-608 - good non-fading yellow †18
Azalea Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00
101 CRA (*bakeri* x *arborescens*) Craig hybrid selection, orange-red, 3-5', late. 2004 seed
102 THE 'Schneegold' x 'Aprikot' †19 †20
103 WEI 'Garden Party' x 'Jolie Madame'
104 THE 'Golden Lights' x 'Aprikot' †20 †21
105 THE 'Golden Lights' x 'Sunte Nectarine' †21 †22
106 WEI *R. japonicum*, pale orange form x Exbury type, light yellow
107 WEI *R. narcissiflora* x Exbury type, light yellow
Azalea Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50
108 WIL Seedlings from a 'Homebush' cross, many pink forms
109 WIL Unnamed- large white flowers- yellow blotch
110 WIL Unnamed - yellow Mix - large & small flowers
111 WIL Unnamed scarlet, large flowers
112 WIL Deciduous mix - coral, white, pink & yellow shades **FREE**
Companion Plants - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50
113 SAN *Acanthus hungaricus* (Bear's Breeches) - Per.
114 BRE *Acer japonica* (Japanese Maple) - Tree vigorous, 20' x 30' - good red foliage
115 SHA *Actaea asiatica* (Asian Black Baneberry) - Similar to *A. spicata* but with shorter racemes. Poisonous. - Perennial
116 SHA *Actaea spicata* (Black Baneberry) - Panicles of creamy-white fragrant flowers followed by shiny black fruit. Poisonous. - Perennial
117 SHA *Beschorneria species* ex cw Mexico Seed - Tender Perennial
118 WIL *Buddleia davidii* (Butterfly Bush) - best purple, easy from seed, blooms in the first year, arching habit, late. - Shrub
119 HEL *Cardiocrinum giganteum* - Lily relative, very fragrant large tubular flowers, large spade-shaped leaves. Tender but has been over-wintered in southend Halifax with protection - Bulb

- 120 WIL *Catalpa ovata* (Chinese catalpa) - creamy white flowers, blooms at young age, 35-40' - Tree
- 121 WIL *Ceratotheca triloba* (South African Foxglove) - white to pale mauve flowers, 3' +/- - Annual
- 122 BRE *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* - Lawson's False Cypress - emerald green form - Conifer
- 123 SHA *Cimicifuga racemosa* 'Hillside Black Beauty' (Black Snakeroot) - Very dark foliage and fragrant white flowers in late summer. 5'(1.5m) - Perennial
- 124 SHA *Clematis koreana* - similar to *C. alpina*, dark purple flowers - Vine
- 125 WIL *Clematis recta* 'Purpurea' - purple foliage, white flowers, herbaceous - Perennial
- 126 HAU *Cremanthodium reniforme* Yellow - Perennial †27
- 127 SHA *Cyclamen graecum* - tender, requires a bright, cool, frost-free winter location - Bulb †23
- 128 SHA *Cyclamen hederifolium* 'Bowles Apollo' - Bulb †23
- 129 SHA *Cyclamen mirabile* 'Tilebarn Jan' - tender, requires a bright, cool, frost-free winter location - Bulb †23
- 130 SHA *Cyclamen pseudibericum* 'Roseum' - tender, requires a bright, cool, frost-free winter location - Bulb †23
- 131 SHA *Diphylleia cymosa* (Umbrella Leaf) - large, bold foliage, white flowers, blue berries - Per.
- 132 DUF *Dracocephalum arguense* - 30cm, lovely blue flowers, July, aromatic foliage - Perennial
- 133 WEA *Enkianthus campanulatus* v. *sikkokianus* HP - dark red flowers, brilliant red fall foliage †25
- 134 WEI *Enkianthus campanulatus* OP 20yr. plant Twice as wide as tall, brilliant fall colour.
- 135 WIL *Eremurus robustus* (Foxtail Lily) - show-stopping tall spikes of white/pink flowers in July, 7-9' - Perennial
- 136 SHA *Eryngium bourgatii* - Grey-green foliage with white veins. Blue green thistle flowers. Compact and showy but slow. To 18". - Per.
- 137 WIL *Exochorda x macrantha* (Pearlbush) - white blooms in late spring, ~4' - Shrub
- 138 WIL *Geranium pratense* 'Okey Dokey' - purple foliage, blue flowers ~12" - Perennial
- 139 SHA *Galtonia viridiflora* - Green pendulous flower in August, great combined with Crocosmias - Tender Bulb
- 140 HEL *Hamamelis x intermedia* 'Jelena' (Witchhazel) - Copper-coloured twisted petals, ~15' x 15' - Tree †24
- 141 WIL *Hosta* 'Frances Williams' - green/ivory large crinkled leaves, large - Perennial
- 142 WIL *Hosta* 'June' - striped blue-green edging on brighter green leaf - small plant - Perennial
- 143 WIL *Hosta sieboldiana* - large crinkled blue leaves, white flowers - Perennial
- 144 SHA *Lilium henryi* - Waxy orange flowers with green center and reflexed petals. Arching stems. - Bulb
- 145 POD *Lobelia siphilitica* (Great Blue Lobelia) - blue flowers, ~3', favours moist rich soil - Perennial
- 146 COR *Magnolia kobus* hybrid - white flowers, well-shaped tree - hyb. by J.Harvey - Tree †26
- 147 WIL *Magnolia stellata* - dwarf form, white flowers - Tree †26
- 148 COR *Magnolia sieboldii* - Tree †26
- 149 WEA *Magnolia sieboldii* - from cw. Korean seed, white with pink stamens. Large flowered and vigorous - Tree †26
- 150 BRT *Magnolia sprengeri* 'Diva' - spectacular pink flowers but borderline hardy/from Morris Island. - Tree †26
- 151 HAU *Meconopsis delevayi* - Perennial †27
- 152 HAU *Meconopsis pseudointegrifolia* - yellow - Biennial
- 153 HAU *Meconopsis punicea* - red - Biennial †27
- 154 WIL *Paeonia lactiflora* (Garden Peony) - OP seeds from many named cultivars - Perennial
- 155 SHA *Paeonia paradoxa* (*officinalis* ssp *villosa*) - Single bright fuchsia pink flowers with blue-green foliage, 18-24" - Perennial
- 156 WIL *Papaver miyabeanum* (Alpine Poppy) - Dwarf, yellow flowers, short-lived - Perennial
- 157 JAN *Physoplexis comosus* - Alpine
- 158 DUF *Platycodon grandiflorus* Dwarf Form - Large purple balloon flowers on short plant for rock garden - Perennial
- 159 EVE *Podophyllum hexandrum* (Chinese May Apple) - New leaves marbled with brown, up-facing pink flowers. 2-3' high. - Perennial
- 160 JAN *Primula longipes* - Perennial †27
- 161 SHA *Rodgersia sambucifolia* (Featherleaf Rodgersia) - white - Perennial
- 162 WIL *Rudbeckia subtomentosa* (Sweet Black-eyed Susan) - Single golden flowers with brown centers, late blooming, ~5' - Perennial
- 163 JAN *Saxifraga longifolia* Alpine - Silvery, grey-green leaves in a rosette, single flower stalk with ~80 star-shaped white flowers, in summer. 8"w - 24"h
- 164 SHA *Serratula coronata* Dwarf Form - Late blooming "Thistle" with showy creamy-white flowers late in summer. 12" high. - Perennial
- 165 WEI *Stewartia pseudocamellia* Interesting peeling bark. Tree 20 - 40Ft
- 166 SHA *Veratrum nigrum* (False Helleborine) - Bold pleated foliage with stalks of small dark flowers. Requires moisture in rich soil. To 5' high. - Perennial
- 167 HAR *Yucca filamentosa* (Adam's Needle) Ht~3Ft white flowers on tall stalks (>6Ft) May need winter protection OP

FOOTNOTES

- †1. 'Arctic Snow' = *R. maximum*, white x *brachycarpum* v. *tigerstedtii*
- †2. Pollen parent with very dark violet flowers
- †3. Seed parent has flowers similar to Cheju but earlier and plant is dwarfer.
- †4. 'Barbara Hall' = 'Road Red' x 'Prelude'
- †5. 'Dörte Reich' = *minus* Carolinianum Group x *cinnabarinum* ssp. *xanthocodon* Concatenans Group
- †6. *dichroanthum* 'Böhmen' - a selected form of with orange flowers, quite hardy.
- †7. Seed parent is a very unusual white with tubular sharp-pointed petals, plant at 9 yrs. 30cm high x 40cm wide
- †8. 'Falling Snow' - a very hardy yak hybrid
- †9. 'Haaga' - a super hardy Finnish *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* hybrid
- †10. 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' - also known as 'Peter Tigerstedt', a super hardy Finnish *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* x *catawbiense* var. *album* 'Glass' hybrid
- †11. 'Hydon Velvet' - a *yakushmanum* x *bureavii* hybrid, beautiful compact growth, good indumentum
- †12. 'Hachmann's Charmant' - especially colorful flowers
- †13. 'Kullervo' - a super hardy Finnish *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* x *yakushmanum* hybrid, seeds germinate better when cold stratified for 2 - 3 weeks

- †14. 'Norph' = ['Nancy Evans' x ('Virginia Richards' x 'Lackamus Spice')] 4', 5°F, code name from Thompson's for plant not yet named. Beautiful reddish buds open to fantastic large yellow flowers; leaves spectacular shiny dark green
- †15. 'Pekka' - a super hardy Finnish *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* x *smirnowii* hybrid, strong growth
- †16. Seed parent has flower form & plant habit of *R. cinnabarinum*
- †17. Goal - a blue cinnabarinum type?
- †18. ARS92-608 = {(['Big Deal' x 'Donna Hargrove') x ('Golden Star' x 'Catalga')] x *wardii*}
- †19. 'Schneegold' - large white flowers with yellow blotch
- †20. 'Aprikot' - a new introduction from Hachmann, a very colourful azalea
- †21. 'GoldenLights' - super hardy yellow azalea from Minnesota.
- †22. 'Sunte Nectarine' - a beautiful yellow azalea
- †23. Cyclamen germination - Stratification not req'd, seed germinates best at 55-60F. Soak 2 days in soapy water, wash thoroughly, surface sow & cover with a thin layer of grit. Keep in the dark.
- †24. 'Jelena' (syn. 'Copper Beauty') - Multi-coloured petals from a distance appear coppery coloured but are actually red at the base, orangish in the middle and yellow at the tips. Sweetly fragrant. Orange-red fall colour.
- †25. An Ericaceous shrub - sow as per rhododendrons.
- †26. Magnolia seed has been partially stratified. Store in fridge in plastic packet as received until March/April then sow in warm soil.
- †27. Meconopsis, Primula & Cremanthodium seed is ephemeral and should be sown immediately, then kept cold until spring.

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. The 2006 Seed List will be posted on the Internet with insertion of some images and links to help in your decision-making.

<http://www.willowgarden.net>

Follow the links for ARHS Seed Exchange.

A link to the list will be inserted on the Atlantic Rhodo site.

www.atlanticrhodo.org

3. See the RSCAR Members' Handbook for an article on growing rhododendrons from seed. The article can also be found on our website.

4. 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.

5. 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. ☘



Kalmia latifolia, Tray Mountain, Georgia. [Photo Don Craig]

MAY 2006 ADVANCE PLANT SALE FOR MEMBERS

This year's selection of rhododendrons and azaleas includes some new hybrids, some old favourites and many rare and hard to find species. 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 good selection of choice plants.

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 before March 15, 2006. (Orders from new members will be accepted after this date.)

Please note that the mark-up on these plants is minimal. For this reason we are not able to provide a warranty with plants.

Plants are to be picked up at 5 Sime Ct., Halifax, NS on Saturday, April 29, 2006 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 on this date 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

R. 'Anneke Plazek' - [(*carolinianum* x white *dauricum*) x (white *dauricum* x white *mucronulatum*)] Large frilled flowers in ball-shaped trusses are pink in bud and open white with a pink flush. To 6'(1.8m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide in 15 years. Very hardy - buds to -25°F(-32°C) and the plant to at least -30°F(-34°C). A Hinton hybrid from Ontario. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Blue Baron' - ('Starry Night' x self)? An early-blooming Mezitt hybrid with near blue flowers similar to 'Starry Night' ('Gletschernacht') but hardier. Elongated, dark glossy green foliage turns bronze in winter. Compact, mounded-spreading habit growing 3-4'(9-1.2m) high and wide. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Bluenose' - ('Russautinii' x *dauricum* Sempervirens Group) 2'(5cm) 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 gallon - \$25.00)**

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'(75cm) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Best in full sun with excellent drainage. Zone 6. An ARHS 'Top Ten' lepidote. **(2 gallon - \$25.00)**

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'(3m) high x 1.5'(45cm) wide. Perhaps one of the best dwarf hybrids. Zone 6. An ARHS 'Top Ten' lepidote. **Public Sale Only (2 gallon - \$25.00)**

R. 'Isola Bella' - (*fletcherianum* x *dauricum* 'Album') A Brueckner hybrid, once known as 'Mabel R.' Beautiful dark green distinct foliage with excellent winter leaf retention. Peach buds open pastel pink and fade to white. Smashing, floriferous and very early. To

5'(1.5m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide with a dense, upright-spreading habit. Bud hardy to -5°F(-20°C). Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Landmark' - ('PJM' hybrid) Similar to PJM but with large rounded trusses of vibrant dark pink flowers opening from red buds. Appears almost red from a distance. Bronze winter foliage with good leaf retention. Habit similar to PJM but slightly more compact. Grows 6-8'(1.8-2.4m) high x 4-5'(1.2-1.5m) wide. A Mezitt hybrid hardy to -20°F(-29°C).

Public Sale Only (1 gallon - \$20.00)

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 every year. Early. Bronzy coloured foliage in winter. A semi-dwarf with a dense, compact habit. To 18'(4.5m) high. Zone 5. An ARHS 'Top Ten' lepidote. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'New Patriot' - [('PJM' x unknown)selfed x (*mucronulatum* Pink)] A Mezitt hybrid with vibrant purplish-red flowers held in ball-shaped trusses. Reddish stems and copper brown winter foliage. Upright, spreading habit to 7'(2.1m) high and wide. Zone 5b. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

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 (1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Wren' - (*ludlowii* x *keiskei* 'Yaku Fairy') Clear yellow flowers stand up like pansies above a creeping mat of shiny, dark green foliage. Floriferous. Foliage turns bronzy-red in winter. At its best planted on a bank or in a raised bed and ideal for the rock garden or small spaces. A beautiful Cox hybrid. Zone 6. **Public Sale Only (1 gal. - \$20.00)**

ELEPIDOTE RHODODENDRONS

Rhododendron anwheense (ARS#01-835) - A very floriferous species for the collector. Pale pink to white flushed pink flowers fade to white and are held in lax trusses of 6-10 and are frost tolerant. Interesting recurved leaves. Compact mounded-spreading habit to 5'(1.5m) high. Should be hardy to -10°F(-23°C). Seed grown by the Wilgenhofs. **(Field Grown - \$25.00)**

R. calophytum (ARS#01-870) - An impressive large-leaved species with long narrow leaves to 3.5'(8cm) wide x 12'(30cm.) long! Flowers are white to pale pink with dark red basal spotting and are held in large lax trusses of up to 30. Very early blooming. Tall and wide spreading habit to 15'(4.5m) high. Needs a sheltered site. These are seed grown by the Wilgenhofs from a RSF cross of 82/046, white with a magenta blotch and bright crimson pedicels x 78/083, whitish pink with a dark blotch. Zone 6. **(Field Grown - \$25.00)**

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 gallon - \$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. **Public Sale Only (1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Catalina' - A Leach yak hybrid with strong, bright, pure pink flowers with paler interiors giving a bicoloured effect. The frilly flowers are borne in dome-shaped trusses. Floriferous. To 5'(1.5m) high and wide. Zone 5b. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

R. Elizabeth (Hardest Clone) - (*repens* x *griersonianum*) The choicest of the compact red hybrids but unfortunately on the tender side. Bright red funnel-shaped flowers adorn a low dense mounded shrub to 3'(9m) high. Rated as hardy to 0°F(-18°C). Only for the collector or those in the mildest parts of the Atlantic Canada! **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Earl Cordy' - [('Catfortcampy' x 'Mary Gibson') x Rio] A Rhodoland introduction from Ontario. Large peach-yellow flowers on a plant with beautiful foliage and habit. Hardy to -13°F(-25°C). **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

R. elegantulum - A beautiful species in the Taliense section. Narrow foliage has very thick fawn-pink indumentum which ages to cinnamon brown. Flowers are pale pink with darker spotting. Floriferous. Dense mounded habit to 4'(1.2m) high. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

R. 'Fantastica' - ('Mars' x *yakushmanum* 'Koichiro Wada') Large trusses of bicoloured flowers with bright red margins and pastel pink centres grace this very showy Hachmann hybrid. Vigorous & floriferous. Long, narrow indumented leaves. Compact, low mounding habit. To 3'(9m) high. Zone 5b. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. fortunei - A tall growing species with an upright-open habit. Lush dark green foliage is accentuated by purple-red petioles. Its large, very fragrant flowers, usually pale pink, are held in lax trusses. Spectacular in full bloom. Zone 6b. **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

R. 'Francesca' - ('Britannia' x 'Dexter #202') Tough, red and big! Large black-red flowers in large trusses. Very vigorous with an upright-open habit suited to the rear of a planting. Definitely not for the small garden or a foundation planting. Grows to 10'(3.0m) or more high. Best in half sun as flowers may scorch in full sun. Zone 6. **Public Sale Only (1 gallon - \$20.00)**

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 gallon - \$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. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. hyperythrum (ARS#01-877) - Another species for the collector. Flowers are white to white flushed pink. Foliage is dark green with recurved margins. Grows to 5'(1.5m) high with a compact, rounded habit. Best in full sun. These are seed grown by the Wilgenhofs from a RSF cross of 76/038, rose buds opening white flushed rose with magenta flecks x 77/443, white. Zone 6. **(Field Grown - \$25.00)**

R. 'Ingrid Mehlquist' - ('Besse Howells' x *yakushmanum*) Pink flowers in tight round trusses quickly fade to white dotted with burgundy. The trusses sit eloquently upright on the foliage - small but very graceful. Floriferous. Very attractive foliage with light indumentum. Compact, well-branched, rounded-spreading habit to 3'(9m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide in 25 years. Zone 5. **Public Sale Only (1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Lionel's Red Shield' - ('America' x 'Carmen') An excellent Brueckner hybrid with bright dark red flowers and olive green foliage. Plant forms a dense dome-shaped mound to 12'(3m) high x 3'(9m) wide. Choice and rare. Needs excellent drainage and probably a site sheltered from winter sun. Plant hardy to at least -25°F(-31°C), buds to -15°F (-26°C). **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. makinoi - An excellent foliage plant, this fine species has dark green leaves that are long, narrow, and pointed. Their undersides are covered with thick tawny indumentum. Flowers are clear, light pink and very late as is the new growth. Dense, well-branched, rounded habit to 3'(1.5m) high. Zone 6. Requires a bit of lime to prevent yellow leaves. **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

Rhododendron 'Melusine La Fée' - ('Ice Cube' x 'Scarlet Wonder') Conical trusses of medium purple-pink flowers grace this Brueckner hybrid. The flowers are thick textured and have a heavy dark red spotting forming a large dorsal flare. Open upright-spreading habit to 5'(1.5m) high and wide in 10 years. Very floriferous. Plant hardy to at least -25°F(-31°C), buds to -20°F(-29°C). **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Minas Grand Pré' (*catawbiense* 'Compactum' x *williamsianum*) A profusion of pink bell-shaped flowers in loose trusses grace this Kentville Research Station hybrid. Small oval leaves emerge with a bronze tone and age to dark green. In full sun it forms a perfect dense, compact, mounded dome and grows to 3'(9m) tall in 10 years. Zone 5b. After years of being a rarity it is now deservedly in mass production! **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

R. ('Mist Maiden' x *tsariense*) Weagle - A hybrid grown by John Weagle with beautiful foliage. Its looks like a slightly more vigorous *R. tsariense*. Dark green leaves with thick cinnamon coloured indumentum. Compact habit. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Peaches' (*fortunei* hybrid?) Large flowers (with very good substance) are as close to peach as you will find! Slightly fragrant. Broad habit to 5'(1.5m) high x 8'(3.6m) wide in 12 years. A Gable hybrid. Always admired at Boulderwood. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Pohjohla's Daughter' - (*smirnowii* x *catalgla*) Large flowers open lavender-pink with a paler centre quickly ageing to almost pure white with a yellow-green flare. Very striking. Low compact mounding habit to 3.5'(1.05m) high and spreading wider. Hardy to -29°F(-34°C). An extremely hardy Finnish hybrid. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. *pseudochrysanthum* Dwarf Form - Flowers are dark pink in bud opening to pale pink and fading to pure white. Its thick leathery leaves are dark glossy green with recurved margins. New leaves have a pale grey indumentum. This form has an extremely dense, tight, spreading habit and resembles RV70023 in the Cox Encyclopedia of Rhodo Species. Might reach 6'(15cm.) high in many years! Give this one a bit of light shade and avoid fertilizing. Zone 6. Very choice! **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

Rhododendron rex ssp. *fiatolactum* - Another big-leaf species - this one with leaves to 4'(10cm) wide x 12'(30cm.) long! Dark green on top they are covered by buff to rusty-brown thick indumentum! Flowers are white to pale pink with dark red spotting and are held in large ball-shaped trusses. Tall, upright open habit forming a small tree in time. Borderline in the mildest of Zone 6b gardens and will need a site protected from wind. Truly spectacular and a must have for the adventurer! **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

R. 'Serendipity' - (*yakushmanum* x *aureum*) Cream coloured flowers grace this hybrid with dark green foliage. Dense, low-spreading habit. Zone 5. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Stoke's Bronze Wings' - (*maximum* x *catawbiense*) An extremely tough hybrid with surprisingly elegant round full trusses of the palest purple-pink flowers enhanced by a greenish-yellow flare. Attractive matte green foliage on a compact plant. Zone 5. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

Rhododendron thayerianum - Yet another striking foliage plant and very unique! This species has very stiff narrow pointed foliage, dark green in colour with thin buff indumentum, and v-shaped in profile with recurved margins. The very dense foliage clothes a plant with a dense stout branching habit. Flowers are white flushed with pink and are held in lax trusses. Upright-spreading, mounded habit to 6'(1.5m) high. Zone 6b. **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

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 gallon - \$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 gallon - \$25.00)**

R. *yakushmanum* 'Mist Maiden' - If you were to grow only one rhododendron, this should be the one. This species has long narrow leaves with tan-white indumentum. New growth is covered in silver tomentum. Dense foliage covers a plant that is symmetrical and broadly mounded in shape. Its rosy-pink buds open to form large apple-blossom pink trusses which fade to white. Slow growing to 4'(1.2m) high x 11'(3.3m) wide in 30 years. Best in a half-day of sun. A proven performer. Zone 5. **Public Sale Only (1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. ARS 92-608 #11 ('Ivory Cloud') - {'Big Deal' x 'Donna Hargrove') x ('Golden Star' x 'Catalgla')] x *wardii*} Large out-facing ivory blooms grace this hybrid grown by Bill Wilgenhof in his garden just outside of Antigonish. He reports no winter damage after recent harsh winters. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. ARS92-608 #7-Yellow - A sister seedling of the above, this one has good non-fading yellow flowers. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. ARS92-765 #1 ('Sproeten') - ('Barbara Cook' x 'Janet Blair') Another hybrid grown by Bill Wilgenhof and his pride and joy. Its frilled flowers are pale pink with red freckles and a red throat. Good foliage. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

EVERGREEN AZALEAS

Azalea 'Big Joe' - (*poukhanense* x *kaempferi*) An old Gable hybrid with large pale lavender-pink flowers with a dark blotch. Early blooming. Vigorous forming a tall but eventually spreading, medium-sized plant. Zone 5b. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

Azalea 'Carol' (Gable) - ('Louise Gable' x 'Caroline Gable') Another Gable hybrid with hose-in-hose, vibrant pink-red flowers with a darker blotch. Mid-season blooming. Forms a low broad-spreading shrub. Zone 5b. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

Azalea 'Elizabeth Gable' - [*indicum* x (*poukhanense* x *kaempferi*)] The flowers of this Gable hybrid appear late in the season and are a vibrant salmon-pink with a darker blotch. It forms a vigorous, large spreading shrub with good winter leaf retention. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. *kiusianum* - 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. Zone 6 but worth trying in Zone 5. An ARHS 'Top Ten' evergreen azalea. The following selections are available this year:

R. *kiusianum* 'Betty Muir' - A vibrant pink variety with very dark foliage. Considered by some to be the best selection. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. *kiusianum* 'Mangetsu' - A delightful selection of the species with bi-coloured flowers of very pale pink edged with lavender pink. Delicate tiered habit. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. *kiusianum* 'Margaret Charlton' - A beautiful soft clear pink selection with a tiered habit. Slow-growing. **(2 gal. - \$20.00)**

Azalea 'Meagher Tall Double Pink' - A tall, nose-high evergreen azalea from the Meagher garden with double pink flowers. Probably a *kiusianum* hybrid. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(2 gallon - \$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 mounded-spreading habit to 3'(0.9m) high and wider. Zone 5b. **Public Sale Only (2 gallon - \$25.00)**

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'(0.6m) x 4'(1.2m) wide in 10 years. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

Azalea 'Scotian Clouds' - ('Kolmo Kulshan' x 'Lady Louise') A Weagle hybrid with white flowers edged bright reddish-pink. Late June blooming. Dense, low horizontal-spreading habit growing to 18'(4.5m) high. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

Azalea 'Scotian Mist' - {'Lady Louise' x ['Lady Louise' x (*nakaharai* Orange Form x *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji')#1-1]} Another Weagle hybrid with soft pastel pink flowers fading to white in the centres although some flowers may be all pink or all white. July blooming. Dense, low horizontal-spreading habit growing to 18'(.45m) high. Zone 6. **Public Sale Only (2 gallon - \$25.00)**

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

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

Azalea 'Wendy Cornwall' - ['Frosty' x (*nakaharai* Orange Form x *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji')] Another Weagle hybrid grown by Wendy Cornwall. Pastel purple-pink flowers with paler centres on a compact spreading plant. Late-blooming. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

DECIDUOUS AZALEAS

R. calendulaceum - An eastern US native azalea species. Its flowers are funnel shaped and are borne in trusses of 5 to 9. Colour can range from orange to red to yellow or combinations thereof. It blooms before or with the emerging foliage in mid to late June. Its clean foliage is not susceptible to mildew. Suckering, upright-spreading habit to 5' high in 10 years. Zone 5. **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

R. cumberlandense (ARS#01-539) - Another eastern US native species more commonly known by its old name *R. bakeri*. It is similar to *R. calendulaceum* but has smaller flowers and blooms later after the foliage has expanded - usually in July. It is less vigorous and produces a smaller, more compact shrub. These are seed grown plants from the Wilgenhofs from a red selection. Zone 6. **(Field Grown - \$25.00)**

Azalea 'Millennium' - ('Weston's Sparkler' x 'Weston's Parade') A fragrant Mezitt azalea hybrid which blooms in late-July! Flowers are dark pink - almost red - with a pale orange flare. Its blue-green foliage is mildew resistant and turns copper to burgundy in fall. Upright in habit to 5'(1.5m) high in 10 years. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$35.00)**

Azalea 'Pennsylvania' - Another late blooming Mezitt azalea hybrid, this one blooming into August! Flowers have a fruity fragrance and are bright pink with a pale orange blotch. Foliage turns copper and yellow in fall. Slow growing with an upright-spreading habit. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. schlippenbachii 'Sid's Royal Pink' - The 'Royal Azalea of Japan' in its typical form has elegant, flat, soft pink flowers to 3.5-4.5' across. Its distinctive deciduous foliage has excellent fall colour and is carried on a tall-growing open upright plant. This selection has large richer, darker pink flowers and is said to be more compact. Requires sun for best results but preferably protected from the mid-day sun. Appreciates a bit of lime or bonemeal occasionally. Zone 5b. **(2 gallon - \$45.00)**

R. vaseyi - Also an eastern US native, this superb species has almost flat, wide funnel-shaped flowers and blooms early before the leaves. Flowers range from medium pink to white and are usually pale pink. Upright and open in habit, it is very graceful in bloom. Good fall colour. Growing in moist spots in nature it will do best in a moist, well-drained site in the garden. Zone 5. **(2 gallon - \$40.00)**

OTHER ERICACEOUS SHRUBS & TREES

(Cultivation as per Rhododendrons)

Enkianthus campanulatus 'Showy Lanterns' - A large deciduous shrub with an interesting twiggy, upright, tiered-spreading habit. Dark green leaves in whorls at the branch tips. Beautiful orange, yellow and red fall colours. The small, urn-shaped flowers in pendulous clusters on this selection are bright red instead of the usual creamy-pink. Slow growing, 8-12'(2.4-3.6m) high and wide in time. Sun to part shade. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

Kalmia latifolia - After Dick Jaynes' great talk on Mountain Laurels last fall we are offering three varieties this year. Beautiful evergreen foliage plants, their unique flowers are sure to fascinate. Probably best in full sun but needs excellent drainage and protection from winter wind. Zone 5.

'Little Linda' - The newest of the 'little-leaf' or 'miniature' selections, its pink flowers open from red buds. Its rounded leaves are dark glossy green and disease resistant. Forms a dense broad mounded plant to 2.5'(.8m) high in 10 years. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

'Minuet' - Another miniature cultivar, this one with light pink flowers with a bright cinnamon red band opening from light pink buds. Glossy, dark green evergreen foliage is disease resistant. Dense habit to 2.5'(.8m) high & wide in 10 years. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

'Sarah' - A beautiful selection named after Mr. Jayne's wife and perhaps the reddest. Its flowers open pink-red from red buds. Foliage is dark green. Dense rounded habit to 3.5'(1.1m) high and wide in 10 years. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

Pieris japonica 'Rokujo's Carpet' - A cultivar received from Barry Starling many years ago for which I can find no reference. It is a very dwarf selection with tiny leaves less than an inch long. Low and dense growing as the name suggests. New growth is reddish and it takes on burgundy tones in winter. Very shy to flower. Great for the rock garden or the front of a small shrub border. Zone 6b? **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

Pieris japonica 'Wm. Buchanan' - Another very dwarf selection originally received from Barry Starling. Similar to above but with larger leaves, a bit taller growing. Bright red new foliage and this one does flower. Zone 6b? **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

CONIFERS

Chamaecyparis lawsoniana 'Ivonne' - (Ivonne Golden Lawson's False Cypress) A tall conical selection with fans of golden-yellow foliage. To 6'(1.8m) in ten years eventually reaching a height of 20'(6.0m) more. Needs a site protected from winter winds and salt spray. Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Tonia' - (Tonia Japanese Hinoki Cypress) Similar to the more common 'Nana Gracilis' but dwarfier. Also its dense fans of rich green foliage are splashed with creamy yellow! Can grow to 18'(.45m) high in 10 years. Irregular upright-pyramidal habit. Best in full sun. Zone 6. **(1 gal. - \$15.00)**

Larix kaempferi 'Diane' - (Diane 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 gallon - \$30.00)**

SHRUBS

***Berberis thunbergii* 'Golden Nugget'**TM - (Golden Nugget Barberry) A great dwarf selection with striking golden yellow foliage - often with an orange cast. Grows to only 1'(.3m) high x 1.5'(.45m) wide with a very dense mounded habit. Needs full sun to maintain best colour. Great for the rock garden. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

Caragana pygmaea - (Pygmy Peashrub) A smaller growing shrub with typical small bright yellow pea-like flowers in spring. Mounding habit with arching spiny branches. Grows to 3'(.9m) or more high and wide. Tolerant of poor, dry soils, salt and wind. Full sun. Zone 4. **(2 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Clematis texensis* 'Duchess of Albany'** - (*texasensis* x 'Star of India') A striking *C. texensis* hybrid with upfacing, small bell-shaped flowers that are deep pink with darker rosy-pink bars. Blooms from mid-summer into fall. It is a non-twining herbaceous hybrid needing staking or deciduous shrubs to scramble through. Cut back almost to the ground in early spring. Takes a few years to get going becoming very vigorous. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

***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'(.15m) high. Great for the rock garden or as groundcover. Zone 5b. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

***Ilex* 'Rutzan' (Red Beauty)** - (*messervae* x *pernyi*) A new 'Blue Holly' from Rutgers University. It boasts a dense pyramidal habit with little pruning required. Foliage is spiny and dark glossy green. Produces a heavy crop of brilliant red berries but needs a pollinator such as 'Blue Prince'. Grows to 6'(1.8m) high in 10 years. Listed as Zone 7 but given its parentage it should be hardy in Zone 6b if not colder. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

TREES

***Acer palmatum* 'Beni kawa'** - ('Red Bark' Japanese Maple) A Palmatum Group selection. The new branches on this variety have a deeper salmon-red winter colour than 'Sango kaku' and persist in the previous year's growth as well. The leaves have 5 to 7 broad lobes and are fresh green, sometimes with red tinged margins. Golden yellow fall colour contrasts nicely with the bark. Upright growing to 10'(3.0m) tall in 10 years. Said to be hardier than 'Sango kaku' - Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Ryuzu'** - ('Dragon's Head' Japanese Maple) A Dwarf Group selection. Leaves are 5 to 7 lobed and deeply toothed. New foliage is pale green tinged pink and fades to green. Fall colour is a warm orange-yellow. It is very densely branched and the foliage is very congested and overlapping. Grows to 7'(2.0m) high forming a 'flattened globe.' Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Saoshika'** - ('Saoshiki' Japanese Maple) An Amoenum Group selection. Delicate, star-shaped, 5 or 7 lobed leaves grace this cultivar. Its dark green foliage emerges bright yellow-green with red tips. Golden-yellow fall colour. Forms a broad tiered shrub to 10'(3.0m) high and wide. Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Tamuke yama'** - ('Tamuke yama' Japanese Maple) A Dissectum Group selection. The new foliage of this dissected-leaf cultivar emerges deep crimson red and quickly turns dark purple-red and holds this colour well until fall when it turns bright scarlet. Cascading, mounded habit with twigs and newer branches maroon-red with a white cast. Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Cornus kousa* v. *chinensis* 'Samzam'** (Samaritan) - (Samaritan Korean Dogwood) A small, shrubby tree, 15-20'(4.5-6.0m) tall, for light shade with a dense horizontal habit. This new variegated cultivar sports broad creamy-white leaf margins and flowers. Blooms in early August, lasts for weeks, and is followed by raspberry-shaped red fruit. Pink and maroon fall colour. Beautiful bark with age. Disease resistant but requires good drainage. Hardy to -32°C(-25°F). **A Few Only (5 gallon - \$80.00)**

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 orangish 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. **(3 gallon - \$45.00)**

***Magnolia x loebneri* 'Leonard Messel'** - (*stellata* 'Rosea' x *kobus*) An old favourite. A multi-stemmed, upright, densely branched small shrubby tree. Fuchsia-purple in bud opening to light pink with 12 strap-like petals. A profuse bloomer. To 12'(3.6m) high x 8'(2.4m) wide in 10 years. Hardy to -20°F(-29°C). **Public Sale Only (1 gallon - \$15.00)**

***Magnolia* 'Yellow Lantern'** - (*acuminata* v. *subcordata* x *soulangeana* 'Alexandrina') An excellent pale yellow Savage hybrid with large tulip-shaped flowers which hold their shape and are long-lasting. Spring-blooming before the leaves emerge. It is a single-trunked tree with a narrow upright habit. Vigorous. To 25'(7.6m) tall. Zone 6. **(2 gal. - \$50.00)**

TENDER TUB PLANTS

Musa basjoo - With winter protection, this the hardiest of the bananas, can be overwintered in our gardens. It has typical large banana leaves and grows very rapidly. Give it plenty of compost and water, then stand back. Once established it can reach 15'(4.5m) in height or more. Cut it back to 2-3'(.6-.9m) in the fall and wrap it in insulation or cover it thickly with leaves and then wrap it in plastic making sure the roots are insulated as well. Alternately protect the roots only and it will resprout in late spring! **(2 gallon - \$25.00)**

***Phormium* 'Pink Stripe'** - (Pink Stripe 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 bronze coloured variety has bright pink margins on its leaves. It is a tall growing cultivar with narrow, stiffly upright, sword-shaped leaves and can grow to 5'(1.5m) tall. 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 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Phormium* 'Shiraz'** - (Shiraz New Zealand Flax) A vigorous new variety, bronze to 'deep wine red' in colour. Also stiffly upright but lower growing to 3'(.9m) tall. Goes great with a nice bottle of red. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Lavatera x clementii* 'Barnsley Baby'** - (Tree Mallow) Presumably a dwarf sport of 'Barnsley', this shrubby mallow relative has white flowers with a hint of pink. Grows to 3'(1.0m) high and wide and blooms through most of the summer. May survive in the ground in a protected spot in Zone 6b but likely will be herbaceous. Store potted plants in a cold frost-free location over winter and cut back as desired in early spring. **(1 gallon - \$12.00)**

PERENNIALS

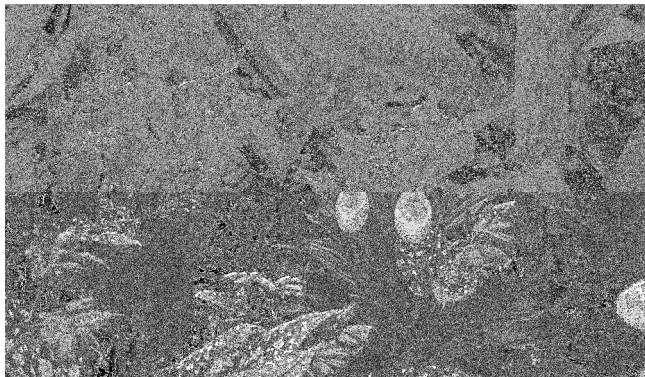
Anemone x hybrida 'Pamina' - (Windflower, Japanese or Fall Anemone) A striking fall blooming perennial with tall stems of flat faced flowers rising from long-petioled, maple-like foliage. 'Pamina' is a semi-double selection with masses of purple-pink flowers. Particularly nice when back-lit by the setting sun! To 3'(.9m) high. 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. (1 gal. - \$12.00)

Helleborus 'Walhelivory' (Ivory Prince) - [(*niger x argutifolius*) x (*niger x sternii*)] An exciting new hellebore hybrid. From dusky pink buds emerge large, outward-facing and flat-faced ivory flowers with soft green and pink tones on the inside and plum tones on the exterior. Early spring blooming. Foliage is dark grey-green with paler veins and resembles that of *H. niger*. Unlike *H. argutifolius* and *H x sternii*, the flowers buds should be safely nestled at or below ground level where they can easily be protected by mulching before winter! Compact growing reaching 18'(.45m) in bloom. Zone 6. (1 gallon - \$15.00)

Helleborus argutifolius 'Silver Lace' - ('Silver Lace' Corsican Hellebore) A new selection of this evergreen perennial with very attractive leathery silver blue foliage. Its panicles of small green cup-shaped flowers are held closer to the foliage making for a more compact plant. Early spring blooming. To 2'(.6m) high. Plant in sheltered spot protected from the winter sun & wind. Seems to do best against a bright north-facing wall. Cut old flowering stems back to the ground after blooming. Zone 6. (1 gallon - \$15.00)

Plant Portraits

Cypripedium calceolus



Cypripedium calceolus. [Photo Roslyn Duffus]

I have always loved spring woodland flowers and the lady's slippers in particular. I used to scan our property in the spring looking for any that showed up and carefully marked them to protect them from damage and I went on daily inspections to admire them in season. After our move to Waverley, we found that we were lucky enough to have several of the native pink *Cypripedium acaule* on the property. It is always tricky to move this species and I have done so only when the plants have been threatened by development, were on private property and then only with the owners' permission.

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 gallon - \$12.00)

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. (1 gallon - \$12.00)

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. (1 gallon - \$12.00)

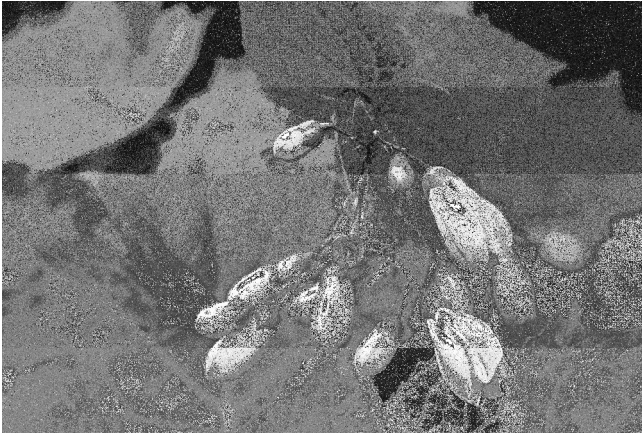
Millium effusum 'Aureum' - (Golden Wood Millet) A loosely tufted, laxly arching grass emerges vibrant golden yellow in spring aging to greenish-yellow in summer. Can be cut back in summer for a fall encore. Best in part-shade. To 9'(.2m) high. Zone 6. (3.5' pots - \$5.00) ☞

When I attended the North American Rock Garden Society's winter study weekend in Toronto in 1998, I picked up a catalogue from Lost Horizons Nursery in Acton, Ontario, and found that they had *C. calceolus* available from nursery grown stock. So I ordered one and then picked up two more when traveling in Ontario in 1999. *C. calceolus*, the yellow lady's slipper, is easier in cultivation than our local pink lady's slipper which tends to die out in a few years if its requirements are not met. I provided a fertile moist humus rich soil, dappled shade and a little lime, with some chunks of gypsum gravel which I happened to have on hand. I try to mulch with composted leaf mold annually. These plants have all done well and each has developed four to six growing points. This spring I bravely dug up one of these clumps and broke it apart into separate parts. Each growing point was left with several long slender rhizomes which were replanted just under the soil surface. This was a little scary but they all survived the summer even if they were a little sulky and I hope to see them return in the spring in good spirits.

This is a lovely plant with its bright yellow pouch and slightly twisted brownish tepals. It grows about 16 inches tall and as wide with time, and is a worthy addition to the garden.

– Roslyn Duffus

Kirengeshoma palmata



Kirengeshoma palmata. [Photo Chris Helleiner]

The flowering season of most perennials reaches its peak in July, so a showy plant that flowers in September is very welcome in our gardens. That's *Kirengeshoma palmata*, known as Yellow Waxy Bells. It is a member of the hydrangea family, a herbaceous perennial, dying down completely in the winter, but when it is in full growth it looks quite a lot like a woody shrub. The stems reach about 4 feet (1.5 meters) in height, and the leaves look quite similar to a Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), hence the *palmata* of its name. *Kirengeshoma* is said to be the Japanese name of an unrelated but similar-looking plant. The flowers are nodding, bright yellow bells, about 1½ inches (3 cm) long, the petals only slightly separated. There are said to be forms with apricot coloured flowers, but I have not seen these.

K. palmata is native to southern Japan and Korea. Some authorities consider the Korean form to be a separate species, *K. coreana*. We have both of them – they do look a bit different, and so far *K. coreana* has been a weaker grower. As far as I can remember our *K. palmata* came from a nursery in British Columbia, but it is now available from time to time at local garden centres. We planted it about six years ago in our garden in Pictou County, where it thrived, and moved it to our Halifax garden three years later. It has been equally happy in both places, though the soils are quite different. Both locations have morning sun for about half the day. The only care we give it is a dose of general fertilizer in the spring and regular watering in dry weather. We give it a peony ring support as the stems lengthen, because they do tend to flop. The plant is now about 3 feet (1 meter) in diameter and still growing. So far it has not suffered any winter damage; the lowest temperature it has experienced is - 23° C.

Kirengeshoma palmata has proved to be a very worthwhile addition to our plant collection, and I can recommend it to others.

– Chris Helleiner

Seed Grown Azalea

This year one of the first rhododendrons I have grown from seed flowered. I ordered the seed from the ARHS seed list in February 2000 but did not get around to planting it until January 2001. I planted out five seedlings from three seed lots in the summer of 2001 and left them to take their chances. I may have covered them with pine needles their first winter. Two were deciduous azaleas and the other three were evergreen, so I assumed they were rhododendrons. I then ignored them until the summer of 2004 when I built a new bed specifically to hold some of my collection of small rhodies. They had survived for three seasons in spite of too much shade and too little attention to feeding and watering. When they were moved two of the rhodos showed much improved growth and I want to tell you about the one that flowered this summer.

Since labels have a habit of going missing, I checked the descriptions of the three seed lots and I concluded that this seedling was most likely from seed donated by John Weagle. After describing the plant to John, he agreed that this was from his cross of *R. 'Laura Morland'* x (*nakaharai* 'Orange Form' x *kiusianum* 'Mt. Fuji') F2 – a dwarf white evergreen azalea. This little plant is only about eight inches tall and has white flowers. Some of the flowers have pinkish stripes that run from the edge to the centre. John tells me that the flowers are sectored and that this is an unstable feature that is sometimes found in the mother plant 'Laura Morland'. Since 'Laura Morland' and *nakaharai* 'Orange form' are not reliably hardy, John used *kiusianum* to give hardiness. It remains to be seen how big this plant gets but the largest leaves on the oldest branches are only one inch long.

It is late November as I write and this little azalea is in the process of dropping all but the leaves at the ends of the branches, which is normal, and it has set good buds for next year. I look forward to seeing it again next summer.

I also expect to see flowers next spring on plants I grew from seed I collected from some of my own plants in 2003. Patience has its rewards. Give it a try.

– Roslyn Duffus

Hardy Orchids. If you are growing hardy orchids (Cypripediums, Dactylorhizas, Orchis, Bletillas etc.) outdoors please contact **Mary Helleiner**, cmhelleiner@ns.sympatico.ca. We are planning to survey the success of these orchids in Atlantic gardens.

Remember that they should never be collected in the wild unless seriously and genuinely threatened by development.

ARHS Helps Out in Kentville

By Chris Hopgood

Over the past two years a number of members of the Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society have made their way to Kentville to provide some helping hands to the grounds staff at the Atlantic Food and Horticultural Research Centre, formerly known as the Kentville Research Station.

The Research Station should have a special place in the hearts of all east coast residents who enjoy the beauty of rhododendrons and the azaleas in the months of May, June and July. AFHRC has quite a history in the development of plants that will thrive in the harsh Atlantic climate. "In the early 1950's Dr. Donald Craig and the late George Swain voluntarily started a breeding programme at the government's Kentville Research Station in Kentville, Nova Scotia. At this colder site in the fertile Annapolis Valley thousands of seedlings were field grown without protection. Only a handful were later named and registered. Dr. Craig, now in retirement, continues breeding at his colder inland garden."

We made our way to Kentville in the spring of the year, usually the last Friday in April, in order to provide maintenance to the rhododendron and azalea gardens. It was discovered a few years ago that the plant beds were being overrun with tree saplings which threatened the health of many of the fine plants that are still surviving. The AFHRC has a very valuable legacy in the Research Station's plants that are there, and the effort that was put into their development by Dr. Craig and the late George Swain. It would be a true loss if the beds were left to be fully encroached by the wilds of nature.

Two years ago our first work session to the site was on a beautiful day, the 7th of May, and we were delighted to find a beautiful rhodo in full bloom, one of the earliest bloomers that any of us had seen; it's a reddish pink Hobbie cross (*aureum* x *forrestii* Repens Group) F2. The dwarf plant, now almost 50 years old, is still only about 1 foot high by 3 feet wide with shiny roundish foliage. Kathy Van Veen in Oregon now has cuttings that she is rooting for our annual May sale; it would make a lovely addition to the early spring garden.

To date members of the ARHS have taken part in helping to bring the upper beds back to some semblance of order. The next chore is to do the same for the lower beds near the pond as you come up the drive from the entrance. Also a number of plants from the upper trial beds could be moved to the lower area, where there is plenty of room. This would serve two purposes: to add plants to the sparse beds near the pond, a very attractive part of the site, and to alleviate some of the congestion in the upper trial beds. That objective, along with the maintenance of the lower beds, could be the work plan for the next two spring workdays (2006 and 2007).

Every year the Kentville Research Station has its Rhododendron Sunday and between 2500 and 5000 people view the plantings. It is truly a valuable resource for the Atlantic area, and for all those interested in rhododendrons and azaleas custom designed for our region. Let's roll up our sleeves; see you **Friday April 28, 2006**. We do need volunteers, so sign up for the next field trip to Kentville. ☿

An Annapolis Valley Garden

By Ruth Butler

Our gardening at "Thornleigh" began 26 years ago. Before we even moved in we planted a few hundred daffodils along the stream on the east side. Many of these are still thriving despite competition from the evil goutweed.

The next summer we discovered that our predecessors had enjoyed gardening and their favourite colour was white. White peonies, roses and phlox dominated the perennial beds and we also had a rock garden, lots of standard shrubs and trees, plus a small orchard with 30 pear trees, sweet and sour cherries, plums and an ancient quince. We kept up these gardens for several years (fighting goutweed was the biggest challenge), planted tons of annuals, and established the vegetable garden that is now in raised beds. Over the years we added wildflower and herb gardens and when the phlox and peonies succumbed to disease King dug everything out and created a larger bed with a wide variety of plants. Hibiscus with dinner plate size flowers, daylilies, bearded iris, trumpet lilies, delphiniums, and so on. We add something every year and pull out the invasives and poor performers.

King worked at the Research Station in Kentville when we first moved to Nova Scotia and we always loved the rhododendron display. After painting and repairs made it necessary to remove the Dutchman's Pipe, spireas and the incomparably scraggly spruce in front of the porch of our house, they were replaced with rhododendrons and azaleas –



The King Garden. [Photo Chris Helleiner]

'Evangeline' 'Henry's Red' and an unnamed pink seedling. When Dutch elm disease necessitated the removal of two of our largest trees King had two kidney shaped beds created just below the front porch. The 99 rhodos, azaleas, kalmias and daphnes in each bed are planted as mirror images. The display is lovely from April till mid July beginning with 'April Snow' and ending with *Kalmia* 'Ostobo Red'. There are heathers along the south side of the bed. A purple *Epipactis helleborine* orchid volunteered in the bark mulch several years ago and did so well that King decided to try some other hardy orchids (*Cypripedium reginae*, *C.* 'Gisela', *Bletillas* and *Dactylorhizas*) which are doing reasonably well – well enough that we ordered a number of *Cypripedium* (lady's slippers) species and hybrids to be delivered this fall.

Three years ago we planted eight different magnolias and a Japanese umbrella pine (*Sciadopitys*) along the street. In spite of their northern exposure and proximity to the road most are doing well. We also have two 'Royal Star' magnolias in the middle of the front lawn, a *Magnolia* 'Daybreak' in the back and a *Magnolia macrophylla* that dies back every winter but survives in a sheltered shady spot out back.

Four years ago we were so fed up with trespassers that we had a 6 foot high, 300 foot long chain link fence installed across the back of our property. Each of the poles is embellished with an Explorer rose, wisteria or clematis. Each clematis is surrounded by hostas. We are busy filling the beds between the climbers with an assortment of plants such as daylilies, dahlias, primulas, tree peonies, grasses, daffodils, hibiscus, *Malva sylvestris* 'Zabrina' – something new every year.

The latest project has been two years in the making and will give a home to some of the many rhodos and azaleas that King has accumulated from the members' plant sale, tissue culture sales and various nurseries. ("I never met a Rhododendron I don't need three of" he has been known to say.) Two years ago we purchased a three level concrete fountain to be the centerpiece of a formal garden on the west side of the house. King and a helper worked long and hard to finish a round concrete pool for the fountain to sit in. Four brick pathways divide the area into four beds, an attractive lattice fence with a circular arbor/gateway creates a backdrop at the south end and brick steps in a gentle slope define the north end. The flowering hawthorn that gives Thornleigh its name had to remain on the edge of one bed. A weeping almond, a weeping cherry and two yet to be chosen trees are centred in each bed. After much delay we finally had over 100 rhodos, azaleas, kalmias, etc. planted on October 20th. They were mulched on Nov. 9 and the final 40 plants went in on Remembrance Day! We are looking forward to a beautiful display for many years to come.

We still have lots of rhodos, lots of land, and lots of plans. Maybe someday we will rename it "Rhodoleigh". Do come drop in for a visit if you're in the vicinity - we're always pleased to have visitors. ☺

Some Useful Bits of Garden Equipment

By Jenny Sandison

I am not really a gadget kind of person, but I did purchase two pieces of equipment a few years ago that have proved worth their weight in gold to me.

I occasionally grow a few things like nicotiana (easy!) from seed, and then I have those cute little tissue culture plants that I am beguiled into purchasing. The seedlings grow tall on the window sill and then keel over with damping off, and the tissue cultures dry out all too easily.

Three years ago I bought myself a Floralight three-tier system from Lee Valley. This unit has three plastic shelves under fluorescent tubes, all arranged in a rigid frame on wheels. It wasn't cheap (\$500), but I justified it as a Christmas present to myself. You can get a one-shelf tabletop model for \$189, but I find I could almost do with another of the large size.

When the tissue cultures arrive I pot them up into small plastic pots, place them on a shelf, adjust the light to be about 4 inches above the foliage and turn on the timer (not included). I set the timer to run for about 14 hours each day. The unit stays in my basement which also accommodates the furnace. The temperature in the basement is pretty stable in the winter around 60° F. I also sow seed into trays and put these under the lights. Everything just grows away so well. Yes, I have to keep an eye on watering, but the basement never gets as hot and dry as the house and it's usually every two or three days that I water. As the seedlings grow you move the lights up on the adjustable bars, keeping them always about 4 inches above the leaves.

Finally it is early May and I want to start to get the plants acclimatized so that they can go outside and not (a) get frosted and (b) dry up. The second piece of equipment I bought was a temporary, small plastic greenhouse 6 ft. by 4 ft., and 3 ft. high on an aluminum frame. It proved easy to erect and placed it on the patio in the shade of the house. Because it is close to the house it doesn't freeze even on a frosty night, and because it is in the shade it doesn't get too hot in the day time. It is surprisingly roomy inside, and though it has sides that you can roll up in the day time, I tend to just let things get on with it. Finally, when frost is hopefully a thing of the past, I dismantle the greenhouse and start to move things into the sun ever so gently and keep them watered.

I can't say enough about how easy and effective these pieces of equipment have proved to be. I lose hardly anything now and things grow so well. The list of uses I find for these pieces just keeps getting longer. I love mail order from the Shangrila of the West Coast, but it was heart breaking to receive plants in May that were so tall and still not be able to go out in the garden. Now I arrange for them to arrive in late March. They are small, easily potted up and just love sitting under the lights in the basement and then in the small greenhouse, growing away until the risk of frost is past. I now have high hopes for my agapanthus. I never did well with these. They languished and died in the unheated garage where I was overwintering them. The garage had light, but was probably too cold at 5° F. This year I have tried another plant and thought I may have left it out too long in the fall when the frost got it. However down in the basement just after Christmas I noticed it was re-sprouting, so under the lights it went. I have a store-bought orange fuchsia that puts on a great show in the shady corner of the patio all summer till it gets cut down by the frost. I throw it in the basement, and early in January it shows little basal shoots. I repot it, cut it down and turn on the Floralight. Hey presto! Come May I have another beautiful fuchsia flowering and ready for the garden. I guess I have become a garden gadget person. ☺

Book Review

***George Forrest: Plant Hunter* by Brenda McLean. Antique Collectors' Club 2004 £29.5.**

***Frank Kingdon Ward's Riddle of the Tsangpo Gorges* ed. By Kenneth Cox. Antique Collectors' Club 2001 £35.**

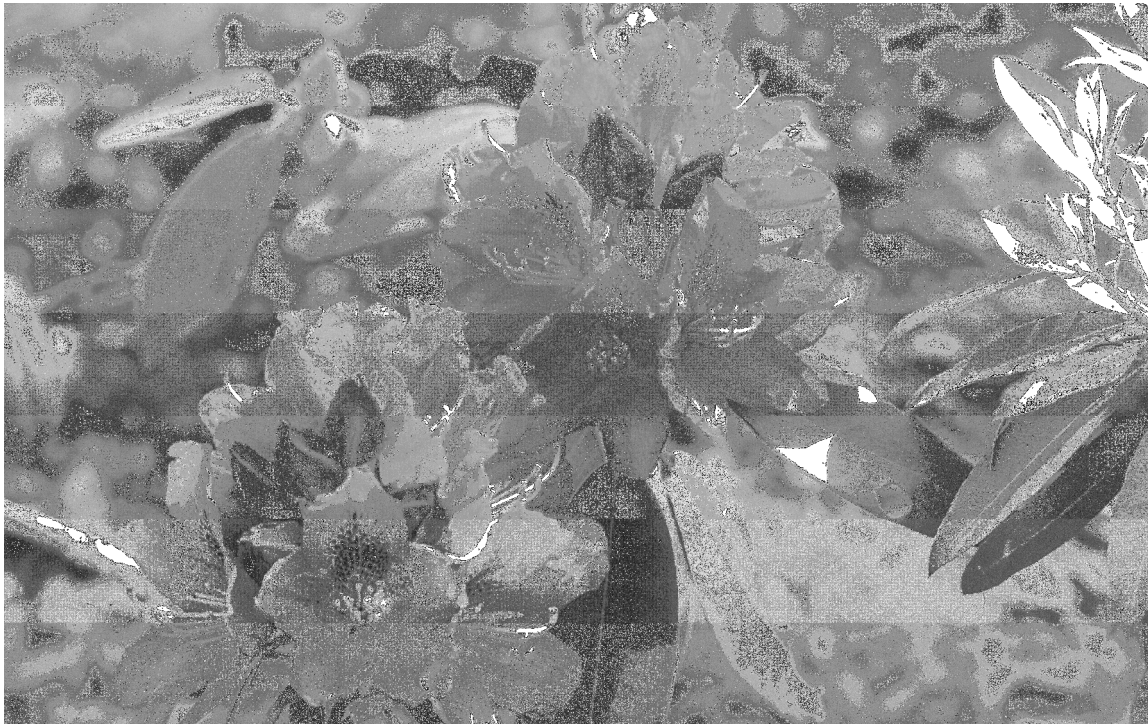
As we have wound down in the garden for another season and steeled ourselves for the long dark winter days, what better time to turn, from the safety and comfort of an armchair, to the harrowing adventures of the great plant hunters of a century ago; those intrepid individuals who, in the face of all manner of danger to life and limb, first introduced us to so many of the plants we now treasure in our own "collections". We are fortunate indeed to have in our library splendid accounts of the explorations of two of the most prolific of these horticultural giants: George Forrest (1873-1932) and Frank Kingdon-Ward (1885-1958).

In *Riddle of the Tsangpo Gorges*, Kingdon-Ward's own vivid description of his journey to this mysterious region of Tibet is reproduced together with his original photographs. Augmenting the account are the colour photographs and observations of experienced modern day explorers, Ken Cox and his associates, who have retraced Kingdon-Ward's steps and indeed penetrated further into the region he describes. Many of us were fortunate a couple of years ago to hear first-hand from Ken Cox an account of their expedition. George Forrest regrettably did not publish a book of his own incredible experiences in China. However, in *George Forrest: Plant Hunter*, Brenda McLean, a geographer herself, has through her careful researches and insights made an important contribution to remedying this lack. Both books are beautifully illustrated and produced by the *Antique Collectors Club*.

The son of a Scottish draper, George Forrest was working in the herbarium at the Edinburgh Botanic Garden when the opportunity arose in 1904 for him to travel to Yunnan in southwest China collecting plants and seed for Arther Bulley's newly founded Bees Nursery. This was to be the first of seven expeditions Forrest would make to Yunnan over the course of his life and also as it transpired the most dangerous. Set upon by ferocious Tibetan lamas intent upon ridding their land of all foreign influence, alone and hunted down relentlessly for nine days, Forrest only narrowly avoided the gruesome fate which overtook the rest of his party, including the French missionaries who were his hosts. Yet, even as he finally makes his escape across the 4000-5000 m Mekong-Salween divide, starving, enduring snow, ice and rain and bitter cold, Forrest, the "born collector", can pause to take stock of the beautiful sight of "several species of meconopsis all of them surpassingly lovely, miles of rhododendrons and acres of primulas." During the course of his life he provided the Edinburgh Botanic Garden with more than 31,000 plant specimens and was responsible for the introduction hundreds of plants to Britain including new species of rhododendrons, primulas, gentians and magnolias.

Frank Kingdon-Ward, forced by the death of his father to leave Cambridge before completing his degree in natural sciences, took a position as a schoolmaster in Shanghai. Here he developed a keen interest in exploration and when Bulley invited him to replace Forrest, with whom he had fallen out, Kingdon-Ward accepted with alacrity. First and foremost an explorer, Kingdon-Ward had at the same time an instinct for recognizing plants with horticultural potential. Unlike Forrest, his arch-rival, who published little and was highly focused in his collecting, Kingdon-Ward was a prolific writer who had a keen interest, not only in the flora and fauna, but in the geography and the peoples of the areas though which he traveled. His trip in 1924 -25 which led him to the gorges and waterfalls of the Tsangpo river is judged his most successful expedition. In addition to 97 different rhododendrons, he brought back for the first time viable seed of the blue poppy, *Meconopsis betonicifolia*.

– **Anitra Laycock**



'Henry's Red'. [Photo Don Craig]

Photo Album - Including some of the plants in the May Sale



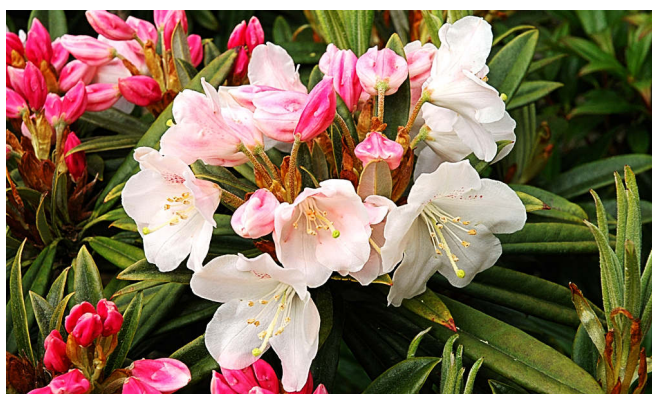
R. thayerianum foliage. [Photo Jens Birck]



R. thayerianum foliage. [Photo Jens Birck]



R. hirsutum double form. [Photo Jens Birck]



R. elegantulum. [Photo Jens Birck]



R. mackinoi . [Photo Jens Birck]



R. mackinoi foliage. [Photo Jens Birck]



R. rex ssp. fictolacteum. [Photo Jens Birck]



'Lionel's Red Shield'. [Photo Dr. J. Brueckner]