

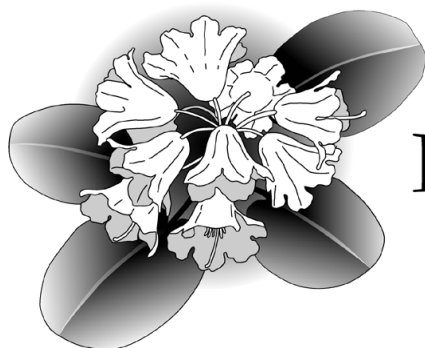
AtlanticRhodo

www.AtlanticRhodo.org

Volume 33: Number 1

February 2009





Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

Positions of Responsibility 2008 - 2009

President	Ruth Jackson	454-4681	Director - Horticulture	Audrey Fralic	683-2711
Vice-President	Vacant		Director	Lyla MacLean	466-4490
R.S.C. (National) Rep.	Sheila Stevenson	479-3740	Director	Cora Swinamer	826-7705
Secretary	Susan Boyd	835-8916	ARS Rep.	Anitra Laycock	852-2502
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Past President	Sheila Stevenson	479-3740	Library	Elizabeth Naylor	429-0557
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Director - Communications	Mary Helleiner	429-0213	May - Pre-Ordered Plant Sale	Ken Shannik	422-2413
Director - Social	Shirley McIntyre	835-3673	May- Public Plant Sale	Duff & Donna Evers	835-2586

Membership (Please Note Changes)

Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society.

Fees are \$20.00 from September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009, due September 2008. 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

For information about joining the American Rhododendron Society please contact Anitra Laycock, 852-2502. For benefits see www.rhododendron.org

Cheques should be sent to ARHS Membership Secretary, **Jim Drysdale, 5 Little Point Road, Herring Cove, NS B3V1J7.**

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

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 'Virginia Delp'. [Photo Chris Helleiner]



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 6	Jenny Sandison Rhododendrons in the Landscape.
Tuesday February 3	John Brett and John Weagle The Brueckner Legacy: Exploring a new world of possibility for Atlantic rhododendrons. Hybrids from Joseph Brueckner's breeding program being evaluated around the province.
Tuesday March 3	Larry Davidson from Lost Horizons Nursery in Ontario. Plant and placement, a plant hunter's dilemma.
Tuesday April 7	Lloyd Mapplebeck Advice on plants to use in containers from the owner of Hill'ndale Nursery..
Tuesday May 5	Members' Plant Sale, at LeMarchant School.

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 Newsletter.

Blades, Lavender Hill Nursery
Burnett, Sandy
Coles, Deborah & Leonard
Ellis, Robert
Hartnett, Bernice
Holman, Cathy
Jarsky, M. & Rand, L.
MacDonald, Carol A.
Mackenzie, Ian
May, Elizabeth
Proctor, John
Robinson, Scott
Starling, Barry

Jordan Falls
Sackville, NB
Dartmouth
Halifax
Bedford
Lr. Sackville
Dartmouth
Dartmouth
Smith's Cove
Dartmouth
Dartmouth
Shelburne
Exeter, England

Special Notices

Tissue Culture Pickup 2009

Tissue culture plants will be available for pickup on April 14, 2009, at St. Andrews Centre, 6955 Bayers Road, Halifax, at 2:00 p.m. If you have pre-ordered plants please be certain to make arrangements to have them picked up if you are unable to do so yourself.

Additional Tissue Culture Plants for Sale (2009)

In the fall after the October Newsletter was printed Briggs Nursery (our supplier) made the following two species rhododendrons as tissue culture and we were fortunate to be able to order some of each. They are:

R. roxieanum – This rhodo is a gem and every rhodo collector should have it. Its habit is compact and it is very slow growing. Very rare with narrow spikey shaped leaves which are heavily covered with cinnamon indumentum. Bell shaped flowers are creamy white sometimes tinged with rose. This plant is a year round joy. Grows to 3 feet and is hardy to –25C.

R. elegantulum – This is another beautiful rhodie with medium sized slender leaves that are smooth on top with a dense covering of brownish red indumentum underneath. Flowers are a pale purple pink, spotted darker and form large trusses. Grows to 4 feet and is hardy to –15C. This too is a wonderful plant for the collector.

We also have a few of the following tissue culture plants available, which were not listed before:

R. 'Capistrano' – This is an outstanding hardy yellow. It bears trusses of beautiful green-yellow flowers in late midseason. Excellent foliage; dense mounding habit; always looks great. Grows to about 4ft X 4ft. Hardy to –25C.

R. 'Francesca' – This is a beautiful red rhodie. It has large dark green leaves with flowers that are black red in bud opening to bright carmine red. Grows to 5-6 ft. hardy to –25C.

R. 'Henry's Red' – This is one of the hardest red rhodies. Very dark red flowers are displayed on this plant with its dark green leaves. Hardy to –32 C. Grows to about 5 feet.

Anyone who wishes to order any of the plants can email me at; alfralic2@yahoo.ca and I will gladly add them to your original order. If you have not ordered any tissue culture plants and wish to do so please email me also.

– Audrey Fralic

ARHS Activities

The 22nd Annual Steele Lectures took place in late August/early September. Barry Starling gave us interesting talks on his travels in Yunnan and on ericaceous plants. In October Walter Ostrom described his garden at Indian Harbour and we were happy to hear that this was only Part 1. In November Chris Helleiner spoke on the plants he found on a recent trip to Bhutan.

Finally, in December we had the Christmas Party. As usual, it was a great success, with some excellent photos. (Also as usual, there were problems projecting the digital images, solved with the help of the Museum's security guard.) A Christmas centrepiece created by Ken Shannik was raffled for Feed Nova Scotia, raising \$67.00, the most yet.

In January Jenny Sandison spoke on garden design with rhodos, and left us all intending to do more pruning of our shrubs. Also at this meeting Bob Pettipas was awarded an ARHS tray featuring hostas for his many years of work for the Society in many capacities.

Therese Delorme of HRM staff spoke to us about getting ARHS involved in planning and planting the Stratford Garden in Clayton Park. Many members were interested in taking part.

Tara Ralph, a student at the Agricultural College in Truro won our Passionate Plants Person award.

Another workshop is planned for May 23 in Truro, featuring rock gardens.

The annual garden tours are planned for June 6.

Information about the Pre-ordered plant pickup and the Public Sale will appear in the May Newsletter. ☐

In Memoriam - John Cornwall

We are saddened to announce the passing of ARHS member John Cornwall in December. John was a stalwart member of The Atlantic Rhododendron Society and Horticultural Society's from the earliest days. The Cornwalls were supporters of our Society sales in those days and opened their garden on countless occasions for all to see, often with no warning of arrivals. Members will fondly remember the Cornwalls' hospitality that always greeted us when visiting their beautiful garden on a rocky slope in Purcell's Cove, NS. We all marveled at the extraordinary effort it took to create such a garden and as well John's incredible organic composting systems that helped achieve such a gem.

I well remember how impressed Kenneth Cox was when taken to the Cornwall garden. He paid the highest compliment when he said to John "if my father saw this garden he would make you an offer straight away".

Our sincere condolences go out to his wife Wendy. ☐



L - R: John Cornwall, Svend Hansen, Wendy Cornwall, Birgit Hansen (speaker/visitors from Denmark). [Photo John Weagle]

ARHS Outreach: The Meagher Garden

By Chris Hopgood

On October 18th 2008 a few energetic society members met at Regatta Point to try to rehabilitate the garden originally planted by the late John Meagher. Mr. Meagher was a very dedicated member of our society, and was awarded the ARS Bronze Medal in 1999. Besides growing as many rhodos and azaleas as he could on his own property, he also planted the garden at Regatta Point, and personally I speculate he planted a few at the Dingle Park near the bandstand and the brook that is nearby.

The industrious crew of Sandy and Syd Dumaresq, Chris Hopgood and a handy neighbour by the name of Terry got to work at a civilized time of 9:30 am. The Regatta Point garden was not in good shape; a few of the original plants had died, and a patch of Japanese knotweed was flourishing in the west side of the garden. A few hours of serious work was ahead of us. Weeding and pruning were major objectives as well. About 11 o'clock we seemed to have most of the work done; then with a reserve of energy that would have been more suitable to folks a number of years younger than ourselves, we tackled the adjacent garden that was planted by the city or perhaps the condominium corporation. It wasn't a John Meagher planting; there were too many junipers. With pruners in hand that garden was whipped into shape, removing two dead juniper plants, cutting back spirea shrubs and more weeding. We were done in more ways than one by about 12 noon. Sandy kindly invited us to coffee at their nearby townhouse and the coffee and timbits hit the spot.

A good effort was made this past October, but more work is needed. We hope to be back there again in the spring to improve this civic asset even more. A few new plants are needed and we have had an offer from one of our illustrious members to supply them; this will go a long way to bring the garden back to the condition that it once was in.

Also, a very interesting discovery was that the plants were all tagged, and the tags all had a code. John Meagher must have recorded what plants were put in this garden so many years ago.

I hope you will join us to work at the Meagher garden at Regatta Point in 2009. ☐



L - R: Sandy Dumaresq, Chris Hopgood, Syd Dumaresq at the Regatta Point garden. [Photo Chris Hopgood]

SPRING 2009 ADVANCE PLANT SALE FOR MEMBERS

Members only may pre-order from the following list. Those indicated as "Year Olds" are one year old custom rooted cuttings. They may be small and will be "heeled" into suitable sized pots. The "1 gallon" Japanese Maples and Witch Hazels will have been received bareroot and will also have been freshly potted.

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 31, 2009. (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 the plants.

Plants are to be picked up at 5 Sime Ct., Halifax, NS on Saturday, May 2, 2009 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.

LEPIDOTE RHODODENDRONS

R. 'Boulderwood Blue' - ('Sapphire' F2) A powder blue Steele hybrid with foliage similar to 'Ramapo'. 2'(.6m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide in 40 years. Blooming in mid-May. An arresting colour especially when underplanted with dwarf white Narcissus. Bud hardy to at least -10F(-23°C). **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. *dauricum* 'Ruth Wainwright' - A very early blooming and nearly deciduous species retaining only a few leaves at the branch tips in winter. This cultivar - grown from wild-collected seed from Hokkaido by Walter Ostrom - has purple flowers and is a floriferous and reliable bloomer. To 4'(1.2m) high x 6'(1.8m) wide with an upright habit. Best in full sun and requires excellent drainage. Zone 5. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. *diversipilosum* 'Milky Way' - A Rhododendron Species Foundation selection of this species formerly known as *Ledum palustre*. It bears rounded trusses of many small star-shaped pure white flowers. Foliage is dark green with woolly reddish-brown indumentum. Dense mounded spreading habit to 3'(9m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide. Zone 5b. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00)**

R. 'Dora Amateis' - (*carolinianum* x *ciliatum*) A very floriferous white (with a touch of pink) hybrid. Every spring it literally smothers itself in flowers, hiding its dense, dark green foliage. Mounded habit to 2.5'(75m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Best in full sun with excellent drainage. Zone 6. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. (*ferrugineum* x *moupinense*) Brueckner - A very early Brueckner hybrid with bright clear pink flowers and foliage similar to *R. moupinense*. Bushy compact habit. To 2'(6m) high x 3'(9m) wide. Zone 5b. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

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 2'(6m) wide in 10 years. Perhaps one of the best dwarf hybrids. Zone 6. An ARHS "Top Ten" lepidote. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Lemon Cloud' - (*keiskei* 'Yaku Fairy' x *hanceanum* Nanum Group) Creamy yellow-green flowers on a compact low spreading plant with matt light green foliage. To 10"(.25m) high x 32"(.8m) wide in 12 years. Zone 6b. A Reich hybrid. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Liz Ann' - (a *sargentianum* hybrid) - A dwarf hybrid from the Poganatha with loose trusses of small, pastel pink daphne-like tubular flowers. Tiny, dark shiny green leaves on a dense mounded plant to 2' high. Beautiful peeling white bark on mature plants. Requires excellent drainage. Zone 6, possibly colder. Seldom available. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. (*minus* v. *chapmanii* x *ludlowii*) - A Powell Huie hybrid with pale yellow flowers and a dwarf habit. To 12"(.3m) high x 2'(6m) wide in 10 years. Burgundy winter colour. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Nahanni' - (*racemosum* x *lapponicum*) Ball-shaped trusses of vivid magenta flowers grace this Brueckner hybrid. Very heavy blooming. Compact and upright growing to 4'(1.2m) high x 3'(9m) wide after 20 years. Zone 5b. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Penheale Blue' - (*concinnum* Pseudoyanthinum Group x *russatum*) Deep violet blue flowers in mass on a dense upright spreading plant. Good foliage turns reddish bronze in winter. Grows 3-4'(9-1.2m) high and spreading wider. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Star Sapphire' - (*carolinianum album* x *augustinii*) Bluish-violet flowers with paler centers are large and held in ball-shaped trusses. Reddish new growth. Upright dense habit to 3'(9m) high in 10 years. A good substitute for *R. augustinii*. Should be hardy to a least Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Sugar Puff' - (*carolinianum* x *racemosum*) Multiple terminal buds open to form large dome-shaped trusses of white flowers with pale purple-pink veining. A heavy bloomer. Upright growing with reddish stems. To 2.5'(75m) high x 2'(6m) wide in 5 years. Zone 6 or possibly colder. **(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. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

ELEPIDOTE RHODODENDRONS

R. 'Axel Tigerstedt' - (*brachycarpum* Tigerstedtii Group x *degronianum*) A new Finnish hybrid with pale pink buds opening to white flowers with pale yellow spotting in rounded trusses. Dark green foliage with thin brown indumentum. Dense, upright-spreading habit to 5'(1.5m) high in ten years. Reported to be hardy to -26°F(-32°C) **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/3 gallon - \$60.00)**

R. 'Brookhaven' - ('Hotei' x 'Janet Blair') A Werner Brack hybrid with pale yellow flowers with a faint reddish blotch held in dome-shaped trusses. Compact habit to 5'(1.5m) high and wide in 20 years. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Capistrano' - A complex Leach hybrid reported to be his best yellow. Its clear, pale yellow flowers in dome-shaped trusses. Forms a compact well-branched plant with dark green foliage. To 5'(1.5m) high and wide. Zone 6. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. *degronianum* 'Rae's Delight' - A species very closely related to *R. yakushmanum* with narrow, dark glossy green leaves with tan indumentum. The flowers on this cultivar are vibrant deep pink and are held in lax dome-shaped trusses. Very early blooming - avoid frost pockets. Low, dense, rounded, spreading habit. Mother plant was 2'(.6m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide after 35 years. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$15.00)**

R. 'Eino' - (Seidel *smirnowii* hybrid x 'Dr. H. C. Dresselhuys') A new Finnish hybrid with flowers dark purple-red in bud opening bright pink with a yellow-brown flair in dome-shaped trusses. Forms a wide-growing plant to 4'(1.2m) high in 10 years. Reported to be hardy to -22°F(-30°C) **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/3 gallon - \$60.00)**

R. 'Eleanor Moody' - ['Scintillation' x ('Jalisco' x *yakushmanum*)] White flowers with a maroon-purple spotting. Often sets multiple buds resulting in huge trusses. Dark green foliage on dense plant with a mounded habit to 5'(1.5m) high x 6'(1.8m) wide in 10 years. Zone 6. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00)**

R. *fortunei* 'Emma and May' - A new selection of this beautiful species from Briggs Nursery. It buds at a young age and its large flowers are frosty pink, fragrant and are held in lax trusses. Exceptional foliage emerges coppery-blue and matures to green with a blue sheen with purple-red petioles. It has a compact habit but will eventually grow into a very large upright shrub or small tree. Zone 6. **(4" Qt pots - \$12.00)**

R. 'Francesca' - ('Britannia' x 'Dexter #202') Tough, red and big! Large black-red flowers in large trusses. Late blooming. 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. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00)**

R. 'Gotham Rheingold' - ('Hotei' x 'Phipp's Yellow') A Werner Brack hybrid with reddish-orange buds opening to unmarked yellow flowers. Compact habit to 4'(1.2m) high and wide in 15 years. Zone 6b. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Great Gatsby' - ('Janet Blair' x Phipps No. 84) A Werner Brack hybrid with done-shaped trusses of large white flowers with a strong red throat and spotting. Forms a Dense upright shrub to 7'(2.1m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide in 20 years. Zone 6b. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Hot Dawn' - ['Mars' x (*yakushmanum* 'Exbury' x 'Mars')] Vivid purplish red flowers with frilled edges and heavy substance. Buds well from an early age. Upright open habit to 4' (1.2m) high x 2.5'(.75m) wide in 12 years. A Brueckner hybrid bred in New Brunswick. Zone 6, probably colder. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00)**

R. 'Howard Kuhn' - [*metternichii* x (*yakushmanum* 'Siouxon' x *sanguineum* v. *haemaleum*)] A dwarf hybrid with blood-red flowers. Foliage is dark green with tan indumentum. Extremely compact habit. Parent plant was on 16"(4m) high x 24"(6m) wide after 12 years. Zone 6b. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$15.00)**

R. 'Jolly Jim' - (*auriculatum* x *yakushmanum*) White flowers with pale yellow spotting open form pink buds and are held in dome-shaped trusses. Has a dense mounded habit to 4'(1.2m) high x 6'(1.8m) wide after 15 years. Exceptional foliage. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. (*yakushmanum*) 'Ken Janeck' - A *yak* selection or hybrid superb for our climate. Long narrow leaves have 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 foriferous. Rosy-pink buds open to form large apple-blossom pink flowers which fade to white. Similar to 'Mist Maiden' but more slightly taller in habit growing 4-5'(1.2 - 1.5m) high and 11'(3.5m) wide. Best in a half day of sun. Zone 5. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/3 gallon - \$60.00)**

R. 'Kullervo' - (*brachycarpum* Tigerstedtii Group x *yakushmanum*) A new Finnish hybrid with soft pink flowers fading to white. Attractive dark green foliage with brown indumentum and wooly tomentum on new growth. Compact dense mounded habit to 40"(1.0m) high in 10 years. Reported to be hardy to -29°F(-34°C). **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/3 gallon - \$60.00)**

R. 'Lemon Dream' - ('Creamy Chiffon' x *yakushmanum* 'Exbury') A hybrid with trusses of soft yellow flowers in rounded trusses. Floriferous and late blooming. Attractive dark green foliage with light brownish orange indumentum. Dense compact low mounded habit to 3'(9m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Well worth trying in Zone 6b. **(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 -20°F(-29°C), buds to -15°F(-26°C). **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. ('Lionel's Red Shield' x 'Sumatra') - A Weagle hybrid with orange-red flowers in mid-May. Very dwarf growing to only 6"(1.5m) x 18"(45m) in 15 years. Zone 6. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. (*maximum* Bpt Pink x *calophytum* Weejes) - A Weagle hybrid growing in Audrey Fralic's garden. Excellent long foliage much like *R. calophytum*. Has not yet bloomed but will probably be pink. Large growing. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'New Century' - [pale yellow *catawbiense* hybrid x (unnamed yellow hybrid x 'Bristol Cream')] A compact Mezitt hybrid with ball-shaped trusses of pale yellow-green wavy edged flowers. Glossy dark green foliage. Dense habit to 3'(9m) high in 10 years. Hardy to at least -29°C(-20°F). **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. *orbiculare* - A charming species with lax trusses of bell-shaped bright pink flowers. Unique oval-rounded foliage. Forms a broad mounded shrub eventually reaching 10' (3.0m) in height after many years. Needs plenty of sun to maintain a good habit. Zone 6b. **(4" Qt pots - \$12.00)**

R. ('Parker's Pink x *strigillosum* Copenhagen) - A Weagle hybrid with very *strigillosum*-like foliage. Unbloomed but likely to be very early blooming with large pink flowers. Zone 6.

(Year Olds - \$12.00)

R. 'Pekka' - (*brachycarpum* Tigerstedtii Group x Siedel *smirnowii* hybrid) A new Finnish hybrid with pale pink flowers. Very floriferous. Very attractive wide dark green foliage has light tomentum on new growth. Dense rounded habit to 6'(1.8m) high in 10 years. Could be one of the best of the Finnish hybrids. Reported to be hardy to -29°F(-34°C). **(3 gallon - \$60.00)**

R. 'Raisa' - (*brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii* x *brachycarpum* hybrid no. 81 at Mustila). A new Finnish hybrid with bright pink flowers. Attractive dense dark green foliage. Low broad spreading habit to 30"(.75m) and much wider in 10 years. Reported to be hardy to -22°F(-30°C). **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00/3 gallon - \$60.00)**

R. 'Serendipity' - (*yakushmanum* x *aureum*) Cream coloured flowers grace this hybrid with dark green foliage. Dense, low-spreading habit growing only 12"(.3m) high. Zone 5. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Stony Brook' - ('Voluptuous' x 'Point Defiance') A Werner Brack hybrid with dome-shaped trusses of pale yellow-pink flowers with purple-pink spotting and a bright yellow-green flair. Grows to 4'(1.2m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide in 20 years. Zone 7 or mildest spots in Zone 6b. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Tapestry' - (*catawbiense* hybrid x 'Purple Splendor') Dome-shaped trusses of large vivid purple flowers with a dark purple blotch grace this Mezitt hybrid. Its compact, dense habit make it unusual for an elepidote of this colour. Grows to 6'(1.2m) high and wide in 10 years spreading wider. Zone 5b. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

R. 'Tantramar' - ('Catalpa' x 'Treasure') A Brueckner hybrid with vibrant-pink flowers edged darker reddish pink. Blooms in early May. Beautiful dark green oval foliage on a dense compact mounded plant. To 3'(.9m) high and wide in 15 years. Zone 5b. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. 'Teddy Bear' - ("Lem's 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 & early. Dense foliage on a compact, rounded, spreading plant. Grows to 5'(1.5m) high. Zone 5. **(1 gal. - \$20.00)**

R. 'The Porcupine' (*degronianum* x *makinoi*) The name says it all, a Joe Harvey hybrid raised by Christopher Clark in Liverpool, NS. Foliage is very long and narrow with recurved edges and dense white indumentum. Pink flowers, darker at the edges and fading to white in the centre, are born in dome-shaped trusses early in the season. Dense habit to 6.5'(2.0m) high x 8'(2.4m) wide in 15 years. Zone 6 **(Year Olds - \$15.00)**

R. (*vellereum* x *tsariense*) - - A Danish selection with smallish pointed leaves, thick indumentum and silvery new growth. Very compact. To 10" (.25m) x 20"(.5m) in 10 years. A Monica Johannsen hybrid. An exceptional foliage plant. Zone 6. Previous offered as the reverse cross in error. **(Year Olds - \$15.00)**

R. 'Victoria's Consort' - ('Nor'easter' x *catawbiense* hybrid) Ivory-white flowers with a pale yellow blotch grace this tough Mezitt hybrid. Dark olive-green foliage on an open-upright plant to 5'(1.5m) high x 3'(.9m) wide in 10 years. Hardy to -20°F(-29°C). **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00)**

R. 'White Elegance' - ('Janet Blair' x Phipps No. 84) A Werner Brack hybrid with dome-shaped trusses of large white trusses with a strong red throat. A large growing hybrid to 7'(2.1m) high x 9'(2.7m) wide in 20 years. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. [(*yakushmanum* x *wardii*)F2 x Madfort F2] - Fragrant large pink flowers similar to "Madfort" but on a more compact plant. A Weagle hybrid. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

R. (*yakushmanum* x *chamaethomsonii*) - A bright red Reich hybrid. Very compact. To 1'(.3m) high x 2'(.6m) wide in 15 years. Zone 6. **(Year Olds - \$15.00)**

R. *wiltonii* - A species in the Taliensia Subsection with beautiful foliage. Leaves are dark glossy green with deeply impressed veining and thick cinnamon coloured indumentum. New growth is covered in white tomentum. Lax trusses of bell-shaped flowers which are white, white flushed pink or pale pink and have a crimson blotch and spotting. Free-flowering with age. Low mounded habit to 3'(.9m) high in 10 years. Zone 6b. **(4" Qt Pots - \$12.00)**

EVERGREEN AZALEAS

Azalea 'Rosebud' - A Gable hybrid with clear soft pink double flowers resembling roses. Very floriferous and long-blooming. Dense, upright-spreading habit to 3'(.9m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

DECIDUOUS AZALEAS

Azalea 'Arneson Fairy Jewel' - {(['Gallipoli' x 'Cecile') x 'Pink Delight'] x ('Strawberry Ice' x 'Sunset Pink')} Ball-shaped trusses of 5-7 funnel-shaped purple-pink flowers on a dense dwarfish plant growing only 2'(.6m) high and wide in 20 years. Zone 6, probably colder. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

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 habit to 5'(1.5m) high in 10 years. Zone 6. **(4" Qt pots - \$12.00)**

OTHER ERICACEOUS SHRUBS

***Calluna vulgaris* 'Firefly'** - ("Firefly" Scotch Heather) A striking cultivar with year-round interest. Foliage is yellow-green with bronze tones turning bright brick-red in winter. Late summer flowers are a clean deep mauve in colour. Grows 12-18"(.3-.45m) high with an upright-spreading habit. Foliage colour is best in full sun. Old flowering stems can be sheared off after blooming or in early spring. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

***Pieris floribunda* 'Millstream'** - A rare slow-growing selection that is mounded to flat-topped in habit. White lily-of-the-valley-like flowers are borne in upright racemes. To 2'(.6m) high. A choice plant for the rock garden. Zone 5. A few only. **(Year Olds - \$12.00)**

CONIFERS

***Cedrus libani* 'Beacon Hill'** - (Beacon Hill Weeping Cedar of Lebanon) A weeping form of the famed Cedar of Lebanon. It has a graceful habit with pendulous and outward arching branches forming an irregular upright profile. Its lax leader must be staked until it reaches the desired height or alternately can be left unstaked to form a sprawling mound. Needles are dark green and borne in thick bundles. Decorative green barrel-shaped cones are borne upright on the branches. Best in full sun with good drainage. Reported to be hardier than most. Zone 6 in a protected spot. **(2.5" liner pots - \$12.00)**

***Chamaecyparis nootkatensis* 'Green Arrow'** - (Green Arrow Nootka Falsecypress) For those who want to grow a Nootka Falsecypress but thought their garden was too small this is the answer. This is an extremely fastigate form with light green drooping branches. Slow growing to 20'(6m) or more high, yet only 2-3'(.6-.9m) wide. A focal/exclamation point in both small & large gardens! Best in full sun with good drainage. May require staking the first few years. Zone 5b. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Split Rock'** - (Split Rock Hinoki Cypress) Reported to be one of the bluest cultivars, its blue juvenile foliage contrasts nicely against the fans of dark green adult foliage. Slow growing with an narrow upright irregular pyramidal habit. To 5'(1.5m) high in 10 years. Best in full sun protected from winter winds. Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Verdoni'** - (Verdoni Golden Hinoki Cypress) A rich golden-yellow selection similar to 'Nana Lutea' but faster growing and less prone to sunburn. Forms a dense irregular pyramidal shrub to 3'(9m) high x 2'(6m) wide in 10 years. Best in full sun protected from winter winds. Zone 6. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Larix decidua* 'Horstmann Recurved'** - (Horstmann Recurved European Larch) A unique upright-growing larch with twisted contorted pendulous branches. Forms a striking irregular-shaped small tree to 6'(1.8m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide in 10 years. Soft green needles turn golden in fall before falling to expose the contorted branches. May actually be a selection of *L. kaempferi*. Zone 4. **(5/3 gallon - \$35.00)**

Larix kaempferi - (Japanese Larch) Considered to be the most ornamental of the larch species, it is a large growing open-pyramidal tree with slender pendulous branches. Golden-yellow fall colour. Fast growing to 70'(21m) tall and broadly spreading. Wind and salt-spray tolerant. Zone 5. **(30-40 cm/3" sdlg liner pots = \$5.00)**

***Larix kaempferi* 'Dwarf Blue'** - (Dwarf Blue Japanese Larch) A very striking dwarf selection with stunning blue-grey foliage. It is slow growing in youth forming a dense rounded mound, eventually developing a cylindrical habit to 4'(1.2m) high x 2.5'(75cm) wide. Golden-yellow fall colour. Zone 5. **(2 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Larix kaempferi* 'Stiff Weeper'** - (Stiff Weeping Japanese Larch) Similar to the more common Weeping European Larch but with stouter branches held closer to the trunk. New foliage is soft and bright green maturing to bluish-green. Golden-yellow fall colour. Stake the leader until the desired height is reached. Zone 5. **(5/3 gallon - \$35.00)**

Metasequoia glyptostroboides - (Dawn Redwood) A prehistoric deciduous tree discovered first through fossils! Soft flat needles are held in feather-like arrangements which turn reddish-bronze in fall. Fast-growing it forms a tall uniform conical tree that can grow to 100'(30m) high. Trunk develops buttresses and furrows with age and has exfoliating reddish-brown bark. Best in full sun in a moist but not waterlogged spot. A tree from its first introduction grows in Halifax. Zone 5. **(30-40cm/3" sdlg liner pots - \$5.00)**

***Picea abies* 'Frohburg'** - (Frohburg Weeping Norway Spruce) Similar to the more common cultivar 'Pendula', this weeping selection has shorter, thinner and denser needles giving it a more refined appearance. With the leader staked until it reaches desired height, its branches hang down until they reach the ground then spread outward. Best in full sun. Zone 4. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Picea abies* 'Winkler's Wang'** - (Winkler's Wang Weeping Norway Spruce) Another weeping selection, this one with very thick stems. Can be staked or grown as a prostrate to mounding shrub. Vigorous. To 3'(9m) high x 6'(1.8m) wide if grown unstaked. Best in full sun. Zone 4. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Picea pungens* 'Globe'** - (Globe Colorado Spruce) - A very slow-growing cultivar with grey-green foliage forming a dense globe to 1.5'(45cm) in 10 years. Matures to a mounded or broadly conical shape. Great for the rock garden! Zone 4. **(2.5" liner pots - \$12.00)**

***Pinus parviflora* 'Ibo can'** - (Ibo Can Japanese White Pine) A slow-growing cultivar with 3"(75mm) long twisted blue-green needles and very rough corky bark. To 3'(9m) high in 10 years with a densely branched irregular pyramidal habit. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

Sciadopitys verticillata - (Japanese Umbrella Pine) A slow growing conifer with a perfect dense pyramidal shape and beautiful, thick, shiny, dark green needles. Can be treated as a dwarf conifer for many years but eventually can grow into a 30'(9m) tall tree. Attractive exfoliating bark. Habit best when grown as a specimen in full sun. Zone 5. Very choice. **(4" Qt pots - \$25.00)**

DECIDUOUS TREES, SHRUBS & VINES

***Acer palmatum v. dissectum* 'Red Dragon'** - (Red Dragon Cutleaf Japanese Maple) A relatively new red cutleaf cultivar reported to hold its colour through the summer better than most others. Foliage emerges deep scarlet maturing to dark burgundy turning flaming scarlet in fall. Colour is best in full sun. Slower growing to 3'(9m) high in 10 years eventually growing to 8'(2.4m) high. Broad rounded habit with cascading branches. Zone 6. **(50cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Hogyoku'** - (Hogyoku Japanese Maple) An Amoenum Group cultivar coveted for its fall colour - pumpkin orange! The heavy textured rich green leaves are 7 lobed and divided halfway to the centres. The lobes are broad at the centre, tapering to a fine point giving a star-shaped effect. Sturdy, upright-rounded growth habit to 15'(4.5m) high and wide. Zone 6. **(50cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Red Pygmy'** - (Red Pygmy Japanese Maple) A Linearilobum Group cultivar with spidery leaves divided into 7 narrow strap-like lobes. Leaves on new growth may have broader lobes but will have the typical strap-like lobes the next year. Foliage emerges dark red-maroon taking on greenish tones later in summer if grown in full sun. Vertrees states that the foliage takes on purple tones in fall while other sources say bronze, gold and scarlet. Upright to vase-shaped when young maturing to a round-topped small tree. To 7'(2.1m) high and wide. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(2 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Shojo'** - (Shojo Japanese Maple) An Matsumurae Group cultivar with deep purple-red (almost black) foliage and takes on scarlet shades in fall. Leaves are deeply divided with 5 or 7 lobes. Vigorous and vase-shaped when young spreading out when older. To 12'(4m) high and wide. Zone 6. **(2 gallon - \$30.00)**

***Acer palmatum* 'Ukigumo'** (Floating Cloud Japanese Maple) The leaves of this Palmatum Group cultivar are so heavily variegated with white & dusted with pink that there is almost no green! It has performed beautifully for the past 12 years in the south end of Halifax. Upright in habit to 8'(2.4m) high x 5'(1.5m) wide. May need some protection from the hot mid-day sun. Zone 6, maybe colder. **(2 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Acer shirasawanum* 'Palmatifolium'** - (Palmate-Leaved Full Moon Maple) Large leaves are deeply 11-lobed and bright green. Long-lasting fall colour is brilliant orange and yellow with crimson shading. A vigorous grower with a rounded upright habit. Grows to 20'(7m) high and wide. Full sun to part shade but fall colour best in full sun. Very easy to grow. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(2 gal. - \$30.00)**

***Cercidiphyllum japonicum* 'Pendula'** - (Weeping Katsura) A fast-growing graceful weeping form of the Katsura tree. It forms a broad spreading tree with a rounded top and cascading branches. Its heart-shaped leaves emerge reddish purple and mature to bluish-green. In fall foliage turns apricot and yellow and has a faint scent of burnt sugar. Coarse brown bark becomes somewhat shaggy with age. Grows to 20'(7m) high and spreading wider. A striking specimen tree. Zone 5. **(5-6/5 gallon - \$50.00)**

Fothergilla major 'Mount Airy' - A selected form (or perhaps a hybrid) of this deciduous shrub in the witch hazel family. Dark blue-green foliage and beautiful fall colour. Erect spikes of fragrant, bottlebrush-like creamy flowers appear in early spring before the foliage. Red, orange and yellow fall colour last late in the season. Upright, mounded habit. To 6'(1.8m) high x 4'(1.2m) wide. Fall colour is best when grown in full sun. Hardy to -25°F(-32°C). **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

Hamamelis x intermedia (Hybrid Witch Hazel) An exceptional late-winter flowering shrub or small tree. Spidery, narrow-petalled, fragrant flowers - borne in clusters along the bare branches - unfurl in February or March dependent on the weather. Should the weather turn too cold they will close up and open again when the temperature is more to their liking. Excellent fall colour. Best in full sun in moist well-drained soil. Dark flowered varieties look best backlit by the sun or against an evergreen backdrop. Grows 12-20'(3.6-6.1m) high depending on the variety. Zone 5b. Sure to brighten those late winter days when we think spring will never come. The following varieties are offered:

'Feuerzauber' - (Magic Fire Witch Hazel) Coppery-red flowers are lightly scented. Not as red as 'Diane' but plant is more vigorous. Red-orange fall colour. Upright growing when young maturing to vase-shaped. To 11.5'(3.5m) high and wide. A few only. **(50cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

'Orange Beauty' - (Orange Beauty Witch Hazel) Flowers shade from yellow to orange to red-purple at the base giving an overall effect of orange and are fragrant. Orange and yellow fall colour. It is a vigorous grower with an upright-spreading habit to 10'(3.0m) high x 12'(4.0m) wide. **(75cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

'Ruby Glow' - (Ruby Glow Witch Hazel) Coppery-red to red-brown flowers are lightly scented. Fall colour is yellow and orange tinted red. Vigorous bushy-upright to vase-shaped habit growing to 12'(4.0m) high x 10'(3.0m) wide. **(75cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

'Sunburst' - (Sunburst Witch Hazel) This cultivar features large clear bright yellow flowers with a reddish calyx - unfortunately without fragrance. Yellow fall colour. Vigorous with a vase shaped habit to 12'(4m) high and wide. **(75cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

'Westerstede' - (Westerstede Witch Hazel) Very similar to the more common 'Arnold's Promise' but reported to be hardier. Large bright yellow lightly scented flowers. Yellow fall foliage. Upright vigorous habit to 11.5'(3.5m) high x 8'(2.4m) wide. **(75cm/1 gallon - \$20.00)**

Magnolia acuminata v. subcordata 'Koban Dori' - (Golden Plate Bird Magnolia) A Japanese selection of this species with fragrant 3"(75mm) pale canary-yellow cup-shaped flowers born against the emerging lime green foliage in spring. It has a single trunked pyramidal habit and is smaller than the type species growing to 20'(6m) tall. Zone 5. **(7 gallon - \$80.00)**

Magnolia 'Elizabeth' - (*acuminata* x *denudata*) A single or multi-trunked, pyramidal, upright hybrid to 30'(9m) high. Fragrant, large, 6"(15cm), clear pale yellow flowers with a long tapering form open cup-shaped. Late and long blooming. Foliage emerges copper coloured. An old and beautiful hybrid from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Zone 5b. **(1 gallon - \$25.00)**

Magnolia 'Ivory Chalice' - (*acuminata* x *denudata*) A Leach hybrid with 6"(15cm) creamy-white chalice-shaped flowers. Very vigorous with a broad pyramidal habit to 30'(9m) high or more. Doing well in Antigonish. Seldom offered in the trade. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$25.00)**

Magnolia 'Legacy' - (*denudata* x *sprengeri* 'Diva') A Leach hybrid with large 10"(25cm) saucer-type flowers red-purple at the base fading towards the tips and white inside giving an overall soft pink effect. Floriferous in spring, has sporadic bloom in late summer and gives another impressive show in early fall while still setting copious buds for spring. Multi-trunked upright rounded habit. May

need some judicious pruning while young to correct a somewhat erratic branching pattern. Hardy to at least -24°F(-31°C) and is listed as growing in the Dominion Arboretum in Ottawa. **(1 gallon - \$25.00)**

Magnolia x loebneri 'Jennifer Robinson' - (*x loebneri* seedling sibbed) A Captain R.M. Steele hybrid. It boasts flowers with up to 32 strap-like pale pink petals and is frost tolerant. A vigorous grower. Original plant is 25'(7.5m) high x 18'(5.5m) wide after 40 years. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$25.00)**

Magnolia x loebneri 'Leonard Messell' - (*stellata* 'Rosea' x *kobus*) This old favourite grows into a single or multi-stemmed, upright, densely branched small tree. Its flowers are fuschia-purple in bud opening to light pink with 12 strap-like petals somewhat resembling a star magnolia. A profuse bloomer. Grows to 20'(7m). Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

Magnolia stellata 'Royal Star' - This star magnolia cultivar has pink buds which open into fragrant, large, double, white flowers. Blooms in early spring before the leaves. A small, dense upright shrubby tree to 12'(3.6m) high and almost as wide. The hardiest of the stellatas. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

Quercus dentata 'Carl Ferris Miller' - (Carl Ferris Miller Daimyo Oak) An Asian species with very large deeply lobed leaves up to 12"(30cm) long. This cultivar was selected for its warm brown to russet fall colour. Foliage can remain on tree well into winter. Deeply fissured bark. Upright growing with a rounded crown. Slow growing but eventually becoming a large tree. Best in full sun. Zone 6. **(7 gallon - \$80.00)**

Robinia pseudoacacia Twisty Baby™ 'Lady Lace' - (Twisty Baby Black Locust) A smaller growing shrubby selection with zigzagging twisted stems densely clothed with curly leaves. Its pinnate compound foliage is dark green turning yellow in fall. Grows 10-15'(3-4.5m) high and wide with an irregular mounded shape. An interesting specimen plant. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$25.00)**

Schizophragma hydrangeoides 'Moonlight' - A close relative of the climbing hydrangea, this deciduous woody vine can be grown up tree trunks, on a strong trellis, or left to scramble on banks or retaining walls. The foliage of this selection is a lush dark blue green with a silvery overlay. "Lacecap" type heads of fluffy white flowers surrounded by large single-petalled sterile white bracts appear in mid to late summer. For part-shade to shade. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$20.00)**

Syringa laciniata - (Cutleaf Lilac) A unique lilac species with small lacy-textured blue-green dissected foliage with 3-9 lobes. It's fragrant pale lilac flowers are born in 3" loose panicles in early spring. It has a suckering habit and forms a dense, twiggy, mounded plant to 6'(1.8m) high and wide. Best in full sun. Zone 5. **(4" Qt pots - \$12.00)**

Syringa pinnatifolia v. alashanica - (Pinnate-Leaved Lilac) The only truly pinnate-leaved species with 7-11 narrow opposite leaflets. It bears small panicles of creamy white faintly fragrant flowers along the branches in early spring. Non suckering growing 5-7'(1.5-2.1m) high with slender angular branches and an open rounded habit. Very unique. Zone 6, possibly colder. **(4" Qt pots - \$12.00)**

Viburnum dentatum Blue Muffin™ 'Christom' - (Blue Muffin Arrowwood Viburnum) A compact selection of this tough species growing 5-7'(1.5-2.1m) high x 4-5'(1.2-1.5m) wide. It produces copious amounts of rich blue berries in late summer especially if another clone is planted nearby. Creamy white flowers in 5" clusters are borne in late spring contrasting nicely against its glossy green foliage. Yellow, red and purple fall colour. Dense, suckering rounded habit. Zone 4. **(1 gallon - \$15.00/2 gallon - \$25.00)**

PERRENIALS AND FERNS

***Athyrium filix-femina* 'Frizelliae'** - (Tatting Fern) A unique and distinct selection of the Lady Fern with narrow fronds of small rounded pinnae born oppositely up the stems with a beaded or "tatted" effect. Grows to 12"(.3m) high. Deciduous, dainty, unusual and eloquent. Does well in well-drained but moisture retentive rich soil in part to full shade. Zone 4. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)**

***Lewisia cotyledon* 'Ashwood Hybrids'** - A seedling strain developed by the famous Ashwood Nursery in England. Plants are floriferous and come in a broad range of colours - reds, yellows, oranges, pinks, apricots and whites. Flowers are born above

evergreen rosettes of succulent dark green elongated leaves in spring. They require excellent drainage and resent winter wet thus they are best planted vertically in a wall, trough or crevice in the rock garden. Zone 5. **(3.5" pots - \$12.00)**

***Tradescantia* 'Sweet Kate'** - (Sweet Kate Spiderwort) A stunning selection with violet blue flowers with yellow stamens set against golden yellow foliage. Long-blooming in summer and if cut back after the first major bloom will rejuvenate the foliage and rebloom. Less aggressive than most spiderworts. Grows 12-18"(.3-.45m) high. Sun to part shade. Zone 5. **(1 gallon - \$15.00)** ☐

2009 ARHS Seed Exchange

By Sharon Bryson, Seed Exchange Chair

Welcome to the 2009 Seed Exchange for the Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society. Our exchange this year is a bit lower in numbers, but still exhibits many interesting choices. We wish to thank the many contributors who have made this possible. The overall success of our Seed Exchange depends upon seed contributions by our members, so please make a "mental note" to save some interesting seeds for next year's Exchange. There is always an interest in the companion plant section as well as the azalea and rhododendron sections.

Plant enthusiasts outside of our regional society have again made valuable contributions to our annual exchange.

All are encouraged to give some of the native species a try. There are quite a number of deciduous azalea species and hybrid seed lots available this year. Do give these interesting, easy, and beautiful plants a try. Pictures and links will be available online.

The deadline for submitting the members-only order is Feb 28, 2009.

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 make a small "editorial decision"!

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 a 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. We still have found no predictable or useful method to make good use of these seeds, but welcome suggestions. Once again we will post the Seed List on the Internet and insert many 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 members only date, and last until April 30, 2009. Stories of your past successes and/or failures with seed growing are most interesting and welcome. Comments or suggestions regarding the Seed Exchange are also encouraged. You can send a note with your order or email sbryson@ns.sympatico.ca ☐

ARHS 2009 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, 2009.** 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 **CLY** - Bruce Clyburn, New Waterford, NS **EVE** - Donna Evers, Hammond's Plains, NS **MAC** - Paul MacDonald, Martin's Point, NS **McL** - Lloyd McLean, Chester Basin, NS **PET** - Bob Pettipas, Dartmouth, NS **RAB** - Ron Rabideau, Camden, NJ, USA **REI** - Wolfgang Reich, Germany **SHA** - Ken Shannik, Halifax, NS **THE** - Kristian Theqvist, Finland **WEA** - John Weagle, Halifax, NS **WEI** - Barbara Weinz, West Bath, Maine, USA **WIL** - Bill Wilgenhof, Antigonish, NS **WIL** - Jim Willhite, West Chester, Pennsylvania, USA ☐

Rhododendron Species - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 001 WEA *albrechtii* Windsor good dark purple flower
- 002 BIR *bureavii* Reuthe x *bureavii* Adrishag
- 003 BIR *camtschaticum* mixed colours
- 004 WEA *camtschaticum* mixed colours
- 005 BIR *camtschaticum* red form
- 006 WEA *carolinianum* (*R. minus*) Jackson's robust plant
- 007 WEA *maximum* (original "Red Max") x *maximum* ("Red Max" selfed)
- 008 BIR *proteoides* KGB#700B x *proteoides* R#151
- 009 WEA *quinquefolium*
- 010 WEA *schlippenbachii* Meagher's good big flowered form
- 011 EVE *schlippenbachii* 'Sid's Royal Pink'
- 012 WEA *vaseyi* (good pink) x sibling
- 013 WEA *viscosum*

Rhododendron Species - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 014 WIL *arborecens* superior form, long shiny foliage, very fragrant
- 015 WEA *brachycarpum* 'Tony Law', selfed
- 016 WIL *calendulaceum* "Big Yellow", OP 'Zo Warner' F2's and Skinner azaleas nearby
- 017 WEA *canadense* 'Alba' - white version of native Rhodora (2007 seed)
- 018 WIL *Rhododendron dauricum* v. *compactum* f. roseum (ARS04#573) early, pink, dwarf (~8")
- 019 SHA *ferrugineum*, pink
- 020 WIL *maximum*, pinker form
- 021 SHA *rubiginosum*
- 022 WIL *schlippenbachii*, pinker form
- 023 SHA *vaseyi*, white form

Rhododendron Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 024 CLY 'Babylon' x *sutchuenense* RSF 76/092
- 025 CLY 'Babylon' x *praeevernum* RSF 82/0080
- 026 BIR ('Bambi' x *proteoides*) #17 x *brachycarpum* Erimo form (Doi)
- 027 REI ('Berg's Yellow' x *proteoides*) x *citriniflorum* Horaeum Group hybrid (Cox, very dwarf orange)
- 028 BIR *bureavii* Adrishag x *rex*

- 029 BIR *campylogynum* Holland x *cinnabarinum*
- 030 REI *cerasinum* 'Cherry Brandy' x *wardii* L&S#5679
- 031 BIR 'Charme La' †1 x 'Biskra'
- 032 BIR 'Charme La' x *cinnabarinum* Nepal
- 033 BIR 'Charme La' x *cinnabarinum* Concatenans Group
- 034 REI *cinnabarinum* Roylei Group x *rigidum*
- 035 REI *citriniflorum* Horaeum Group hybrid x *wardii* L&S#5679
- 36 REI *citriniflorum* Horaeum Group hybrid x *wardii* hybrid (yellow)
- 037 REI *citriniflorum* Horaeum Group hybrid x *cerasinum* 'Cherry Brandy'
- 038 REI 'Cordula Reich' x *rigidum*
- 039 REI *denudatum* C&H#7102 x self
- 040 REI 'Dorte Reich' x 'Quail'
- 041 BIR 'Fantastica' x *rex*
- 042 REI *glaucophyllum* (white form) x *rigidum*
- 043 REI *glaucophyllum* (white form) x 'Josefa Blau'
- 044 BIR 'Goldprinz' x *rex*
- 045 BIR 'Goldsprengl' x *rex*
- 046 PET 'Hello Dolly' x *metternichii* F2
- 047 REI ['Hotei' x (*yakushmanum* x *dichroanthum* / Jorgensen orange) †2] x *citriniflorum* Horaeum Group hybrid (Cox, very dwarf orange)
- 048 WIL 'June Achievement' x *diaprepes*
- 049 THE 'Kullervo' †3 x *sanguineum* var. *didymum*, cp
- 050 WIL *R. maximum* "rubrum" x *kesangiae*
- 051 WIL *maximum-discolor* hybrid †4 x Sw. 12505-5 †5
- 052 WEA *mucronulatum* v. *taguetii* x (*mucronulatum* 'Woodland Pink' x 'Cornell Pink')
- 053 BIR 'Nancy Evans' x *fortunei*
- 054 REI (*nivale* v. *boreale* Stichtophyllum Group x *russatum* hybrid) x *cinnabarinum* Concatenans Group
- 055 REI (*nivale* v. *boreale* Stichtophyllum Group x *russatum* hybrid) x *concinnum* Pseudoyanthinum Group
- 056 REI (*nivale* v. *boreale* Stichtophyllum Group x *russatum* hybrid) x 'Pintail'

- 057 BIR 'Norph' x 'Great Dane'
 058 BIR 'Peggy' x *rex*
 059 THE 'Pekka' x *sanguineum* var. *didymum*, cp †8
 060 THE 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' †6 x *sutchuenense* hybrid, †7 cp †8
 061 BIR 'Recital' x *maximum* "Red Max"
 062 CLY 'Red River' x *calophytum* RSF 82/194
 063 CLY 'Red River' x 'Hardy Giant' †9
 064 THE *sanguineum* var. *didymum* x *brachycarpum* ssp. *tigerstedtii*, cp †8
 065 REI *russatum* Blue Black (Cox) x 'Josefa Blau'
 066 WIL Sw. 58-297A †10 x *diaprepes*
 067 WIL (*ungernii* x *auriculatum*) †11 x *auriculatum*
 068 BIR *wiltonii* x *bureavii*

Rhododendron Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 069 PET 'Golfer'
 070 WIL 'Minas Maid' - deep rose-pink, compact
 071 WIL 'Red River' - very late red, *R. maximum* hybrid

Azalea Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 072 WIL 'Summer Eyelet' †12 x 'Summer Lyric' †13
 073 MAC 'Fireworks' †14 selfed, hp
 074 MAC 'Fireworks' x 'Gibraltar'
 075 WIL "Gregory Bald Azalea" selfed, hp
 076 WIL "Horse Stomp Arborescens" †15 x 'Pennsylvania'
 077 CLY 'July Jester' †16 x *arborescens*
 078 WIL 'Pennsylvania' x 'Summer Lyric'

Azalea Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 079 WIL (*arborescens* x *bakeri*, pink) yellow *arborescens* nearby
 080 WIL Fern Gully # GH 015, Ghent azalea OP selfed or x Fern Gully # GH 001
 081 WIL ex 'July Jester', vivid reddish-orange flowers, medium height - late blooming
 082 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling from ARS01#539 *R. cumberlandense*, red selection; vivid fall foliage
 083 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling from ARS02#531 †17 Large, raspberry coloured florets, late flowering
 084 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling small yellow florets vivid fall foliage (likely luteum mix)
 085 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling from Muntz hybrids intense golden yellow, compact form
 086 WIL Deciduous azalea, mix - FREE

Companion Plants - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 087 WIL *Aquilegia* sp. 'Black Barlowe' dark purple blooms, quite tall - Per
 088 WIL *Allium* ex 'Mount Everest', tall white. - Bulb
 089 McL *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* Porcelaine vine - vigorous, grape-like vine. Beautiful shades of turquoise-violet berries in fall - Vine
 090 SHA *Clematis flammula* - masses of fragrant white flowers in fall, vigorous - Vine
 091 SHA *Clematis ochroleuca* - hairy urn-shaped creamy-white flowers flushed violet. Unusual clump-forming herbaceous species. 12" high. Per.
 092 SHA *Clematis viorna* - small thick purple-pink urn-shaped flowers, herbaceous - Vine
 093 WEA *Enkianthus campanulatus* v. *sikokianus* hp, ericaceous shrub, brilliant fall colour - Shrub
 094 SHA *Enkianthus campanulatus* v. *sikokianus* OP - brilliant red fall colour, dark red flowers - Shrub

- 095 SHA *Hippophae rhamnoides* 'Leikora' (Sea Buckthorn) - Yellow-orange berries - large shrub
 096 WIL *Lilium martagon* White drooping recurved blooms, earliest lily - Bulb
 097 WEA *Lilium macklinae* Pink, fading to white, ~30" Plant deep, avoid drought - Bulb
 098 WIL *Lilium orientalis*, ex 'Barbaresco', dark, reddish pink, ~4-5 Ft. - Bulb
 099 WIL *Lilium* ex 'Midnight', burgundy Trumpet, 5-6 Ft. - Bulb
 100 SHA *Magnolia loebneri* hyb. ex. 'Spring Snow', white, - small Tree †18
 101 PET *Magnolia macrophylla* x *ashei*, huge leaves and blooms - Tree †18
 102 WIL *Magnolia stellata* (Star Magnolia) Dwarf form white blooms, early spring - small Tree †18
 103 WEA *Magnolia sieboldii* 'Colossus' - Tree †18
 104 SHA *Magnolia sieboldii* from cw. Korean seed, white with pink stamens, large flowered and vigorous - Tree †18
 105 WEA *Magnolia* sp 'Sunsation' - Tree †18
 106 WEA *Magnolia virginiana* (Arnold Arboretum's hardest), selfed - Tree †18
 107 WEA *Menziesia ciliicalyx* (dwarf form) h.p. - Shrub
 108 SHA *Stewartia pseudocamellia* - White camellia-like flowers in summer. Beautiful exfoliating bark - Tree
 109 WIL *Thalictrum rochebeianum* Meadow Rue, delicate purple flowers on a tall stalk.

Rhododendron Species - Collected Wild - \$2.50

(late additions)

- 110 RAB *R. ledebourii (dauricum)* Altai Mts, Siberia. N51 32.133, E85 54.766 at end of wire bridge over Katun River. Seed from many plants. collected 8-19-07
 111 RAB *R. ledebourii (dauricum)* Altai Mts, Siberia. N51 12.723 E86 05.200 Collection number ALT018 Aug 19, 2007. Seed from many plants.
 112 RAB *R. ledebourii (dauricum)* Altai Mts, Siberia. Assorted plants within 1km of N51 37.462 E85 42.113 Collection number ALT006 Southern Branch of the Central Siberian Botanical Garden, Kamlack. Seed from many plants
 113 RAB *R. ledebourii (dauricum)* Altai Mts, Siberia. N51 08.703 E87 49.196 Collected from selected plant considerably more compact than typical. 8-26-07 Plants were growing here in full sun as the dominant woody plant. Seed from one plant.

Rhododendron Species - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

(Late Additions from B. Weinz)

- 114 WEI *R. albrechtii*
 115 WEI *R. arborescens* a large flowered version, might be a hybrid. Plant from Joe Parks.
 116 WEI *R. schlippenbachii* large flowers

Rhododendron Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 117 WEI 'Great Eastern' x 'Nestucca'
 118 WEI 'Helen Everitt' x 'Dexter's Appleblossom'
 119 WEI 'Janet Blair' x 'Nestucca'
 120 WEI *pseudochrysanthum* x *vernicosum* (hardy form)
 121 WEI 'Red River' x 'Cloud Nine'
 122 WEI *yak* 'White Velvet' x 'Janet Blair'
 123 WEI 'Yellow Gate' x [*hyperythrum* x ('Hotei' x 'Copper Kettles')], †19

Azalea Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 124 WEI 'Narcissiflora' x 'Sylphides'
125 WEI 'Narcissiflora' x 'Lemon Lights'

FOOTNOTES

- †1. 'Charme La', large pinkish-purple flowers, Brueckner's lepidote hybrid *minus* Carolinianum Group x *pemakoense* Patulum Group
- †2. Very dwarf bright yellow, 27cm high in 10 years
- †3. *brachycarpum* var. *tigerstedtii* x *degronianum* s s p . *yakushimanum* A hardy yaku hybrid. Compact and round growth. Pink flowers fading white, upper lobes spotted green. Weak points: Flowers could be larger.
- †4. Late, white, tinged pink, fragrant
- †5. Dexter hybrid of *discolor*, *griersonianum* & *fortunei*, in some combination; later, salmon pink flowers with a deep cherry blotch; used by Wister in his hybrids and produces pronounced blotches in offspring
- †6. 'P.M.A. Tigerstedt' (also known as 'Peter Tigerstedt'), super hardy Finnish hybrid
- †7. *R. sutchuenense* hybrid, hardy plants at Helsinki Botanical Garden, origin from OP seeds of *R. sutchuenense* at Gothenburg Botanical Garden.
- †8. cp = Controlled Pollination, where stigmas have been protected before and after pollination
- †9. *R. fortunei* x *R. fictolacteam* is the Knippenberg hybrid registered as 'Hardy Giant'
- †10. Late, deep rose pink flowers on a big plant; Wister hybrid; one of the Sw.12506 series (Dexter's Lady of June series, although Wister's notes do not identify the specific clone) x 'Michael Waterer', an old 'ironclad' rose red. Sw. 12506 = Lady Eleanor Cathcart x *decorum*
- †11. Very late, huge white fragrant flowers; Gable hybrid
- †12. *viscosum* or a *viscosum-arborescens* cross; believed to be the latter; has a very long season of bloom, flowers heavily
- †13. *viscosum* hybrid with peach flowers

- †14. 'Fireworks' is a large, late azalea (flowers about †15. July 1 in NS) - large flowers - reddish-orange
R. arborescens var. *Georgiana*, grown from seed cw Coosa Co., AL ARS 04-536
- †16. 'July Jester' = (*R. prunifolium* 'S. D. Coleman' x *R. cumberlandense* 'Scarlet Salute')
- †17. 'Homebush' x 'Mt. St. Helens'
- †18. Magnolia seed has been stratified. Store in fridge in plastic packet as received until March/April then sow in warm soil.
- †19. aka Mark's hardy yellow. 'Copper Kettles' is a Lofthouse hybrid ('Hotei' x 'Copper Kettles') was an unregistered Lofthouse hybrid. Mark's cross of it with *hyperythrum* is very fertile.

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 be labelled as being "ex" that species or cultivar.
2. The 2009 Seed List will be posted on the Internet with insertion of 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. Also see the ARHS website for an article on growing rhododendrons from seed.
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. 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. ☐

Growing Primulas in Ontario

By Barrie Porteous

Temperatures can vary quite significantly in Southern Ontario where I maintain two gardens. In Richmond Hill where we live, the Zone is a 5b/6a, however, a 100 miles further north, right on the 45th degree of latitude we have a cottage in the Muskoka region in a Zone 3b/4a. It is here, where summers rarely get into the 80's and where snow fall is fairly reliable, hopefully arriving before temperatures plunge to the -40 range, that I grow all of my primulas. The pH of the snow tends to be in the range 3.5 to 4.0 making it 5000 times more acidic than tap water, great for growing ericaceous material but not so good for lime lovers. Over the approximately one acre of garden, it has been possible to create a number of areas in which to grow primulas. These include bogs, troughs, woodland gardens, perennial beds, raised gravel beds, a tufa cliff and even limestone paths.

The first bog I built started life as a pond where I was hoping to grow water lilies. Sadly, it was far too shallow, the concrete was runny and the ground probably wasn't even level to start with, the net result being a 35-40 cm deep depression which sloped to one end, totally useless for its intended purpose. In an attempt to make something out of it, since the concrete was too thick to break up and remove, I added a mixture of peat moss, gravel and sand raised to a height of 25 cm above the edge, partly to allow for compaction but also to let plant roots either go down to seek water or stay in the less damp soil further up. Neither this, nor any of the other bog gardens, ever became "smelly" and the slope allowed excess water to seep away. Exbury Gardens, in the south of England, surround their ponds with these primulas making a superb floral display and, at Inverewe Gardens in the north of Scotland, rivers of colour follow streams through the property. It is therefore pretty tempting to try something similar but it all too quickly became apparent that many of these primulas are extremely weedy in a damp environment and, when happy, grow very large and seed everywhere. I do, however, continue to grow *P. japonica* "Appleblossom" and the deep darkish red *P. pulverulenta* which cross to yield attractive pinks but which also

provide some pretty ugly flower heads with half the petal being white and the other half red. As a result, deadheading after flowering is pretty well essential. My second plantings in this bog consisted of *P. scotica*, *P. mistassinica*, *P. rosea* 'Grandiflora' and *Pinguicula grandiflora*. For the first year or two all went well with more and more seedlings becoming established. It was only later that I realized they were all *P. rosea* seedlings and within a very short time everything else disappeared, a valuable lesson in paying attention.

I have spent a fair bit of time researching the fascinating lives and discoveries of the Europeans who botanized China and who were responsible for many of the introductions that we take for granted today. Amongst them was Frank Kingdon Ward who brought back *P. florindae* in all its color forms from the common yellow to shades of burnt umber and deep orange red. He named it after his first wife while his second, Jean, gave her name to *Lilium mackliniae*, both splendid plants. *Primula florindae* is very amenable and doesn't need to be grown in a bog as it quite happy in a well mulched perennial bed in dappled shade. It too will self seed but, being far less robust than the common candelabra types, is a welcome addition to the garden. Other long lived successes in the bog garden have included *P. involucrata*, *P. sikkimensis*, *P. nivalis*, *P. alpicola* and *P. luteola*. There is also a natural damp area where water drains from high up in the back woods and comes closer to the surface as the bed rock rises near the lake. Here *P. nivalis* and *P. macrophylla* do well, planted in amongst meconopsis and *Gentiana sino-ornata* hybrids.

One of the best and perhaps rarest plants that I am growing in a bog is *Primula* X 'Peter Kleine', a hybrid of the difficult *P. clarkei* with the weedy *P. rosea*. The result is a very well behaved plant that slowly increases over time. *P. farinosa* and *P. laurentiana* also thrive in a bog environment but seem to prefer life in a path, composed of a mixture of pure limestone chips and screenings located next to the bog, where they self seed and appear to be much happier in a totally soil free environment.

I have a total of fourteen troughs, the largest being 8' long by 5' wide and 3' high with walls 10" thick and the smallest being about half that size. While very small, portable, troughs may work well for some people I have never found them to be of much use. Larger ones seem to promote better airflow and probably keep roots a lot cooler with just the correct amount of moisture. The first ones I made were constructed of concrete reinforced with chicken wire, however, this was hard work, expensive and time consuming. Newer ones have all been made using 4" by 4" pressure treated landscaping ties and seem to work just as well.

Over the last 20 years I have led a number of trips to the Alps and Pyrenees. There we saw *P. allionii*, *P. auricula*, *P. carniolica*, *P. daonensis*, *P. glutinosa*, *P. hirsuta*, *P. integrifolia*, *P. latifolia*, *P. marginata*, *P. minima*, *P. spectabilis*, *P. tyrolensis* and *P. villosa* growing in the wild, some on cliff faces and boulders with others in open alpine meadows. *P. auricula* and *P. marginata* will succeed just about anywhere in the garden and are easy to propagate by cutting off the leggier stalks in late summer and sticking them in a shady spot with a moisture retentive soil. By the following spring almost 100% of the cuttings will have rooted and can be planted out into a permanent spot. In spite of the fact that *P. allionii* is found only in the Maritime Alps on tufa like limestone, not very far north of the Mediterranean, it and many of its hybrids seem to be fairly hardy and will survive the extreme cold of a Muskoka winter. On the other hand, they never seem to be all that happy, at least not for me. We have found *P. integrifolia* in the Pyrenees growing in turf saturated by snow melt, conditions which are hard to duplicate in the home garden. *P. tyrolensis* prefers limestone cliffs and boulders above the Rolle Pass in the Dolomites and again, is not easy to grow even if plants or seed are available. The rest, along with *P. glaucescens*, *P. wulfeniana* and *P. clusiana*, the Murray-Lyon form of which has double the flower size of the type, all do well in troughs, although it has to be said that *P. minima*, is a shy bloomer in my garden. Perhaps it would be happier in an open bed as we have seen it throughout Europe flourishing in open high meadows often side by side *P. glutinosa* with which it forms interesting hybrids.

We all may have, in the back of our minds, the concept that primulas must have a source of water to grow well and that very few of them really appreciate being baked in full sun. While it is true that, in the wild, a lot of primulas grow in alpine meadows or on cliff faces, temperatures there tend to be modified by altitude and also by the fact that readings drop significantly as night approaches, certainly not the case in Eastern North America through the summer months. One of the troughs that I constructed over 20 years ago was really designed for drabas, androsaces and eriogonums. To finish off the trough, which is located in a very sunny spot, and to get rid of some surplus seedlings, I planted *P. auricula*, *P. villosa* and *P. glaucescens*. Since then, these plants have grown larger and more floriferous in spite of the fact that they virtually disappear by late summer having been baked to a crisp and receiving water only in the form of rainfall. Rather than dying off, they retreat to ground level and then, every following spring, put on a superb floral display.

I first encountered *P. vulgaris* growing in the woods at my grandparent's farm located in the north of Scotland. At the time, I really wasn't interested in gardening, however, I have since come to appreciate the beauty of this particular primula. Paths, lined with rotting logs and filled in between with 12" of partially composted chipped wood, weave their way through

dappled sunlight, a great environment for growing this primula where it tends to flourish for many years. There are many excellent *P. vulgaris* crosses and selections but the best, for me, is the Jelitto Arctic Series in shades of white, rose, red, deep red, blue and yellow. These plants will grow well in a woodland setting but they also thrive in a sunny bed composed of a soil and gravel mixture. Blooms are very large and occur once in the spring and again, just as impressively, in the fall. There are obviously lots of doubles such as 'Sunshine Suzie', 'Quaker's Bonnet', 'Dawn Ansell', 'Marie Crousse' or 'Val Horncastle' that also do very well but these, and the single forms, need to be divided every few years otherwise they will slowly disappear. In brighter areas of the woodland *P. denticulata* grows to form huge clumps and self seeds everywhere, making it a bit of nuisance. Nevertheless, there are good white and red forms as well as an 'almost' blue that comes true from seed. The Edinburgh Botanic Gardens grew an excellent red selection for many years in a bog at the edge of a pond but I think that *P. denticulata* is happy in many locations other than full sun where it tends to wilt. *P. kisoana*, from Japan, spreads by runners, and can be quite vigorous. While some color forms are a dingy lilac red, there is a very nice pink which does set seed and an excellent white form that doesn't, at least not for me.

P. sieboldii, from the Far East is a worthwhile addition to the woodland garden although it also seems to be happy in sunnier spots. While it doesn't come in a huge range of colours, having mostly white, pink or lilac flowers, or combinations of these, the petal structures are often very attractive. In Japan, where this primula is taken very seriously, there are many named clones, some of which can be pretty expensive to purchase. Most of mine were grown from seed obtained from various exchanges and many of the resulting plants are really quite attractive. They all seem to set copious amounts of seed which can be scattered around to increase their numbers. It is advisable to consider intermixing other blooming perennials as *P. sieboldii* completely disappears underground, to a resting rhizome, by midsummer.

P. cockburniana lights up the woodland garden with its orange red blossoms and looks much like a dainty candelabra. The correct pronunciation is not as in cock-a-doodle- do but as co-burn, after H. Cockburn of the British Consular Service and/or the Reverend G. Cockburn who assisted the collector A. E. Pratt. Scottish names are often never pronounced as they are written. *Penstemon davidsonii* var. *menziesii* usually comes out as *P. d. men-zees-e-i* but in fact the correct pronunciation is *P. d. ming-us-i*, all very confusing even if you are a Scot! Speaking of Scots, another excellent introduction was made by George Forrest in the form of *P. bulleyana*, named after Arthur Kilpen Bulley, the owner of Bees Nursery and financier of his early expeditions to China, a tortured relationship that Forrest would soon come to regret. The golden orange flowers are attractive and the plant is longer lived than *P. cockburniana* as is *P. b. ssp. beesiana* with its pink/magenta flowers. Dappled shade and a well drained, mulched, soil is also an excellent place to grow *P. cernua*, *P. capitata ssp. mooreana* and *P. muscarioides*. So far, many of the Chinese androsaces and gentians also seem to be happy here but time will tell.

My tufa bed is made up of two tonnes of rock and is 10 metres long, 1 metre high and 3 metres wide. Since it was constructed in the fall of 2006, hundreds of plants, mostly seedlings, have been either placed between the rocks or inserted into holes drilled in the tufa. While *primulacaea* in general seem to be quite happy in this environment, it is too early to state that primulas are, other than various selections of *P. auricula*, *P. allionii* and its hybrids have not done particularly well but it is too early to draw any conclusions other than to say that tufa and limestone are perhaps not necessarily the same thing, at least as far as plants are concerned.

With regards to North American primulas we have seen *P. cuneifolia* in Alaska, *P. suffrutescens* in California, *P. cusickiana* in Idaho as well as *P. parryi* and *P. angustifolia* in the Rockies. *P. parryi* looks as though it should be growable but it isn't for me, making *P. angustifolia* the only one I have succeeded in keeping for any length of time. Even this wasn't much of a triumph for, when it bloomed, the flowers were hidden by the leaves.

Many years ago I grew tender rhododendrons at the cottage. To save them from the extreme temperatures of winter I had a backhoe construct a large pit, lined it with wood and then dug up the rhodos every fall and buried them over the winter. This was a complete failure for, come spring, the pit was the lowest point around and filled almost to the top with icy water. The experiment was soon abandoned. The lesson learned was that plants are either going to live or die no matter what you do and, by extension, there are really no hard and fast rules in succeeding with primulas. The main thing is to create a number of different environments, grow lots of seedlings and stick them in. You might be pleasantly surprised! ☐

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Garden Basics

The survey our members completed in May 2008 showed that many of you wanted basic gardening information. This is the first article of a series that we hope will fulfil that need.

The Soil Beneath our Feet

By Jenny Sandison

Part 1, Texture and Drainage

As a new gardener one of the things you should consider is the state of the soil. You may have a home on a new subdivision and chances are that there is very little good soil left. You may have ground which is full of stones from the glaciers. To start, get a handful and look at it. Is it fine textured or full of stones? My first garden was in northern Vermont. The soil was obviously very stony as you could see lots of different sized stony bits in any spadeful. I remember doing some rudimentary terraces to the side of the lawn and friends laughing "You'll never get anything to grow there."

In ignorance I went ahead anyway and found that my peonies and iris and lady's mantle flourished. The plants always overwintered and rarely outgrew their allotted space. There was one spring when we had a bad drought until a summer thunderstorm replenished the ground, and that was the only year the Siberian iris failed to flower.

My second garden was started after I moved to Lunenburg county and discovered I had a clay soil. Once again in ignorance I launched in to the garden and here was astonished at how big and lush my perennials became until in July the wind shifted around into the southwest and blew hard and hot and dry and my lovely flowers wilted, shrivelled somewhat and scorched until a summer rain restored vigour.

These two experiences are from the two extremes of soil type and both have taught me good lessons on gardening.

The soil! It's obviously the basis of our gardens and yet as beginners we can be so busy buying and growing plants we don't think about our soil. Let's look at soil.

Soil Composition

Basically soil is composed of two elements, ground up rock and decayed vegetable matter. The underlying rock, over thousands of years, due to frost action, rain action and glacial action is broken down into particles of various sizes. Plants covered the ground and their leaves and stems which died gradually built up a layer of decayed vegetable matter or humus. The proportion of rock particles to decayed humus is the chief difference between many soils and is the prime factor in the different behaviours of my two gardens.

In Vermont the fact that the soil was mostly gravel particles meant rain drained quickly through it and there were always air spaces between the gritty particles. In this type of medium the humus is quickly washed down through the soil. Because the soil was always a little dry and had limited nutrients my plants grew tough but quite hardy.

In Lunenburg the clay soil is a result of glaciers grinding down sandstone into extremely fine particles. These particles have a tendency to stick together and to absorb a lot of water. Air spaces may be limited. Clay soil is also rich in nutrients. My plants here are able to absorb water and nutrients and get almost twice as big as in Vermont. However when the summer turns dry and hot, my poor lush green plants suffer and struggle. Come the winter, in low lying parts of my garden, the clay absorbed so much water that the air spaces were eliminated. Very few plants can grow where there is no oxygen in the soil and in these areas plants rot.

Maybe your garden is blessed with a good loam which looks dark and feels crumbly and possesses the perfect balance between water retention and drainage combined with enough but not too much nutrient matter. I suspect this will not be the case. Or if you are happy with the way plants perform in some parts of the garden there may be other areas where things are not so rosy. As I said before I have a low lying area where moisture collects and I have lost some plants in the winter but it's ideal for water loving plants. My front garden is gravelly and in full sun and here I use plants that can tolerate hot and dry. Finding the right plant that naturally does well in a given part of your garden is one important lesson we learn. Another is how to improve the various parts of the garden.

Soil additions

Gardeners spend a lot of time adding things to help the soil. In Vermont I piled on humus in the form of peatmoss and garden compost, which assisted the ground in retaining water and provided food to the plants. In Lunenburg I have often added road gravel and grit to open up the clay, and humus to help it retain moisture through August. The best time to do this kind of work is when you are creating a bed. Add a three inch layer of humus to the whole area and dig it in. It's hard work but well worth it. For heavy wet clay add three inches of gritty gravel and dig that in. After you have prepared in this way you can plant. The other good time to amend your soil is when you are taking plants out or lifting perennials to divide and replant. Again add three inches of compost to the area and dig it in. Gradually over the years as you continue to do this you can really see the plants thriving and the soil becoming dark in colour and crumbly in texture.

There are other things to consider about soil when you are gardening, such as mulching and pH and the minerals that affect various plants. We'll come to that next time.□

A Garden in the Woods

By Yvon and Faye Brunet

Our woodland garden of three quarters of an acre had its beginning in 1987 and became an ongoing project for Yvon and me. The cover canopy of mature oak, maple, birch and poplar trees interspersed with spruce, fir and pine, was the deciding factor in going with a woodland theme. The witch hazels, viburnums and small oak trees as the middle canopy and ground covers of ferns, wintergreen and partridge berry, bunchberry, mayflowers and blueberries made the decision easy to have a woodland garden. The scarcity of soil between the granite rocks made it necessary to build up and fill in where rocks were moved to make raised beds and to terrace the sloping terrain. Many plants suitable for growing in the shade (hostas, astilbes, ferns) were added to fill in with the native plants.

Joining ARS

After reading that rhododendrons were great shade plants I joined the ARS in 1998. I had difficulty getting these plants to do well in shade. They needed much more light than my woodland garden provided so the many shade loving companion plants bought from the club were gratefully appreciated. As the years went by with many trees overcome with decay and blown down by storms a sunnier environment for the rhodos has been created and they have been performing much better. At my first Rhodo meeting a cutting exchange was held. The cutting did well and was planted on the back terrace. Last year the rhodo bloomed! It has glossy green leaves with pure white blossoms – no idea of its name but it is beautiful: many thanks to the Rhodo Club!

We have added understory trees such as Japanese maples, magnolias, dogwoods and a variety of shrubs like viburnums, leucothoe, pieris and elders. Also yews, hollies, cedars and junipers that do well in the shade. Hostas and ferns are the major groundcovers interspersed with many perennials – hellebores, gingers, geraniums, sweet woodruff, vinca, ivy, violets and sweet Cicely. A treasured groundcover of moss is encouraged to cover the paths.





Honey bees hard at work. [Photos Faye Brunet]

Spring!

The garden comes to life in the spring with a burst of colour beginning with snowdrops, winter aconites, hepaticas, hellebores and epimediums followed by bloodroot, primulas, trilliums, anemones, corydalis, mayapples, ladies' slippers and other ephemerals. Shrubs such as daphne, forsythia, cornus mas and crab apple trees add to the display. Baneberry, Solomon's seal, *Rodgersia*, *Darmera*, ferns, grasses and other plants line the streambank which was rebuilt by Yvon after the original stream was diverted due to road construction. It is now a circulating stream with a small waterfall – home to tadpoles, dragonflies, and frogs as well as a source of water for birds and the honey bees cared for by Yvon. A reflecting pond filled with water lilies, tubs and pots with circulating water, keep the soothing sound of water near wherever you are in the garden.

Honey Bees

In 2000 we were given the basic equipment (brood box, super, smoker, extractor, etc.) to help pollinate the wild blueberry bushes that grew on our property. The hive was placed facing south against a rock wall – a nucleus was purchased and the bee population was strong enough to survive their first winter. The following year, even after a swarm, the bees produced over 25 pounds of honey. This hobby led to attending seminars, lectures and tours to gain knowledge of swarms, diseases and winter care. It also led to increasing our apiary to three hives placed at our relatives'. All three wintered well with no disease. At present the hives are secured for the winter and there is lots of honey to eat and enjoy.

The Seasons

Summer is a very green garden – so texture plays a big part in keeping the garden interesting yet peaceful. In autumn colour returns with shades of red, yellow and orange and everything in between. Plants such as Japanese anemones, *Kirengeshoma* (waxy bells), *Tricyrtis* (toad lilies), cyclamen and hydrangeas keep the garden looking fresh while bright red berries from hollies, daphnes, yews, crabapples add to the splendour. The abundance of leaves is a great source of compost for the garden. Most are left where they fall but the paths are raked, leaves are mulched and returned to the garden beds. A big area is devoted to compost making (it was originally intended for a garage.) Yvon has made compost making a major endeavour and it has been our source of soil. A small vegetable garden provides us with enough vegetables for hodge-podge and dill pickles. While the plum trees give us fruit, the grapevine provides the racoons with their treat. Blueberries, raspberries and strawberries give us a taste of freshness which is shared by the small creatures as well.

Winter arrives with a snow covering – a gentle bonus from nature. The garden is contained with pine, spruce and hemlock hedges and backed by a cedar rail fence. Paths meander around the perimeter and between rocks. They are lovely to stroll through either in spring – looking for tiny treasures emerging from the softening earth – enjoying the coolness provided by the tree canopy in summer – the brilliance of autumn or the quiet peacefulness and tranquillity of strolling the shovelled paths in winter. Many seating areas invite you to take time to sit and enjoy the beauty of nature. We enjoy spending time in the garden either with family and friends, working or watching the birds, bees and other small creatures playing amid our woodland garden. ☐

ARHS Budget 2008 - 2009

<u>Cash Inflows</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Memberships	3,500.00
ARS_CDA Rebate	400.00
May Plant Sale	26,000.00
Tissue Culture	4,000.00
Seed Exchange	1,000.00
Workshop	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
Total Cash Inflows	36,900.00

<u>Cash Outflows</u>	
May Plant Sales	20,000.00
Tissue Culture	2,800.00
Seed Exchange	200.00
Workshop	2,000.00
Social	400.00
Christmas	300.00
Auditorium	400.00
Administration	50.00
Memberships / Subscriptions	300.00
Website	400.00
Newsletter	
	Printing 2,100.00
	Postage & Envelopes 1,000.00
Programs	1,500.00
Steele Lecture	2,000.00
Library	300.00
Student Award	1,000.00
Donations	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	500.00
ARS District Reps	2,400.00
Rhodo 101	200.00
Out Reach	1,000.00
Total Cash Outflows	39,850.00
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow)	-2,950.00

ARHS Income Statement 2008

		2008-2009
<u>Cash Inflows</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Memberships	3,258.85	3,500.00
ARS_CDA Rebate		400.00
May Plant Sale	27,564.65	26,000.00
Tissue Culture	4,141.72	4,000.00
Seed Exchange	971.28	1,000.00
Workshop	1,880.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	107.00	-
interest	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Inflows	37,923.50	36,900.00
<u>Cash Outflows</u>		
May Plant Sales	21,153.47	20,000.00
Tissue Culture	2,698.21	2,800.00
Seed Exchange	-	200.00
Workshop	2,065.91	2,000.00
Social	390.64	400.00
Christmas	254.07	300.00
Auditorium	-	400.00
Administration	37.37	50.00
Subscriptions	157.55	150.00
Memberships	161.00	150.00
Website	394.80	400.00
Newsletter		
	Printing	2,100.00
	Postage & Envelopes	1,000.00
Programs	1,021.45	1,500.00
Steele Lecture	915.00	2,000.00
Library	31.84	300.00
Student Award	1,000.00	1,000.00
Donations	200.00	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	630.09	500.00
ARS District Reps	-	2,400.00
Rhodo 101	-	200.00
Out Reach	-	1,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Outflows	34,035.00	39,850.00
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow)	3,888.50	(2,950.00)

ARHS Balance Sheet 2008

Cash in Bank	43,435.05
Prepaid Steele Lecture	1,471.32
Total Assets	<hr/> 44,906.37
Equity / Surplus	44,906.37
Total Equity	<hr/> 44,906.37

Book Review

An Illustrated Encyclopedia of CLEMATIS, by Mary Toomey & Everett Leeds Timber Press 2001, \$ 59.95 (Amazon \$ 37.77)

This is a book that lives up to the introduction on the dust jacket. The authors have deservedly earned the accolades of their peers and a heartfelt thank you from this novice gardener. I think I may have identified several “lost label” clematis in our garden. ‘Nellie Mosher’ has been moved to a shadier spot to improve her complexion. Several others have been moved and more care taken in the replanting. I feel more confident about pruning. This is an excellent resource and one I shall turn to again and again.

The book is divided into two parts. The first section begins with a history of clematis followed by the care and cultivation. There are many simple line drawings to illustrate plant structure and pruning and propagation techniques. The photographs in this section supplement the line drawings and the written text. I especially liked the photos of clematis in the garden landscape. With the creative ideas for supporting clematis you might just find room for another one in your garden.

The second part is a directory of clematis with over 650 photos. Each photo is followed by detailed information which includes: group, synonym, origin, parentage, habit, description, pruning group, flowering period, cultivation, recommended use and zone. A little more than we get on the plant tag from the nursery!

A great book for armchair gardening over the winter months.

– Donna Evers

Photo Album



R. roxieanum. [Photo Jens Birck]



R. roxieanum. [Photo Photo Jens Birck]



R. lapponicum. [Photo Chris Helleiner]



R. wiltonii. [Photo Photo Jens Birck]



Primula sieboldii. [Photo Sterling Levy]



Primula hirsuta hybrid. [Photo Sterling Levy]



Primula rosea. [Photo Sterling Levy]



Primula marginata. [Photo Sterling Levy]