# THE AZALEAN

Journal of the Azalea Society of America

Volume 6 Number 4

December 1984



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The Azalea Society of America, organized December 9, 1977 and incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an educational and scientific non-profit association devoted to the culture, propagation and appreciation of the series Azalea (subgenus Anthodendron) of the genus Rhododendron in the Heath family (Ericaceae).

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#### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

In August, I exhibited at the Southern Nursery Association Trade show at the World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia, and one of the visitors at my booth was Fred Galle. We talked at length on azaleas and the upcoming National Convention of A.S.A. in Mobile in March of '85, Fred then told me that his new azalea book would be published by Timber Press in Oregon and that it would be presented at the National Convention in Mobile-how about that! One more reason why everyone should mark March 22-24th on their calendar and head south. I talked to Russell Scott recently, and he tells me that plans are just about complete for the tours and programs. March is a beautiful time of the year to be in "Dixie". For those of you up north, you can observe spring in the South and then your own spring when you return home.

Another interesting visitor at my booth was James Harris, breeder of the famous 'Pink Cascade', James told me he has another hanging basket variety that is a bi-color soon to be released.

The chief propagator at our nursery (my wife Evelyn) received a second group of cuttings of the Brookside Gardens Satsuki Collection, and they have been stuck and are looking good. Bob Barry and his group (Freda Barry, Charlie Evans, George Harding, Ryon Page, and Bob Stelloh) who made the cuttings are to be commended on the super job they did in taking the cuttings, packing, and shipping. We are making cuttings from last year's group and hope to have some of those ready for the membership next spring.

We have had a fairly wet summer in Louisiana after a late spring drought. All azaleas should be going into fall and winter in excellent condition. Hopefully this winter will not be a repeat of last year's.

> John U. Rochester President Azalea Society of America

### GIFTS TO THE AZALEA SOCIETY OF AMERICA

During the past several months, contributions from chapters meeting the challenge offered by the Northwest Chapter and from society members have provided a substantial boost to providing a continued, quality quarterly journal and towards balancing the A.S.A. budget for the year. Your Board of Governors expresses their deepest appreciation to those individuals and chapters who have sent in contributions.

For invididual members contributing to the society we wish to point out that many employers have Matching Gift Programs and will match your tax-free gift to the Azalea Society of America by an equal amount and in some cases by a two-for-one amount. If your firm or company has a matching gift program, the Azalea Society of America thus receives double or triple the amount you give. All you have to do is obtain the simple form from your business office and fill it out according to their instructions. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT RE-SOURCE FOR THE AZALEA SOCIETY.

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United States Fidelity and Guaranty

United Technologies United Virginia Bankshares

U.S. Air

Washington Post Westinghouse Electric Wheelabrator Frye

### **BROOKSIDE GARDENS SATSUKI COLLECTION CULTIVAR NAMES**

The Brookside Gardens Satsuki Collection is a group of evergreen azalea cultivars most of which were selected at the Kairyo Nursery in Japan and imported as cuttings during 1977 and 1978 (see **THE AZALEAN**, Vol. 6, page 25, June 1984). The evaluation, propagation, and distribution of the cultivars in the collection is being administered by the Satsuki Project of the Azalea Society of America.

Cuttings from more than 300 cultivars in the collection were taken during August 1983 and August 1984 and are being progagated for distribution. Some of the rooted cuttings will be available from the propagators beginning in the Spring of 1985. Ordering information will be presented in the March 1985 issue of **THE AZALEAN**.

Descriptions of the varieties in the Brookside Gardens Satsuki Collection will be included in Fred Galle's new azalea book, which will be released at the A.S.A. National Meeting in Mobile, Alabama, March 22-24, 1985. Each cultivar in the collection is identified within the alphabetical listing of the Satsukis in Fred Galle's book by a "BG" number following the description of the variety. Descriptions of a few varieties in the Collection were not available at the time of publication. Those descriptions will be published in **THE AZALEAN** after several blooming cycles have occurred.

The following is a list of the Brookside Gardens Satsuki Collection cultivars and their "BG" numbers.

Robert K. Barry Satsuki Project Chairman

Aigyoku BG 1110 Aikoku BG 1221 Ai no Nishiki 1122 Ai no Tsuki BG 0868 Aishifu BG 0871

Akanagi BG 1026 Akatsuki no Zao BG 0859

Akatsuki no Zao BG 0859 Akebono BG 1314

Akita Nishiki BG 0977 Amagasa BG 0930 Aoi BG 0994

Appare BG 1213 Asafuji BG 1274

Asahi no Hikari BG 0919 Asahi no Izumi BG 1294 Azumi Kagami BG 0506

Azumi Kagami BG 0506 Baiho BG 0945 Bandai BG 1011 Bangaku BG 1135 Banka BG 1298 Banshin BG 0920 Banzai BG 0364/0996

Benigasa BG 1148 Beni Kagami BG 0940

Beni Tsubame BG 0502/1176

Biho BG 0875

Buho no Tsuki BG 0947 Buncho BG 0854

Bunka BG 1102 Chidori BG 1157

Chikyu Nishiki BG 1200

Chinei BG 1021 Chinrei BG 1056 Chinzan BG 1025 Chitose Gawa BG 1188 Chiyo no Hikari BG 0510

Chiyo no Homare BG 0402/0874

Choei BG 0890

Cho no Hagaromo BG 1324 Daigokuden BG 1075 Daishuhai BG 0488 Eikan BG 1256 Eiko BG 0955 Eishi BG 1217 Fuji BG 1152

Fuji Hime BG 0931 Fuji Mori BG 0466

Fuji Nani BG 1004 Fuji Nishiki BG 1291

Fukuju BG 0900 Fuku no Hana BG 0877 Fukurokuju BG 0912

Fuku Suzume BG 0873 Futaba no Tsuki BG 1117

Gaho BG 1232

Gekkeikan BG 0368/1198

Gekko BG 0367 Getsu Keikan BG 0468 Getsu Rei BG 0404 Getsutoku BG 1214 Ginga BG 1101 Ginrei BG 1139 Ginsei BG 0954 Ginsekai BG 1015 Godaishu BG 1228 Goko BG 0891

Gosai no Hikari BG 0863 Gosho no Tsuki BG 1154 Gunbo Nishiki BG 0469

Gunki BG 1111

Gyokka no Kagayaki BG 1114

Gyoko BG 0486/1180 Gyokokan BG 0883

Gyoko no Kagayaki BG 1326

Gyokudo BG 1098 Gyokuho BG 0896 Gyokuryu BG 1145 Gyokushin BG 1045 Gyoten BG 0888

Hagoromo no Hikari BG 1352

Hakatajiro BG 1275 Hakko BG 1105 Hakuho BG 0967 Hakusen no Mai BG 1130 Hama Chidori BG 1009 Hanamoyo BG 1202 Hana no Kagami BG 1046 Hanazono BG 1086 ,....

Haresugata BG 1296 Haru Gasumi BG 0491 Harukaze BG 1005 Haru no Mai BG 1138 Haru no Sono BG 1220 Haru no Uta BG 1123 Hatsuhigumo BG 1245 Hatsu Kagami BG 1071 Hatsu no Hana BG 1187 Hatsushimada BG 0884 Heiwa BG 1272

Heiwa no Hikari BG 1199 Heiwa no Kagami BG 1249

Higasa BG 0917

Hikari no Tsukasa BG 1023 Himearukumo BG 1053 Hime Kikoshi BG 1225 Hime Nakahara BG 0889 Hime Nishiki BG 1230 Himeshishin Nishiki BG 1183

Hio Ogi BG 1253 Hitachi BG 1223 Hitomaru BG 0898 Hoju no Hikari BG 1186 Hoko BG 0876 Homare BG 1155

Homare no Hana BG 1129 Homare Matsunami BG 1353

Homare Matsunami BG Hosei BG 1348 Hoshi no Sato BG 12B2 Hoshizukiyo BG 1127 Hoshun BG 1346 Hototogisu BG 0501 Ikoma BG 0411 Ishiyama BG 1267

Issho no Haru BG 0484/1216 Iwa no Tsuki BG 0490

Iwai no Tsuki BG 1335 Izayoi BG 0476/1266 Izumi BG 0935 Juko BG 1033 Junbi BG 1104 Kagamijishi BG 1339 Kagayaki no Matsu BG 1280 Kagetsu BG 0978 Kaho BG 0850/1209 Kahoku no Tsuki BG 1030 Kaho no Hikari BG 1063 Kairaku BG 1124 Kakyo no Hikari BG 1167 Kami no Yama Kirin BG 1177 Kanki BG 1118 Kashin BG 1218

Kasho BG 1142

Kayo no Homare BG 0862

Kazan BG 1325

Kazan no Tsuki BG 0946

Kaze BG 1236 Keishuku BG 1064 Kenbishi BG 1001 Kifujin BG 1226 Kikaku BG 0973 Kiko BG 0895 Kikoshi BG 0924 Kimimaru BG 0992

Kimi no Hana BG 0487/1212 Kimi no Hikari BG 1224 Kinkazan BG 0958 Kinmei BG 1044 Kin Nishiki BG 0378 Kinpa BG 0916 Kinpai BG 0909 Kinpo Nishiki BG 1239 Kinsai BG 0360/1052 Kinsel BG 0991

Kintaro BG 0963 Kinu no Hikari BG 0950 Kinu no Tsuki BG 1197 Kippo no Hikari BG 1306 Kirinkan BG 1316 Kisarazu BG 1334 Kogane Nishiki BG 1295 Kogen no Hikari BG 0921

Kohan no Tsuki BG 0847/1301 Kojo no Hikari BG 1344 Kojo no Homare BG 0902 Kojo no Tsuki BG 1096

Kogetsu BG 1018/1191

Koka BG 0885 Koki BG 1022 Kokin BG 0971 Kokin Nishiki BG 0518 Kokko no Bi BG 1207 Komachi Warai BG 1133 Komadori BG 0922

Komei BG 0987 Kongo no Hikari BG 0886 Koraku BG 0846/0937 Koryu BG 1078

Koshi no Nami BG 0878 Koshi no Tsuki BG 0953

Kosui BG 1000 Koten BG 1174 Kotobuki BG 1141 Kotobuki Hime BG 1311 Kotobuki no Izumi BG 1300 Kotobuki no Sono BG 1120

Koyo BG 0872

Kozan no Homare BG 1219 Kozan no Tsuki BG 0946 Kumano BG 0979 Kunpu BG 1093 Kusudama BG 1351

Maigesho BG 1072 Mai Ogi BG 1051 Mansaku BG 1185 Matsunami BG 050 Matsu no Homare BG 1070 Matsu no Tsukasa BG 1208 Matsushima BG 1037 Meiho BG 0887/0908

Meiko BG 0959/1192 Meikyo BG 0492/1171 Meikyo no Hikari BG 1299

Meisei BG 1126 Meisho BG 1080 Meizan BG 1012 Meoto Nishiki BG 1162 Minato BG 1156 Mine no Hana BG 0858 Mine no Hikari BG 1166 Mine no Hoshi BG 0948 Miyako BG 0893

Miyako no Hikari BG 1241 Miyako no Tsuki BG 0867 Mizuho no Kagami BG 0861 Momo no Haru BG 0860 Mori no Miyako BG 1147 Murasaki no Hoshi BG 0975 Musashi no Homare BG 0911

Myoyo BG 1178

Nakano Nishiki BG 1329 Nakatsu no Hikari BG 1151

Nami BG 1205 Narihira BG 0477 Narihira BG 1354 Narumi Shibori BG 1050 Nichirin BG 0927 Niigata Kirin BG 1048 Niji BG 0974

Nikko BG 0511 Niroku no Iwai BG 0981 Nishiki BG 1269 Nishiki Boshi BG 0951 Nishiki no Yama BG 1252 Oboro Tsuki BG 0961 Ogon no Tsuki BG 1017 Omoi no Maku BG 1181 Onsho BG 1034

Otome no Mai BG 0848 Otome Zakura BG 1317 Raiko BG 0986 Rakuzan BG 1131 Reiho BG 1340

Reiko BG 0988

Rinpu BG 0390 Sachi no Hana BG 1271 Sakuragata BG 1347 Sakura Kagami BG 1168 Sakura Yama BG 0870 Sankatsu BG 1250 Sanko BG 1265

Sanko Nishiki BG 1222 Sanko no Kagayaki BG 1297

Sanyo BG 0933 Sato no Hikari BG 1277 Sayotsuki BG 1330 Seidai BG 0401 Seigetsu BG 1060/1309

Seiho BG 1106 Seika BG 1002/1312 Seiko no Hikari BG 1203

Seirin BG 1196 Seito no Hana BG 0932 Seiun BG 1238 Seizan BG 1173 Sekai no Hikari BG 1029 Sharaku BG 1043 Shibori Asagao BG 1003 Shien no Tsuki BG 1020

Shiho BG 0385/1089 Shiko BG 1065

Shiko no Tsuki BG 0965/0969

Shikokan BG 0997 Shinfuki BG 0879 Shinju no Hikari BG 1338 Shinkigen BG 1140 Shinkyo BG 1024

Shinmatsu Kagami BG 1201

Shinnen BG 1240 Shinsei BG 1125 Shinsen BG 1028 Shintaiyo BG 0381

Shinyomo no Haru BG 1010 Shinyo no Ko BG 0840 Shira Fuji BG 1349 Shiraito no Tsuki BG 0410 Shirasumi BG 1235 Shishin Nishiki BG 1161 Shogetsu BG 1254 Shoji Kuruma BG 1259 Shokko Nishiki BG 1069 Showa no Homare BG 1270 Showa no Kagayaki BG 1278 Shozui BG 1039

Shugetsu BG 0852 Shuko no Tsuki BG 1055 Shukubai BG 1175 Shungetsu BG 1076 Sogon Nishiki BG 1047 Soho BG 0855/1227 Sono no Homare BG 0869 Suigetsu BG 0962

Suikan BG 1006 Suisen BG 1061 Suisho BG 0897 Suishoho BG 1195 Sumizome BG 1119 Suzumushi BG 1159 Tagoto no Tsuki BG 0941 Taiheikan BG 0995 Taiho BG 0899 Taisanhaku BG 1092

Taka no Hana BG 0480/1255 Taka no Tsukasa BG 1343

Takara BG 0881 Takarabune BG 1016 Takara no Hikari BG 0914 Takara no Yama BG 1284 Takasago BG 0366/0856/1054

Tamabotan BG 1113 Tama Hime BG 1244 Tamakagami BG 1247 Tama no Hikari BG 0966 Tamaori BG 0865 Tancho BG 1112

Tatsumi no Hikari BG 0853

Teikan BG 0913

Tennyo no Sugata BG 1243

Tenshi BG 1165 Tenshoko BG 1204

Tochi no Hikari BG 0976 Tochi no Homare BG 0904 Tokai BG 1194 Tokiwa BG 0944 Toko Nishiki BG 1143 Tomei Nishiki BG 0929 Towa no Kagami BG 1179 Tsukassa BG 0500/0982 Tsukihime BG 0923 Tsuki no Tsukasa BG 0926 Tsukuba no Akebono BG 1066 Tsuyu no Tama BG 1210 Uchu no Hikari BG 1206 Ugigumo no Tsuki BG 0882 Ume no Hikari BG 1013 Ungetsu BG 0943

Ungetsu no Hana BG 0972 Ungetsu no Hikari BG 0952 Usugesho BG 0857 Usuginu BG 0892 Utage no Hana BG 1242 Uyo na Tsuki BG 1260 Wakakoma BG 1314 Yae no Tsuki BG 0880 Yakata no Tsuki BG 1215 Yakushin BG 0942 Yamaji no Tomoshiba BG 1137 Yama no Akebono BG 0889 Yama no Haru BG 1158 Yama no Hikari BG 1283 Yama no Takara BG 1099 Yamato BG 1345

Yamato no Hikari BG 1160
Yata no Kagami BG 1193
Yatsubusa no Ushi BG 1073
Yatasubusa Seirin BG 1088
Yatsubusa Ukigami BG 1190
Yayoi no Hikari BG 1153
Yorokobi BG 1304
Yoshimitsu BG 1257
Yugiri BG 0918
Yuho BG 0392/0851/0998
Yukishiro BG 1042
Yume BG 0956
Yuwai no Tsuki BG 0409
Zuigetsu BG 0906
Zuio BG 1103

#### Editors Note:

The above list of Satsuki cultivar names is published as provided by the Satsuki Project of the Azalea Society of America. The reader should note that there may be variation in the spelling of cultivar names from one source to another. Flexibility is the key word for studying Satsuki azaleas. The only task more awesome than developing useful and definitive descriptions for the highly variable flower color patterns is developing consensus on the proper spelling of English translations or interpretations of the Japanese cultivar names. For example, some of the more common variations include: (1) the addition or deletion of the letter "h", as in 'Kaghetsu' and 'Kagetsu'; (2) the substitution of "j" for "sh", as in 'Hakatajiro' and 'Hakatashiro'; and (3) the substitution of "z" for "s", as in 'Kin-no-Zai' and 'Kin-no-Sai'. Further, some references freely utilize dashes to highlight the different parts of the cultivar name while others dispense with dashes entirely, leaving spaces between the parts or combining the parts into one word. Armed with an awareness of the potential variability of name forms, one can better appreciate the uniqueness of synonymity of cultivar names when presented with lists of names or nursery catalogs.

#### THE AZALEA CALENDAR

February		May	
25	Brookside Gardens Chapter meeting.	11-12	Brookside Gardens Chapter 6th Annual
	Speaker: Robert Drechsler, Curator of the		Azalea Flower Show. Denise Stelloh,
	National Bonsai Collection, U.S. National Arboretum.		chairman, (301-869-5323)
	Arboretain.	18	Brookside Gardens Chapter 7th Annual
March			Azalea Sale. Richard Antony, chairman,
22-24	7th National Convention, Azalea Society of America, Mobile, Alabama. Russell Scott, Chairman, (205-633-7069)		(301-439-6085)

THE AZALEA CALENDAR lists upcoming Society and chapter activities. Items to be included should be forwarded to the Editor together with name, address, and telephone number of contact person(s) at least three months prior to the month of publication of THE AZALEAN in which the notice is to appear.

# VARYING BARK/PEAT RATIOS IN CONTAINER MEDIA AFFECTS THE GROWTH OF THREE CULTIVARS

Dr. Edward G. Corbett, Dr. Robert J. Schramm, and Norman Tessier Storrs, Connecticut

An ideal container medium and the relative merits of the components of such a medium have been the subject of much literature (1,2,3,4,5,6). Plant response to a medium varies due to many factors, including feritility, watering, temperature and medium composition.

This experiment was conducted to determine the effects of various ratios of two widely used components of container media, Canadian sphagnum peat moss and composted Canadian softwood bark, on the growth of three rhododendron cultivars over two growing seasons.

#### The Experiment

Rooted cuttings of three rhododendron cultivars ('Chionoides', 'PJM Hybrid', and 'Mother's Day') were put in containers in August 1981 and grown for two seasons under standard production practices in a commercial nursery in Bolton, CT.

Six media containing bark and peat were tested: 70 percent bark, 60 percent bark, 50 percent bark, 40 percent bark, 30 percent bark, and 20 percent bark.

Three levels of fertilizer were also tested using 10-2-8 slow-release fertilizer mix: none, 16 pounds per cubic yard and 24 pounds per cubic yard. All plants were fertilized equally by top-dressing during the experiment.

The experimental design was a split plot with fertilizer rates (replicated three times) as main plots and the bark/peat ratios as subplots. The plants were overwintered in the field under microfoam covered by opaque polyethylene.

Height and spread measurements were taken during October 1982 at the end of the second growing season. The measurements were collected and averaged to get a mean size for each cultivar for each treatment. Root growth was monitored visually throughout the experiment.

#### Results

Roots of all test plants had penetrated well into the ball by the end of the first growing season. At the end of the second season, the root balls were dense and strongly resisted separation (Fig. 1). The only obvious difference among the balls was that those with more bark separated more readily.

The amount and quality of root growth was excellent in all media. Root growth was substantial in all media at all levels of fertility tested. The surface roots of plants grown in 80 percent peat with 24 pounds per cubic yard of fertilizer were strong, clear white and noticeably thicker than those on similar plants in other media.





Fig. 1. After one growing season, Rhododendron 'Chionoides' of the upper photo illustrate the difference in growth produced by differing amounts of peat in bark and peat container media. The plant on the left has the lowest peat content. The one on the right has the highest peat content. The same plants one year later are in the lower photo. No fertilizer was used in this plot.

Growth data (Fig. 2) reveals the comparative mean size for the test plants. Mixtures containing 40 percent peat had consistently good growth on all three cultivars compared with other mixtures.

With R. 'Chionoides', media with 50 percent or more peat produced equally good results. With R. 'PJM Hybrid' the results were less conclusive. All media except that with 30 percent peat were statistically similar, and that medium did not produce a growth significantly lower than did the 40 percent peat.

Fig. 2. This table depicts the means size of the plants in each peat and bark medium. The values are the average means of three replications of six plants each.

Mean size of rhododendron cultivars

Bark/Peat Ratio (percentages)	'Chionoides' (inches)	'PJM Hybrid' (inches)	'Mother's Day' (inches)
20/80	86a	108a	38cd
30/70	86a	111a	40b
40/60	85a	109a	42a
50/50	79a	111a	40bc
60/40	76b	101ab	33d
70/30	62c	92b	27e

All measurements followed by the same letter are not significantly different.

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The definitive results were found with R. 'Mother's Day'. The medium containing 60 percent peat was superior to all others, media with 50 percent and 70 percent peat were essentially equal in effect and better than those with 40 percent or less.

The mix of 70 percent bark and 30 percent peat resulted in the least growth of all three cultivars. The 40 percent peat medium produced less growth of R. 'Chionoides' and R. 'Mother's Day' than did media with more peat. :But it produced statistically equivalent growth in 'PJM Hybrid' to the higher peat media.

The medium containing 80 percent peat produced less growth than the media containing 60 or 70 percent peat with R. 'Mother's Day'. Thus under conditions of this experiment, these cultivars perform best with 50 percent or more peat in the medium.

It is clear from the results of this experiment that mixtures of Canadian sphagnum peat moss and composted Canadian softwood bark containing 60 percent peat produce consistently good results with R. 'Choinoides', R. 'PJM Hybrid' and R. 'Mother's Day' in comparision with other ratios of peat to bark.

#### Effects of Fertilizer

With only three exceptions and regardless of fertilizer treatment, the two media lowest in peat produced the least growth (Fig. 3, 4, 5).

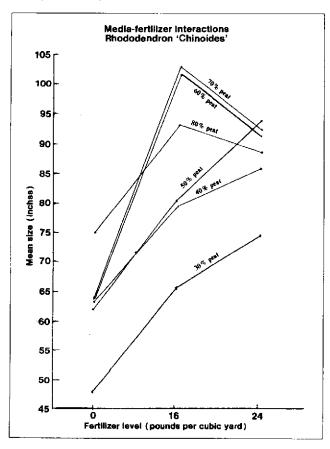


Fig. 3. This graph indicates the effect of the varying rates of fertilization on the mean size of Rhododendron 'Chionoides' grown in peat and bark media.

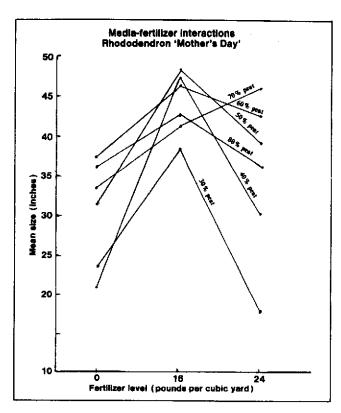


Fig. 4. This graph shows the effect of varying rates of fertilization on the mean size of Rhododendron 'Mother's Day' grown in peat and bark media.

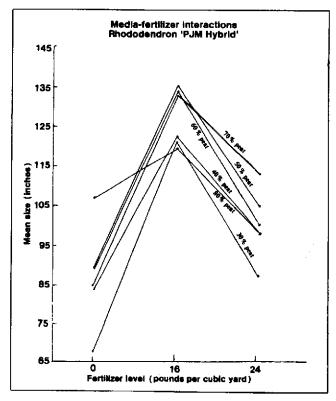


Fig. 5. This graph illustrates the effect of varying rates of fertilization on the mean size of Rhododendron 'PJM Hybrid' grown in peat and bark media.

It should also be noted that some high-peat media resulted in better growth with no fertilizer than did some low-peat media with fertilizer. Generally, the use of 16 pounds of fertilizer per cubic yard resulted in better overall growth than the use of more fertilizer in the container media.

With R. 'Chionoides', the media which contained a lower percentage of peat produced more growth at the higher rate, but the growth was less than that produced by media which contained a higher peat content at lower fertilizer rates.

With R. 'Mother's Day', the 70 percent peat medium produced its best growth with 24 pounds of fertilizer. The cultivar's growth in all other media declined as the rate of fertilizer increased.

There is a remarkable consistency of the fertilizer's effect, regardless of test plant or fertility level. Incorporation of 16 pounds of slow-release fertilizer per cubic yard provided the best level of fertility. The use of 24 pounds per cubic yard of slow-release fertilizer proved to be excessive.

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Dr. Edward G. Corbett is an extension specialist, University of Connecticut, Storrs. Dr. Robert J. Schrammwas an extension specialist at U of C, Storrs. Norman Tessier is a nurseryman in Bolton, CT. This article was originally published in *Amer. Nurseryman*, 158:54-57 (1983).

#### JUGLANS TOXICITY AND FALL FERTILIZATION

Stanton A. Gill College Park, Maryland

Both black walnut and butternut trees (genus Juglans) release a chemical from their roots (juglone) during the growing season that is toxic to many species of plants. It is felt that the production of this "natural herbicide" has evolved in the species to decrease competition from surrounding trees. This phenomenon of plant interaction is known as allelopathy. The toxic effect of juglone on other plants has been called juglans toxicity or walnut wilt. Trees and shrubs growing near a black walnut or butternut may suddenly wilt or turn chlorotic and often die during the growing season. Vascular discoloration similar to that produced in wilt diseases may also occur in the mainstem. Apple, mountain laurel, pear, pine, rhododendron, and sour cherry are some woody plants known to be susceptible to juglone toxicity.

Juglans toxicity can be prevented by not planting sensitive plant species under the dripline of black walnut and butternut trees. Sensitive species planted beyond the root zone will not be affected. Another control is removal of the black walnut or butternut tree. Juglone does not persist in the soil over winter; therefore, sensitive species may be planted in the same location a year after a butternut or black walnut is removed.

One method of improving the appearance of narrow and broadleaf evergreens next spring is to fertilize them this fall. Many Maryland nurserymen have discovered that applying a 16-8-8, 50% organic fertilizer at a rate of

15 to 20 pounds per 1000 square feet after the first fall frost not only makes azaleas and hollies retain their foliage better during the winter and early spring but also improves growth in the spring. By applying the fertilizer after the first frost, the soil is warm enough to allow nitrogen uptake by the roots, but it is late enough in the season to prevent fall growth. This cultural practice has been successfully adopted by several large wholesale nurseries for many years.

The nitrogen in the fertilizer appears to be the nutrient responsible for most of the response. Examination of azaleas not treated in this manner generally shows that the bottom leaves turn yellow and by late winter and early spring, all that remains are small tufts of leaves at the ends of the branches. These symptoms indicate that nitrogen has been translocated from the lower leaves to the upper leaves, and the plants are under nitrogen stress. Plants that are fertilized with a nitrogen fertilizer in the fall after the first frost will maintain a good green color throughout the winter, exhibit less winter injury, and appear fuller in the spring. There is also a good indication that plants fertilized in the late fall produce more top growth the next spring.

Stanton A. Gill is the Extension Agent in Urban Agriculture, USDA, at the University of Maryland. These notes are adapted from his reports in the Cooperative Extension Service INSECT & DISEASE NOTES of September 10, 1984.

### **ERIOCARPUM: A CASE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY-MODULATED HABIT**

William C. Miller III Bethesda, Maryland

In early 1982, several specimens of Rhododendron eriocarpum (1), part of a National Arboretum distribution, surfaced in our area, and word began to circulate from reliable observers that those eriocarpum were exhibiting a rather uncharacteristic, kaempferi-like, upright growth habit. According to the account in the Lee book (2), eriocarpum is supposed to be low-growing like the Gumpos, with which there is reported to be some relation. Quite to the contrary, these specimens, grown from seed collected in the wilds of Yakushima, were exhibiting a curious but unmistakably "tall" plant habit which represented, at best, a stark depature from expectation. This observation on eriocarpum, it should be noted, was first reported by Barry Yinger, Horticulturist and Curator of the Asian Collection at the National Arboretum, in an article entitled the "The Origin of Satsukis: The Yakushima Connection", which appeared in THE AZALEAN in 1981.

There are a number of possibilities that might explain the situation. Perhaps the plants were mislabeled. Perhaps this "tallness" was a manifestation of segregating characteristics arising from a hybrid condition. Depending on the nature of the heritability of plant habit, one might expect to have tall, medium, and low growing habits represented in a population of progeny if it was merely a matter of hybridity and a simple Mendelian system. But, to my knowledge, all of the plants were tall. And, while "accidents" do happen, the consensus was that the plants were not mislabeled but were truly *eriocarpum*. Finally, and a possibility that would not oridinarily occur to me, perhaps Lee was mistaken.

Whatever the explanation, and to be on the safe side, a specimen in bloom was carried back to the Arboretum for examination and confirmation of its identity. It was examined by Barry Yinger and pronounced true to its tag. It was in fact *eriocarpum*.

In a personal communication (3), Yinger pointed out that "Lee's observations of R. eriocarpum were based solely on plants grown from cultivated seed (from K. Wada in Japan), and at that time there was no account available in the U.S. of its habit in the wild in Japan." It seems that eriocarpum, in the wild, does exhibit a low growth habit due to the harsh elements associated with its rugged natural environment, Nagasaki Prefecture in southern Kyushu south through the Ryukyu Islands to Taiwan. But, again quoting Yinger, "There is nothing about their appearance in the wild to suggest that plants of this species are inevitably genetically dwarf". In a less severe environment like a back yard in the Washington Metropolitan area or the hill at the National Arboretum, and in private gardens of farmers in Yakushima, eriocarpum has demonstrated an unquestionably upright growth habit.

George Harding (4) has observed that some Satsuki azaleas, as juvenile plants, send up long, straight shoots from an otherwise compact conformation. These shoots form the framework or potential for a much larger plant. If these "long shoots" are removed for a couple of years, the plant seemingly resigns itself to compactness and is thereafter disinclined to throw "long shoots"; that is, it stops trying. Yinger believes that this is an important adaptation mechanism for plants of indicum and eriocarpum in the wild. If a young plant produces these "long shoots" and they are not cut down by environmental forces, then it is in a more favorable position to exploit and succeed in its specific microhabitat. On the other hand, it is a terrible waste of energy to produce tissue which is routinely destroyed at the additional expense of considerable reproductive capability, by any standard a selective disadvantage in the struggle for survival. Now, if a plant which loses its long shoots can stop making them after several years of fruitless experimentation, then it can use its energy instead in making more lateral growth, thus optimizing flower and seed production on a plant with efficient size and conformation for its particular situation. Yinger believes that this characteristic has been transmitted to many of the Satsuki hybrids and from there to some of the more modern hybrids like the Back Acres and the Glenn Dales.

That external factors like environment can affect or modify gene expression is not a new revelation. In a 1961 letter to Norvell Gillespie (5), Ben Morrison commented on a general variability in Glenn Dale hybrid habits. He wrote the following "... as they go north, the heights decrease in many cases and the spread increases, so that a plant that has a normal growth habit here [Pass Christian, Mississippi] may look like a cushion there. Mr. Oliver of Scarsdale, N.Y., thinks CYGNET is a low mound; not here, just a slow upright bush." This element or characteristic of variability is worth emphasizing because it can be the root of much confusion when, as in this situation, new plant acquisitions perform contrary to expectation or, in the worst possible scenario, fail to perform at all. For example, a plant purchased for it reported low growth habit might exhibit that desired characteristic given full sun. The same plant placed in a shady location, however, might develop a more leggy and therefore undesirable habit as a consequence of reduced exposure. Which is the proper description—compact or leggy? As you can see, the task of accurately describing azaleas is complicated by this variability. Period of bloom, flower color and size, and cold-hardiness and heat-tolerance are additional examples of characteristics which demonstrate the relationship between a plant's suitability, performance, and differing environments.

The significance of this particular observation in eriocarpum is that it provides additional insight into the complementary relationship between genetic potential and environmental influence; that is, an adaptation mechanism in which the phenotype (what we observe as the final product after the action, or contribution, of all the controlling variables), in this case, plant habit, is variable in response to environmental conditions.

#### References and Notes

Synonyms for R. eriocarpum Nakai are: R. tamurae (Makino) Masamune; R. indicum var. tamurae Makino; R. simsii var. tamurae (Makino) Kanehira and Hatsushima; and R. simsii var. eriocarpum Wilson.

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William C. Miller is President of the Brookside Gardens Chapter and a previous contributor to **THE AZALEAN**.

# "Azalea Classic" ALPHONSE PERICAT'S AZALEAS

Henry W. Ridgway Hampton, Virginia

The year in which the compact, evergreen Kurume azaleas were introduced to U.S. is still a controversial question, but their enthusiastic reception and widespread planting from about 1920 on is a matter of common knowledge. One natural result was that a few men started crossing these excellent forcing varieties with other types of azaleas. Among these men was Alphonse Pericat, who made a great number of crosses, but who has received too little recognition. He was a well-known florist in Collingdale, Pennsylvania, a suburb southwest of Philadelphia. In 1931, he exhibited a collection of his hybrids at the Philadelphia Flower Show. These received a great deal of favorable comment, but until recently little more was heard of his work by the horitcultural world. Mr. Perical continued his breeding and selection until his death only a few years ago, but the writer has been unable to obtain many of the details which the horticultural historian would desire. It is therefore particularly hoped that this brief account will come to the attention of those who can fill in the blanks.

#### Parents Used

No records have been found which would indicate the parents used by Mr. Pericat in his crosses, so we cannot be certain as to their identity. However, the fact that the Pericat hybrids are intermediate between the tender so-called "Indian" or "Belgian" azaleas, which are mostly R. Simsii hybrids, and the Kurume azaleas, in hardiness, size of flower and leaf, and habit of growth, would indicate that these were the parents most used. Varieities exhibiting some of the quality of 'Salmon Beauty', 'Pink Pearl,' 'Flame', 'Triumph', 'Coral Bells', 'Hexe', 'Lorraine' and 'Snow' may be found among the hybrids. The

fact that Mr. Pericat was primarily a greenhouse grower, who probably did very little with hardier varieties, would also suggest the "Indian" and Kurume groups as the most natural choices as parents. A detailed study of azalea heredity will be required before the parent varieties can be absolutely identified.

#### Distribution

Mr. Pericat named and introduced himself only one variety—'Madame Pericat'. However, he sold his mixed and unnamed hybrids rather widely to nurserymen and florists as a result of the 1931 Flower Show, particularly to the Le-Mac Nurseries, Robert Craig and Company, Perkins-de Wilde Nurseries, and Leach's Nurseries. These nurseries grew Pericat's selections for a number of years, tested them in the field as well as in the greenhouse and each selected the most promising for his own purposes. As a result of this further work, at least a score of additional varieties have been named, beginning in 1935 when the Le-Mac Nurseries named its group of eight. Furthermore, the nurseries named are continuing to work with other selections made by Mr. Pericat and we may expect the naming of at least a few more of these. However, it is possible that here are duplications in the names given some of the varieties, as there has been no coordination and little cooperation between the several concerns involved. It is also quite possible that additional varieties have been introduced without credit having been given to Mr. Pericat, or without coming to the attention of the writer. Some concerns, moreover, are still offering mixed plants simply as Pericat Azaleas, and a few of the varieties described herein are not advertised as Pericat hybrids.

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#### Characterization

As a group, the Pericat Hybrids are somewhat tender but moderately strong growers, with a few exceptions reaching a height of at least four to five feet. The leaves are evergreen and are medium to large. The time of bloom, at least in the open, is mostly a few days to a week later than such varieties as 'Hinodegiri', although some growers maintain that they can be forced earlier than the Kurume varieties. The flowers cover a broad range of color, including white, pink, salmon, orange, orchid and lavender shades and include more attractive colors than are found in the Kurume azaleas. The blooms are generally either considerably larger than those of the Kurume group or very much more double; in a few varieties as 'Rival', they are both larger and more double. The amount of doubling is, however, quite variable between individual flowers of most of the varieties. It is of interest to note that at least some of the very double varieties such as 'Glory' and 'Richesse' are very compact and low growing. The Pericat hybrids might in fact be divided into two groups on this basis, as it seems to be a clear-cut characteristic.

In the Norfolk, Virginia region, the Pericat Hybrid plants are perfectly hardy, but in exposed locations the flower buds are sometimes killed by winter temperatures. Farther north these varieties are usually brought into the greenhouse in the fall and treated like "Indian" azaleas.

The variety 'Hampton Rose' is distinctly different from the rest of the group in almost every way except color, as will be seen by referring to the description following. This would suggest that it may be pure Kurume or at least that it does not contain any "Indian" blood. This may also be the case with 'Gem'. Although these two varieties were bred and distributed by Alphonse Pericat, it might be better not to include them as Pericat Hybrids because they did not possess the recognized characteristics of that group. However, for purposes of record they are described and included in this paper.

#### Pericat Varieties Described

Where the dimensions of the flower are given, the width of the flower is given first and then the length, not including the flower stem. Hose-in-hose, of course, means two complete sets of five petals each, the outer usually being modified sepals. By triple is meant hose-in-hose plus a third set of five petals, the inner usually being modified stamens. Petaloid stamens are stamens which have been modified to become small or large petals; often the anther remains and is attached to the petal. Petaloid sepals are sepals which have been modified to become small or large petals.

'China Seas': Rose pink flower. Single with petaloid stamens and sepals, all petals distinctly fringed, particularly the modified sepals, 2 x 1¼". Can be forced for Christmas. Introduced by Leach 1937.

'Dawn': Light pink, slightly violet on opening, nearly white in center. Flowers hose-in-hose, 2½ x 1¾". Early forcer. Very similar to the later 'Morning Glow'. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Fortune': Cerise red. Flowers hose-in-hose plus petaloid stamens,  $2 \times 2\%$ ". Early forcer. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Gem': China pink. Flowers hose-in-hose, 1¼ x 1". Compact grower and early forcer. Similar to 'Salmon Beauty'. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Glory': Very rich reddish salmon. Flowers triple, 1¾ x 1¼". Stamens mostly lacking. Plant low growing and compact. Introduced by Le-Mac 1941.

'Hampton Beauty': Bright salmon pink with darker spots. Color mottled, giving effect of apple blossoms. Flowers hose-in-hose, but outer petals are small and fringed, 2 x 1½". vigorous grower and good forcer. Introduced by Le-Mac 1941.

'Hampton Rose': Carmine pink with paler throat. Flowers hose-in-hose, 1½ x ¾". Leaves small, plant low growing and compact. Earliest azalea in Kurume and Pericat groups to bloom in the open. Hardy as 'Hinodegiri'. Introduced by Le-Mac in 1936.

'Harmony': Clear rose pink with few faint darker spots. Flower hose-in-hose with occasional stamens slightly petaloid,  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ ". Introduced by Le-Mac in 1941.

'Hiawatha': Lavender pink. Flowers hose-in-hose, 2% x 1¾", and outer petals somewhat fringed. Flowers hold well. Plant said to be hardy at Philadelphia. Sold to Wm. K. Harris, but introduced by Robert Craig Co. in 1942.

'Flanders Field': Deep poppy red in color. Flowers single, large. Plant strong grower. Introduced by Leach 1938.

'Madame Pericat': Light pink with shade of lavender, and greenish throat. Hose-in-hose to triple flowers,  $2\frac{1}{2}x$  1 \(\frac{3}{4}\)". Probably identical with 'Morning Glow'. Late forcer. Introduced by Alphonse Pericat.

'Melody': Salmon with darker spots. Flowers hose-inhose  $2 \times 1 \frac{1}{4}$ ". Introduced by Le-Mac 1941.

'Morning Glow': Light pink, white center. Practically identical with 'Dawn', but later forcer, and possibly smaller flowered and darker in color. Probably identical with 'Madame Pericat'. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939

'Orchid' (No. 20): Lavender pink with darker spots. Flowers hose-in-hose. 2 x 1½". Said to be rather fragrant. Medium forcer. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Pride': Light red with darker spots. Flowers hose-in-hose  $2 \times 1\%$ '. Late forcer. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde, 1939.

'Rhythm': Rich, deep salmon suffused with orange and with prominent darker spots. Usually single with a few small petaloid stamens, some times hose-in-hose, but calyx always normal.  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Introduced by LeMac 1941.

'Richesse': Salmon with somewhat darker spots. Flowers triple and stamens mostly missing, 1% x 1%". Introduced by Le-Mac 1941.

'Rival': Light red. Flowers usually triple, sometimes with additional petaloid stamens,  $2\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ ". Good forcer. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Splendor': Pink. Flowers hose-in-hose plus occasional petaloid stamens,  $2\% \times 1\%$ ". Strong grower and late forcer. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Sunset': Peach. Flowers triple plus petaloid stamens. Good early forcer. Rather upright in growth. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Sweetheart': Carmine pink. Semi-double. Flowers 1¾" across. Early forcer. Buds resemble Sweetheart rose. Introduced by Perkins-de Wilde 1939.

'Sweetheart Supreme': Salmon pink. Flowers hose-in-hose plus some petaloid stamens, 1¾ x 1", some outer petals fringed. Buds resemble Sweetheart rose. Introduced by Robert Craig Co. 1940.

'Symphony': Rose pink with tinge of salmon; holds its color unusually well. Flowers hose-in-hose,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Introduced by Le-Mac 141.

'Twenty Grand': Bright rose pink. Flowers extra large, semi-double. Strong grower. Introduced by Leach 1937.

The above descriptions have been submitted to the respective introducers, but as the experience with these varieties has been limited, the descriptions must be kept open for revision. Most of the varieties have been studied while in bloom, but in a few cases no plants were available and the descriptions were obtained from other growers.

#### The Place of the Pericat Hybrids

The particular adaptation of any new group of varieties must be determined by trial over a considerable period fo time. At present it would seem that the Pericat

Hybrid azaleas may be particularly valuable contributions to our list of ericaceous plants in three ways:

- 1. For landscape use in the middle and lower South. Relatively few Pericats have yet been planted outdoors, but our results at Hampton indicate that such varieties as 'Hampton Beauty' and 'Hiawatha' will prove very outstanding in the garden, at least in the Norfolk region, and certainly farther south. The plants have reached a height of four feet and promise to grow to perhaps ten feet under ideal conditions. They are more compact and evergreen than either the Kaempferi or Mucronatum (Ledifolia) types, and come in better colors and with much more double flowers.
- 2. For forcing in the greenhouse for Easter and for winter bloom. Several of the Pericats are distinct improvements over the present standard Kurume varieties in color, in size, and in doubleness of flower. Their wide and rapidly increasing use by florists is certain.
- 3. In breeding new varieties which will be even greater improvements over present-day standards. The variability as to doubling indicates an unstable genetic constitution which may produce particularly interesting results by selection as well as by hybridization.

Alphonse Pericat has passed on, but his magnificent azaleas will preserve his name for generations. And, even after his name has been forgotten, some of his hybrids or their descendants will undoubtedly live on.

This "Azalea Classic" with four photographs was originally published in **The National Hort. Mag.,** 21: 157-162 (1942).

<sup>&</sup>quot;Azalea Classics" are articles published in the past which THE AZALEAN staff deems worthy of being brought to the attention of today's azalea enthusiasts. Whenever possible "Azalea Classic" will relate to a feature article in THE AZALEAN in order to increase the perspective of the issue. We think this is a valuable way to link the past, present, and future in azalea horticulture.

#### **ASA NEWS AND VIEWS**

### IN MEMORIUM HENRY R. SHROEDER, M.D.

We were deeply saddened to learn of the accidental death, on August 30, 1984, of Dr. Henry R. Schroeder, a physician of Evansville, Indiana and a life member of the Azalea Society of America, A nationally known grower of azaleas and rhododendrons, Dr. Schroeder had specialized for twenty some years in developing hybrids to withstand Midwestern winters and summers and was looking forward to beginning their introduction. His wife Helen informs us that their sons "Steve and David are going to carry on the nursery and will introduce some of his crosses next spring." A founding member and first President of the Tri-State Chapter and member of the Advisory Editorial Board of THE AZALEAN, Dr. Schroeder was highly active in the A.S.A., in addition to being closely associated with the American Rhododendron Society and the Holly Society of America. The azalea world will miss him.

Ryon A. Page

same as 'Nassau'. The most noticeable difference in these two plants is that with age 'Nanticoke' tends to cascade much like the Satsuki azalea 'Heiwa'. Very late, usually blooms with or near same time as seed parent. communicated by Gordon Severe April 30, 1984 publication approved by Nels Nelson

THE AZALEAN publishes descriptions of new azalea hybrids providing that the descriptions clearly document the unique characteristics of the hybrid (see above and THE AZALEAN 5:19-22 (1983)). Descriptions must also include any registration information and any previous date of introduction. In the absence of the latter, the published description in THE AZALEAN may be used as notice of introduction.

It is the policy of **THE AZALEAN** to highlight with single quotation marks the name of bonfide azalea cultivars in text, whether or not they are registered. This is in accordance with the International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants—1981.

## NEW AZALEA HYBRIDS THE FIRST STATE HYBRIDS

Nels Nelson of Sussex County, Millsboro, Delaware has introduced a group of hybrid azaleas known as "The First State Hybrids".

Mr. Nelson first started to hybridize just for the fun and thrill of seeing what he might come up with by using crosses of the azaleas in his yard. Dver the years, the interest grew, and now his goal is cascading azaleas, ground cover azaleas, and deciduous hybrids. One deciduous plant has been named but is still under study along with several others. Two evergreen azaleas have been named and introduced but not registered: 'Nassau' and 'Nanticoke', both double whites.

'Nassau': 'Cora Brandt' x 'White Gumpo'. Double white flower with small irregular flakes of light purple, specks of pink, some shading of pink and light purple. Flowers 2½" in diameter, a very near pompom bloom. Centers of flowers have a faint green tone. Plants ten years old 16" high x 5' across. Hardy to -5°F. Leaves dark glossy green, oblanceolate, will be a bit lighter green in full sun. Very late, blooms generally at same time at seed parent.

'Nanticoke': 'Cora Brandt' x 'White Gumpo'. A sister seedling to 'Nassau', double white with same flakes, specks, and shadings. Flower smaller about 2-2¼" in diameter and not quite as pompom as 'Nassau'. Plants 10 years old 14" high x 4' across. Hardy to -5°F. Leaves

#### ASA

#### 7th NATIONAL CONVENTION

THINK SPRING TWICE! At the time you are reading this, it is early winter; it's probably cold and possibly snowing. We want to bring you warm thoughts of zephyr-like breezes, the scent of honeysuckle, and the sight of gorgeous azaleas in full bloom. Carry these thoughts with you during January and February while you plan to spend March 22, 23 and 24 enjoying your first spring of the year at "Come Alive in '85," the Azalea Society of America National convention in Mobile, Alabama.

Remember that when Indica azaleas were first brought to the "New World" in the late 1700's by Andre' Michaux, the noted French botanist, they were planted in the South, and Mobile was one of the focal points to receive them soon after their introduction. There has been no diminishing of plantings throughout the years, and today the newer varieties are being tested. Hence, there are 100-year-old plants, as well as new plantings, to be seen in the area.

The Semmes area near Mobile is the nucleus of Alabama nurseries, having hundreds of acres of ornamental plants growing in rows of containers. Azaleas, of course, are among the mainstays of the industry, and forty or so acres of blooming azaleas is a sight to see.

Bellingrath Gardens is known throughout the South for its color displays throughout the year. Azaleas, roses, chysanthemums, and poinsettias are among the multitudes of plants the public enjoys regularly.

We want you to make every effort to join us and your friends for your first taste of Spring in 1985. Further information will be sent to you early in the year, but if you cannot wait, then please contact Russell Scott, Route 2, Box 150, Mobile, Alabama 36609.

#### "COME ALIVE IN 85"

Convention Headquarters
Ramada Inn - I-65 & Airport Blvd.
Mobile, Alabama

#### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Friday, March 22

5:00-9:00 p.m. Registration (Lobby)

Dinner on your own

7:30 p.m. Ballroom

Welcome to Mobile President's Welcome

8:00 p.m. Introduction of Fred Galle's new aza-

lea book

8:30 p.m. Brookside Gardens Satsuki Project

9:00-10:00 p.m. Coffee, Cake, & Conversation

Saturday, March 23

7:00-8:00 a.m. Registration

Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Buses depart to Bellingrath Gardens.

Tour Gardens and Home at your

own pace

11:30 a.m. Buses depart Bellingrath Gardens

to Mobile Botanical Gardens

12:00-1:30 p.m. Box Lunch at Mobile Botanical

Gardens

1:30 p.m. Buses depart to Semmes, Alabama

Tour the largest and most productive ornamental nursery areas in the

United States

4:30 p.m. Buses return to Ramada Inn

4:30-6:30 p.m. Plant Sales

5:00-6:30 p.m. Board of Governors Meeting

6:00-7:00 p.m. Social Hour (Cash Bar)

7:15 p.m. Buffet Dinner

8:30-9:30 p.m. Convention Address

9:40 p.m. Mini Auction of Special Azaleas

10:00-11:00 p.m. Final Plant Sales

Sunday, March 24

7:00-8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Buses depart for tour of Mobile\*

12:00 Noon Buses return to Ramada Inn

The Ramada Inn has given us a room rate of \$45.00 per night for two people. If you prefer to stay at another motel, there are six others in the near vicinity. Also there are numerous restaurants in the area for Friday night dining—ranging from Japanese to Southern seafood.

We have arrived at a total fee of \$60.00 per person for registration and all activities except the tour of Mobile on Sunday. This may be a couple of dollars high, but we

cannot afford to "go in the hold". Neither our local treasury nor the National Society can absorb a loss. After March 1st, the registration fee will be \$65.00.

Every effort will be made to give you dollar value for dollar received. Join us for the 7th A.S.A. National Convention and make "Come Alive in '85" your horticultural experience of the year. Send in your registration as soon as it arrives in the mail.

\*The tour of one of the oldest distinguished cities in the Nation will include a drive along the famed azalea trail and visits to ante-bellum plantation and townhouse mansions and azalea gardens. This is a guided tour at an extra cost in addition to the registration fee of \$20.00 per person. A minimum of 25 participants is required, and if fewer choose this option, it may be cancelled and the money refunded.

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO A.S.A. BY-LAWS

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP, Section 2. Classes of Membership - currently reads: "There shall be three classes of membership: annual, life and honorary." This is to be amended to read: "Classes of membership shall include annual, life, and honorary. Other classes may be established by the Board of Governors as needed."

ARTICLE IV CHAPTER ORGANIZATION, Section 3. Membership - Third sentence now reads: "There shall be two classes of membership, annual and life, as defined by Article III of these by-laws." This is to be amended to read: "There shall be at least two classes.

Rationale: These two amendments will permit the Board of Governors to establish additional classes of membership if deemed desireable.

ARTICLE IV CHAPTER ORGANIZATION, Section 7. Dues payable to ASA. - Fourth sentence now begins: "Each chapter shall be required to forward to the National Society on a monthly basis \$5.00 of each \$10.00 dues paid. .." This is to be amended to read: "Each chapter shall retain its agreed apportioned share of the annual dues and forward the remainder to the National Society."

Rationale: With the change in dues, the present clause is outdated.

In an associated action, the Board of Governors will ask the membership at the annual meeting in March 1985 to approve a new apportionment of dues between chapters and the National Society. The chapter would retain \$5.00 of each of its member's dues, with \$10.00 going to the National Society. Life memberships for chapter members would be apportioned in like proportion with the chapter retaining \$75.00 of the \$225.00 fee.

Rationale: The National Society needs additional funds to support a quality quarterly journal and has few sources of income other than dues. Chapters have other options for raising funds for their needs.

#### AZALEA PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

BOOK REVIEW—A Brocade Pillow (Azaleas of Old Japan). Ihei, Ito. John Weatherhill, Inc., New York and Tokyo, 1984.

A Brocade Pillow is a translation of Kinshu Makura, a five volume Japanese treatise on azaleas written in 1692 by Ito Ihei. The translation to English is by Kaname Kato, a noted horticulturist and consultant to the Bonsai Association of Japan, and revised by John L. Creech, former Director of The United States National Arboretum. It is translated from a 1976 reprinting of the original that was supervised by Yotaro Tsukamoto and sponsored by the Satsuki Society of Japan.

Ihei, a Japanese nurseryman from a major horticultural center near Japan's capital during the late seventeenth century, was a recognized azalea authority. Known in his day as "Mr. Kirishima", after one of the more popular azalea types of the period, lhei is remembered for developing a standard system for describing azaleas which he used to describe the varieties in cultivation at the time. Illustrated with wood-block prints, A Brocade Pillow was written to provide descriptions to alleviate the confusion caused by name duplication, a problem which continues today.

This book is important because it is a readable form of the first known monograph on azaleas, preceding Wilson and Rheder's Monograph (1921) by 229 years. It documents the early cultivation of the Japanese azalea species and records the existence of the Korean species in cultivation in Japan at the time. A nice feature is that comments have been appended to lhei's descriptions in an effort to clarify apparent inconsistencies and take advantage of several centuries worth of hindsight.

Ihei divides azaleas into two main groups, the "tsutsuji", consisting largely of selected forms of and hybrids between Rhododendron kaempferi, R. kiusianum, R. sataense, R. macrosepalum, R. scabrum, R. yedoense var. poukhanense, and R. x mucronatum; and the "satsuki" which are primarily selections of and hybrids between R. indicum and R. eriocarpum. The yellow form of R. japonicum is grouped with the tsutsuji, and its inclusion demonstrates that R. japonicum was in cultivation at the time of Engelbert Kaemkpfer's visit to Japan in 1690, apparently a point of some controversy with Wilson.

A Brocade Pillow offers the azalea enthusiast unique insight into an important period of azalea development, the products of which were later instrumental in the development of the Belgian Indian, Southern Indian, Glenn Dale, and Robin Hill hybrids (to name a few), and many more recent Satsukis. It is perhaps surprising to learn that some of the azaleas in our yards today were well established in the "trade" in the 1600's (e.g. 'Shokko Nishiki'), having been developed sometime in the sixteenth century. Of particular interest to this reader were the references to the koshimino or "skirt" form of flower which is similar to but distinguishable from the hose-in-hose form, uncommon in the West.

W. C. Miller III.

#### SATSUKI BOOK INDEX OFFER

With the recent explosion of interest in Satsuki azaleas, it is no surprise that people have begun ordering the many fine Japanese Satsuki books that have recently become available. The books are exquisitely illustrated with bright and colorful pictures and have the potential for becoming useful references. That most of the books were not produced with the American market in mind is problematic. In general, the cultivar names associated with the pictures are in English, while the text and indexes are printed in Japanese characters. Unless you can read Japanese characters or can decipher the order in which the cultivars are presented, the books are difficult to use, since the cultivars are not presented alphabetically.

The obvious solution to this problem is the creation of English indexes. The staff of **THE AZALEAN** has recently prepared an English index for the "Pocket Size Satsuki Dictionary" from the Satsuki Research Company which contains more than 800 different cultivars.

A copy of this index can be obtained by sending a check made out to **THE AZALEAN** in the amount of \$2.00 to:

Pocket Size Satsuki Dictionary Index Offer

THE AZALEAN

9233 Farnsworth Drive

Potomac, MD 20854

All net proceeds will go to support **THE AZALEAN**. How can you be sure that you have the book that corresponds to the index? If you find 'Otome', 'Higasa', and 'Wakaebisu' on pages 133, 661, and 872, respectively, of the book you have, then this index is for you.

William C. Miller III
Education and Scientific Director
THE AZALEAN

### Newly Revised 2nd Edition of Plant Propagation Practices by James S. Wells

The October 15, 1984 issue of The American Nurseryman announced that James Wells has revised his classic and popular book dealing with plant propagation. "The purpose of this book is to provide a simple, readily understandable description of the basic methods used to propagate nursery plants. It has been written primarily for the young nurseryman, with or without a college background, who, after a few years experience is planning to start a nursery for himself. He finds that he would like to propagate some of the basic plant materials that he needs. How, when, and where should he begin? This book attempts to provide the answers to these questions. 350 Pages - 100 Photographs" \$19.95 plus \$1.25 postage. May be ordered through American Nurseryman, 310 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

#### MORE ON TISSUE CULTURE

The July 19, 1984, issue of *Florists' Review* reports that the nursery products division of The Weyerhaeuser Co. has started a \$5 million physical plant program at its Apopkka, Florida, tissue culture production center. "We look to triple our production capabilities within the next year. ..", reports Gary Mariana, division general manager, toward "Becoming a major producer of starter plants for foliage, floriculture, ground covers, fruits and vegetables and other agricultural crops, both in the United States and worldwide. .." according to Mel Garber, general manager of the tissue culture center. Currently, the Apopka, Florida facility has more than 5,000 square feet dedicated to laboratories for tissue culture. The expansion program will build both additional laboratories and greenhouses.

Chapter and member activities for inclusion in **ASA NEWS AND VIEWS** should be sent to the Editor three months prior to the month of publication desired in **THE AZALEAN**.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I would like to know something definitive about the relationship between 'Polypetalum' (syn. Rhododendron indicum var. polypetalum) and 'Kinsai' (syn. 'Kinno-sai', 'Kin-no-zai', 'Kinzai'). Harold Greer, of Eugene, Oregon, has recently written that 'Polypetalum' is also known as 'Kinsai'... "though there seems to be some difference..." Wilson and Rheder's A Monograph on Azaleas suggests that they are the same. If they are the same, or essentially the same, collectors need not acquire both plants.

William C. Miller III Bethesda, Maryland

**THE AZALEAN** welcomes letters with questions, comments, observations, points of interest, etc. from our readers. Replies to the letters should be sent to the Editor. They will be forwarded to the author(s) and, if of sufficient general interest, may be published in a future issue of **THE AZALEAN**.

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