



"Niagara Rhodo"

Newsletter of the Niagara Chapter,
Rhododendron Society of Canada,

District 12, American Rhododendron Society



Our Purpose: We are a non-profit organization whose aim is to promote, encourage and support interest in the genus *rhododendron*. Our goal is to encourage gardeners to grow and appreciate these plants, by providing educational meetings with knowledgeable speakers, access to topical publications and hosting joint meetings with other chapters.

April 2, 2018 (Annual Plant Sale Edition)

In this Newsletter

1. April – 2018 Program.
2. Pre-order due date: April 20, 2018.
3. Suggestions for new growers.
4. List of available cultivars and order form.

Word of Caution

By becoming a successful grower, the reader will be exposed to a contagion for which there is no cure. Once infected with an appreciation of rhododendrons and azaleas most gardeners spend a lifetime collecting these most beautiful of all plants.

H. Edward Reiley

Niagara Region Chapter

Rhododendron Society of Canada
District 12, American Rhododendron Society

April 2018 Program

All Gardeners are Welcome
at all
Meetings & Plant Sales

Meeting: Sunday, April 8, 2018, 2 P.M.
Rittenhouse Hall,

Plant Sale: April 28, 2018, 9 A.M.
Implement Shed

Vineland Research & Innovation Centre
Victoria Avenue, Vineland Station, ON



April- 2018 Program



Sunday, April 8, 2018
What's in the Plant Sale?

Kevin Kavanagh & Nick Yarmoshuk



Describe for each cultivar: its strengths, weaknesses
& appropriate growing conditions.



Saturday, April 28, 2018
Annual Plant Sale

Starts at 9 A.M.
Closes when plants sold out.

Vineland Research & Innovation Centre, Implement Shed
Victoria Avenue, Vineland Station, ON

Growing Rhododendrons Successfully

Recommendations for New Growers and Reminders to “Old Hands”

Ten Ways To Kill a Rhododendron by Marjorie Hancock

This article first appeared in the Bulletin of the Rhododendron Society of Canada, Bulletin 1982, Volume 11, No 1, pp 16-19. It provides sage advice on what not to do if one wishes to grow rhododendrons successfully. See the following link for an insightful yet fun read.

http://www.rhodoniagara.org/rhodos/1982_kill/

Growing Rhododendrons Successfully *abstracted from* http://www.rhodoniagara.org/rhodos/2004_grow/

An article with this title first appeared on the Rhodo Niagara Web Pages in 2004. Its prime contribution was a description of a much ignored issue, how to plant rhododendrons and azaleas grown in plastic pots. Readers may wish to consult the original article with the link provided above. A brief abstract of key points of that article is provided here.

Introduction: Despite providing seemingly ideal conditions for their newly purchased Rhododendron and Azalea plants, many gardeners have found that their “well cared for” plantings start to languish in the second and third years of their growth and finally die in the third or fourth year. This experience has given Rhododendrons and Azaleas an unwarranted modern reputation as plants that are very difficult to grow. This article describes a major contributor to this reputation, **the commercially grown, pot bound plant**. It suggests how to select commercially grown plants and how to grow them. These methods may lead to higher survival rates and less frustration.

Basic Conditions Required by Rhododendrons and Azaleas: Rhododendron and Azaleas growing in natural, open field conditions have a root mass of very fine, hair-like roots that grow in a thick mass very close to the surface of the surrounding soil. They tend to spread out in a circle to a radius of 2 to 3 feet from the center stalk of the plant. To survive and flourish, Rhododendrons and Azaleas continuously require air, moisture and nutrients at the roots. Healthy development of rhododendrons and azaleas requires that the following conditions be met.

1. Soil should be loose and crumbly with a very high percentage of humus. A minimum of 50 percent extra-coarse, chunky, peat moss is recommended, plus other organic material. When amending existing soil, especially hard clay or very fine sandy soil, use equal parts of original soil, compost and coarse chunky peat moss.
2. Oxygen in the root system is a vital factor in maintaining healthy rhododendrons.
3. Soil must be consistently moist but never soggy. Adequate humus should hold enough moisture between rains, but watering may be necessary in drought conditions.
4. Sharp drainage is critical. Rhododendrons are mountain plants, growing where there is always down grade for excess water to drain away.
5. If existing garden soil is very heavy and/or poorly drained, keep the entire root system 6 to 8 inches above grade by creating a mound or berm, or a raised planting bed using a retaining curb such as logs, timbers or rocks.
6. Some sun, or at least bright light is necessary to encourage bud formation and compact growth.
7. Plants should be sheltered from the prevailing winter winds which desiccate the foliage.
8. Ideally, shade should be provided during the hottest part of the day in summer.
9. Shade in late February and through March, when the ground is frozen, may be important for some varieties as the strengthening sun may scorch the leaves.

Figure 1. Rhododendrons growing in open fields have roots that are:

- Very fine;
- Grow outward from the center stem;
- Do not have long feeder roots;
- Form a relatively thin but compact mass.

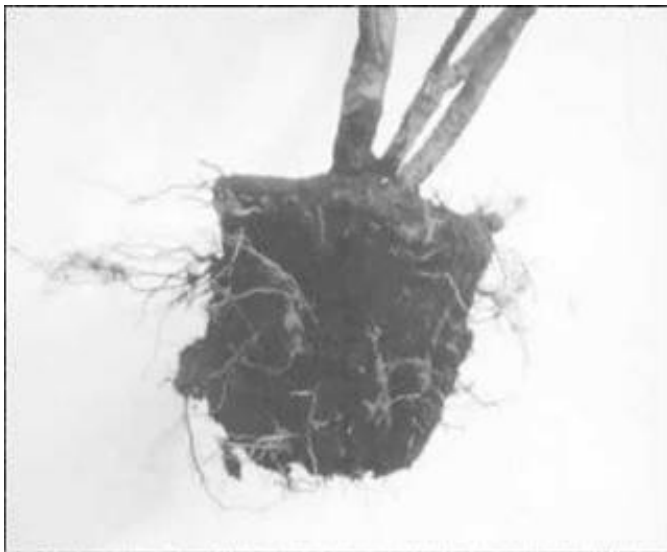
Figure 1



This is the entire root ball of a 20 year old rhododendron. This root ball is 8 inches thick and approximately 4 feet wide. It was grown in a raised bed over a clay base.

Figure 3.

Three years after planting a pot bound



Rhododendron

Symptoms of a languishing previously pot bound Rhododendron or Azalea are: (1) drooping leaves even while the soil is moist; (2) little or no flower production; (3) pale green leaves.

Note: Many thanks to Marc Colombel for providing Fig. 2 to 4 and his initial development of these ideas.

Figure 2. A rhododendron grown in a pot. This is an extreme example but frequently experienced.



Most rhododendrons & azaleas today are sold through garden centers and are grown in plastic pots. When you take the rhododendron out of its container you may find white tip ends of roots or you may find a mass of white roots plastered against the inner side of the container. This means that the plant has been in the container for a long time. Planted without corrective action the result will likely be that shown in Figure 3.

Figure 4.

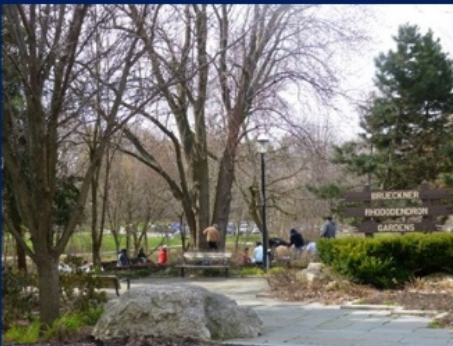


Unpack the roots of a pot bound plant. Wash the roots with the help of a nozzle and a strong jet of water. Tease out the roots from their bound condition and try to fluff them out. The roots are at this time similar to your hairs after a shower; they are all together.

Keep the root ball in the shade for a few hours so that most of the moisture can drip of. Then gently fluff the roots.

Special Note

- The Pre-Order program is open **ONLY** to members in good standing as of April 8, 2018.
- Members in good standing are entitled to a 10% discount off general prices.
- Prices shown on Pages 5-7 are already discounted and include taxes.
- Pre-orders must be in Lillie Haworth's hands before April 20, 2018. Details on Page 8.



BRG May 21, 2013



BRG May 21, 2013



BRG East Garden May 21, 2013

Rhododendrons and azaleas at the Brueckner Rhododendron Garden, Mississauga Ontario

Pre-order form

Plant Selection	Pot Size	Member Price	Order #	Total \$
Semi Evergreen Azaleas				
Anna Maria	1g	\$14		
Bixby	1g	\$14		
Boudoir x Nakahara e	1g	\$14		
Carrie Amanda	1g	\$14		
Delaware Valley White	2g	\$18		
Elsie Lee	1g	\$14		
Elsie Lee	2g	\$23		
Girard's Christina	2g	\$18		
Girard's Fushia	1g	\$14		
Girard's Fushia	2g	\$23		
Girard's Hot Shot	2g	\$23		
Girard's Renee Michelle	2g	\$23		
Girard's Rose	2g	\$23		
Herbert	2g	\$23		
Joseph Gable	1g	\$14		
Karen	2g	\$23		
Kiusianu m Komo Kushan	1g	\$14		
Kiusianu m Mangetsu	2g	\$18		
Koromo shikibu	1g	\$14		

Myrtle Leaf	2g	\$18		
R. poukhanense	2g	\$22		
Rosebud	2g	\$18		
Rosebud	1g	\$14		
Saybrook Glory	1g	\$14		
Scotian Reef	2g	\$18		
Stewartstonian	2g	\$23		
Stewartstonian	2g	\$18		
Total EG Azaleas				

Plant Selection	Pot Size	Member Price	Order #	Total \$
Lepidotes				
Aglo	2g	\$24		
Blue Barron	3g 40 cm	\$32		
Checkmate	2g	\$24		
Cornell Pink	2g	\$24		
Karin Seleger	2g	\$24		
Landmark	2g	\$24		
Patty Bee	2g	\$24		
PJM	2g	\$24		
PJM Elite Star	2g	\$24		
Purple Gem	2g	\$24		
Ramapo	2g	\$24		
Total Lepidotes				

Plant Selection	Pot Size	Member price	Order #	Total \$
Elepidotes				
Brown Eyes	2/3g	\$24		
Capistrano	2g	\$24		
Crystal Glow	2/3g	\$24		
Dandy Man Purple	2g	\$24		
Edith Pride	2/3g	\$24		
Elegant Candy	2/3g	\$24		
Goldprinz	2g	\$24		
Helsinki University	2g	\$24		
Holden	2g	\$24		
Holden	1g	\$14		
Holden's Spring Herald	2g	\$24		
Ingrid Mehlquist	2g	\$24		
Kalinka	2g	\$24		
Lavender Princess	2/3g	\$24		
Lemon Dream	2g	\$24		
Maximum Roseum	2/3g	\$24		
Pearce's American Beauty	3g 40 cm	\$32		
Percy Wiseman	3g 30cm	\$29		
Rimini	2g	\$24		
Taurus	2g	\$24		
The Nice	2/3g	\$24		

Vernus	2g	\$24		
War Dance	2g	\$24		
War Dance	3g 50 cm	\$34		
Wognar's Purple	2g	\$24		
Wyandanch Pink	2/3g	\$24		
Wyandanch Pink	2/3g	\$24		
Total				

Plant Selection	Pot Size	Member Price	Order #	Total \$
Companion Woody - Shrubs				
Hydrangea quercifolia 'Gatsby Pink'	3g	\$23		
Hydrangea quercifolia 'Ruby Slippers'	3g	\$23		
Ilex x Red Beauty ('Rutzan')	2g 40 cm	\$21		
Pieris japonica 'Katsura'	2g	\$25		
Pieris 'Spring Snow'	2g	\$23		
Viburnum red balloon (Redell)	3g	\$24		
Total Woody Shrubs				
Brueckner Special for Pre-sale Only				
Limoncello	1g	\$14		
Toronto	1g	\$14		
Label ID (X1)1gal	1 g	\$14		
Total Brueckner				

Companion Perennials	SIZE	Member Price	Order #	Total \$
Astilbe 'Chocolate Shogun'	1g	\$10.00		
Astilbe 'Delft Lace'	1g	\$10.00		
Bergenia cordifolia 'Winter Glow'	1g	\$10.00		
Epimedium cantabrigiense	1L	\$9.00		
Helleborus 'Ivory Prince'	1g	\$19.00		
Helleborus niger 'HGC Jacob'	1g	\$19.00		
Irissibirica 'Kaboom'	1g	\$10.00		

Kirengeshoma palmata	1g	\$8.00		
Phlox subulata 'Emerald Blue'	1g	\$8.00		
Phlox subulata 'Emeral Pink'	1g	\$8.00		
Phlox subulata 'Purple Beauty'	1g	\$8.00		
Podophyllum 'Spotty Dotty'	1L	\$28.00		
Tiarella cordifolia	1g	\$10.00		
TOTAL COMP PERENNIALS				

Prices shown on these pages include member discount and taxes.

A full colour Photo Catalogue will be e-mailed to members on Thursday, April 5, 2018.

The April 8 program includes a slide show and discussion of each cultivar's strengths and weaknesses.

Please indicate your selections on pages 5 -7

Please provide your NAME & ADDRESS & summary information on Page 8

Mail or Deliver Pages 5 to 8

to

**Lillie Haworth
4 Deer Park Court,
Grimsby, ON L3M 2R2**



"Niagara 2018 Annual Plant Sale Members' Pre-Order form

Name:

Address:

.....Postal Code

Telephone: Email:

Members in Good Standing on April 8, 2018, i.e. Memberships paid on or before April 8, 2018, are entitled to a 10% discount. Prices shown are already discounted.

Please review your order and complete the following information:

Total number of plants ordered #

Please make Cheque (payable to **ARS - Niagara**) \$

Pre - Orders close April 20, 2018 *

Pickup between 9am and 11 am at the Plant Sale, Saturday, April 28th, 2018

Mail-Deliver the Order Form and a Cheque to: Lillie Haworth 4 Deer Park Court, Grimsby, ON. L3M 2R2	For Information concerning orders write to: ljhaworth@sympatico.ca or Call: 905-945-2433
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