

The Rhodomentum

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Newsletter



February 2017



President's Message

Sorry I missed all those cold days in January, but someone had to check up on what was going on down south. Gaylle and I found New Zealand also experiencing below normal summer temperatures, especially in Wellington and on the "South Island". We didn't see as many rhododendrons in our travels as I expected. We were both glad to come home.

I don't think I lost any rhodos in my own garden. I was concerned about my "Fragrantissimum and "Mi Amor".

Our next meeting should be interesting with the "Duchess of Dirt" being our guest speaker. The "Garden Tour Committee" is still looking for interesting gardens. Please contact Gaylle or Art if you have any suggestions! I hope to see you at the meeting on Thursday, February 9th, 2017 @ 7:30pm at Beban.

Allen

EXECUTIVE

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| President | Allen McRae | 758-7589 |
| Vice President | Art Lightburn | 468-7516 |
| Secretary | Ann Beamish | 758-2574 |
| Treasurer | Gaylle McRae | 758-7589 |
| Directors | Glenda Barr | 390-2822 |
| | Craig Clarke | 390-4090 |
| | Susan Lightburn | 468-7516 |
| | Dick Beamish | 758-2574 |
| | Chris Southwick | 390-3415 |

COMMITTEES

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Advertising | Jan Moles /Gerry Moore |
| Library | Ann Beamish/Sandra Dorman |
| Newsletter | Kathryn Grant/June and John |
| Membership | Krystyna Sosulski |
| Program | Doug Kitts |
| Raffle | Ann Davey & Val Harvey |
| Social | Susan Lightburn |
| Bargain Table | Reinhold Gorgosilich |
| Website | Craig Clarke |
| Bus Tour | John Deniseger & June Bouchard |

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Next Meeting

Thursday February 9, 7:30 pm Beban Park Social Centre
THE DUCHESS OF DIRT
"Horticultural Wonders"

Twigs and Stems



GOODIES FOR FEBRUARY

Earl Daneluk
Rosina Schmidt
Chris Southwick

QB SEEDY SATURDAY

February 4

The 15th annual Seedy Saturday will be held on Feb. 4th 2017 at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre from 10am to 3:30pm. Our exciting theme this year is Flourish and Nourish with Linda Gilkeson's "Flourishing Food Gardens all Year Round" and Amy Robson's "Nourishing your Soil; the World Beneath your Feet." As usual, we have the Seed Swap, local garden related Vendors, Master Gardeners, Seedy Cafe and the "Shoots with Roots" family program. Admission is by donation, with proceeds going to school and community garden projects. Don't forget there are Raffles and Door prizes to be won! Check out our new website for more information.

<https://www.qbseedsaturday.ca>



OUR FEBRUARY SPEAKER
LESLIE COX – THE DUCHESS OF DIRT

Faced with being too young to retire and too old to recycle when we were both down-sized out of our corporate jobs, we just naturally gravitated back to our roots...growing food.

The garden in rural Black Creek began a transformation, starting with an herb garden containing many of my favourite cooking herbs, along with vegetables for the dinner table. Further expansion was undertaken in an attempt to produce enough vegetables to sell at the local farmer's market, along with our unique line of value-added jams, jellies, chutneys, relishes and herbal mixes.

A chance membership in the Comox Valley Horticultural Society somewhere along the way began an exciting exploration into the world of ornamental plants. A slight shift in our business plan and the garden grew even more. Nowadays, the garden supports an intensely planted display of ornamental plants, a vegetable garden and numerous pleasant seating areas from which to watch nature unfold...all of which is open at certain times of year for touring.

My passion for gardening has spilled over into a number of garden-related activities. Top of the list: I am still trying to discover how many different plants will thrive enthusiastically in a heavily shaded front garden in competition with three large deciduous trees.

Also right up there: I love to write, especially about gardening. Since March 2004 my bimonthly gardening column, "Duchess of Dirt", has been appearing in the Comox Valley Record newspaper. Several articles have also been published in magazines such as Canadian Living and Gardens West.

A pet project, Green Sprouts School Garden Program, is now in its third year. As the developer and coordinator of this Program, I work with over 1800 students at six local elementary schools, teaching them about gardening and how to grow food. The enthusiasm for the Program is truly inspiring.

PowerPoint presentations, workshops and garden consulting are also integral parts of my Duchess of Dirt resume.

**Nanaimo Rhododendron Society General Meeting
January 12, 2017**

1. Call to order at 1930. In Allen McRae's absence, Art Lightburn wished everyone a Happy New Year and a welcome. Guests this evening were Brian and Judy Wilson.
2. **President's report:** Art reported that our Christmas Pot Luck and Auction was a great success, with our total income of \$1381.00 less \$134.40 for plants giving us a total of 1246.60. We donated \$125.00 to the Salvation Army and a large collection of non-perishable food to Loaves and Fishes. Art also thanked Chris Southwick for her hard work in coordinating our effort to support Nepal and our donation amounted to \$400.00.
3. **Rhodo Botany:** Chris Southwick was able to collect an amazing display of leaves given the harsh weather. She distributed information and explained the various types of leaves and their growth.
4. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Bargain Table:** Art reminded all to bring in cuttings or plants when they start to clean up their gardens hopefully very soon.
 - b. **Library:** no report at this time
 - c. **Membership:** Krystyna reported that we have 66 members encompassing 52 regular memberships and 5 associate numbers.
 - d. **Treasurer:** In Gaylle McRae's absence Art reported that the balance as of December 31 was \$10673.99, since then we have had income from Christmas auction, raffle, dollar table, and a donation for a total of \$2352.0; and expenditures for the Scholarship for VIU, Membership fees to ARS, donation for Nepal \$400.00, speakers, name tags, Beban Park annual rental, plants for future auctions (Art obtained from Bob Smith's garden,) leaving a balance \$8381.91.
 - e. **Rhodomentum:** Kathryn Grant kindly continues to produce our newsletter now call the **RHODOMENTUM**.
 - f. **Program** Doug Kitts reported we will be having The Duchess of Dirt (Leslie Cox from Comox), March will be Bernie Dinter of Dinters Garden Center.
 - g. **Raffle Table:** Black Magic, Olive, and Hachmanns Feuerschien, and one of our raffle plants was won by our guest and there was a cyclamen for the door prize.
 - h. **Secretary:** Ann reported correspondence from VIU thanking us for our donation to the Scholarship Program.
 - i. **Social:** Susan Lightburn thanks those who brought the snacks.
 - j. **Website:** Craig Clarke continues to update the website
 - k. **Sunshine:** Gratefully nothing to report.

Upcoming functions:

- ARS annual Spring Convention, Eureka, California, April 27-30, 2017
- **BUS TRIP** Jon Deniseger reported the bus will go north this year with a prospective date of May 20 (long weekend).

Old Business:

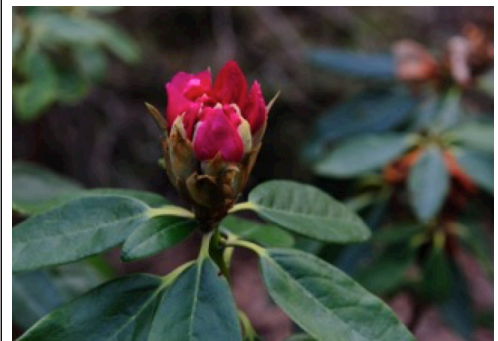
Update on Garden Tour Art Lightburn reported that to date we have 11-12 people showing interest in opening their gardens.

Meeting adjourned at 2015 followed by an interesting talk and slide show by Garth Wedemire.

Seen in Passing

Damage after the Nanoose heavy snowfall in early January. Two large rhodos tipped out of the ground, one sheared off. Limbs broken off two Japanese Maples and numerous rhodos.

Red showing on the very early Lee's Scarlet.



Eureka!

Rhodos, Victoriana and redwoods at April's ARS convention

An ARS convention on the West Coast always means voluptuous flowers that we Eastern gardeners simply cannot grow. Species with vast leaves and cabbage-size trusses, yellows to die for, fascinating gems for the rock garden, and the one native deciduous azalea that *will not* survive on the East Coast, *Rhododendron occidentale*.



R. occidentale

All of these await ARS members who book passage to the national convention in Eureka, Calif., on the last weekend of April. Tours include the Humboldt Botanical Garden and several private gardens, and speakers include Steve Hootman of the Rhododendron Species Foundation, French hybridizer Marc Colombel, and botanist Peter Raven, formerly of the Missouri Botanical Garden, noted for his conservation and biodiversity advocacy. It's all so, so alluring.

But there's something about this convention locale that no other venue can top: redwoods, *Sequoia sempervirens*. Drive south toward Mendocino, and there's a state highway that's named Avenue of the Giants, for all the soaring specimens that dwarf us pipsqueak motorists. There's a tree you can drive through (not the one that fell on Jan. 8, farther south), and a gondola ride that takes you high through the trees. Go to <http://avenueofthegiants.net> to download a map and brochure, or have them mailed to you. Or head north, to Redwood National Park and several affiliated state redwood parks, which are designated as a World Heritage Site as well as an International Biosphere Reserve. You might add a few days to your rhododendron trip to camp in the parks or stay in nearby lodges. The National Parks Service's website has much information: <https://www.nps.gov/redw/index.htm>.



Meanwhile, back in Eureka, the local architecture rivals the rhododendrons for color and flamboyance. On Saturday, ARS members will have the option of taking an architectural tour of Eureka and nearby Ferndale, which the Los Angeles Times called "the best preserved Victorian village in California." The tour includes breakfast at the flabbergasting Carson Mansion in Eureka.

If action is what you want, you might even skip the Saturday night banquet and head for the roller derby at nearby Redwood Acres Fairgrounds, featuring competition by such all-female teams as the Redwood Rollers and the Widow Makers Exposition.

For full information on the ARS convention, go to <http://eurekarhody.org/convention.php>, which has a registration form, hotel information and more. The deadline to avoid a late-registration fee is March 22. For information on all sorts of things to do in and around Eureka and Humboldt county, check out this website: <http://101things.com/humboldt/category/activities-attractions/tours-activities-attractions>.

Reprinted from the Greater Philadelphia Rhodo Gravure, Winter 2017

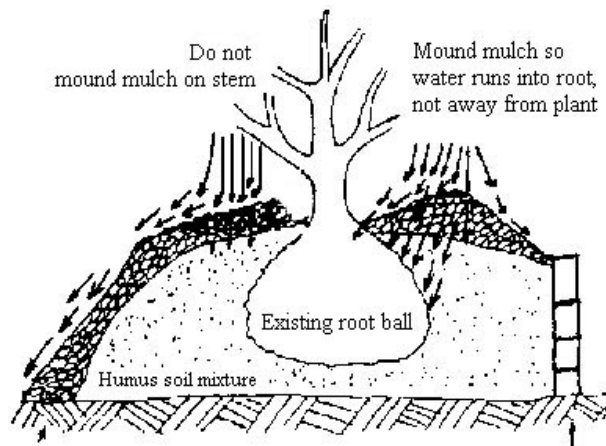
Is It Actually Dying?

First, it helps to be able to tell when a branch is dead. If there is a green cambium layer [see photo] under the bark, that branch is alive. If there is no green cambium layer under the bark, then that branch is dead and it is best to prune such branches off and destroy since they may be diseased. One can check for this with their fingernail, or while cutting off the dead branches. Even if there are no green leaves but there is a green cambium layer under the bark, the branch is alive. Such branches have dormant buds that may open and produce leaves in the future.



Drainage and Mulching

The chief cause of rhododendron death is water, either too much or not enough. Too much causes root rot, which is fatal. Too little causes dieback, which kills the plant one branch at a time. Rhododendrons and most other plants like "moist well-drained soil". That makes it sound like no matter what you do you can't do it



right. However, if the area has good drainage and you use mulch, it should be easy to achieve moist well-drained soil. To check for good drainage, dig a hole about 10 to 12 inches deep and fill it with water. Then after it drains, fill it again and see how long it takes to drain. If the hole drains within an hour you have good drainage. If the water has not drained out of the hole within one hour, the soil is poorly drained and you must correct the drainage problem before planting. Install a perforated pipe or drain tile in the garden, making sure that the outlet is lower than the bottom of the planting hole, or build raised beds. [The sketch by Harold Greer shows how to use a raised bed.]

Rhododendrons are easy to transplant most any time. It is best to avoid transplanting when new leaves are coming out or the ground is frozen. If the drainage is OK, then you can keep the area moist with a good mulch layer. Mulches conserve water in the soil, insulate roots against summer heat and winter cold, and discourage weeds. Replenish mulches annually, as needed, to maintain a 3- to 5-inch layer on the soil surface. Fine-textured organic mulches such as pine straw or shredded bark are best. Fall leaves are an excellent mulch, except don't use black walnut or butternut leaves. They have a chemical, juglone, that kills rhododendrons and azaleas. During hot dry weather, it is common to see rhododendron leaves look wilted. It they look wilted in the heat of the day, that is normal. If they look wilted in the morning, that is a sign that the plant is either too dry or dying from being too wet. It should be easy to tell which, but don't assume, check the soil with your finger. During drought periods, it may be necessary to water once in a while. A deep watering when the plant shows signs of dryness is much better than frequent watering. Only water when the plants show signs of being dry.

Improper Planting

If the soil is moist and well-drained, then the second most common problem is improper planting. Since the plants may have been planted a number of years earlier, this is a difficult area to consider. However, if a plant has not put out new green shoots in a year, it is dead and you can dig it up and look at the roots. If they are growing in a circle and strangling each other, the plant was not planted properly. You could dig up the other plants and try to open up the roots so they don't strangle each other. If necessary, cut some of the roots so they don't strangle others. If you do dig them up, never let the roots dry out. Dip them in muddy water occasionally while working on them. If the roots dry out, they will die. Also, never plant rhododendrons and azaleas near black walnut or butternut trees. Their leaves, nut hulls, and roots produce a toxin called juglone which kills many kinds of plants including rhododendrons and azaleas. Rarefind Nursery has an excellent [guide on proper planting of rhododendrons and azaleas](http://www.rarefindnursery.com/index.cfm/action/howtoplant.htm).
[\[http://www.rarefindnursery.com/index.cfm/action/howtoplant.htm\]](http://www.rarefindnursery.com/index.cfm/action/howtoplant.htm)

...p. 6

Soil Nutrients and pH

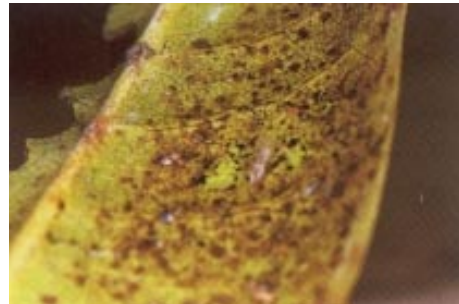


The third most common cause of decline and death is improper nutrients and pH. Rhododendrons need acidic soil, a pH of between 4.5 and 6. Fortunately, rhododendrons are great pH detectors. If the leaf is green, don't worry. If the leaf is yellow with green veins, you may have a pH problem, however it could be a nutrient problem also. In any case it is chlorotic. [See the photo of a chlorotic leaf.] If the leaf is uniformly yellow, it is most likely a nitrogen deficiency and not chlorosis. There are many causes of chlorosis. Poor drainage, planting too deeply, heavy soil with poor aeration, insect or fungus damage in the root zone and lack of moisture all induce chlorosis. After these conditions are eliminated as possible causes, soil

testing is in order. Chlorosis can be caused by malnutrition caused by alkalinity of the soil, potassium deficiency, calcium deficiency, iron deficiency, magnesium deficiency or too much phosphorus in the soil. Iron is most readily available in acidic soils between pH 4.5-6.0. When the soil pH is above 6.5, iron may be present in adequate amounts, but is in an unusable form, due to an excessive amount of calcium carbonate. This can occur when plants are placed too close to cement foundations or walkways. Soil amendments that acidify the soil, such as iron sulfate or sulfur, are the best long term solution. For a quick but only temporary improvement in the appearance of the foliage, ferrous sulfate can be dissolved in water (1 ounce in 2 gallons of water) and sprinkled on the foliage. Some garden centers sell chelated iron that provides the same results. Follow the label recommendations for mixing and applying chelated iron. A combination of acidification with sulfur and iron supplements such as chelated iron or iron sulfate will usually treat this problem. Chlorosis caused by magnesium deficiency is initially the same as iron, but progresses to form reddish purple blotches and marginal leaf necrosis (browning of leaf edges). Epsom salts is a good source of supplemental magnesium. Chlorosis can also be caused by nitrogen toxicity (usually caused by nitrate fertilizers) or other conditions that damage the roots such as root rot, severe cutting of the roots, root weevils or root death caused by extreme amounts of fertilizer. In any case, never use aluminum sulfate. Although garden centers sell it and it is great for hydrangeas, it will kill rhododendrons and azaleas if used repeatedly. Also never use fertilizers with chemical nitrogen. Always use a good rhododendron and azalea fertilizer with organic nitrogen like HollyTone. Also, always fertilize in the spring and at half the rate on the package.

Insects and Fungi

The least common cause of decline and death is insects and fungi, things that you can spray for. The most common causes are cultural, things that arise because of where and how the plant was planted. Proper care at planting will usually prevent problems later on due to insects or fungi. One common insect problem that can be avoided is Lace Bugs. [See photo of Lace Bug damage on the underside of a leaf.] Some rhododendrons and azaleas are susceptible to Lace Bug damage. However, this problem can be averted by planting such plants in areas with partial shade. Natural enemies of Lace Bug can keep them in check if the plant doesn't receive too much sun.



For other problems check out my online [Guide to Common Problems & Their Solutions](http://rhodyman.net/rhodyrho.php#anchor291256) [<http://rhodyman.net/rhodyrho.php#anchor291256>]

Other Resources

Realize that the local extension service can test soil samples and look at samples of diseased plant material to check for problems. Also, you can find varieties of plants that do well in your area. Unfortunately, some local garden centers stock plants based upon sales appeal rather than on whether they are appropriate for the immediate area. Lists of plants that are known to do well are available in the ARS website's [Proven Performer Lists](http://www.rhododendron.org/performers_intro.htm). [http://www.rhododendron.org/performers_intro.htm]

...p.7

Drought or Borers can cause **Entire portions of a plant die:**

- **Drought** can cause entire branches or entire plants to die. We have had several years of drought here and we observe that if rhododendrons and azaleas are not watered during a drought some plants will die, but others will just have one section of the plant die. It seems to be the plants way to conserve what little moisture it has. Prolonged drought weakens plants and often results in the appearance of fungal cankers on the branches of older azaleas. Look for branches that wilt in hot, dry weather in late summer and be sure to water azaleas if drought drags on more than a few weeks. Prune out the affected branches to stop the spread of fungal canker diseases.
- If a [Rhododendron Stem Borer](#), *Oberea myops*; [Dogwood Twig Borer](#), *Oberea tripunctator*; or [Rhododendron Borer](#), *Synanthedon rhododendri*, is in a branch, the entire portions of a plant beyond (away from the roots) will wilt and die. [Borers](#) only affect the portion of the plant away from the roots from the borer. If the borer is in the main trunk, then the entire plant will wilt and die. The plant can be save by cutting off the area with the borer and letting the plant regenerate from the roots. There are no conventional insecticides that will kill stem borer larvae once they are inside the branches. The best control option for homeowners with only a few plants is to prune out and destroy wilting branches in early spring or late summer.

Bark split is most commonly caused by an early autumn frost while the sap is still high in the plant, or a late spring frost when the sap has already started to rise. For this reason it is dangerous to feed nitrogen to a rhododendron or azalea that could stimulate growth through to autumn. Don't use nitrogen after mid-June. When the sap freezes, it expands and ruptures the tissue under the bark and splits the bark. For this reason always keep mulch away from the trunk of plants. Bark split damage can be treated with grafting wax to prevent fungal and insect damage. If left untreated, it is fatal. [Photo courtesy of Harold Greer] [



Leaf droop and curl is normal in most rhododendrons when they are exposed to extreme cold. Leaf droop is also caused by extreme heat, extreme cold, or drought. It is a natural reaction that helps prevent desiccation under these conditions of extreme stress. The roll and droop should go away when the extreme condition is absent. In hot weather, the droop occurs naturally in the heat of the day. It should go away by the next morning. If it doesn't, the ground is probably dry. However, since the same condition can be caused by root fungi which thrive in

warm moist conditions, it is important not to over-water. If the soil is truly dry, then a deep watering in needed. Sandy soils require more irrigation. The soil should not remain wet. [Photo courtesy of Harold Greer]

Plants wilt and die slowly when their roots become compromised. There are several causes of this:

1. **Root strangulation.** This is best prevented by proper [root pruning](#) when planting. If the plant is not too far gone, it might be rescued by digging and removing the soil. Then cutting any circling roots that may be strangling other roots. The roots need to be opened up. On larger plants, some of the top must be removed to compensate for the weak state of the roots. Any time the roots are exposed, they must be kept moistened. Roots that dry out will die.
2. **Phytophthora Root Rot** or wilt. This root rot is the major killer of rhododendrons and azaleas. It develops when roots are growing in wet conditions. The rot is more prevalent in warm summer conditions. Plants infected with crown rot or collar rot caused by the oomycete, or water mold, *Phytophthora* have roots that become clogged with brown oomycete, or water mold, internally. The roots get blocked and the plant wilts and dies. There is not much of any cure for crown rot or collar rot. Some varieties of rhododendrons are vulnerable (*Chionoides*, *Catawbiense Album*, *Nova Zembla*) and some are resistant (*Roseum Elegans*, *Scintillation*, *PJM*). Sphagnum moss and bark dust combined with good drainage seem to prevent crown rot or collar rot, but do not cure it. Also, be sure to keep the mulch back 2 to 3 inches from the stem to prevent crown rot or collar rot. ...p. 8

3. Drought. It may have simply dried out. If you plant rhododendrons or azaleas in late spring, it is very important to give them some extra water while they are growing new roots. Never let the soil completely dry out! it's best to keep the soil evenly moist. Too much water or poorly drained soil might be another explanation of sudden rhododendron or azalea death. Rhododendrons and azaleas have very fine, fibrous roots that are easily damaged by water-logging, even for short periods of time.
4. Voles. Voles, also known as meadow mice, may have chewed on the bark and roots near the crown of the plant. Sometimes they chew all the way around the trunk and kill the inner bark, resulting in death of the whole plant. Keep mulch away from the trunk to discourage voles.
5. [Bark Split](#). The bark may also split when there are wide fluctuations in temperature in the winter. Rhododendrons and azaleas may begin to come out of dormancy if late winter weather is warm; if a cold snap follows, bark injury is likely, especially in sunny, exposed sites.
6. **Wilt and slow death** can also be caused by [juglone poisoning from walnuts](#).

Plants wilt and die suddenly is usually caused by roots that are girdled by larvae of the [Black Vine Weevil](#), *Otiorhynchus sulcatus*, [Strawberry Root Weevil](#), *Otiorhynchus ovatus*, or [Twobanded Japanese Weevil](#), *Callirhopalus bifasciatus*. Adult weevils feed on the leaves at night except the Twobanded Japanese Weevil which feed during the day. Specimens may be collected during the day or at night for identification depending upon the weevil. The major damage is caused by weevil larvae that girdle the roots and kill the plant. Larvacidal drenches may be used to kill them but are of limited effectiveness. Foliar sprays are very effective at controlling adult weevils when leaf notching starts. Foliar sprays must be repeated until no adults emerge. Twobanded Japanese weevils are apparently resistant to carbaryl (Sevin), diazinon, and malathion. Orthene gives good control when applied as a foliar spray and drench. Since weevils can't fly and spend part of each day in the soil and part of each day feeding, you can paint the trunks with [Tanglefoot](#) to stop them, but make sure no branches are touching the ground.

Sooty mold growth on stems and petioles is a symptom of [Azalea Bark Scale](#), *Eriococcus azalea*, and [Cottony Azalea Scale](#), *Pulvinaria floccifera*. These small sucking insects feed on the bark and exude a sticky substance that turns the stems black. A scale infestation is indicated by sooty mold on leaves, yellowing of leaves, and twig dieback. This scale is most obvious from May through June when white egg sacs may be found in twig forks. Heavy infestations over several seasons may kill plants. Over-wintering immature scales (nymphs) are about 2 mm long, gray, and are usually found in twig forks. This scale primarily attacks azalea and rhododendron, but has also been found on andromeda, maple, arbutus, willow, poplar, and hackberry. Azaleas can tolerate low populations of this scale without injury, and if there are no yellowing leaves, no treatment is necessary. Beneficial predators and parasites will usually provide adequate control of light scale infestations. Examine egg sacs for holes which indicate control by parasites, and look for predators such as ladybird beetles. To control heavy infestations, spray dormant plants with a late oil spray to kill developing nymphs on twigs. If necessary a 2% summer rate of horticultural oil may be applied in July after all of the eggs have hatched.

No new growth. It is normal for rhododendrons and azaleas to have new growth every spring. However, this won't happen if the plant is not healthy and doesn't have enough light. Light is necessary to encourage bud formation for both flowers and foliage. Low light encourages upward, tall, gangly growth. However if the light is too low, the plant has no vigor. Also, proper [nutrition](#), [drainage](#), [pH](#), and [moisture](#) are necessary for general plant vigor.

www.rhodyman.net

NRS 17th Annual Spring Bus Tour

Saturday May 20th

This year's tour will be to the Comox Valley and Campbell River area
and will include a visit to a local winery for wine tasting.

Tour price is \$45

Reservations will be taken at the March meeting

February Raffle Plants

Rhododendron schlippenbachii

4', -31°C, E-EM, 4/3-4.

A deciduous species loved by all who see it. It's upright and open with thinly textured leaves in whorls of 5 at each stem tip and it shows off its star-like, delicate pink flowers either just before or along with the leaves. The distinctive, thin foliage will not tolerate excessive sun exposure. The obivate, dark green leaves turn crimson, orange or yellow in autumn. For added interest, flowers sometimes are tinged with reddish spots



Azalea 'Everest'

5'

Mountains of white flowers, 2" across with a pale chartreuse blotch. Broad and spreading. One of the best low growing whites.

R. mucronatum var *mucronatum* X 'Shinnyo-no-tsuki'

Hybridizer: Morrison, B.Y

Senator Jackson

3 feet in 10 years. -21°C

degrobianum ssp yakushmanum x Mrs Horace

Fogg

Senator Jackson Rhododendron is covered in stunning clusters of fragrant white trumpet-shaped flowers at the ends of the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive shell pink flower buds. It has dark green foliage. The glossy narrow leaves remain dark green through the winter.



Question to the Rhodyman:

From one of your posts, or a link therein, I got a formula for a foliar or drip line spray which included epsom salts and fully chelated iron. No problem with the ES but having a huge problem finding the fully chelated iron (and zinc). Do you have any shots or suggestions where one might find this item?

Answer:

rhodyman(SE PA, USDA Z6)

Part of the problem is that some products we have in the US aren't available in Canada and vice versa. However, the original formula came from:

Diane Pertson, Otter Point, Vancouver Island

One such product is Liquinox Iron & Zinc:

Liquinox Company, liquinox1@aol.com, 221 W. Meats Ave., Orange, CA 92865. (800) 621-6365, (714) 637-6300

Native Flowers & Plants



Dicentra formosa (Pacific bleeding heart)



Symplocarpus "Skunk Cabbage"



Lilium columbianum (Columbia lily)



Achlys triphylla
Vanilla-leaf, Deer foot

linnet.geog.ubc.ca