

Energy Conservation in Rooting Deciduous Azaleas by Elizabeth K. Cummins, Vol. 38, #1, p. 15.

Effect of Terminal Bud Removal on

Rhododendron Cuttings by B.C. Strickland and C.J. French, Vol. 38, #2, p. 63.

Rooting Evergreen and Deciduous

Azaleas by Mark Konrad, M.D., Vol. 38, #2, p. 86.

ACCELERATED PROPAGATION OF RHODODENDRONS

Weldon E. Delp, Harrisville, PA

Rhododendron and azalea seeds are among the easiest to grow. No stratification is necessary. They can be sown as soon as they come out of the seed capsule or held over as long as they are kept cool and dry.

DELP SEED GERMINATING MIX:

- 1 cu. ft. Plaster Grade Perlite
- 1 cu. ft. Peat Moss (screened thru 1/4" hardware cloth)
- 1 oz. dry Aqua Grow



Group of seed in bands under lights

Firm mix in 4" square plantbands. Pour scalding water on bands containing mix with a sprinkling can, and let set overnight. The following morning, place 5" plastic labels on opposite sides of plantband. (One label is to contain seed identification.) Sprinkle seed on top of mix. **DO NOT COVER SEED.** Place plantband containing seed inside a freezer bag and close with a tie. Place containers where they will receive 70-75 degrees F. bottom temperature and give them 18 hour day lengths. No further care is necessary until seeds have germinated.

As soon as the roots have gone into the mix, gradually give more air by opening bag. After one week, remove the freezer bag completely. At this point, mist the seedlings to

keep medium moist.

When the first true leaves form, it is time to transplant the seedlings.



Seedlings ready for transplanting — Have first true leaves

DELP MIX FOR SEEDLING FLATS:

- 1 cu. ft. Michigan Peat screened through 1/4" hardware cloth
- 1 cu. ft. Peat Moss screened through 1/4" hardware cloth
- 1 cu. ft. coarse Perlite

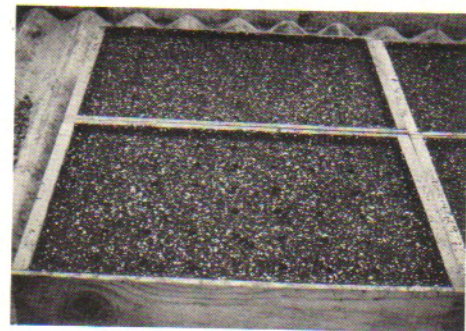
ADD:

- 2 oz. dry Aqua Grow
- 1/2 teaspoon FTE 503 (Peters)
- 2 oz. Dolomitic lime
- 2 oz. 20% Super Phosphate
- 2 oz. Long Last Fertilizer (21-15-15)
- 1 oz. 10% Chlordane Granules

FORMULA FOR LONG LAST FERTILIZER:

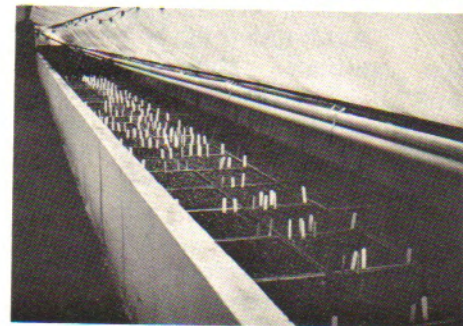
- 15 lbs. Potassium Nitrate
- 15 lbs. Magamp (medium grade)
- 15 lbs. Diamonium Phosphate
- 15 lbs. Muriate of Potash
- 40 lbs. Urea-Form.

I transplant into flats on 2" centers and induce rapid growth from January until June by maintaining a night temperature of 72-75 degrees F. I give them at least 18 hours of daylight. This I do by using 60 watt bulbs spaced 30" apart and 20" from



Prepared flat for transplanting

plants. After June 21st, the plants are kept without the extra heat and light, and are left to go into normal



Seed sown in 4 inch bands.

dormancy in the fall. After dormancy, transplant into one gallon containers.

DELP MIX FOR GROWING ON IN ONE GALLON CONTAINERS:

- 3 cu. ft. Delp basic soil mix
 - 1 cu. ft. Peat Moss
 - 1 cu. ft. coarse Perlite
- ADD:**
- 1/2 lb. 20% Super Phosphate
 - 1/3 lb. Dolomitic Lime
 - 2 oz. dry Aqua Grow
 - 1 oz. 10% Chlordane Granules
- ### **DELP BASIC SOIL MIX**
- 2 parts clay soil

2 parts humus
 2 parts Michigan Peat
 1 part coarse sharp sand
FOLLOWING IS FORMULA FOR SOIL-LESS MIX: (As good as Delp Soil Mix)
 16 oz. of 21-15-15 Long Last or Osmocote 18-6-12
 3 oz. of 20% Super Phosphate
 6 oz. Dolomitic Lime
 6 oz. Gypsum
 1 oz. Peters 503 Micro (5 teaspoons)
 6 oz. Aqua Grow
 1 oz. Chlordane (10%) Crystals



Seedlings at time to transplant into gallon containers. These are to be put back under lights to produce buds.

ADD TO ½ LB. OF ABOVE:

3 cu. ft. Pine Bark
 1 cu. ft. Peat Moss
 1 #10 can Michigan Peat
 1 #10 can Coarse Perlite
(Makes four cubic feet)



Transplanted after budding in one gallon into a five gallon container.

After transplanting into one gallon containers, the plants can be forced to bud by putting them in the greenhouse and keeping them under the same conditions as seedlings.

SEEDLING RHODODENDRONS WILL PRODUCE FLOWER BUDS ON THE FIFTH GROWTH CYCLE.

After budding, let them go dormant in a cool greenhouse (Below 50 degrees F., and they will flower normally in the spring.

DELP MIX FOR GROWING ON IN FIVE GALLON CONTAINERS:

Use same mix as for gallon containers, but add ½ lb. Magamp. Transplant these during April, May, and June. This Delp mix for growing on in five gallon containers is for **RHODODENDRONS ONLY.**



Showing my cold house full of five gallon container grown plants in bloom in spring.

CORRECTION VOL. 38 #2 SPRING 1984

The article THE NATIVE HABITAT OF CHAPMAN'S RHODODENDRON page 77 was incorrectly credited to J. Patrick Tatum. Bob Simons was the author.

ARS SHOW DATES

Corvallis Chapter, Saturday, May 11th, 1:30 to 9:00 p.m., and Sunday May 12th, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., at Payless Shopping Center, 9th and Circle, Corvallis, Or. Winston Hanke (503) 753-8812.

DeAnza Chapter, Saturday, April 20th, 1:00 to 5:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 21st, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at Cupertino Nursery, DeAnza Blvd., Cupertino, CA. Robert George (408) 257-4110.

Eugene Chapter, Saturday, May 11th, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday, May 12th, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at Valley River Center, Valley River Way, Eugene, OR. Ron Ivanoff (503) 345-9917.

Eureka Chapter, Saturday, April 27th, and Sunday, April 28th, 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eureka Mall Shopping Center, 800 Harris St., Eureka, CA. Nancy Pfeifer (707) 442-3667.

Grays Harbor Chapter, Saturday, April 13th, and Sunday, April 14th, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Hoquiam, WA. Jack Shrauger (206) 532-7896 (at noon or after 5:30).

Grays Harbor Chapter, Saturday, May 18th, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, May 19th, 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Grays Harbor College, College Heights, Aberdeen, WA. Colleen Slater (206) 533-0979.

Great Lakes Chapter, Saturday, May 25th, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., and Sun-

day, May 26th, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at Crosby Gardens, Toledo, OH. John Heinze, 3728 Kershaw, Toledo, OH 43613.

Juan de Fuca Chapter, Wednesday, April 10th, 7:30 p.m. at Campfire Clubhouse, 619 E. 4th, Port Angeles, WA., Dr. Frank Skerbeck, (206) 457-9177.

Lewis County Chapter, Saturday, May 18th, 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, May 19, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Southwest fairgrounds in conjunction with Cascade District Garden club, Centralia-Chehalis Floral Building. Mrs. Ann Moore (206) 983-3926.

Mason-Dixon Chapter, Saturday and