

TED and MARY GRIEG RHODODENDRON GARDEN

50 Rhododendrons of Interest



1 *Rhododendron* 'Aladdin'

'Aladdin' is a late-blooming auriculatum hybrid. 'Aladdin' has large watermelon-coloured flowers. It is large and leggy and may occasionally require some pruning. This is a Royston Nursery hybrid that features the desirable *auriculatum* characteristics of being scented and blooming in early summer, both of which are highly unusual amongst rhododendrons.

2 *Rhododendron ambiguum*



Rhododendron ambiguum has small, pale yellow flowers and dark green, medium-sized leaves with yellowish-brown scales underneath. These leaves are quite aromatic when crushed. It has a compact, upright habit.

3 *Rhododendron* 'Anna Rose Whitney'



'Anna Rose Whitney' is a very dependable rhododendron for its large, deep pink flowers in large rounded trusses, nice olive-green foliage, and vigorous habit.

4 *Rhododendron arboretum*

Rhododendron arboretum produces medium-sized pink, cup-shaped flowers that are held in tight trusses of 15-20. Its clover-green leaves are smooth, oblong and tough, and have silvery plastered indumentum on their undersides.



5 *Rhododendron* 'Atlanticum'

Rhododendron 'Atlanticum' has small, pink, narrowly tubular flowers which are fragrant and which open just as its leaves begin to emerge in early May.

These are held in clusters of 4-10 flowers. Its foliage is small, smooth and dark bluish-green. It has a compact, upright growth habit.

6 *Rhododendron augustinii*

Rhododendron augustinii is a species rhododendron that has delicate flowers that are a nearly iridescent shade of pale purple. It has smooth, narrow, dark green leaves that have densely scaly undersides. The colour of the flowers on a single plant may vary slightly from year to year.



7 *Rhododendron auriculatum*

Rhododendron auriculatum is noted for its grand stature and fragrant, extremely late-blooming flowers that appear in late July. The flowers of the true *Rhododendron auriculatum* species are typically pure white, or occasionally pale pink, with a slight green blotch in the throat, but this particular specimen is a hybrid and has light salmon-pink flowers. *Rhododendron auriculatum* has enormous leaves – more than a foot long in some cases – and a strong, tree like branching pattern, which make it an impressive plant anytime of the year, regardless of whether flowers are present or not.



Rhododendron auriculatum and its hybrids were a signature of Royston Nursery, owned by Ted and Mary Grieg – after whom the garden is named and from where most of the rhododendrons in this garden came from during the 1960s.

8 *Rhododendron* 'Azor'

June sees *Rhododendron* 'Azor' develop striking clusters of wide salmon-pink flowers with brownish flecks in the throat. This large late-blooming hybrid is not to be missed.

9 *Rhododendron* 'Baden Baden'



'Baden Baden' is a short, dense, small-leaved rhododendron that has bright crimson red flowers with darker centres. It is a hybrid that was developed in Germany.

10 *Rhododendron* 'Beauty of Littleworth'



'Beauty of Littleworth' is a splendid rhododendron that produces tall, robust white trusses in May. Each flower, though mauve in bud, is pure white, with the exception of a purple speckle on its top petal and a pink stigma. It is large, fast-growing

and can have a rather droopy habit. Its trusses are truly enormous; each flower may grow to be up to 12cm wide and there are typically between 15-18 flowers per truss.

11 *Rhododendron* 'Beethoven'



Rhododendron 'Beethoven' is a dense evergreen azalea with small dark green leaves. It has rather delicate, bright magenta pink flowers with a deeper red blotch, and is quite small in stature, growing only to a little over a metre tall in 10

years.

12 *Rhododendron* 'Bonfire'

'Bonfire' has brilliant orange-red flowers that contrast with its dull green leaves. In youth it has a very open habit, while with age and in a sunny location it will become dense and compact.

13 *Rhododendron* 'Chionoides'



'Chionoides' has dainty white flowers with a neat, brilliant greenish-yellow blotch in the middle of each. These flowers are held in tight, rounded trusses, and the plant will form a broad but compact shrub with age.

14 *Rhododendron* 'Cilpinense'

Approximately 22 specimens of the low-growing *Rhododendron* 'Cilpinense' are present in this bed. This hybrid is unique in that nearly all parts of the plant, including both sides of its shiny green leaves, are covered in short, fine, copper-coloured hairs. It produces pale blush pink flowers in March, which are held in loose trusses of 2-3.



15 *Rhododendron cinnabarinum* x

Rhododendron cinnabarinum originates from the Himalayan Mountains and is one of the species most sought after by rhododendron collectors. It is a delicate, elegant plant that has beautiful waxy, tubular flowers that range from mustard yellow to burnt orange to scarlet, and even to plum and lilac purple in some cases. Ironically, the nectar of these stunning flowers is reputed to be the most poisonous of all rhododendrons. In the spring, its young leaves emerge a beautiful waxy blue-green colour and have a pleasant cinnamon-camphor scent as they unfurl.



16 *Rhododendron* 'Crest'

Rhododendron 'Crest' has excellent, large clear yellow flowers, and is in fact known as one of the best yellow-flowered rhododendrons. It can become quite large, and may grow up to 3 metres tall in only 10 years. It is slow to set flower buds in youth, but will bud heavily once it is established.



17 *Rhododendron* 'Cunningham's White'

'Cunningham's White' has fairly small but abundant white flowers which each have a greenish yellow blotch. They are held in loose trusses of about 8 flowers, each of which opens from a pale pink-tinged bud. Its dark green leaves are quite small compared to those of most rhododendrons, being only about 10cm in length. 'Cunningham's White' is also quite tolerant of poor air quality.



18 *Rhododendron decorum*

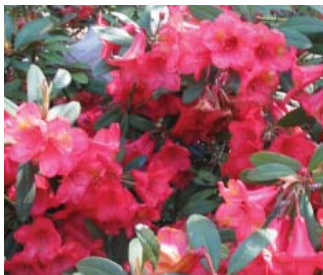
Rhododendron decorum is noted for its beautiful, abundant, white, fragrant flowers. It also has attractive, glossy green leaves that provide interest in the garden, even when no flowers are present.

19 *Rhododendron* 'Electra'



'Electra' has delicate, light purple flowers with light lime green centres. It has a distinctive flowering pattern, with each branch end holding four trusses of four flowers.

20 *Rhododendron* 'Elizabeth'



This is perhaps the best and most reliable of all red rhododendrons, and is thus commonly planted. 'Elizabeth' is low-growing, has nice dark green foliage, and prolific bright red trusses. It is easy to grow and generally problem-free.

21 *Rhododendron* 'Fabia'



'Fabia' produces plentiful, bright pinkish-orange campanulate flowers. They have a prominent calyx and are held in loose, downward-hanging trusses of approximately nine flowers. 'Fabia' has dark, dull-green leaves with fairly dense, pale brown

indumentum.

22 *Rhododendron* 'Fastuosum Flore Pleno'



'Fastuosum Flore Pleno' is an unusual double-flowered hybrid, with each individual flower looking like it is made up of two flowers, with the inner petals being smaller and more frilly than those of the outer flower. The flowers each have a greenish-yellow blotch and are arranged in loose trusses of approximately 15. 'Fastuosum Flore Pleno' is a sterile hybrid that has been bred from cuttings and grafts selected for features that eventually lead to a double flower. In most plants, double flowers have no stamens; in-

stead, they have usually mutated into the second set of petals.

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23 *Rhododendron fortunei* x

This *Rhododendron fortunei* hybrid produces beautiful, delicate pale pink flowers that gradually fade to near white. This particular hybrid possesses a faint watermelon bubble gum scent typical of *Rhododendron fortunei*. It has attractive, broadly oblong blue-green foliage. Its habit is quite open, and almost tree-like. *Rhododendron fortunei* was discovered in China in the mid 1800s by the plant explorer Robert Fortune, after whom the species was named.



24 *Rhododendron* 'George Watling'

'George Watling' has beautiful, wide, pale primrose yellow flowers. In sunlight at their peak, they seem to have a bright, almost iridescent glow. Its bright glossy green, ribbed foliage is also quite attractive. This hybrid was developed by Ted and Mary Grieg at the Royston Nursery on Vancouver Island.



25 *Rhododendron* 'Haydn'

Rhododendron 'Haydn' is another deciduous azalea that is rather similar to *Rhododendron* 'Paestrina,' and in this instance the two are planted together in a small massing. It has delicate, pale lavender-coloured flowers with a subtle reddish speckle and dark green hairless leaves.



26 *Rhododendron* 'Impi'

Loose trusses of strikingly dark red flowers adorn 'Impi' towards the latter part of the rhododendron season. It can be distinguished by its red petioles and ruddy green leaves. 'Impi' has a rather diminutive, prostrate stature, growing slowly and close to the ground.

27 *Rhododendron* 'Lady Clementine Mitford'

'Lady Clementine Mitford' has broad, pale peach-pink flowers and distinctive grey-green leaves. Unlike many rhododendrons it will tolerate sun and heat.

28 *Rhododendron* 'May Day'



'May Day' is another heavy bloomer. For most of the month of May, true to its name, 'May Day' will be a curtain of red, its tubular-campanulate flowers drooping in dense fan-like trusses. This plant also features attractive matte green leaves that have thick, fuzzy, cinnamon brown indumentum on their undersides. 'May Day' has a rather dishevelled habit, and will grow wider than it will tall.

29 *Rhododendron* 'Moonstone'



Rhododendron 'Moonstone' is a *Rhododendron williamsianum* hybrid will be covered in creamy white bell-shaped flowers in late April and early May. It has the compact habit, small round leaves and coppery new growth characteristic of *williamsianum* crosses. Interestingly, the flowers of 'Moonstone' may change colour slightly from year to year, depending on seasonal conditions, and may range from pale yellow to cream to nearly pure white.

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30 *Rhododendron* 'Mrs. A.T. de la Mare'



Rhododendron 'Mrs. A.T. de la Mare' has tightly domed trusses of slightly fragrant, frilled white flowers, each of which has a greenish blotch in its throat. Each emerges from a pale pink bud. It is quite unique among rhododendrons in that it will tolerate full exposure to sun in most instances.

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31 *Rhododendron* 'Mrs. Furnival'



'Mrs. Furnival' has large pink flowers with a burgundy blotch on the upper petal, and drooping leaves. It looks very similar to *Rhododendron* 'Mrs. G.W. Leak'; one way that the two can be told apart is that 'Mrs. G.W. Leak' flowers two

weeks earlier than 'Mrs. Furnival' and has a slightly darker blotch.

32 *Rhododendron* 'Naomi Hope'

The 'Naomi' series of hybrid rhododendrons are amongst the most beautiful and elegant of all. 'Naomi Hope' has lovely pink flowers with a hint of mauve. These widely funnel-shaped flowers are fragrant and held in trusses of approximately 12-15. 'Naomi Hope' is generally a very reliable rhododendron.



33 *Rhododendron* 'Naomi Nautilus'

'Naomi Nautilus' is prized for its extraordinary flowers, which are both large and wide and are a colour somewhere between pale pink, peach and cream, with a trace of soft greenish yellow in the throat.



34 *Rhododendron occidentale*

Rhododendron occidentale is one of a fewer than two dozen species of rhododendron that are native to North America. Western azalea, which is deciduous, grows in the wild along the Oregon and California coastlines and has beautiful pink, white and peach flowers and long stamens. In mid May, the numerous *Rhododendron occidentale* found in the Grieg Garden are at their peak and will be blanketed in these delicate, wonderfully scented blooms.



35 *Rhododendron* 'Palestrina'

Rhododendron 'Palestrina' is a compact evergreen azalea that, in May, bears loose clusters of 3-4 delicate pure white flowers that have a faint hint of green in the throat. Palestrina's small, forest green leaves are covered in fine hairs.



36 *Rhododendron* 'Point Defiance'

'Point Defiance' has very large, distinctly coloured flowers. They are thick and widely funnel-shaped, white in the centre and red-edged on all lobes, and will even-

tually fade to nearly pure white. 'Point Defiance' likes shade and is quite vigorous, and in time will grow to be quite large.

37 *Rhododendron* 'President Roosevelt'



'President Roosevelt' can generally be described as a variegated rhododendron, as both its leaves and its flowers are multi-coloured.

'President Roosevelt's leaves are large and waxy, mixed green and chartreuse, while its flowers are picotee type, and fade from dark pinkish-red at the edges to pure white in the middle.

38 *Rhododendron* 'Professor Hugo de Vries'



Rhododendron 'Professor Hugo de Vries' is notable for its fairly large, unusually coloured magenta-mauve flowers which appear in early May.

39 *Rhododendron* 'Purple Splendor'



This is one of the darkest purples found amongst rhododendrons. 'Purple Splendor' is so dark that the blotch present on its upper lobe seems nearly black. These flowers have frilled edges and are clustered in dense, dome-shaped trusses. Its leaves of 'Purple Splendor' are distinct in that they have a depressed midrib.

40 *Rhododendron* 'Royston Red'



'Royston Red' is a rhododendron that was developed by Ted and Mary Grieg at the Royston Nursery. It has dark red, waxy, bell-shaped flowers that are held in trusses of approximately 5-10 flowers. It has a compact, rounded habit. There are two specimens here, located immediately in front of the split rail fence that encloses the golf course.

41 *Rhododendron* 'Sappho'

'Sappho' has medium-sized white flowers with a dark purple blotch that are held in fairly dense and rounded trusses. It is a sturdy rhododendron, but has a tendency to become leggy.



42 *Rhododendron schlippenbachii*

Also known as royal azalea, *Rhododendron schlippenbachii* is a deciduous shrub with pale rose-pink star-shaped flowers that appear early in the season, and nearly lime green leaves that are arranged in whorls of five at each branch tip. In the fall, its foliage turns various striking shades of crimson, orange and yellow.



43 *Rhododendron* 'Scintillation'

'Scintillation' is another attractive, large-flowered, late blooming hybrid rhododendron. It has fragrant, pale pink flowers with wavy edges and a yellowish-orange-pink blotch. It has attractive, shiny, green foliage and a sturdy branching habit.



44 *Rhododendron smirnowii*

Rhododendron smirnowii has an upright habit and an overall dark look to it, with thick dark woolly indumentum on the undersides of its recurved, downwards-hanging leaves and deep purple-pink flowers.



45 *Rhododendron* 'Susan'

'Susan' is a very good, reliable rhododendron. It has pale mauve flowers with a darker speckle, a good, rounded habit, nice glossy green leaves and it is fairly fast-growing. It is, overall, a great rhododendron with



no problems of any kind.

46 *Rhododendron* 'The Honorable Jean Marie de Montague'



'Jean Marie de Montague' is known as one of the best and most reliable red-flowered rhododendrons. It has thick, heavy, sun-tolerant foliage and produces flower buds at a young age. This particular specimen was also a wedding present to former Grieg Rhododendron Garden head gardener Alleyne Cook and his wife Barbara from their friend Ellen Haley.

47 *Rhododendron* 'Unique'



'Unique' is another popular, commonly planted rhododendron due to its fail-safe nature. Its creamy-white flowers emerge from pale pink buds and are arranged in dense, prolific trusses.

48 *Rhododendron* 'Wedding Present'



Rhododendron 'Wedding Present' literally was just that – another wedding present – to Alleyne and Barbara Cook. This vivid red-orange flowered rhododendron was hybridized and named especially for the occasion!

49 *Rhododendron* 'Whitney's Orange'



'Whitney's Orange' is one of the best orange flowers to be found amongst rhododendrons. It has widely funnel-shaped coral pink-orange flowers with a reddish-orange blotch and wavy margins, which are held in trusses of about 15 flowers.

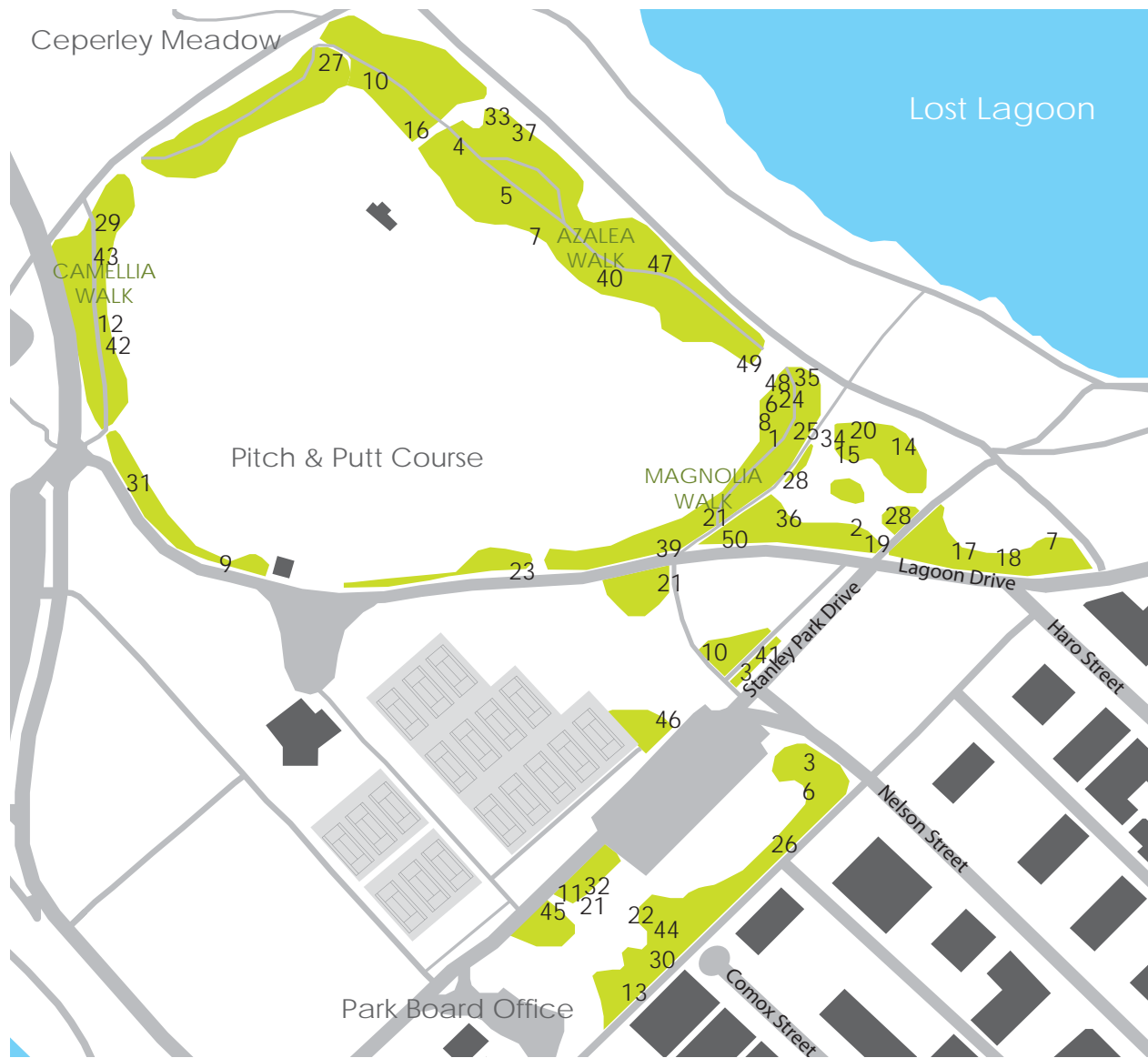
It has moss-green leaves and a low growth habit with decumbent branches.

50 *Rhododendron* 'Yellow Hammer'

Rhododendron 'Yellow Hammer' has tiny, lantern-shaped, pale yellow flowers and very small glossy

green leaves. It has an upright, leggy habit and can even, if planted en masse, be trimmed into a hedge. Unlike most yellow rhododendrons, 'Yellow Hammer' will do well in a sunny location.





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