ACCELERATED PROPAGATION OF RHODODENDRONS

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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 ¼” hardware cloth)
1 oz. dry Aqua Grow

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

DELP MIX FOR SEEDLING FLATS:
1 cu. ft. Michigan Peat screened through ¼” hardware cloth
1 cu. ft. Peat Moss screened through ¼” hardware cloth
1 cu. ft. coarse Perlite
ADD:
2 oz. dry Aqua Grow
½ 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. Magnam (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 plants. After June 21st, the plants are kept without the extra heat and light, and are left to go into normal 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 lb. Dolomitic Lime
2 oz. dry Aqua Grow
1 oz. 10% Chlordane Granules
DELP BASIC SOIL MIX
2 parts clay soil

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