
Letters to the Editor

We are told that the Japanese have been keeping records of azaleas for many years and we assume that they are registered. I can list at least ten instances in which two different azaleas have the same name. I will mention one—'Yuko'. There are two different plants both sports of 'Gumpo'. In the list of Satsukis published by Japanese Satsuki Society (1955). 'Yuko' is described as purple with white stripes and this is the picture given in a 1970 book. In another book (1980) and also in Brookside selections, 'Yuko' is the sekidera sport. This 'Yuko' is the plant that has been sold for years as "Fancy Gumpo".

Several years ago, I wrote to Dr. Creech asking if the red bordered 'Miyimono-tsuki' was a sport of the striped 'Miyimo'. He could not find any records about this plant (George Harding later said that the foliage was different) but he did state "The Japanese often repeat names after varieties have lost favor and in many instances unaware that names are previously used". Apparently registered names can be used for another plant—so much for infallibility.

In Lee's second edition, Mr. Morrison's description of 'Sakuragata' does not mention a white eye, but rather two different types of red (as in 'Ho-raku'). The 'Sakuragata' that I obtained from Kingsville 20 years ago was identical to the solid sport of 'How-raku' that I propagated. This year Hohman's 'Sakuragata' threw a white flower on a small branch. Henry Hohman obtained all his Satsukis from Glenn Dale and as he and Mr. Morrison probably had the same plants, one wonders if the mix-up occurred at Glenn Dale.

Dr. Neil P. Campbell
Washington, D.C.

Beattie introduced two Satsukis, P.I. 77087 and P.I. 77104. The sekidera sport of one of these two was confirmed at Glenn Dale as thulite pink and, as P.I. 77087 is described as thulite pink, it was given this number and has been named 'Oh My'. However, I am not aware that P.I. 77087 has ever been described as having a white edge. A sekidera will throw a few flowers of its parent and 'My Oh My' has a few red flowers. Therefore, I am inclined to believe that 'Oh My' is a sport of P.I. 77104. On several occasions the late Mr. Albert Close said that P.I. 77104 was a fine azalea.

Dr. Neil P. Campbell
Washington, D.C.

Several members of the ASA have expressed an interest in purchasing a copy of the 1989 Monograph of Kurume Azaleas, "Azaleas in Kurume". This 265-page book is the product of the Kurume Azalea Festival held in Kurume in 1989. Although mostly in Japanese, there are English summaries of every section and the color plates of several hundred Kurume and other azaleas have the English transliterations. My colleague, Dr. S. Yamaguchi tells me that the Ashi Shobou Company still have several hundred copies still on hand. Their address is:

Ashi Shobou Company 14—21,
Akasaka-1 Chome Chu-ou-ku,
Fukuoka City, JAPAN
P. O. Savings Account: Fukuoka 1-39430

Dr. John Creech
Hendersonville, NC

The Editor has received permission from the author to print excerpts from a letter concerning plant registration ...

...Since 1985, I have been serving as the North American registrar of plant names for the genus *rhododendron*. Although my work is performed under the auspices of The American Rhododendron Society, I report directly to the Registration Officer of The Royal Horticultural Society. The RHS serves as International Registration Agent for several genera, including *rhododendron*.

The problem I am facing is that very few azalea names are being registered. I have written to several azalea growers with notable lack of response. I had hoped that Don Voss's article would stimulate some interest, but I have received only one request for information since Don's article appeared. ...

...If you know of anything that I should or should not be doing to reach the azalea growers, please let me know ...

Jay W. Murray, Registrar
21 Squire Terrace
Colts Neck, NJ 07722

Change In Status of the Name 'Eiko-San'

The name 'Eiko-San' was registered by Mrs. Julian W. (Polly) Hill in 1967 for an evergreen azalea described as an interspecies hybrid. Recent efforts by Mrs. Hill to learn more about the background of this clone have revealed that it is indistinguishable from the 'Balsaminiflorum' grown by her. Consequently, the name 'Eiko-San' has been designated a synonym.

Jay W. Murray
North American Registrar of Plant
Names for The Royal Horticultural
Society for the Genus *Rhododendron*