

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Two of my 'Willie Belle Mayo' hybrids from the Pericat Group sport single orange flowers with a red blotch, having five unwavy, non-overlapping petals about three inches in overall diameter. Foliage looks to be identical to the real plant. Anyone growing or being familiar with 'Willie Belle Mayo' can tell that the description I have just given of the sport is completely foreign looking to the real flower itself. My question concerns the propagation of this sport. Was it ever registered, and if so, what was it named?

In retrospect, I have never gotten an answer (in **THE AZALEAN** or otherwise) relative to the question I asked about whether or not the 'Gyokushin' plants I have are actually 'Joga'. Not even one of our numerous gurus wishes to take a stand?

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The following letter was received by former member Ed Rothe, and is reprinted here by permission of Ed Rothe and Jim Inskip.

...I am researching the "Ghent" Azaleas so any help you can give us would be most welcome.

Your article on the "Ghents" at Glenn Dale [**THE AZALEAN** 1989, p. 6, ed] is most interesting as I believe that there are not many collections in the USA that are documented. Do you think we could obtain a copy of your inventories and also a copy of the two early inventories that you mention in your article?

Would you like a copy of the color descriptions of the unidentified Ghents, then at least next Spring you might like to take a trip to match them up?

Has anybody in your group ever taken slides (35mm) photographs of these Ghents and Rusticas? Can you tell me which seven Rusticas were in the original collection?

I am sorry that I ask you so many questions but it is always so exciting when you discover someone else that is interested in azaleas. I am also very keen on American native species so again if you can recommend anybody that collects seed from wild sources I would love to know.

I look forward to hearing from you and if you think that Bill Miller or Bob Hobbs could also be of assistance, please feel free to pass this on.

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*On the Cover: Exbury 'Bright Straw'
Photographer: Don Hyatt*

Azalea Society of America

The Azalea Society of America, organized December 9, 1977 and incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an educational and scientific non-profit association devoted to the culture, propagation and appreciation of azaleas Subgenera *Tsutsusi* and *Pentanthera* of the genus *Rhododendron* in the Heath family (*Ericaceae*).

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