

<b>Category 3: Mixed Comments</b>	
Hybrid Group	Cultivars/Comments
<b>Arneson</b>	'Arneson Gem' + +
<b>Exbury</b>	'Fireball' (mostly negative), 'Golden Dream', 'Oxydol'(mildew), 'Strawberry Ice' + +, 'Sunset Pink'(no vigor, rust, shy bloomer)
<b>Girard</b>	'Girard's Crimson Tide' (mostly positive) + +, 'Girard's Mount Saint Helens'(leggy) + +, 'Girard's Pink Delight' + +, 'Girard's Yellow Pom Pom'
<b>Ilam</b>	'Ilam Peachy Keen' (some fall bloom, mostly positive comments about, and holds large blooms well in heat) + +, 'Ilam Persian Melon' + +, 'Ilam Yellow Beauty'(shy bloomer when young) + +
<b>Knap Hill</b>	'Buzzard' + +, 'George Reynolds'(slow grower, shy bloomer), 'Mandarin Maid' + +, 'Yellow Cloud' (mildew, perhaps related to tissue-culture-origin)
<b>Occidentale</b>	'Irene Koster'
<b>Slonecker</b>	'Chetco'(mostly positive and very well-liked) + +
<b>Windsor</b>	'Windsor Buttercup' + +
<b>Species</b>	<i>R. arborescens</i> , <i>R. calendulaceum</i> , <i>R. molle</i> (mostly negative), <i>R. schlippenbachii</i> (mostly positive, but temperamental and slow to bloom), <i>R. vaseyi</i>
<b>Note:</b>	+ + One or more gardeners reported very good success with each of these cultivars

<b>Category 4: Generally Negative Comments</b>	
Hybrid Group	Cultivars/Comments
<b>Exbury</b>	'Cannon's Double', 'Exbury Sunrise'
<b>Ghent</b>	'Corneille'
<b>Ilam</b>	'Ilam Red Velvet'
<b>Knap Hill</b>	'Cheerful Giant'
<b>Leach</b>	'July Jewel', 'July Joy'
<b>Mossman</b>	'Washington State Centennial'
<b>Northern Lights</b>	For example, 'Golden Lights', 'Orchid Lights' (but 'White Lights' seems to be an exception)
<b>Weston</b>	'Weston's Innocence'
<b>Windsor</b>	'Windsor Peach Glow'
<b>Species</b>	<i>R. canadense</i> , <i>R. luteum</i> , <i>R. occidentale</i> , <i>R. prinophyllum</i>

#### HELP WITH AZALEA NAMES

The Society has developed an interim azalea index that gives the spelling, hybrid group, and source of the name for about 10,000 azaleas, along with their published synonyms and spelling errors, and links to any images for these azaleas. Collecting and publishing these names was possible only with generous permission from Timber Press to use information from their *Azaleas* books by Fred C. Galle, and from the Royal Horticultural Society to use information from their *International Rhododendron Register and Checklist*. Members of the Azalea Society of America have contributed the images posted on the Web site to date; many more images are needed. Contact Bob Stelloh (bstelloh@mac.com) for details on submitting the images. Visit the ASA azalea name index at <http://www.azaleas.org/azzintro.html> for images of many of the azaleas listed on Will Ferrell's chart.

## Book Review

*Success with Rhododendrons and Azaleas* by H. Edward Reiley.

May 2004. Revised edition. Timber Press. 344 pages.

Eve Harrison — Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

[This book review appeared previously in the Northern Virginia chapter newsletter; it is reprinted here by permission of the author, a Northern Virginia Chapter member, Ed.]

This informative, well-written book kept me turning pages and making notes on the blank pages conveniently provided at the back with an ongoing sense of not being able to imagine what could possibly be around the "next corner"! The index is excellent and inclusive. The pictures are both exciting and beautiful and gave me many new ideas for my own woodland garden. I referred fre-

quently to the well-outlined table of contents and will refer throughout the season to the Pest Management Calendar as well as the extremely helpful Good Doer and Heat, Drought, and Sun tables provided.

This is the first book I've seen giving a map of Heat Zones along with the usual Cold Zones [USDA hardiness zones]. This is quite important in

choosing the right cultivar for the right site and temperature. The many zones shown in the Good Doer lists showed locations not only in the USA but also in Canada, British Columbia, Australia, and the British Isles.

Mr. Reiley teaches every single aspect of azalea and rhododendron gardening, leaving absolutely nothing

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# McComb, Mississippi, Awarded Azalea City Status

Buddy Lee — Independence, Louisiana

The City of McComb, Mississippi, was certified as an official ASA Azalea City as of March 28, 2005. The award generated a lot of excitement for the closing days of the McComb Azalea Festival. The meeting and luncheon was held on Thursday March 31 at the Icehouse, which is located in the historic district and is a very popular meeting site. The meeting was well attended with more than 125 people present. Louisiana Chapter members Margie Jenkins and Bill Bode were there and Margie gave a very informative talk on azaleas. Later we toured the Freeman Garden, which is a popular azalea garden destination in that area of Mississippi. The azalea bloom in McComb area was a little past peak, but still spectacular.

2005 marked the 47th annual Lighted Azalea Festival sponsored by the McComb Garden Club. The idea of having a lighted azalea trail came

from Reverend Earl B. Emmerich, who while serving as a missionary in Korea, had seen the traditional lighting of the cherry blossoms in Japan. Today, over 300 homes and businesses in Pike County light their trees, shrubs, and plants each night from March 13 through April 3 and the Pike County Chamber of Commerce has added additional events. For more information, visit the city's Web site at [www.mccombms.gov](http://www.mccombms.gov) or the chamber Web site at [www.pikeinfo.com](http://www.pikeinfo.com) or call 1-800-399-4404.



Shown above, at the March 31, 2005, award ceremony (left to right) are Bill Bode, ASA president Buddy Lee, McComb City Planner George Rummel, Margie Jenkins, and Ms. Vickie Webb. Each city to achieve the Azalea City designation receives this attractive plaque, illustrated with both an evergreen and a deciduous azalea.

(Photo by LeWair Coker of McComb)

## Book Review — continued

to chance! The chapter on plant disorders is profound and draws one's attention to plant observation to a much higher level. The chapters on cultural requirements, propagation, and landscape uses all guide one along with easy to understand instructions.

Chapter 4, written by Don Hyatt, a well-known former teacher and current president of the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, is an excellent reference for anyone interested in learning how to add natives to the landscape. True to his generous sharing spirit, both of knowledge and plants, Don carefully separated the

natives according to color and then listed various cultivars in each shade! He also provided an approximate Sequence of Bloom Chart for his species, along with a Hardiness and Adaptability List, Fragrance lists and Size charts! Great!! One can easily feel prepared to delve into natives after a quick read of this informative, concise chapter.

How I wish I'd read this book 30 years ago when I first pushed a shovel into dirt! It would have saved me many, many hours of unnecessary labor and helped me avoid countless mistakes over the years! I highly recommend *Success with Rhododendrons and Azaleas* to anyone interested in these beautiful plants.

## Glenn Dale Azaleas—continued

*Courtland Lee is a geologist by training. He has been a staff consultant to the US House of Representatives on mineral resource issues and is currently proposing the Patuxent River Agate as the state gemstone of Maryland. Examples of this agate are on display at the 10-acre Boxlee Azalea Farm in Glenn Dale, Maryland, an historic site in its own right. At Boxlee, he runs a part-time propagation nursery that includes the Glenn Dales and the Ten Oaks Glenn Dale project, many from Frank White's fabulous collection. Boxlee is open for sales on Saturdays in April and May.*