



TS-109-49: Ruby, occasional heavy white stripes, medium hose-in-hose.



My wife and my azalea – both are my beloved.

#### IV. Future

It takes 20 years for Taipei Azaleas to have some achievements in the selective breeding. Using native parental azaleas of Taiwan, I have bred new species with Taiwanese DNA that contribute traits suitable for strong growth, intensive farming, and a shorter production period. Taipei Azaleas are well suited for landscapes and container gardening. I remember my teacher Huang Yue-yuen once said, “It’s sad that there are the most initial species of evergreen azaleas in China and Taiwan, but the breeding results are ordinary.” After many years, I am glad to say that Taipei Azaleas have already made much progress.

## How Many Azalea Cultivars Have Been Named?

Dr A.C. Leslie, International Rhododendron and Dianthus Registrar  
Cambridge, United Kingdom

As with all figures the test is to know what they mean. There are 15,013 entries on the Register and Checklist database for azalea names. When you strip out the entries that are cross references (synonyms, trade designations, etc.) the number comes down to 13,296. The number of these that represent evergreen azaleas is 10,027 and there are 3,379 deciduous entries. Only a relatively small number of the overall set of azalea names has been formally registered (2,268) but more have been regarded as incorporated at the time of the first Register (6,634). The balances are those added to the Checklist since, but not formally registered. So there you have it. You can chose what figure you like! I would say the best figure in terms of getting somewhere near the total number of azalea cultivars is 13,296.



*Rhododendron occidentale*

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