

Rhododendron

(Rhododendron sp.)

Rhododendron is a class of mostly large--to 12 feet--shrubs with dark green, elongated leaves and colorful trusses of flowers that stand proudly above the foliage in mid- to late spring and early summer. Blooms can be red, purple, white, or pink.

Soil: Rich, moist, acidic

Light: Part shade

Zone: 4 - 6

Comments

For best results, remove flower heads after blooming and keep roots well mulched. Most popular types are: Carolina (*R. carolinianum*), a compact plant with rust-colored leaf undersides; P.J.M., a hybrid, low grower with purple blooms; Catawba (*R. catawbiense*), the source of many of today's hybrids; Rosebay (*R. maximum*), the largest of the group; and *R. impeditum*, a dwarf, rock garden plant with small, almost blue flowers in early spring.