



## Azalea Phoenicia *Azalea Phoenicia*

03-05



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 4-6, 15-17	Filtered sunlight	Acidic, organic soil with both good drainage and moisture retention	Regular to ample watering	Large single fluorescent lavender-magenta colored flowers	2-4 feet tall

*The name Azalea comes from the Greek azaleos meaning "to be parched." Linneus, when he named the shrub, believed that it thrived only in the dry, rocky woods of its native habitat. Azaleas were first introduced to Europe in the 1600s by the Dutch East India Company, along with a boatload of other Japanese plants. Subsequent cultivation has improved their appearance from woody shrubs to lush, colorful ones.*

*Azaleas are actually part of the 1000 specie Rhododendron family, 70 of which are know as Azaleas. Cultural requirements are basically the same for each. Acid, organic soil with both good drainage and moisture retention is essential. Fifty per cent peat moss, redwood compost, ground bark or leaf mold, added to 30% topsoil and 20% sand, makes a good light mix. Although Tom Nuccio, one of our southern California growers, prefers 1/3 perlite to 2/3 peat in his beautiful azalea pots.*

**All parts are poisonous**