TAGAWA gardens

Rosy Lights Azalea

Rhododendron 'Rosy Lights'

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Group/Class: Northern Lights Series

Description:

An extremely hardy azalea, smothered in showy fragrant rose-pink flowers in spring before the leaves, tall upright habit and good fall color; absolutely must have well-drained, highly acidic and organic soil, use plenty of peat moss when planting

Ornamental Features

Rosy Lights Azalea is draped in stunning clusters of fragrant rose trumpet-shaped flowers at the ends of the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive cherry red flower buds before the leaves. It has green deciduous foliage. The narrow leaves turn an outstanding purple in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Rosy Lights Azalea is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Rosy Lights Azalea is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Rosy Lights Azalea flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Rosy Lights Azalea in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Rosy Lights Azalea will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.



Rosy Lights Azalea flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This shrub does best in partial shade to shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Nursery Notes

Plant in morning sun only, a northeast location protected from afternoon sun is best.