



By **Brian Sams**

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Azalea Cultivars for Queensland - Fact Sheet


Rhododendrons and Azaleas are some of the best flowering plants in the world. They are also prone to be difficult to grow as many are not well suited to Queensland conditions. The following Azaleas are all quite old fashioned varieties that will do well in the local area given the correct conditions. There are literally thousands of varieties of Azaleas around the world. The new Encore series seem to be performing well and could provide some additional choices. I have chosen these varieties as they are all varieties that I have grown successfully for an extended period but are by no means the only varieties that will grow. To grow Azaleas well the following conditions needed to be provided:

- Acidic soil – preferably below pH 6
- Add organic matter to soil well prior to planting. I recommend coir fibre, compost and manures.
- Avoid adding mushroom compost
- Mulch with fine pine bark or similar
- Use Troforte for Azaleas twice per year
- Apply Confidor tablets in Summer and mid Spring after flowering to avoid Azalea lace bug
- Never allowed to dry out





My choices!


Rhododendron 'Alba Magna'	
Common name	White Azalea
Height 1m	
Diameter - 1m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grow larger without pruning • Tough variety • Medium sized leaves • Large pure white flowers • Well suited to local area • Responds well to pruning
	


Rhododendron 'Alphonse Anderson'	
Common name	Azalea Alphonse Anderson
Height 2m	
Diameter - 2m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grow larger without pruning • Tough variety • Medium sized leaves • Large pure pink flowers with striking blotch • Well suited to local area • Responds well to pruning
	

Rhododendron 'Kirin'		
Common name	Azalea	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardy variety • Small leaves and flowers • Well suited to local area • Compact growth habit 	
		

Rhododendron 'Magnifica'		
Common name	Purple azalea	
Height 2m		
Diameter - 2m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grow larger without pruning • Tough variety • Medium sized leaves • Large purple flowers • Well suited to local area • Responds well to pruning 	

Rhododendron 'Red Wings'		
Common name	Red wings azalea	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grow larger without pruning • Tough variety • Medium sized leaves • Large red flowers • Well suited to local area • Responds well to pruning 	

Rhododendron 'Sweet Nellie'		
Common name	Sweet Nellie	
Height 1m		
Diameter - 1m		
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardy variety • Small leaves and flowers • Well suited to local area • Compact growth habit 	

Rhododendron 'Splendens'	
Common name	Azalea Splendens
Height 1m	
Diameter - 1m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grow larger without pruning • Tough variety • Medium sized leaves • Large salmon colour flowers • Well suited to local area • Responds well to pruning
	

Rhododendron 'The Teacher'	
Common name	Teacher azalea
Height 1m	
Diameter - 1m	
Main features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will grow larger without pruning • Tough variety • Medium sized leaves • Large pink and white variegated flowers • Well suited to local area • Responds well to pruning
