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# **Rosy Lights Azalea** Rhododendron 'Rosy Lights'

Height: 5 feet Spread: 6 feet 

Hardiness Zone: 3

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.

#### **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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, 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;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use



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 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub should be grown in a location with partial shade. Keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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 both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.



Rosy Lights Azalea in fall Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder