Crimson Princess Azalea

Rhododendron 'Crimson Princess'



Crimson Princess Azalea foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Indica Azalea

Description:

Grown primarily for foliage as it does not bloom; stunning crimson new foliage matures to burgundy on this dwarf variety; an excellent foundation plant; needs highly acidic and organic soil that is well drained

Ornamental Features

Crimson Princess Azalea has burgundy evergreen foliage which emerges crimson in spring on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The glossy narrow leaves remain burgundy throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Crimson Princess Azalea is an open multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 can be pruned at anytime. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Crimson Princess Azalea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Crimson Princess Azalea will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. 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.

This shrub does best in a location that gets morning sunlight but is shaded from the hot afternoon sun, although it will also grow in 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 winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.