

Dear fellow members of The American Rhododendron Society,

Carolina Native Nursery would like your help. We have been in the native plant business for over 13 years. Although we grow over 200 species of shrubs, perennials, grasses, and ferns, we grow native azaleas from seed and look to specialize in those efforts much more moving forward. In fact, we hope to move production from the 100's of plants of these varieties of azaleas to the 1000's over the next 2 years. Our nursery cannot meet demand. We collect seed in many spots but it probably won't be enough.

High demand (1000's): *R. arborescens*, *R. atlanticum*, *R. austrinum*, , *R. calendulaceum*, *R. canescens*, *R. periclymenoides*, *R. prinophyllum*, *R. prunifolium*, *R. viscosum*,

Modest demand (100's): *R. serrulatum*, *R. flammeum*, *R. cumberlandense*, *R. alabamense*

Low Demand (<100): *R. vaseyji*, *R. 'Gregory Bald'*, *R. eastmanii*, *R. colemanii*

We are asking for help in finding seed. Particularly from areas where the problem of cross pollination will be low. We are looking for plants that may be as close as possible to examples of the species. Here is what you can do to help us:

- 1) Share some seed that you collect, the more the better. We can reimburse for some expenses, just let us know. Certainly all shipping and packaging.
- 2) Let us know where your spots are. And if we can we come and collect some.
- 3) Let us know if you know people that may be able to help us. Names, emails, introductions.

We believe that our native azaleas are the true gems of our native flora. And we also see the demand for these plants to continue to expand throughout the eastern U.S. Carolina Native's goal is the continue to offer premium plants to all it's clients. Plus we think this will help tremendously in getting more native azaleas in the ground, raise awareness and appreciation, and leverage more gardeners to plant natives.

Please contact me if you want more information, have questions, or want to know how you can help. Plus you can find out more at our Facebook page (like us while you're there) or www.carrolinanativenursery.com.

Cheers,

Bill Jones
President
Carolina Native Nursery