

AZALEAS

➤ **Soil**

Acidic, moist and well drained. Use an Azalea/Camellia planting mix or peat moss when conditioning soil.

➤ **Light**

Best in filtered shade. Azaleas appreciate good air circulation. "Sun" azaleas can tolerate more sun, but are best in a partially sunny area in the hot valley areas.

➤ **Water**

Keep plants evenly moist. Never allow soil to become too dry or too wet.

➤ **Fertilizer**

Use a fertilizer for acid loving plants once a month after flowering until buds begin to form. Do not fertilize when plant is in bud or bloom.

➤ **Maintenance**

Prune to shape after flowering, but before July when buds begin to form. Tip pruning will encourage a more compact, bushy plant.

➤ **Planting Tips**

Be sure to plant new plants about 1" higher than the existing soil level. Dig the planting hole at least 2-3 times the width of the container. Azaleas are shallow rooted. It is best not to cultivate around the root area.

➤ **Problems**

Wilting and dying parts of plant

Poor drainage, root rot. Well drained, well amended soil is a must.

Be careful not to plant new plants too deeply.

Bleaching or burning in leaf center

Sunburn. Provide protection from sun or relocate to a shadier area.

Lanky, sparsely blooming plants

Too much shade.

Burning of leaf tips and edges

Salt build-up in soil. Leach soil occasionally by deep watering.

Yellow leaves with green veins

Iron chlorosis. Apply chelated iron or iron sulphate.

Large portions of leaves turning brown

Lack of water. Keep plants evenly moist.