



# Southwestern Oregon Chapter

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

[WWW.SWOREGON-ARS.ORG/](http://WWW.SWOREGON-ARS.ORG/)

APRIL 2016

## **Meeting Time/Place**

April 21—7:00 pm  
N. Bend Housing Authority  
1700 Monroe Street  
North Bend

## **Pre Meeting Dinner— 5:00 pm**

Tai's Dynasty  
1388 Virginia Ave,  
North Bend, OR 97459

*RSVP to Marjene MacIntyre*  
[marjenem@frontier.com](mailto:marjenem@frontier.com)  
541-347-7269

## **Meeting Refreshments:**

Robin Hansen

## **President:**

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## **V-P:**

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## **Secretary:**

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## **Newsletter:**

Distribution  
Marjene MacIntyre

## April Program

Pete and Candy will give us tips and tricks on preparing trusses for the show.

## President's Message

Robin Hansen

Spring is officially here and if the weather is any indication, we will have a warmer than usual spring and summer. So, be prepared to water – I did a thoroughly nice job of killing a couple of my precious Peter Cox hybrids because I didn't water, even though I mulched! Well, I've been learning a lot of painful lessons lately and I'm sure most of you have had your share. Who knew our climate would truly resemble a "warm" Mediterranean climate in our lifetimes, after always being taught that we have a "cool" Mediterranean climate?

For those of you who grow some Rhodos in full sun that also like dryish conditions, you will find that the Mediterranean shrubby herbs such as lavender, rosemary and thyme do incredibly well here. There are so many hybrids now that stay small, and you can find them at nurseries like Territorial in Cottage Grove, Nichols Gardens in Albany, and believe it or not, even at Grange Co-op if you pay attention.

I baited for slugs early this year (at the beginning of March) and this has helped, but root weevils are in their second larval stage (i.e. they have visible legs, etc.) right now, so watch out for them. Also, I hear reports of Azalea Lace Bug occurring locally, so be ready. My scientific nomenclature is questionable, but I'm sure you're all familiar with the various stages of root weevil.

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I have just attended my first District 4 meeting, which is the middle level of the American Rhododendron Society and exists as a major line of communication between the local chapters and the national board. We had a great exchange of ideas from the various chapters (who send a representative, typically the president or designated person) about what they are doing to support the society, what works, and what doesn't work.



## President's Message

*Robin Hansen*

Gordon Wylie reported that as of right now, there will be no open days at the Hinsdale Garden per BLM. This situation will hopefully be resolved in time to take advantage of the bloom season, and I will keep you all up to date as soon as I learn any more.

The April meeting this year comes two days before Southwestern Oregon Chapter's Show and Sale at Pony Village on April 23-24. We will be in the same location as last year on the west side of the mall. Pete and Candy Baumer will make a presentation at our meeting on April 21, as they have done several times, on preparing our plants for the show, and if past meetings are any indication, we'll learn a lot more about how judges work, with hands-on practice, and what we need to do to take home those trophies!



### TROPHIES

Donations for trophies will be accepted at our meeting Thursday, April 21 or Saturday morning. Please bring an article to be used as a trophy or a gift



**It's Show Time**  
**Your Help is Needed**  
**APRIL 23 & 24, 2015**

**Important things to remember:**

- ◆ **Show Entries:** Remember to invite your friends and neighbors to enter trusses and/or come to the mall and enjoy our show and "sale."
- ◆ We need everyone's help on **Friday, April 22** setting up the show. **Set up will begin at 2:30 p.m.** We will be setting up in the same area as last year. We will need help setting up tables, display racks and transporting plants from the parking lot.
- ◆ **Saturday morning, April 23** is a very important day. Blooms start arriving at 7:00 am and will be received until 9:00 am. Help is needed with classifying, placing blooms in the racks, hospitality, plant sales, clerking, ribbons, and taking care of the main table. Once judging starts we need a group of members to provide security so people do not get in the way of the judging. We will need people to sell plants during the judging. There is a job for everyone. If you have not been assigned something to do please ask.
- ◆ During the day we need people to man the front table, handing out brochures, signing up new members, checking the tubes for water. Selling plants is very important. If you see someone looking at the plants, do go over and help them.
- ◆ **We need everyone to enter trusses and/or trusses from your friends and neighbors.**
- ◆ Remember to groom your trusses in advance, fill out your plant tags before you arrive and to make this task even easier use your pre-made address labels. Do encourage your friends and neighbors that anyone can enter blooms. The more blooms the better the show. Any questions?? Call Pete or Candy Baumer 396-3528







## Azalea lace bug

Robin Rosetta, Department of Horticulture  
Oregon State University, NWREC

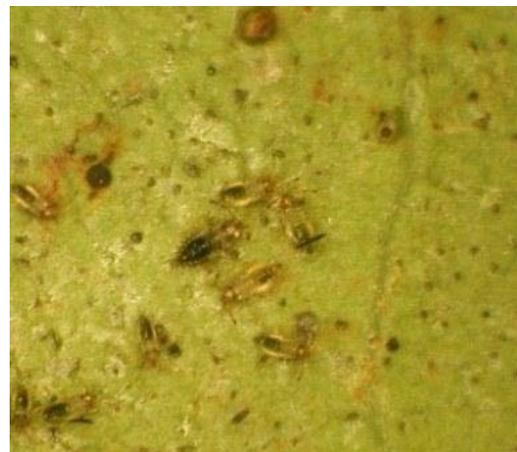
Azalea lace bug, *Stephanitis pyrioides*, was confirmed in 2008 in the state of Washington and has been confirmed this summer of 2009 in Oregon (although damage was first reported in 2008). Damage from this new introduction was noticed first on evergreen azalea plants in landscapes which turn nearly white from feeding damage.



This lace bug is also causing damage on rhododendrons, the damage appears to be more severe than damage reported from rhododendron lace bug which has been in the PNW for some time and is reported to have only one generation per year compared to multiple generations reported for azalea lacebug. Mountain laurel is reported as an alternate host for azalea lace bug (Smith-Fiola).

Pest description and crop damage: Overwinters in egg stage. Eggs are laid in the midrib on the underside of leaves. According to Rutgers Cooperative Extension, azalea lace bug eggs first hatch in mid-May in New Jersey, with later generations in June, July, and August.

Nymphs, the young immature lace bugs, are nearly translucent and light yellowish-green when small. As they age, they darken, particularly on the abdomen, and become spiny.



The adult nymphs are around ¼" long, with wings that are slightly colored with white and black patterns in a window pane effect and quite sculptured. The head capsule is round and swollen-looking from the side.

### Damage

Lacebugs have piercing/sucking mouth parts. The initial damage shows up as light yellow stippling on the surface of the leaves. Higher populations can cause more severe damage on azaleas, causing the leaves to turn nearly white. On rhododendrons, severe damage may look like iron chlorosis with yellow leaves and green veins.



Lace bugs leave small black fecal spots on the underside of leaves. Exuvia, or cast skins, are also often present.



### Rhododendron lace bug

In New Jersey, rhododendron lace bug eggs first hatch in late April, with later generations in late May and June. Here in the Pacific Northwest, rhododendron lace bug egg hatch is reported from mid-May through mid-June (Antonelli and Davidson, 2002) but has been noted as early as mid-April. One generation a year is reported for the Pacific Northwest.

### Biological Control

There are a range of predators that feed on azalea lace bug including azalea plant bug, tree crickets, earwigs, green lacewings, minute pirate bugs, and spiders. The Rutgers publication mentions one nursery study concerning augmentation with green lacewing larvae against newly hatched azalea lace bug nymphs resulted in 79-97% control.

### Cultural Control

Drought stressed plants are more susceptible to lace bug attack. Azaleas in the sun are reported to be nearly twice as likely to be infested.

There are azaleas that show some resistance to azalea lace bug.

A study by Grant Kirker, conducted at the USDA-ARS Thad Cochran Horticultural Research Laboratory in Poplarville, Miss., studied 19 varieties of Encore Azalea and 14

standard cultivars for host plant resistance to lace bugs. Encore Azalea cultivars found to be resistant included: Autumn Amethyst, Autumn Twist, Autumn Royalty, Autumn Sangria, Autumn Cheer, and Autumn Rouge. Cultivars showing moderate resistance were Autumn Embers, Autumn Bravo, Autumn Starlite, Autumn Ruby, and Autumn Princess.

Another study from Virginia Beach Experiment Center show additional varieties with resistance.

**Table 1. Azaleas Resistant to Lacebug Attack (in order of decreasing resistance)\***

Indica alba	white
Flame Creeper	white
Delaware Valley White	white
Rosebud	pink
Cooperman	red
Hahn's Red	red
Boldface	lavender
Mrs. G.G. Gerbing	white
Dream	white
Salmon Beauty	pink
Hinocrimson	red

\*Research by Dr. Peter Schultz, Virginia Beach Experiment

### **Chemical Control – See Table 2 Chemical Control of Lace Bugs**

There are several strategies for managing lace bug. One can choose a biorational program based on incorporating products such as insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, and neem- based products. Insecticidal soaps and oils must directly contact the insects to control them and are most efficacious on newly hatched nymphs but can have 80-90% control if used correctly. Horticultural oil can also smother the egg stage. Neem-based products act as anti-feedants, insect growth regulators, and repellants. Research from New Jersey has shown a 50% reduction of azalea lace bugs after a neem application. Early season control is very important with these tools.

The egg stage is embedded in the plant material and thus protected from most control (except for horticultural oils). Most of the remaining chemical options act either as contact insecticides such as the pyrethroids or carbaryl or have systemic activity such as acephate or the neonicotinoids. Contact insecticides and some of the systemic insecticides may have a detrimental impact on beneficial insects. Timing of the neonicotinoid insecticides generally is either a foliar application shortly before the egg hatch (6-8 weeks) or applied as a soil drench in the late fall.

### **Useful websites:**

Antonelli, A. and Davidson, R., Jr. 2002. Rhododendron Lace-Bug. Washington State University Cooperative Extension.

<http://www.puyallup.wsu.edu/plantclinic/resources/pdf/pls120rhodylacebug.pdf>

Featured Creatures: [Azalea lace bug.](#)

[http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/shrubs/azalea\\_lace\\_bug.htm](http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/shrubs/azalea_lace_bug.htm)

Murray, T. [Lace bugs on your azalea.](#) WSU

<http://www.king.wsu.edu/gardening/MGCD/documents/AzaleaLaceBug.pdf>

Smith-Fiola, Deborah. Lacebugs: Life Cycle, Monitoring, and Pest Management in New Jersey. Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

<http://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/publication.asp?pid=FS783>

UC IPM Online: [Lace bugs](#)

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7428.html>

Table 2. Chemical Management Options for Lace bugs\*

Botanical	azadiractin	Aza-Direct (OMRI), Azatrol (OMRI) Ornazin
	limonene	Orange Guard
	pyrethrins	Pyganic Dust (OMRI)
Biological	<i>Beauvaria bassiana</i>	Botanigard, Mycotrol, Naturalis L
Carbamate	carbaryl	Sevin
Clay	kaolin	Surround (OMRI)
Neonicotinoid	dinotefuran	Safari
	imidacloprid	Imidacloprid, Marathon
	thiamethoxam	Flagship
Oil	mineral oil/petroleum distillate	Many
Organophosphate	acephate	Acephate Pro, Orthene
	chlorpyrifos	Dursban
	dimethoate	Dimethoate
	disulfoton	Di-syston
	malathion	Malathion 5EC, Fyfanon, Prentox
Pyrethroid	bifenthrin	Menace, Talstar, Wisdom
	cyfluthrin	Decathalon, Tempo
	deltamethrin	
	lambda cyhalothrin	Cyonara , Scimitar GC
	permethrin	Ambush, Permethrin, Pounce,
Soap	potassium laurate	M-Pede, Insecticidal Soap

\* Based on PICOL search December 2009.

## April Auction Plants

Pete Baumer

ARS auction plant of the month – Pete's Surprise

There will be one plant for auction at the April meeting. The proceeds from the plant sale are to support the ARS.

## Calendar of Events

### Chapter Events

2016

April 9—Rhodie plant sale and information booth at Coos Grange

April 21—Regular monthly meeting of the Southwestern Oregon Chapter

2016

### Conferences & Shows

2016

April 16 & 17—Siuslaw Chapter Early Show

April 23 & 24—Southwestern Oregon Chapter Flower Show

April 20-24—**ARS/ASA Annual Convention**, Williamsburg, VA

A joint meeting of the American Rhododendron Society and the Azalea Society of America  
[www.arsasaconvention2016.org](http://www.arsasaconvention2016.org)

Sept. 30—Oct. 2—**Western Regional Conference**. Newport, Oregon. Watch for more details later.

2017

April 27-30— ARS Spring Convention, Eureka, CA

For more information call or email June Walsh, 707-443-0604 or

[RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net](mailto:RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net) or on the Web at <http://EurekaRhody.org/>