

Azalea 'Innocence' **(*Rhod. viscosum* x *Rhod. arborescens*)**

6-8' dense hybrid shrub, with upright spreading habit, becoming mounded over time.
Vigorous, growing about 5' in 10 years.

2009 Rhododendron of the Year Award for NE Region, from the Americal Society for Rhododendrons.

'Innocence' is a Mezitt hybrid from Weston Nursery, from:

1. Swamp Azalea/*Rhododendron viscosum* is a CT native of moist to wet soils, found in wooded and open swamps, and by streamsides.
 2. Sweet Azalea/*Rhododendron arborescens* is native NY south, found in moist acid soils, often by stream banks and moist wooded slopes.
- Both species are highly fragrant.

Abundant dome-shaped clusters of 8 wonderfully perfumed, trumpet-shaped frilly flowers, pure white with pale yellow at the inner petal bases. Late spring to early summer bloom.

2.5" long glossy green leaves, tinged bronze when new. Attractive deep burgundy-red fall foliage.

Sun to part shade.
Moist acidic humusy soil.
Avoid strong winter winds.
Cold hardy to 25 degrees below 0.
Disease resistant.

Use in shrub borders, mixed borders, flowering hedges or screens, , in shade garden and woodland areas, and near where people congregate (fragrance!)

Attracts Bumblebees and Butterflies.

Photo 1: Dan Robarts, Grower/Horticulturist
www.mainegardens.org/
Photo 2: Kristian Theqvist
scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/v63n1/v63n1-smith.htm
Photo 3: Broken Arrow Nursery
brokenarrownursery.com/rhododendron-x-weston-s-innocence-weston-s-innocence-hybrid-azalea.html

