



**Girard's Scarlet Azalea**  
*Rhododendron 'Girard's Scarlet'*

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Group/Class: Girard Hybrid

**Description:**

Showy clusters of stunning orange-red blooms cover this compact, vigorous azalea in mid-spring; dark green glossy foliage emerges light green; needs highly acidic and organic soil that is well drained

**Ornamental Features**

Girard's Scarlet Azalea is covered in stunning clusters of scarlet trumpet-shaped flowers with a crimson blotch at the ends of the branches in mid spring. It has dark green foliage which emerges light green in spring. The glossy narrow leaves remain dark green throughout the winter. The fruit is not ornamentally significant.

**Landscape Attributes**

Girard's Scarlet 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 should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Girard's Scarlet Azalea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

**Planting & Growing**

Girard's Scarlet Azalea will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. 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.



*Girard's Scarlet Azalea flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. 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 leaves 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.