

2023 ARHS Seed Exchange

Sharon Bryson ... Seed Exchange Chair

Welcome to the 2023 Seed Exchange for the Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society.

The electronic approach to the Seed Exchange seems to work very well. The seed list and order form will go out to all members with email addresses as in previous years.

The Seed List will be posted on the Internet and will have a full complement of links to many images and information to help in your decision-making. The online version will have periodic updates on seed lot availability, so that version is best to check as time goes on.

Visit The [Willow Garden](#) website and follow the link for 2023 ARHS Seed Exchange. That link will be activated sometime in January, 2023.

A link to the list will be inserted on the [Atlantic Rhodo](#) site.

Electronic payment options will again be welcomed for this years' Exchange. This would be either an e-transfer or via PayPal. This is especially helpful for those out of the country.

I will accept email orders for this years' Exchange with an electronic payment. I would request you email the completed Order Form as an attachment. Try to avoid taking a picture if possible. I shall endeavor to make the online form fillable.

The email address to use for both is sbryson@ns.sympatico.ca

Sending a cheque or money order and the paper Order Form is still an option.

The Seed Exchange had a modest price increase two years ago, which did not seem to adversely affect ordering. Strong support of the Seed Exchange has been helpful for the Society.

The charge for shipping will increase to \$4.00. This will hopefully cover increased postal and printing costs.

Our thanks go out to the faithful contributors who have made this Exchange possible. The overall success of our Seed Exchange depends upon seed contributions by our members, so please make a "mental note" to save some interesting seeds for next years' Exchange. There is always an interest in the Companion Plant section as well as the Azalea and Rhododendron sections. Success also depends upon members purchasing seed. Many interesting plants can be added to our gardens by simply growing a few seeds.

There are many interesting species Rhododendrons, offering the chance to grow species that would not normally be available. They might also require some degree of "homework".

The assortment of hand pollinated rhododendron hybrids is extensive and interesting. The keen hybridizers have been busy as "Bees".

Our 2023 list may have several seed lots "recycled" from the 2022 list. Final analysis will be done soon. It is always a challenge to handle those "pesky" leftovers.

The deadline for submitting members-only orders is Feb. 15, 2023.

Please remember that the seeds go out on a "first-come, first-served" basis dependent on seed quantity. Get your orders in early and you have a very good chance of getting everything on your list. It is VERY helpful to list second choices on the order form. If none are listed, I do make a small "editorial decision"!

In an effort to encourage people to try growing Rhododendrons and Azaleas from seed we are offering a FREE package of seed to anyone interested, whether or not you order any other seeds. These will be noted in the seed list. Please send the order form and \$4.00 to cover postage in your preferred way. If you need further planting instructions, please ask.

Online information is available at both the Atlantic Rhodo and the Willow Garden websites.

The Seed Exchange will be open to "the world at large" after our Feb.15 members-only deadline and continue until April 30, 2023. Members can, of course, order at any time up to the April 30 deadline.

Feel free to share the list with other gardeners who might not be members of the ARHS. Local garden clubs might find the offerings of interest.

We have had orders from many places in the world over the last few years.

Stories of your past successes and/or failures with seed growing are most interesting and welcome.

Comments or suggestions regarding the Seed Exchange are also encouraged. You can send a note with your order or email sbryson@ns.sympatico.ca