

The Hardyzone Rhododendrons

rearing
Feb 14 1967
rearing shared plants with (H) - also ^{lightest} fast hardiest to (H)
~~hardiest up to (H)~~

(D) 2/23/69. 'Blowing Star' = fortunei x 'C.P. Kappell'
(verduii x dichroanthum) x hardy fortunei good.

~~C.P. Kappell x Mucis Maroon = 'Starfire'~~

1946 yearbook general talk on hybridizing - speak
of primary hybrids. Cat, Max + Amur only
really hardy species. Charles Dickens is a
hardy Thompson, Charles Bagley's hardy arborea
say that complicated hybrids are a waste of time.
long list of parents he proposes to use.
some interesting ones.

Gies x fast
decorum x haem
cat x haem
amur x fast
chick ditho x Gies

49706
49788

Thompsonii x barbatum
erogynum x discolor.

no L dwarfs at all.

1948/23

Beatus Piece is fantastic

H 46-6 is sister seedling, larger plant
more ruffled sides than this

H 47-1

H 47-3

H 47-11

1945 page 3

list of ⁸⁸ species & hybrids ¹⁵⁰ hardy on Long Island
seems to be his own garden

likes auriculatum discolor
calophytum

lists: Croceum Rock # 24328

many hybrids are charming plants
some seem quite tender - ~~mentions~~ ^{mentions} cold frame
mentions Meadow-brook as being very fine

1954 - #1 page 25

Disagrees with Leach - (H) says
hardiness not needed on both sides

his him byos

1953. Fort x 'Purple slender'

~~H 5233 - Painted star~~

~~H 5144 - Yellow star~~

fort x (wardii x dielsii) - 1949

1954 using name: 'Painted star'
'Yellow star'

H 59-2 to his Burn found up near
beech tree
catalpa x discolor x saulei x litense

seems to be annoyed at Leach. Very interested in genetics
mentions several crosses that are not mentioned later.

mentions letter from Kahl in 1940

10/66 (print of lecture in 1964)

has named hybrids:

sid ^{small plant} 'Virginia Hall' Prob. (decorum x giff) x 'Charles Dickens'
Kordus 'Simon Chiffon' (gier x campy) x fort #60-2

Wetthung 'Glowing star' ^{H54-4} - 'C P Raffill' x ^{Wetthung} fort
Kordus ⁵⁸⁻¹² 'Radiant star' = " " ^{Wetthung} fort
Wetthung 'Little Flame' - ~~colored~~ 'cathart' x repens ^{Wetthung} fort

sid 'Golden star' - croceum x fort

Wetthung, Kordus ^{H52-33} 'Painted star' - 'Arita' x Meadowbrook
sid

Kordus 'Lick Symplozy' - 'Zira' x fortunei 57-15

Brought Fitch Cut glass x Cornish Cross - not named

sid Anne H. - G.P. Raffill x Moses Maroon
AKA star fire ^{62.6}

sid star raffine = Carolina x Augustiner ^{10.9}
^{51.7}
unnamed Carolina x Mouspinense



S B 'Firelight' = 'Fireworks' x (max x die) H 58-10
~~Fireworks~~

Schlager Laloliti - (wardi x die) x fact H 58 14

sid Barbara H Best of yellow H 62-5

Schlager Peepert yellow H 62-3

sid Ronna H -

Kardus 'June Rhapsody' = diadora x 'Aza' H 58-17

McGregor Golden Glow - 'Fabia' x fact H 59-1

* sid Burns Glow light - H 60-4

'Salmon Glow' = C.O.D. x croceum 59-3

Kardus Star Light - carolina x leucaspis

Heartfire = athen x 52-27 H 60-5

Spring Song - ~~rose~~ (rose x keis) x keis PF

sid + wetting Royal Star = ? glauc ^{double} x Mosci's Maroon x ?
 clear red purple leaf growing, purple

Kardus Roxanne H. infatigable x Purple Splendor

Kardus Salmon Beauty - isa dexter

Kardus Lavender Lace Fact x Purple Splendor H 61-2

Kardus Seanne H D u F

Schlager Morning Star Best in Show 1956 Fact x 'Diana' deep pink
 H 5 H 8 (fully to - Margaret sum) x (Mordant note) yellow

* DH 10 ~~Peepert yellow~~ yellow (Fabia x ...) x ... 1955

fast x (wadi x diho) 1949

June Symphony might be Link
Symphony.

Additional Good things summer

~~to~~ seeds
blackish white
in water water seedling
blackish white

1955 cross

(Falsa x black white) x Lady Edwards
(Falsa x black white) x Golden

H58-8 DWF at P.F.

1955 crossed Meadowland

H54-4 = (Fast x Col Ruffed) Best form (not Ness)
Rest of the hybrids 1954 (not Ness)
'Kathryn Robert' = spinuliferous antherium F2

'Jean Baptiste Robert' = DWF cream white

H53-6 Best white = (from America) to PF?
according to
gone

H58-8 - Bishop
7-6-60 P.F. same

1955 census 88

64-1-2-3-4-5
63-4-5
62-4-5

campylopus

gate x



when did we start? 1945

what does do u think was best? Donna H.

Did we ever use yoke or other ~~things~~ under stain
of little flame?

was croceum of 'Golden Star' looks # 24328 no

what is your thought on 'Meadowbrook' flow
birds set late

Do u remember - parents of:

Royal Star

griff

all the ~~things~~
Everts ~~Robbins~~

Roxanne H. fort x purple splendor

Salmon Beauty - Dexter

Lavender lace Fort x purple splendor

Susanne H. yellow - Kardus. P.A. DWDF

'Morning star' Fort x Riva?

solomon

Fort x Ruff

did you ever cross for ~~judgment~~

ever use - aders degree - u had.

any thoughts on smirnowic -

what ever happened to H 46-6 - ~~beatrice~~ ~~vice~~ but easy to

47-1
47-3
47-11

ever use colophytum

Hardgrove Plants Selected by Others as Outstanding
or Named by Others.

Cross 45-69

H59-2 - Probably ~~late~~ carolinianum compactum x 'Veratun'

Deepest Yellow - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum) = H62-3

DH 8 - ('Tally Ho' x 'Margaret Dunn') x 'Meadowbrook'

DH 10 - ('Fabia' x Glass White) x (decorum x campylocarpum)

~~#1~~

H64-1: (carolinianum compactum x (lacteum x 'May Swithley'))
x (campylocarpum x 'Benjerrick')

Mid-May White - unknown

Sister of 'Golden Star' fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)

'Shady Lady' - unknown parents

Mid April White - " "

('Fabia' x Glass White) x 'Leddy Edwards'

('Fabia' x Glass White) x 'Golden Star'

H58-6 - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)

'Kathryn Reboul' - spinuliferum x racemosum F2

'Jean Baptiste Reboul' - Fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)

~~H58-6~~

H58-8 fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)

H64-2 - fortunei x 'Purple Splendor'

Seedling of 'Painted Star'

~~#46-6 'Dorothea' x 'Charles Dickens'~~

carolinianum x moupinense

H58-9 - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)

DWF #1 - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)

williamsianum hybrid #2

" " #1

reinstated

Do not type

SB

DS

BW

BW

SB

DR

DR

DR

DR

DR

DR

PF, RM

BW

SB

RM

~~SB~~

SB

BW

SB

SB

SB

Plants named by Don Hardgrove

- SB 'Anne Hardgrove' H56-22
- SB 'Barbara Hardgrove' H62-5 fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- SB 'CRIMSON STAR' - Britanica x?
- SB 'Donna Hardgrove' - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- RM 'Firelight' H58-10
- DS 'Glow Light' H60-4
- 'Glowing Star'
- 'Golden Glow' H59-1
- SB 'Golden Star' H56-?
- DS 'Halolite' H58-14
- 'Hearthfire' H60-5 = 'atruer' x 52-27
- 'June Rhapsody' H58-17
- 'Lavender Lace' H61-2
- 'Leeanne Hardgrove' PA-fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum) - H62-2
- 'Lemon Chiffon' H60-2
- 'Little Flame' H58-3
- 'Morning Star' H56-?
- SB 'Painted Star' H52-33
- 'Pink Symphony' H57-15
- 'Radiant Star' H58-12
- SB, BW 'Royal Star' 'Mae's Maroon' x ?
- 'Roxanne Hardgrove' ~~H54-4~~
- 'Salmon Beauty' - a Dexter seedling
- 'Salmon Glow' H59-3
- PF 'Spring Song' (Gracemosum x Keiskei) x Keiskei - H48-1
- 'Star Light' 'starlight' = carolinianum x leucarpis
- SB 'Star Sapphire' - carolinianum x augustinei
- 'Virginia Hall' H46-6

PURCHASERS OF HARDGROVE PLANTS

Mr. Bishop W. von Wettburg has:

Glowing Star
Painted Star
Royal Star
Little Flame

Cat. Glass X discolor)
Cat. Glass X fortunei)
Cat. Glass X decorum)
Cat. Glass X Fabia)
Cat. Alb. var. P. Glass)
Cat. Glass X orbiculare)

These were Don's basic breeding plants.

H 58-8
H 58-6
Car. X augustinii *did*
Aug. X Cinn. var roylei
About a dozen unbloomed hybrids

Mr. R. R. McGregor has:

Golden Glow

Mr. T. Kordus, Kordus Nurseries, Inc. has:

Lemon Chiffon
Roxanne Hardgrove
Starlight
Salmon Beauty
Radiant Star
Painted Star
Pink Symphony
Lavender Lace
Leeanne Hardgrove
June Rapsody

(Mr. Kordus reports he moved approx. 4,000 plants to his nursery and all tags (if present) were replaced with alum. tags. Cuttings were made from every plant.)

Mr. Wilfrid Webster has:

2 - Sekidera Azaleas (Magnifica)
(One has a salmon throat, one has a purple throat)

PURCHASERS OF HARDGROVE PLANTS

Mr. Ernest King Egan, Hillcrest Gardens Nursery, Pease Rd., Woodbridge, New Haven, Conn., 06525, reports he purchased:

- H 45-4 (fortunei) X Loderi King George
(maxima X haematodes) X Daydream
- 2 - Elizabeth X (cat. compacta X Shilsonii)
- 3 - (Fabia X Glass) X Golden Star
(Fabia X Glass) X Barbara
(Fabia X Glass) X (decorum X campy)
(Fabia X Glass) X Jasper
(Fabia X Glass) X Mariloo A form
hanceanum var. nanum X keiskei
- 2 - (campy X Souldiscolit) X (cat. comp. X L.M.S.)
- 15 - unidentified crosses

Mrs. Hugo Schlaikjer has:

- Halolight (H 58-14) yellow, edged, salmon pink
- Morning Star
- Blue Tit Seedling (bluer than Blue Tit)
- Unnamed yellow deepest yellow

Mr. L. Fillinger has:

- 2 - wardii X dichroanthum X fortunei
A. Bedford

Mr. Richard Murett has:

- Seedling of Painted Star yellow

PURCHASERS OF HARDGROVE PLANTS

Mr. Bryant Fitch has: —

Catalpa X Cornish Cross

2 - Catalpa X King of Shrubs

Catalpa X Fabia

Catalpa X Calonanthum (not sure of this)

Henrietta Sargent X Fabia

Cat. comp. X Rosy Morn

Cat. comp. X dichroanthum

fortunei X fictolacteum

Fabia X Glass X Jasper

Wellesleyanum X Didymum

Cat. comp. X haematodes (Gable plant)

Cat. X fortunei

Mrs. Karl Royce has:

(Cat. comp. X Rosy Morn) X aberconwayi

(Fabia X Glass) X Golden Star

(Fabia X Glass) X Letty Edwards

6 - Unnamed seedlings (unmarked)

Mrs. Emil F. Hager has:

Fabia X Glass X Letty Edwards NG

discolor hybrid ? NG

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Reboul have:

Several seedlings

PURCHASERS OF HARDGROVE PLANTS

F. Eberstadt - Target Rock Farms

Purchased in October, 1959:

1. Unique - pale yellow - 4 ft.
2. C.O.D. - varies from season to season, sometimes apricot, yellow, or pinkish yellow. Large plant with spread of about 7 ft.
3. (wardii x dichroanthum) X fortunei - original cross, perhaps his most
4. successful to date. Colors in different seedlings vary from light to deep yellow, light to deep orange, with gradations through all to lovely apricot, salmon, and copper tones. Two plants of following: 4' x 4½' and 4½' x 5'.
5. Lady Primrose A. M. - lemon yellow, red spots, 4 ft.
6. Dexter #1 (light creamy apricot), large plant over 7 ft.
7. (maximum x haematodes) X (lacteum x Mary Swaythling), light yellow and very floriferous, 6 ft.
8. lacteum hybrid, pale yellow, but very smooth satin finished texture, 6'.
9. C.O.D. X croceum - yellow-pink blend with general effect of being apricot - over 6 ft.
10. souliei X Kewense - pale pink with small red flash in throat, good texture, 5 ft. x 5 ft.
11. Dexter hybrid - a good pink with a slight salmon tone, large well-budded plant, 6 ft. x 7 ft.
12. Canary - bright yellow, 3½' x 4'
13. Dexter hybrid - a lively pink, large plant, consistent heavy bloomer, 7 ft.
14. Naomi, var. Pink Beauty, A. M. - 5 ft.
15. Naomi, var. Exbury, A. M. - 6 ft.
16. Praecox A.G.M. - rosy lilac, one of the earliest of all, small shiny deep green leaves. Wonderful specimen of an unusual dwarf type plant, 5 ft. x 4 ft.
17. Black Beauty - dark velvet crimson, 5½' x 5'.
18. Midsummer - rose-pink, late, has a season of bloom almost by itself. I like it, 4½' x 5'.
19. Albatross, A.M. - white, fragrant, very large flower, over six ft.
20. C. P. Raffill X fortunei - bright glowing pink with large flowers, a fine plant, 6 ft.
21. Saturn - cerise, shading to pink, white center, 5½'.

22. Strategist - fine clear pink, 5'.
23. Faggetter's Favourite A. M. - silvery pink. This has grown into a fine plant with large trusses of large clear colored flowers. Excellent foliage and altogether one of the best. Would not part with this at all if it did not have to be moved out of its present location in any event. 7 ft. x 8 ft.
24. Beauty of Littleworth F. C. C. - white, red dots, large flowers and trusses, over 7 ft.
25. Magnolia Wilsonie (snow white - maroon center) 7 ft. x 7 ft.
26. Atrosanguineum X Loderi King George. Very large upright truss, bright rose fading to iridescent pearly pink. Consistent bloomer, over 7 ft.
27. Fortunei X C. P. Raffill. Another fine seedling from this cross. A rich pink on an extremely vigorous interesting plant, almost a light red, about 4' x 5'.

Purchased in October, 1957:

Alice	Large Pink
Susan	lav. with red spots (early)
fortunei X croceum	Cream
Loderi X auriculatum	White, fragrant
discolor X auriculatum	White, late, fragrant
souliei X discolor	Light pink
fortunei X (griersonianum X fort.)	Pale apricot
Meadowbrook X Sunrise	Bright pink, early
discolor (Nearing's form) X Gable form, white	Late, fragrant
Duchess of York	Salmon pink
Goldsworth Yellow	Yellow
China	Cream
Princess Elizabeth	Red
Gable's Lamifor (L. Milford X for.)	Pink
Chas. Bagley X fortunei	Pink and white bicolor
Dexter Hybrid H 54-4	Blush, large, fragrant

fortunei X Anita	White form
C. O. Dexter X Luscombei	Light pink, early
Meadowbrook	Bright pink, ruffled
Dexter Hybrid H 47-2	Pink with red dots
Dexter Hybrid, Koster's Favorite	Cerise pink
fortunei X Anita	Pale chartreuse yellow
Windbeam	Apple blossom pink
fortunei X Anita	Apricot
The Bride	White with green dots
fortunei X grier X fortunei	Bright pink, ruffles
Dexter seedlings (10 or 11)	?
Prof. Hugo de Vries	Medium pink, very large
discolor X Lady Decies (2)	Pink with blotches, late
brachycarpum	Pinkish cream
Atrosanguineum Floccigerum	Bright cerise
Beatrice Pierce	Pink with red blotch
auriculatum X Catfort	White, late
racemosum X keiskei	Creamy pink
Red Hybrid	Red
Dexter Hybrid H 47-11	White

Note: All the above was evidently listed by Mr. Hardgrove as it is stated on these sheets. Copied from handwritten lists sent to us by Mr. Rocco Coronato, Estate Supt.

List of Hardygrave Plants for sale 1964
from Sid Burns

degronianum
adenopodium

H 45-4 x Loderi wing George #1
2

2 20/4/64

cat war glass x fahia
discolor
fortunei
decorum

2 20/4/64

campylocarpum x lauldicolorit pure yellow

pink lymphang (finest pink)

2 20/4/64

✓ lemon chiffon

2 20/4/64

fortunei

✓ Virginia Hall

fortunei x ficolactem #1
2

Cochran x Cornish Cross #1
2
3

H 62-2 (only plant ever awarded PA in east) at 1962 show

over crimson star

✓ Radiant star

✓ Painted star

fortunei x croceum

Morning star (Grand Champion at show)

✓ Royal star

Mrs. W.D. Coe x croceum

~~Stark~~ Starlight

June Symphony?

auriculatum

fortunei x Purple splendor #1

2

3

✓ Golden star

✓ # 62-3 (deepest yellow of all)

(max. x haematodes) x 'Finemusic' —

✓ starfire - Best of all seeds. Name changed to 'Annohondpau'

Glowing star

✓ Golden Glow

47-x (Best Dexter hybrid)

fortunei x C.P. Raphael #1

#2

✓ Little Flame - (best repeats hybrid)

H 62-5 Barbara Kaldgren - Best of all yellows

✓ Kalolite - light yellow with wide salmon border

(Wardix x dichroanthus) x fortunei #1

#2

#3

H 58-6

H 47-2 x Calophytum

cat van Glass x Lodei King George

(Cat x discolor) x sunrise

carolina x maupinense

carolina x radium F2 2 forms

✓ Jean x America

✓ Star Sapphire

(Author's note: The following was copied from the noted Don Hardgrove prepared for his talk to the NY Chapter in 1964.)

The big trick with all rhododendron breeding is to obtain hardy forms of some of our better species or combinations of the best qualities in ~~these~~ these species. Rh. nuttallii, a lepidote, supposedly has the largest individual flowers in the entire genus. This may or may not be true, but lets not overlook the lepidotes. Taggianum grafted onto ponticum understock produced individual flowers over 8" across.

leucaspis: 2" milk white satin finish, ~~xxxx~~ flat opening
wonderful habit, hairy leaves.
flavidum: dwarf yellow, red stamens
cinnabarinum: orange 7 yellowish forms
" var 'Royalei': velvety rosy red
megeratum and aureum: bright yellow, dwarf
spinuliferum: brick red, protruding stamens
augustinii: approaching blue

We have thus far obtained the following new hybrids with which to continue:

carolinianum x megeratum
x (ciliatum x moupenense)
x leucaspis
x flavidum
x 'Blue Diamond'
x 'Royal Flush'
x cinnabarinum var. 'Royalei'
x (leucaspis x moupenensis)
muchronulatum x Lady Chamberland
x (leucaspis x moupenensis)
x spinuliferum
racemosum x augustinii
x tephropeplum
(racemosum x keiskei) x keiskei
x leucaspis
x racemosum
x dalhousiae
x leucaspis
x cillicalyx
(racemosum x carolinianum) x nuttallii
x ~~xxxx~~ ciliatum
'Precox' x (carolinianum x muchronulatum)
x (racemosum x muchronulatum)
x (carolinianum x racemosum)
(valentinianum x leucaspis) x (racemosum x keiskei)
augustinii x Royalei
pubescens x keiskei

(Author's note: The following is taken from notes Don prepared for his ~~talk~~ talk to the NY Chapter in 1964)

Lepadote crossing:

Carolinianum has indicated affinity for the following series:

- a. lapponicum 'Purple Gem' & 'Ramapo'
- b. moupinense
- c. boothii
- d. virgatum 'Conestoga'
- e. dauricum 'Conewago'
- f. saluenense
- g. cinnabarinum

muchronulatum has indicated affinity for the following series:

- a. carolinianum 'Conewago'
- b. maddenii 'Precox'
- c. virgatum 'Conemaugh'
- d. triflorum
- e. moupinense 'Olive'

racemosum has indicated affinity for the following series:

- a. carolinianum 'Conestoga'
- b. ~~Mx~~ maddenii 'Precox'
- c. ~~virgatum~~ triflorum 'rac. x keiskei'
- d. scabrifolium
- e. dauricum
- f. boothii

Rh. carolinianum would not cross with triflorums with any degree of success but did cross with 'Blue Diamond' which is 'Intrifast' x augustinii. It would also not cross with the maddenii series but seems to have successfully crossed with 'Royal Flush'. Carolinianum would not cross with rh. ciliatum but crossed readily with 'ciliatum x moupinense.

See the Quarterly Bulletin Vol. 20 ~~#2~~ #4, Oct., 1966

The Hardgrove Rhododendrons.

Let me say, in all candor, that I thought a talk about the Hardgrove rhododendrons would be quite an easy task. After all, I had known Don, had seen his garden, was familiar with some of his named cultivars, and had even purchased a plant from him when he was breaking up his garden.

I casually started to talk to some people who had been friendly with Don, and I was able to see a copy of Don's study book. I began to discover that what I knew about him and his plants was just a tiny tip of an enormous iceberg.

What is common knowledge of his hybrids is derived from the five named cultivars sold by Sid Burns and now his son, Tom. Four of these ^{are} were yellow, of one shade or another, and the fifth, red. So almost everyone equates Hardgrove with yellow rhododendrons. But actually Don was interested in every color and was also very active in hybridizing the lepidote rhododendrons. But what is most interesting of all is that now, 12 years after ~~he~~ he stopped and disbanded his garden, we are discovering new hybrids of his, some of which could be his finest creations.

Before I talk about his hybrids, let's investigate the climate of Don's garden. Don was a Long Island hybridizer and it is important for you to know a little about the climate of the island so you can understand the hardiness of his plants. There are two climatic zones on the island: a warmer zone near both the north and south shore and a central colder zone.

Don's garden was in the milder zone, a maritime zone influenced by the Atlantic Ocean. His garden also contained high oak trees for shade and wind protection. I would expect plus 5° F to be an unusually cold temperature, reached perhaps once a winter. There would be exceptions, of course, where the low temperature would be less - but generally, that would be his lowest winter temperature.

Don started hybridizing in 1945. Early articles in "The Rhododendron Yearbook" and "Quarterly" indicated the great deal of thought that he put into hybridizing. He was quite interested in genetics and his close associations with Guy Nearing, his teacher, is evident in the crosses he made and proposed.

Through his writings and correspondences he was able to get pollen from advanced hybridizers and growers in this country and England. Indeed, pollen of *fictolacteum*, sent to him by Guy Nearing who was touring England, was used to create 'Hardy Giant', by using *hardy fortunei* as the seed parent. Don made the cross and sent the seed to Nearing, who passed the seed on to the Knippenbergs who grew them and named one.

The lepidotes, for which Don is not ^{new} known, interested him greatly. Many lepidote crosses were made - with much success.

Some of the best lepidote hybrids are 'Spring Song' and an unnamed white, *carolinianum* x *moupenense*. 'Spring Song' is one of his early selections (selected in 1948) and it has the same parents as 'Mary Fleming'; (*racemoseum* x *keiskei*) x

keiskei. It is similar to 'Mary Fleming' but with better color. The carolinianum x moupenense clone is the one that Sid Burns has. Don had many plants of this cross but the others that I know of either petered out or were of no special interest. The Burns plant is everything you might want: pure white, very hardy and a full, rounded truss with large florets. It blooms very early, about 10 days after muchronulatum on a dense, compact plant.

'Star Sapphire' is x carolinianum x augustinei. It is a lovely blue but the plant doesn't seem particularly vigorous. It's not a good doer in an exposed location. Perhaps some high shade would help it.

'Starlight' is carolinianum x leucaspis. Don liked this hybrid a lot but I have not been able to find the plant. I don't know if it exists.

In 1964 Don gave his only lecture to the New York Chapter. The transcript of that talk was printed in the October, 1966 Quarterly, pages 202-217. Advice ~~given~~^{given} about breeding lepidotes, learned after much trial and research, was spelled out on page 215 where he explained how to cross the hardy carolinianum with the beautiful, tender, large flowered lepidotes. The method is to use the Boothii series as a bridge. Since the Boothii series will cross with the large flowered lepidotes~~xx~~ and also carolinianum, cross a hybrid of a Boothii and a large flowered lepidote onto carolinianum. Don used pollen ~~xx~~ of 'R. W. Rye' from England to do just that. The ~~xx~~ 6 cross took and the seed sprouted but were then lost ~~xx~~ ^{as to} lack of care.

Don was hybridizing ~~x~~ for all colors in the elepidotes. Several whites have been selected, but the white that Don liked the best, his H53-6, died after it was moved out of his garden. Don didn't purposely hybridize for white, the plants that bloomed white in purchaser's gardens were mistakes! Three whites have been selected by their new owners and are listed in the appendix.

Hardgrove's best pink was 'Pink Symphony' - hardy fortunei x 'Diva'. I'll show a slide of it later. Don liked this plant, but I don't know if it is still alive.

His named red, 'Anne Hardgrove', is quite a spectacular flower. It is 'C.P. Raffil' x 'Moser's Maroon'. A late bloomer of intense red, it has a very leggy plant habit and should be planted in the rear of a bed to allow the blooms to come up high. 'Virginia Hall' is a very ~~an~~ early selection of his: H46-6. It ~~was~~ similar to 'Beatrice Pearce', a Nearing cultivar of the same parentage, but 'Virginia Hall' has the attribute of ease of rooting, something 'Beatrice Pearce' won't do.

Now for the yellows. The key for Don ~~was~~ in developing yellow hybrids was the hardy fortunei that he received from Nearing. Guy and Joe ~~Gale~~ Gable spent many years growing ~~an~~^{on} fortunei seedlings; crossing the hardiest, and growing the seed on. After three generations, and some 21 years, they had a hardy race of fortunei. Don had one of these and used it extensively in his yellow hybrids. It seems as though the hardy fortunei would accept the yellow color of the pollen parent yet contribute its hardiness and

floret size to the offspring (a little fragrance too).

The cross that was his most successful was ~~hardy fortunei~~ x (wardii x dichroanthum). This was an astounding cross, yielding many plants of every color from white to peach to copper. In addition to the named clones, several numbered ones exist. One of these H58-6, I ~~especially~~ especially like as it has very large florets of a medium yellow with a light pink on the edge of the corolla. In my garden, the plant grows much wider than high. Many seedlings ~~exist~~ were named from this cross. One, 'Leeanne Hardgrove' won a P.A. at the 1962 NY Chapter show. This was the first East Coast rhododendron ^{to} ever get that award. After it bloomed, H62-5 bloomed. Don named the later bloomer 'Barbara ~~Hardgrove~~ Hardgrove' and thought it better than 'Leeanne Hardgrove' P.A.

The seedling with the most color, and the one Don thought was the best, is 'Dona^N Hardgrove'. It blooms somewhat early, May 9th this year, and is a blend of orange, yellow and red. You can read Don's description of it in the listing in the appendix.

Another cross^s which hardy fortunei was the seed parent and produced yellow offspring was hardy fortunei x croceum. The ~~its~~ best ~~of~~ seedling of that cross was named 'Golden Star'. I'll show a slide of it later. It makes quite a show in the garden as you'll see.

Of the yellows, I've only mentioned a few out of so many. I'll be showing many slides of these and others as they will tell you more about the plants than my words will.

Another hardy fortunei cross that produced many very good offspring ~~was~~ used pollen from 'Purple Splendor'. Don was astounded by the floret size of the seedlings. He numbered several and named one. These have also proven to be very hardy, many of them growing out in the full sun virtually unprotected. All shades of lavender exist with small to large deep purple blotches or spots on the upper corolla.

Event^{*}hough many of Don's best plants are now growing in the gardens of New York Chapter members, ~~many~~ ~~more~~ most ~~has~~ ~~lost~~ of his plants have been lost. In 1964, Don had three months to dispose of his entire garden. A buyer had to be found quickly who had the ability to dig thousands of 4 - 5 foot rhododendrons in a very short time. Obviously this wasn't a task for ~~amateurs~~ ^{amateurs}. A commercial nurseryman bought the bulk of the garden and Don distributed most of his best plants to members. I am sorry to say that at least 95% of Don's plants have died.

Some members purchased unbloomed seedlings, selecting plants by foliage and general growth characteristics. Some of these have turned out to be very good and have been unofficially named by their owners. I am including a list of these in the appendix.

Don felt that he had created the finest group of rhododendron hybrids for ~~the~~ Northeast gardens. I recommend them to you for your trial to ~~see~~ see if, under your garden conditions they will perform as well as they did for him.

Plants named by Don Hardgrove

'Anne Hardgrove'	H56-22
'Barbara Hardgrove'	H62-5 fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
'Crimson Star'	Britannia x ?
'Donna Hardgrove'	fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
'Firelight'	H58-10
'Glow Light'	H60-4
'Glowing Star'	
'Golden Glow'	H59-1
'Golden Star'	H56-?
'Halolite'	H58-14
'Hearthfire'	H60-5 - 'Atrier' x 52-27
'June Rhapsody'	H58-17
'Lavendar Lace'	H61-2
'Leeanne Hardgrove'	PA-fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum) -H62-2
'Lemon Chiffon'	H60-2
'Little Flame'	H58-3
'Morning Star'	H56-?
'Painted Star'	H52-33
'Pink Symphony'	H57-15
'Radiant Star'	H58-12
'Royal Star'	'Maser's Maroon' x ?
'Roxanne Hardgrove'	
'Salmon Beauty'	a Dexter seedling
'Spring Song'	(racemosum x keiskei) x keiskei - H48-1
'Starlight'	carolinianum x leucaspis
'Star Sapphire'	carolinianum x augustinei
'Virginia Hall'	H46-6

Hardgrove Plants Selected By Others as Outstanding

Or Named by Others

- H59-2 - Probably catawbiense compactum x 'Venator'
- Deepest Yellow - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum) = H62-3
- DH 8 - ('Tally Ho' x 'Margaret Dunn') x 'Meadowbrook'
- DH 10 - ('Fabia' x Glass White) x (decorum x campylocarpum)
- H64-1 (catawbiense compactum x (lacteam x 'May Swaithling')) x
(campylocarpum x 'Penjerrick')
- Mid-May White - unknown To Be named: ^{'MERRY}
MAY WHITE'
- Sister of 'Golden Star': fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum) To Be named
'AMAZEMENT'
- 'Shady Lady' - unknown parents
- Mid April White - unknown parents To Be named: 'STAR OF SPRING'
- ('Fabia' x Glass White) x 'Leddy Edwards' To Be named: 'COPPER CREAM'
- ('Fabia' x Glass White) x 'Golden Star' To Be named: 'SHOOTING STAR'
- H58-6 - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- 'Kathryn Reboul' - spinuliferum x racemosum F2
- 'Jean Babpiste Reboul' - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- H58-8 fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- H64-2 - fortunei x 'Purple Splendor'
- Seedling of 'Painted Star'
- carolinianum x moupinense
- H58-9 - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- DWF #1 - fortunei x (wardii x dichroanthum)
- Williamsianum hybrid #2
- Williamsianum hybrid #1