

# *Rhododendron* x 'George Taber' 'George Taber' Azalea<sup>1</sup>

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## Introduction

Profuse, pink springtime blooms are so plentiful and large that they completely hide the foliage, making 'George Taber' azalea a favorite landscape shrub in the south. This large, spreading evergreen azalea is most impressive when used in mass plantings but makes an attractive specimen planting as well. Plant in mass on 4 to 6 foot centers.



Figure 1. Full Form - *Rhododendron* x 'George Taber': 'George Taber' Azalea

Credits: Edward F. Gilman, UF/IFAS



Figure 2. Flower - *Rhododendron* x 'George Taber': 'George Taber' Azalea

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**Family:** *Ericaceae*

**Plant type:** shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 8 through 10 (Figure 3)

**Planting month for zone 8:** year-round

**Planting month for zone 9:** year-round

**Planting month for zone 10:** year-round

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

## General Information

**Scientific name:** *Rhododendron* x 'George Tabor'

**Pronunciation:** roe-duh-DEN-drun

**Common name(s):** 'George Taber' azalea

1. This document is FPS509, one of a series of the Department of Environmental Horticulture, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date October 1999. Revised October 2023. Visit the EDIS website at <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu> for the currently supported version of this publication.

2. Edward F. Gilman, professor emeritus; Ryan W. Klein, assistant professor, arboriculture; and Gail Hansen, professor, sustainable landscape design; Department of Environmental Horticulture, UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.

**Uses:** mass planting; specimen; attracts butterflies; cut flowers; foundation

**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range



Figure 3. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

## Description

**Height:** 10 to 12 feet

**Spread:** 8 to 10 feet

**Plant habit:** round

**Plant density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** slow

**Texture:** medium

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** ovate

**Leaf venation:** pinnate

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

## Flower

**Flower color:** pink

**Flower characteristic:** spring flowering; winter flowering

## Fruit

**Fruit shape:** elongated

**Fruit length:** 0.5 to 1 inch

**Fruit cover:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

## Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not particularly showy; typically multi-trunked or clumping stems.