



Rhododendrons in America by Ted Van Veen.

180 pages, twelve chapters and supplement for 1980 edition, 108 colour illustrations, list of hybrids not covered earlier, subject index. Soft cover, published in 1969, second edition 1980.

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Ted Van Veen is described in the foreword by David G. Leach as the largest commercial grower of rhododendrons in the United States. "... he exuberantly summarizes the selection, uses, planting and cultivation of rhododendrons according to his cheerfully admitted preferences and prejudices." This volume is dated by the comment that China is closed to plant hunting. How things have changed!

Chapters discuss the origins of rhododendrons, use in the landscape, growth factors such as temperature, soil type, moisture, feeding and prevention of problems. He talks about what to look for when buying a rhododendron. A chapter lists a select list of species and hybrids available in 1969.

As Mr. Leach states in the foreword this book is not intended for the botanist, the phylogenist, the entomologist or any academic "ist". "It is an intensely practical book which lays not claim to being a comprehensive treatment of the genus." It is an easy read and the colour illustrations of the hybrids are excellent.