

Bright Orange Native Azalea



Perfect for use as a large shrub or small, understory tree in woodland borders or other areas of the landscape that provide dappled shade or morning sun with afternoon shade. Use it as a specimen or plant several in a cluster.



Rhododendron austrinum 'Bright Orange'

- **Use:** Commonly called Florida azalea or Florida flame azalea, is an upright, deciduous shrub that typically grows to 6-10' tall with loose, irregular branching. It is native from northern Florida and southern Georgia west to southern Alabama and Mississippi where it is most often found in moist woods and along streams. Fragrant, funnel-shaped flowers in dense clusters (8-15 flowers per cluster) bloom in early spring just before or as the foliage emerges.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Part sun to shade. As with other azaleas, the partial shade of tall trees overhead is the ideal. You just need to water it during times when it isn't raining enough. Plant them shallowly and mulch well to conserve moisture and suppress weeds. Grows best in moist, well-drained, organic soils with a pH range from 4.5 to 6.0. "Well-drained" is the key. Planting it in places that don't drain well is a sure death sentence.
- **Growth:** Moderate grower to 6 to 10 ft. tall, 3 to 5 ft. wide in an upright habit. The flower buds develop in summer for the following spring's display, so prune shortly after flowering, if necessary. Ideally, plant them where they will not require pruning.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 7-8; Shrub
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Leaves up to 4" long, green foliage.
- **Flower:** The flowers are about 1" across, trumpet-shaped, and have tangerine to bright orangish petals with elongated stamens that extend well beyond the petals. The blooms are borne in clusters and have a sweet fragrance. Flowers are followed by a brown seed capsule. This plant hybridizes readily with other azaleas.

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