

# Nova Zembla Rhododendron



Every year, golf fans watching

the Master's Tournament in Augusta find themselves distracted by the colorful, stately shrubbery decorating the course. Mixed among the southern golf club's dogwoods and azaleas, Nova Zembla is a power player in bright red. Informally known as one of the "Iron-clad" rhododendrons, Nova Zembla is easy to grow and more heat tolerant than other rhododendrons,



## *Rhododendron x 'Nova Zembla' (H-1)*

- **Use:** A small, dense, upright, evergreen shrub prized for its large trusses of showy, bright red flowers. A cold hardy rhododendron that thrives in cooler regions but benefits from protection from winter winds. Flower color develops a deep pink tone in sunnier exposures. Very useful in foundation plantings or as a landscape accent.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Part sun to shade. As with other azaleas, the partial shade of tall trees overhead is the ideal. It will adapt to full-sun sites, though. You just need to water it during times when it isn't raining enough. 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 growing; reaches 5 ft. tall and wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zones 4-8; Shrub
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. Leaves are lance shaped, medium sized and light green.
- **Flower:** Showy red flowers with deep maroon blotches attract hummingbirds and butterflies. These trumpet-shaped flowers open each spring beginning in April.

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