



**Nova Zembla Rhododendron**  
*Rhododendron 'Nova Zembla'*

Height: 8 feet  
 Spread: 7 feet  
 Sunlight:    
 Hardiness Zone: 6a

**Description:**

A popular and attractive broadleaf evergreen shrub with rich red flowers in spring and an upright rounded habit, quite hardy, good in partial shade; absolutely must have well-drained, highly acidic and organic soil, use plenty of peat moss when planting

**Ornamental Features**

Nova Zembla Rhododendron is draped in stunning clusters of crimson trumpet-shaped flowers with dark red spots at the ends of the branches in mid spring. It has green foliage. The large narrow leaves remain green throughout the winter. The fruit is not ornamentally significant.

**Landscape Attributes**

Nova Zembla Rhododendron is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Nova Zembla Rhododendron is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

**Planting & Growing**

Nova Zembla Rhododendron will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 7 feet. It tends to be a little lanky, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 10 years or #2



*Nova Zembla Rhododendron flowers*  
 Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Nova Zembla Rhododendron in bloom*  
 Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the leaves in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

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