

# Society News

## ASA Seed Exchange Guidelines

Aaron Cook — Valdese, North Carolina

At the combined 2006 ASA/ARS Rockville Convention the ASA board of directors voted approval for an ASA seed exchange. Below are the guidelines for our seed exchange, and they are also shown on the ASA Web site (<http://www.azaleas.org>, then click on Seed in the main menu).

### Contributing Seed

To assure proper identification of contributed seed, contributors should follow the instructions found by 1) downloading the simple (4KB) pdf file from the Web page, or 2) photocopying them from this article. Seed contributions will be accepted from ASA members and other sources throughout the year until December 15.

The seed from each plant should be described using the following information:

- Contributor's name
- Seed parent name
- Pollen parent name
- Pollination type (c.w.—wild-collected; o.p.—open-pollinated; or h.p.—hand-pollinated)
- Where collected (geographic feature or town)
- Notes

If you have digital pictures of the parents, please e-mail them to Bob Stelloh ([bstelloh@mac.com](mailto:bstelloh@mac.com)) with the plant name, date, and location, for each picture for posting on the Web linked to your seed information.

Seed should be current-year production and cleaned. Put the cleaned seed from one plant into one paper envelope with one completed form, and mail any number of these envelopes at once to:

Aaron Cook  
ASA Seed Exchange  
804 Piedmont Ave  
Valdese, NC 28690-3161

As seed is received, each packet will be sieved to remove chaff, stored, and the information from the form entered into a database.

A notice will be printed in the Fall 2006 issue of *The Azalean* that the seed list will be posted online by January 1st. The notice will also give the address from which to request a hard copy list of seed available.

Seed will be shown on the Web on a seed list page, listed alphabetically by seed parent name with all the infor-

mation provided by the seed contributor, including links to any pictures. Each listing will start with a seed number.

### Placing Orders for Seed

From January 1 until the end of February the following year, orders will be filled only for seed contributors or Azalea Society of America members. From March 1, orders will be filled for anyone.

Use the seed number in the first column of the seed list to identify the seed on your order. You may order only one envelope of one seed number per order, although you may order any number of envelopes of different seeds. If the seed you ordered is not available, we will use our judgment to make a substitution, unless you list suggested substitutions or tell us "no substitutions."

Seed orders can be paid for with checks made out to "ASA" with "seed exchange" on the memo line, or by a credit card payment through PayPal sent to [paytheasa@aol.com](mailto:paytheasa@aol.com) with "seed exchange" in the accompanying e-mail.

Payment must accompany the order. Refunds will not be made for less than \$4.00.

All seed will be packaged in #1 coin envelopes, and will cost \$2.00 for approximately 50 seeds. Shipping and handling will be an additional \$3.00 for all the envelopes in one order. Seed orders will be sent by first class mail.

Orders can be placed by e-mail to Aaron Cook ([acook@cccti.edu](mailto:acook@cccti.edu)) or by a letter addressed to:

Aaron Cook  
ASA Seed Exchange  
804 Piedmont Ave  
Valdese NC 28690-3161

All seed not distributed before the convention will be brought to the next annual convention and offered for sale there.

*Aaron Cook, an ASA board of directors member since 2005, is a biology and horticulture instructor at both Caldwell and Maryland community colleges. He earned his BS in biology and MS in biology education at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. He did his graduate research on the genetics of the rare Linville Gorge plant *Hudsonia montana*. He is an active member in the North Carolina Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, ARS, ASA, and the International Plant Propagators Society.*