

and/or any records showing the intent, follow-up and implementation of a municipal program with lasting endeavor. Copies of a taped television or radio interview by a local electronic broadcast media may be used as additional proof. Copies of all your forms of proof must accompany the application.

**Section D:** In this section give the names and addresses of up to five public or private gardens or arboreta that promote or celebrate azaleas in your municipality in the form of spring festivals, tours, special speakers, plant sales or any other way which offers the appreciation of azaleas.

**Section E:** To qualify as an official Azalea City, your municipality must have at least three active members in the Azalea Society of America, residing within the corporate limits of your municipality. This qualification is required to ensure the continuing goals of the Society are met and provide a pool of members for an educational basis within your municipality. Our Society Secretary may be able to provide confirmation of current members residing within your municipality to qualify, or you may submit new members to qualify. If you have a municipal library, you may wish to submit that entity as an annual member to ensure the public availability of the ASA Journal, *The Azalean*.

To submit new members in the spaces provided, please enter their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses, the required annual membership fee of \$25 USA by check or USPS Money Order per member, and enclose with the application. Do not send cash. Members receive our quarterly journal, *The Azalean*, the opportunity to attend National Meetings and Conventions, join and/or form local chapters, participate in plant sales, flower shows and enjoy all the benefits of membership. Articles about your special municipal azalea celebration may be offered for publication in *The Azalean*.

**Fees and submission:** There is no fee for this application or certification as an Azalea City. Electronic applications by fax or E-Mail will not be accepted. All applications and proofs must be sent by US Postal Service mail. Allow 60 to 90 days for a reply on acceptance or denial.

If denied, all materials submitted by you will be held for a period of ninety days, or until we receive your written appeal with additional exhibits of proof, if needed. If accepted, all materials submitted will be placed in permanent records.

Azalea City recognition is for a period of five years and is subject to annual review by the committee and resident members in your municipality. Near the end of the term, you will receive a letter with a re-certification application. This process ensures the ASA that your municipality has an on-going active program of azalea celebration and appreciation.

We encourage you to download, read and understand the Azalea City application at: [www.azaleas.org/azaleacity.html](http://www.azaleas.org/azaleacity.html). We appreciate your interest, and we look forward to receiving your completed application to arrive for our consideration, and hopefully, for certification.

## Old Wives' Tale: Azaleas Have Five Stamens

Don Voss—Vienna, Virginia

The notion that azaleas have five stamens and rhododendrons have ten dates back to Linnaeus. The six Linnean species of *Azalea Pentandra* (five stamens) *Monogynia* (one pistil) are now classified as follows:

Linnean name	Current name
<i>Azalea indica</i> L.	<i>Rhododendron indicum</i> (L.) Sweet
<i>A. pontica</i> L.	<i>R. luteum</i> Sweet
<i>A. lutea</i> L.	<i>R. periclymenoides</i> (Michaux) Shinnery
<i>A. viscosa</i> L.	<i>R. viscosum</i> (L.) Torrey
<i>A. lapponica</i> L.	<i>R. lapponicum</i> (L.) Wahlenberg
<i>A. procumbens</i> L.	<i>Loiseleuria procumbens</i> (L.) Desvaux

This group includes one species of evergreen azalea (*indicum*), three deciduous azaleas, a lepidote rhododendron, and a *Loiseleuria*. It is a poor basis for statements regarding the number of stamens found in azaleas, in particular the evergreen azaleas. The deciduous azaleas (*Rhododendron* subg. *Pentanthera*) have five stamens. But the evergreen azaleas of *Rhododendron* subg. *Tsutsusi* vary in their stamen count. A number of species important in horticulture, together with their stamen counts(1), are listed below:

eriocarpum	c.9
indicum	5
kaempferi	5(-6)
kiusianum	5
macrosepalum	5(-7)
mucronatum	10
nakaharae	10
ripense	10
scabrum	10
simsii	(8-)10
tashiroi	10(-12)
tosaense	5(-10)
yedoense	10

### References:

1. Stamen counts from Chamberlain, D.F. and Rae, S.J. 1990. A Revision of *Rhododendron*: IV Subgenus *Tsutsusi*. *Edinb. J. Bot.* 47(2):89-200]