

and practice de-familiarizing our visions by looking nearer at home for quirks and inconsistencies, examining more than the flowers, seeking details that Skinner or Frisbee or others missed on account of the very scope of their pioneering surveys. Easterners in particular need to avoid Skinner's great pitfall: an azalea that doesn't "key out" should not be chalked up as a hybrid unless the imagined parents are front-and-center visible for minute examination. This is not, mind you, a "splitter's" call to multiply taxa but quite the opposite, a hard-won recognition that the facile urge to pin labels and impose categories on polymorphous living things can blind us to nature's complexity. Stephen J. Gould's "punctuated equilibrium" can be an invaluable way to think about speciation (Gould, 2002), so long as you keep open to the possibility that sometimes, as with *R. austrinum*, you may find yourself looking very closely at a punctuation mark.

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