plants would most likely be consistent with the official description. And, it wouldn't be necessary for the nurseryman to grow the new plants on to a size where the sports could be rogued out by inspection.

In conclusion, a side-by-side comparison of self-colored sports (the color of the stripe) would probably make the identification process easier. It fundamentally comes down to one being asked to distinguish purplish-red from reddish-purple, recognizing the acceptable limits of variability. The other diagnostic factor is making a judgment on the organization of the dots in the blotch area. In other words, 'Festive' is purplish Red (or Red) and has no blotch (or not much of one). 'Geisha' is reddish Purple (or Purple) and has a distinctive chartreuse blotch.

With the 'Festive' and 'Geisha' question put to rest, can anyone tell 'Herbert' from 'Purple Splendor'?

References

- 1. Undated and unpublished working paper found in the files at the Glenn Dale Plant Introduction Station ("Bell Station") that describes Morrison's extensive evaluation of 'Vittatum' as a seed and pollen parent.
- 2. West, R. T. and Miller III, W. C., *The Glenn Dale Azaleas - Revised 1996*. The Azalea Works, Bethesda, MD 1996. Available on the Internet at www.theazaleaworks.com.
- 3. Miller III, W. C. And West, R. T., *The Bell Book: A Companion to Agriculture Monograph 20*. The Azalea Works, Bethesda, MD 1996. Available on the Internet at <u>www.theazaleaworks.com</u>.
- 4. West, R. T., Miller III, W. C., Bullock, B. L., *The* Massed Glenn Dale Azaleas on Mt. Hamilton: A Valuable Collection at the National Arboretum, *The Azalean*, March 1992; Vol. 14 (1): 8-13.

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