

Jan. 1, 1974

W. J. SKOU ET AL

Plant Pat. 3,417

AZALEA PLANT

Filed Oct. 22, 1971

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Jan. 1, 1974

W. J. SKOU ET AL

Plant Pat. 3,417

AZALEA PLANT

Filed Oct. 22, 1971

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



1

2

3,417

AZALEA PLANT

William J. Skou, Akron, Walter W. Knicely, Barberton,
and William E. Duffett, Akron, Ohio, assignors to
Henry W. Motzkau, Whitewater, Wis.

Filed Oct. 22, 1971, Ser. No. 191,766

Int. Cl. A01h 5/00

U.S. Cl. Plt.—55

1 Claim

The present invention comprises a new and distinct
variety of azalea plant which has resulted from a sponta-
neous mutation of the unpatented cultivar Skylark.

The new variety is similar in many respects to Skylark,
having the same characteristics of:

- (1) Growth habit.
- (2) Flowering response.
- (3) Flower size and form.

The new variety is distinguished from Skylark by its
pink and white variegated flower color.

Varietal worth was determined by flowering liners from
cuttings taken from the initial selection in both a year-
round and natural season developmental flowering pro-
gram over a period of four years. Stock growth was evalu-
ated in the vicinity of southern Florida.

The new variety has been asexually reproduced by
cuttings at Barberton, Ohio, and has been found to retain
its distinctive characteristics through successive propaga-
tions. When growth in the vicinity of Barberton, Ohio,
the new variety has a response described as Earyl-Mid-
seson. The following detailed description is based on
observations made of the new variety in a greenhouse in
Barberton, Ohio. The response time and blooming period
may vary significantly with varying environmental condi-
tions such as temperature, light intensity and day length.
Suggested flowering period is from January through April
in a natural season program, and all 12 months in a year-
round controlled program.

The accompanying photographic drawings show the
unique features of the new cultivar, with the colors being
as nearly true as possible with color illustrations of this
type. Sheet 1 of the drawings comprises a comparison
photograph showing flower color and form, with the new
cultivar appearing on the left and the parent cultivar,
Skylark, on the right. Sheet 2 comprises a specimen
photograph of the new cultivar by itself.

The following is a detailed description of our new
variety, with color references being to the Munsell Color
Book, 1963 Edition, and color comparison made with
the parent cultivar Skylark.

Botanical classification: *Rhododendron hybrida* evergreen type; evergreen florist forcing type

	Skyliner	Skylark
Flower:		
Color (winter flowering at Barberton Ohio):		
General tonality	Light pink base, nearest to 2.5RP8/6, with an almost white edge, 10P9/1.	Medium pink, nearest to 5RP6/12, but more intense.
Sepals first open	Very light pink, lighter than 2.5RP8/6, fading to greenish white, lighter than 2.5G Y9/2.	Grayish pink, 7.5RP7/6.
Petals unfurl	Light pine, near 2.5RP8/6, with white edge, 10P9/1.	Medium pink, nearest to 5RP6/12, but more intense.
Fully open:		
Inside	Light pink, 2.5RP5/6, with white edge, 10P9/1.	Medium pink, lighter than 5RP5/12, but not 5RP6/12.
Reverse	do.	Do.
Base of petals	White, 10P9/1.	Blush, near 10RP9/2.
Incomplete outer hose	Light pink, 2.5RP8/6 with white, 10P9/1.	Medium pink, near 5RP5/12, but not as light as 5RP6/12.
Variations:		
Dotted uppers	Dark rose pink, nearest to 10RP4/14.	Deep medium pink, near 8.75RP4/14.
Discoloration as ages	Gradually fades as ages light pink, much lighter than 2.5RP8/6.	
Bud:		
Size	Medium	
Form	Conoidal	
Opening habit	Petals fully expanded, rose-bud like, fully open, cup-like	
Bloom:		
Size	Medium	
Average	Range 1 1/2" to 3"	
Borne	Several together, average, 3; range, 1 to 6	
Form	Semi-double with varying degrees of petaloid stamen; calyx petaloid to varying degree forming an incomplete hose.	
Blooming habit	Once, profusely	
Response:		
Natural season	Early to mid season	
Year-round	do.	
Sepals	"Bud Sheath" smooth edge, hairy, persistent	
Calyx	Imperfect hose	
Length	Medium	
Aspect	Hairy	
Strength	Strong	
Petals:		
Texture	Soft	
Appearance	Inside, satiny	
	Outside, satiny	
Form	Rounded and slightly notched	
Arrangement	Imbricate	
Fragrance	None	
Persistence	Non-shatter	
Longevity	Greenhouse, 3 to 4 weeks	
	Home, 4 to 5 weeks.	
Reproductive organs:		
Stamen	Petaloid to varying degrees, 5 to 10 anthers, brownish pink, near 5R6/6.	
Filaments	If present, blush pink, 2.5RP9/2; if petaloid, light pink, near 2.5RP8/6.	
Style	Normal, columnar, turns upward, pink 7.5RP6/10.	
Stigma	Normal, brownish pink, near 5R5/6.	
Ovaries	Hypogynous	
Fruit	None	
Foliage:		
Type	Evergreen	
Leaflets	Single	

Botanical classification: *Rhododendron hybrida* evergreen type; evergreen florist forcing type—continued

	Skyliner	Skylark
Size:		
Length	Average 1½", range ¾" to 2¼"	
Width	Average ¾", range ⅜" to 1"	
Shape	Ovate	
Texture	Slightly hairy	
Rib and mid veins	Slightly depressed	
Edge	Somewhat repand	
Color (new foliage):		
Upper	Green, near 7.5GY5/8	
Lower	Light green, near 5GY6/6	
Color (mature foliage):		
Upper	Darkgreen, near 5GY3/2	
Lower	Gray green, near 7.5GY4/14	
Petiole	Medium length, green, near 5GY5/8	
Plant	Bush	
Growth habit	Semi-upright, horizontal	
Breaking habit	Vigorous, free breaking, spreading	
Size	Average size of a finished product produced from a standard #7 liner by Yoder Brothers, Inc.: height: 10"-12"; diameter: 12"-18".	
Rooting habit	Vigorous, on own roots	
Budding ease	Fair to good	
Uniformity of budding	Good	
Growth regulator	Useful in controlling wild growth tendency	
Stems (color):		
New wood	Green, near 7.5GY6/10	
Mature wood	Brown, near 10YR4/4	
Responsiveness to day length and temperature:		
Flowering and budding	Buds and flowers under a wide range of environmental conditions	
Resistance to cylindrocladium	Good	
Cooler tolerance	do	
Shipping tolerance	do	

We claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of azalea characterized particularly as to novelty when compared to the patent

30

cultivar Skylark by its pink and white variegated flower color.

No references cited.

ROBERT E. BAGWILL, Primary Examiner

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. PP-3,417 Dated January 1, 1974

Inventor(s) WILLIAM J. SKOU, WALTER W. KNICELY and
WILLIAM E. DUFFETT

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 2, line 4, change "growth" to --grown--.

In the tabulated description below Columns 1 and 2, under "Flower:", opposite "Petals unfurl", under "Skyliner", change "pine" to --pink--.

In the tabulated description below Columns 1 and 2, directly below "Calyx" and before "Length" insert --Peduncle:-- at the margin.

Signed and sealed this 24th day of September 1974.

(SEAL)
Attest:

McCOY M. GIBSON JR.
Attesting Officer

C. MARSHALL DANN
Commissioner of Patents