

Looking back to earlier days of rhododendron studies it may be revealed that the first *Rhododendron* was classified and named during 16th century and the species was *R. hirsutum* and discovered by Flemish botanist, Charles l'Ecluse, (Clusius). The plant is known as alpine rose, *R. hirsutum* became the first species to be put under cultivation by the year 1656 in some pockets of Britain. In 1753, Linnaeus established order in the *Rhododendron* genus and German naturalist Pallas in 1780, 1793, and 1796 described 3 rhododendron species that are native to eastern Europe and Asia. These species are *R. dauricum*, *R. flavum*, and *R. chrysanthum*. Captain Hardwicke discovered the tree species *Rhododendron arboreum* in 1799 from Himalayan region which has blood-red flowers and in year 1811 it was transported to KEW. By 1850, Sir Joseph Hooker's publications, which included descriptions of the exquisite Sikkim's Rhododendrons with forty-five new species, had exposed the enormous *Rhododendron* treasure from the northeast Himalayas. According to the most recent Botanical Survey of India publication there are 132 taxa (80 species, 25 subspecies and 27 varieties) of Rhododendrons found in India and out of which 109 taxa are distributed in Arunachal Pradesh.



*Rhododendron arboreum* subsp. *nilagiricum* (Zenker) Tagg



*Rhododendron arunachalense* D.F. Chamb. & Rae



*Rhododendron dalhousiae* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron dalhousiae* var. *rhabdotum* (Balf. f. & R.E. Cooper) Cullen



*Rhododendron glaucophyllum* Rehder



*Rhododendron grande* Wight



*Rhododendron baileyi* Balf. f.



*Rhododendron barbatum* Wall. ex G. Don



*Rhododendron dekatanum* Cowan



*Rhododendron dalhousiae* var. *rhabdotum* (Balf. f. & R.E. Cooper) Cullen



*Rhododendron griffithianum* Wight



*Rhododendron hookeri* Nutt.



*Rhododendron bhutanense* D.G. Long & Bowes Lyon



*Rhododendron boothii* Nutt.



*Rhododendron dendricola* Hutch.



*Rhododendron edgeworthii* Hook.



*Rhododendron johnstoneanum* (Brandis) Watt ex Hutch



*Rhododendron kendrickii* Nutt.



*Rhododendron aeruginosum* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron anthopogon* D. Don



*Rhododendron campanulatum* D. Don



*Rhododendron campylocarpum* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron dendricola* Hutch.



*Rhododendron elliottii* Watt ex Brandis



*Rhododendron kesangiae* D.G. Long & Rushforth



*Rhododendron keysii* Nutt.



*Rhododendron anthopogon* subsp. *hypenanthum* (Balf. f.) Cullen



*Rhododendron arboreum* Sm. subsp. *arboreum*



*Rhododendron ciliatum* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron cinnabarinum* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron exasperatum* Tagg



*Rhododendron fulgens* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron lanatum* Hook. f.



*Rhododendron lepidotum* Wall.

# RHODODENDRONS IN INDIA



*Rhododendron lepidotum*  
Wall.



*Rhododendron maddenii* subsp.  
*crassum* (Franch.) Cullen



*Rhododendron pseudomeddenii*  
A.A.Mao & M. Bhaumik



*Rhododendron pudorosum*  
Cowan



*Rhododendron tsariense*  
Cowan



*Rhododendron vaccinioides*  
Hook.f.



*Rhododendron mechukae* A.A. Mao  
& Ashish Paul



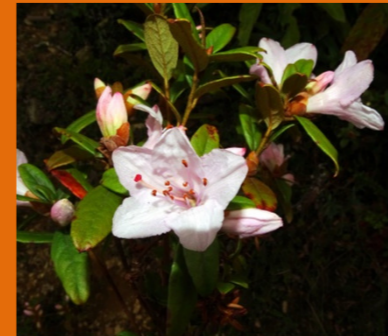
*Rhododendron megacalyx*  
Balf.f. & Kingdon-Ward



*Rhododendron rawatii*  
I.D. Rai & B.S. Adhikari



*Rhododendron sidereum*  
Balf.f.



*Rhododendron virgatum*  
Hook.f.



*Rhododendron wattii*  
Cowan



*Rhododendron megeratum*  
Balf.f. & Forrest



*Rhododendron moullainense*  
Hook.



*Rhododendron sinogrande*  
Balf.f. & W.W.Sm.



*Rhododendron wightii*  
J.D. Hooker



*Rhododendron xanthostephanum*  
Merr.



*Rhododendron moullainense*  
Hook.



*Rhododendron neriiflorum*  
Franch.



*Rhododendron stewartianum*  
Diels



*Rhododendron thomsonii* subsp.  
*lopsangianum* (Cowan) D.F.Chamb.



*Rhododendron nuttallii*  
T.J.Booth ex Nutt.



*Rhododendron pangeanum*  
A.A.Mao & Bhaumik



*Rhododendron titapuriense*  
A.A.Mao, K.N.E.Cox & D.F.Chamb.



*Rhododendron triflorum*  
Hook.f.



## Cover page photo legends

*Rhododendron arboreum* subsp.  
*cinnamomeum* (Wall. ex G. Don) Tagg

*Rhododendron campanulatum* D.  
Don subsp. *campanulatum*

*Rhododendron falconeri* Hook.f.

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