



**Rice's
Picks**

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Hydrangeas

Common Questions about Hydrangea

Where do Hydrangea's like to grow?

Hydrangeas prefer moist, well-drained soil that has been amended with **Growers Secret** or peat moss. Full sun or part shade is preferred. Moisture is a necessity as plants tend to wilt in hot dry sites and will not perform well.

Why is my blue hydrangea pink?

Flowers in some cultivars are strongly effected by the pH of the soil in which they are grown. The color range depends on the cultivar but the bluest shades are always produced on the most acidic soils. By adding **Aluminum Sulphate**, you will get blue flowers on your hydrangea. Adding lime will help turn your flowers pink. A range of 5.0 to 5.5 is listed as satisfactory for inducing blue coloration while a pH 6.0 to 6.5 and higher is best for pink coloration.

Why doesn't my Hydrangea bloom?

Some hydrangea's bloom from old wood—meaning the previous years growth are the parts of the plant that produce the flowers. If any of this old wood has been trimmed back, or died through the winter then the likelihood of flowers the next year are slim. To keep hydrangeas that bloom from old wood flowering we recommend selective pruning and using **Triple Super Phosphate** to encourage blooms.

Hydrangea Varieties

Hydrangea arborescens – native species found growing in damp, shady areas of central and southern Ohio. Will flower in deep shade.

a. 'Annabella' a cultivar with large 12" flowers adaptable to sunny and partially shaded sites. 4' x 4'

Hydrangea macrophylla – this is the species from which the majority of familiar cultivated hydrangeas are derived.

m. 'All Summer Beauty' large flower heads of blue or pink all summer. Blooms on old wood 3' x 3'

m. 'Endless Summer' large flower heads of blue or pink on new or old wood. Flowers all summer. 3.5' x 3.5'

m. 'Blushing Bride' large flower heads of pink on new or old wood. Flowers all summer. 3.5' x 3.5'

m. 'Big Daddy' 12-14" large flower heads blue or pink on new and old wood. Flowers all summer long. 5' x 6'

m. 'Forever Pink' rich clear pink flowers on old wood. 3' x 3'

m. 'Glowing Embers' large fluorescent pink to red flowers on old wood. Compact plant habit. 3' x 3'

m. 'Nikko Blue' large deep blue flowers on old wood. 3' x 3'

Hydrangea paniculata – flowers on new wood and like the same conditions as other hydrangeas.

p. 'Limelight' flowers open to a lime green color. 6' x 6'

p. 'Little Lamb' smaller and more compact version of P.G. hydrangea. 6' x 6'

p. 'Pink Diamond' large 8" x 12" lacy flowers in July/August. Turns pink later in the season. 6' x 6'

p. 'Tardiva' large showy white clusters on strong upright stems. 6' x 8'

Climbing Hydrangea – an attractive vine or ground cover with large flat flower heads that are white. Flowers in late June. These plants are somewhat slow to develop after transplanting, requiring rich, well drained, moist soil in full sun or partial shade. For best results, plant so that the root system is in a cool soil environment.

Oakleaf Hydrangea – large, coarse textured oak leaf foliage with large white flowers in June. These plants require moist, fertile, well drained soil in sun or partial shade. Mulch to maintain a cool, moist root environment. Prune after flowering as plants bloom on old wood and buds form the prior year.

‘Snow Queen’ an improved selection with large, pure white flowers. 6’ x 5’

‘Alice’ flowers are white and 10 to 12” long. 6’ x 6’

‘Sikes Dwarf’ low growing form. 3’ x 3’

‘Pee Wee’ low growing form. 3’ x 3’