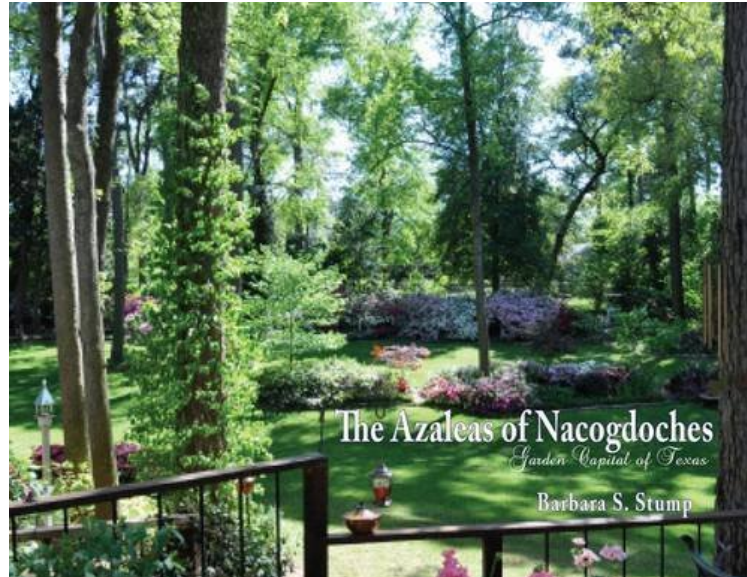


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## The Azaleas of Nacogdoches

*Barbara Stump*

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**Barbara Stump : The Azaleas of Nacogdoches** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Azaleas of Nacogdoches:

The Azaleas of Nacogdoches is a photographic tour of some of the finest azalea gardens in East Texas, not to mention the United States. Follow Barbara Stump on her annual tour of these magnificent plants, culminating in the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden where more than one hundred feet of purple spider azaleas are planted alongside University Road and frame one side of the garden. Composed of a broad variety of plant specimens, including Japanese maples, hydrangeas, camellias, and more than 6,500 azaleas, the Ruby M. Mize Garden is Texas largest azalea garden and attracts thousands of tourists annually. Here, however, the focus is azaleas, and page after page is a delight in color and composition. The azaleas of Nacogdoches are special, breathtaking, unsurpassed. No wonder Nacogdoches was recently named as the Garden Capital of Texas; The Azaleas of Nacogdoches provides compelling evidence why this designation is appropriate.

Aromi Hybrids There are many Aromi hybrids; we are attempting to collect as many as possible. Maarten van der Giessen of van der Giessen Nursery in the Mobile, Alabama, area has been responsible for collecting and preserving much of Dr. Aromi s work and shared many of our favorites that are planted in Bed 25."Evergreen Azaleas These azaleas provide reliable year-round leaf cover and brilliant spring bloom. Some of these azaleas do have fall colors in yellowing or bronzing of their leaves. Some of these will drop, especially in the Southern Indica group, but new spring and summer leaves make the shrubs lushly evergreen throughout the warmer months. While American breeders and hybridizers have actively added to the number of evergreen azalea cultivated varieties, all of the original evergreen azaleas came from Southeast Asia, Japan, and Korea. The evergreen azaleas are either named for the breeders who

developed them through seedling selection or vegetative breeding or for their source country."About the AuthorBARBARA STUMP is the Research Associate for Development at SFA Gardens and the project coordinator for the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden. Barbara received a BS in English from Iowa State University in 1968 and her MS in horticulture from Stephen F. Austin State University in 2001. Her thesis topic was site analysis and design of the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden.