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*About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.



31 December 1957

Silver Hill Nurseries,  
Daphne, Alabama.

Gentlemen:

Last summer a friend of mine handed me a copy of your retail catalogue and I have been intending to write you to see if I may get some of your azaleas for my collection here.

The varieties and amounts that I would be interested in getting are listed at the bottom of the sheet.

Will your be good enough to let me have the present prices on these, or on the next size if you are out of the sizes indicated?

Your list has any number of items that I do not see elsewhere and as I am occasionally, and I mean only occasionally called upon to assist with a landscape planting, I should like to inquire if you have a wholesale list or rate, for such sales.

Very truly yours,

E. Y. Morrison

Azaleas:

2 each.

|              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| Beni-Kirin   | 8 - 12" |
| Fuji-nishiki | "       |
| Izayii       | "       |
| Sakuragata   | "       |
| Wakae-bisu   | "       |
| Wakae-matsu  | "       |

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Sho-qua | 12 - 18" |
| Yachiyo | "        |

Double macrantha 8 - 12"

From the Mobile area we usually have plants shipped by Motor Freight, and the Central Truck co. picks them up in the area and brings them in to the local firm that delivers. Can you get the Central Truck co which has offices in Mobile to pick up the order?

Silver Bay Nurseries - Daphne, Ala.

|                |                    |   |      |      |
|----------------|--------------------|---|------|------|
| Dorking -      | 8-12 <sup>11</sup> | } | @ 60 | 4.80 |
| Gulf Pride     | 8-12               |   |      |      |
| Judd           | 8-12               |   |      |      |
| Lawsal         | 8-12               |   |      |      |
| Lady Edith     | 8-12               |   |      |      |
| Martha Louise  | 8-12               |   |      |      |
| Mad. Dominique | 8-12               |   |      |      |
| Tilney Red     | 8-12               |   |      |      |

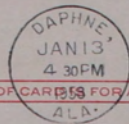
|                |      |   |        |      |
|----------------|------|---|--------|------|
| ✓ Ben Kiren    | 8-12 | } | @ 1.00 | 6.00 |
| ✓ Fuji Nishiki |      |   |        |      |
| ✓ Izayoi       |      |   |        |      |
| ✓ Sakuragata   |      |   |        |      |
| Wakae bisu     |      |   |        |      |
| ✓ Wakae matsn  | 8-12 |   |        |      |

|            |       |   |        |             |
|------------|-------|---|--------|-------------|
| ✓ Sho-gua  | 12+18 | } | @ 1.75 | <u>3.50</u> |
| ✓ Yachingo |       |   |        |             |

|                  |         |             |
|------------------|---------|-------------|
| Helen Dawson     | -18-24- | 2.50        |
| Double Macrantha | 8-12    | <u>1.00</u> |

|         |     |             |
|---------|-----|-------------|
|         | 10% | 17.80       |
| crating |     | 1.78        |
|         |     | <u>2.00</u> |
|         |     | 21.58       |





THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. B. J. Morrison  
Pass Christian Nurseries  
Pass Christian.  
Miss.

**SILVER BAY NURSERIES**

"Growers of Fine Plants"

Daphne, Alabama

Jan 13, 1958

Dear Mr. Morrison.

We appreciate very much your recent order which will be shipped as promptly as possible. Will notify you date of shipment.

Sincerely,

Silver Bay Nurseries

*I think you will love the  
magnolia hybrids - of all our  
Azaleas - they are my favorite.  
Mrs. Young*

9 January 1958

Silver Bay Nurseries,  
Daphne, Alabama.

Dear Mrs. Young:

Thank you for your reply to my inquiry.

I am sorry that I was not clear in my letter. The azaleas are for my personal collection and I must be treated like any John Doe! Packing charges and all.

The only reason that I inquired about rates was in connection with the very occasional landscape job that I am forced to take. I should like to avoid them, but cannot always.

Check inclosed as indicated below.

I shall appreciate it if you will decide when to start the shipment after January 20th, as I may be away the last of this week. If it is too cold, wait it still longer please. I'll leave this to your best judgment.

Very truly yours,

B. V. Morrison

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 2 BeniKiren        |  |
| 2 Fuji-nishiki     |  |
| 2 Izayo            |  |
| 2 Sakuragata       |  |
| 2 Wakamatsu        |  |
| 2 Sho qua          |  |
| 2 Yachiyo          |  |
| 2 Double macrantha | 19.00                                      |
| packing 10%        | 1.90                                       |
| crating            | 1.00 (this to be corrected by you, please) |
|                    | <hr/> 21.90                                |

m:incl-check

*Telephone mt 7  
Fairhope Ala -  
wa 8-2653 (a 2658)*



13 February 1958

Silver Bay Nursery  
Daphne, Alabama.

Dear Mrs. Young :

Yesterday as the snow was beginning to pile up, we finally got the plants away from The Gulf Coast Express! They were unpacked at once and kept over night in the head house of my small greenhouse where the temperatures were "cool"! As far as one can tell, there was no damage in transit.

As I wrote you, these are for my personal collection of these late flowering "Satsuki" azaleas, of which I now have about 100 named kinds, including a small collection just imported from Japan, and still in the process of recovery from their long air freight across the Pacific, bare rooted, and then on to Gulfport by air express, with a slight delay in New Orleans! They still look very odd, with only new leaves to replace all those stripped off in Japan.

Your plants are of fine size, but as an old hand at this sort of thing I would suspect that they are growing in far too much shade, and that they need a good square meal! I plan to allow these to flower, if they will, for there are very few buds (due undoubtedly to the shade) and then prune them back brutally, so that they will return to the dense form that is typical of this strain.

I presume to mention this ONLY because since you are the only source of these varieties, and every such source is PRECIOUS to all good gardeners in the country! I certainly mean no offence. Thank you for your care in the packing, which was different from any I had seen before but certainly came through in fine shape.

Cordially,

B. Y. Morrison

m



13 February 1958

Silver Bay Nursery,  
Daphne, Alabama.

Dear Mrs. Young:

It was much too cold last night to do more than unpack your two crates and set the plants in the headhouse where they could not suffer more. My letter mailed this morning went off before I had moved the plants into the greenhouse proper (almost unheated), and discovered that I do not have:

2 Wakaebisu

In looking at the carbon of my letter of January 9, I see that I did not list it!

But it is on your estimated price sheet which I inclose and my check sent with the letter of January 9 was based on that figure.

Can you let me have them?

If so, and if it is not too much trouble will you send them express collect by the L & N.R.R., remembering NOT to start them on a Friday as there are no offices open from Friday night till Monday morning!

I think also that you should send me a bill for packing, as this will entail even more than before, when I merely added what I could find from the catalogue!

I am sorry to be such a nuisance and apologize for my errors!

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

B. Y. Morrison

m  
:inclosure.



CAMELLIAS

## SILVER BAY NURSERIES

ON MOBILE BAY  
Growers of Fine Plants  
DAPHNE, ALABAMA



AZALEAS

Feb. 16, 1958.

Dear Mrs. Morrison:

So sorry about the Wakaebusa. I noticed in packing your order that these were not on your list - but failed to note they were on the original inquiry. I had intended to mention these in my answer to your nice letter. This is one of the prettiest of them all. We have two other varieties of the Macrantha Hybrids that you might like to have. Akera Nishiki - <sup>blooms profusely Fall as well as Spring</sup> very dwarf growing - flower very large, orange red - of a very different formation. Sei Dai - very beautiful, very large single flower - large white center with each petal, edged pink. We made the mistake of selling out too close (almost entirely) on this variety and have Digitized by eGangotri Institute for Botanical Documentation We can let you have a couple of each of these - if you would like - Will send them along with the Wakaebusa - when we hear from you.

You won't need to baby any of these plants. They are not used to such good care. They have been right outside - with no care at all - to speak of, for quite some time. Note your comment on the condition of the plants. I know all these facts too well and worried me, very much. <sup>no bath</sup> Could be too much shade. It would be natural shade - We have some deciduous trees through the Nursery and some pines - Most of the Azaleas are very much exposed to all winter conditions I don't remember, at this time, of any of the Macranthas in too much shade - Will watch this next summer. I rather think the trouble is lack of care - mainly





CAMELLIAS

## SILVER BAY NURSERIES

ON MOBILE BAY  
Growers of Fine Plants  
DAPHNE, ALABAMA



AZALEAS

fertilizing - watering and pruning. Our trouble is labor - We just don't have any and seem unable to get any good help. It has been my experience that poor help is worse than none, in a Nursery. It seems that good Nursery people are very much tied up to their own project or another nursery.

Since starting the sales yard - our time has been given mostly to that - the regular demand is for Pride of Mobile - Formosa - Xmas Cheer - Snow, and the items that everybody has - disgusting to me. We have discontinued our mail order business - with the exception of our good customers - and people that write to us from reputation - seeing our plants, etc.

We have another White azalea - that I like very much - you may know this - We bought a few poor old plants of this labeled as, Laterita Alba, an Indica - the growth and habits seem more like a macrantha - very slow - small leaves - perfectly winter hardy - blooms with late Indica's - flower medium size - pure white. Have some of these ready in small plants.

We have a few of the Glendale varieties - Glamour - Fashion - Stardust - Samite - Glacier. I like all these very much - but have not done anything with them. We ordered these a no. of years ago from Tingle Nursery - also the Helen Dawson.

I hope this long letter has not tired you. It is a treat to me to "talk" to someone that really has an interest in these different varieties.  
Mrs. Young.



20 February 1956

Mrs. Young,  
Silver Bay Nurseries,  
Daphne, Ala.

Dear Mrs. Young:

Thank you for your letter and for your patience!

And for the good news! More Setsukis, how splendid, and again cheers for the possibility of having "late-flora alba". I did not know it was in the country even much less available.

You certainly are correct on the business of "labor". Nursery work apparently does not appeal to any one any more. And if one could attempt to pay salaries that would compete with salaries in other fields of work, then one would have to make charges for plants, so high, that no one would buy! It makes a vicious circle. We have had a few negro workers here who left after a few hours, saying that they did not like this kind of work! I cannot say that I am "thrilled" by endless weeding, but it has to be done and my muscles ache like any one's when I have put in a day of bending top growths to make the infan bush from the base! But it has to be done and that is that.

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| 2 SeiDai        | 3.00  |
| 2 Okina-        |       |
| nishiki         | 2.00  |
| 2 laterita alba |       |
| Packing         | .50   |
| Crates          | 1.00  |
|                 | <hr/> |
|                 | 6.50  |

and  
2 Wakebisu

I'm glad that you know a few Glenn Dales, but if I were doing it I should not bother too much with either Samite or Stardust down here, if you are as mild in winter as we are. When I am a little farther along, I'd like to send you with my compliments some plants of varieties that I feel are pretty special, and that have not had enough attention paid to them anywhere: Helen Gunning, Martha Hitchcock, Wildfire, Polar Sea, Wisdom, and so on.... But we are still small and doing all the work ourselves, with a production figure of about 20,000 plants for next season, no late here either, and no trees save some old pecans, that are so late to leaf out that they do not help too much. In my opinion, they do no damage, in spite of the old superstition, that nothing grows under pecans!

I find that macranthas do best in full sun, not only here but up North as well. The growth is slowed down somewhat, the height reduced a little, but the habit is far more compact. It is true that the sun will damage some blooms, so apart from the production of fine bushes, full sun is not for the home gardener.

We have in initial propagation, a whole series of doubles, not hose-in-hose but true doubles, in a fairly wide range of colors though no double white that suits me as yet. I even have one cute little double with white flowers margined pink!

You probably are as tied down by your nursery as I am, but if you ever get this way do look in! The late seedlings and the doubles are for May bloom over here!

Cordially,

B.Y.Morrison

Incl: check.

18 May 1958

Dear Mrs. Young,

Now that the azaleas have all flowered save one plant of the "Double macrantha", it is only proper that I should send you my thanks all over again. I am delighted to have them. Those that I knew from old times are as fine as I remembered and those that are new to me, are more than interesting.

As I think I wrote you before, these late flowering Japanese clones are one of my special hobbies, and when I was living in the North, where some of them are not too cold hardy, they were used in my breeding work, enough so that now I have any quantity of seedlings that are their obvious kin.

Presently your plants are all going to get a terrific pruning, and then a series of heavy feedings, so that I can see if they will not turn into the closely knit, compact plants that are typical, for my present collection, although they are not so pruned, could easily provide plants for their purpose.

It is unreasonable of me, but should you ever come across other varieties of this general type, I should be ever so grateful to you, if you would let me know and buy them of you. It is a particular pleasure to have plants of *Kei-dei* and *Sho-qua*, of which I knew, as book knowing but had never seen. I am also delighted to meet "*lateritia alba*" which had always been just a name to me.

If and when I ever get over to see you and your nursery, I hope you will be able to tell me, when, where and how you came on these varieties, for while they are known to some of my visitors here, I had never heard of them before, and yet I now read of some of them in Lee's new book! The history that lies behind plants is so easily lost and so quickly, that if you have any recollections of these points, I'll beg to hear of them. I know that you are probably far too busy to write, so do not think of that, unless you are in the midst of a rainy period as we seem to be!

Thank you again.

Cordially,

B. Y. Morrison

m



WN 3-6161

*shipped Azaleas* **Silver Bay Nurseries**

ON MOBILE BAY

Growers of Fine Plants

DAPHNE, ALABAMA

**SURPLUS SALE**

GENERAL NURSERY STOCK

MOSTLY MEDIUM TO LARGER SIZES

Thousands of Azaleas—Camellias—Sasanquas—Broad Leaved Evergreens and Trees

*yesterday as per card  
by - Gulf Coast Express Co.  
Sorry about the delay  
but such bad  
weather here -*

*Central informed us they do not stop  
at Pass Christian  
any more!  
Mrs. Young.*

Since starting our salesyard on Highway 98, two years ago; we find our sales have been mostly smaller size and container grown stock. This leaves us with a surplus of larger field grown plants. Much of this stock is fine landscaping material and good specimen plants, which will bring top prices.

We will be pleased to have you visit our Nursery—look over this stock—make us an offer on all or any part. No reasonable offer refused.

If possible—buyer to dig and load.

**AZALEAS**

Pride of Mobile, Elegans, Phoenicia, Formosa—2 to 8 ft. spread. Fielders White—4 to 8 ft. spread. Daphne Red, Lawsall, Pres. Clay, Dorking and others in assorted sizes.

Kurumes—Leading varieties, assorted sizes. Macranthas—Mostly smaller sizes.

**CAMELLIAS AND SASANQUAS**

All the good standard varieties, and hundreds of the finest rare varieties, including grafts—2 to 10 ft.

**BROAD LEAVED EVERGREENS**

Abelia, Bamboo, Camellia Thea, Cleyeria Japonica, Callistemon, Eleganus, Gardenias, Ligustrum, Magnolia Fuscata and others.

**FLOWERING SHRUBS**

Crepe Myrtle (Red, White, Lavender, Deep Pink), Deutzia, English Dogwood, Mock Orange, Spirea (Froebelli, Thunbergia, Van Houttei) — Vitex and others.

**EVERGREENS**

Phitzer Junipers — to 8 ft. spread.

**TREES — All transplanted — to 15 feet.**

Ash (White) — Chinese Tallow, Cherry (Flowering and Wild Black) — Cherry Laurel, Cucumber, Dogwood, Elm (Chinese) — Honey Locust, Japanese Live Oak, Mimosa, Red Bud, Red Maple, Sweet Gum, Smoke Tree, Sycamore, Tung Nut.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Ophiopagon, Big Blue Liriope, Vinca Minor in Quantity.