

# Aromi Hybrid Native Azalea

## *Rhododendron x 'Aromi Sunny Side Up'*

Although native azaleas are deciduous, most of the azaleas growing in Florida landscapes are evergreen hybrids. Native azaleas, also known as bush honeysuckle, have smaller flowers and are more delicate-looking than the evergreen hybrids, but they're also very fragrant, whereas non-natives have no fragrance. Fragrant native azaleas bloom in the spring around the same time as other azaleas. 'Sunny Side-Up' Aromi hybrid produces abundant, large rounded clusters of dazzling yellow flowers with a splash of golden-orange on the upper petals. The Aromi hybrids were bred to perform well in the heat and humidity of the coastal South. Native azaleas are very low-maintenance, requiring little if any pruning. If some pruning is needed always prune in late spring or early summer, shortly after flowering, because azaleas set their flower buds for next year during the summer. Prune too late and chances increase that you will remove next year's flower buds.

**Type:** perennial deciduous shrub

**USDA hardiness zones:** 7 through 10a

**Uses:** border; mass planting; container or above-ground planter; specimen; accent; naturalized areas

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Height:** 6 to 10 feet      **Spread:** 6 to 10 feet

**Plant spacing:** 8 feet

**Light requirement:** part sun to part shade

**Soil tolerances:** acid; clay; sand; loam

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** low

**Invasive potential:** native

**Pest resistance:** insect and disease resistant

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Photo: ServeScape