



Royal
Botanic Garden
Edinburgh



'The Red List of Rhododendrons'

Where Do We Go From Here? : Establishing Priorities and an Action Plan

2013 International Rhododendron Species Conservation Conference : Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st April, 2013
Venue: Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Scotland

Conference Registration Form

The Conference venue is limited to a maximum of 100 Delegates & Speakers in total, and applications for Registration will be dealt with strictly on the basis of date of receipt by the Registrar of both a completed form and full payment.

Place an X in the relevant boxes

'Early-bird' discounted Registration Fee: £ 85 .00 per person
To be received by the Registrar no later than 14th February, 2013
[Includes Buffet Lunches and all refreshments for two days]

Registrant #1

Registrant #2

Registration Fee after 14th February, 2013: £ 100 .00 per person
To be received by the Registrar no later than 31st March, 2013
[Includes Buffet Lunches and all refreshments for two days]

Conference Dinner £ 36 .00 per person
Optional social event for Conference Registrants only.

Make your Dinner Menu choices below: (See enclosed Menu)

Starter

A B

A B

Main Course

C D E

C D E

Dessert

F G

F G

Total Cost for each Registrant

£ _____

£ _____

Total Cost Payable

£ _____

Please enclose a cheque drawn on a UK Bank payable in £ Sterling, or an International Money Order in £ Sterling, payable to: **Rhododendron Species Conservation Group.** *Only £ Sterling currency can be accepted.*

Payment can be made via Paypal on the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group website Conference page that will be operational in early-January at www.rscg.org.uk Tick this box if you are paying via PayPal. There are no credit card facilities available.

Name of Registrant #1: _____

Name of Registrant #2: _____

Address: _____

*Address: _____

Post Code/Zip Code: _____

*Post Code/Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____
Including Country Code

*Telephone Number: _____
Including Country Code

e.mail address: _____

*e.mail address: _____

*If different than Registrant #1

Return this proforma by Royal Mail or Airmail to:

Margaret R. Hammond, Conference Registrar RSCG, The Three Chimneys, 12 Cockey Moor Road, Starling, Bury, England BL8 2HB

Telephone: +44 (0)1617641116 London Daytime only. e.mail: hammondsrhodies@supanet.com

Whilst all reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that the above Conference runs to plan, changes can and do occur, particularly where a programme involves multiple speakers from the U.K. & Overseas. The hosts are not responsible for changes caused by circumstances beyond their control, however, we will endeavour to make alternative organisational arrangements, including replacement speakers, where it is reasonably practical to do so.



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Where Do We Go From Here? : Establishing Priorities and an Action Plan

2013 International Rhododendron Species Conservation Conference

Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st April, 2013

Venue: Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Scotland

**Jointly hosted by: Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Rhododendron Species Conservation Group
& Botanic Gardens Conservation International**

Introduction:

Join us to participate in an International Rhododendron Species Conservation Conference to be held at the Royal Botanic Garden in the City of Edinburgh, Scotland in the Spring of 2013. If you have an abiding interest in rhododendrons and are passionate about ensuring that these beautiful plants are saved for future generations to enjoy, then this is an event for you. A quarter of the world's rhododendrons are threatened by extinction and some of these are reduced to a handful of plants in the wild. It would be a tragedy if these were lost.

Jointly hosted by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE), the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group (RSCG), and Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), *The Red List of Rhododendrons: Where Do We Go From Here? Establishing Priorities and an Action Plan* will cover the current position with species that are threatened in both the wild and in conservation, through a wide ranging programme of lectures, garden and glasshouse visits, together with the opportunity of meeting with like-minded delegates and socialising at an optional Conference Dinner.

Speakers from China, India, Indonesia and Britain will enlighten you with a programme of lectures that will put clearly into perspective that out of a global total of 1157 taxa evaluated, 317 rhododendrons *in-situ* ('in the wild') have been identified as being in danger of extinction. Urgent attention is needed for the 76 species considered to be 'Endangered' or 'Critically Endangered'.

It is equally important that the rhododendrons most at risk are represented in well-managed *ex-situ* ('in cultivation') collections as an insurance policy for the future. Speakers from North America, Hawai'i, New Zealand, Europe and Britain will give an assessment of the status of the Rhododendron collections, together with the current way of approach to conservation, being taken forward by Botanic Gardens, Public Gardens, Nurseries, Private Gardens and Societies.

Conference Venue:

The Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh enjoys a world-wide reputation as the 'home' for research, herbarium records and display collections of the genus *Rhododendron* for the past 100 years. It's Main Lecture Theatre and facilities can accommodate 100 delegates and speakers, and will provide a unique opportunity to meet with key personalities in the field of rhododendrons and vireyas. Facilities will be available for the display of horticultural, scientific and technical posters at the venue, by prior arrangement with the Conference Manager.

The Conference Hosts and Planning Group are grateful to the following organisations for their generosity and support:

**The Sibbald Trust
RHS. Rhododendron Camellia & Magnolia Group**

In common with all major events of this type this Conference is a 'work in progress', and the arrangements are subject to change without notice.

**Conference Programme:
Saturday, 20th April, 2013:**

Venue: Main Lecture Theatre

Welcome & Introduction:

Prof. Stephen Blackmore, C.B.E., Regius Keeper, R.B.G.E.

Conference Session I:

Theme : ***Setting the Scene:***

Moderator : Dr. David Rae, Director of Horticulture, R.B.G.E.

The major contributors to *'The Red List of Rhododendrons'* will explain the key aspects encompassed in the publication and also provide a wider view of the issues involved. Sara Oldfield will open the session with an introduction to the concerns that need to be addressed in the field of Rhododendron conservation. Dr. David Chamberlain will provide an overview of the situation relating to temperate species and suggest specific areas that need to be considered. Dr. George Argent will explain the impacts that raise concern in regard to Vireyas and suggest aspects that need to be considered.

Conference Session II:

Theme : ***Establishing a Sense of Direction and Purpose:***

Moderator : Sir Peter Hutchison, Hon. Vice-President, R.S.C.G.

David Knott, Curator of Living Collections at Inverleith Garden, will provide an insight to the R.B.G.E.'s perspective on Rhododendron conservation and how these concerns are being addressed. The opportunity will be taken to visit the R.B.G.E. plantings and discuss in a practical way some of the issues related to plants that are threatened, vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered. Dr. David Chamberlain will lead the session in Inverleith Garden, and Dr George Argent will lead the session in the Vireya House.

A resume of Day One will be given by Sir Peter Hutchison.

Saturday, 20th April, 2013

Evening Dinner at the R.B.G., Edinburgh

Venue : Main Conference Room

An Evening Dinner will be held to enable delegates to have an opportunity of socialising and enjoying each other's company in a relaxed atmosphere. This is a free-standing event and there is no requirement for delegates to attend. The Dinner is very reasonably priced for an event in Scotland's Capital City and places can be booked on the Registration Form. A separate menu is enclosed in the Registration Pack. This is a first-come, first served, optional event with a maximum of 80 places and the dress-code is smart casual.

Conference Programme:

Sunday, 21st April:

Venue: Main Lecture Theatre

Conference Session III:

Theme: *A Perspective from the Wild on Rhododendron Conservation:*

Moderator: Sara Oldfield, Secretary General, B.G.C.I., Surrey.

Speakers from China, India and Indonesia will provide an insight on the 'in-situ' position on conservation of rhododendrons and vireyas. Dr. Gao Lianming will outline the Chinese perspective on Rhododendron conservation. Dr. Ashiho Mao will give an insight into his work in the Arunachal Pradesh Province of India, and Dr. Wiguna Rahman will provide a perspective of Vireya conservation activities in Indonesia.

Conference Session IV:

Theme: *An Ex-situ Perspective of Rhododendron Conservation:*

Moderator: Ian W.J. Sinclair, President, R.S.C.G.

By way of contrast, this session will provide an *ex-situ* perspective and speakers from North America, Hawaii, Europe, New Zealand and Britain will cover the conservation work being taken forward in Botanic Gardens, Public Gardens, Private Gardens, Nurseries, and organisations with an interest in conservation. Steve Hootman will provide an insight into conservation activities in the U.S., Sherla Bertelmann will give an overview of the Vireya conservation work in Hawai'i and on the West Coast, Dr. Marion MacKay will discuss the conservation work being undertaken in New Zealand, Hartwig Schepker will explain the conservations activities taking place in Bremen and in Europe, and Peter & Kenneth Cox will provide their own perspective of conservation activities in the U.K. Ian Sinclair will outline the projects currently being taken forward by the R.S.C.G. A Speakers Panel and questions from the floor will conclude this session.

Conference Session V:

Theme: *The Way Forward:*

Moderator: John M. Hammond, Hon. Secretary R.S.C.G.

Based on the discussions over the past two days, in the final session of the Conference a Speakers Panel, comprised of Sara Oldfield, Dr. David Chamberlain, Dr. George Argent, Dr. Hartwig Schepker and Dr. Gao Lianming will outline the priority issues that need to be addressed and suggest a plan of action to take these objectives forward.

Concluding Overview:

A resume of the Conference will be presented by Sir Peter Hutchison.

Speakers and Moderators:

Dr. George Argent

Is a Research Associate at the Royal Botanic Garden, in Edinburgh, and has led numerous expeditions as a tropical taxonomist. He is recognised as the world's leading authority on Vireya rhododendrons and his publications include the *Rhododendrons of Subgenus Vireya*.

Sherla Bertelmann

Is a key driving force in the Hawai'i Group, is currently it's President, and her efforts have led to the establishment of the Group's Vireya Garden. With her partner she runs a very successful Rhododendron and Orchid nursery and is tireless in her efforts to promote Vireyas.

Dr. David F. Chamberlain

Is a Research Associate at the Royal Botanic Garden, in Edinburgh, Dr. David Chamberlain is world-renowned as a Rhododendron taxonomist, co-author of the Edinburgh revision of the Genus *Rhododendron* and has made many field trips to China in search of wild rhododendrons.

Kenneth N.E. Cox

Is a Third-Generation nurseryman and author of many books and articles on rhododendrons and plant-hunting. Kenneth Cox is Manager of Glendoick Gardens, has made a dozen plant-hunting expeditions to Tibet, India & N. Vietnam, and is an intrepid visitor to British gardens.

Peter A. Cox

Is a Second-Generation nurseryman, highly-respected Rhododendron author and plant-hunter from Glendoick Gardens, and is internationally renowned. The entertaining plant-hunting memoirs of Peter Cox and Sir Peter Hutchison, *Seeds of Adventure*, was published in 2008.

John Hammond

Is Conference Manager and Hon. Secretary of the R.S.C.G., currently President of the S.R.S., and Past Director at Large on the A.R.S. Board. John Hammond has organised several major conferences, led garden tours, and written many historical articles on people, places and plants.

Steve Hootman

Is the Director of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden at Federal Way, Washington, U.S.A. Steve Hootman has led and been a member of numerous plant-hunting expeditions, including the first western ascent of Saramati on the Indian/Burma border.

Sir Peter Hutchison

Sir Peter Hutchison and Peter Cox are perhaps the most enduring plant-hunting partnership ever, having made over 20 expeditions from 1962 to the present day. Sir Peter is a former Chairman of Trustees of the R.B.G.E., and is co-founder of Baravalla Garden at Kintyre in Argyll.

David Knott

Is Curator of R.B.G.E. Living Collections and has responsibility for the plants in the gardens at the Inverleith Gardens of the R.B.G.E. He was Curator at Dawyck Botanic Gardens for many years and has been on many plant hunting expeditions, including Nepal and Japan.

Dr. Gao Lianming

Is an Associate Research Fellow at Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, where in 2012 he became Group Leader on plant DNA bar-coding and speciation. He has carried out surveys of rhododendrons in Yunnan, Sichuan, Tibet and South East China.

Dr. Ashiho Mao

Has undertaken plant exploration tours to Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh from 1997 onwards. He moved to Botanical Survey of India in 2008, transferring to Arunachal Regional Centre to study Ericaceae, i/c rhododendrons.

Dr. Marion MacKay (awaiting confirmation)

Is Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management at Massey University in New Zealand, specialising in exotic woody plant biodiversity and is currently leading a research team on genus *Rhododendron* diversity and *ex-situ* conservation, in both temperate and vireya species.

Sara Oldfield

Is Secretary General at Botanic Gardens Conservation International in Richmond and Chair of the IUCN/SSC Global Tree Specialist Group. She has been involved with plant conservation and research at an International level for over 30 years, including a period at R.B.G., Kew.

Dr. David Rae

Is Director of Horticulture at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, with responsibility for Living Collections in the R.B.G.E.'s four Gardens. He has travelled and lectured widely, is a well-known author and editor, and his book *The Living Collection – The People Behind the Plants* was published in 2011.

Dr. Wiguna Rahman

Is a scientist at Cibodas Botanic Garden, Sindanglaya-Cianjur, West Java, Indonesia, and has made several plant exploration tours to look for Vireyas. He has researched the propagation and cultivation of Vireyas and attended the Red List Workshop in Singapore in 2008.

Dr. Hartwig Schepker

Is Scientific Director of the Rhododendronpark Company in Bremen, Northern Germany, Dr Hartwig Schepker is also responsible for the municipal Botanical Garden and Germany's first Green Science Centre, Botanica. He has been plant-hunting in Borneo, S.E. Asia and India.

Ian W.J. Sinclair

Is an ex-Garden Supervisor at Benmore Botanic Garden and now runs a horticultural consultancy. He has been on plant-hunting expeditions since 1981 and is active in rhododendrons at many levels, including being President of the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group.

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International Rhododendron Conservation Conference : Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st April, 2013

Jointly hosted by : Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Rhododendron Species Conservation Group & Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Venue: Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

Theme: *'The Red List of Rhododendrons' : Where Do We Go From Here?
Establishing Priorities and an Action Plan*

Outline Conference Programme

Day One : Saturday 20th April

08.30hrs : Registration in the Reception Area.

09.00hrs : Tea & Coffee on arrival in the Main Conference Room.

09.30hrs : **Welcome and Introduction:**
Prof. Stephen Blackmore, C.B.E., Regius Keeper, R.B.G.E.

Session I : Setting the Scene.

Moderator: Dr. David Rae, Director of Horticulture, R.B.G.E.

09.45hrs : *A Review of the Findings outlined in the Red List.*

Speaker: Sara Oldfield,
Secretary General, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, Surrey

10.30hrs : *Rhododendron Conservation, A Temperate Perspective*

Speaker: Dr. David F. Chamberlain
Research Associate, R.B.G.E.

11.15hrs : Tea & Coffee Break

11.30hrs : *A Vireya Rhododendron Conservation Perspective*

Speaker : Dr. George Argent
Research Associate, R.B.G.E.

12.15hrs : **Speaker Panel:** Questions from the floor.

12.45hrs : Buffet Lunch

Session II : Establishing a Sense of Direction and Purpose.

Moderator: Sir Peter Hutchison, Hon. Vice-President R.S.C.G.

13.30hrs : *An R.B.G.E. Perspective of the Issues involved in Conserving Rhododendron Collections*

Speaker : David Knott
Curator of R.B.G.E. Living Collections, Inverleith

14.00hrs : **Group A** : Conducted Tour of the R.B.G.E. Garden to view and discuss the Rhododendron Species under threat.
Led by: Dr. David F. Chamberlain

Group B : Conducted visit to view R.B.G.E. Vireya House and discuss the Rhododendron Species under threat.
Led by: Dr. George Argent

15.15hrs : Tea & Coffee Break, followed by **Group A** and **Group B** changeover.

15.30hrs : **Group B** : Conducted Tour of the R.B.G.E. Garden to view and discuss the Rhododendron Species under threat.
Led by: Dr. David F. Chamberlain

Group A : Conducted visit to view R.B.G.E. Vireya House and discuss the Rhododendron Species under threat.
Led by: Dr. George Argent

16.45hrs : **Resume of Day One.**

Sir Peter Hutchison, Hon. Vice-President, R.S.C.G.

17.00hrs : End of Day One.

Day Two : Sunday 21st April

08.45hrs : Tea & Coffee on arrival in the Main Conference Room

Session III : A Perspective from the Wild on Rhododendron Conservation.

Moderator: Sara Oldfield, Secretary General, Botanical Gardens Conservation International.

09.15hrs : *A Chinese Perspective on Rhododendron Conservation.*

Speaker: Dr. Gao Lianming
Kunming Botanic Garden, China

09.45hrs : *An Arunachal Pradesh Perspective on Rhododendron Conservation.*

Speaker: Dr. Ashiho Mao
Botanical Survey of India, Arunachal Pradesh, India

10.15hrs : *An Indonesian Perspective on Conservation of Vireyas.*

Speaker: Dr. Wiguna Rahman
Cibodas Botanic Garden, LIPI, West Java, Indonesia

10.45hrs : **Speaker Panel:** Questions from the floor.

11.15hrs : Tea & Coffee Break

Session IV : An Ex-situ Perspective of Rhododendrons in Cultivation.

Moderator : Ian W.J. Sinclair, President, R.S.C.G.

11.30hrs : *A North American Perspective on Rhododendron Conservation.*

Speaker: Steve Hootman
Executive Director and Curator, R.S.F. & B.G., Federal Way, WA

12.00hrs : *Conservation of Vireyas, an Hawaii Perspective.*

Speaker: Sherla Bertlemann
President, Vireya Rhododendron Group, Hawaii

12.30hrs : *A New Zealand Perspective on Rhododendron Conservation*

Speaker: Dr. Marion MacKay
Senior Lecturer, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University, New Zealand

13.00hrs : Buffet Lunch

13.45hrs : *A European Perspective on Rhododendron Conservation*

Speaker: Hartwig Schepker
Scientific Director, Botanic Garden and Rhododendron Park, Bremen, Germany

14.15hrs : *A Horticulturalist's Perspective of Rhododendron Conservation in British Gardens.*

Speakers: Peter A. Cox & Kenneth N.E. Cox
Glendoick Gardens & Nurseries, Glencarse, Perth

14.45hrs : *A Glimpse of the Work of the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group.*

Speaker: Ian W.J. Sinclair

15.00hrs : **Speaker Panel:** Questions from the floor.

15.30hrs : Tea & Coffee Break

Session V : The Way Forward

Moderator: John M. Hammond
Hon. Secretary, R.S.C.G. & Conference Chairman

15.45hrs : **Theme: Establishing Priorities and a Plan of Action.**

Speaker Panel: Sara Oldfield
Dr. David F. Chamberlain,
Dr. George Argent,
Dr. Hartwig Schepker
Dr. Gao Lianming

16.30hrs : **Speaker Panel:** Questions from the floor.

17.00hrs : **Resume of the Conference.**

Sir Peter Hutchison, Hon. Vice-President, R.S.C.G.

17.15hrs : Conference Concludes.

This Conference Programme is a 'work in progress' and a fully detailed Programme will be available nearer the date of the Conference. Some aspects relating to Speakers are in the course of being finalised and the Programme is therefore subject to change.