



## *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Ruby Slippers'



**Botanical Name:** *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Ruby Slippers'  
(NA 74836; PI 658493)

**Hardiness:** USDA Zones 5-8.

**Development:** 'Ruby Slippers' was developed from a 1998 hybridization of oakleaf hydrangea cultivars 'Snow Queen' and 'Pee Wee'. It was released in 2010.

**Significance:** 'Ruby Slippers' is one of the first two hydrangea cultivars released from the U.S. National Arboretum's shrub breeding program in McMinnville, Tenn. Its compact plant form and large, upright inflorescences make it particularly suited for use in small residential landscapes.

**Description:** **Height and width:** 3.5 feet tall and 5 feet wide at 7 years.

**Habit:** Small, deciduous, rounded shrub.

**Foliage:** Dark green in summer; mahogany-red in fall.

**Flowers:** In early summer, 'Ruby Slippers' is covered with 9 inch long inflorescences that are held upright above the foliage. Flowers open white, but quickly turn pale pink and then deepen to rose.

**Propagation:** Softwood cuttings root in 4 to 6 weeks under mist with 4000 ppm IBA.

**Landscape Use:** Foreground planting in the shrub border, deciduous hedge, mass planted in large areas.

**Availability:** For a list of wholesale nurseries propagating this plant, contact Dr. Sandra Reed, U.S. National Arboretum, 472 Cadillac Lane, McMinnville, TN 37110, [Sandra.Reed@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Sandra.Reed@ars.usda.gov)