

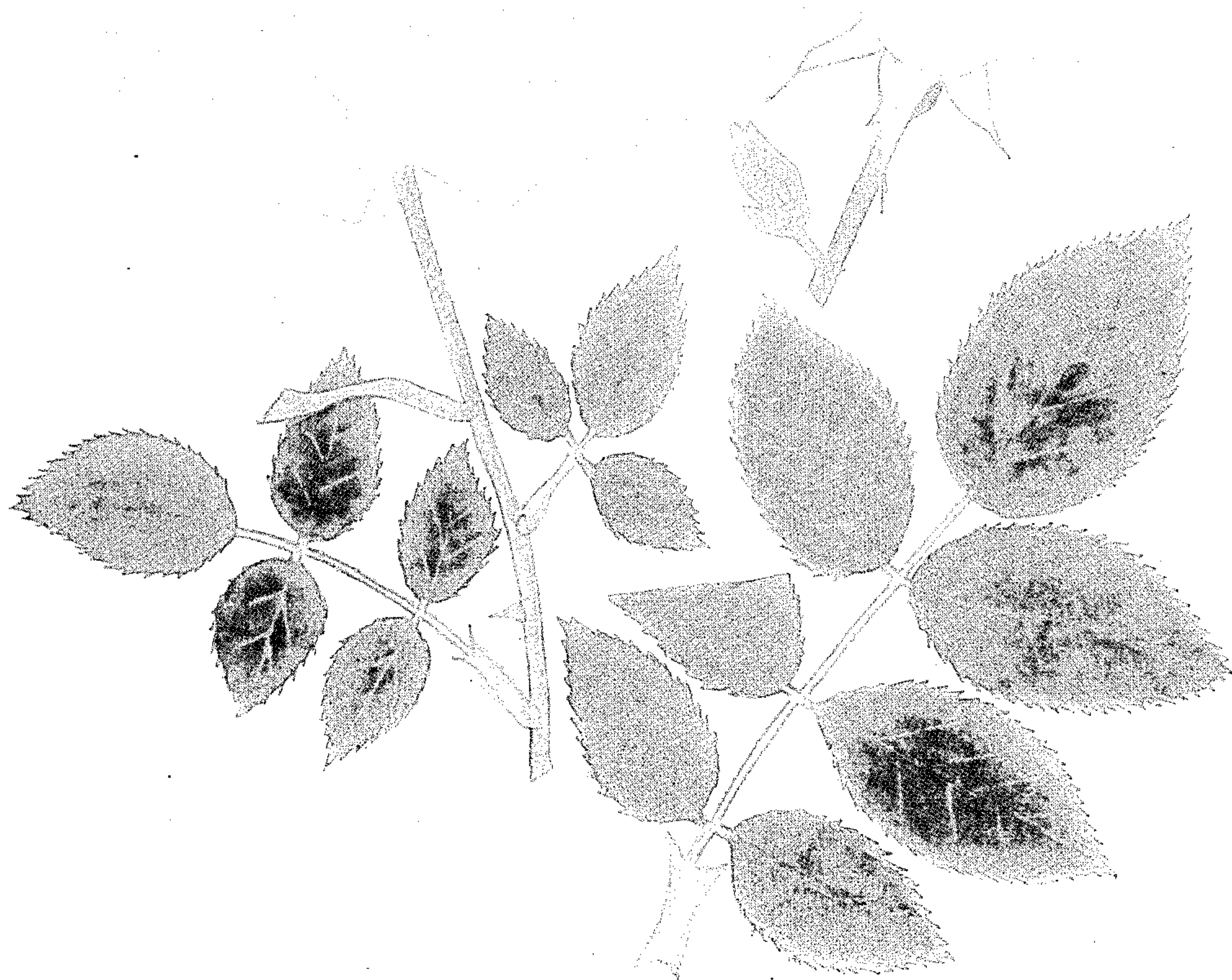
Aug. 10, 1954

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Plant Pat. 1,297

ROSE PLANT

Filed March 18, 1953



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,297

ROSE PLANT

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Application March 18, 1953, Serial No. 343,272

1 Claim. (Cl. 47—61)

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My invention relates to roses and especially to a new, original and distinct variety of the class known commercially as "hybrid teas" and is a variant in that class, being a *Rosa wichuraiana* hybrid tea hybrid, in combination with cane growth usually common to climbing roses only, except that the canes of selected varieties of my new rose usually bear terminal flowers and recurrent blooms on branches therefrom, often the same year that the canes grow; produced by me and under my direction in the breeding grounds of my research gardens in Little Compton, Rhode Island, by selection of variety variations and by cross pollination, which can be and has been asexually reproduced.

My new rose is new as to the following characteristics and especially as to their joint association with the characteristics inherited from *Rosa wichuraiana*, of hardness, or immunity from serious injury on account of cold temperatures prevailing in certain parts of the northern United States:

The light pink shades (ordinary dictionary definition) of its petals, in combination with the unique brilliance thereof and their tendency to hold these colors under exposure;

The novelty and variation within certain definite limits of the form of the bloom, its character of holding that form for a long time, and the petallage of the flowers;

Its character of fragrance;

Its unusual abundance of flowers, notable after early bloom time and until frost;

The intensity of its remontant and everblooming or reblooming character;

Its character of ascending in height by recurrent branching and progressively longer stems from the base in some instances long enough to be classified as canes;

The character of producing many seven leafleted leaves; which character seldom has obtained on hybrid teas not having *Rosa wichuraiana* ancestry, but frequently obtains on flower stems of descendants of *Rosa wichuraiana* of the hybrid tea reblooming type;

And especially its characteristic of partial freedom from premature defoliation by black-spot, under certain definite conditions of exposure, without any cultural control.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification I have shown my new rose in its natural colors, that is, as near as is possible to do so artificially.

The flower pictured represents a bloom at the terminal end of a cane growth as it blooms the

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same season as the growth of the cane, frequently to a height of eight or ten feet or more.

My new rose is otherwise described as follows:

Essential information

Type.—Hybrid tea, *Rosa wichuraiana* hybrid, ascending to tall to climber, for garden display, cut flower and forcing or growing under glass.

Class.—Hybrid tea crossed with *Rosa wichuraiana*, further restricted by originator to include only those varieties that can survive moderately low sub-zero temperatures.

Breeding.—This variety was produced and bred by me and under my direction by propagation, selection and cross pollination.

It came into being as a seedling grown from a seed borne on a plant of an unnamed seedling not patented and the pollen parent was Climbing Break o' Day, Plant Patent No. 696.

The pollination that fertilized the seed that grew into my new rose, as well as the two previous pollinations that produced its two parents, were directed by me and were performed by emasculating flowers and placing thereon a bag protecting from self and foreign pollen. These bags were later removed and the flowers were hand pollinated with a camel's hair brush and the bags immediately replaced. The date of the pollination of my new rose was July 11, 1949.¹ The seed was planted for me and under my direction on December 23, 1949, and the date of the first flower was July 30, 1950.

I have since made and directed extensive propagations and tests of this plant and flower.

Plants of this variety budded from this seedling on to *Rosa multiflora* root stock, have after being exposed to moderate subzero temperatures, survived and bloomed normally the following season in the hybrid tea manner. The variety has been propagated by budding at Little Compton, Rhode Island, in the months of July and August 1950 and the characters have successively reproduced, true to original seedling.

Flower

Habit.—It blooms out of doors in Little Compton, beginning about three days prior to the average beginning time of commercial hybrid teas and continues relative to growth of the plant until frost.

Flowers borne.—Often one, frequently two or three and occasionally more on each stem and cane at the terminal end thereof, in the usual hybrid tea type of cluster, and frequently more

¹ This and other dates herein are approximate.

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on climber canes as they grow. Such canes terminate in one or more blooms or clusters of blooms.

All of the foregoing bloom expression usually obtains the first year after budding on maidens and on two year old plants of selected varieties, the first growing season after being transplanted.

The routine performance thereof is usually as follows. The plant first blooms like a hybrid tea, followed by cane growths in length from about four to five feet, later more in length terminating in blooms. The hybrid tea growth continues to grow rebloom stems in the hybrid tea manner until frost, also similar stems grow from the cane growths.

The pedicels and peduncles are variable in diameter and medium in length, erect, stiff, almost smooth, free from large prickles and bristles. Stems are long, with diameter variable to small, and notably stiff and rigid.

Quantity of bloom.—Free, being cumulative in quantity from year to year as the plant increases in size, flowering through the summer and fall.

Fragrance.—Distinctive, moderate pleasing China tea in combination with that of *Rosa wichuraiana*, under favorable environment.

Bud.—Neck frequently slight as described, opens well, being little to not all affected by hot or wet weather or both, as to color and form, except at very high temperatures the color is less intense and the form of the petals is less recurled.

Before the calyx breaks the size is medium, form moderately high pointed, the sepals are usually normal and regular, tapering to lanceolate at the apex, without foliaceous appendages, turning back nearly perpendicular to the pedicel as the bud opens, infrequently one or more spurs on sides.

Color of the bud as the calyx opens, outer side of petals Delft Rose at o20/2 or a little lighter, disappearing progressively upon inner rows; color reference to English Horticultural Color Chart.²

Bloom.—Color outside of petals softens slowly to Delft Rose at o20/3 shading to Dawn Pink at 523/2 and 523/3 and later lighter edges to Rhodamine Pink at 527/3.

Inner side of petals begins at nearly o20/3 and softens therefrom same as outer side of petals.

Color slightly variable dependent upon quality of sun or other light.

The flower usually varies in size between three and one-half inches and four and one-half inches in diameter when fully open, petals average about 90 to over 100, frequently some smaller petals and petaloids in the center, variable in number.

The flower opens moderately ovoid and semi-high centered, informal, with no display of stamens and pistils. The petals are variable from obovate to ovate to irregular and frequently with surfaces variously warped and edges especially of the smaller petals frequently notably irregular, with a characteristic tendency of some petals to hold their outer edges embedded toward the base of the adjoining outer petal. Texture is medium to thick; both sides brilliant. The time of opening under favorable conditions is about six days.

The petals are substantial and after about ten days drop off cleanly, except that occasionally one or two inner petals or petaloids cling to turn dull, to fall later. The flower does not

² Color reference to same unless otherwise indicated.

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“fall” in wet weather. The flower lasts well, is not affected at any stage by moderate cold or hot temperatures, or by humidity or wet weather.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens, quantity variable, medium long, of slightly uneven length.

Anthers, nearly Marigold Orange at 11/3. Filaments, nearly Tangerine Orange at 9/3. Number notably limited.

Pistils are several of nearly even length, averaging a little over one-half inch long, few in number.

Sepals are persistent and break off easily.

Plant

Foliage.—Is abundant, of compound leaves of three to five leaflets near the flower, five leaflets lower down the stem and frequently seven leaflets in the middle of the stems and canes and nearer the base. Often with short irregular leafy formations variously positioned near the flower as shown. Size of leaflets medium, averaging in size larger than most varieties of this type and as nearly as large as leaflets on most hybrid teas. Form of leaflets usually ovate with apex moderately acute, base rounded to slightly pointed in some instances occasionally with the circumference on one side of the petiole out of alignment with the other side by about one-sixteenth of an inch or less, margins with slightly irregular small pointed serrations, petioles short.

The leaflets average in width about one-half to two-thirds of their length.

Color of leaflets on the upper surface is slightly variable from Scheeles Green at 360, irregularly shaded with Spinach Green at o930/1, with reverse side nearly Asphodel Green frequently overlaid with traces of Dahlia Carmine, the last two color references are to Robert Ridgway Color Standards.

The rachises are medium, moderately narrow to slender, upper side smooth except some very short hairs on edge. Under side moderately smooth, usually three to five short prickles.

Stipules are long, averaging about one inch long or a little less, with sharp points, the upper edges of which normally form an angle of about 90 degrees.

Growth.—Habit, hybrid tea form, becoming bushy to tall; upright, compact, climbing by canes and more cumulative in growth from year to year than the normal hybrid tea rose plant, and with canes that branch to normal height of average hardy climber, by stems from the base and by rebranching and growth and enlargement and extension of the stems from the base.

Occasionally cane growth will grow from the hybrid tea growth.

The canes seek to grow at an angle of about 85° from the horizontal.

The hybrid tea growth can usually be differentiated from cane growth by the diameters thereof and otherwise by characteristics common to each.

The stems and canes on a mature plant that has been two or more years in field or garden are described as follows: All growth that would normally be described as stems bear blooms in the normal hybrid tea manner; and in some instances produce canes. All canes at maturity produce blooms at the terminal end the year that such canes grow in the hybrid tea manner. These canes produce stems as described and also branch as described.

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A plant the first year planted performs in the manner above described, in extent directly in proportion to its vegetative opportunity.

Color of mature stems is Scheeles Green at 860/3, shading variously lighter and also occasionally with slight overlay of Spinel Red at oo23/1 variable in intensity, usually more pronounced on the sunny side.

Prickles, several, frequently two to four between leaves, averaging in length about one-quarter to one-third inch, shading from Crimson at 22 to lighter at the base, turning lighter throughout and later to nearly colorless.

Winter resistance.—A notable characteristic of this new rose is the resistance to moderate sub-zero temperatures in combination with its hybrid tea character, its climbing habit and its *Rosa wichuraiana* ancestry. The word "temperature" herein refers to the Fahrenheit scale.

Comparisons.—The variety most nearly resem-

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bling my new rose is Climbing Break o' Day, Plant Patent No. 696, which lacks some of the hybrid tea type of rebloom expressed by my new rose.

The color of my new rose is principally Light Pink as compared with Climbing Break o' Day which is Orange to Apricot, ordinary dictionary definitions; also my new rose has a different fragrance.

I claim:

The new and distinct variety of rose plant as described and illustrated, characterized by its color pattern, fragrance, form, and pink and rose colors of its bloom at the terminal end of canes that bloom the same season in which the canes grow; also, by the *Wichuraiana*, hybrid tea, and everblooming climber characteristics, substantially as described.

No references cited.