

[54] ROSE PLANT—MEIFLOPAN VARIETY  
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[57] ABSTRACT  
A new and distinct variety of shrub rose plant is pro-  
vided which forms in the spring multiple attractive very  
double white blossoms per stem. The variety exhibits a  
semi-prostrate growth habit, and excellent resistance to  
diseases. An excellent aptitude for rooting and growing  
on its own roots is exhibited. The new variety is well  
adapted for growing as a landscape planting.

1 Drawing Sheet

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new variety of shrub rose plant of the present  
invention was created by artificial pollination wherein  
two parents were crossed which previously had been  
studied in the hope that they would contribute the de-  
sired characteristics. The female parent (i.e., the seed  
parent) of the new variety was *Rosa sempervirens*. The  
male parent (i.e., the pollen parent) of the new variety  
was the Marthe Carron variety (non-patented). The  
parentage of the new variety can be summarized as  
follows:

*Rosa sempervirens* × *Marthe Carron*.

The seeds resulting from the above pollination were  
sown and 3 plantlets were obtained which were physi-  
cally and biologically different from each other. Selec-  
tive study resulted in the identification of a single plant  
of the new variety.

It was found that the new variety of shrub rose plant  
of the present invention possesses the following combi-  
nation of characteristics:

- (a) forms in the spring attractive very double white  
blossoms which are borne on a multiple basis per  
stem,
- (b) exhibits a semi-prostrate growth habit,
- (c) exhibits excellent resistance to diseases,
- (d) exhibits an excellent aptitude for rooting and grow-  
ing on its own roots, and
- (e) is particularly well suited for growing in the land-  
scape.

The new variety well meets the needs of the horitcul-  
tural industry. It can be grown to advantage as an at-  
tractive ornamentation in parks, gardens, public areas,  
and residential landscapes. It is particularly well suited  
for growing in the landscape.

The characteristics of the new variety have been  
found to be homogeneous and stable and are strictly  
transmissible by asexual propagation such as budding,  
grafting, and cuttage from one generation to another.

The new variety has been named the Meiflopan vari-  
ety.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph shows, as nearly true  
as it is reasonably possible to make the same in a color  
illustration of this character, typical specimens of plant  
parts of the new variety. The rose plants of the new  
variety described herein were grown in the open air  
during June on their own roots at Cannet-des-Maures,  
Var, France.

FIG. 1 illustrates a specimen of a young shoot;

FIG. 2 illustrates a specimen of floral buds before the  
opening of the sepals;

FIG. 3 illustrates specimens of three floral buds at the  
opening of the sepals;

FIG. 4 illustrates specimens of three floral buds as the  
petals open;

FIG. 5 illustrates specimens of three flowers in the  
course of opening;

FIG. 6 illustrates specimens of two fully open flower-  
s—plan view—obverse;

FIG. 7 illustrates specimens of two fully open flower-  
s—plan view—reverse;

FIG. 8 illustrates a specimen of a fully open flower  
immediately prior to petal drop—plan view—obverse;

FIG. 9 illustrates a specimen of a fully open flower  
immediately prior to petal drop—plan view—reverse;

FIG. 10 illustrates a specimen of a floral receptacle  
showing the arrangement of the stamens and pistils;

FIG. 11 illustrates a specimen of a floral receptacle  
showing the arrangement of the pistils (stamens re-  
moved);

FIG. 12 illustrates a specimen of a flowering stem;

FIG. 13 illustrates a specimen of a main branch;

FIG. 14 illustrates a specimen of a leaf with three  
leaflets—plan view—obverse;

FIG. 15 illustrates a specimen of a leaf with five lea-  
flets—plan view—obverse;

FIG. 16 illustrates a specimen of a leaf with seven  
leaflets—plan view—reverse;

FIG. 17 illustrates a specimen of a leaf with nine  
leaflets—plan view—observe (top) and reserve (bot-  
tom); and

FIG. 18 illustrates a specimen of a floral stem show-  
ing the multiple inflorescence.



## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The chart used in the identification of colors is that of the Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S. Colour Chart). The description is based on three-year old specimens of the new variety during June while grown in the open air on their own roots at Cannet-des-Maures, Var, France.

Class: Shrub.

Plant:

*Height*.—Approximately 120 to 150 cm. on average.

*Habit*.—Semi-prostrate.

Branches:

*Color*.—Young stems: lettuce green, Yellow-Green Group 144A. Adult wood: light green, Yellow-Green Group 146B.

Leaves:

*Stipules*.—Adnate, pectinate, wide and notched.

*Petioles*.—Upper surface: grooved, reddish-brown on young foliage, medium green on mature foliage with very glandular edges. Under surface: medium green with many glandular aciculas.

*Leaflets*.—Number: 3, 5, 7 (most often), and 9. Shape: Elliptical. Serration: simple and regular.

Texture: firm. Overall appearance: dense foliage with a glossy aspect. Color (young foliage): upper surface: lettuce green, Yellow-Green Group 144A, edged with a reddish tint. Under surface: lettuce green, Yellow-Green Group 144B, edged and more or less suffused with a reddish tint. Color (adult foliage): upper surface: dark green, Yellow-Green Group 147A. under surface: medium green, Yellow-Green Group 147B.

Inflorescence:

*Number of flowers*.—Approximately 8 to 15 blossoms per floral stem.

*Peduncle*.—Medium green, more or less shaded with red, straight, short, rigid, approximately 2 cm. in length.

*Sepals*.—Upper surface: tomentose and greenish. Under surface: medium green with small glandular edges, the outside sepals commonly have appendiculated edges.

*Buds*.—Shape: globular. Length: approximately 0.7 to 1.0 cm. on average. Size: small. Color (when

opening): upper surface: white, White Group 155B. under surface: white, White Group 155B.

*Flower*.—Form: very double, initially as a hollow cup and subsequently becomes more flattened. Diameter: approximately 3.5 to 4 cm. on average. Color (when opening begins): upper surface: white, White Group 155B. under surface: white, White Group 155B. Color (when blooming): upper surface: white, White Group 155B. under surface: white, White Group 155B. Color (at end of blooming): upper surface: white, White Group 155B. under surface: white, White Group 155B. Fragrance: none. Flower duration: long. Petal form: generally oval with more or less notched margins, central petals tend to be narrow and lance-shaped. Petal texture: firm. Petal number: approximately 50 to 55 on average. Petal drop: good. Stamen number: approximately 14 to 20 on average. Anthers: normal, yellowish. Filaments: straw colored, and of irregular heights. Pistils: approximately 10 on average. Stigmas: normal, straw colored, located under the anthers. Styles: greenish, of irregular heights. Receptacle: medium green, more or less reddish in coloration at the dehiscence of the anthers, and in longitudinal section it is pear shaped.

Development:

*Vegetation*.—Vigorous.

*Blossoming*.—Abundant and continuous.

*Aptitude to bear fruits*.—Slight to none.

*Resistance to frost*.—Normal.

*Resistance to diseases*.—Very good.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of shrub rose plant characterized by the following combination of characteristics:

- forms in the spring attractive very double white blossoms which are borne on a multiple basis per stem,
- exhibits a semi-prostrate growth habit,
- exhibits excellent resistance to diseases,
- exhibits an excellent aptitude for rooting and growing on its own roots, and
- is particularly well suited for growing in the landscape;

substantially as herein shown and described together with the parts thereof.

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