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United States Patent [19]

Bennett, deceased et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** **Plant 7,971**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 15, 1992**[54] **MINIATURE ROSE PLANT NAMED
IRRESISTIBLE**

[76] Inventors: **Cecelia L. D. Bennett, deceased**, 489 Minot Ave., late of Chula Vista, by **Susan Mae O'Brien, Special Administrator**; **Susan M. O'Brien**, 489 Minot Ave., Chula Vista, both of Calif. 91910

[21] Appl. No.: **636,394**[22] Filed: **Dec. 31, 1990**[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **A01H 5/00**[52] U.S. Cl. **Plt./9**[58] Field of Search **Plt./8, 9***Primary Examiner*—James R. Feyrer[57] **ABSTRACT**

The subject of the present disclosure is a new and distinct variety of miniature rose plant, named 'Irresistible', which is characterized by white blooms with inner petals ranging from pale Azalea Pink to pale Shell Pink which open to completely white. Blooms of this rose are usually borne one to a stem with hybrid tea form but on occasion may be produced in sprays of 3 to 5 or more. The bush is vigorous, well-branched and produces moderate to heavy quantity of blooms. (More detailed description to follow.)

1 Drawing Sheet**1**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of a hardy, dwarf, bush plant of the miniature class; the variety being primarily characterized as white.

The variety is further characterized by:

Long stemmed blooms of hybrid tea-type form, borne usually one to a stem but on occasion in sprays of 3 to 5 or more. The blooms are held very erect and well above the foliage.

The plant range in height from 24 to 36 inches (60 to 75 cm). The canes are sturdy and erect with moderate branching and medium to heavy foliage covering. The plant is a moderate to heavy bloomer that does well either in the greenhouse or outdoors.

The plant has good growth habits, well-shaped and attractive, bearing numerous leaflets of average size. I have found this variety to be easily asexually reproduced from cuttings.

The seed parent was Tiki (light pink floribunda; S. McGredy, 1964; Mme. Leon Cuny × Spartan), and the pollen parent was Brian Lee (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,789). It differs from its seed parent in the following ways. It is a miniature rose in white, and Tiki is a floribunda rose in light pink. It differs from its pollen parent in the following ways. It produces white flowers, and Brian Lee produces blooms of red-mauve ranging from Garnet Lake to Dianthus Purple.

The single color photographic view shows, in plan view, a bouquet of 'Irresistible' in various stages of maturity from bud stage to nearly open bloom stage.

The descriptive matter which follows pertains to roses grown and color values observed in plants and newly opened blooms in the months of March through November 1990. The plants were grown outdoors in Chula Vista, Calif., and are believed to be accurate standards for this cultivar in similar conditions of soil and climate elsewhere.

Referring now specifically to the new and distinct variety of miniature rose plant named 'Irresistible', the following is a detailed description thereof in outline; all major color plate identifications being by reference to the British Colour Council Horticultural Chart, except where common terms of color definition are employed.

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Type: Hardy, dwarf, bushy, greenhouse or outdoor, exhibition or garden decorative potted plant.

Class: Miniature.

Variety name: Irresistible.

5 Flowers borne: Usually one to a stem, but occasionally in sprays of 3 to 5 or more on erect stems with foliage well below the blooms.

Quantity of bloom: Moderate to heavy both outdoors or greenhouse grown.

10 Bud:

Peduncle.—Average length (30 to 50 mm); average diameter and sturdy; ranging from near Scheeles Green (860/3 to 860/1 page 176) with occasional tinting of bronze.

15 *Hairs*.—Extremely small and sparse with a reddish color; located over the surface of the peduncle and calyx tube.

Calyx.—Color range same as peduncle.

Opening.—Opens well in all weather.

20 Bloom:

Size when fully open.—Average for a miniature variety (30 to 40 mm).

Petalage.—Very double — 40 to 45 petals, arranged regularly, plus 5 to 10 petaloids.

25 *Form*.—Urn-shaped to ovoid as the bloom opens. The petals remain somewhat cupped with the apex and/or margins reflexed outward, becoming at maturity more loosely cupped.

Petals: Fairly thick with good substance; both the upper and under surfaces of all petals have a matte finish.

Shape.—Outer petals are of a broad obovate form. The intermediate petals are very much like the outer petals only narrower. The inner petals are a broad lanceolate form; and the petaloids are also lanceolate with some occasional irregularities.

Color: Newly opened flowers from plants grown outdoors (March through November of 1990), Chula Vista, Calif.

40 *Outer petals*.—Upper and Under Surfaces — Ranging from white to near white.

Intermediate petals.—Same as outer petals.

Inner petals.—Ranging from near white to near Rose Pink (427/3 to 427/2 page 126) to near Shell Pink (516/3 to 516/2 page 135).

General color effect.—Newly opened flowers — White with pale pink at the center. After 2 to 3 days open — All petals are white to near white.

Flower longevity.—(March through November 1990) Plant in pot 5 to 7 days from bud with sepals reflexed to fully open bloom. Holding at fully opened for 5 to 7 days longer. Cut bloom at living room temperature 10 to 14 days or longer.

Reproductive organs:

Stamens.—A generous amount arranged uniformly around the pistil.

Filaments.—Varying in length with shorter filaments more proximal to the pistil; pale yellow in color with anthers of golden yellow.

Pollen.—Abundant.

Pistil.—Short, spreading and abundant; pale yellow to reddish at the cap.

Ovaries.—All encased in calyx.

Hips.—Some.

Seeds.—3 to 5 or more in each hip.

Sepals.—Permanent; spear-shaped; open as the bloom opens, recurving against the peduncle, when the bloom is fully opened.

Foliage:

Leaves.—5 to 7 leaflets on average; medium size for a miniature rose plant.

Leaflets.—Broad ovate-shaped.

Margins.—Very serrated with tinting of bronze, especially noticeable on the newer foliage.

Color.—Ranging from near Spinach Green (0960/3 to 0960 page 187) to near Scheeles Green (860/1 to 860 page 175) with occasional bronzing of the margins, especially on the newer foliage. Upper surfaces have a semi-glossy finish, and the under

surfaces have a matte finish of a slightly lighter shade than the upper surfaces.

Rachis.—Medium strength; upper surface is grooves with very small hairs over the length of it. Under surface has few if any hairs but does contain 2 to 5 small thorns.

Stipules.—Varying in length from small to medium; average width; tapering auricles angled outward at about 45 degrees.

10 Growth:

Habit.—Dwarf, bush; above average for a miniature rose plant.

Rate and character.—Vigorous and well-branched.

Canes.—Medium diameter; sturdy; held erect.

Main stems.—Color range same as foliage.

Thorns.—Averaging less than 5 to 10 per 10 cm on the main stems and branches. Pale yellow with a reddish base; average size; slender and straight.

Branches.—Color range same as foliage.

The miniature rose plant and its flowers as herein described may vary in slight detail due to climate, soil and cultural conditions under which the variety may be grown; the present description being of the variety as grown in Chula Vista, Calif.

The following is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of miniature rose plant, named 'Irresistible', or hardy, dwarf, vigorous growth, well-branched and attractive in appearance, substantially as illustrated and described, characterized by its hybrid tea form blooms of white with inner petals ranging from pale Azalea Pink to pale Shell Pink which open white, with flowers usually borne one to a stem but occasionally in sprays of 3 to 5 or more.

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U.S. Patent

September 15, 1992

Plant 7,971

