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[54] MINIATURE ROSE PLANT NAMED
‘RUIXANDRA’

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[57] ABSTRACT

A distinctive cultivar of miniature rose plant named Ruixandra, characterized by its very large white, red and pink tri-color flowers; numerous flowers per plant; and long shelf-life.

2 Drawing Sheets

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The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of the miniature rose class, botanically known as *Rosa hybrida*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name Ruixandra.

The new cultivar is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the inventor in Hazerswoude, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program was to develop compact pot rose varieties with garden performance that can be asexually reproduced by cuttings. The new cultivar originated from a cross made by the inventor in 1990 of two unnamed proprietary seedlings. The cultivar Ruixandra was discovered and selected by the inventor as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross in a controlled environment in Hazerswoude, The Netherlands.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by cuttings taken at Hazerswoude, The Netherlands, has shown that the unique features of this new miniature rose plant are stabilized and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of Ruixandra. These characteristics in combination distinguish the new miniature rose plant as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Very large white, red and pink tri-color flowers.
2. Numerous flowers per plant.
3. Long shelf-life.

The new miniature rose plant has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature and light level, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate typical specimens of the vegetative growth and flowers of the new miniature rose plant, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. The first photograph comprises a top perspective view of a typical plant of the new miniature rose plant grown in Hazerswoude, The Netherlands. The second paragraph comprises details of the new miniature rose plant. In this photograph the top of a young shoot (1); a leaf with three leaflets (2); a leaf with five leaflets (3); a leaf with seven leaflets (4); a stem with prickles (5); a flower bud after sepals open (6); a flower bud after petals begin to unfurl (7); a flower one-third to one-half open (8); a flower fully open (9); a flower stem with sepals, stamens and pistils (10); a flower stem with sepals and pistils (11); a flower stem with pistils only (12); and a cluster of four flowers and buds (13) are shown.

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The following observations, measurements, values, and comparisons describe plants grown in Hazerswoude, The Netherlands, under glass covering with average day temperatures of 20° C., average night temperatures of 16° to 18° C., and an average light level of 2,000 J/cm².

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Classification:
Botanical.—*Rosa hybrida* cultivar Ruixandra.
Commercial.—Miniature pot rose.

Parentage:
Male or pollen parent.—Unnamed proprietary seedling.
Female or seed parent.—Unnamed proprietary seedling.

Plant description:
Form.—Rounded form, uniform, and spreading.
Growth habit.—Moderately vigorous, yet compact. Freely branching, dense growth. Suitable for 10-cm containers. Time to produce a finished plant in a 10-cm container 20 to 30 cm in height is generally 10 to 12 weeks depending on average temperature, light level, and cultural practices.
Stem and lateral branches.—Quantity of lateral branches from pinching: Generally three. Length of lateral branches: 1 to 5 cm. Color: Immature stems: 137D. Mature stems: 137A.
Foliage description.—Leaves arranged alternatively, compound with three to seven leaflets per leaf, generally symmetrical, abundant, and flat in aspect. Stipules at leaf base. Quantity: Five to eight per lateral branch. Leaf size: Length: 9 cm. width: 5 cm. Leaflet size: Length: 1 to 2.5 cm. Width: 0.5 to 1.5 cm. Shape: Ovate with acute tip and obtuse base. Texture: Smooth. Margin: Serrate. Petiole length: 1 to 2 cm. Color: Young foliage, upper side: 137B. Young foliage, under side: 137D. Mature foliage, upper side: 137A. Mature foliage, under side: 137C. Petiole: Immature foliage: 137D. Mature foliage: 137A. Stipule: Immature foliage: 137D. Mature foliage: 137A. Venation, upper side: 137D. Venation, under side: 137D.
Prickles.—Located on petioles, stems and lateral branches. Length: 0.1 to 0.4 cm. Color: 153B.

Flower description:
Flower type and habit.—Large white, red and pink tri-color flowers. Consistently symmetrical rosette

flowers that are flat in aspect. Freely and continuously flowering. The flowers are borne singly on peduncles and arranged in clusters of three to nine flowers each. There are numerous sprays per plant.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions, optimal flowering during summer and autumn in the Northern Hemisphere. 5

Flower diameter.—3 to 4 cm.

Flower depth (height).—1 to 2 cm.

Flower longevity on plant.—16 days. 10

Fragrance.—None.

Persistent.—Yes.

Flower buds.—Shape: Ovoid and pointed. Size: Length: 1 to 1.5 cm. Width: 0.5 to 0.8 cm. Color: White background with stripes of 53A, 56D and 68B. 15

Petals.—Quantity: At least 35 per flower. Arrangement: Seven rows of petals with five petals each. Size: Length: 1.5 to 2 cm. Width: 1 to 1.5 cm. Shape: Ovate with obtuse tip. Texture: Smooth and satiny. 20

Margin: Entire. Color: When opening: White background with stripes of 53A, 56D and 68B. Upper side, mature: White background with stripes of 53A, 56D and 68B. Under side, mature: White background with stripes of 54A, 56D and 68B. Fade: 25

Upper and under sides do not fade, but maintain colors with age.

Petaloids.—Quantity: At least 30 per flower. Arrangement: Six rows of petals with five petaloids each. Size: Length: 1 cm. Width: 0.5 cm. Shape: Ovate with obtuse tip. Texture: Smooth and satiny. Margin: Entire. Color: Immature: White background with stripes of 53A, 56D and 68B. Mature: White background with stripes of 53A, 56D and 68B.

Sepals.—Quantity: Five per flower Arrangement: One row with five sepals. Shape: Narrowly ovate with acute tip. Color: Upper side: 138B. Under side: 138A.

Calyx.—Size: 0.4 cm. Shape: Funnel. Color: 143C.

Peduncles.—Strong and erect, pubescent. Length: 2 to 3.5 cm. Color: 143C.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: 70 to 80 per flower. Anther size: 0.1 to 0.2 cm. Anther shape: Oblong. Anther color: 15B. Pistils: Quantity: 60 to 80 per flower. Style length: 0.4 cm. Style color: 149D. Stigma color: 149D.

Disease resistance: No resistance or susceptibility observed.

Seed production: Seed production is rarely observed.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct miniature rose plant named Ruixandra, as illustrated and described.

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