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Meilland

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(54) **MINIATURE ROSE PLANT NAMED**
'MEIBORCO'

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **A01H 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./122**

(58) **Field of Search** **Plt./122, 129**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP9,973 P * 7/1997 Meilland Plt./122

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of rose plant of the dwarf
Miniature Class is provided which abundantly forms attrac-
tive double dark red blossoms that sometimes appear to be
nearly black in coloration. The growth habit is low compact
and bushy. Decorative very dense medium green semi-
glossy foliage is formed that contrasts nicely with the dark
red blossoms. The new variety is well suited for pot forcing
under greenhouse growing conditions.

1 Drawing Sheet

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new variety of *Rosa hybrida* Miniature rose plant was
created by artificial pollination wherein two parents were
crossed which previously had been studied in the hope that
they would contribute the desired characteristics. The
female parent (i.e., the seed parent) of the new variety was
the 'Meikanrou' variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,973). The
male parent (i.e., the pollen parent) was the product of the
pollination of the 'Meijikatar' variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
4,682) and the 'Ruimered' variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
5,770). The parentage of the new variety can be summarized
as follows:

'Meikanrou' x ('Meijikatar' x 'Ruimered').

The seeds resulting from the above pollination were sown
and small plants were obtained which were physically and
biologically different from each other. Selective study
resulted in the identification of a single plant of the new
variety.

It was found the new variety of Miniature rose plant of the
present invention possesses the following combination of
characteristics:

- (a) exhibits a low compact and bushy growth habit,
- (b) forms in abundance attractive double dark red
blossoms,
- (c) forms decorative very dense medium green semi-
glossy foliage, and
- (d) is well suited for pot forcing.

The dark red blossoms sometimes appear to be nearly
black and contrast nicely with the dense medium green
foliage.

The new variety well meets the needs of the horticultural
industry. It is particularly well suited for pot forcing under
greenhouse growing conditions to form a distinctive gift
plant.

The new variety has been found to undergo asexual
propagation in France by a number of routes, including

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budding, grafting, and cuttage. Asexual propagation by the
above-mentioned methods as performed in the South of
France has shown that the characteristics of the new variety
are strictly transmissible from one generation to another.

The new variety has been named the 'Meiborco' variety.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The accompanying photograph shows as nearly true as it
is reasonably possible to make the same, in a color illustra-
tion of this character, typical specimens of the plant parts of
the new variety. The rose plants of the new variety were one
year of age and were observed during April while growing
on their own roots in greenhouses at LeCannet des Maures,
Var, France. Dimensions in centimeters are shown at the
bottom of the photograph.

FIG. 1—illustrates a specimen of a young shoot;

FIG. 2—illustrates specimens of three floral buds before
the opening of the sepals;

FIG. 3—illustrates a specimen of a floral bud at the
opening of the sepals;

FIG. 4—illustrates a specimen of a floral bud at the
opening of the petals;

FIG. 5—illustrates a specimen of a flower during the
course of opening;

FIG. 6—illustrates a specimen of an open flower—plan
view—reverse;

FIG. 7—illustrates a specimen of an open flower—plan
view—obverse;

FIG. 8—illustrates a specimen of a fully open flower—
plan view—reverse;

FIG. 9—illustrates a specimen of a fully open flower—
plan view—obverse;

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 removed);

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—upper surface;

FIG. 15—illustrates a specimen of a leaf with five leaflets—plan view—under surface; and

FIG. 16—illustrates a specimen of a leaf with seven leaflets—plan view—upper surface.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The chart used in the identification of the colors is that of The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S. Colour Chart). The terminology which precedes reference to the chart has been added in some instances to indicate the corresponding colors in more common terms. The description is based on the observation of six month old specimens of the new variety which were observed during November while growing on their own roots in greenhouses at LeCannet des Maures, Var, France.

Class: Dwarf Miniature.

Plant:

Height.—Approximately 20 to 25 cm. on average at the end of the growing season.

Habit.—Bushy.

Branches:

Color.—Young stems: near Yellow-Green Group 146A.

Thorns.—Size: medium. Quantity: sparse as illustrated.

Color: greenish on young stems, near Yellow-Green Group 153C. Configuration: fairly straight and elongated on the upper surface.

Leaves:

Petioles.—Upper surface: non-glandular, and near Green Group 139B in coloration. Under surface: smooth.

Stipules.—Adnate, pectinate, and rather broad.

Leaflets.—Number: 3, 5, and 7 (most often). Shape: with a symmetrical tip and a generally obtuse base (as illustrated). Texture: consistent. Serration: regular. General appearance: very dense, medium green and semi-glossy. Color (young and mature foliage): Upper surface: near Yellow-Green Group 144A. Under surface: near Green Group 138A.

Inflorescence:

Number of flowers.—Commonly approximately 2 to 5 per stem.

Peduncle.—Short, rigid, smooth, near Yellow-Green Group 144A, and the length commonly is approximately 2.5 to 3 cm on average.

Sepals.—Upper surface: greenish, near Yellow-Green Group 144B and 144C. Under surface: near Yellow-Green Group 144A. Shape: with weak extensions.

Buds.—Shape: conical. Size: small for class, and approximately 1 cm in length.

Flower.—Form: double and cup-shaped.

Diameter: approximately 3 cm on average when fully open. Color (when opening begins): Upper surface: near Cardinal Red, Red Group 53A and darker. Under surface: near Cardinal Red, Red Group 53A. Color (when blooming): Upper surface: near Currant Red, Red Group 46A and lightly suffused with Red Group 53A. Under surface: near Currant Red, Red Group 46A and lightly suffused with Red Group 53A. Color (at end of opening): Upper surface: near Currant Red, Red Group 46A and lightly suffused with Red Group 53A. Under surface: near Currant Red, Red Group 46A and lightly suffused with Red Group 53A. Fragrance: none. Anthers: near Yellow-Orange Group 17D in coloration. Stamen number: approximately 18 on average. Filaments: near Yellow-Orange Group 17D in coloration. Pistil number: approximately 22 on average. Petal configuration: wedge-shaped base and a reflexed tip. Stigmas: whitish in coloration. Styles: near Red Group 46D. Receptacle: medium green, near Yellow-Green Group 144A, and in longitudinal section in the shape of a pitcher. Lasting quality: long, approximately 10 days on the plant. Petal drop: good, the petals detach well.

Development:

Vegetation.—Medium.

Blooming.—Very abundant.

Resistance to diseases.—Medium.

Ability to bear fruit.—None.

I claim:

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

- (a) Exhibits a low compact and bushy growth habit,
 - (b) Forms in abundance attractive double dark red blossoms,
 - (c) Forms decorative very dense medium green semi-glossy foliage, and
 - (d) Is well suited for pot forcing;
- substantially as herein shown and described.

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