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Garabedian

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(54) **VARIETY OF APRICOT TREE NAMED**
'ROSY BELL'

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(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/153,007, filed on Sep. 14, 1998, now abandoned.

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(52) **U.S. Cl. Plt./186**

(58) **Field of Search Plt./184, 186**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

PP3,345 P * 5/1973 Garabedian Plt./186

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

UPOV-ROM GTITM Computer Database, 2001/02, GTI JOUVE Retrieval Software, citations for 'Rosy Bell'.*

* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new variety of apricot tree which matures in mid-May in the San Joaquin Valley of Central California with a golden yellow color with a light red blush that stores and ships well. This early apricot handles beter than other early varieties such as 'Casselbrite'.

1 Drawing Sheet

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This application is a continuation of application Ser. No. 09/153,007, filed on Sep. 14, 1998, now abandoned.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW VARIETY

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of apricot tree which will hereupon be denominated vari-
etally as 'Rosy Bell' apricot tree and more particularly to an
apricot tree which produces fruit which are mature for
commercial harvesting and shipment May 17–21 in the San
Joaquin Valley of Central California. This new variety is an
open pollinated seedling from one of its possible parents—
'Early Perfection' (unpatented), 'Tilton' (unpatented),
'Patterson' (unpatented), and other unnamed varieties. This
new variety produces a medium size, semi-freestone fruit
with a golden yellow thick skin with a light red blush.

**ORIGIN AND ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION OF
THE NEW VARIETY**

The present variety, an open pollinated seedling, has been
budded and/or grafted in Nemaguard rootstock on existig
older apricot tree (variety unknown) in 1994 in an apricot
orchard of seven acres located at 5841 B. King Canyon
Road, Fresno, Calif. The invention has been examined and
confirmed that all of its distinctive characteristics have been
maintained in a successful generation of asexual propaga-
tion.

SUMMARY OF THE NEW VARIETY

The 'Rosy Bell' apricot tree is characterized by producing
a medium size fruit with a golden yellow center and a light
red blush over approximately 40% of the fruit, which is ripe
for commercial harvest and shipment May 17–21 in the San
Joaquin Valley of Central California. This new and novel
variety is an open pollinated seedling of unknown
parentage—possibly 'Early Perfection' (unpatented), 'Til-

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ton' (unpatented), 'Patterson' (unpatented), and other
unnamed varieties, from which it is distinguished by early
maturity, uniform fruit production, distribution, size and
shape.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The drawing is a colored photograph showing mature fruit
of the present invention with foliage, young twigs and cut
fruit displaying the flesh, stone or pit, and the pit well. The
upper and lower surfaces of the leaves along with terminal
growth of the branches are illustrated.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring to more specific pomological details of this new
and distinct variety of apricot tree, the following description
has been observed under the ecological conditions prevail-
ing at the orchard of origin which is located in Fresno in the
San Joaquin Valley of Central California. All major color
code designations are by reference to the Dictionary of
Color by Maerz and Paul, first edition, 1930. Common color
names are also occasionally used.

Tree:

Varietal name.—'Rosy Bell'.

Botanical name.—*Prunus armeniaca*.

Size.—Large — Approximately 15 feet in height and 12
feet spread.

Vigor.—Moderate — New growth in year 2001 was 2.5
to 3 feet.

Form.—Upright with open crotch, vase-like form,
depending on pruning practices.

Productivity.—Very productive in 2001 — 500 24 lb.
boxes/acre.

Trunk:

Size.—Large — 30 inches in circumference, 20 inches
above ground level.

Texture.—Rough with some vertical grooves in the bark.

Color.—Dull brown — Cowboy new brown and brussel brown (Pl. 15 C11).

Lenticels.—Numerous, small.

Branches:

Size.—Large — 18 inches in circumference at 24 inches above crown (crotch).

Color of mature branches.—Burgundy (Pl. 56 E8) with angle approximately 47 degrees.

Color of young, immature branches.—Smooth, crescent green (Pl. 22 K6).

Leaves:

Size.—Medium.

Form.—Broadly cordate, leaf tip acuminate base.

Length.—5.5 to 7.5 cm ($2\frac{1}{8}$ to $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches).

Width.—5.5 to 7 cm ($2\frac{1}{8}$ to 2.75 inches).

Color.—Upper surface — Near Polo green (Pl. 23 L9). Lower surface — Spinach green (Pl. 22 K9).

Marginal form.—Mostly serrate with serration becoming more rounded at base of leaf.

Leaf vein.—Reddish at base of leaf — Rhododendron (Pl. 5 I6).

Glands.—0–4 usually 1–2 small globular near leaf base or at the top of petiole.

Petiole.—20 to 22 mm long (0.79 to 0.87 inch) — 2 mm wide (0.079 inch) — Color: Rhododendron (Pl. 54 I6).

Stipules.—None.

Flower buds:

Number.—In clusters up to five.

Color.—Green.

Size.—Small — Average diameter 4 mm (0.157 inch).

Flowers:

Date of bloom.—February 22, 25 to 28.

Size.—Small — 16 mm diameter (0.63 inch).

Color.—Pinkish white (Pl. 1 B7).

Petals.—5.

Pistil.—1.

Stamens.—18–24 — Anthers — Very small — Color — Golden glow (Pl. 19 L6).

Calyx.—Piridine Green (Pl. 17 I6).

Fruit:

Size.—Medium compared to other apricot varieties.

Average weight of fruit.—5 to 10 apricots per pound.

Average diameter.—1.625 inch (41.28 mm).

Transverse in the suture plane.—1.59 inch (40.39 mm).

Transverse at right angles to suture plane.—1.71 inch (43.43 mm).

Form.—Roundish — Globose to slightly oblong.

Suture.—Distinct but shallow, occurring from apex to stem cup.

Ventral surface.—Smooth, rounded with some lips on dorsal side.

Stem cavity.—Average $\frac{5}{8}$ inch deep (0.625 inch).

Stem.—Short — Length 0.5 inch (12.7 mm) — Caliper — 6.35 mm.

Apex.—Somewhat rounded to slightly truncated.

Skin.—Thin.

Texture.—Meaty.

Tendency to crack.—None known.

Color.—Blush — Light red average 40–45% of the fruit (4G5) — Ground color — Forsythia (9K6) — Flesh color — Cavity (Pl. L8) — Surface of pit well — Smooth, marabelle (Pl. 10 J9).

Pit well.—Length — 27 mm (1.06 inch) — Width — 18 mm (0.71 inch) — Color of pit well — Mirabelle (Pl. 10 J7).

Juice production.—Minimal.

Flavor.—Moderate to good.

Aroma.—Lacking.

Texture.—Meaty.

Fibers.—Few.

Ripening.—Even.

Eating quality.—Moderate to good.

Keeping quality.—Good.

Shipping quality.—Good.

Stone:

Color.—Dry Syrup (Pl. 14 L8).

Type.—Semi-free stone.

Fibers.—Few and short.

Size.—Length — 25 mm (0.98 inch) — Width — 17 mm (0.67 inch) — Thickness — 11 mm (0.43 inch).

Form.—General ovate.

Hilum.—Small, oval size.

Apex.—Somewhat rounded.

Sides.—Ventral side thin, while ridges from apex to base on dorsal side.

Surface texture.—Fine grooves at base.

Disease susceptibility/resistance: Similar to that of other varieties of apricots as it relates to brown rot and green fruit rot. A tendency to display reddish blemishes on the fruit when foggy conditions occur prior to harvest.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of apricot tree named 'Rosy Bell' substantially as described and illustrated.

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