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(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
**Meilland**

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

(50) Latin Name: *Rosa hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Meimiros**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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Plt./128

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of rose plant of the Miniature  
Class is provided which abundantly forms on a nearly  
continuous basis attractive very double bright Coral Salmon  
Pink blossoms that well retain their coloration upon matu-  
rity. The growth habit is spreading-upright bushy. Very  
dense dark green semi-glossy foliage is formed that con-  
trasts nicely with the blossom coloration. Plants of the new  
variety develop well following the rooting of cuttings. The  
new variety is well suited for pot forcing under greenhouse  
growing conditions to form a distinctive gift plant.

**1 Drawing Sheet**

**1**

Botanical/commercial classification: *Rosa hybrida*/Min-  
iature Rose Plant.

Varietal denomination: cv. 'Meimiros'.

**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 product of the cross of the 'Meichanso' variety (non-  
patented in the United States) and the 'Meishasen' variety  
(non-patented in the United States). The 'Meichanso' variety  
sometimes is known as the 'Parador' variety. The male  
parent (i.e., the pollen parent) was the 'Meifinaro' variety  
(U.S. Plant Pat. No. 5,180). The 'Meifinaro' variety has been  
marketed under the AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE trade-  
mark. The parentage of the new variety can be summarized  
as follows:

('Meichanso' x 'Meishasen') x 'Meifinaro'.

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 that the new variety of Miniature rose plant  
of the present invention possesses the following combina-  
tion of characteristics:

- (a) exhibits a spreading-upright bushy growth habit,
- (b) forms in abundance on a nearly continuous basis  
attractive very double bright Coral Salmon Pink blos-  
soms that well retain their coloration upon maturity,
- (c) forms very dense dark green semi-glossy foliage,
- (d) develops well following the rooting of cuttings, and
- (e) is well suited for pot forcing under greenhouse grow-  
ing conditions.

**2**

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.

5 The new variety can be readily distinguished from its  
parental varieties. More specifically, the 'Meichanso' variety  
forms significantly larger blossoms that are Geranium Red  
in coloration, and the 'Meifinaro' variety forms smaller  
blossoms that initially are Neyron Pink in coloration and  
fade to nearly white at the time of petal drop. The new  
variety additionally can be distinguished from other previ-  
ously known Miniature rose varieties in view of its distinc-  
tive blossom coloration combined with the display of an  
usually large number of petals.

15 The new variety has been found to undergo asexual  
propagation at West Grove, Pa. by a number of routes,  
including budding, grafting, and the use of cuttings. Asexual  
propagation by the above-mentioned methods as performed  
in Pennsylvania has shown that the characteristics of the  
new variety are strictly transmissible from one generation to  
20 another. Good plant development is displayed regardless of  
the mode of asexual propagation.

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

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH**

25 The accompanying photograph shows as nearly true as it  
is reasonably possible to make the same, in a color illus-  
tration of this character, a typical specimen of the new variety.  
The rose plant of the new variety was three years of age and  
was photographed during October 2003 while growing on  
their own roots in a greenhouse at West Grove, Pa.

30 **FIG. 1**—illustrates a specimen of a typical flower cluster  
with accompanying foliage.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

35 The chart used in the identification of the colors is that of  
The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S. Colour Chart). The  
description is based on the observation of three year-old  
specimens of the new variety which were observed during  
October 2003 while growing on their own roots in green-  
houses at West Grove, Pa.

Class: Miniature.

Plant:

*Height*.—Approximately 60 to 65 cm on average at the end of the growing season.

*Width*.—Approximately 65 to 70 cm on average at the end of the growing season.

*Habit*.—Spreading-upright bushy.

Branches:

*Color*.—Young stems: glabrous and near Green Group 137C. Adult wood: glabrous and near Green Group 137C.

*Thorns*.—Immature thorns: possess an elliptical base, taper to a sharp point at the apex, measure approximately 5 mm in length and approximately 2 mm in width at the base, and are Yellow-Green Group 153A in coloration. Mature thorns: possess an elliptical base, taper to a sharp point at the apex, measure approximately 6 mm in length and approximately 3 mm in width at the base, and are Yellow-Green Group 153A in coloration.

Leaves:

*Petioles*.—Upper surface: bear scattered hairs and stiff glandular hairs, and near Green Group 143A in coloration. Under surface: typically bear a few minute to small minor prickles and occasional stiff glandular hairs, and near Green Group 143A in coloration.

*Leaflets*.—Number: 3, 5 (most often), and 7. Shape: typically broadly elliptical to elliptical to ovate to occasionally narrowly ovate. Apex: acute to broadly acute to abruptly acuminate. Base: broadly rounded to broadly cuneate to cuneate. Texture: substantially glabrous on the upper surface and glabrous on the lower surface, and somewhat papery. Margin: serrulate. General appearance: very dense, dark green, and semi-glossy. Leaf size: varies widely within and between leaves of varying leaflet numbers with the overall leaf lengths commonly being approximately 6 to 10.5 cm and the overall leaf widths commonly being approximately 5 to 7.5 cm. For a three-leaflet leaf a typical length commonly is approximately 6 to 8 cm and a typical width commonly is approximately 5 to 7 cm. For a five-leaflet leaf a typical length commonly is approximately 7.5 to 10.5 cm and a typical width commonly is approximately 5.5 to 7.5 cm. For a seven-leaflet leaf a typical length commonly is approximately 8 to 10 cm and a typical width commonly is approximately 5.5 to 7.5 cm. Color (adult foliage): Upper surface: near Green Group 139A. Under surface: near Greyed-Green Group 191A. Petiole: approximately 12 mm in length and approximately 3 mm in diameter.

Inflorescence:

*Number of flowers*.—Commonly approximately 1 to 4 per stem.

*Peduncle*.—Near Green Group 143C in coloration, occasionally with simple trichomes, the length commonly is approximately 3.6 to 5 cm, and the diameter commonly is approximately 1.9 mm.

*Sepals*.—Five in number, lanceolate, possess an apex that is acutus, approximately 20 mm in length, approximately 6 mm in width at the widest point, Yellow-Green Group 144A in coloration on both surfaces, and with some foliaceous extensions.

*Buds*.—Shape: ovoid, approximately 22 mm in length, approximately 8 mm in diameter, and Yellow-Green Group 144A in coloration.

*Flower*.—Form: very double, and flat cup-shaped.

Diameter: approximately 4 to 5 cm on average when fully open. Color when blooming and nearly fully open: Upper surface: near Red Group 48D and Red Group 49A and lightening towards and through Red Group 49B and 49C. Under surface: near Red Group 49A and lightening towards and through Red Group 49B and 49C, and with some areas of near Red Group 48D at upper petal areas. Color at full maturity: Upper surface: typically near Red Group 55B and lightening smoothly and continuously through Red Group 55C and 55D with a small area of near to White Group 155B and 155C near the base and towards the center as well as a small amount of near Green-White Group 157A at the petal base. Under surface: typically near Red Group 55B and lightening smoothly and continuously through Red Group 55C and 55D, and Red Group 56A and 56B. Stability of coloration: very good with coloration commonly being well maintained upon full maturity. Petal configuration: larger broad petals are found in the outside rows with the innermost petals commonly being narrower and distinctly folded over and crinkled. Petal number: ranges widely from approximately 65 to 110 under typical growing conditions. Petal texture: glabrous, membranaceous, relatively thin, and semi-translucent. Petal arrangement: rosulate. Petal shape: broadly obovate to obovate to narrowly obovate. Petal margin: entire though tends to be revolute and typically more towards the tip especially as the flower ages. Petal apex: typically abruptly acuminate and occasionally broadly rounded. Petal base: very broadly cuneate to narrowly cuneate. Petal size: on the outside commonly approximately 22 to 27 mm (average approximately 24 mm) in length and approximately 20 to 30 mm (average approximately 23 mm) in width, and on the inside commonly approximately 15 to 23 mm (average approximately 20 mm) in length and approximately 9 to 19 mm (average approximately 15 mm) in width. Petaloids: commonly approximately 8 to 15 per flower, commonly irregular in shape, approximately 8 mm×4 mm in size, and near White Group 155D with edges of Red Group 52D in coloration. Fragrance: none. Stamen number: commonly approximately 48 to 60. Filaments: commonly approximately 5 mm in length, and near Yellow-Orange Group 18A in coloration. Anthers: Yellow-Orange Group 22A in coloration. Pollen: present in an abundant quantity and near Yellow-Orange Group 23A in coloration. Pistil number: approximately 96 on average. Styles: commonly approximately 4 mm in length, and near White Group 155D at the base and changing to near Red Group 46A near the stigma. Stigma: Yellow-Orange Group 23A in coloration. Lasting quality: is influenced by environmental conditions with blooms commonly lasting approximately 7 days on the plant, and approximately 5 days when cut and placed in a vase.

Development:

*Vegetation*.—Vigorous.

*Blooming*.—Very abundant and nearly continuous under greenhouse growing conditions.

*Aptitude to bear fruit*.—None observed.

I claim:

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

US PP15,500 P2

**5**

- (a) exhibits a spreading-upright bushy growth habit,
- (b) forms in abundance on a nearly continuous basis attractive very double bright Coral Salmon Pink blossoms that well retain their coloration upon maturity,
- (c) forms very dense dark green semi-glossy foliage,

**6**

- (d) develops well following the rooting of cuttings, and
  - (e) is well suited for pot forcing under greenhouse growing conditions;
- substantially as herein shown and described.

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