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

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(54) **HYBRID TEA ROSE PLANT NAMED**
'MEIVANTHOU'

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

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35
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Related U.S. Application Data

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29, 2002, now abandoned, which is a continuation of appli-

cation No. 09/276,714, filed on Mar. 26, 1999, now aban-
doned.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01H 5/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./140**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** Plt./140
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct variety of Hybrid Tea rose plant is
provided which forms attractive double deep red blossoms
with turgescient petals. The buds are large and the blossoms
possess no fragrance. The plant exhibits an erect growth
habit, and dark green and semi-glossy foliage. Excellent
disease resistance particularly with respect to Downey Mil-
dew and Botrytis is exhibited. The new variety is particu-
larly well suited for producing cut flowers under greenhouse
growing conditions.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical/commercial classification: *Rosa hybrida*/Hy-
brid Tea Rose Plant.

Varietal denomination: cv. 'Meivanthou'.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The new variety of Hybrid Tea 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
'Keireb' variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,369). The male parent
(i.e., the pollen parent) was the product of the cross of the
'Hilred' variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,964) and the 'Meig-
ormon' variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,647). The parentage of
the new variety can be summarized as follows:

'Keireb' × ('Hilred' × 'Meigormon').

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 Hybrid Tea rose plant
of the present invention possesses the following combina-
tion of characteristics:

- (a) forms large floral buds;
- (b) forms attractive high-centered double deep red blos-
soms with turgescient petals,
- (c) exhibits an erect growth habit,
- (d) exhibits excellent disease resistance particularly with
respect to Downey Mildew and Botrytis, and

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(e) is particularly well suited for the production of cut
flowers under greenhouse growing conditions.

The plant exhibits a very uniform and homogeneous
appearance.

5 The new variety well meets the needs of the horticultural
industry and exhibits good productivity during cut flower
production in a greenhouse.

The new variety has been found to undergo asexual
propagation in France by a number of routes, including
10 budding, grafting, and cuttage. Asexual propagation by the
above-mentioned techniques in France has shown that the
characteristics of the new variety are stable and are strictly
transmissible by such asexual propagation from one genera-
tion to another.

15 The new variety has been named the 'Meivanthou'
variety, and is being marketed in the United States under the
MAGNUM trademark.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

20 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 two
25 years of age and were observed during April while budded
on *Rosa indica* understock and growing in greenhouses at Le
Cannet des Maures, Var, France. Dimensions in centimeters
are indicated at the bottom of the photograph.

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

FIG. 2—illustrates a specimen of a floral bud 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 in the course of opening;

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

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

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

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

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 description is based on the observation of two year-old plants during April while budded on *Rosa indica* understock and growing indoors at Le Cannet des Maures, Var, France. The coloration in common terms precedes reference to the chart in some instances.

Class: Hybrid Tea.

Plant:

Height.—When pruned to a height of 85 cm., floral stems of approximately 50 to 80 cm. in length commonly are produced.

Habit.—Erect.

Branches:

Color.—Young stems: near Green Group 138B. Adult wood: near Green Group 137C.

Thorns.—Size: medium (as illustrated). Quantity: fairly numerous. Color: near Greyed-Orange Group 173B on young stems. Configuration: rather straight, elongated, and inflected toward the base on the upper surface, and concave on the under surface.

Leaves:

Stipules.—Adnate, pectinate, and rather wide.

Petioles.—Upper surface: slightly glandular in nature, and Green Group 139A on the upper surface and Green Group 137C on the under surface. Under surface: light green with a few prickles.

Leaflets.—Number: 3, 5 (most often), and 7. Shape: symmetrical with an obtuse base. Serration: regular (as illustrated). Texture: consistent. General appearance: dense, medium green, and semi-glossy. Color (young foliage): Upper surface: near Yellow-Green Group 147A with reddish staining. Under surface:

near Greyed-Green Group 191A with reddish staining. Color (adult foliage): Upper surface: near Yellow-Green Group 147A. Under surface: near Greyed-Green Group 191A.

Inflorescence:

Number of flowers.—Usually one flower per stem.

Peduncle.—Long, and the length is approximately 14 cm. on average and Green Group 143B in coloration.

Sepals.—Upper surface: tomentose and Green Group 138B and 138C in coloration. Under surface: Green Group 138A and 138B and commonly with extensions on three sepals (as illustrated). Commonly two sepals lack extensions.

Buds.—Shape: conical. Size: large. Length: approximately 5.5 cm. on average. Color upon opening: Upper surface: Red Group 46A. Under surface: Red Group 53A.

Flower.—Shape: with a high center. Diameter: commonly approximately 10.5 cm. on average. Color (when opening begins): Upper surface: near Red Group 46B. Under surface: near Red Group 53B. Color (when blooming): Upper surface: near Red Group 45B. Under surface: near Red Group 45D. Color (at end of opening): Upper surface: near Red Group 45B. Under surface: near Red Group 45D. Fragrance: none. Lasting quality: approximately 10 to 14 days on the plant and approximately 10 to 12 days when cut and placed in a vase. Petal number: commonly approximately 30 to 35 on average. Petal shape: rounded at the base with a reflexed tip. Petal drop: very good, the petals commonly detach cleanly. Stamen number: approximately 95 on average. Anthers: orange in coloration. Filaments: pinkish in coloration. Pollen: formed in abundance, possesses excellent viability, and Yellow Group 11A in coloration. Pistils: approximately 105 on average. Stigmas: pale yellow in coloration. Styles: pale pink in coloration. Receptacle: light green in coloration, smooth, and in longitudinal section in the shape of a funnel.

Development:

Vegetation.—Strong.

Blooming.—Abundant, and commonly forms approximately 140 to 160 blooms per square meter per year under standard greenhouse growing conditions.

Aptitude to bear fruit.—Very good.

Resistance to diseases.—Excellent especially with respect to Downey Mildew and Botrytis.

I claim:

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

- (a) forms large floral buds;
 - (b) forms attractive high-centered double deep red blossoms with turgescient petals,
 - (c) exhibits an erect growth habit,
 - (d) exhibits excellent disease resistance particularly with respect to Downey Mildew and Botrytis, and
 - (e) is particularly well suited for the production of cut flowers under greenhouse growing conditions;
- substantially as herein shown and described.

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