

# WFRS REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

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VMU Botanical Garden in Kaunas, Lithuania

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'Zigeunerknabe' syn. 'Gipsy Boy',  
photo Erich Unmuth





## EDITOR'S NOTE

Latvia and Lithuania are countries in the north east of Europe where winters are still cold. In this issue we have two articles about rose gardens in this part of the world.

Dovile Ryliene has a nursery in Lithuania and she is a very knowledgeable rosarian interested in the history of rose cultivation in Lithuania, searching and collecting old roses. You may want to have a look at her [website](#). She has also joined the WFRS as a friend.

Dr. Arūnas Balsevičius, Head of Collections Department at Vytautas Magnus University Botanical Garden in Kaunas, Lithuania presents the history of the rosarium and the large assortment of rose varieties planted there.

Erich Unmuth treat us with several articles well documented with pictures. He shares his concerns about *Agrilus cuprescens*, a pest which is spreading in Europe and can cause important damage to roses. In his opinion more research and observation should be done. *Anybody who wants to send his/her observations about this pest is welcome to contact us.*

With roses we can make the world a better place!

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# RUNDALE PALACE ROSE GARDEN IN LATVIA

*Dovile Ryliene, Lithuania*

The name of Rundāle comes from the German place-name Ruhenthal (Valley of Peace). The Rundāle Palace was built during the 16th century. In 1735 Ernst Johann von Biron bought the Rundāle property, the old palace was completely torn down, and the stones, bricks and even the mortar were used in the construction of the new palace.

Very little information can be found about roses during the time of the Duke Ernest Johann von Biron (1690–1772), the Duke of Courland (Courland is one of the historical Latvian lands, in Latvian: “Kurzeme”). Roses in pots were mentioned amongst greenhouse plants of the Duke’s palaces. During the time of Duke Peter von Biron (1724–1800) there was an order (circa 1786) for 160 roses: 50 centifolia (*Centrolly*), 50 *Provins Rosen*, 30 Monthly roses (*Monat Rosen*) and 30 *bunteenglisherosen*. Roses are listed also during the period of Counts Shuvalov (1826 – 1914), among the greenhouse plants: *Rosa centifolia*, *Rosa multiflora*, *Rosa noisettiana*, *Rosa semperflorens*.

In 1889 French rose breeder Louis Levêque created

a Hybrid Perpetual rose ‘Duchesse de Dino’, dedicated to the youngest daughter of Dorothea, the Duchess of Courland– Dorothee de Courlande, the Duchess of Dino.

Latvia has a long tradition of growing roses. Despite the cold and severe winters, there were rose nurseries during 19th and first half of 20th century: nursery of Johann Hermann Zigra, nursery of Christian Wilhelm Shoch, Count Alexander von Sievers. They offered an extensive range of roses including the newest rose varieties. Latvian people love roses, so it’s not strange, that such a big and beautiful rose garden was created in the park of Rundāles castle

The creation of Rundāles Palace rose garden started in 2004 and it is in the outer areas of the big central ornamental parterre, which is made from clipped boxwood, lawn, red bricks and white marble. The Rundāle Palace Park was not affected by the 19th-century European fashion trend to create landscape parks instead of regular gardens



Rose garden view from the palace

So this new rose garden was also designed to create the feel of Baroque Garden. There are low, hard pruned hedges of *Ligustrum vulgare pyramidalis*, *Thuja* topiaries. Big collection of historical and modern roses, planted by color and in circles dedicated to individual breeders or countries.

There is a collection of Latvian roses, 22 varieties (Rugosas) bred by Latvian breeder Dzidra Rieksta. The most popular rose in Latvia is D. Rieksta's 'Ritausma' (1963). In many countries this variety is still known by the wrong name 'Polareis'.

The huge job was done by Lauma Lancmane, she devoted 45 years of work to the palace and rose garden creation.

Now Rundāles rose garden lists more than 2000 varieties (more than 13 000 plants). Roses have been purchased from many countries (Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Finland).

And if you are a rose enthusiast like me, and you have only one day to see the museum in the palace and the gardens...it would be impossible. I can spend half a day only in the rose garden (the beds with roses, without paths and lawn, occupy about 1 ha) and later always regret that I could have had more time for other parts of this magnificent park, which occupies 85 ha.

The museum in the palace is also huge, but I was there only one time and about 15 times in the rose garden...Rose flowering season begins in the second half of June and the garden is the most beautiful when the old roses are in bloom.

Old roses (*Gallicas*, *Albas*, *Centifolias*, *Damascenas*) are pruned according to the John Scarman method, described in his book "Gardening with Old Roses". Thanks to this method of pruning, bushes are compact, dense, dome-shaped, flowering from the base and better fit to a Baroque style garden.

Former director Imants Lancmanis used to say about the annual care of the rose garden that "it's some kind of a heroism.

All people, who take care of this rose garden are heroes. Because of the severe climate a rose garden in northern part of Europe requires a lot of care and risk. To grow and take care of such rose gardens in warmer climate is easier. Rundāles rose garden is like a patient, who needs permanent medical care. Visitors often don't realize how much casual hardy work it needs, they notice only the result and thinks that roses grow here without a big care."

It is true, there are a lot of jobs in the rose garden (deadheading, weeding) but the most important and hardest job is to prepare these roses for winter and to uncover them in spring.



Gallica rose collection, about 70 varieties on display in three flowerbeds

In October they start bending the rose canes to wooden frameworks, about 20 people works about 2 weeks only bending roses. Climbing roses are untied from structures and also bent to the ground. After bending the basal part of the bushes is covered with peat and manure (each year they have to order more than 50 tones).

Usually at the end of November roses are covered with fir branches (not all roses, because it's too expensive) and jute fabric (they use jute bags from coffee beans industry). Twenty years ago they used reed (*Phragmites*) for covering roses. Staff went to the lakes, ponds and cut reed, weaved carpets from it and built a "wigwam" on roses. They also used rubberoid and plastic films earlier, but now they use jute bags.

Only *Rugosas*, *Spinosissimas* and some wild roses are left without cover. *Rugosas* are covered only with peat or manure, only basal part of the bush. The rose covering usually finishes by Christmas.

I know you would like to ask: why they need such covering when climate becomes warmer, winters are also become warmer? But even now winters

in Latvia are really unpredictable. January and February are the coldest months. Last year, on the first week of January 2024 temperature in Latvia was around -7° – -17° C and temperature at night in north-eastern parts of the country dropped as far as -20° – -23° C. The coldest day during 75 years of observations was reported in Daugavpils (about 200 km from Rundāle rose garden). Here the temperature dropped to -29.5 °C in January 2024. Rose gardeners are afraid of such unpredictable winters and still cover roses like in old days.

Source:

website of Rundāle palace museum [Rundāle Palace – The Baroque pearl in an intact rural landscape](#)

Lancmane L. (2020). *Vēsturisko rožu dārzs / Garden of Historical Roses*. Rundāle.



Rugosa rose collection. 22 varieties (*Rugosas*) bred by **Latvian breeder Dzidra Rieksta**. They prune these shrubs very hard every 3 - 4 years.



Climbing roses



Modern roses planted by color



Deadheading roses



A big team have to take care of rose garden





Lauma Lancmane (left) and Dovile Ryliene, 9 years ago. Lauma Lancmane is the “soul” of the rose garden, she devoted many years to the rose garden creation





Roses prepared for winter. Climbing roses are untied from structures and bent to the ground



They use jute bags from coffee beans industry



Buxwood hedges protected from sunlight. Sharp sunlight during winter and early spring can burn buxwood (especially when ground is frozen).



# COLLECTION OF ROSES IN VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY BOTANICAL GARDEN

Dr. Arūnas Balsevičius, Head of Collections Department



The Vytautas Magnus University Botanical Garden in Kaunas was founded in 1923. Just two years later, the collection of roses began, and in 1935, the first rose garden, or Rosarium, was established. The Rosarium has a long and storied history: it was devastated during World War II but was later restored and reorganized several times.

Since 2014, efforts to update and expand the Rosarium collection have been underway. By 2025, the Rosarium at VMU Botanical Garden will house more than 2,200 varieties, species, intraspecific taxa, hybrids, and horticultural crosses.

The Vytautas Magnus University Botanical Garden, founded by Professor Konstantin von Regel in 1923, saw the first roses planted in 1925 (Boguševičiūtė et al., 1992; Budriūnas & Milaknienė, 2002). Initially, these roses were grown in a nursery before being relocated to an exposition in the central part of the garden (Budriūnas & Milaknienė, 2002). By 1931,

58 rose cultivars were growing in the Botanical Garden, with the rose garden managed by freelance gardener Bodakas (Budriūnas & Milaknienė, 2002).

K. Regelis (1935) noted that between 1932 and 1934, the expansion of the Rosarium was initiated. While there is no record of the first rose collector in the garden, it is known that O. Skeivienė, a later renowned Lithuanian floriculturist, established the first rose exposition in the central part of the garden. The rose exposition was completed in 1935 (Česonienė & Varkulevičienė, 2012).

The existence of the Rosarium is confirmed in a plan of the Botanical Garden (Minkevičius, 1936). In this early garden plan, the Rosarium was marked as No. 6 and was located on the southwest side of the greenhouse, occupying the same plot as it does today, though its size was three times smaller than it is now. By 1934, the garden's rose collection included 179 entries (Regelis, 1935; Varkulevičienė & Mitkuvienė, 2012). According to A. Boguševičiūtė et al. (1992), plants were imported from Germany, France, and England. It is interesting to note that, according to J. Varkulevičienė and J. Mitkuvienė (2012), by 1937, only 60 cultivars of hardy roses had survived growing in the Lithuanian climate.

During World War II, the entire rose collection was destroyed. According to A. Boguševičiūtė et al. (1992), the collection was not restored until 1975. However, the Botanical Garden archives and Budriūnas et al. (2002) indicate that the Rosarium was revived in 1957 by O. Skeivienė. Under her guidance, approximately 300 rose cultivars were planted in the newly established Rosarium (Budriūnas et al., 2002; Varkulevičienė & Mitkuvienė, 2012). In addition to restoring the collection, O. Skeivienė also bred new rose varieties (Budriūnas et al., 2002; Varkulevičienė & Mitkuvienė, 2012). However, the names of the cultivars she created remain unknown, and it is likely that these roses have not survived to the present day.

The current rose collection at the Botanical Garden has successfully preserved several specimens from this phase of the Rosarium's development. The oldest roses included in the database date back to 1962, although the exact date of their acquisition remains unknown.

Since 2014, following the renovation of the Rosarium's pathways, the update and expansion of the collection have been initiated. The concept for the Rosarium was developed and implemented by Dovilė Rylienė and Mindaugas Ryla.

In 2014, the rose collection consisted of 337 cultivars. The composition was dominated by three main rose groups—Hybrid Tea, Floribunda, and Climber—accounting for 60% of the cultivars. The Rosarium largely featured popular and well-known roses favored by amateur enthusiasts, resulting in a collection that lacked diversity and failed to provide visitors with much excitement or novelty.

The re-creation of the Rosarium was completed in 2018, with an impressive new exposition established in the central part of the garden, in front of the greenhouse. In 2019, the previously abandoned display of the *Rosaceae* family was redesigned and enhanced with a diverse collection of species and species crosses of the genus *Rosa*. Subsequently, separate expositions were established for the Hybrid Rubiginosa, Hybrid Rugosa, Gallica, Hybrid Gallica, Portland, Bourbon, and Hybrid Perpetual rose groups. In 2024, a cold greenhouse was constructed for warm-climate roses that do not overwinter well in Lithuania or have limited winter hardiness. The greenhouse showcases representatives from the China, Noisette, Tea Noisette, Tea, Hybrid Banksiae, Hybrid Bracteata, and Hybrid Gigantea rose groups.

The creation of the present-day Rosarium not only aimed to assemble a diverse and valuable collection of roses but also to present a unique exposition that would captivate visitors. The Rosarium reflects the long history of cultivated rose development, showcasing the evolution from wild *Rosa* species in their natural habitats and their crossbreeding, to old garden roses, and ultimately to modern rose varieties. To achieve this, in the historical area of the Rosarium, varieties from distinct rose classification groups are displayed in separate beds, while the exposition of wild roses and their hybrids is located in a new section.

Additionally, certain parts of this exposition highlight the complex and intertwined classification of roses. Rose cultivars from different countries are displayed in separate beds, allowing visitors to explore the geographic origins of cultivated roses. Dedicated sections feature varieties bred in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the USA.

The rose varieties developed in the Baltic States are displayed separately in the Baltic Garden. We have gathered all the varieties bred in Latvia and a large collection of Estonian rose varieties. A special place is reserved for the Found Old Garden Roses collected by Dovilė Rylienė in Lithuania.

During the restoration of the VMU Botanical Garden's Rosarium, significant attention was given to plant compositions and aesthetics. As a result, four rose compositions featuring perennial flowers and conifers were established in a prominent location, directly in front of the greenhouse entrance. The chosen color combinations for these compositions include white and yellow, burgundy and purple, orange and peach, and pink.

To further enhance the aesthetic appeal, annual flower beds were placed at one of the rose garden entrances, with new displays created each year. The entrance is framed by flower beds in five distinct colors: white, pink, red, orange, and yellow.



Currently, the Rosarium collection consists of over 2,200 collection entries. Among the Old Garden Roses, the dominant groups are the Gallica Group and Hybrid Gallica Group with 239 cultivars, the Hybrid Perpetual Group with 99 cultivars, the Bourbon Group with 98 cultivars, and the Moss Group and Moss-Modern Group with 81 cultivars. The extensive Hybrid Rugosa rose collection consists of 239 cultivars. The Modern Roses collection is dominated by Shrub Group roses (421 cultivars), Floribunda Group roses (390 cultivars), and Hybrid Tea roses (230 cultivars).

The rose collection at Vytautas Magnus University Botanical Garden includes roses from all classification groups, including some rare and forgotten groups such as Boursault, Lambertiana, Agatha, Turbinata, Hybrid Arvensis, and Hybrid Bracteata.

In 2024, the first rose cultivar bred at the Botanical Garden, 'Ugnis' (Hybrid Rubiginosa Group), was registered by the American Rose Society. The cultivar was created by Arūnas Balsevičius. The rose breeding program aims to create varieties that are resistant to cold and diseases. Significant attention is given to increasing the diversity of rare or forgotten rose groups, such as Hybrid Rubiginosa, Hybrid Nitida, Hybrid Palustris, and Hybrid Setigera.

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## ROSA ROXBURGHII Tratt.

Erich Unmuth



*Rosa roxburghii* TRATT. f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils.- Europarosarium Sangerhausen

The purpose of this short article is to remind you that roses not only offer flowers, but can enrich our gardens and public green spaces all year round with their various characteristics.

The genus *Rosa* contains a number of unusual species, of which *Rosa roxburghii* and its hybrids are perhaps the most astonishing.

An impressive specimen, thought to be around 90 years old, can be seen in the Berlin Botanical Gardens.

The size of the specimen, its tree-like growth, overwhelms the visitor. When leafless, its open habit, stiff branches and peeling bark hardly suggest a rose. Leaves up to 10 cm long, consisting of nine to seventeen or even nineteen leaflets, attract attention.

Its common name, 'chestnut rose', refers to another peculiarity: large, spiny, apple-like fruits that remain

yellow-green even when fully ripe.

Rose hip extract from *Rosa roxburghii* is used medicinally in China and the plant is cultivated extensively for this purpose<sup>[1]</sup>.

Native to China and Japan, a Chinese hybrid with fully double flowers has been cultivated in the Calcutta Botanical Garden since the late 18th century, and originally named by the "father of Indian botany" William Roxburgh<sup>[2]</sup> *Rosa microphylla* Roxb.

It reached the British Isles in the 1820s, flowering there for the first time in 1824, but because "*Rosa microphylla*" had previously been applied to another species, it was renamed by the Austrian botanist Leopold Trattinnick<sup>[3]</sup> in memory of William Roxburgh *R. roxburghii* Tratt.





*Rosa roxburghii* TRATT. f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils.  
Botanical Garden Berlin



*Rosa roxburghii* TRATT. f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils.  
Detail: bark Botanical Garden Berlin



*Rosa roxburghii* TRATT. f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils.

Detail: foliage  
Botanical Garden Berlin

Since then *R. roxburghii* Tratt. has been used synonymously with *R. microphylla* Roxb.

The double form, commonly known in the trade as *Rosa roxburghii* 'Plena', is less hardy and quite sensitive to frost. After 20 years it grows in the Rosenkultivarium only 1.5m tall.

Not until the 1880s a single flowered wild form from Japan was described by Ernest Henry Wilson<sup>[4]</sup> as *R. roxburghii* var. *hirtula* Rehd. & Wils.

The wild single form from China, *R. roxburghii* f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils., was collected and introduced to the West several decades after the double form and described in 1915 as well by Ernest Henry Wilson.

It differs from the Japanese in that it grows more sparsely and has downy leaves on the underside. At the Rosenkultivarium all plants are the Japanese form and it seems that this is the only species available in the trade.

Also the identification of the outstanding specimen growing in the Botanical Garden Berlin should be checked, to me it looks like another *R. roxburghii* var. *hirtula* Rehd. & Wils.

Although *Rosa roxburghii* caused a stir, only a few breeders worked with it. Once again Rudolf Geschwind deals with it in detail in his books and some articles.



*Rosa roxburghii* TRATT. var. *hirtula* (Reg.) Rehd. & Wils.

Europarosarium Sangerhausen



*Rosa roxburghii* TRATT.  
var. *hirtula* (Reg.) Rehd. & Wils.  
Europarosarium Sangerhausen

It is amazing what Geschwind wrote in 1864 in his book 'Die Hybridation und Sämlingszucht der Rosen' about his experiences and aims with *R. roxburghii*:

*So habe ich die ungemein weiche, mehlthausüchtige Species Microphylla durch Hybridation bedeutend verbessert und Varietäten gewonnen, welche hart sind und im äusseren Ansehen sich nicht von der alten Microphylla unterscheiden. Entspricht die Blüthe dieser Sämlinge meinem Wunsche, so wird der Blumengarten um eine wesentliche Zierde reicher!*

(I have improved the extremely soft, mildew-prone *Microphylla* species by hybridisation and obtained varieties that are hard and do not differ in appearance from the old *Microphylla*. If the flowering of these seedlings lives up to my expectations, the flower garden will be enriched by an essential ornamental shrub! *Trans. Erich Unmuth*) (**Rudolf Geschwind, Die Hybridation und Sämlingszucht der Rosen, 1864, p. 189**)



'Lampion' (Lens, 2013) - Europarosarium Sangerhausen

His first rose, marketed by the Luxembourg nursery Soupert & Notting as 'Premier essai', was a hybrid of *R. roxburghii*. The rose is lost and there is only a very sparse description as a double, white flower with a purple centre and climbing. Knowing Geschwind's ambitions, we can assume that this hybrid had the exceptional features of *R. roxburghii*, e.g. the peeling bark, the numerous leaflets. In contrast, most of the few hybrids we have today lack these characteristics.

*Rosa roxburghii* 'Pourpre Ancien' (unknown, circa 1837) has been growing at Rosenkultivarium since 2015, but it has not yet flowered, and every year it suffers terribly from our winters.

'Triomphe de la Guillotière' (Guillot père, 1863) is a rampant climber, the descendance from *R. roxburghii* can only be guessed.

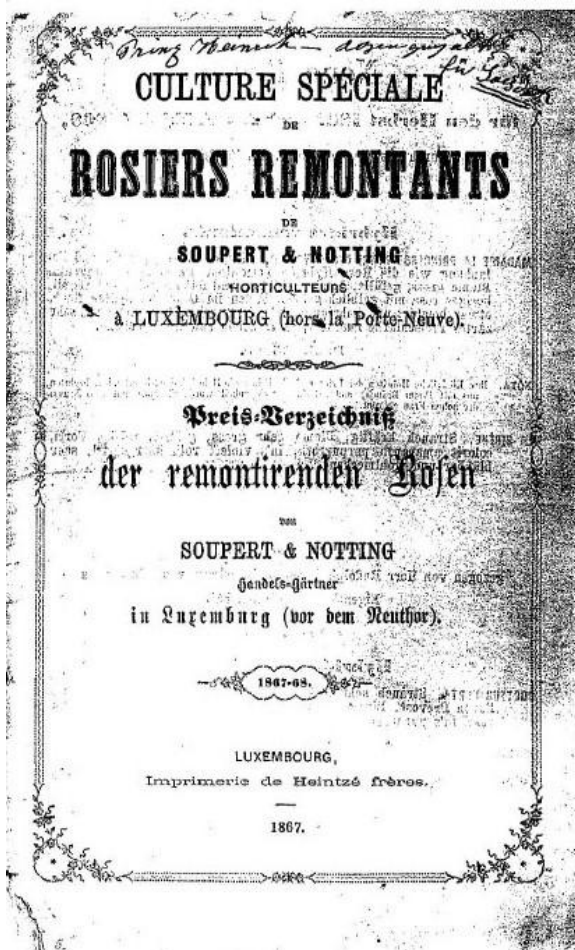
'Ma Surprise' (Guillot fils, 1872) is small, heavily prickled shrub reminding of *Rugosa*-ancestry.

'Château de la Juvénie' (Gravereaux/L'Hay, 1901) is a peculiar rose with foliage and habit typical of *R. roxburghii*, with pink, medium sized, double flowers. The rose is quite delicate and needs winter protection.

In my opinion, the old Chinese *R. roxburghii* 'Plena' best combines the qualities of the species and the double flowers.

An interesting chance seedling is *R. x migrugosa* Henkel, found 1905 in the garden of the Strasbourg Botanical Institute. Obviously a cross between *R. roxburghii* and *R. rugosa* impresses with its dense growth, large single pink flowers and foliage showing *Roxburghii* and *Rugosa* qualities.

More recently, 3 breeders have followed the path described by Geschwind more than 150 years ago.



Soupert & Notting 1867/1868 Frontcover

20

**MICROPHILLA.**

000 **PREMIER ESSAI**, Bl. mittelgr., füssere Petallen schön imbrüquirt, colorit fleischfarbig weiss, Centrum leuchtend carmin, in's sehr frische rosa gehend.

Nach Wahl der Besteller:

	Fr.	Gl.
Gleich der Erde veredelte starke bezweigte Exempl., d. St.	2	»
25 Sorten.	43	75

Nach unserer Wahl:

Gleich der Erde veredelte 50 Sorten . . . . .	75	»
Halbstämmige mit Sommertrieben od. schlafenden Augen das Stück.	2	25
25 Sorten.	50	»
Hochstämmige — — — — — das Stück.	2	50
25 Sorten.	55	»

Au choix des amateurs:

Greffes rez-terre en fortes plantes, la pièce . . . . .	2	»
25 variétés . . . . .	43	75

A notre choix:

Greffes rez-terre en fortes plantes, 50 variétés pour . . . . .	75	»
Deux-tiges en écussons de l'année ou yeux dormants, la pièce . . . . .	2	25
25 variétés . . . . .	50	»
Hautes-tiges — — — — — la pièce . . . . .	2	50
25 variétés . . . . .	55	»

Soupert & Notting 1867/1868 first rose bred by Geschwind: 'Premier Essai'

Louis Lens' *'Lampion'* combines flaking bark, leaves with up to 17 leaflets and spiny bud scales with dwarf growth, attractive pink-lilac shaded flowers and striking yellow hips.

Jean-Pierre Vibert II (b.1943) obtained from *R. roxburghii* f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils. x *Scabrosa* 'Yu Woon' (Vibert II, 2002).

Hartmut Hackl achieved in 2008 from Single Red x *R. roxburghii* f. *normalis* Rehd. & Wils. 'Dresdner Barock'. The latter is a repeat flowering, very attractive growing shrub; pale pink flowers and elegant yet sturdy growth are a rare combination. The brown stems are very attractive in winter.

Finally, it should also be mentioned that *R. roxburghii* had some influence on the development of modern roses through Matthias Tantau (1882 – 1953). His *'Tantau's Triumph'* has as one parent *R. roxburghii* Tratt and is itself an important development step to the contemporary Floribundas.

[1] [Rosehip harvest in southern China province Guizhou](#)

[2] William Roxburgh (1751 - 1815) was a Scottish botanist who worked for the East India Company. He was Superintendent of the Calcutta Botanical Gardens and is considered the founding father of Indian botany.

[3] Leopold Trattinnick (1764 Klosterneuburg - 1849 Vienna) was an Austrian botanist and mycologist. He was a curator of the Royal Natural History collection in Vienna, now called Naturhistorisches Museum Wien.

[4] Ernest Henry Wilson (1876 - 1930) was a British botanist, plant collector and explorer, closely associated with the Arnold Arboretum and Harvard University; among hundreds of plant species, he is credited with the discovery of more than 20 wild roses.



*Rosa roxburghii* 'Plena'



'Yu Woon' (J.P.Vibert II, 2003) photo by Guillaume Epinal



'Dresdner Barock' (Hackl, 2008) - Rosenkultivarium Baden

# AGRILUS CUPRESCENS

## SYN. AGRILUS AURICHALCEUS/ROSE STEM GIRDLER

Erich Unmuth

Known and feared for decades by the Bulgarian oil rose-growing industry.

In the eastern lowlands of Lower Austria, there has been increasing damage to wild and cultivated roses for about 10 years. *Rosa pendulina*, *Rosa glauca*, *Rosa majalis*, *Rosa villosa* are particularly affected; there are no more wild occurrences that I know of.

In recent years, I have noticed *Agrilus* infestation on delivered bare root and container roses from Germany, Austria, Hungary, France and Italy.

*Agrilus cuprescens* is the only rose pest known to me that can cause a total loss of roses within 1 - 3 years.

- Partial shoot dieback
- Breakage of branches
- Yellowing of the foliage, smaller foliage, smaller flowers
- Reduced vitality
- Parts of the shrub die back = half the shrub withers in the middle of flowering
- New shoots in late autumn and winter
- Secondary infestation by Phytophthora or Agrobacterium
- Complete dieback



*Agrilus cuprescens*, adult beetle - Rosenkultivarium Baden



dead *R. micrantha* - Nature reserve Perchtoldsdorfer Heide



typical *Agrilus cuprescens* damage



cross section of the affected branch about 50 cm below; the damage can be clearly seen due to the colour. Presumably the shoot would have died in the next few months.

This leads to two important rules for pruning:

1. Remove the shoot as early as possible. The damage is likely to spread over time.
2. Remove the shoot as completely as possible, close to the ground. It is not advisable to cut just below the damaged area.





comparison infested *R. canina* 10/2022



comparison infested *R. canina* 10/2023



comparison infested 'Frühlingsgold'  
10/2021

comparison infested  
'Frühlingsgold' 10/2023





infested new shoots  
'Frühlingsgold' 10/2023



infested old shoot  
'Frühlingsgold' 10/2023

One-year life cycle, egg-laying on rose branches from the end of May, larvae cause ascending annular tunnels in the branches, after a diapause lasting at least 4.5 months at an average daily maximum temperature of approx. 7.2 °C (45 °F), pupation takes place and the beetle then hatches at the beginning of May,

Current research results show, that:

- the genera *Rubus* and *Rosa* are affected
- *Rubus armeniacus* as an invasive neophyte in Central and Eastern Europe plays a major role in its spread
- a spread to the Mediterranean region is not to be expected due to the 4.5-month diapause that is absolutely necessary in the life cycle
- about 90% of all larvae are parasitized
- an equilibrium between pest and parasitoid - various hoverflies and parasitic wasps - is not to be stable, but to develop in waves.
- Multiple damage per infested branch is possible
- Secondary infections e.g. by *Phytophthora*, *Agrobacterium* can lead to weakening of the infested plants

Control is limited to pruning measures and year-round removal of the affected shoots. The cuttings must be destroyed immediately. As the beetle only lives outside the plants for a short time, the use of insecticides is not very successful.

Furthermore, *Rubus armeniacus* should be removed within a radius of 2 kilometres around the plantation.

**In my opinion, research on a European scale would be useful and necessary!**



Dead Rose 'Marie Viaud'



partial dead 'Schneewittchen'



infested 'Alberic Barbier'



infested 'Ghislaine de Feligonde'



'Mme. Sancy de Parabere' red shades



'Mme. Sancy de Parabere'



'Parkfeuer'





'Parkfeuer' detail



Raspberry *Rubus idaeus*



Rubus armeniacus



Rubus armeniacus



infested Rubus armeniacus

## 'RUSSELLIANA' syn. 'SCARLET GREVILLE'

Erich Unmuth

Several subspecies and old garden roses from Far East related to *Rosa multiflora* Thunb. have had a major influence on the development of Modern Garden Roses.

The striking laciniated stipules are a characteristic feature of *R. multiflora*.

Most people think of 'Turner's Crimson Rambler', a Japanese garden rose that has been on the market in England since 1893.

*„Diese hervorragende Rose ist keine Neuzüchtung, sondern eine in Japan sehr häufig vorkommende Art einer dort einheimischen Wildrose, welche wohl durch Kultur zu dieser Fülle und Schönheit gelangt sein wird.“*

(This outstanding rose is not a new, but a very common variety of a wild rose native to Japan, which will probably have achieved this abundance and beauty through cultivation. *Trans. Erich*

*Unmuth*) (Peter Lambert **Rosenzeitung 1893, No. 5, p. 73**)



'Turner's Crimson Rambler' – Rosenzeitung 1893, no. 5



*R. multiflora*  
*platyphylla*  
Rosenkultivarium  
Baden

The breeding of many ramblers and the emergence of a separate class of roses, the Polyantha roses, can be traced back to this rose. But decades earlier another old hybrid of *R. multiflora* from China found its way to England, called ‘*Grevillei*’ because its introduction to England was somehow connected with Charles Greville<sup>[1]</sup>. Very soon it was given the name ‘*Seven Sisters Rose*’ referring to a special characteristic of this rose:

*But the most astonishing curiosity is the variety of colours produced on the buds at first opening. White, light blush, deeper blush, light red, darker“red, scarlet, and purple – all on the same*

*clusters.”* (R. Donald, proprietor of the Goldsworth Nursery *The Gardener’s Magazine and register of rural and domestic improvement*), Vol. 1, 1826, p. 467).

Pierre-Joseph Redouté<sup>[2]</sup> included it in 1821 in his *Les Roses* vol. 2 and after Claude Antoine Thory<sup>[3]</sup>. it is named *Rosa multiflora* var. *platphylla* Thory.

As it was propagated by seeds and vegetative there are several slightly differing forms around. Closely related to the ‘*Seven Sisters Rose*’ is one of the most impressive Multifloras I know: ‘*Russelliana*’



‘*Russelliana*’ flowers- Rosenkultivarium Baden



‘*Russelliana*’ stipulae, Europarosarium Sangerhausen

“*The following roses no garden ought to be without: ..... Russelliana.*” (The *London Literary Gazette* 1827 p. 154)

Although our gardens are often smaller today, this statement, made almost 200 years ago, still holds true. Like no other rose, ‘*Russelliana*’ combines hardiness with colourful, refined flowers, a strong fragrance, healthy leaves and autumn fruit.

The ‘*Russelliana*’ in Dendrological Garden in Pruhonice, the specimen is certainly over 50 years old, displays all these characteristics to the highest degree. The habit of the plant is very impressive, as

is the base of the rose.

Generations of gardeners and rose lovers have recognised the uniqueness of ‘*Russelliana*’.

It is therefore not surprising that Rudolf Geschwind used it as a parent variety. One of his most famous and best roses is a seedling of ‘*Russelliana*’: ‘*Zigeunerknabe*’ syn. ‘*Gipsy Boy*’ was introduced to the market by Peter Lambert in 1909 and for a long time was mistakenly attributed to him as a variety. As with some other varieties, such as ‘*Parkfeuer*’, Rudolf Geschwind could be clearly identified as the breeder<sup>[4]</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Charles Francis Greville (1749 – 1809) British politician and collector, close friend of Sir Joseph Banks

<sup>2</sup> Pierre Joseph Redouté (1759 – 1840) Painter and botanist, his plant illustrations combine artistic expression with scientific accuracy in a form that is still unrivalled today

<sup>3</sup> Claude Antoine Thory (1759 – 1827) French botanist, author and rose collector. He wrote the texts corresponding to Redouté's famous rose illustrations

<sup>4</sup> Mag. Andrea Buchmann "Rudolf Geschwind (1829-1910) - "...bis zur Ueberreizung gelangte Sucht, der Blumenkönigin zu huldigen", published in the "Rosenjahrbuch 2011", pp. 43-132

*Rosa Grevillii*.— "Goldworth Nursery near Woking. — Dear Sir; You will no doubt recollect the shoot I showed you of my Greville rose, which grew eighteen feet in a few weeks. It is now in bloom, and is the most singular curiosity of all the rose tribe that has come under my observation; it grows on an E. by N. aspect, on the gable end of my house, covering above 100 feet square, with more than a hundred trusses of bloom. Some of them have more than fifty buds in a cluster, and the whole will average about thirty in a truss, so that the amount of flower buds is little if any short of 3000. But the most astonishing curiosity is the variety of colours produced on the buds at first opening. White, light blush, deeper blush, light red, darker red, scarlet, and purple — all on the same clusters. As my Greville rose is the only one I have seen in bloom, I should be glad to know through your valuable Gardener's Magazine, whether the above are the characters of the rose generally, or whether mine is a singular or new variety. I am, Dear Sir, &c.

" R. DONALD."

A box of flowers sent us by Mr. Donald, were unquestionably those of the true *R. multiflora* var. *Grevillii*, which is easily known by the fringed edge of the leaf-stalk, (*fig. 99. a*), while those of the common *multiflora* have much less fringe, and

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Answers to Queries.



altogether smaller and less rugose leaves (*b*). The form of the blossom and clusters are pretty much alike in both sorts (*c*).—*Cond.*

The Gardener's Magazine Vol. 1. 1826, p 467



'Russelliana'  
Dendrological Garden Pruhonice  
photo Dr. Reitter





Russelliana' Dendrological Garden Pruhonice - photo Dr. Reitter





'Russelliana' – Rosenkultivarium Baden



'Russelliana' – Rosenkultivarium Baden





'Zigeunerknabe' syn. 'Gipsy Boy' – Rosenkultivarium Baden

