



*Rosa roxburghii hirtula*  
Photo: Les roses anciennes du jardin de Talos

# Singularly Beautiful Roses

A Publication Dedicated to Single,  
Nearly Single, and Semi-Double Flowered Roses  
Volume 9, Issue 3  
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## Rosa roxburghii and its Legacy

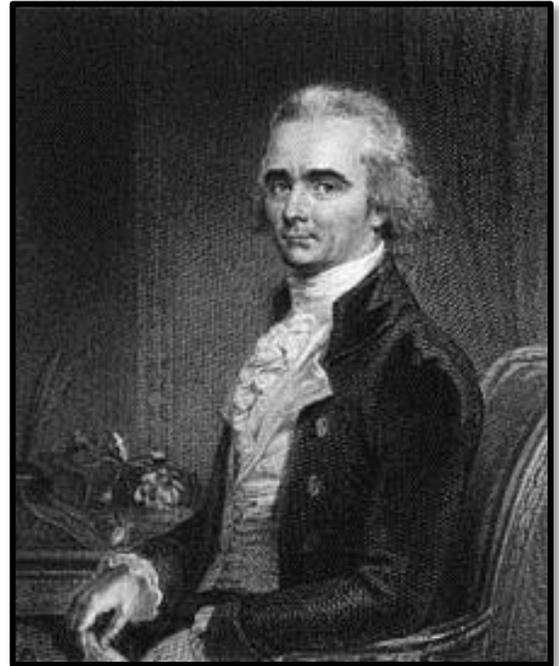
Modern plant lovers are the beneficiaries of the efforts of numbers of intrepid individuals who dedicated their lives to discovering, collecting, describing, preserving, and dispersing a vast array of flora. Their accomplishments were realized in remote locations among peoples who spoke unfamiliar languages and lived unfamiliar lives. One such enthusiast was Dr. William Roxburgh (1751-1815).

Born in Scotland, Roxburgh was educated as a physician at the University of Edinburgh in 1771/1772. His study of medicine led to training in botany as well, plants serving as the foundation of many herbal remedies. With the political tensions rising in America many of the doctors graduating from the university were encouraged to travel to another British outpost – India. He served as Surgeon’s Mate on several British naval vessels until becoming an assistant surgeon in 1776 at Fort St. George (formerly Madras, now Chennai) with the East India Company. Roxburgh spent the next seventeen years of his life on what was then known as the Coromandel Coast (India’s southeastern coastline) serving in various positions and locations, advancing his knowledge of botany and developing an interest in climate and meteorology.

In 1793 the doctor was appointed Superintendent of the Botanical Garden at Calcutta (modern day Kolkata). While there he transformed it, “from a small garden containing 350 species to a world-class institution of over ten times that number, acting as the hub of eastern botany, sending exotic and commercially valuable plants to all parts of the globe (*William Roxburgh (1751-1815) The Founding Father of Indian Botany*, T. F. Robinson, p. 48).” In addition to collections of plants and seeds sent almost every year during his tenure in Calcutta, Roxburgh industriously forwarded over 2500 watercolor drawings done by Indian artists (300 of the finest were published in three volumes edited by Sir Joseph Banks, entitled *Plants of the Coast of Coromandel*).

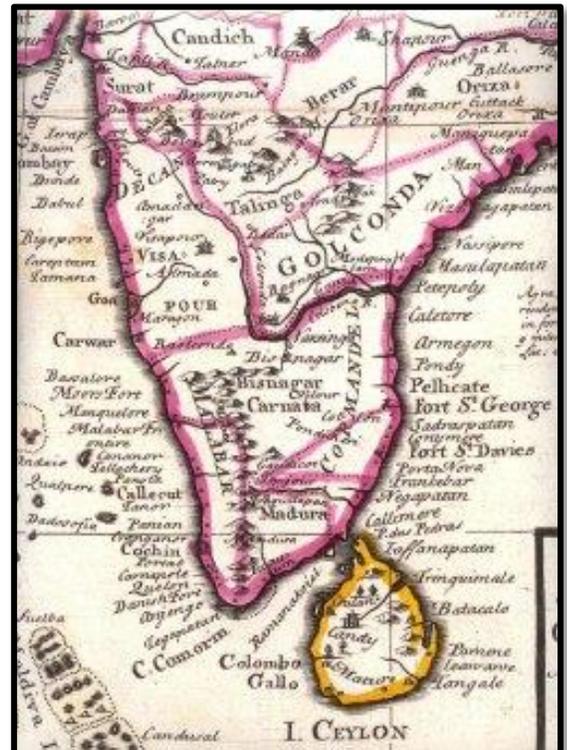
Roxburgh’s two volume work *Flora Indica*, published posthumously by William Carey in 1820, reveals that he made at least one visit to the Kew Botanic Garden in Canton (modern day Guangzhou) while superintendent, but doesn’t indicate when. Presumably, while there he was introduced to a rose familiar only to Chinese gardeners known as “Hoi-tong-hong” (aka “Hai-tong-hong”). Arrangements were made with William Kerr for it to be sent to Calcutta. Carey noted that it arrived in 1812 (*Hortus Bengalensis*, Wm. Carey, 1814, p. 38). Roxburgh named it *Rosa microphylla* for its small leaflets.

In poor health, Dr. Roxburgh left Calcutta in 1813 to spend a season in the mild climate of St. Helena off the west coast of Africa. He left his friend Henry Colebrooke, noted Sanskrit scholar, temporarily in charge of the Calcutta garden during his



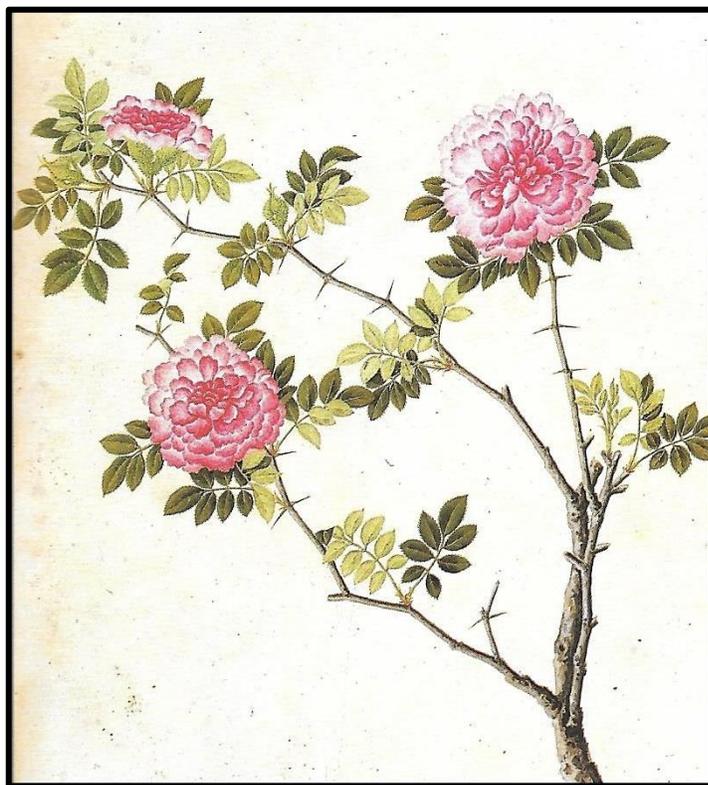
William Roxburgh

Map of India 1715



absence. Unfortunately, the doctor's health deteriorated, prompting him to return to England and then to Edinburgh. Roxburgh died in February of 1815 without having completed any of the manuscripts he was striving to finalize.

Colebrooke left Calcutta in 1815 to return to England bringing with him a collection of Roxburgh commissioned drawings to be transferred to the Roxburgh estate. One of those drawings was of *Rosa microphylla*. Having seen it while still in Colebrooke's possession, John Lindley briefly described the rose in his 1820 publication *Rosarum Monographia*, noting that a more complete account might be made in the future; "Apparently a smaller plant than *R. bracteata*, from which it differs in having prickly fruit, and ovate, obtuse leaves. . . Its flowers are double and of a very delicate blush colour (*sic*), so that in its living state it must be a charming plant (p. 9)."



A Chinese watercolor painting of the double form of *Rosa roxburghii* commissioned by John Reeves ca. 1814



*Rosa microphylla* – Plate 919  
*The Botanical Register*, Vol. XI, 1825

Specifics regarding when plants of *R. microphylla* arrived in Europe are sparse, but the earliest commercial reference appears to be in the 1820 catalogue of Conrad Loddiges and Sons, listed among other presumably tender Asian varieties as "Rosa roxburgia" (*Catalogue of Plants Which Are Sold by Conrad Loddiges and Sons*, 1820, p. 25).

Soon after, the influential nursery empire of James Colvill and Son had *R. microphylla* growing in one of their greenhouses. Mention of the rose in Colvill's possession appears in the 1825 edition of *The Botanical Register*, Vol. XI; "The living plant does not appear to differ, in any respect, from that of the Botanical Garden Calcutta, whence it is to be presumed that the individuals now in this country were derived. . . Our drawing was made last July [1824?], from a plant in a greenhouse at Mr. Colvill's Nursery, where it has now flowered for the first time in Europe (Plate 919)."

In the next ten years the exotic "new" variety gained wider distribution. Nurseries in Belgium, Germany, and France offered *R. microphylla* in their catalogs. In an edition of *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*

published in 1836 William Hooker credits Samuel Curtis with personal yet cautious insight regarding outdoor culture, “*Rosa microphylla* is hardy enough to bear our mild winters without protection, but with very sharp frosts it is liable to be destroyed in the open ground. . . (Vol. 63, Plate 3490).”

What was unique about this newcomer? The plant grows to about 6’ x 6’ and has an upright, somewhat fountaining habit of growth. Older stems are grayish-brown, have flaking bark, and are armed with upward-pointing pairs of straight prickles; leaves are comprised of nine to fifteen small leaflets (hence *micro*/small/*phylla*/leaves); recurrent flowers are very double, roughly 3” in diameter, rose colored, darker in the center; hips are yellow, globe-shaped, and densely clad with prickles. The fruit’s resemblance to the spiny burrs of the chestnut tree (*Castanea dentata*) led to a variety of common names for the rose – “Chestnut Rose,” “Burr Rose,” “Chilicote Rose (Spanish),” “Châtaigne Rose (French),” and ‘Chinquapin Rose (a reference to the Algonquian word for a smaller chestnut relative *Castanea pumila*).’

Initially, rose authorities were predisposed to consider it related to *Rosa bracteata* (aka the “Macartney Rose”) by virtue of similarities in the bracts. [Ed. note; the old literature lists some offspring of *R. roxburghii plena* that are actually *R. bracteata* hybrids, i.e. ‘Alba odorata,’ ‘Maria Leonide,’ errors originating from initial “Macartney Rose” comparisons. Perhaps with current laboratory techniques this could be researched.]. After seeing actual specimens botanists were more inclined to agree with Roxburgh’s original assessment that it was a distinct species. However, the rose’s double flowers and recurrent bloom habit suggested that *Rosa microphylla* was a hybrid garden variety of some vintage rather than a true species rose.



*Rosa microphylla*  
Curtis *Botanical Magazine*, 1836  
Plate 3490



*Rosa chlorocarpa* (*Rosa roxburghii hirtula*)  
Photo: Nakai

Decades later Russian-born physician and botanist Carl Maximowicz (1827-1891) visited Japan to collect plants for the St. Petersburg botanic garden. In 1862 while living in the Hakone lake region southeast of Mt. Fuji he discovered, with the assistance of Sukawa Chonosuke, specimens of a non-recurrent, single-flowered relative of *R. microphylla* with large yellow hips. Believing he had found a new species he named it *Rosa chlorocarpa* (*chloro*/yellow/*carpa*/body). Along with numerous other Japanese species, plants were sent back to St. Petersburg. After his return Maximowicz corresponded with Belgian botanist and rose authority François Crépin about his discovery and sent him specimens circa 1874-1875.

The new rose, now growing in the Royal Botanic Garden in St. Petersburg, was further studied by senior botanist and director of the



Mt. Fuji/Lake Hakone Region

garden, Eduard August von Regel. In his 1877 work, *Tentamen Rosarum Monographiae* (*Monograph on Roses*), he classified the new rose as *R. microphylla* ssp. *hirtula* (“hairy” or downy pubescence on underside of foliage), a sub-species.

This form of *R. microphylla* was also observed in the same region of Japan in 1871 by French doctor and botanist Paul-Amadée Ludovic Savatier (1830-1891). He noted his observations in 1875 in *Enumeratio Platarum Japonicarum*, co-authored with botanist Adrien Franchet (1834-1900). The rose is described as having single, light pink flowers on short stems and was recognized by Savatier as a form of *Rosa microphylla*. Of particular interest to him as a physician was that the Japanese ate the hips. He noted

that he had tasted them himself and although finding them tart and somewhat acidic considered them edible. Savatier also referenced a Japanese publication entitled *Phonzo-Zoufou*, in which the rose was known as “Kin ossi.” Interestingly, Japanese gardeners were already familiar with the double-flowered form, known to them as “Shansio bara” [Ed. note: Japanese botanist Takenoshin Nakai gives the name “Shanshō-bara” to *R. roxburghii* var. *hirtula* in “Notulæ ad Plantas Japoniæ et Koreæ,” *The Botanical Magazine*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 400, April 20, 1920, Tokyo. The Franchet-Savatier text pre-dates that source and those that quote it. Confusing!].

The next discovery related to the possible origin of Roxburgh’s double-flowered rose occurred just after the turn of the century. Ernest H. “Chinese” Wilson (1876-1930) was a plant hunter extraordinaire, known for introducing perhaps as many as 2000 Asian species of plants to western gardeners. From 1903-1906 he made what was his second collecting trip to China on behalf of James Veitch and Sons. In two locations on that trip Wilson observed plants of a pink, single-flowered form of *R. microphylla* that would later be named *Rosa roxburghii normalis*. He described it as having smooth foliage, setting it apart from the previously discovered Japanese form. Wilson would, on a subsequent trip in 1908, encounter the plant in greater numbers in western Sichuan noting that it was often utilized as a hedge-plant. Plants from this trip were sent back to the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, Massachusetts.

A Scottish plant hunter, George Forrest (1873-1932), also discovered *R. roxburghii normalis* in June of 1906 growing on the slopes of Mt. Emei (aka Omei) in Sichuan Province, one of four sacred Buddhist mountains in China



*Rosa roxburghii normalis*

Photo: Museo Giardino della Rosa Antico



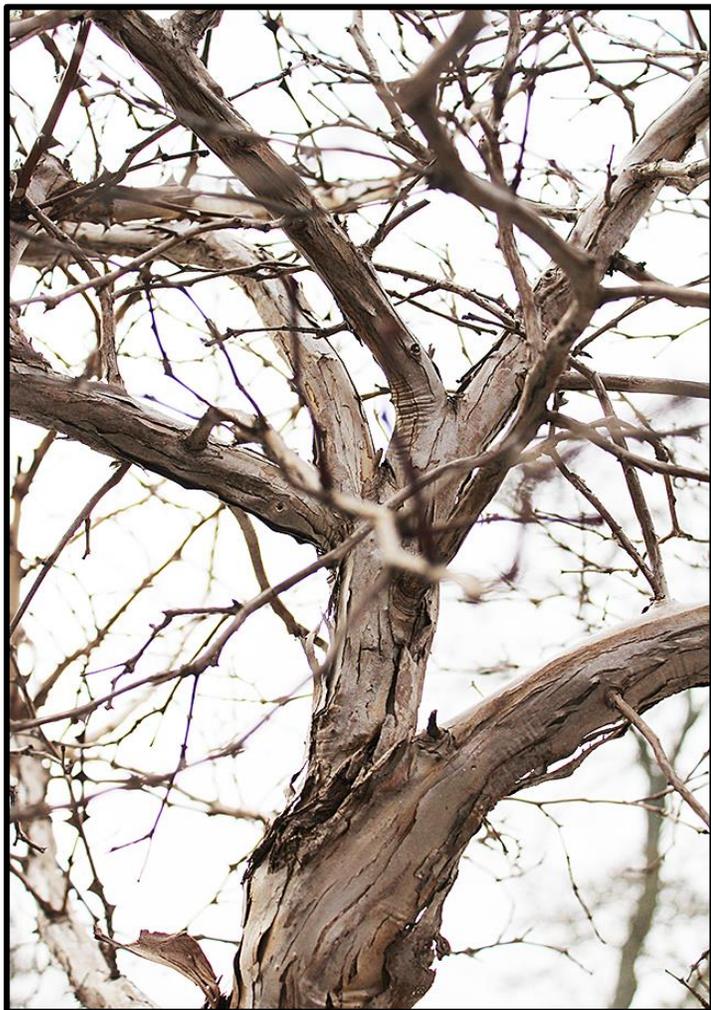
Leshan Giant Buddha carved into the slopes of Mt. Emei. Construction began in 713 AD led by a monk named Hai Tong. At 233' in height it is the tallest pre-modern statue in the world.

[Ed. note: Forrest's discovery was likely found in the same vicinity Wilson observed it two years earlier. Although Forrest never authored a work on his botanic journeys, he collected more than 30,000 dried specimens for the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, including over three hundred species of rhododendron.]

The examples of the Chinese single-flowered version of *Rosa roxburghii* so far discovered were recorded as having been smaller plants one half to one meter in height. In time this form as well as the Japanese form would demonstrate itself capable of growing to as much as four to five meters (12'-15') in height and width. It is purported to be the largest self-supporting rose. Landscape architect Louis "The Plant Geek" Raymond notes that as the rose ages the canes shed their spiky prickles and develop the peeling bark characteristic. "They mature into angling and cantilevering configurations that, with a bit of sensitive thinning, can rival the architecture of any Japanese maple in creating the air of venerable fortitude, dignity, and style (see photo on next page)."

An official scientific name change was adopted for *R. microphylla* et. al. in 1916. Liberty Hyde Bailey, one of the cofounders of the American Society for Horticultural Science, persuaded taxonomist and horticulturist Alfred Rehder (of Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum) to contribute an entry on the genus *Rosa* in a multi-volume work entitled *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*. In volume 5 (p. 2997), Rehder addressed a conflict that botanists had been aware of for years. French botanist Renato Desfontaines had assigned the name *Rosa microphylla* to an unrelated rose in 1798 (*Flora Atlantica*, Vol. 1, p. 401). In order to comply with the rules of taxonomy Rehder reclassified this unique section of the rose family as *Rosa roxburghii*

and recognized three forms or varieties – *plena*, *normalis*, and *hirtula*. In an entry written by Leonard Barron (appearing right after Rehder’s entry) the name change was reiterated – “*Microphylla* has minute leaflets; now called *Rosa Roxburghii* (p. 3004).”



One would surmise that a reblooming rose such as *R. roxburghii plena* would attract the attention of the era’s leading hybridizers. In *The Rose Manual* (1844) Robert Buist dedicated several pages to “*Rosa Microphylla*.” He writes, “The first of this rose, as we believe, was imported by us [to the US] in 1830, and it is now extensively cultivated in every section of the country (p. 160).” Buist mentions a number of named varieties (see Table 1), allowing that many were only distinguishable by minor variations in color, or more significantly, by the presence or absence of prickles on the calyx (collectively the sepals of a flower are called the calyx) [Ed. note: the practice of distinguishing cultivars by using color descriptives – *Rubra*, *Carnea*, *Violacea*, etc. – was at best confusing *even* in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.]. Buist attempted to raise his own seedlings but admitted that most were either single or too much like the parent.

Rudolf Geschwind (1829-1910), a German-Austrian rose breeder, recorded his experience with both *plena* and *hirtula* and the comments of other distinguished German rose authorities in two articles written for *Dr. Neubert’s Deutesches Garden-Magazin* in 1887. “For 30 years we have preached for the culture of *Microphylla*, we have done our best to enrich the small assortment and have attempted to raise several hybrids from this rose - in vain! Many other breeders are afraid of this species, notwithstanding that it is no less hardy than our Tea roses. Planted in the ground it can withstand our northern winters. Merchants that sell *Microphylla* and its hybrids in their catalogs list only a few varieties. Only four real hybrids figure (p. 229-230).” The four mentioned are ‘*Imbricata*,’ ‘*Ma Surprise*,’ ‘*Premier Essai*,’ and ‘*Triomphe de la Guillotiére*’ (See Table 1). His second article mentions a more complete list that confirms information contained in Buist’s book (see Table 1). With the exception of the two or three distinct crosses and a variety with a smooth calyx, ‘*Pourpre Ancien*,’ most of the roses were too similar to *Rosa roxburghii plena* to survive commercially.



Top left: Winter canopy of *R. roxburghii normalis*  
 Photo: Louis Raymond  
 Bottom left: *R. roxburghii plena*  
 Photo: David Austin Roses

Table 1

“Historic cultivars derived from *Rosa roxburghii plena*”

Name	Intro.	Hybridizer	Description
'Carnea' aka 'Rosea'	< 1887	unk.	light pink to rose, double; Buist & Geschwind ref.
'Château de la Juvénie'	1901	Jules Gravereaux	light pink, double, vigorous; Dickerson ref.
'Coccinea'	< 1838	unk.	deep pink with darker center, double; Geschwind ref.
'Domain de Chapuis'	1901	Jules Gravereaux	violet red, vigorous; Dickerson ref.
'Fourreau de Châtaigne' aka 'Flore Pleno'	unk.	?Oilmorin	dark red, double; Simon/Cochet ref.
'Grandiflora'		unk.	pink, double, cup-shaped; Geschwind ref.
'Hybride du Luxembourg'	< 1841	Julien-Alexandre Hardy	crimson purple shaded pink, double; Geschwind ref.
'Imbricata'	1869	Jean Claude Ducher	soft pink, very double, vigorous; Buist & Geschwind ref.
'Jardin de la Croix'	ca. 1901	?Oilmorin	rose, vigorous; THay list
'Ma Surprise'	1872	Jean Baptist Guillot	ivory white with salmon-pink center, double, tall; likely a cross with a Tea or Noisette; Buist & Geschwind ref.
'Poupre Ancien' aka 'Purpurea'	< 1829	unk.	pink with rose/purple center, Buist & Geschwind ref. a smooth calyx
'Premier Essai'	1866	Rudolph Geschwind	flesh white, rose center, double, a cross with the China 'Reine de Lombardie;' his first introduction; Buist & Geschwind ref.
'Striata' aka 'Rubra Variegata'	< 1829	unk.	rose with white markings; Buist, Geschwind, & Von Reider ref.
'Triomphe de la Guillotière'	1864	M. Guillot	light pink with red center, double; Geschwind ref.
'Triomphe de Français'	1854	C. Lartay	flesh pink, double, vigorous; Geschwind ref.
'Triomphe de Machetaux'	< 1841	Pierre Jourrés	blush edged with rose, double, cup-shaped; Geschwind ref.
'Viofacea' aka 'Violet Cramoisie,' 'Rubra,' 'Cramoisie'	< 1838	unk.	crimson purple, double, smooth calyx; Buist & Geschwind ref.



Clockwise from upper left:

'Triomphe de la Guillotere' – 1863

Photo: Maddalena Piccinini - Italy

'Ma Surprise' – 1872

Photo: Old Glory

'Chateau de la Juvénie' – 1901

Photo: Horst Peters

As the twentieth century dawned and more gardens, collectors, and breeders had access to the various forms of the *R. roxburghii* new cultivars began to appear. Jules Gravereaux (1844-1916) had begun amassing a huge collection at his newly purchased home in L'Hay, just south of Paris. He then began hybridizing, creating three roses using *Microphylla* (*R.*

*roxburghii plena*) – 'Château de la Juvénie,' 'Jardin de la Croix,' and 'Domaine de Chapuis.' HMF member Horst Peters has observed that 'Château de la Juvénie' has a smooth calyx. In his publication *Les Roses Cultivées a L'Hay* (1902) Gravereaux indicated that the garden contained what he referred to as the Species – "Microphylla," three distinct varieties - 'Pourpre Ancien,' 'Fourreau de châtaigne (lit. "Chestnut husk"),' and "Chlorocarpa" (*hirtula*), three numbered hybrids (possibly those mentioned above), and one "*microphylla x rugosa*" hybrid sourced from Cochet (p. 51).

In 1904 Gravereaux's friend and fellow collector of roses, Maurice Leveque de Vilmorin (1849-1918), published a catalog of the vast horticulture collection on his family's estate. In addition to "Microphylla," he listed 'Pourpre Ancien,' "Flore Pleno" ('Fourreau de châtaigne'), seminatum 2840 – China (presumably a seedling cross of *microphylla* with an unknown China rose), a seedling resulting from a cross of *microphylla* with 'General Jacqueminot,' a *microphylla x rugosa* seedling noted as possibly have been given to him by German rose collector Georg Dieck, a *microphylla x rugosa* seedling coming from the botanical garden in Strasbourg, and a *microphylla* seedling listed as "Hybrid N<sup>o</sup>. 2" from L'Hay [Ed. note; one source attributes the above mentioned 'Jardin de la Croix' to Vilmorin. Perhaps he shared it with Gravereaux and it is the "Hybrid No. 2" listed in his catalog.].

Vilmorin, an enthusiast of *roses sauvages*, “wild” or species roses, penned an article for the 16 March 1905 edition of *Revue Horticole* promoting the volunteer *microphylla* x *rugosa* seedling that originated at the Strasbourg University’s botanic garden in the oft-contested Alsace region of France. The new rose was described as having inherited desirable traits from each parent - the straight, rather bare stems with a pair of prickles at the base of each leaf, globular buds, and bristly hips of *microphylla*, and the dense foliage and large single flower of *rugosa* (p.144). Although the flowering season of this lilac-pink hybrid spanned two months it was not considered remontant. Of additional interest was the apple-scented pulp of the prickly hips. He considered it of enough value to have sent a specimen or specimens to his friend William Jackson Bean, curator of Kew Gardens, who later named the rose *Rosa vilmorinii* [Ed. note; that name is not considered valid].

It was five years later before German plant enthusiast (primarily known for his work with water lilies) Friedrich Henkel formally named the new hybrid ‘*Micrugosa*,’ a blending of the parents’ names. In an article written for *Gartenflora* he reiterates much of what Vilmorin stated, adding that in his opinion *R. rugosa* was the seed parent and the “rare” *R. microphylla* the pollen parent (15 April 1910 edition, p. 164).

English geneticist Dr. C. C. Hurst (1870-1947) made the next significant contribution to this family of roses. After military service in WWI he joined the faculty of Cambridge University. His substantial collection of old garden and species roses became his laboratory for the study of the hereditary characteristics of the genus *Rosa*. In the mid 1920’s he raised a number of open-pollinated ‘*Micrugosa*’ seedlings. One seedling stood out for its large, very fragrant, single white flowers, its vigor, and its remontant habit of bloom. It was named ‘*Micrugosa Alba*’ and planted in the university’s botanic garden. Another hybrid resulted from a seedling of *R. roxburghii* presumably pollinated by *R. macrophylla*. The once-blooming plant had rich pink single blooms with bright yellow stamens, relatively prickle-free stems, peeling bark, bristly sepals, and grew rather vigorously to nine feet or more. In 1939 it was named ‘*Coryana*’ in honor of Reginald Cory, a generous benefactor of the Cambridge University Botanic Garden.



‘*Micrugosa*’  
Photo: Stephen Hoy

‘*Micrugosa Alba*’  
Photo: Peter Beales Roses





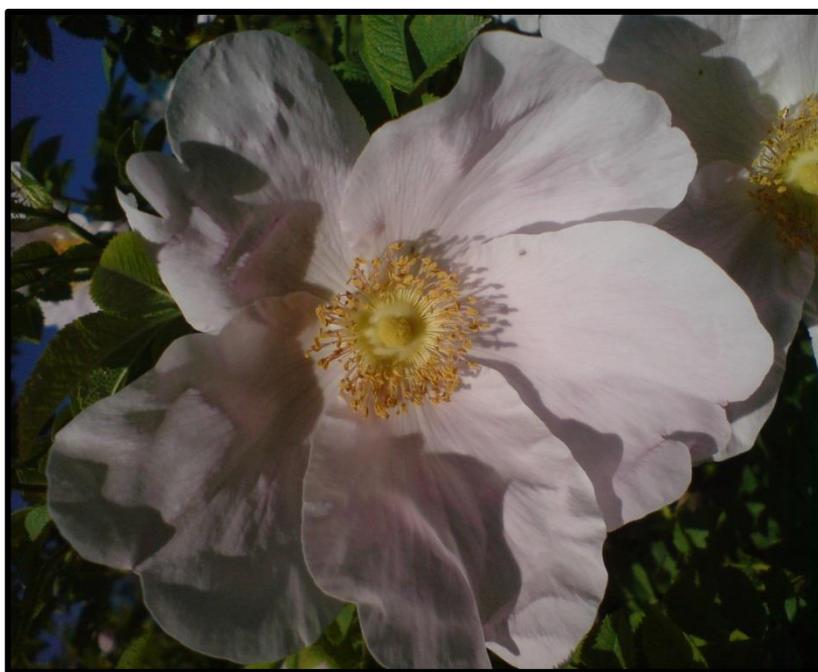
**'Coryana'** (open bloom & bud)  
Photo: Museo Giardino della Rosa Antica

Sam McGredy used a seedling from 'Coryana' to create his line of hand-painted roses.

Graham Stuart Thomas played an inestimable role in resurrecting interest, gathering information, and amassing rare heritage roses. In 1954 a rose acquaintance gave him a 'Micrugosa' seedling that had been raised in the garden of recently deceased garden enthusiast Walter Butt. Thomas described the richly colored flowers of the newly christened 'Walter Butt' as "bright, clear rose, considerably darker than the original form, but otherwise very similar (*Shrub Roses of Today*, 1962 edition, p. 185)."

A *R. roxburghii* hybrid for which I can only find one reference was raised by Sir Frederick Stern sometime in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The aforementioned Mr. Thomas briefly described it in an article written for *The New Plantsman* in its March 1994 edition. "Sir Frederick Stern hybridized *R. roxburghii* with *R. sinowilsonii* . . . It is difficult to envisage the reasoning behind this cross, but the result, 'Roxane,' which still grows in Stern's garden at Highdown in Sussex, has made a good bush to 1.5 m in height and width. It produces plentiful, single, flat, deep pink flowers at midsummer, well displayed over glossy, light green foliage. The hips are green and prickly (p. 13)."

In the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries work with the various forms of *Rosa roxburghii* has continued. German hybridizer Richard Huber brought several varieties to market, 'Schweizer Garten' and 'Dietrich Woessner.' The firm of Louis Lens has introduced a five-petalled, medium pink, repeat-flowering seedling from *R. roxburghii plena*. It was named 'Lampion,' which translates to "lanterns" in English, highlighting the large



**'Walter Butt'** – currently published photos of this rose do not match Mr. Thomas's description.



yellow hips that festively decorate the plant. German hybridizer Hartmut Hackl has been creating hybrids using a variety of species, including *R. roxburghii normalis* (see photos and captions on the next page). I have raised an OP seedling from ‘Micrugosa’ that has a lilac-pink single flower reminiscent of its seed parent. The plant is recurrent, has rugosa-like foliage, and bears red smooth hips similar to *R. rugosa*. Ripe hips have been picked!

For low-maintenance rose gardeners any of the roses mentioned in this article highly recommend themselves – attractive flowers of either double or single form, disease resistance, low water needs, architectural interest, unique foliage, and decorative hips. For hybridizers, one study has shown pollen from *R. roxburghii normalis* is 65% viable. Crossed with species roses and with Rugosa and Spinosissima cultivars its potential would seem to be quite broad. In the words of Graham Stuart Thomas, “*Rosa roxburghii* has proven to be a “willing” parent, and might be considered by breeders as worthy of further attention in producing hardy shrub and other roses.”

Counter clockwise from upper left:

‘Schweizer Garten’ – 1998  
Photo: Richard Huber Roses

‘Dietrich Woesnner’ – 1999  
Photo: Richard Huber Roses

‘Lampion’ – 2013  
Photo: Louis lens Roses

Hips from ‘Lampion’  
Photo: Louis Lens Roses





'Dresdner Barock' – 2008  
'Single Red' x *R. roxburghii normalis*



"Haspiro" – 2010  
'Single Red' x *R. roxburghii normalis*



"Habutta" – 2010  
'Walter Butt' x unknown



"Haropaeoa" – 2014  
*R. roxburghii normalis* x *Paeonienrose*



"Haroxa" – 2014  
*R. roxburghii normalis* x 'Schneekoppe'



"Halforax" – 2014  
*R. foliolosa* x *R. roxburghii normalis*



The author's seedling from 'Micrugosa.' It is repeat flowering and VERY fragrant.

In contrast to 'Micrugosa' its hips are orange-red in color and smooth, much like Rugosa.

## From the Editor

I wish to begin this section with an oft-repeated expression of gratitude to the folks who share. Many of the photos in this issue, as with others, make this publication better and were shared willingly. Additionally, two local friends provided valuable translation assistance. Nadia Bertin helped out with the French sources consulted, and Renata Downs translated the German in the Geschwind articles. What priceless resources!

My experience with the "Chestnut Rose" goes back decades to the garden of one of my rose mentors Coleman Ray. His plant was near the street at the end of the driveway where the only thing it had to fear was the postman. My journey with single-flowered roses can also be attributed to his unique interest in and collection of five-petaled varieties. Back in the days before the internet Coleman possessed a treasure trove of print catalogs and mailing lists. To my wife's dismay they all found their way to my home upon his passing.

For those who have been following the progress of my history of Camp Oglethorpe I just completed the index and final proofing of written content. Photos and pictures will be inserted next and then I'll have some input into cover design. The book should be in print in early 2019.

Roses continue to pique my interest year round. Now that the growing season is drawing to a close it is the time of year when I harvest seeds from hips that have been stored for some time in the refrigerator. Perhaps there's a Biltmore Trials or American Rose Center Trials winner among them! It's also catalog time! Pouring over notes I've made about what roses I might add to the garden is one of my favorite pass-times - "Making a list - checking it twice."

I want to make an appeal to folks to share your roses. Recently, two hybridizer friends sent me seedlings. I just shared a nice potted-up Rudbeckia 'Herbstonne' with a friend. Respect patent laws when appropriate, but let's keep the many treasures that have been cherished but are disappearing from commerce in our gardens. Share a rose with a friend.

## North American Sources & Contact Information

*Rosa roxburghii* plena: Angel Gardens, [www.angelgardens.com](http://www.angelgardens.com); Antique Rose Emporium, [www.antiqueroseemporium.com](http://www.antiqueroseemporium.com); Greenmantle Nursery, [www.greenmantlenursery.com](http://www.greenmantlenursery.com); Long Ago Roses, [www.longagoroses.com](http://www.longagoroses.com); Rogue Valley Roses, [www.roguevalleyroses.com](http://www.roguevalleyroses.com); Rose Petals Nursery, [www.rosepealsnursery.com](http://www.rosepealsnursery.com); Roses Unlimited, [www.rosesunlimitedsc.com](http://www.rosesunlimitedsc.com).

*Rosa roxburghii* plena (with smooth calyx): Rose Petals Nursery, [www.rosepetalsnursery.com](http://www.rosepetalsnursery.com).

*Rosa roxburghii* normalis: Rose Petals Nursery, [www.rosepetalsnursery.com](http://www.rosepetalsnursery.com).

None of the other varieties mentioned in this issue appear to be available commercially in the U.S. I purchased my plant of 'Micrugosa' from a Canadian nursery that no longer offers it. Numerous European and Australian nurseries carry most of the Roxburghii family members. Check HelpMeFindRoses for availability in your country.

## Singularly Beautiful Roses

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Please feel free to share this newsletter with friends and fellow enthusiasts!

