The 12th International Fragrant Rose Trial in Echigo Hillside Park, Nagaoka, Japan Details of the result

The International Fragrant Rose Trials is held every year by inviting applications of new fragrant roses from rose breeders not only in Japan but all around the world. All the applied nursery plants are planted and brought up for two years under exactly the same condition in the snowy and cold region of Japan. Then, examination session is held twice every spring and autumn by the Judging Committee comprising of experts of roses and fragrances to decide the award winning varieties.

The winning prizes are Gold Award, Silver Award and Bronze Award each for the specified four criteria. In addition, as special awards, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Award is presented to the highest score winner among the Gold Award Winners, Niigata Prefectural Governor's Award is presented to the highest score winner in the fragrance section among the winners of Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards, and Nagaoka City Mayor's Award is presented to the most popular variety among the general guests to the park.



<< Prize Winner Details and Judges' Comments >>

Judging Committee Chairman:

Yoshihiro Ueda (Visiting Professor, Gifu International Academy of Horticulture)

We received a total of 56 entries in the 12th International Fragrant Rose Trials, with 22 Hybrid Tea (HT) entries (including Grandiflora varieties), 15 Floribunda (F) entries, 17 Shrub (S) entries, and 2 entries in the Miniature (Min) category. HT was the largest category this year. This year summer was unusually hot with very low rainfall. This was followed by a period of minimal sunshine due to the autumn rains that persisted from late August throughout September. As a result, there was a greater incidence of disease this autumn than in an average year. Despite these weather conditions, we were able to award three awards, a bronze, a silver and a gold, in the HT and S categories. In the F category we awarded a silver and bronze, and in the Min category we awarded a single silver. This year the Nagaoka City Mayor's Award was awarded to a rose selected from the S category.

KO 08/1884-13 was the Gold Award winner in the HT category, and the recipient of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Award, as well as the Niigata Prefectural Governor's Award. KO 08/1884-13 is an exceptionally finely fragranced rose, which flowers abundantly. Its apricot pink loose cup blooms with ruffled outer petals provide a striking contrast to the surrounding shiny autumn leaves. Praline Rouge, Gold Award winner in the S category, has a deep magenta rosette bloom. It is a well-balanced rose receiving high marks for all characteristics, but it is its fragrance quality that makes it stand out. The only award winner in the Min category, Mini Softcream, blooms prolifically with enchanting flowers that change from orange-yellow to pale apricot pink. Winner of the Nagaoka City Mayor's Award, Rosé Sangria, is believed to have captured the attention of park visitors with its gorgeous wavy petals colored deep pink on a white base.

Judging Committee Deputy Chairman: Yuji Ichikawa (Perfumer)

We received a total of 56 entries from Japan and overseas for the 12th International Fragrant Rose Trials. This year the climate was particularly harsh on the trial roses with snow in winter, intense heat in summer, and typhoons in autumn. Despite these conditions, we were able to present two Gold Awards, four Silver Awards, three Bronze Awards, and the Nagaoka City Mayor's Award, to a total of 10 prizewinning varieties across the four categories. *KO 08/1884-13*, was awarded the Gold Award in the Hybrid Tea category and winner of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Award for the highest overall score as well as the Niigata Prefectural Governor's Award for the highest fragrance score. It has a tea fragrance with "a fresh rose geranium scent and anise notes blended with the spiciness of cloves and cinnamon."

Praline Rouge was the Gold Award winner in the Shrub category. It has a fruity fragrance with "a distinctive apple and raspberry scent and a rich honey-like sweetness."

This year gold awards were not awarded to any roses in the Floribunda or Miniature categories.

Rosé Sangria won the Nagaoka City Mayor's Award which is chosen by popular vote by visitors to the park. It has a tea fragrance described as "a refined scent that marries the fruitiness of apple, pear and lime with a soft spice scent."

Category: HTs, Grandifloras

Gold Award

Special prize : Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Award Niigata Prefectural Governor's Award

Entry No.6

Variety: KO 08/1884-13

Breeder: W. KORDES' SÖHNE Rosenschulen GmbH & Co KG - Germany

Flower: Apricot pink loose cup blooms with ruffled outer petals which provide a striking contrast to the

surrounding autumn leaves. Blooms have an extremely large number of petals.

Fragrance type: Tea

A tea fragrance with a fresh rose geranium scent and anise notes blended with the spiciness of cloves and cinnamon.





Silver Award

Entry No.13

Variety: Another Blue

Breeder : Sakuji Kokubo - Japan

Flower: Classical high-centered blooms in an elegant wisteria purple. Blooms in clusters.

Fragrance type: Blue

A gorgeous blue-rose fragrance with a hyacinth-like freshness blended with the sweetness of honey and fruit.





Bronze Award

Entry No.11

Variety: AM-669-I

Breeder: Alain Meilland - France

Flower: Bordeaux red large high centered blooms with a velvet-like texture.

Fragrance type: Damask-Modern

A cohesive Damask fragrance with a soft tea scent and a honey-like sweetness.





Category: F

Silver Award

Entry No.35

Variety: Spring Delight

Breeder: Hirotomi Yamakawa - Japan

Flower: Semi-double blooms that transition from apricot to light pink.

Fragrance type : Damask-Classic

A refreshing damask fragrance with hyacinth green blended with a fruity apple and apricot scent.





Bronze Award

Entry No.34

Variety: Ciel Yu

Breeder: Yuji Yasuda - Japan

Flower: Light purple shallow cup blooms with wavy petals.

Fragrance type: Blue

A mellow blue-rose fragrance with a honey-like sweetness and a distinctive fruity apple scent blended with the spiciness of cloves.





Category: S

Gold Award

Entry No.48

Variety : Praline Rouge Breeder : Delbard - France

Flower: Deep magenta rosette blooms.

Fragrance type: Fruity

A fruity fragrance with a distinctive apple and raspberry scent and a rich honey-like sweetness.



Silver Award

Entry No.54

Variety: Finesse

Breeder: Ken Osanai - Japan

Flower: Gorgeous large pompon blooms with beautiful gradation from light red to purple. Outstanding

clusters.

Fragrance type: Damask-Modern

A damask fragrance with expansive notes of anise, hyacinth green and fruity peach.



Bronze Award

Entry No.50

Variety : Desdemona (Auskindling) Breeder : David CH Austin – U.K.

Flower: Cup blooms which transform from pale apricot pink to ivory pink.

Fragrance type: Damask-Modern

A gorgeous damask fragrance with the fruity scent of peach and raspberry blended with a honey-like sweetness and hints of anise.





Special prize: Nagaoka City Mayor's Award

Entry No.47

Variety: Rosé Sangria

Breeder: Hirotomi Yamakawa - Japan

Flower: Semi-double blooms colored deep pink on a white base with wavy petals.

Fragrance type : Tea

A refined tea fragrance that marries the fruitiness of apple, pear and lime with a soft spice scent.



Category: Min

Silver Award

Entry No.55

Variety: Mini Softcream

Breeder: Teizo Yoshiike - Japan

Flower: Enchanting blooms that change from orange-yellow at the start of flowering to a pale apricot

pink. Prolific pompon blooms.

Fragrance type: Tea

A refined tea fragrance with the soft spicy scent of cloves.





The 12th International Fragrant Rose Trial in Echigo Hillside Park, Nagaoka, Japan (Echigo-IFRT)

- ◆Guidelines for Applications
 - 1. Eligibility for Applications: Breeders both professional and amateur, in Japan and overseas.
 - 2. Acceptable Rose Varieties:
 - (1) Varieties that have never been on the market within or outside Japan, or varieties that were first made available for sale on or after January 1, 2013.
 - (2) Categories of Acceptable Rose Varieties:
 - Part 1: Large-flowered Roses (HTs, Grandifloras)
 - Part 2: Floribunda Roses (F) (to be the family of "cluster-flowered roses")
 - Part 3: Shrubs(S)
 - Part 4: Miniature Roses, Mini-floras, Patio Roses, and Polyanthas(Min)

Climbers are excluded from any of the above categories.

- (3) The Number of Entries: Limited to a total of four varieties per single breeder.
- (4) The Number of Trees per Variety:

For each variety, three 2-to-3-year-old bare-root trees, either budded, grafted, or self-rooted.

- 3. Entry Fee: Free of charge
- ◆The Periods of Judging: June and October, 2018
- ◆Judging and Commendation:

Chairman: Yoshihiro Ueda (Visiting Professor, Gifu International Academy of Horticulture)

Deputy: Yuji Ichikawa (Perfumer)

Naoki Ishikawa (President of Niigata Rose Society)

Naoharu Watanabe (Professor Emeritus, Shizuoka University)

Yuki Mikanagi (Curator of Herbarium, Natural History Museum and Institute, Chiba)

Kazuko Nomura (Director of Rose Culture Institute)

Hideko Ishiguro (Rose researcher / Director of Ishiguro Music Academy)

Minobu Maekawa (Garden Designer)

Naomi Okubo (Leader, Quality Control Unit at Institute of Vegetable and Floriculture Science, NARO)

Junko Nagano (Takasago International Corporation Fragrance Creation Center Senior Perfumer)

Johji Nishio (WFRS International Judges Committee / President of Machida Rose Society)

Yushi Terazima (Perfumer)

Mitsuru Mukaida (Director of Echigo Hillside National Government Park Office)

- ◆Prizes: Gold, Silver, and Bronze Award for each category.
- ◆Special prizes: Minister of Land, Infrastructure Transport and Tourism Award (Top Award)

Niigata Prefectural Governor's Award

Nagaoka City Mayor's Award

◇Breeders: 28breeders
◇The number of varieties: 56Varieties (HTs-22, F-15, S-17, Min-2)
◇Participating nation: Japan, Denmark, France, Germany, U.K.