

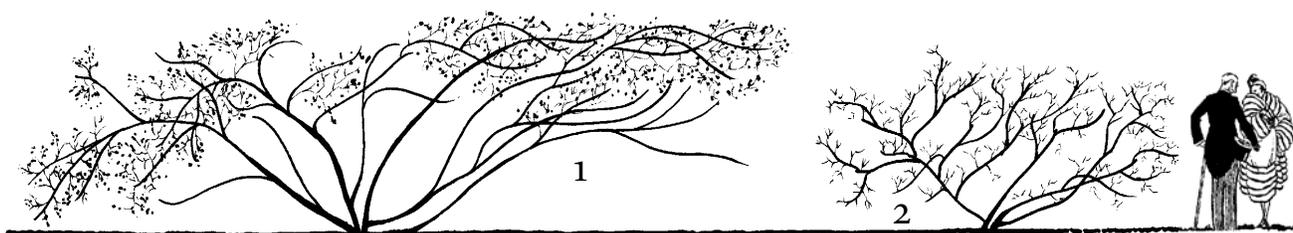
Banksias

Rosa banksiae exists in four forms in China: a single and a double form in both white and butter-yellow. Whether the double forms are naturally occurring is not certain as they are extensively planted in mild areas of China as hedgerows. Wreathing their thornless stems in dense clusters of small blooms in late spring, before the beginning of the main rose season, the Banksias have won the hearts of gardeners from Washington to California and throughout the warm Southwest and South. Banksias are not recommended for areas colder than USDA Zone 9 out of doors.

Habit

Nearly all the Banksias grow alike, but a few hybrids have been created that vary distinctly from the norm.

1. (E.g., *Rosa banksiae banksiae*) Very large growers that produce long, thornless, willow canes, a tangle of secondary canes, and short tertiary flowering wood.
2. (E.g., HYBRIDE DI CASTELLO) Modern hybrids that are essentially less vigorous versions of this same habit.



FORTUNIANA

Banks o/fff/1 Fortune?, 1850 [Lowery]
(Misc)

A staple in old California gardens, its long canes often sheared back till it appears a large, bushy and mannerly shrub, with glossy, apple-green foliage, it is weighted in April with large, loose pompons of pure white with a sweet scent of violets.

HYBRIDE DI CASTELLO

Banks o/fff/2 unknown, 1920 [Lykke]

In color this is soft straw yellow fading to cream and scented of Tea rose and of violets. Trevor Griffiths says this was introduced in 1920 and is a cross between *Rosa banksiae lutescens* and the Noisette LAMARQUE. It is adequately armed with prickles, and has not half the vigor of the true Banksias.

PUREZZA*

Banks rr/fff/1 Mansuino, 1961 [Ashdown]

Flowers large for a Banksia, with quilled petals and sweetly scented, pure white. This delightful hybrid from Mansuino reblooms very reliably for us in Northern California. Deep green foliage.

Rosa banksiae banksiae

[WHITE LADY BANKS, DOUBLE WHITE BANKSIA]

Banks (Sp) o/fff/1 Kerr, 1796 [Robinson, collected]

This double, white-flowered version of the species is strongly scented of violets. Enormous and thornless, it will easily cover a garage or house.

Rosa banksiae lutea

[YELLOW LADY BANKS, DOUBLE YELLOW BANKSIA]

Banks (Sp) o/fff/1 unknown, 1824 [Robinson, collected]

Blankets and garlands of butter-yellow from the small double blooms. Very large growing, mounding or climbing, like all the Banksias. To contain by hedging, be sure to restrict pruning to just after the spring bloom. Thornless.

Rosa banksiae lutescens

[SINGLE YELLOW BANKSIA]

Banks (Sp) r/fff/1 unknown, 1870 [Manners]

Flowers with five to seven petals of rich butter yellow with showy stamens of the same tint. Lovely fragrance.

Rosa banksiae normalis

[SINGLE WHITE BANKSIA]

Banks (Sp) o/fff/1 unknown, 1796 [Robinson, collected]

The rare, single, white-flowered form of the Banksia, presumably one of the original species forms.