

Damask Perpetuals, or Portlands

The origins of this class are difficult to trace. The original DUCHESS OF PORTLAND, or PORTLAND ROSE, bears an affinity to Gallica and Damask roses; compact, Gallica-red, Damask-scented, with excellent renewal of bloom throughout the season. Portlands tend toward a compact habit, and fit neatly into gardens of all sizes. It is important to note that these roses are closely related to Hybrid Perpetuals and many authors in the past have lumped them there. According to some classifiers, Damask Perpetuals included a good many varieties better placed with the HPs. Here we try to list those whose characters are akin to the DUCHESS OF PORTLAND and ROSE DU ROI.

Habit

In keeping with the spirit of this catalogue, to group roses where they seem best to belong, we follow Phillip Robinson's notion of limiting this group to hybrids that have no obvious China rose influence. Thus, we present those Damask Perpetuals which are of compact habit. Such varieties as SYDONIE, quite robust and spreading, we place where they were originally were grouped, with the Hybrid Perpetuals. For the gardener this will prove a more satisfactory view of the roses. We offer two groups of growth habit.

1. (E.g., DUCHESS OF PORTLAND) Those that sucker like a Gallica and remain quite short.
2. (E.g., MARBRÉE) A more compact, upright type that suckers little.



AUTUMN DAMASK (see Damasks)

COMTE DE CHAMBORD (see MME. BOLL in Hybrid Perpetuals)

BERNARD

P rrr/ff/1 unknown, 1836 [Robinson, found]
Sport of ROSE DU ROI of chalky rose pink of medium shade. As with the original ROSE DU ROI, we hope to be offering this in the future but we have been unable to stabilize this reversion from our plant of PANACHÉE DE LYON.

BLANCHE-VIBERT

[BLANC DE VIBERT]
P rrr/fff/2 Vibert, 1847 [Lykke]
Charming small white flowers full of delicate petals, Damask-perfumed with sweetly scented glands. Soft green foliage, somewhat slender and upright in habit. I can think of few roses that are so delicate and graceful.

CELINA DUBOS

["CATHERINE GHISLAINE," ROSE DU ROI À FLEURES BLANCHES]
P rrr/fff/1 Dubos, 1849 [SJHRG]
A charming, low growing Portland with modest double, button-eyed flowers of light pink tinted clear pink, this fragrant rose has been passed about in recent years under this name of a Hybrid China or Damask, but is in fact in the family of sports of the old ROSE DU ROI.

DELAMBRE

P rrr/fff/2 Moreau et Robert, 1863 [Lowe]
Goblet-shaped buds of rose-red open to dark pink blooms with blush and crimson shadings; the form is symmetrical and swirled, a mass of petals.

DUCHESS OF PORTLAND

[PORTLAND ROSE]
P rrr/ff/1 unknown, c. 1770 [Lykke]
Semi-double flowers of bright red toned with scarlet; large petals handsomely arranged in an informal manner. Short and mannerly; always in bloom. This sets an abundance of rather rounded hips which ripen very dark.

DUCHESS DE ROHAN

P rrr/fff/2 Lévêque, 1847 [Lykke]
Large full flowers of deep rose-purple to crimson, edged with a border of lilac to deep lavender petals, creating a halo of paler color reminiscent of the effects found in some Gallica roses. Vigorous and easy to grow. Larger than many Portlands, to 5' or 6', but easily kept to 3'.

"GLENORA" (see Hybrid Perpetuals)

INDIGO

P rrr/fff/2 Laffay, before 1845 [SJHRG; Sangerhausen]

If you have ever seen material that has been dyed with natural indigo, you know the color this rose can be; it is a deep, pre-wash blue-jean color with a purple infusion. During cool moist seasons, and in cool climates the flowers develop a deep violet-indigo coloring, verging on the colors found in the Hybrid Perpetual rose REINE DES VIOLETTES. Double flowers continuously produced on a compact and healthy plant. We are delighted to be able to distribute this fine old Portland, thanks to the efforts of the San Jose Heritage Rose Garden.

“JACQUES CARTIER” (see MARCHESA BOCCELLA in Hybrid Perpetuals)

JOASINE HANET

AMANDA PATENOTTE (attribution Lowe)

These identities have been ascribed to a found rose we have grown for many years known under the mystery name, “GLENDDORA” or “PORTLAND FROM GLENDDORA” which is not a Portland in our estimation. We have seen too little evidence to be able to confirm the attribution of JOASINE HANET or of AMANDA PATENOTTE. We include this information here in part because so many sources that are now offering this rose have dropped any reference to the mystery rose, GLENDDORA, although this is what is being sold. Neither AMANDA PATENOTTE nor JOASINE HANET has been revived as yet from named plants in older collections like the Rose-raie de l’Haÿ, or Sangerhausen. We do agree that GLENDDORA fits the type of Vibert’s ‘de Trianon’ HPs.

MARBRÉE

P rrr/ff/2 Moreau et Robert, 1858 [Pickering]

Lovely open flowers, similar to the DUCHESS OF PORTLAND, but with more petals, more closely packed, and of a red more crimson in shade, spotted with blush pink; the golden stamens stand out spectacularly. A compact grower, upright, which does make suckers, but few.

MARCHESA BOCCELLA (see Hybrid Perpetuals)

MARIE DE ST. JEAN

P rrr/fff/2 Damaizin, 1869 [Pickering]

Satiny white, occasionally splashed with red, often edged red on the circumference; cupped flowers with rolled-back petals open fast. Highly desirable in the garden.

MIRANDA (see Hybrid Perpetuals)

MME. BOLL (see Hybrid Perpetuals)

PANACHÉE DE LYON

[sport of ROSE DU ROI]

P rrr/fff/2 Dubreuil, 1895 [Sagmiller; Beales]

Blush pink to white flowers with rose pink and the occasional purple stripe. Small flowers with a buttoned eye, compact and lightly suckering and very floriferous. This has reverted for us to the original ROSE DU ROI. For more, see Phillip

Robinson’s article on the Damask Perpetuals on page 37 of this catalogue.

PAPA VIBERT*

P rrr/fff/2 Dickerson, 2000 [Dickerson]

Sequoia Nursery first propagated this rose in 2000. From Brent Dickerson comes this new addition to a very small class of old roses, the Damask Perpetuals. As Brent describes it: “Varying from deep rose-red in cooler weather to a rich pink in warmer weather, and thus showing its very decided spotting best in the cooler seasons, whatever the season the flowers are beautiful, the bud opening into a globular blossom at first, the many concave petals often then reflexing into a beautiful convex form. The plant is vigorous but tidy, growing stiffly to 3’ or so. It is much more floriferous than its parent MARBRÉE; and the distinctive flower has a more pronounced, richer perfume. Named after that father of so many wonderful old varieties, Jean-Pierre Vibert, who delighted in such spotted roses.”

“PICKERING ‘FOUR SEASONS ROSE’”

[“LÉONIE BELL’S ‘ROYAL FOUR SEASONS’”]

[“QUATRE SAISONS D’ITALIE” attribution Mike Lowe]

P rrr/fff/2 unknown, found [Pickering/Lowe]

Light crimson flowers of great poise; petals cupped above and reflexed below opening to barely reveal sulfur yellow stamens. Apple-green foliage deepening to olive. Heavy Damask fragrance.

REMBRANDT (see Hybrid Perpetuals)

ROSE DE RESCHT

P rrr/fff/2 Lindsay, reintroduction c. 1920 [Pickering]

Nancy Lindsay’s Iranian foundling is so well known under this name that we exclude the mystery rose categorization. Those who love deep purple will adopt this rose for life; its intense amaranth pompons surround a swirling button. It has grey-green foliage and splendid rebloom. We lean toward believing this to be a Hybrid Perpetual of low stature.

ROSE DU ROI (OF COMMERCE)

P rrr/fff/1 reintro Kordes, pre-1954 [Pickering]

Large elegant blossoms of crimson and maroon, the petal reverses lilac, producing a textured effect, especially in the button eye; rather like a chunk of Persian carpet. Compact, low and suckering.

ROSE DU ROI (ORIGINAL)

P rrr/fff/1 Lelieur, Souchet, 1815 [Robinson]

Double flowers, smaller than ROSE DU ROI (OF COMMERCE), rich red with dark overtones, but not purplish. We have stabilized this reversion from our plant of PANACHÉE DE LYON, and are now distributing it regularly.

SOUVENIR DE MCKINLEY (see Hybrid Perpetuals)

SYDONIE (see Hybrid Perpetuals)