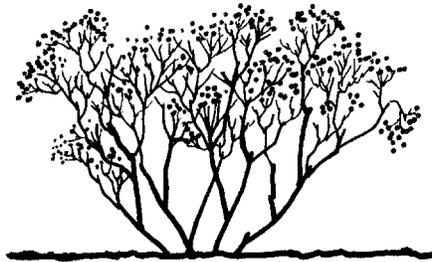


Old European Species Hybrids

Many species of wild rose were known by European gardeners and cultivated prior to the 1700s. Some of these, including *Rosa pimpinellifolia* (also known as *Rosa spinosissima*) and *Rosa moschata*, which is probably not a true species, were widely grown in several cultivated forms. Ayrshire Ramblers, derived from the rambling species *Rosa arvensis*, might also be included here, but we prefer to deal with all the Ramblers (a nightmare of nomenclatural confusion already) in one section that you will find at the end of the catalogue listings.

Musk Roses

The Musk Rose, *Rosa moschata*, has several forms, both single and double. They have been cultivated in European and American gardens for centuries, and though they seemed to have disappeared years ago, they have been rediscovered. These are large spreading shrubs which can be encouraged to climb if grown in shade. They begin to flower after the main rose bloom, but continue until late fall. Their flowers are white and exude a spicy, musky perfume. Excellent garden plants in their own right, the Musks are parents of the old Noisette roses, which in turn produced the climbing roses we call Tea-Noisettes. Musk Roses are large and spreading, reaching 15' to 20' when grown in shade, 8' in warm climates and staying at 4' or so in colder areas.



REVEREND SEIDEL*

Spx (Msk) rrrr/fff/1 Robinson;Vintage Gardens, 2005

[Robinson]

A delightful happenstance, this single flowered hybrid is quite compact in habit, much smaller than the Musk rose. We believe it to be a chance cross between the SINGLE MUSK and the old rambling rose the GARLAND. Almost without bloom from May until late November, its Noisette-like framework is packed with simple blossoms that attract lots of bees. Named for our friend, the old rose sleuth Douglas Seidel.

Rosa moschata

[SINGLE MUSK]

Spx rrr/fff/1 unknown, c. 1540 [Huntington]

Clean single flowers in large to very large clusters, the petals dropping freely. Hips form in abundance, yet do not prevent a continuity of bloom.

Rosa moschata forma 'TEMPLE MUSK'

Spx rrr/fff/1 unknown, found [Manners; Knopf]

I saw this growing as a sport on the old DOUBLE MUSK at a gravesite in the Charlotte Elmwood cemetery where others collected some years ago. Flowers are very beautifully formed, symmetrical and age very well, unlike the sport parent's.

Rosa moschata plena

[DOUBLE MUSK, BREMO MUSK]

Spx rrr/fff/1 unknown, pre-1596 [Huntington]

Rich musk scent from blowzy small double flowers in great clusters from late summer till frost. Flowers are inclined to brown before dropping from the stems.