




# Roses Then and Now

## Roses 101

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Baron Manus MacDhai

Barony of Windmasters' Hill  
Kingdom of Atlantia



# Sonnet 54 by William Shakespeare

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54  
O H how much more doth beautie beauntious seeme,  
By that sweet ornament which truth doth giue,  
The Rose lookes faire, but fairer we it deeme  
For that sweet odor, which doth in it liue:  
The Canker bloomes haue full as deepe a die,  
As the perfumed tincture of the Roses,  
Hang on such thornes, and play as wantonly,  
When sommers breath their masked buds disclofes:  
But for their virtue only is their show,  
They liue vnwoo'd, and vnrespected fade,  
Die to themselues. Sweet Roses doe not so,  
Of their sweet deathes, are sweetest odors made:  
And so of you, beauntious and lovely youth,  
When that shall vade, by verse distills your truth.

O, how much more doth beauty beauteous seem  
By that sweet ornament which truth doth give!  
The rose looks fair, but fairer we it deem  
For that sweet odour which doth in it live.  
The canker-blooms have full as deep a dye  
As the perfumed tincture of the roses,  
Hang on such thorns and play as wantonly  
When summer's breath their masked buds discloses:  
But, for their virtue only is their show,  
They live unwoo'd and unrespected fade,  
Die to themselves. Sweet roses do not so;  
Of their sweet deaths are sweetest odours made:  
And so of you, beauteous and lovely youth,  
When that shall vade, my verse distills your truth.

# Introduction

## My Interest in Roses

- How I got started with roses
  - Combining hobbies
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# Topics

What I will talk about ...

- History of Roses
  - Roses of the Period
  - How do roses of the Period differ from modern roses
  - Q & A
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# History of Roses

- Origin of Roses
  - Roses prior to our Period
  - Roses in the Middle Ages
  - Roses in Modern Times
-

# Origin of Roses

- Members of the Rosaceae family
  - Over 300 species of roses and tens of thousands of cultivars
  - Only 10 contributed to the roses we cultivate today
-

# Origin of Roses

- Native to the Northern Hemisphere
- Mostly temperate but found from semi-tropical to sub-arctic
- Fossil evidence
  - 70 Million years ago in Asia
  - 35 Million years in North America
- 



# Roses before our Period

Prior to 600 CE

- Cultivated for at least the past 5000 years
  - Known to be cultivated in Babylonia and Assyria
  - Egyptian tomb painting dating from 14th Century BCE
  - Records of roses in gardens in China and Greece
-



# Roses in Classical Times

Prior to 600 CE

- Roses in Homer's *Illiad*
  - Theophrastus described roses
  - Pliny the Elder
  - Dioscorides and *De Materia Medica* (1st Century CE & 6th Century *Vienna Dioscurides* )
-

# Roses in the Middle Ages

“We know little about roses between the period of the Roman Empire and the early Renaissance.”

- Bechtel, “Ancient Cultivated Roses”, *American Rose Annual* 25 (1950), Pg 17

The Medieval & Renaissance  
Period

7th to 16th Centuries

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# Roses in the Middle Ages

- Monastic records
- Charlemagne and Capitulare de Villis (c. 800CE)
- Theobald IV and the Apothecary Rose

The Medieval & Renaissance  
Period

7th to 16th Centuries

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# Roses in the Middle Ages

On a summer's day, in sultry weather,  
Five brethren were born together  
Two had beards and two had none,  
And the other had but half of one.

-- Albertus Magnus

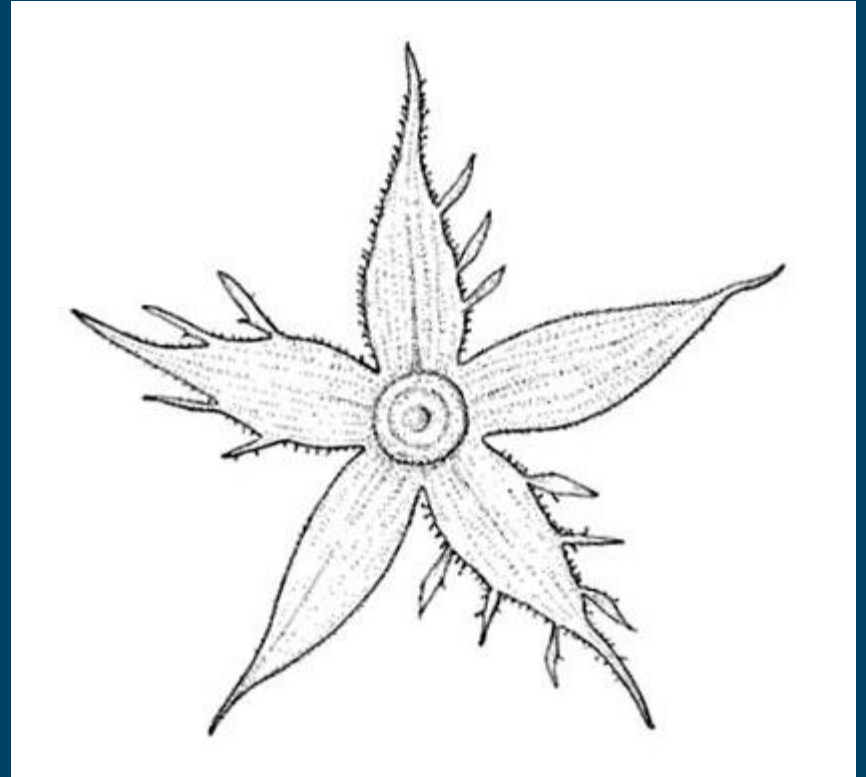
The Medieval & Renaissance  
Period

7th to 16th Centuries

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# Roses in the Middle Ages

Albertus Magnus's  
Riddle



# Demonstration



# Roses in the Renaissance

- Humanism of the Renaissance
- The Beginning of Natural History as a Science

The Medieval & Renaissance  
Period

7th to 16th Centuries

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# Roses in the Middle Ages

Pressed specimen of a rose:

Hieronymus Harder, *Herbarium vivum*

From 1576



Harder, Hieronymus: *Herbarium vivum* - BSB  
Cod.icon. 3, [S.l.] Süddeutschland, 1576 - 1600  
[BSB-Hss Cod.icon. 3] p. 81v



# Demonstration



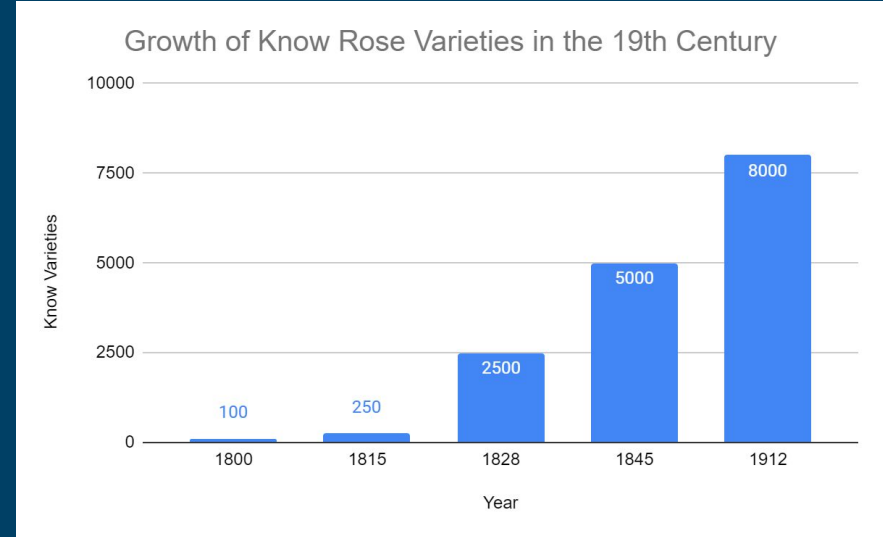
# Roses in Modern Times

17th Century to Present

- Age of Exploration and Colonization
  - Increased trade with Asia and introduction of Asian roses
    - China Rose
    - Tea Rose
    - Other Asian species
-

# Roses in Modern Times

17th Century to Present



# Roses in Modern Times

17th Century to Present

- Hybrids developed in the 18th and 19th Centuries
    - Bourbon (chinensis x gallica)
    - Noisette (chinensis x Moschata)
    - Portland
    - Moss (sport of centifolia)
    - Hybrid Perpetuals: link between old and modern roses
  - 1867: Guillot introduces “La France”, the first Hybrid Tea
    - Considered the dividing line between Old Garden Roses and Modern Roses
-

# Roses in Modern Times

17th Century to Present

- 1867: Guillot introduces “La France”, the first Hybrid Tea
    - Considered the dividing line between Old Garden Roses and Modern Roses
  - Modern Varieties:
    - Hybrid Tea
    - Grandiflora
    - Floribunda
    - Polyantha
    - Climbers
    - Ramblers
    - Shrubs
-

# Classes of Medieval Roses

- Gallica
  - Alba
  - Damask
  - Centifolia
  - Foetida
  - Species
    - Native Roses
-

# Gallica Roses

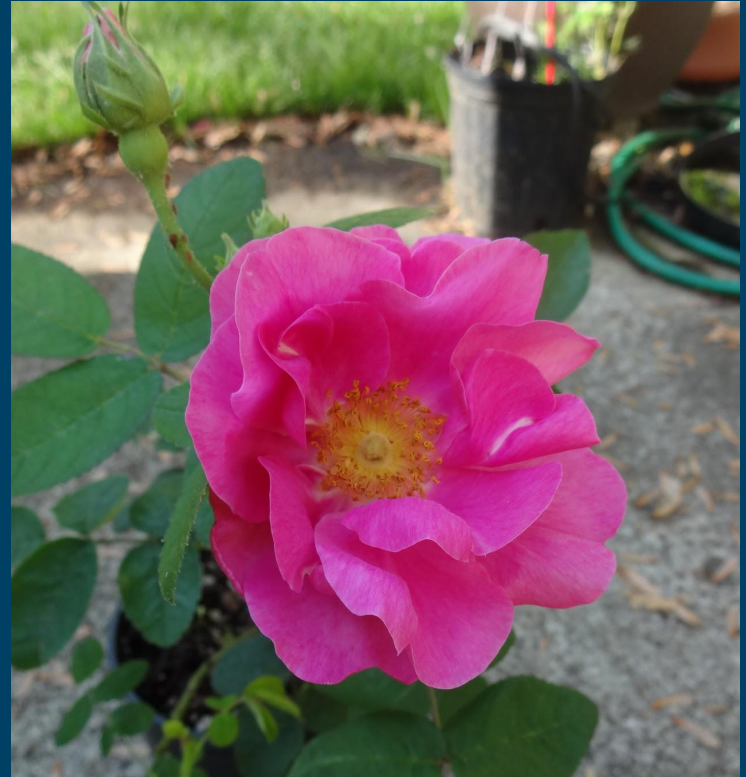
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# Gallica Roses

Apothecary Rose

*R. gallica officinalis*

Before 1250



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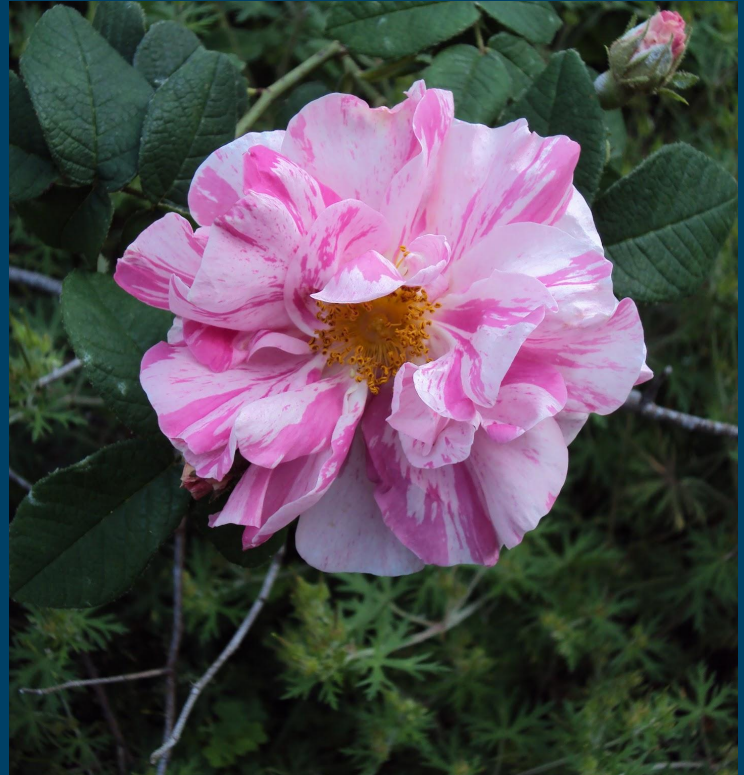


# Gallica Roses

Rosa Mundi

*R. gallica versicolor*

Before 1581



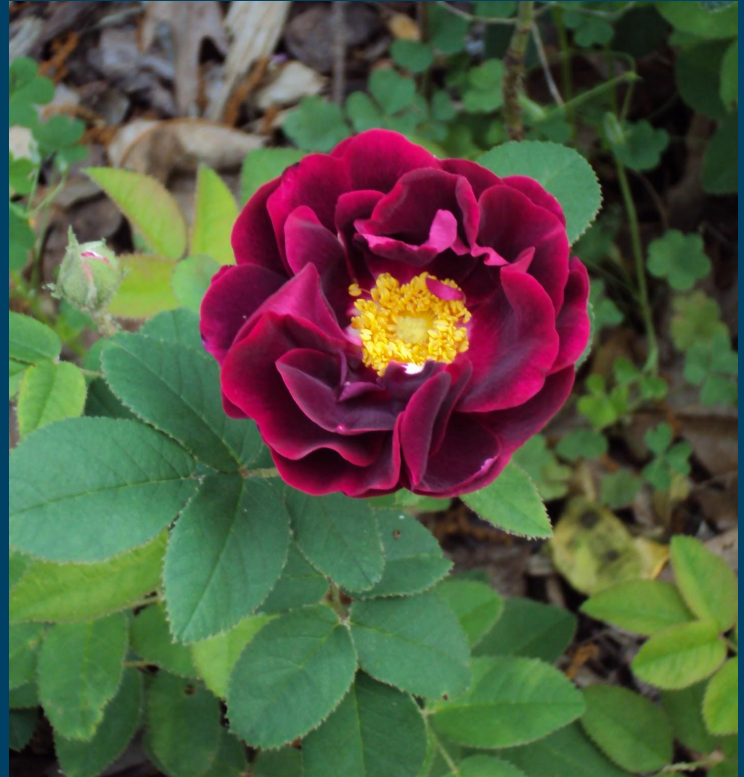
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# Gallica Roses

Tuscany

*R. gallica* 'Tuscany'

Before 1597



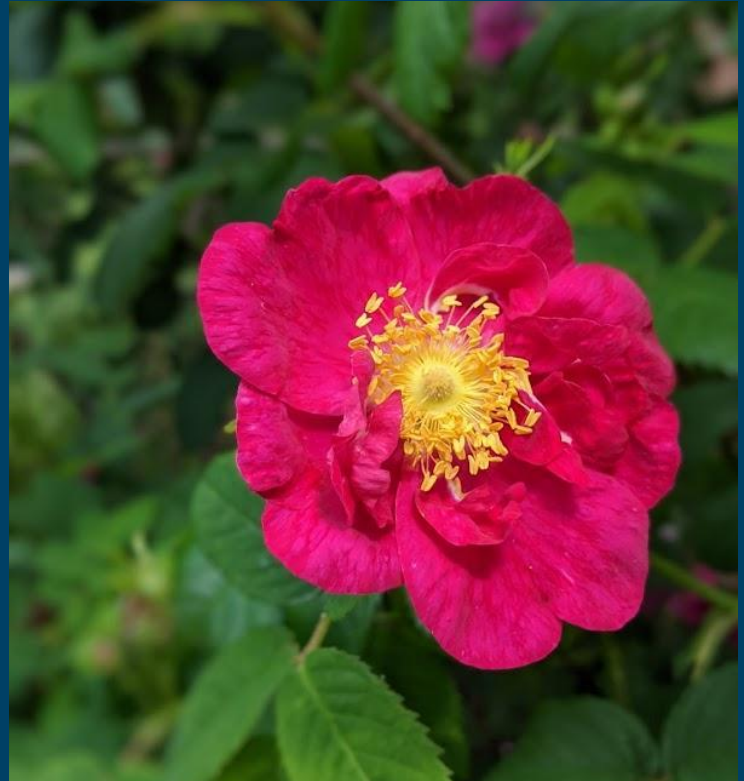
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# Gallica Roses

Splendens

*R. gallica 'Splendens'*

Before 1583



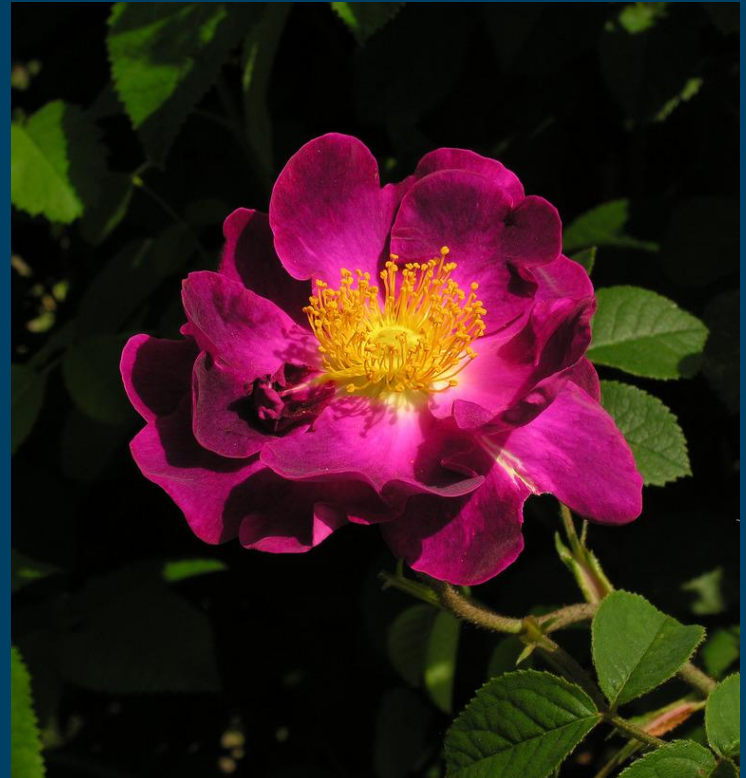
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# Gallica Roses

Conditorum/Hungarian Rose

*R. gallica* 'Conditorum'

Before 1588



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# Alba Roses

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# Alba Roses

*Rosa alba semiplena*

Before 1629



© Philip Scott Dean

# Alba Roses

Great Maiden's Blush/Grande Cuisse  
de Nymphe

*R. alba incarnata*

Before 1400



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# Alba Roses

*Rosa alba maxima*

Before 1500



© Eli's garden

(<https://www.flickr.com/photos/43111026@N00/>)



# Damask Roses

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# Damask Roses

York and Lancaster

*R. damascena* 'Versicolor'

Before 1551



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# Damask Roses

Autumn Damask / Quatre Saisons

*Rosa damascena bifera*

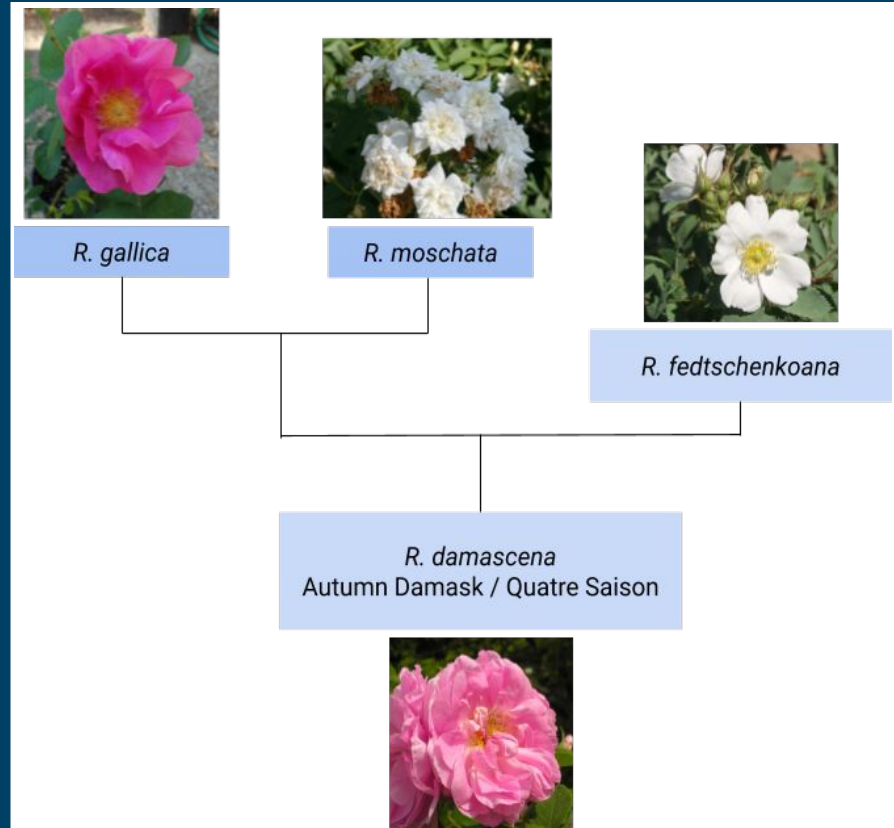
Before 1633



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# Damask Roses

“Geneology” Chart for  
the Autumn Damask Rose



# Damask Roses

Kazanlik

*R. x damascena* 'Trigintipetala'

Before 1612



© Philip Scott Dean

# Centifolia Roses

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# Centifolia Roses

Gros Choux d'Hollande (Great  
Cabbage of Holland) / Dutch  
Provence

*Rosa centifolia batavica*

Before 1589



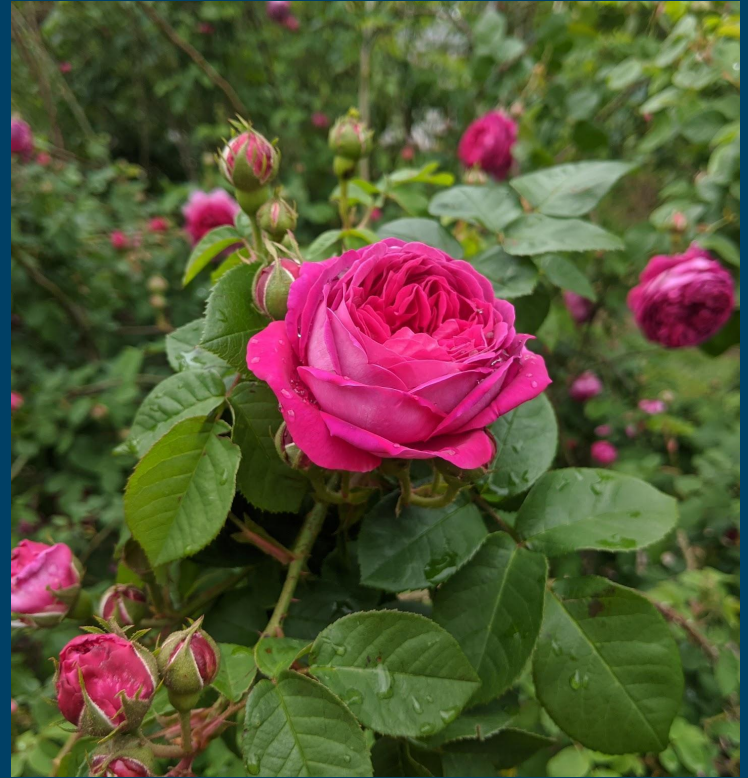
By fuzzyjay on Flickr.com (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)  
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# Centifolia Roses

Rose des Peintres

*R. centifolia* 'Major'

Before 1597



© Philip Scott Dean



# Foetida Roses

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# Foetida Roses

Austrian Brier

*Rosa foetida*

Before 1583



© Philip Scott Dean

# Foetida Roses

Austrian Copper

*Rosa foetida bicolor*

Before 1590



© Philip Scott Dean

# Species Roses



# Species Roses

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Musk Rose: *Rosa moschata*



© Philip Scott Dean

Double Musk Rose:  
*Rosa moschata plena* (Before 1513)



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# Species Roses

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Sweet Briar:

*R. rubiginosa*/*R. eglanteria*



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Sulphur Rose:

*Rosa Hemisphaerica* (Before 1600)



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# Species Roses

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Francfort Rose:

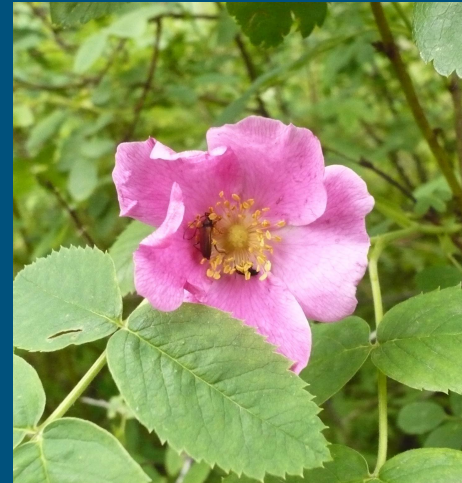
*Rosa francofurtana* (Before 1576)



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Double cinnamon Rose

*R. majalis plena*/*R. cinnamomea plena*



By OldMuzzle (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 or GFDL], via  
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# Species Roses

Dog Rose

*Rosa canina*

Before 1557

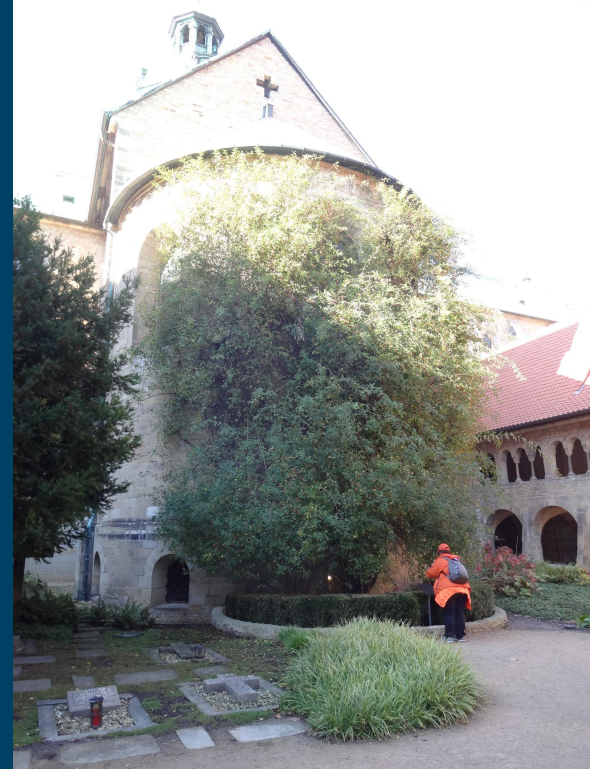


© Philip Scott Dean



# Thousand-year Rose

Dog rose growing against the  
side of the  
Hildesheim Cathedral in  
Hildesheim Germany



# Hildesheim, Lower Saxony, Germany



# Mariendom: Hildesheim Cathedral

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# Mariendom: Hildesheim Cathedral



# Visiting the Tausendjähriger Rosenstock

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# Visiting the Tausendjähriger Rosenstock



# Visiting the Tausendjähriger Rosenstock

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# Thousand-year Rose

Visiting in October, the bush did not have blooms but instead rose hips, the fruit of the rose.





# Thousand-year Rose

Visiting in October, the bush did not have blooms but instead rose hips, the fruit of the rose.



# Native Roses

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# Native Roses

Burnet Rose/Scotch Briar

*Rosa spinosissima*/ *R. pimpinellifolia*



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# Native Roses

Evergreen Rose

*Rosa sempervirens*



by H Brisse (upload by Abalg) from Wikicommons (CC BY-SA 3.0)

# Native Roses

Field Rose

*Rosa arvensis*



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# Characteristics of Roses of the Period

- Bloom only once a year
  - More single and semi-double bloom types
  - Colors are simple
    - White, pink, or red, with a few yellow
  - Bushy in growth habit
  - Hardy in their preferred climate
-

# Problems with Identification

Why is it so hard to figure out what varieties they grew?

- Few written records and not very detailed
  - Different names for the same plant
  - Same name for different roses in different places
  - Sports and natural variation
  - Similar names (Provence and Provins)
  - Natural Hybridization
  - A rose was a rose ....
-

Questions?



*Madonna of the Rose Bush* by Martin Schongauer (1473)



# Contact Information:

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