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NEW HYBRID TEA ROSES INTRODUCED TO THE BOTANIC GARDEN "DIMITRIE BRANDZA" ROSARIUM OF UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we present the latest Hybrid Tea roses introduced in the Rosarium of the Botanic Garden in Bucharest. One of the main objectives in Botanic Gardens is to continuously looking to enrich the collections. In that matter, the roses represent one of the biggest collections from our institution. Also, it is one of the main attractions throughout the year from the first blooming season until the last flowers in November.

INTRODUCTION

Currently, the number of rose cultivars stands at approximately 30,000, spanning groups such as Hybrid Tea, Floribunda, climbers, English roses, and miniatures (www.botanic.cam.ac.uk). Significant collections are found in countries with a long-standing tradition in this field, such as France, England, and Germany. (Wagner 2002). The primary goal of rose collections in botanical gardens worldwide is to introduce and cultivate new species and cultivars. A major milestone for our collection occurred in 2008, when the Rosarium underwent a comprehensive renewal; nearly 80 % of the layout was reconfigured. Since then, new cultivars have been added annually; in 2025, five new cultivars from the Hybrid Tea group were introduced that offer fresh colors and fragrances designed to captivate visitors. The performance of the roses from the five cultivars recently added to the collection was monitored and evaluate.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The new cultivars: 'Casanova', 'Claude Brasseur', 'Doris Tysterman', 'Gräfin Diana' and 'Jardins de Bagatelle' were purchased as bare roots from "Sweet Garden" company in October 2025

These cultivars were planted in a traditional prepared soil, with digging, harrowing and raking, followed by the removal of all plants and non-plants residues. Roses were planted 50/50 cm apart; their roots being pruned and mulched. We watered and covered the base of the roses with soil in order to protect them for the winter. In early spring we started with the specific cuttings to create structure for the upcoming blooming seasons. During summer maintenance we performed cuttings to stimulate new flowering, by removing dead flowers and all the wild shoots from the rootstock in order to concentrate the nutrients in the grafted part. Treatments

were applied according to a schedule with pesticides for diseases, pests and also a foliar fertilizer (Wagner 2002).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

'Casanova' is a very beautiful rose with light yellow petals and a moderate fragrance that can grow to 135 cm and very large flowers (26-40 petals) (Fig. 1) (https://www.helpmefind.com/rose/).

'Claude Brasseur' is a rose with big flowers (up to 14 cm diameter), a rare purple lavender to pink color and a powerful fragrance that will make anyone stop to savor this rose (Fig. 2) (https://www.meillandrichardier.ro/).



Figure 1. 'Casanova', Samuel Darragh McGredy IV, Ireland (1957) (Original photo)



Figure 2. 'Claude Brasseur' Meilland, France (2006) (Original photo)

'Doris Tysterman' has flowers up to 28 petals and an average diameter up to 12 cm. This orange blend with mild fragrance rose will make anyone to turn their head (Fig. 3) (Quest-Ritson & Quest-Ritson, 2008)

'Gräfin Diana' is a true star for any enthusiast; it has dark red petals and a blend of fruity aromas with hints of geranium and honey, as well as excellent disease resistance. One of its parents is 'Chartreuse de Parme', a rose that is also highly fragrant (Fig. 4) (https://www.rosen.de/en/garden-roses)

'Jardins de Bagatelle' is a very delicate rose with large flowers perfectly shaped upon opening; creamy-white petals and an intense fragrance; it brings a touch of Parisian sophistication to any garden (Fig. 5) (Wagner 2002).

There were no losses after their first winter in the new location. We had the opportunity to get the first real snow in the last 13 years, around 50 cm thick, which helped a lot by providing protection and moisture in the soil with the additional nutrients that gave an easy start in spring.



Figure 3. ‘Doris Tysterman’ Willem E. Tysterman, United Kingdom (1975) (Original photo)



Figure 4. ‘Gräfin Diana’ Tim Hermann Kordes, Germany (2003) (Original photo)



Figure 5. 'Jardins de Bagatelle' Marie-Louise Meilland, France (1986) (Original photo)

Roses cultivars introduced in 2025 in the Botanic Garden „D. Brandza” behaved well during first year. We will wait until the plants are mature in order to verify the vigor and all the characteristics of flowers**.**

The newly introduced cultivars thrived during their first year, exhibiting the repeat-blooming characteristic of remontant roses. Some are highly fragrant, such as ‘Gräfin Diana’ or ‘Claude Brasseur’, while others will make you turn your head to admire their striking color like ‘Doris Tysterman’. We remain committed to seeking out rose cultivars that will surprise and delight our visitors.

CONCLUSIONS

After the first year we can only say that all the new introduced cultivars of roses grew well, they all bloomed, but they did not have all the specifics like flower size or stem length. There were no losses; the thick lair of snow was perfect. We continue by monitoring the new cultivars by checking resistance to pathogens and also pedoclimatic conditions. The main objective is to identify cultivars that will be adaptable to conditions in the Bucharest area, to be able to recommend them to all those that love and appreciate the world of roses.

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