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Eskelund

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(54) **ROSE PLANT NAMED ‘EVERA153’**

(50) Latin Name: *Rosa hybrida*
Varietal Denomination: **Evera153**

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(73) Assignee: **Roses Forever ApS**, Fåborg (DK)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **Plt./122,**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Rose plant named ‘Evera153’, characterized by its upright and rounded plant habit; dark green-colored leaflets; freely branching growth habit; freely flowering habit; large double red purple-colored flowers; flowers held upright on strong and erect peduncles; and good postproduction longevity.

1 Drawing Sheet

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Botanical designation: *Rosa hybrida*.
Cultivar denomination: ‘EVERA153’.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Rose plant, botanically known as *Rosa hybrida*, commercially used as a potted Rose, and hereinafter referred to by the name ‘Evera153’.

The new Rose is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Fåborg, Denmark. The objective of the breeding program was to develop new uniform potted Rose varieties with novel and attractive flower colors, disease resistance and excellent postproduction longevity.

The new cultivar originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor on Apr. 1, 2004 of a proprietary Rose selection identified as code number 03-0309, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unnamed Rose selection, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The cultivar Evera153 was discovered and selected by the Inventor on Mar. 10, 2005 as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-pollination in a controlled environment in Fåborg, Denmark.

Asexual reproduction of the new Rose by cuttings at Fåborg, Denmark since Dec. 20, 2005, has shown that the unique features of this new Rose are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Evera153’. These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Evera153’ as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. Upright and rounded plant habit.
2. Dark green-colored leaflets.
3. Freely branching growth habit.
4. Freely flowering habit.
5. Large double red purple-colored flowers.

6. Flowers held upright on strong and erect peduncles.

7. Good postproduction longevity.

Plants of the new Rose differ from plants of the parent selections in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Rose and the parent selections differ in plant habit.
2. Plants of the new Rose and the parent selections differ in flower color.

Plants of the new Rose can be compared to plants of the Rose cultivar Evera 118, disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,028. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Fåborg, Denmark, plants of the new Rose differed from plants of the cultivar Evera 118 in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Rose were broader than plants of the cultivar Evera 118.
2. Plants of the new Rose had larger leaves than plants of the cultivar Evera 118.
3. Plants of the new Rose had more petals per flower than plants of the cultivar Evera 118.
4. Plants of the new Rose and the cultivar Evera 118 differed in flower color as plants of the cultivar Evera 118 had lighter red purple-colored flowers.
5. Plants of the new Rose had longer peduncles than plants of the cultivar Evera 118.
6. Plants of the new Rose had fewer stamens and more pistils per flower than plants of the cultivar Evera 118.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new Rose, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new Rose.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical plant of ‘Evera153’ grown in a container.

The photograph at the bottom of the sheet is a close-up view of a typical flower of 'Evera153'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The new Rose has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype. The aforementioned photographs, following observations and measurements describe plants grown during the autumn and winter in Fåborg, Denmark, in a glass-covered greenhouse and under commercial production practices. Plants were pinched one time and were about 12 to 14 weeks old when the photographs and description were taken. During the production of the plants, day temperatures averaged 22° C., night temperatures averaged 21° C. and light levels were about 20,000 lux. Four cuttings were grown in 10-cm containers. Plants used in the description represent a single plant. In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 2001 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Rosa hybrida* cultivar Evera153.

Parentage:

Female, or seed, parent.—Proprietary seedling selection of *Rosa hybrida* identified as code number 03-0309, not patented.

Male, or pollen, parent.—Unnamed selection of *Rosa hybrida*, not patented.

Propagation:

Type.—By cuttings.

Time to initiate roots.—About ten to twelve days at 24° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant.—About four weeks at 24° C.

Root description.—Fibrous, fleshy, medium thickness; white in color.

Rooting habit.—Freely branching; moderately dense.

Plant description:

Plant form.—Upright and rounded plant habit.

Growth habit.—Moderately vigorous. Freely branching habit; about three to five lateral branches develop from the pinch; dense and bushy growth habit.

Plant height.—About 18 cm to 24 cm.

Plant width (spread).—About 20 cm to 30 cm.

Lateral branches.—Length: About 15 cm to 23 cm.

Diameter: About 3 mm. Internode length: About 2 cm to 3 cm. Strength: Moderately strong. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 144A. Thorns: Density: None to about two per linear cm. Shape: Triangular with sharp acuminate apices. Height: About 6 mm to 7 mm. Diameter, at base: About 3 mm to 4 mm. Color, immature: Close to 145B. Color, mature: Close to 164A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement.—Alternate; compound with seven to nine leaflets per leaf.

Leaf length.—About 10 cm to 11 cm.

Terminal leaflet length.—About 4.5 cm to 5 cm.

Lateral leaflet length.—About 2 cm to 4 cm.

Leaf width.—About 6.5 cm to 9 cm.

Terminal leaflet width.—About 2.3 cm to 2.6 cm.

Lateral leaflet width.—About 1.3 cm to 2.4 cm.

Leaflet shape.—Narrowly ovate.

Leaflet apex.—Acuminate.

Leaflet base.—Obtuse.

Leaflet margin.—Serrate.

Leaflet texture, upper and lower surfaces.—Smooth, glabrous; leathery.

Leaflet venation pattern.—Pinnate; reticulate.

Leaflet color.—Developing leaflets, upper surface: Close to 137B. Developing leaflets, lower surface: Close to 147B tinted with close to 59A. Fully developed, upper surface: Between 137A and 147A; venation, close to 146A. Fully developed, lower surface: Close to 191A tinted with close to 59A; venation, close to 146B to 146C.

Petioles.—Leaf petiole length: About 1.5 cm to 3.5 cm. Leaflet petiole length: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Leaf petiole diameter: About 1.5 mm. Leaflet petiole diameter: About 1 mm. Leaf petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Glabrous; rough. Leaflet petiole texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Leaf petiole color, upper surface: More green than 146A. Leaf petiole color, lower surface: Close to 144A. Leaflet petiole color, upper surface: More green than 146A tinted with close to 59A. Leaflet petiole color, lower surface: Close to 144A.

Stipules.—Quantity: Two per leaf. Length: About 0.8 cm to 1.2 cm. Width: About 1 mm to 2 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Truncate; sessile. Margin: Irregularly serrate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; leathery. Color, upper surface: Close to 137B. Color, lower surface: Close to 137C.

Flower description:

Flower type and habit.—Large double red purple-colored flowers with numerous petals. Consistently symmetrical rosette flowers. Flowers borne in cymes on strong peduncles; one to three flowers per cyme. Flowers persistent.

Flowering season.—Year-round under greenhouse conditions, optimal flowering from spring through autumn under garden conditions; flowering intermittent. Plants begin flowering about 78 days after planting.

Inflorescence height.—About 6 cm.

Inflorescence diameter.—About 4 cm to 6 cm.

Flower diameter.—About 4 cm to 5 cm.

Flower depth (height).—About 1.5 cm to 2 cm.

Flower longevity on plant.—About two weeks.

Fragrance.—None detected.

Flower buds (at stage of showing color).—Shape:

Ovoid to close to spherical. Length: About 1 cm.

Diameter: About 0.8 cm to 1 cm. Color: About 137C.

Petals.—Quantity: Numerous; about 65 per flower arranged in numerous whorls. Length: About 2.4 cm to 2.6 cm. Width: About 2.4 cm to 2.8 cm. Shape: Broadly obovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Attenuate. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous; satiny. Color: When opening, upper surface: More red than 59A; towards the base, close to 155D. When opening, lower surface: Close to 59B. Fully opened, upper surface: More red than 59A; towards the base, close to 155D; with development, color becomes closer to brighter than 53A. Fully opened, lower surface: Close to 59C.

Sepals.—Quantity per flower: Typically five. Length: About 2.5 cm to 3 cm. Width: About 7 mm to 8 mm. Shape: Lanceolate. Apex: Sharply pointed. Base: Truncate. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubes-

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cent; leathery. Color: When opening and fully expanded, upper surface: Close to 138B. When opening and fully expanded, lower surface: Close to 143A.

Peduncles.—Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Aspect: Mostly erect. Length: About 4 cm to 4.5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm to 2.5 mm. Texture: Rough. Color: Close to 144A.

Pedicels.—Strength: Moderately strong; flexible. Aspect: About 30° to 45° from peduncle axis. Length: About 2.5 cm to 5 cm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Texture: Rough. Color: Close to 144A.

Reproductive organs.—Stamens: Quantity: About 75 per flower. Anther length: About 2 mm. Anther shape: Reniform. Anther color: Close to 24A. Filament color: Close to 2D. Pollen amount: Not observed. Pistils: Quantity: About 100 per flower.

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Pistil length: About 2 mm to 3 mm. Stigma color: Close to 5C. Style length: About 2 mm to 4 mm. Style color: Close to 2D. Receptacle shape: Funnel-shaped. Receptacle height: About 4 mm to 5 mm. Receptacle diameter: About 9 mm. Receptacle texture: Smooth, glabrous. Receptacle color: Close to 144A to 144B. Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

Pathogen/pest resistance: Plants of the new Rose have not been observed to be resistant to pathogens and pests common to Roses.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct Rose plant named 'Evera153' as illustrated and described.

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