A new and distinct variety of climbing shrub rose plant is provided which forms in abundance on a substantially continuous basis attractive clusters of fully double, deep pink blossoms having approximately 70–80 petals on average. The new variety is a spontaneous mutation of unknown causation of the ‘Meiviolin’ variety (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,892). The deep pink color can be readily distinguished from the white-pink color of the ‘Meiviolin’ variety. Vigorous vegetation is formed. The foliage is dense medium green with a semi-glossy finish. Excellent resistance to Black Spot and powdery mildew is displayed. Attractive dense ornamentation in the form of foliage and blossoms is made possible when the new variety is grown on a support.
scent. The number of petals varies with flower size, but averages from 70 to 80, while the flower of the parent averages from 55 to 60.

The characteristics of the new variety have been found to be homogeneous and stable and are transmissible by asexual propagation from one generation to another. The plant has been successfully asexually propagated in Los Angeles, Calif., USA by rooted stem cuttings and have been reproduced true to type in successive generations. The characteristics of the new variety are transmitted true to type from one generation to another by such asexual propagation. The plant propagates well and grows very well on its own roots.

The new variety has been named the Margaret Mae variety.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying photographs show, as nearly as true as it is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations of this character, typical specimens of the plant parts of the new variety, as well as a specimen of a typical plant of the new variety while growing in the landscape. The rose plants of the new variety illustrated herein were two years of age and were grown in a cultivated residential garden at Los Angeles, Calif., USA, on their own roots. Photographs were prepared on Apr. 30, 2007.

FIG. 1.—illustrates a specimen of a young shoot with leaves;
FIG. 2.—illustrates a specimen of a floral buds before the opening of the sepal;
FIG. 3.—illustrates a specimen of a floral bud at the opening of the sepal;
FIG. 4.—illustrates a specimen of a floral bud at the opening of the petal;
FIG. 5.—illustrates a specimen of an open flower—plan view—reverse;
FIG. 6.—illustrates a specimen of an open flower—plan view—reversed;
FIG. 7.—illustrates a specimen of a floral receptacle showing the arrangement of the stamens and pistils;
FIG. 8.—illustrates a specimen of a floral receptacle showing the arrangement of the pistils (stamens removed);
FIG. 9.—illustrates a specimen of a main branch;
FIG. 10.—illustrates specimens of mature leaves with 7 leaflets—plan view—upper surface;
FIG. 11.—illustrates specimens of mature leaves with 7 leaflets—plan view—lower surface;
FIG. 12.—illustrates specimens of immature leaves with 5 leaflets—plan view—upper surface;
FIG. 13.—illustrates a floral bud at the opening of the petals and illustrating the globular shape and large petal count of the flower;
FIG. 14.—illustrates specimens of a typical multiple flowering plants while being grown in the landscape with the support of an iron trellis;
FIG. 15.—illustrates a fully open flower, floral bud and leaves of the original spontaneous mutation grown at Riverside, Calif., USA. The mutation was a single branch of five total branches on the parental plant.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The chart used in the identification of colors is that of The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S. Colour Chart). The description is based on two year old specimens of the new variety during May while grown in the open air in Los Angeles, Calif., USA.

Class: Climbing Shrub.

Plant:

Height.—Approximately 70 to 80 inches when growing on their own roots in Los Angeles, Calif., USA.

Habit.—Climbing.

Branches:

Color.—Young stems: light green, Yellow-Green Group 146D. Adult wood: light green, Yellow-Green Group 146C.


Texture.—The stems are smooth and lustrous in texture.

Leaves:

Stipules.—Dromate, pectinate, wide and linear.

Petioles.—Upper surface: grooved, reddish-brown on young foliage, medium green on mature foliage with more or less glandular edges. Under surface: light green with some small hooked thorns.


Inflorescence:

Number of flowers.—Generally one blossom per stem.

Peduncle.—Smooth, green, straight, rigid, approximately 2.75 inches in length on average.

Sepals.—Greenish in coloration. Under surface: medium green in coloration with a reddish tint, often with glandular appendiculated edges.

Buds.—Shape: very double, globe shaped. Length: approximately 1 in. on average. Color: upper surface: Deep Pink, RHS 52B. Under surface: substantially the same as the upper surface.


Development:

Vegetation.—Vigorous.

Blossoming.—Abundant and continuous.

Aptitude to bear fruits.—None.

Resistance to frost.—Very good.

Resistance to diseases.—Excellent.

Plants of the ‘Margaret Mae’ variety have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions to date. Accordingly, it is possible that the phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in the environment, such as temperature, light, etc.
I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of climbing shrub rose plant characterized by the following combination of characteristics:
   (a) abundantly forms on a substantially continuous basis attractive clusters of fully double blossoms that are deep pink in coloration,
   (b) exhibits an upright climbing growth habit,
   (c) forms vigorous vegetation,
   (d) forms dense medium green foliage having a semi-glossy finish, and
   (e) exhibits excellent resistance to Black Spot and powdery mildew;

   substantially as herein shown and described.

   * * * * *