

Reprint from:  
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**ROSE OF THE MONTH:**  
**Rose de Rescht (OGR After 1867)**

(Original Introducer and Date Unknown)  
Fragrant bright fuchsia—red, long blooming—very double  
(See pen and ink drawing by Bunny Skran, below)

Searching hard through Robbie and Marsha Tucker's rose garden, this will likely be the only old garden rose one will find or hope to find tucked away among their many fine hybrid teas. Yet the Tuckers have been to ARS National Conventions far away from Nashville and won the Victorian Award on at least two occasions for this old garden rose named 'Rose de Rescht'. If you will look into the local show results of the Fall 2000 "Rose Exhibitor Forum" edited by Robert Martin you will find 'Rose de Rescht' listed 15 times this season for winning the Victorian Old Garden Rose Award for roses introduced after 1867, and your editor's name included for our entry in Nashville's spring Rose show. This writer has two problems—He can't keep a good secret, and "if you can't lick'em join'em."

What is there about this dwarf among the old garden giants that attracts such attention? Being a Damask Perpetual it's origins are thought to be from the city, Rescht, a provincial capital in Persia to which this rose was possibly brought during the French rapprochement era of 1807,<sup>1</sup> coming to the western world via France by Miss Nancy Lindsey of England in the 1940's. The flowers are a bright fuchsia red, fading with a delicious fragrant damask scent, having dense foliage of compact vigorous growth and a long season of bloom.<sup>2</sup> Unlike the growth habit of many OGRs, it's size does not get beyond 3-0 x 3-0 so it can be grown among your other roses in a formal bed without making a fool of itself or you.

Did you get the message--it is a Damask Perpetual--meaning it will rebloom right along with your modern hybrids from spring to fall. Being a Damask Perpetual, it needs regular watering and fertilizer all season and prompt removal of spent blooms to continue the flowering effect. Even though the individual flowers do not last long on the plant, they will if cut fresh and refrigerated for use while in old garden rose bouquets or for show purposes.

Prune the plant back 2/3 in the fall or spring each year and remove any crowded canes and you will be rewarded with luxurious shoots crowned with buds in the spring.

'Rose de Rescht' is not bothered by mildew and if there is any black spotting it does not result in defoliation. With this cultivar you can become a closet old garden rose enthusiast and no one will know but you. Or you can come out in the open and plant a

full bed of these genuine but neglected bedding roses for all to enjoy. My only hope is this article doesn't contribute to 50 entries of 'Rose de Rescht' in our spring rose show or Robbie and I have to look elsewhere for success.

<sup>1</sup> From "The Old Rose Advisor" Brent C. Dickerson author

<sup>2</sup> From "Modern Rose 10" editor Pete Haring

Robert L. Whitaker



ROSE DE RESCHT

*Bunny Skran*