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Rosa rugosa

[Synonyms : *Rosa ferox*, *Rosa pubescens*, *Rosa regeliana*, *Rosa rugosa* var. *albiflora*]

JAPANESE ROSE is a prickly deciduous shrub. Native to northern China, Korea, Japan and eastern Siberia, it has purplish rose to white flowers.

It is also known as Beach tornado, Chinese rose, *Hama-nasu* (Japanese), Hedgehog rose, Hedgerow rose, *Kamtschatkarose* (German), *Kartoffelrose* (German), *Kurtulehtiruusu* (Finnish), *Ostasiatische Zimtrose* (German), Ramanas rose, *Rimpelroos* (Dutch), Romanus rose, Rugosa rose, *Ruža vráskatá* (Slovak), *Růže svraskalá* (Czech), Saltspray rose, Tomato rose, Turkestan rose, *Vresros* (Swedish), and Wrinkled; and in flower language is said to be a symbol of 'beauty is your only attraction' and illusion.

The flowers are heavily scented with a somewhat clove-like fragrance.

Rugosa is Latin (wrinkled).

It is reported that those Chinese paintings which clearly depict the Japanese rose date back to 1000 AD.

In Japan this rose is believed to have been identified before the 10th Century, and the first European to discover it was the Swedish botanist, Carl Per Thunberg (1743-1828).

The Japanese rose was introduced to Britain in 1796 from Russia and to the United States for some authorities in 1845 and others 1882.

The glossy, brick red hips can be used as a source of Vitamin C.

It is often considered a better hedge plant than sweet-briar (*Rosa eglantheria*).