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*Rosa spinosissima*

[Synonyms : *Rosa altaica*, *Rosa illinoensis*, *Rosa pimpinellifolia*, *Rosa pimpinellifolia* subsp. *myriacantha*, *Rosa sibirica*]

**BURNET ROSE** is a prickly deciduous shrub. Native to Europe, and to central and northern Asia (from Iceland and Norway, including Britain, to Turkey), it has small creamy-white (occasionally pink) flowers.

It is also known as *Bibernell-Rose* (German), Burnett rose, Burrow rose, Cant robin, Cat rose, *Duinroosje* (Dutch), *Dünenrose* (German), Fox rose, *Juhannusruusu* (Finnish), *Klittros* (Swedish), Pimpernel rose, *Pimpinellros* (Swedish), *Rhosyn Burnet* (Welsh), *Rose à sablion* (Channel Islander-Jersey Norman-French), *Rose de catte* (Channel Islander-Guernsey), *Růže bedrníkolistá* (Czech), Scotch briar, Scotch rose, Scots rose, Scottish rose, and Soldier's buttons.

*Spinosissima* is derived from Latin *spina* (thorn, spine) meaning 'most or very spiny'.

Burnet rose was introduced to North America by early European settlers. Records indicate that Dr. William Blackstone, who joined the Pilgrim Fathers in their colony in 1623 (three years after its establishment) first cultivated the burnet rose either there or when he moved to Pawtucket in 1634.

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century for anyone connected with the tiny islands in the Bristol Channel (off the English West Country coast) unseasonal blooms presaged disaster and shipwreck.

The small glossy deep purple-blackish hips have been used as a dye for silk and muslin.