



## **Biltmore International Rose Trials**

### **Rules & Regulations**

Location:

The Biltmore Estate

Asheville, NC. USA

[www.biltmore.com](http://www.biltmore.com)

**Object:**

The object of these trials, open to professional and amateur rose breeders, is to present to Guests of the Biltmore Estate New Garden Rose Varieties. They will be cared for in accordance with modern methods of garden culture using environmentally friendly products, and judged not only for the beauty of the flower including their abundance and length of flowering period; but equally so for their disease resistance, fragrance and overall aesthetic appearance of the plant.

In addition to showing Guests of The Biltmore roses can be grown with the use of environmentally friendly methods, the Trials will afford Breeders a

stage to display their work and receive feedback on the performance of their roses. The prestige of winning an award is a great commercial asset for the breeder and offers the opportunity of their variety being introduced into wide commerce in the United States as part of a Biltmore Line of Garden Roses.

**Definition of “New Garden Rose Varieties”:**

“New Garden Roses Varieties” is defined as those rose varieties which have been put into commerce less than two years prior to the commencement of the Trials. “Commencement” being defined as Jan 1 of the calendar year the roses are planted in the trial beds.

*Because of limited space in the main walled rose garden where The Trials are held The Trial is limited to 35 varieties overall and will be “reserved” on a first come, first serve basis upon response to the invitation with number of entries.*

**Conditions:**

1. Any recognized internationally class of roses may be submitted provided it meets the criteria of “New Garden Rose Varieties”. The judging groups will be:
  - a. Groundcover
  - b. Hybrid Tea
  - c. Floribunda
  - d. Shrub
  - e. Climber
  - f. Open Group – any internationally recognized class of roses but not in groups A-E.
2. A first and second place will be awarded in each group.

3. The overall highest scoring rose from among the above groups will be awarded best rose of The Trials.
4. Two additional awards will also be given each year.
  - a. "Guest Choice". Visitors to the Biltmore Estate will be given the chance to vote via texting for their favorite variety over the entire trial period. That variety will receive this award. As the garden receives approximately 800,000 visitors per year this award will give unique insight into what the gardening public likes in roses.
  - b. Fragrance. The rose judged to have the most outstanding perfume.
5. Additionally awards may be given in the following categories if any of the varieties merit.
  - i. Best Disease Resistance
  - ii. Best Overall Growth Habit
6. All varieties will be judged for two years.
7. A minimum score of 70% must be awarded in any group or category for an award to be given.
8. All the varieties will remain on view until December of the same year of the trials to enable visitors to compare and admire them. After this date The Trials will transplant the winners for display in the Biltmore Estate Rose Garden accompanied by signage stating prize awarded and the breeder's name. Other varieties may be reclaimed by the breeder or simply disposed of by The Trials.
  - a. The Biltmore Estate may from time to time remove plants of previous winners to make room for latest ones.
  - b. The Biltmore Estate will not propagate, nor make propagation material available, from the winners on permanent display without written consent of the breeder.

- c. Any “sports” will be property of the breeder and propagation material will be made available to them should they wish.
9. Because of the public nature of the Biltmore Estate, if at any time during The Trials a variety is found to be performing poorly The Trials may remove it from the trial bed. Scores and reasons why will be sent to the breeder as feedback. The plants will be destroyed unless the breeder wishes to make other arrangements.
10. Maximum number of entries per Breeder is three rose varieties. Space is limited within the Biltmore Estate’s walled Rose Garden and entries will be entered on a first come/first serve basis. Once the maximum number of 35 entries is reached entered those following will be placed on a wait list. If we receive a large number of entries we may reduce the maximum number of entries per breeder to two. You will be informed before sending plants so you can adjust your plans accordingly.
11. Six plants of each variety must be supplied with all transport costs paid by the breeder to the Estate.
12. Each variety must be accompanied with the following information:
  - a. The Breeder’s name
  - b. The Breeder’s code or Registered Name
  - c. The Varieties Fancy or Commercial name
  - d. The date of its entry into commerce
  - e. The judging group into which the Breeder wishes to enter the variety as per condition #1
13. For those varieties entered from outside the United States, the Breeder will be supplied with USDA post entry quarantine stickers and permits along with instructions to facilitate their roses speedy and trouble free arrival. Please advise in advance how many boxes you will be shipping so we can be sure you have enough stickers. You will need one per box.

- a. The Trials will maintain compliance with all USDA post entry quarantine requirements.
- b. The breeders is responsible for all postage, customs brokerage fees etc.
- c. The Port Of Entry for USDA plant inspection is Hartsfield International Airport (Code ATL). The customs broker we recommend is:

Jean D. Duncan Customs Brokers, Inc.

PO Box 20696 / Atlanta Airport

Atlanta, GA. 30320

404 766-0207

FAX (404) 767-0016

[jeanduncan@jeanduncan.com](mailto:jeanduncan@jeanduncan.com)

- d. PLEASE NOTE: Breeder is responsible for arrangement and cost of transport from the plant inspection station to the Estate. Jean D. Duncan can assist you with arrangements if necessary.
14. The sender of each consignment will receive a receipt or email confirming safe arrival of the plants and their participation in The Trials.
15. Please ship all Trial Roses to the following address.

Biltmore Estate  
Historic Garden Manager  
Central Warehouse  
One Approach Rd  
Asheville NC 28803  
828-225-1460  
Biltmore International Rose Trials

### **Physical Plants and Their Handling:**

1. Container and/or bare root plants may be sent.

- a. If Container.
  1. Minimum container size is 1 gallon U.S. standard nursery pot. (Approx 1 liter)
  2. Maximum container size is 3-gallon U.S. standard nursery pot. (Approx 3.3 Liters)
2. Roses maybe own-root or grafted
3. Upon arrival at The Trial grounds all roses will be, if needed, planted into a 3-gallon U.S. standard nursery pot using identical soils and amendments.
  - a. The roses will be grown on in cold frames in an effort to ensure all varieties are of equal size at planting time regardless of how they arrived at The Trial Grounds.
  - b. PLEASE NOTE: The cold frame does not have artificial heat. Therefore if breeder wishes, they may supply up to 10 plants of each variety and the best 6 will be planted out for the trial.
4. Planting time is approx Mid-May.
  - a. It is the breeder's responsibility to make sure their entries arrive in plenty of time to be grown into a 3-gallon U.S. standard size pot by planting time. Entries arriving after April 1 of the trial year may be planted "as is" or refused entry.
  - b. Entries can arrive as soon as January 15 of the trial year.
5. During The Trials all varieties shall be cared for equally in accordance with methods of "Natural Care".
  - a. "Natural Care" is defined as environmentally responsible methods including the use of, but not limited to, natural fertilizers, natural fungicides and Integrated Pest Management.
  - b. While synthetic chemicals will be used if needed it will be minimal and thus it is in the best interest of the breeders to make sure varieties entered are inherently healthy.

**Judging:**

A Standing or Permanent jury of local specialists presided by a Chairperson shall inspect the plants at fixed dates four times (May, August, October and January) during both Trial Years for a total of eight times.

**Criteria for Judgment:**

1. Growth habit & Vigour – 25% of overall score
2. Buds and flowers – 20% of overall score
3. Recurrent bloom – 20% of overall score
4. Resistance to disease – 25% of overall score
5. Fragrance – 10% of overall score

Each member of the Standing Jury shall indicate of vote between for each of the above criteria on a point scale matching the percentage of the score. For example Growth Habit & Vigour scored 1-25; fragrance scored 1-10 etc.

An International Jury shall be annually invited to judge with the Standing Jury on the culminating day of the trials and shall judge using the same criteria and scoring. The value of the combined total over the entire period shall be 75% for the Standing Jury and 25% for the International Jury.

The International Jury is to be made up of:

1. State and municipal representatives,
2. Representatives of city Parks and Gardens Departments,
3. Rose breeders and growers,
4. Directors of Rose Gardens,
5. Presidents or representatives of Rose Associations,
6. Journalists,

7. Prominent amateur rosarians,
8. Artists.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the following address or via email:

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PO Box 129

Campobello, SC. 29322

[paul@paulzimmermanroses.com](mailto:paul@paulzimmermanroses.com)

864 363-2064

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul F. Zimmerman", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Paul F. Zimmerman

Coordinator Biltmore International Rose Trials