'Quadra' Rose

Ian S. Ogilvie and Neville P. Arnold

Research Branch, Agriculture Canada, L'Assomption, Qc., P.O. Box 3398, J5W 4M9, Canada

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'Quadra' rose (*Rosa kordesii* Wulff.) is a winter-hardy climbing rose with a spreading-type growth habit and dark-red flowers. 'Quadra' flowers repeatedly from June to September and is resistant to powdery mildew [causal agent: *Sphaerotheca pannosa* (Wallr. ex Fr.) Lev.] and blackspot (causal agent: *Diplocarpon rosae* Wolf.) in Canada [or U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) hardiness zones]. Although this climber resembles 'John Davis' and 'William Baffin', the many-petalled, deep-red flowers it produces makes it unique among hardy climbers. The red tinge that develops in newly opened leaves adds to its attractiveness.

Origin

'Quadra' rose was derived from a cross between B08, a complex hybrid between tender and hardy lines, and U11, a hardy pink climber (Fig. 1). The seed parent was derived from a cross between A15, a hybrid of 'Queen Elizabeth', and 'Arthur Bell' and D36, a hybrid between an unregistered breeding line developed by Robert Simonet of Alberta and the German shrub rose 'Von Scharnhorst'. The pollen parent, U11, originated from 'Red Dawn', an open-pollinated seedling of the climber 'New Dawn' and 'Suzanne', a hybrid of *R. laxa* Retz. and *R. spinosissima* L. Winterhardiness observed in 'Quadra' is derived from *R. laxa* Retz. and *R. spinosissima*, both hardy species from northern Europe and Asia (Svejda, 1988).

Description

'Quadra' rose (Fig. 2) has a spreading-type growth habit such that branches of 5-year-old plants reach 1.8 ± 0.03 m in height with a spread of 1.0 ± 0.2 m at L'Assomption, Québec. The dark-red unopened bud of 'Quadra' changes to a deep-red No. 46A [Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), 1966] at the blossom stage and later fades to light red (RHS No. 46D) in the fully opened flower. Flowers average 80 ± 10 mm in diameter, have an average of 66 ± 4 petals per flower, and are borne in clusters of one to four inflorescences. The upper and lower petal surface colors are classified as 46A and 46D in the red group (RHS).

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surface and 147B on the abaxial surface (i.e., yellow-green). There are 10 ± 2 thorns/100 mm of stem.

Performance

'Quadra' rose has been tested at Ottawa, Ontario, for 2 years (1985–87) and 3 years (1988–91) at L'Assomption, Québec. Both sites are in the Canadian plant hardiness zone 5a (Ouellet and Sherk, 1967) or USDA zone 4 (Cathey and Heriteau, 1990). This hardy rose has survived test winters to -35 °C without protection (except natural snow cover) with only slight tip kill of younger shoots.

This rose is easily propagated when soft-wood cuttings taken at the bud stage are dipped in rooting powder (Stimroot #2, 0.4% indolebutyric acid; Plant Products, Bramalea, Ontario) and placed under mist for 3 to 4 weeks at 20 to 25 °C. As with all other "Ex-

Petals have a white spot at the base. This rose has low female fertility and flowers only occasional form fruit ("hips") under open pollination. The foliage is vigorous, dark-green (RHS No. 147A) glossy and leathery leaves possessing a red tinge (RHS No. 46A). The ovate, acuminate, and dentate leaflets number three to seven and are 45 ± 5 mm long and 25 ± 3 mm wide. Its leaf color is 147A on the adaxial

Fig. 1. Pedigree of 'Quadra' rose (OP = open pollination of germplasm).

Fig. 2. The winter-hardy shrub rose, 'Quadra'. The plant is ≈ 1.8 m high and 1 m wide.

plorer"-type roses, 'Quadra' should be grown on its own roots (Ogilvie and Arnold, 1995).

Availability

'Quadra' has been registered with the Canadian Ornamental Plant Foundation (COPF), Ontario. Royalties are collected and propagation material is being maintained by the director, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Que-

bec. Limited amounts of propagation stock are available to nurseries with COPF membership, and American commercial requests should be made to Bailey Nurseries, 1325 Bailey Rd., St. Paul, MN 55109.

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