

No. 7

NOVEMBER 1975

THE INTERNATIONAL CAMELLIA JOURNAL

国際ツバキ協会

KOKUSAI TSUBAKI KYOKAI
SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE DU CAMELLIA
SOCIETÀ INTERNAZIONALE DELLA CAMELIA
INTERNAZIONALE KAMELIENGESELLSCHAFT



FRAGRANCE IS HERE TO STAY

KEN HALLSTONE
Lafayette, Calif., U.S.A.

In my article in the International Camellia Society's 1974 Journal, a plea was made for hybridizers throughout the camellia-growing world to contribute to development of a show-quality flower possessing pleasing fragrance.¹ Hybridizers from five different countries other than the United States responded, and have now embarked on a breeding program for floral fragrance. My thanks and congratulations to each of them. This is a report from the five countries. Here in the United States, more than ten people are seriously working in this field. If you are sincerely interested in starting a program for floral fragrance, contact the representative in your country.

In **Australia**, Tom Savige, Lavington, N.S.W., reports that little work has been done to date with breeding for fragrance. As a result of his recent trip to Pensacola, Florida, and through contact with Dr. William Ackerman and others, he now has most of the significant fragrant hybrids developed over the past fifteen years. These he will cross on some of Australia's fragrant clones such as 'Brodie's Pink', 'Odoratissima', 'Glad Rags', 'Party Girl' and others. Tom aims to promote a special section for fragrant cultivars in the E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden near Sydney, and a similar section in the newly developing Camellia Garden at Olinda, near Melbourne. These, he feels would act as a reservoir for breeders of fragrance throughout Australia.

One response to my plea came from Dr. James Smart, Barnstaple, Devonshire, **England**. He also reports that little hybridizing for fragrance has been done in England, but is willing to give it a try. He now has grafts of most of the basic fragrant hybrid clones and will be able to start his program. Two fragrant clones immediately available to him are japonica 'Barbara Mary' and saluenensis 'Bow Bells'. Undoubtedly by asking around, he will discover many others.

In **Japan**, where it all started, Yoshiaki Andoh responded to the call. He lists four fragrant seed-setting Higos that will be part of his program, and recommends them for others to use. They are:

'Akatsuki-no-Kaori' (Fragrance in the Dawn)

Soft Pink turns White as the bloom ages. Medium to large, single. Leaves 3½" x 1½". Compact upright growth.

'Nioi-fubuki' (Scented Snowstorm)

White streaked Rose Pink, medium to large, single with a cluster of gold stamens. Leaves 3½" x 2", compact upright growth.

'Tama-ikari' (Precious Anchor)

Pale Pink at base shading to deeper Pink at edge, small, single, non-Higo type. Leaves 3½" x 2", compact upright growth.

'Tenkoh' (Fragrance in Heaven)

Pale Pink, medium single.

He too, has grafts of the best of the *C. lutchuensis* hybrids, and will be using them when mature on the many fragrant clones that exist in Japan.

In **New Zealand**, Jim Finlay of Whangarei has collected a supply of fragrant *lutchuensis* hybrids similar to those of Tom Savige's, and can be counted on as a source of scion material for his fellow countrymen. He has made two crosses of his own that should be mentioned: *C. japonica* 'Tiffany' x *C. lutchuensis*, and *C. japonica* 'Betty Sheffield Supreme' x *C. lutchuensis*. When these plants mature and bloom, he will evaluate the flowers and fit them into his breeding program.

Leslie Riggall of Esponente, **Portugal**, reports that breeding for fragrance is a new concept in Portugal and Spain. He has acquired and introduced to these countries many fragrant clones with which he is working. Some of the japonicas are: 'Arome', 'Fragrant Frill', 'Violet Bouquet'. Of the fragrant hybrids he has 'Alice K. Cutter', 'Fragrant Pink Improved', 'Virginia W. Cutter' and several additional un-named clones.

Our ebullience for floral fragrance through articles, speeches and discussion has not been in vain. Three Northern California Camellia Societies offered a section for competition in shows for the best fragrant cultivars. Although the rules of entry and judging varied among the shows, it was a first, and they are to be commended.

At Santa Clara County Camellia Society at San Jose, ten exhibitors displayed twenty-five flowers. The trophy was awarded to a Dr Clifford Parks un-named hybrid # 18E (3) which is *C. japonica* 'Snowbell' x *C. lutchuensis*. It is blush in color, small and single, possessing lutchuensis fragrance.

At the Northern California Camellia Society show in Concord, the Dr Robert K Cutter Memorial Trophy was won by Woodford Harrison's hybrid seedling *C. japonica* 'Mrs Bertha Harms' x Dave Feathers' 'Salab' (hybrid 'Apple Blossom' x *C. saluenensis*). This is a 4" flower, deep pink, semi-double, with golden anthers, possessing the fragrance of 'Apple Blossom'. Six exhibitors benched fifteen flowers in this show.

In the Modesto show, Barbara Butler staged a sophisticated and well planned competition; details have been reported in February 1975 issue of the Camellia Review.² Twenty-three flowers were exhibited; ten varieties of japonica and seven seedlings.

The japonica 'Scentsation' a silvery pink, large peony flower was selected as the best fragrant flower.

What can you do to expand interest in *your* area? FRAGRANCE IS HERE TO STAY!

Literature Cited:

1. Hallstone, Ken *World-Wide Search for Fragrance* I.C.S. Journal No. 6 November 1974 p.7.
2. Butler, Barbara *Fragrant Camellias* The Camellia Review, February 1975 No. 4 p.20.

Camellias for Europe and Japan

WE HAVE A COLLECTION OF OVER 500 VARIETIES AND HYBRIDS, AND OUR INCREASING EXPERIENCE OF THEIR MERITS ENABLES US TO RECOMMEND THE BEST OF THE NEWER CAMELLIAS FOR DIFFERENT CLIMATES AND SPECIAL PURPOSES.

We have available many of the new reticulata varieties and hybrids.

We can supply excellent plants, in pots, from 20 cm to 150 cm in height.

We export by airfreight to Japan, Italy, Greece, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Eire, Holland, Spain and Malta, and by road or air to France.

Catalogue free on request from

J. TREHANE & SONS LTD

Staplehill Road, Hampreston, Wimborne,
Dorset BH21 7 NE, ENGLAND