



**Emerald Goddess Gardens**

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Botanical Name	Rosa Chinensis
Common Name	Louis Phillippe
Plant Family	Rosocea
Mature Size	6'x6'
Bloom Color	Dark Pink
Bloom Period	Perpetual
Boom Form	Loose Double
Water	Moderate
Light	Best in full sun
USDA Zone	7 to10
Fragrance	Light
Uses	Hedge, Specimen, Potted
Special Features	Easy care, disease resistant,prolific bloomer



No old southern rose garden would be complete without a **Louis Phillippe**. This old China cross rose is so associated with the south that its commonly called the *Cracker Rose*. It was likely introduced into the Southeastern United States by Texas politician, Lorenzo de Zavala, who was Minister to France in the 1830s. He planted it at his home in Lynchburg, Texas near Houston. The rose was originally hybridized by the well known French rose breeder, Guerin in 1834, and was named in honor of Louis Philippe, King of the French, who had returned to France around this time after a long period of political exile.

The flowers Louis Phillippe loose doubles colored a deep rose red with a hint of lighter blush pink in the center. The flowers will sometimes have a white stripe through the petals, a trait which is often seen in the old China roses. The bush grows to be between 3 to 6 feet tall depending on climate. It is considered hardy in Zone 7 and south.

It is a repeat bloomer and is lightly fragrant, rated at about 4 to 6 on smell scale of 1 to10. The flowers are often an ingredient in old southern recipes for rose syrups, rose flavored waters and sugars. Sugar coated petals were often placed on a fancy table for special events like weddings. The flowers are moderately long lasting when cut and the stems are long enough for nice loose casual cut arrangements as well

Louis Phillippe is sometimes confused with '*Cramoisi Superieur*', and they appear very similar. Louis Phillippe seems to be more compact and shows more variation in color within the flowers

The popularity of this rose throughout the south in 1940's to 1960's is no doubt due to how easy and rewarding it is to grow, as it bears flowers profusely and often, with very little effort. Louis Phillippe is very self curing. As with all roses, it will develop some black spot when conditions are right for it (heat & humidity) but generally self cures without assistance by shedding off the effected leaves as weather conditions improve. These excellent traits are no doubt the reason Louis Phillippe was selected by Texas A&M for their *Earth Kind*™ list of recommended roses.

For the best results with your new Louis Phillippe Rose:

- Pot the starter into a larger pot and allow it to grow a bit before setting it out. When the new pot has filled with roots:
- Plant it in well draining, fertile soil. Amend the planting area with high quality compost as is needed/
- Locate in full sun (Most all roses need at least 5 hours of full sun each day to bloom well).
- Feed a high quality slow release rose food every 3-4 months.
- Provide adequate irrigation...irrigation that waters the roots (drip style) without wetting foliage is the better method for roses. Water thoroughly and allow to dry between watering. (Roses do not like wet feet).
- Deadhead spent flowers when possible. Roses always bloom on new growth, so deadheading spent blooms encourages branching and new blooms.
- Prune for shape and to maintain size after flowering. This particular rose can be pruned for shape at most any time, although pruning late in the fall should be avoided in Zone 7.
- In Zones 7 and 8A, plan to plant early in the season and mulch heavily well ahead of the first freeze.
- Relax, enjoy and *Smell The Roses!*

For quick answers to growing and planting questions, just email us at [emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com](mailto:emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com). Visit our website at <http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com> to check your USDA Zone.