

## David Rustons' Worldwide Plebiscite of the Ten Best Tea Roses

April 2009

### Final Results - World

Rank	Points	Rose	Breeder
1	196	Monsieur Tillier	Bernaix, France, 1891
2	168	Comtesse de Labarthe	Bernède, France, 1857
3	153	Lady Hillingdon	Lowe & Shawyer, UK, 1910
4	135	G. Nabonnand	G.Nabonnand, France, 1888
5	101	Général Galliéni	G.Nabonnand, France, 1899
6	93	Sombreuil	Robert, France, 1851
7	77	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot	Bernaix, France, 1897
8	75	Francis Dubreuil	Introduced
9	73	Safrano	Beauregard, France, 1839
10	62	Anna Olivier	Ducher, France, 1872
11	56	Baronne Henriette Snoy	Bernaix, France, 1897
12	52	Mrs. B.R.Cant	B.R.Cant, UK, 1901
13	50	Mrs Dudley Cross	W.Paul, UK, 1907
14	44	Marie Van Houtte	Ducher, France, 1871
15	43	Maman Cochet	Scipion Cochet, France, 1892

### Final Results - Australia

Rank	Points	Rose	Breeder
1	198	Monsieur Tillier	Bernaix, France, 1891
2	164	Comtesse de Labarthe	Bernède, France, 1857
3	135	Lady Hillingdon	Lowe & Shawyer, UK, 1910
4	112	Général Galliéni	G. Nabonnand, France, 1899
5	90	G. Nabonnand	G. Nabonnand, France, 1888
6	88	Devoniensis	Foster, UK, 1838
7	85	Mrs.B.R.Cant	B.R.Cant, UK, 1901
8	72	Rosette Delizy	P. Nabonnand, France, 1922
9	63	Anna Olivier	Ducher, France, 1872
10	51	Safrano	Beauregard, France, 1839
11	49	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot	Bernaix, France, 1897

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12	48	Marie Van Houtte	Ducher, France, 1871
13	14	Sombreuil	Introduced

*Comtesse de Labarthe, syn Duchesse de Brabant*

*Mlle de Sombreuil and Sombreuil, the first rose is a shrub, the second rose is a climber.*

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### The final results of the Australian States

**South Australia** - 47 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	49	Lady Hillingdon	Christine Butcher, <i>Murray Bridge</i> Walter Duncan, <i>Clare</i> Margaret Furness, <i>Mount Barker</i> Trevor Nottle, <i>Stirling</i> Jean Reid, <i>Albert Park</i> Maureen Ross, <i>Willunga</i> David Ruston, <i>Renmark</i> Pat Toolan, <i>Angaston</i>
2	39	Comtesse de Labarthe	
3	35	Monsieur Tillier	
4	32	Devoniensis	
5	25	Mrs B.R.Cant	
6	17	Rosette Delizy	
7	14	Sombreuil	
8	13	Marie Van Houtte	
	13	Safrano	
9	12	Mme Antoine Mari	
10	11	Mrs Herbert Stevens	

**Western Australia** - 30 varieties mentioned by 6 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	37	G. Nabonnand	Lynne Chapman, <i>Pinjarra</i> Noelene Drage, <i>Northampton</i> Di Durston, <i>Mt Nasura</i> Jenny Jones, <i>Como</i> Hillary Merrifield, <i>Rockingham</i> Billy West, <i>Wattle Grove</i>
2	34	Anna Olivier	
3	30	Monsieur Tillier	
4	20	Général Galliéni	
5	18	Lady Hillingdon	
6	17	David's Dilemma	
7	14	Mme Antoine Mari	
8	14	Octavus Weld	
9	11	Maman Cochet	
10	9	Safrano	
	9	Comtesse de Labarthe	

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**Victoria** - 31 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

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<b>Rank</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Rose</b>	<b>Rosarians</b>
1	54	Monsieur Tillier	Sophie Adamson, <i>Frankston</i> Geoff Crowhurst, <i>Thornbury</i> Di Fickling, <i>Mt Waverley</i> Ailsa Hemphill, <i>Main Ridge</i> Wal Johnson, <i>Werribee</i> John Nieuwesteeg, <i>Coldstream</i> Elizabeth Pontifex, <i>Mornington</i> Shirley Yates, <i>Mt Martha</i>
2	41	Général Galliéni	
3	30	Devoniensis	
4	30	Comtesse de Labarthe	
5	21	Marie Van Houtte	
6	21	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot	
7	19	Lady Huntingfield (HT)	
8	17	Général Schablikine	
9	14	Lady Hillingdon	
10	13	Rosette Delizy	

**Queensland** - 40 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Rose</b>	<b>Rosarians</b>
1	44	Comtesse de Labarthe	Barbara Beerling, <i>Alderley</i> Bonita Cattell, <i>Highfields</i> Julie Lack, <i>Southbrook</i> Robert Lassig, <i>Bunderberg</i> Penny McKinley, <i>Pittsworth</i> Jenny O'Brien-Lutton, <i>Annerley</i> Dr Michael Simpson, <i>Mountville</i> Ron Treloar, <i>Cooroy</i>
2	42	Rosette Delizy	
3	38	Mrs B.R.Cant	
4	33	Monsieur Tillier	
5	29	Anna Olivier	
6	24	G. Nabonnand	
7	21	Maman Cochet	
8	15	Général Galliéni	
9	14	Marie Van Houtte	
10	12	Safrano	
	12	Mme Lambard	
	12	Lady Hillingdon	

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**New South Wales** - 36 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

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Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	30	Marie Van Houtte	Gillian Batchen, <i>Bayview</i> Steve Beck, <i>Fitzroy Falls</i> Peter Cox, <i>Mittagong</i> Kate Cox, <i>Mittagong</i> Heather Hastie, <i>Leura</i> Coleen Houston, <i>Hay</i> Sue Kingsford, <i>Fitzroy Falls</i> Barbara May, <i>Engadine</i> Kathie Mills, <i>Orange</i>
2	29	Comtesse de Labarthe	
3	22	Mrs B.R.Cant	
	22	Lady Hillingdon	
4	21	Sombreuil	
5	20	G. Nabonnand	
6	19	Monsieur Tillier	
7	18	Maman Cochet	
8	16	Souvenir de Léonie Viennot	
9	15	Général Galliéni	
10	11	Mrs Dudley Cross	

### Tasmania - 23 varieties mentioned by 4 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	27	Monsieur Tillier	Susan Irvine, <i>Deloraine</i> Wendy Langton, <i>Latrobe</i> Lilia Weatherly, <i>Austins Ferry</i> Diana Ward, <i>Kingston</i>
2	26	Devoniensis	
3	21	Général Galliéni	
4	20	Lady Hillingdon	
5	17	Safrano	
6	13	Comtesse de Labarthe	
7	12	Souvenir de Léonie Viennot	
8	9	G.Nabonnand	
9	8	Papa Gontier	
	8	Francis Dubreuil	
10	7	Lorraine Lee	

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### Final Results from Overseas

**U.S.A.** - 46 varieties mentioned by 8 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	35	Comtesse de Labarthe	Claude Graves, <i>Texas</i> Virginia Kean, <i>California</i> Ruth Knopf, <i>Charleston</i> Greg Lowery, <i>California</i> Malcolm Manners, <i>Florida</i> Jill Perry, <i>California</i> Ron Robertson, <i>California</i> Gene Waering, <i>Florida</i>
2	27	Mrs B.R.Cant	
3	26	Baronne Henriette Snoy	
4	26	Mme Joseph Schwartz	
5	25	Lady Hillingdon	
6	18	Monsieur Tillier	
7	17	Mrs Dudley Cross	
8	15	Maman Cochet	
9	14	Angels Camp Tea	
10	12	Marie Van Houtte	
	12	Général Galliéni	
	12	Miss Caroline	

**Bermuda** - 19 varieties mentioned by 5 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	38	Rosette Delizy	Liesbeth Cooper Sally Madden Betsey Mowbray Marijke Peterich Clare Russell
2	33	Mrs Dudley Cross	
3	32	Comtesse de Labarthe	
4	28	Papa Gontier	
5	25	Mme Lambard	
6	19	Safrano	
7	16	Mrs B.R.Cant	
8	14	Anna Olivier	
9	11	Monsieur Tillier	
10	11	Baronne Henriette Snoy	



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**New Zealand** - 39 Varieties mentioned by 12 contributors

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Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	77	Monsieur Tillier	Sally Allison, <i>Christchurch</i> Lloyd Chapman, <i>Otaki</i> Patricia Dungan, <i>Auckland</i> Hawkes' Bay Region Jill Henderson, <i>Auckland</i> Jocelen Janon, <i>Auckland</i> Elysse Jones, <i>Whakatane</i> Nancy Jordan, <i>Auckland</i> Joanne Knight, <i>Katikati</i> George Pratt, <i>Tasman Bay</i> Taranaki Region Wellington Region
2	74	G. Nabonnand	
3	68	Général Galliéni	
4	51	Comtesse de Labarthe	
5	33	Lady Hillingdon	
6	33	Francis Dubreuil	
7	24	Anna Olivier	
8	24	Sombreuil	
9	21	Safrano	
10	19	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot	
	19	Baronne Henriette Snoy	

### Italy - 40 Varieties mentioned by 6 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	40	Monsieur Tillier	Helga Brichet, <i>Umbria</i> Maria Giulia Cimarelli, <i>Giardino</i> Paola Lungaroni, <i>Le Rose</i> Dr Stefano Marzullo, <i>Rome</i> Dr Paolo Parigi, <i>Liguria</i> Dr Melissa Pejrano, <i>Genova</i>
2	30	Clementina Carbonieri	
3	24	Anna Olivier	
4	23	Général Schablikine	
5	19	Lady Hillingdon	
	19	Safrano	
6	18	Mme de Watteville	
7	16	Mme Antoine Mari	
8	16	Mme Emilie Charron	
9	14	Lorraine Lee	
10	13	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot	

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**France** - 40 Varieties mentioned by 7 contributors

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Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	30	Sombreuil	Lucie Deschandol, <i>Lyon</i> Fabien Ducher, <i>Châteauneuf</i> John Hook, <i>Aignan</i> Marielle Jourdan, <i>Isère</i> Odile Masquellier, <i>Lyon</i> Dominique Massad, <i>Marseille</i> Simone Rinaudo, <i>Sud France</i>
2	19	G. Nabonnand	
3	16	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Viennot	
	16	Marie Van Houtte	
4	15	Lady Hillingdon	
5	14	Maman Cochet	
6	13	Clg Paul Lédé	
7	11	Noëlla Nabonnand	
8	10	Mme la Comtesse de Caserta	
	10	Etoile de Lyon	
	10	Mme Bravy	
	10	Marie Ducher	
9	9	Mme Caroline Testout	
10	8	Maréchal Niel	

### Japan - 34 Varieties mentioned by 7 contributors

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	33	Lady Hillingdon	Mrs Midori Goto, <i>Tokyo</i> Dr Yuki Mikanagi, <i>Tokyo</i> Mr Hironobu Mitomi, <i>Tokyo</i> Mrs Kazuko Nomura, <i>Tokyo</i> Mr Jiro Ogawa, <i>Tokyo</i> Mr Ken Osanai, <i>Tokyo</i> Mrs Ayako Takagi, <i>Tokyo</i>
2	30	Comtesse de Labarthe	
3	28	The Bride	
4	20	Monsieur Tillier	
5	20	Mme Antoine Mari	
6	13	Rival de Paestum	
7	12	Francis Dubreuil	
8	12	Tipsy Imperial Concubine	
9	11	Safrano	
10	10	Humes Blush Tea-Scented China	

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**South Africa** - 27 Varieties mentioned by 5 contributors

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Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	26	Maman Cochet	Fay Clayton, <i>Pietermaritzburg</i> Gwen Fagan, <i>Cape Town</i> Heather Leppan, <i>Somerset East</i> Barbara Long, <i>Fort Beaufort</i> Vernon Marais, <i>Grahamstown</i>
2	21	Général Galliéni	
3	20	Comtesse de Labarthe	
4	19	G. Nabonnand	
5	18	Perle des Jardin	
6	17	Marie Van Houtte	
7	16	Archimedes	
8	15	Homere	
9	14	Humes Blush Tea-Scented China	
10	13	Souvenir de Mme Léonie Vienott	

### India - 10 Varieties mentioned by 1 contributor

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarian
1	10	Lady Hillingdon	Viru Viraraghavan, <i>Tamilnadu</i>
2	9	Mrs B R Cant	
3	8	Mme Falcot	
4	7	Faith Whittlesly	
5	6	Krishn's Peach	
6	5	Garnet Crest	
7	4	G. Nabonnand	
8	3	Humes Blush.....G. Fagan	
9	2	Clementina Carbonieri	
10	1	Rosette Delizy	

### Madiera - 10 Varieties mentioned by 1 contributor

Rank	Points	Rose	Rosarians
1	10	Adam	Miguel Albuquerque
2	9	Monsieur Tillier	

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3	8	Comtesse de Caserta
4	7	Général Schablikine
5	6	Belle Lyonnaise
6	5	Lady Hillingdon
7	4	Papa Gontier
8	3	Safrano
9	2	Clementina Carbonieri
10	1	Gloire de Dijon

## **David Rustons' Worldwide Plebiscite of the Ten Best Tea Roses**

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With the Tea Rose Top Ten selections we received some very interesting comments and have included some of them here for your enjoyment. Marie Van Houtte has been included, as it was almost in the top ten, with many fans that sing its praises.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who kindly gave their time to complete this plebiscite, the experience has been very rewarding and enjoyable.

### **MONSIEUR TILLIER**

Noelene Drage, Australia

Very Prolific, continuous bearer: warm rich colour combinations. Strong big bush, very heat tolerant – a valuable rose

Nancy Jordan, New Zealand

Always a prolific flowering, strong grower.

Maureen Ross, Australia

One of the most consistently formed blooms of perfectly circular cupped blooms, which are regularly quilled to the centre. The changing colours in our Australian climate are from carmine-red, shaded brick-red with a violet haze, or sometimes shaded buff to the centre. Stunning.

Jean Reid, Australia

Flowers so well with its coppery pink shades and perfume. Always a favorite with the public.

Miguel Albuquerque, Madiera

Its bright colours catches everyone's attention, the way the petals often curl and form points and the colour's transformation along its period of bloom.

### **Comtesse de Labarthe**

Walter Duncan, Australia.

We grow the pink and the white cultivars. The nodding cupped flowers in either pearly pink or soft white, tinged with the palest pink, are strongly tea scented. These plants need no pruning except for removal of dead wood. Comtesse de Labarthe produces its best exquisite flowers in early October when the weather is cool. I pruned in winter, then the flowering will be later in spring and the flowers will not be as well formed. Grows to about 1.5 m high and wide.

Billy West, Australia

Healthy and vigorous, with lovely nodding, globular flowers and a shapely habit. Attractive, healthy foliage and continuous blooms make it an excellent garden shrub. Fragrant. No faults. The climbing sport is equally good.

Hillary Merrifield, Australia

So generous with its almost perpetual cascade of nodding shell-pink bells.

Lynne Chapman, Australia

Never without flowers in my garden, even in the hottest weather.

Jocelen Janon, New Zealand

She flowers in my peach tree and the contrast with the flowers is very beautiful. Also her beautiful cupped flowers are secretly used by the garden fairies, mostly at tea time.



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### LADY HILLINGDON

Sally Allison, New Zealand

Unsurpassed in this colour, and fragrant as well

Di Durston, Australia

Has the most lovely, loosely double, apricot to old gold coloured blooms and deservedly popular since its introduction in 1910. Both wood and foliage are of remarkable beauty, very clean and disease resistant. The colour of the new wood and new shoots is purple. The scent is a fruity apricot.

Kate and Peter Cox, Australia

The only true yellow Tea rose, although it can fade to white in very hot weather; both the bush and the climber are well worth growing for the red flush in new foliage to contrast the yellow gold of the opening flowers.

Miguel Albuquerque, Madiera

The rich warm yellow and beautiful fragrance gives this flower an incredible beauty.

Pat Toolan, Australia

A survivor which withstood being moved when old with little root system. Flowers continuously on a healthy bush with nodding gold goblets.

### GENERAL GALLIENI

Gwen Fagan, South Africa

Every garden should have a Général Galliéni growing at the approach to the front door where passers-by or visitors can enjoy its spectacular red/orange blooms. I plant Rosa Chinensis mutabilis with it as both have the same yellow to maroon flowers and the heavy flowers of the General are very effectively offset against the delicate bunches of the smaller China roses, which can grow up to 4meters tall. These two will never tire of producing new flowers and can be especially useful as end vistas to paths or to blot out unsightly views. I like to plant a ceanothus close behind them and Canterbury Bells at their feet, to offset the vibrant mass of colour with a softer contrasting blue.

Hillary Merrifield, Australia

The different combinations of strong unusual colours and rough-hewn flowers continually surprise me.

Wendy Langton, Tasmania

Resplendently complex, quartered and crowded with innumerable petals of cream and buff and coppery red and crimson which burst out of the constraints of the bud like fluttering tricorn plumes.

### G. Nabonnand

Sally Allison, New Zealand

Purity of this delightful rose is irresistible. With me will climb with encouragement or very happy as a bush.

Billy West, Australia

Exquisitely lovely form and colour. Rarely without a flower. Winter blooms are especially beautiful. Thornless stems. An excellent cut flower. Slow to establish but worth the wait. Can be troubled by mildew when plant is young. Warm fruity fragrance.

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Fay Clayton, South Africa

This is definitely one of my all time favourite roses – I just love the loosely double flowers with their soft pinky apricot flowers – and of course repeat tendencies. This again was found in Eshowe, and for a long time we called it Martha because it is so thornless.

### **Anna Olivier**

Di Durston, Australia

Shaded salmon with the petal base of terracotta and may also be buff. Very clean foliage and growing to a large bush. A distinct lovely variety, beautiful in a bowl. Flowers large, full and well made.

Noelene Drage, Australia

Few thorns; their colour enhances the terra-cotta of the mud brick used in my house

Billy West, Australia

Has wonderful foliage that makes a perfect foil for the beautiful blooms that come in shades from palest yellow to deep terracotta. Fragrant and healthy. Quick to repeat.

### **Rosette Delizy**

Hillary Merrifield, Australia

Flourishes in my warm garden where it produces wave after wave of red and yellow flowers.

Sally Allison, New Zealand

Charming always in flower. Was not available in NZ but a chance discovery in an unexpected place, I grew it from a cutting.

### **Safrano**

Di Durston, Australia

Flowers saffron to apricot in the bud stage then changing to pale buff with age. Very prolific and repeats quickly, is hardy and drought tolerant. Safrano is a very early tea 1839 and has remained popular since its introduction. Sets many hips.

Jenny Jones, Australia

High on my list. Magnificent when doubling occurs in spring and autumn. Lovely apricot to buff colour. Good healthy bush.

### **Mrs B R Cant**

Chris Butcher, Australia

A lovely pink dense petalled flower and a plant that rewards with continuous flowers

Lynne Chapman, Australia

Pretty rose pink flowers, vigorous and very fragrant.

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### DEVONIENSIS

Maureen Ross, Australia

Quite charming large fragrant flowers of creamy-apricot to blush pink, paling to ivory, open flat and ruffled. Although the bush is rather shorter than most Teas the climber is vigorous and a sheer delight when dribbling out of trees or over pergolas.

Billy West Australia

For its tenacity, its healthy foliage and the beauty and fragrance of its blooms. Flowers all year round. Shrub is slow to establish but very long lived. Like most Teas it just gets better with age. Climbing sport grows strongly and gets very large but produces those gorgeous flowers as continuously as the shrub

Gillian Batchen, Australia

I grow this rose as a shrub from a cutting from my husband's grandparents' grave in Rookwood Cemetery- so for sentimental reasons, and after a slow start it now flowers well for me though I'm told the climbing form does better.

### MARIE VAN HOUTTE

Gwen Fagan, South Africa

I never cease to be astonished at the way rose plants thrive and blossom in the most neglected of situations. Marie Van Houtte caught my eye one day in a derelict garden in the small town of Riversdale. The shrub was about two meters high, overgrown with weeds, but with bright green leaves, and covered in flowers varying from cream to crimson, it made a brave show. I took a few slips which thrived, and were soon distributed to various heritage gardens. When well cared for and loved, these plants surpassed themselves, producing even in the cold Cape winters, masses of blooms right through the year. I plant it with Heliotrope, adding the cool blue to set off the warm colours and to blend two outstanding fragrances.

Trevor Nottle, Australia

Marie Van Houtte is the largest spreading Tea rose in my garden. No higher than 2m it is over 3m + wide in maturity. The dense twiggy growth, well clothed in pendant leaves is sun-proof despite its somewhat soft appearance. The production of flowers is prodigious. Each flower is soft creamy yellow with delicate pink shadings on the edges of the outermost petals, and can be borne individually or in clusters all over the shrub. Growing among the cut-leaf Afghan lilac and backed by Viburnum Juddii, with intense root competition it thrives fully exposed to the western afternoon sun.

Kathie Mills, Australia

Free flowering on a tall sprawling bush, this rose possesses exquisite buds, cream but flushed with cherry which open yielding the most perfect flower. Opening cream the centre is lemon while the outside petals retain their cherry colour. This double flower has the sweetest tea fragrance al all.