

Edward Rose (*Rosa Edouard*)

Varieties: Deshi, Cheenia and Kaithal

Cheenia and Deshi are also called *Baramasi* which means bearing flowers throughout the year. The *Cheenia gulab* of Kanauj has purple flowers with fragrance stronger than that of other cultivars of the Edward rose. The popularity of the cultivars of the Edward rose lies in that they flower for 10 months in N. India and throughout the year in the Southern States. Previously the Edward rose was used as a rootstock for bud grafting. Nowadays it is mostly replaced by *R. indica* (cv *Odorata*). The flowers of the E. rose are mainly used for making rose water, rose recipes and hair oils. They are also used in Ayurvedic drugs and cold drinks (*Thandai*). As a cut flower E. rose is used in making garlands and offering to deities in temples.

In south India the E. rose is popularly known as Rajapoo (in Tamil). In a number of places of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka the E. rose is grown for producing rose water. Tanjore being the largest centre of manufacturing rose water in the South.

The agro-technique as recommended for the Damask rose can be followed for the Edward rose. But it should be borne in mind that it needs more manure and fertilizer than any other rose. 200 kg of nitrogen per hectare in three split doses should be applied. A liberal amount of farmyard manure, say 10-12 tons per hectare, should be applied after pruning each season. For the soil preparation for planting the same quantity of manure is required. The phosphate and potash in the form of bonemeal and woodash respectively

The Edward rose blooms longer than the Damask rose. Besides the proper season (March-April) its flowering occurs for the second and the third times during monsoon (July-August) and autumn (October-November). In winter buds appear but do not open. In Peninsular India winter is not strong; for this reason the E. rose blooms there throughout the year.

The experiments at HBTI, Kanpur have proved that the quality of Otto produced from our roses (*Bussorah* and *Edward*) is not inferior to that of Bulgaria.