

Roseberry and Rosalyne

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The Quebec strawberry breeding program has been active in the development of hardy, disease and pest resistant June-bearing strawberry cultivars for the Quebec climate. Many of our released cultivars have improved hardiness and in several cases, they are resistant to diseases such as leaf spot, mildew, anthracnose, red stele and verticillium wilt, and are resistant to the tarnished plant bug. Since there was some interest from growers and home gardeners in growing day-neutral strawberry cultivars in Quebec, we added a new objective to our breeding program: the development of hardy, day-neutral cultivars for Quebec growing conditions. Of the seedlings produced so far, over 80 were hardy and day-neutral and also produced red flowers. We selected and backcrossed the most promising red-flowering seedlings with our advanced or semi-advanced lines and re-selected the ones which had the most interesting agronomic characteristics for home gardeners. The following advanced selections are the hardiest and have improved fruit size and quality, some resistance to diseases, and continuous flowering and fruiting from May 15 to the first frost.



SJ09625-86 (Roseberry)



This is the most advanced day-neutral selection in our breeding program: very hardy, disease resistant, with multiple crowns. Not very vigorous. Produces 5-6 stolons when grown in a heavy soil. Starts flowering in early May and continues until the first



Runners of SJ09625-86 in flower before producing roots



Flowers and Fruits of SJ09625-86

frost in the fall. The fruit are medium in size, not firm but very aromatic. The new runners produce flowers and fruit before rooting, making this selection a

good candidate for hanging baskets (Fig. 1). A limited number of plants are available for research purposes from the author (SK).

SJ09620-146

Day-neutral, hardy, with numerous large flowers and multiple crowns, good production of medium to small fruit which taste like wild



strawberries, produces very few stolons at our farm in L'Acadie. Flowers with multiple petals can be observed during the summer when the plants are grown in fertile soil.

SJ8920-76 (Rosalyne)

One of the smallest

strawberry selection in our

collection. Day-neutral, hardy, dwarf plant with light rosy red flowers and medium to large fruit which taste like wild strawberries, very few or no stolons produced, excellent for home gardeners. Tolerant to leaf diseases. Very early flowering which last until the first frost in fall

