



## Open letter to propagators and growers of cut-rose varieties

The signatories of this open letter are the leading companies in breeding cut-roses, organized in CIOPORA and IRBA, its Cut Rose Crop Section.

More and more, Rose breeders face situations where protected rose varieties are propagated without their prior authorization. Today, we would like to remind all propagators and/or cut rose growers that Plant Breeder's Rights provide to breeders/titleholders the exclusive right to propagate and sell their varieties.

The propagation or reproduction of a protected variety shall be made only upon prior written authorization of the titleholder of said variety, to avoid the possible illegal status of the propagated plant material.

The use and sales of plants, as well as cut flowers or any other part of the plant from an unauthorized source, constitute a violation of the Plant Breeder's Rights in the country where they are produced and also in the consuming country where cut roses are sold.

Everybody who propagates the said protected varieties without prior authorization infringes Plant Breeder's Rights. The so propagated plants and planted material are illegal and can be uprooted. Also, cut flowers harvested from the so propagated plants are illegal and can be stopped by customs at the borders of any territory or can be seized at points of sale, trade, or storage, where Plant Breeder's Rights and Trademarks are in force.

Consequently, CIOPORA and its Cut Rose Crop Section, IRBA, invite the persons and/or companies interested in the propagation of a protected variety to first always contact the breeder of the concerned variety in the view of seeking prior written approval and a corresponding license. If you are a grower, you can either source the rose plants from an authorized propagator or, if you wish to propagate the concerned varieties yourself at your own premises, ask for prior written authorization.

Do you have more questions? Each Rose Breeder signatory will be pleased to answer them.

**Breeder Signatories - Members of CIOPORA and the CIOPORA Crop Section IRBA/Cut Rose:** *David Austin Roses, Danziger „DAN“ Flower Farm, DeRuiter Innovations B.V., Dümmer Orange The Netherlands, E.G. Hill Co. Inc., Interplant Roses B.V., W. Kordes' Söhne Rosenschulen GmbH & Co. KG, Meilland International, NIRP International S.A., Plantas Continental S.A., Rosen Tantau KG, Schreurs Holland B.V., United Selections B.V.*



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