



## The Champion™ Sunblush Rose

*Rosa 'Meititika'*

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Group/Class: Shrub Rose

### Description:

A compact variety, blooming in flushes from late spring through the summer; yellow and pink buds open to reveal soft yellow blooms with pink edges before turning fully pink; excellent disease resistance; great for garden beds, borders and containers

### Ornamental Features

The Champion Sunblush Rose features showy fragrant semi-double yellow flowers with pink overtones at the ends of the branches from late spring to mid fall, which emerge from distinctive buttery yellow flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The glossy oval compound leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

### Landscape Attributes

The Champion Sunblush Rose is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting bees to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease
- Spiny

The Champion Sunblush Rose is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*The Champion Sunblush Rose flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

### **Planting & Growing**

The Champion Sunblush Rose will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

The Champion Sunblush Rose makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.