



American Peony Society selects 'Pietertje Vriend Wagenaar'

2018 Gold Medal Award / 2019 Peony of the Year

Lore Sampson, APS President



Peony 'Pietertje Vriend Wagenaar'

The American Peony Society is pleased to announce 'Pietertje Vriend Wagenaar' as the recipient of the 2018 Gold Medal and the 2019 Peony of the Year. Named for the registrant's mother, 'Pietertje Vriend Wagenaar' is a lactiflora peony that was introduced in 1996 by Nicholas J. Friend of Sunnyside, Washington. The original plant was a chance seedling in Friend's commercial cut-flower field, where it was discovered growing in close proximity to both 'Kansas' and 'Sarah Bernhardt'. While the true pedigree is unknown, the plant habit is identical to 'Kansas' with handsome dark green foliage, and sturdy stems that easily support its many blooms. The flowers are a lovely pink shade that is slightly lighter than 'Sarah Bernhardt' and heavily stippled with darker pink to create a flower of great beauty and distinction. Side-buds provide an extended bloom season. Abundant flowers, pleasing habit, and attractive foliage make this an exceptional choice for both the landscape and cutting garden.