



Singing in the Rain

SINGING IN THE RAIN– Donald Smith, 46 Exeter Street, West Newton, MA 02465, July 2002. Seedling # IC-93-06. Intersectional Hybrid (Herbaceous x Tree Peony). Seed Parent: *Paeonia lactiflora* variety **Martha Washington**. Pollen Parent: Advanced generation lutea tree peony hybrid, **Golden Era**. First bloomed 2000. Semi-double tree peony type flowers on herbaceous stems. Opening buds are pink. Flowers are yellow heavily flushed and suffused with pink when first open. From a distance, newly open flowers appear light orange. Mature flowers are a clear deep yellow with no flares. Occasional petals have dark pink streaks. Combination of the two color stages gives the overall plant a pretty two-tone effect. Flowers measure up to 6” in diameter. Carpels are light green with yellow stigma and number 3-4. Extremely floriferous due to several side buds per stem. Side bud flowers are of excellent quality and nearly as large as the terminal flowers. Massive numbers of flowers are displayed on upright to slightly arching stems just above and beyond the foliage, which virtually cover the entire plant thus making this a superb landscape variety. Flowers are virtually unaffected by heavy rain, thus the name. Plant is very hardy with stems entirely from below ground overwintering buds. Perfectly symmetric mound shape with a height of 36-40”. Excellent dark green foliage that lasts well into autumn. Mild but, very pleasant fragrance.



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