

# Wild Rose

*Rosa canina*

- ⊖ lack of interest, resignation, no love or point in life
- ⊕ spirit of joy and adventure



## INDICATION

Those who without apparently sufficient reason become resigned to all that happens, and just glide through life, take it as it is, without any effort to improve things and find some joy. They have surrendered to the struggle of life without complaint.

## AFFIRMATION

*Resignation, which makes one become merely an unobservant passenger on the journey of life, opens the door to untold adverse influences which would never have an opportunity of gaining admittance as long as our daily existence brought with it the spirit and joy of adventure.*



Much of life appears a struggle and in the face of difficulties some of us become resigned to our situation and give up any attempt to improve matters. This kind of resignation does not come through depression or defeat but because we surrender to the forces of inertia. We cannot be bothered. We lose interest in changing and since life is characterized by change we move towards death. When Bach discovered the Wild Rose remedy, which is for this condition, he contrasted it with the Vervain personality (see p.54). The Vervain type goes on fighting and, intolerant of life's shortcomings, they continually try to correct the failings of others. But the Wild Rose people, he said, lack such courage to assert themselves. As Vervain is an over-expression so Wild Rose is an under-expression. This can be seen in the flowers – Vervain 's are very small, facing horizontally, while the Wild Rose has flowers that face upwards to the sun, lying open and flat with broad heart-shaped petals. So they absorb more through their surface area and have great strength and vitality to give. The positive of the Wild Rose state has hope and joy so that we start to sing again. But more especially it has determination so that we renew our efforts to live. We feel like getting back to work.

Mentally we are reawakened and creative; we become purposeful.

Roses have been cultivated since ancient times. The sweet scent and beauty of the flowers have given it an especial attraction and a symbolism that has always been recognized. In the language of flowers roses speak to poets, lovers and mystics alike. Of course there are many thousands of varieties and each has its particular pattern but it is the simple Dog Rose which Bach chose. It straggles the hedgerows in midsummer, flowering when the sun is at its height. Blushed with pink the Wild Rose adorns the wayside displaying the great desire and love that life has for itself. It is this love for life which is in the positive remedy state. The flower which opens itself completely, basking in the delight of being, calls us to remember that we are as lovers in the daily round of life, awaiting meetings and adventure with a joyful anticipation.



# Wild Rose

*Rosa canina*

## LOCALITY

Wild Rose is a true native rose that grows throughout the country though it is more numerous in the south. It is the common briar of the hedgerow.



## IDENTIFICATION

The Wild or Dog Rose is a bushy perennial with arched and trailing stems up to about 4m. Curved thorns, which resemble a dog's canine tooth, are prominent on the otherwise smooth stalks. Leaves are pinnate with five or more usually seven leaflets with serrated edges. The flowers have five heart-shaped petals, large and flat (50mm), either white or pink.

The characteristic rosehip appears in autumn. Of the other field roses the Sweet Briar (*R. rubiginosa*) is more heavily scented with many sharp hairs on the stems; Trailing Rose (*R. arvensis*) like *R. stylosa* has a prominent united style in the middle of the flower; the Downy Rose (*R. tormentosa*) which is found mainly on chalk, has furry leaves.



### **FLOWERING PERIOD**

June and July.



### **PREPARATION**

Wild Rose is prepared by the boiling method (see p.202). Collect the roses from as many bushes as possible. The flowerheads with a short length of stalk and any leaves should be cut about 15cm in length, so as to fit the saucepan.