

Hepatica nobilis var. *pubescens*

This hepatica grows on the middle ridge of central Japan at altitudes of 300 - 800m. Exceptions are Mt. Ryuo with 920m and Mt. Unpenjii with 1050m above sea level. It has its own status in the Japanese hepatica society. With 28 chromosomes, it has twice as many as all other *H. nobilis* varieties, which bring it to 14. Its fingerprint with AFLP data of 70.4 also surpasses all other *Hepatica* species.

Example:

<i>H. nobilis</i> var. <i>pubescens</i>	70,4
<i>H. nobilis</i> var. <i>japonica</i>	35,3
<i>H. yamatutai</i>	57,9
<i>H. transsilvanica</i>	54,2
<i>H. x media</i> 'Prof. F. Hildebrand'	
Als Kreuzung aus <i>H. transsilvanica</i> x <i>H. nobilis</i> var. <i>pubescens</i> hat	61,7 AFLP-Daten

This fact is noticeable in the growth behavior. It is very agile in growth. It has twice the flower set per vegetative bud than the normals (normal 3-5 flowers, *pubescens* 5-9). The leaves and petioles are very sturdy. The leaves usually have a slight marbling. Their leaves are densely covered with very fine hairs. The newly developed leaves are dull and lack luster. The flowers usually have 6-10 oval petals and are up to 5 cm in diameter. The flower color is bicolor in most cases, either with a white eye or bicolor striped (see figure). Although in nature the color variety is like *H. nobilis* var. *japonica* f. *magna*, the existing cultivars are all in the white, pink and red color spectrum, e.g. 'Tenjinbai' or 'Hohobeni' are the two best known cultivars. Another peculiarity of *pubescens* should be mentioned, it often has red ovaries. Due to its many characteristics, this variety literally lends itself to be crossed with. In the future there will surely be some more beautiful varieties, at the moment this is:

Sophie Dupre´

Prof. Friedrich Hildebrand

Röttgersbütler Röschen

Max Leichtlien

Maria Sibylla Merian

Königin Luise

alle von M. Ahlburg gekreuzt

aus *H. transsilvanica* x *H. nobilis* var. *pubescens*

But selections can also be of good quality such as.

'Hirenbai', Tsumabeni and so on. I myself have been making selections and crosses with this variety for some time and can only say: it always amazes.

Own *pubescens*:

Super One, Super One-Red, Super One White-Red, Red no. 7-01, Red No. 8-01, Red No. 12-01, White No. 15-01, Pink No. 08-01



'Hirenbai'



'Red Nr. 12-01'



'Red Nr. 7-01'



` Weiß Nr. 15-01`



` Super One weiß-rot`



` Red Nr. 8-01`



` Super One Red`



` Rosa Nr. 08-01`



` Super One`