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THE COVER FLOWER

C. RETICULATA HYBRID 'DEBUT' *Courtesy Nuccio's Nurseries*

'DEBUT' is a chance seedling cross of *C. japonica* x *C. reticulata*. The seed pod was found on a reticulata plant and the seedling was propagated and bloomed in 1972 by Nuccio's Nurseries. The second year the bloom retained it's outstanding quality and it was given plant number 7303 in the nursery propagation lath house. Grafts of 7303 grew tall and upright with good foliage and in 1975 it was decided to go ahead with propagation for future release. 'DEBUT' was released in September 1977. The bloom is a very large ruffled petal, peony form with a bright, rose red color. The plant blooms mid-season to late.

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