Deutzia × rosea 'Nikko Blush'  
(NA74356; PI669442)

USDA Zones 5-8.

Development:  
'Nikko Blush' originated from a controlled cross made at the National Arboretum in 1987 between Deutzia gracilis ‘Nikko’ and Deutzia × rosea ‘Carminia’ with the intent of creating a pink-flowering selection that had the appealing compact growth habit of ‘Nikko’. Approximately 18 seedlings resulted from this cross, and propagules of three were sent for evaluation in 2005.

Significance:  
'Nikko Blush' was selected for its abundant pink-blushed flowers and flower buds that appear in late spring contrasting with medium-green foliage on a low-growing mounded shrub.

Description:  
**Height and width:** 3 feet high and 4.5 feet wide after four years in Washington, DC.  
**Habit:** Deciduous, low-mounded, somewhat spreading shrub with arching branches.  
**Foliage:** Fine-textured, medium green, willow-like leaves.  
**Flowers:** Profuse pink-blushed flowers in late April to early May, mildly fragrant.

Propagation:  
Propagates readily by softwood cuttings dipped in 1000-3000 ppm IBA under mist, with rooting occurring in 4-6 weeks. It also roots easily by natural layering.

Landscape Use:  
Flowering groundcover, massed on a wall or terrace, in the front of a shrub border, as a low-growing hedge, or as a container plant. Transplants readily and withstands pruning to rejuvenate or shape as needed.

Availability:  
Monrovia Growers, 18331 E. Foothill Blvd., Azusa, CA 91702; or contact Margaret Pooler, U.S. National Arboretum, 10300 Baltimore Ave., Bldg. 010A, Beltsville, MD 20705, Margaret.Pooler@ars.usda.gov

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November 2013