MORNING LOTUS

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First bloomed 2013, first propagated 2014. Parentage: 'Taff' open pollinated. Blooms mid-season. SEMI-DOUBLE flower form with a center of visible stamens. Rounded guard petals, the petals becoming progressively smaller towards the center. Blush pink flowers, 5½ inches (13½ cm) in size, one per stem. Center made up of pollen-bearing stamens with filaments yellow throughout. Carpels 4 in number, light green, moderately hairy, and are capable of seed production. Stigmas are blush pink with normal form. Slight fragrance. Early foliage green, matures green with broad-pointed leaflets. Height to 30 inches (75 cm). Strong stems with upright growth habit spreading to 24 inches (60 cm) without mechanical support. The soft blush petals with the center of stamens is reminiscent of a lotus flower that just came out in the morning, dancing in the lotus pond.