



The Georgia Rose



May - June 2014 Issue 72

Summer Secrets

by Ryan Tilley

When the weather gets hot, roses can look their worst. Here are a few secrets you can use to have the best blooms in the neighborhood.

Summer temperatures tend to limit the uptake of iron. Watch for new growth leaves with lighter green interveinal tissue and dark veins for an indication of iron deficiency. Apply 1 teaspoon of Sequestrene 330 Fe chelated iron (or other liquid iron products) per gallon at the rate of one-two gallon per bush) or ¼ cup Milorganite to correct.

Apply one cup of gypsum every other month to larger bushes, one half cup for smaller bushes. Epsom salts can be applied at one cup per large bush every other month and one half-cup per smaller bushes. Sul-Po-Mag (sulfur, potassium and magnesium) can be applied to bushes every month at the rate of one-half cup per month for larger bushes, one-fourth cup for smaller bushes . Lastly, Milorganite, which is high in nitrogen, can be applied at one cup per month for large bushes and one-half cup for smaller ones.

Growing roses in large pots? You can help keep the soil cool by putting the pot with the rose in another larger pot. This will eliminate the sun hitting the pot and increasing the soil temperature. Putting the pot in half sun/half shade also helps keep the soil cooler and moister.

To help avoid spray burn, tap the bushes lightly with a stick or spray wand to shake off any excess spray that may pool on leaf surfaces.

Large bushes can be blown over by summertime storms or they may tilt to one side due to their own weight. Take a brick and place under the bud union to prop the bush up. Get some large 7 or 8 foot stakes and secure the bush. Keep the brick there for the extra support.

Want the biggest blooms, pinch off the side buds of hybrid teas when you first see them. If you want each bloom on a floribunda spray to bloom at the same time, pinch out the middle bud when you first see it.

Want the greenest foliage, wash the foliage during the heat of the day either by hand or by overhead watering. Also, add 1 tsp of Peter's 20-20-20 or liquid seaweed to your fungicide spray mix. This gives a quick shot of nutrients to leaves.

Alfalfa tea is a great way to nourish your roses and give them a boost to help produce great September and October blooms. See recipe on page 23.

Be alert for spider mites. Dull foliage, dirty undersides of leaves, and bronzing on leaf edges are dead giveaways that mites are present. Use one or two miticides and ovicides to get rid of them.. They will not go away on their own.

A sudden drooping of blooms or browning of canes means voles are eating the roots of your roses. Try Vole Scram and follow directions. Purchase at John Deere stores.

Don't forget to be sure we have your correct e-mail address to receive the web version of this newsletter.



Joy miniature

"Despite the great possibilities for failure, the burdensome work, and the lack of glamour, my hobby became a passion. Even with successes, it didn't take me long to realize that growing roses would be more fun if it entailed less work."

— William Radler

Test Your Knowledge

True or False

- 1) Avid will kill both adult spider mites and their eggs.
- 2) Newly planted roses should be watered everyday, even if rain is in the forecast.
- 3) If over a quarter inch of rain falls in a given day, you do not need to water your roses.
- 4) When temperatures are above 90 degrees for an extended period of time, it is best to avoid fertilizing until it cools off a bit.
- 5) You should remove the buds of all basal breaks to help the cane grow larger.

In This Issue

Ryan's Way With Roses.....	3
Delayed Die-Back in Roses.	6
Sandy's Picks for 2014.....	7
Roses I Used To Grow.....	10
Exhibiting Roses.....	13
The Proper Way to Stake and Tie Roses.....	15
Extreme Fertilizing.....	18
Surviving July.....	18
Color in Roses.....	19
Ask Mr. Know- It-All.....	19
2013 Roses In Review Results.....	20
What's the Diagnosis.....	20
Do I Have Enough Roses Yet?.....	21
Weather Word - The Summer Outlook.....	22
Alfalfa Tea Recipe.....	23
Calendar of Events.....	23

The Georgia Rose is published 3 times a year in a new larger 24 page version. To subscribe, please send a check in the amount of \$18.00 (and email address for the web version) payable to:

Ryan Tilley
6794 Woodstock Road
Acworth, GA 30102
E-mail: WTilley598@aol.com

Garden Calendar

May

May 2 - Prevent Powdery mildew by using **Rubigan** (1/3 tsp/gallon) is very effective. **E-rase** (4 tsp / gal) also works well.

May 3 - Continue checking buds and blooms for thrips often. Keep misting the blooms and buds

May 4- Remove diseased leaves as soon as you notice them.

May 11- Prepare for the GARS rose show by filling out entry forms and arranging blooms the night before

May 14 - Resume your regular fertilizer program. Apply organics like Mills Magic Rose Mix, Milorganite, Alfalfa tea, etc.. anytime.

May 15 - Be sure your roses are well mulched with your personal choice of organic mulch. 2"-3" of mulch will keep the soil cooler and conserve moisture. Do not put mulch over the bud union.

Do Not Use Cocoa Mulch! It is poison for dogs.

May 18 - Deadhead all bushes to speed up the next bloom cycle. On first year bushes, don't cut long stems; just remove old blooms.

May 21 - Check roses to be sure spider mites are not on the increase.

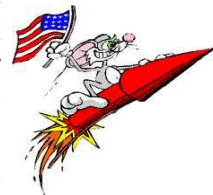
Avid and **Hexygon** or **Floramite** are very effective controls when used in combination. **Lucid** is a cheaper generic version of Avid. **Tetra San** kills both adults and eggs and is "relatively inexpensive".

June - Aug

If your leaves appear dull with a yellowish/whitish tint to them and the undersides have a salt and pepper appearance, then you have spider mites. In severe infestations, there will be webbing between the leaves. Washing the undersides of the leaves with a water wand for 7 days will eliminate them. Or you can use the old reliable miticide **Avid** every 2 weeks for prevention of mites and every 5 days to eradicate them. **Tetra San** is a miticide and ovicide which kills both eggs and adult mites. It

is the least expensive to use. **Hexygon, Floramite, and Shuttle** are miticide / ovicides as they kill the eggs and immature mites and can be used in combination with **Avid**.

Beetle season is here. They will be bad for only about 3 weeks, but they may be worse than last year due to the warm winter. Pick, squish or drown them instead of spraying if they are only on the blooms.. **Merit** is the weapon of choice if you must spray. Use sprays like **Orthene, Malathion,** and **Sevin** with caution because overuse will encourage spider mites. Try to use them only if beetles threaten to defoliate the bush. Otherwise, just mist the blooms. Don't use beetle traps near your garden! **They attract more beetles than they catch.**



Remove blind shoots or rosette growth from roses. Prune to keep centers of hybrid tea/grandiflora roses open to improve air circulation and reduce disease. **If there are a lot of blind shoots on a bush and the end of the shoots have a tiny black leaf, you may have midge, a serious insect.** Contact your rose society or me if you think you might have midge.

Spray with **Orthene** and place a granular insecticide on the soil in the garden. Keep in mind, Midge is not a common problem.

For bigger and better blooms, disbud side shoots on hybrid teas. Remove the small side buds and only let the center bud develop. Do the opposite for floribundas, pinch out the center bud and leave the rest to get a nicer looking spray.

Roses need 2-3 inches of rain per week (approx. 9-11 gallons per week). Under-watered roses are more likely to have spray burn and fertilizer burn due to dry leaves and roots.

Good time for alfalfa tea. See page 23.

Prune to keep centers of hybrid tea/grandiflora roses open to improve air circulation and reduce disease.

If thrips are still a problem, try using the aerosol spray cans you can buy at Home Depot and Lowes. They are great for misting buds and blooms! I love them.

Continue with your regular spray program. every 7-14 days depending on what you use to spray. Banner Maxx and Compass can be sprayed every two weeks. Spray roses early - mid morning or in the evening to avoid chemical burn. Tap the excess spray off your roses with a small bamboo stick to help avoid chemical burn.



For bigger and better blooms, disbud roses often.

Keep new tender canes staked to prevent them from being broken during thunderstorms

August

Aug 15 - Begin cutting back canes on roses for fall rose shows. Cut a few canes back every three or four days for the next 14 days to ensure you have roses for the show. Warmer weather means blooms will come quicker, cooler weather will slow down bloom production.

Ryan's Way With Roses



by Ryan Tilley, Master Rosarian

As usual, it is a rainy day and I am sitting in front of my old computer contemplating my rose garden and what I am expecting out of my roses for the upcoming season. I have a new computer, but I am scared to change to Windows 8, so another newsletter will be done on Windows Vista.

Anyway, back to roses. As all of you are painfully aware, this past winter was one of the worst winters ever. I had to prune many of my older hybrid teas to the ground. Some of the young roses on fortuniana I left longer and just removed the really bad-looking canes. My logic for this is that fortuniana-rootstock roses grow best when left tall and it might be too much of a shock to remove all of the old canes. Right now they are all putting out new growth, much of which is probably "fool's gold".

Canes that are damaged and not outright killed by winter will always put out new growth. The problem is that this growth will likely be weak with lots of blind shoots and poor blooms if they bloom at all. But on these younger roses, I am hoping that the leaves will at least make enough food to give the bud union some extra "oomph" to pump out a few basal breaks before May. If they do, then I will prune out the weak, damaged canes so that all of the rose's energy goes into the new strong canes. Of course this assumes that the bud union is healthy enough to do just that....no sure thing at all after the winter of 2013-14.

You might ask how I can tell if the cane is just damaged and not killed. After the dramatic plunge from temperatures in the mid 70's in late December to near zero in early January, canes that were killed turned black, meaning that all the cell walls burst inside the cane and in the cambium layer. Some "good as dead canes" also will look shriveled and desiccated (remember the horror movie "Thinner"?). Damaged canes will have mushy brown pith or dried-out, shrunken pith with gaps in the center of the cane. Canes that only have slightly brown centers can go either way and might be worth keeping.

But the most difficult canes for most people to diagnose are ones that are bright green, bright red, or a combination of healthy looking green and red. These canes are often very large and beautiful looking. They formed late in the year in 2013 when weather conditions were ideal for rapid growth. Sadly though, the reason they look so young and healthy is they did not have enough time to harden off before the severe freezes that occurred. Blame the warm December for that. These canes have "zero" chances of surviving and must be cut off at the bud union. Don't believe me, cut into one. The center will have nothing but brown "gunk". There is nothing there worth saving. This is the reason we do not fertilize after early September. We do not want to encourage these

"monster basal breaks" to start growing. Growing conditions are perfect enough in late September and October without any extra help from over-enthusiastic rosarians. I am even considering changing my advice on this matter to not fertilizing with a high nitrogen fertilizer after the 3rd week of August. The thought always was that the excess nitrogen from an early September fertilizing would be long gone by the time October rolled around. Maybe it really isn't!

So in my garden that is much colder than gardens inside the perimeter, I think I will alter my August and September fertilizing program. Stay tuned for more on this.

Now for more on this winter. I have proclaimed the winter of 2013-14 as the worst I have seen here in Georgia in nearly 30 years. Note that I said "worst" and not coldest. When you have the extreme fluctuations that characterized this winter, the roses have no time to harden off and can be severely damaged or killed much more easily than a very cold winter. Several years back we had the coldest winter ever. November was cold: December had temperatures that were below 10 degrees: we had 3 nice snow events: and it did not get warm at all until April. That year there were barely any severely damaged roses; and, that included tree roses as well, which are always subject to cold damage.

The same goes for an extremely warm winter like we had the last 2 years. As long as there is no big plunge, roses don't mind above normal temperatures in the winter. It is kind of like Florida winters. Where Atlanta has always had problems is having temperatures in the 80's in March followed by a rapid drop into the low 20s or teens a few days later. April used to be safe, but after the severe mid-April Easter freeze that lasted for 3 nights, that is no longer the case. And the very next year, the same thing happened again with temperatures in the mid 20s on April 15th!

I used to start planting roses for clients in late March. But with this new norm for Atlanta, I have pushed back my planting date for people to around April 10 or later. On that day, I can look at the forecast for the next week to see if a severe freeze is likely. If not, I start planting. Of course if we see a severe freeze on May 1st, that might be the final signal to stop growing roses altogether. Let's hope we don't ever find out.

Okay, so now it is early May and we have a good idea which roses are going to recover and which ones are goners. But what about ones that you are not really sure about. Do you dig them up or give them more time. Here are my rules of thumb for that...

- 1) If it is a rose I was already considering getting rid of, then bring out Mr. Shovel.
- 2) If there are no new basal breaks and the rest of bush does not look good, feed Mr. Shovel.
- 3) If the rose did not do well last year, let Mr. Shovel feast.
- 4) If there is at least one decent new basal break or low lateral cane and I like the rose, I give it more time.
- 5) If the rose is one that is hard to find and I like it, I will give it a bit more time even if it has not put out any strong new growth yet.
- 6) If the rose is a large mature rose which has done very well in the

past and it is a favorite of mine, I will keep it and give it the entire summer even if canes continue to die back in June. Why keep this one? Well, a few years ago there was a big Thanksgiving freeze. I protected my roses well and thought they all survived the winter in good shape. Come the following spring, big canes on my best bushes started dying back. This continued into July and I decided many of them were goners. I shovel-pruned and planted new bushes there the following year. I was so disgusted that I replaced the dead hybrid teas with English roses which are a bit hardier in general.

That fall, there were 2 roses, *Pat's Choice* and *Affirm* that I never got around to digging up because they had large bud unions (on fortuniana). They still looked terrible and I did not want to go to the trouble of winter mulching bushes that I was going to dig up anyway. So I just decided to let winter finish them off and I would replace them next year when I had more energy for such things.

Well, as Gomer Pyle would say, "Surprise, Surprise, Surprise!" To my surprise, these 2 roses that I had left for dead put out dozens of strong basal breaks. By summer, these bushes had recovered every bit to their former size and continued to be 2 of the biggest bushes in my garden. Now they have suffered heavy damage again and I have cut them back again. I am anxious to see how they recover this time.

So, let's say you have decided to let a badly damaged bush recover. Here is what you do. First, keep it well-watered. Water every day if possible in hot weather. Fertilize with your favorite liquid fertilizer like Mills Easy Feed, Peter's 20-20-20, Miracle Gro, etc... according to directions. Pinch off all flower buds as soon as they appear. Do not let them bloom at all! This will divert all the energy into making new canes, not mediocre blooms. This works, trust me.

And it is imperative that you spray religiously. You need every last green leaf to make food for the recovering rose bush. Blackspot is not an option!

Pick off Japanese Beetles as you see them. You will not have many because they are drawn first and foremost to the blooms. And there will be no blooms on these recovering roses...right? Do not spray for beetles...period! Over-spraying for beetles will encourage spider mites and your precious recovering rose does not need to deal with mites. If you do get mites, wash them off the undersides of leaves as soon as you see them. Use a water wand to wash each leaf. Do this for a few days in a row. This will also double as your daily watering for the roses as well. Might as well kill two birds with one stone.

Stop regular fertilizing by late August. This is my new advise. You can use superphosphate, root-stimulator or even Mills Magic Rose Mix (the dry stuff) as they have very little nitrogen. This you can do into early September. Just remember, use nothing with more than 5% nitrogen.

If you are lucky, by September, the bush will have recovered enough that you can let them bloom and pick some blooms for the house. If not, it may need more time.

Or, one final option is to dig it up, put it in a 5 or 7 gallon pot, and baby it with lots of water and fertilizer. Bring it into a warm garage or greenhouse in the winter and presto...you will likely have a nice looking roses to plant next spring. I do this all the time with clients' roses that I remove to make way for the new roses that they want. Often times these roses are in ghastly shape

that only a mother could love. But I pot them up in 5 gallon nursery pots of which I have hundreds of. I use a nice Fafard potting mix, I put them in a half sun/shade area of my yard so they will not burn up in the hot summer Georgia sun and then take care of them for the rest of the year. In late fall, I move them into my greenhouse and by spring, quite often I have nice looking roses that can be planted into someone's garden or even my own. This does entail a bit of extra work though, so be sure you want to go to the effort to help it recover.

And of course the final thing you will need to do is to provide winter protection for the recovering rose. I have started using the Nutra-mulch from Green Bros. Earthworks for my winter protection. It is a nice brown fine-textured light and fluffy mix that is easily applied. It also will help feed your roses as it breaks down the following spring and summer. Mound it up high around the canes and pray we do not have a repeat performance of this year's disastrous winter.

My final note on rose damage deals with what to do with tree roses. To my pleasant surprise, the past 3 winters have not been too hard on my tree roses, even considering how cold I am compared to much of metro Atlanta inside the perimeter. My tree roses include *Lasting Love*, *Julia Child*, *Moonstone*, and *Sedona* (a real favorite among those who visited my garden last year). There was virtually no damage at all on them since 2010. This is surprising since the bud union is 3 feet above ground and totally exposed.

There is really not much you could have done to have protected them this year with the exception of draping frost cloth over them and putting a small heater underneath the frost cloth. In northern gardens, rosarians sometimes loosen on side of the roots and lay the entire tree rose on its side and cover it with mulch or soil. I will say this now...that is just too much work and it would not have helped at this winter! And had you actually tried this, you would have also had the unpleasant surprise of seeing new shoots growing vertically from the canes that were lying sideways at ground level. This would have been bizarre indeed! Gardens in the north don't have 3 weeks of temperatures in the 60s and 70s to deal with so they do not get shoots growing straight up. But we do!

Anyway, now that we are done with rose survival, let's say a little something about the rose gardens itself. Assuming I still have some roses that are alive, I am looking forward to using my new fertilizer injector. I had an older one that was not a "true siphon". It was like the Miracle Gro feeder in that the mixture keeps getting weaker the longer you use it. A true siphon sucks out the fertilizer solution without diluting it with water. So it always gives the proper feeding ratio. The reason I got my new one is that it burst when it got down near zero in January. Although I had a heater in my well-house where the injector was, it still somehow managed to burst. So I took the opportunity to replace it with a DOSATRON fertilizer injector that I purchased through Griffin Greenhouse Supply in Canton, GA. I have not used it yet, but I will let you how it works.

Another thing I have been looking forward to is getting some of the recent newer rose varieties like *Cinnamon Dolce*, *Twilight Zone*, *Soft Whisper*, and *Beverly* growing on fortuniana rootstock. These varieties have outstanding color and fragrance, but were sluggish growers when I got them on their own roots from either *Roses Unlimited* or *Edmunds*. As more and more large

rose growers inch towards selling own root roses due to rising costs of grafting roses, this phenomenon of sluggish first year growers will continue. There was a reason that the practice of grafting hybrid teas onto more vigorous rootstocks, and that was to provide more vigor in the first few years that they were planted in the garden.

Although some hybrid teas grow quite well on their own roots, a larger number do not and take 2-3 years to fully establish themselves in the garden. After that, their growth is quite acceptable for the long haul and they are even a bit hardier than their grafted cousins. But it is in the first year when own root hybrid tea roses take the longest to get going. And with the price of purchasing hybrid teas at your favorite nursery hitting \$30 or more, it would be nice if they grew well the first year and provided you with lots of blooms right away.

So my plan will be to continue to purchase the newest roses whether they are grafted or not. I will plant them and when they are large enough to take cuttings from, I will graft them onto fortuniana rootstock to see if I can improve the overall vigor of the rose. Some of the roses I have mentioned as slow starters are even slow growers on traditional rootstocks, making the switch to fortuniana an even more important option. So far, the results have been quite good. *Dark Knight*, *Sweetness*, and *George Burns* have done well when grafted onto fortuniana rootstock. Will let you know more later this year.

I have acquired many of the new roses that I will be growing in 2014. Usually I have a few blooms on them to share with you by now. But the cold weather has also affected my greenhouse and many others across the Southeast and mine are behind schedule so no sneak peaks as of now. For a complete list of the ones I am trying, check out the previous issue #71. I will have much more on these roses later this year.

Over the past few years, I have been starting to grow my new roses in large 7, maybe 9 gallon pots instead of popping them right into the ground the very first year. Given this winter's devastating effects, I am even more determined to start many of them off in pots this year, especially the youngest ones on fortuniana rootstock. As most of you know, when you are getting a potted rose on fortuniana rootstock, it is often only 6 or 7 months removed from when it was grafted. This makes it a full year younger than potted or bareroot roses. The only real challenge to doing this is to keep it going during the hot summer months. I put the pots in part sun and part shade to keep the soil from heating up too much in the pots. I water them everyday and fertilize them with liquid fertilizer the entire summer. Then I move them into the greenhouse during the winter. By the time next April rolls around, I can put it in the ground.

Of course, if it turns out that I don't really care for it, it will end up in someone else's garden. A prime example of this was *Hey Jack* from last year. The rose grew well in the pots and was quite colorful. But the petal count was low and the blooms themselves did not really wow me! If it would have had strong fragrance, I might have kept it. But the 2 plants are now residing in someone else's garden.

Many of my clients have been interested in *Anna's Promise*, a new introduction for 2015 and the first in the series of roses based on the popular PBS television show "*Downton Abby*". These roses were available in short supply from rosemania.com

and edmundsroses.com. The blooms are an interesting golden tan color with a pink blush. The fragrance is a mix of grapefruit and apple. Look for more **Downton Abby roses** in the coming years.

For the first time in a few years though, the roses I am looking forward to seeing the most are a few of the new English Roses. For the most part, many of the new ones over the last several years have seemed to stand out as in past years. One exception was *Lady of Shallot* with bright apricot yellow blended blooms. I found it to be a nice addition to the other English roses that I use as climbers. I have been waiting for *Claire Austin* to become the white English climber I have been hoping for, but so far it has been disappointing.

This year is different. There are 4 English rose that promise to be very nice for the smaller garden. *Boscobel* features rich salmon aging to a rich pink with a strong myrrh fragrance. *Heathcliff* promises fully double blooms of deep crimson with combo Tea Rose and Old Rose fragrance. *Royal Jubilee* is described as having "breathtaking semi-double flowers of deep pink with deep chalice shape and a rich fruity fragrance. This one might be the biggest of the bunch, perhaps reaching 5-6 feet tall and 3-4 feet wide. It might also end up a nice short climber.

There really has not been a good smaller white English rose in a long while until now. *Tranquility* has pure white rounded flowers with neatly placed petals making a nice rosette. It only has a light apple fragrance which is disappointing, but I believe it is worth a good look-see.

The other new English rose, *The Lark Ascending*, is one I will not be trying this year, but, it may prove very useful in the future as a variety suited to more shaded areas. The soft, warm apricot blooms are medium-sized semi-double with deep golden apricot stamens. The petal count is low making it a nice choice for more shaded areas where an English rose is desired. It perhaps could be grown a small climber as well.

I am always on the lookout for new products in the battle against disease. With a seemingly increasing downy mildew threat, **Orvego**. It has an extra ingredient to help fight downy so if Stature or Alliete has been letting you down, this might be one to try

Cease is my latest hope to help with botrytis blight, a scourge to all roses growers, but especially in my garden that has cooler nights than most in metro Atlanta. It is a broad-spectrum fungicide that also works on powdery mildew, grey mold, and certain leaf spots like anthracnose without leaving any residue on leaves. It works like copper-based products on fungus and bacteria, but you can use this product with Indicate 5 which means you can tank mix it with other fungicides unlike products that contain copper.

That is all for now. May your roses have survived winter's ravages and thrive throughout the upcoming summer months.



Experience the Quality of Leonard Brand Tools!
Buy Leonard Brand Premium Tools, And You Won't Have To Buy Again.

- Engineered tough for top performance, year after year.
- Tested and re-tested for on-site use and abuse.
- Your tools are an investment, count on our warranty so that you only make that investment ONCE!
- Besides over 250 A.M. Leonard premium tools, we have over 8,000 more tools and supplies online.



Read our "7-easy Tips for Deer Fencing" at amleo.com/deer

EST. 1885
A.M. LEONARD
 HORTICULTURAL TOOL & SUPPLY COMPANY

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

SAVE \$20 on your first order of \$99 or more.
 Ends 12/31/13. Call 1-800-543-8955 and mention Source code GRN13. One per customer, please. Can not be combined with any other offers.

damage in your rose garden.

So why did we not see this damage when we did our late winter pruning? The reason is that the damage was done over the winter and when spring came there was still enough energy left in the canes to try and grow new canes and even bloom. Then once the weather got hot and the roses were stressed, the damaged canes were unable to carry water and nutrients from the roots to produce new growth. This is when you start seeing the reddish or yellowish discolorations and the blackening of some canes.

At this point, you must prune the damaged canes down to where the pith inside the cane is nice and white and able to support new growth. This might mean cutting a few inches off the cane, or it could be cutting off the entire cane down to the bud union. At this point, if the bud union was not damaged, new canes will emerge to replace the damaged canes. If you leave the damaged canes on the plant, the rose bush will waste energy trying to grow new canes from the damaged canes. All that will result is weak, unproductive growth at best.

There have been many times that all the canes were damaged on a rose bush in my garden or a client's garden. So I cut them all off leaving just the bud union. Then, if the bud union was healthy, in a few short weeks there were many new canes that began growing. By the end of the summer, these roses had almost completely renewed themselves to the point where you would never know there was any damage at all.

Of course, if the bud union was severely damaged, then only weak canes will grow and it is time to dig up the entire bush and plant a new one. This is why we put winter protection mulch over the bud union, to try and make sure that even when all the canes are damaged, the bud union will survive to grow a brand new rose bush. Even with this mulch, some bushes may succumb to a really cold winter or devastating late March or April hard freeze. But you have at least given the rose bush a fighting chance to survive.

And it does not even have to be winter to have some of this damage done. Several years back, October and November were unusually warm, until a massive cold outbreak occurred right around Thanksgiving. I put the protective mulch on and thought I had made it through the winter unscathed. But the following May, canes started dying back one by one. I kept cutting back bushes right into July when it became obvious that some of the bushes were not going to survive. Even some of my toughest bushes like *Big Ben* were goners, or so I thought.

I did leave a few large ones in the ground because I was tired of digging up roses at that point. They did not grow much the rest of the year, but to my surprise, somehow started growing the next year even though I did not bother to winter protect them. I was simply going to replace them the next year. To my extreme shock, these bushes completely grew back. One of them, *Affirm*, has become a great bush. Another one was the aforementioned *Bronze Star*, which was severely damaged again this year and will have to grow back again. This time, I will give it more time before I think about removing it. But I do wonder what would have happened if I had given all of the severely damaged more time? I guess I will never know.

So heed these lessons as you cut back damaged bushes. Sometimes they may indeed be goners. But if you really like a bush and it is too late to plant a new one, give it some time and some tender loving care before you dig it up.



Delayed Die-back in Roses

by Ryan Tilley

Over the last 3 winters, we have not seen a whole lot of cane damage in our rose gardens. Two of those winters were quite cold from start to finish. And last year saw the beginning of summer come in early March. But this year was much different in that January was very warm, so warm that some roses were blooming! I have never seen that before in all the time I have been growing roses. Then came February and March which were cooler in general with a few cold nights in the teens and 20's, but nothing that really seemed too cold. So why are we now seeing dying canes in May and June?

The reason is that the roses never entered a resting phase over the winter. This resting phase occurs when temperatures gradually get colder in November and December and then stay cold for much of the winter. In this state, roses are much less susceptible to cold weather damage. And the roses that do not readily enter this resting phase that typically show the most damage. So if temperatures are on a roller-coaster from warm to cold in a given winter, you can expect to find a bit more cold



Roses are Dead, Miniatures too.
Where can I find replacements?
Oh What Can I Do?

Go To Autumn Hill Nursery for the best in roses.
That's What You Can Do.

Check us out at 770-442-3901
and
autumnhillnursery.com. for the

Best Roses Ever!!!



ONLY ONE MINI WAS DESIGNATED THE HONOR: JOY IS AN EXHIBITOR'S DELIGHT BOTH FOR QUEEN AND SPRAYS

1. BROTHER JACK - In its third year, we are getting exhibition formed, large medium pink blooms. Some come in clusters but most are single stems. Looks like a keeper!



2. CAROLINA PRIDE - This has been quick to grow and establish into a large productive bush. Blooms are true red and very large. The form is good.



3. DAVID'S LOVE - Exquisite colors of white shaded with light pink open to reveal well- formed blooms. The bush is new so we are waiting for longer stems as the bush grows. Looks like it will show well when the bush matures more. Fred named this for the love his son David has for his family

5. DINA GEE - I am glad I was patient with this rose! The first two years the blooms were miniflora in size. Now in its third year, the blooms are large and the red & white petals unfurl into good exhibition form.



6. DONA MARTIN - Bob found this sport of Randy Scott...all the same attributes that make Randy Scott such a superior rose. The color differential is at times hard to notice. It depends on the amount of shade the rose gets. Rather than pink Dona calls it lavender in color.



7. EDDIE EDWARDS - Fred's rose in honor of Eddie is a beautiful two tone of red. It has the usual high center for which Fred is known. I expect to see this on the tables in the future.



8. HEY JACK - Our bush was planted last spring and it is growing well. The blooms are striking with the two colors of bright yellow and orange. The form is excellent but I don't know if it has enough petals for exhibition (time will tell) but it sure would be a winner in the open bloom category!

**Sandy's Rose Picks
for 2014**

by Sandy Lundberg



Once again we look deep into the mind of Sandy Lundberg for her thoughts on today's newest rose varieties.

THIS YEAR I AM SHOWING THE HONOR ROLL PICKS FROM HORIZON ROSES !

HYBRID TEAS FEATURE THE SUPERB RANDY SCOTT, MARLON'S DAY, & SNUFFY HYBRID TEAS

OUTSTANDING MINIFLORAS INCLUDE: SHAMELESS, POWER POINT, & SHOW STOPPER



9. HOT LADY - New bush this spring that is growing well from Wisconsin Roses. The color is almost the same as Hot Princess and the blooms are large and have excellent high centered form.

11. JEWEL GRACE - Striking color on this red with yellow reverse. Great form but needs disbudding for Queen entries.

13. MOHANA - Bright yellow florist rose does well on fortuniana root stock. The blooms have good form and are large. Occasionally we will have a hint of gold color on the edges of the petals.



14. MR. CALEB - Excellent non-fading red rose with superior exhibition form.

15. RESA G - New from Tommy Hebert, this rose is red with a yellow reverse. The first bloom on the new bush was gorgeous! It has good exhibition form. Just waiting the bush to grow up!



16. SISTER JANE - Beautiful blooms with delicate colors of pink and white have great form. Unfortunately, the blooms are floribunda size.

17. SISTER RUTH - First year bush beginning to produce some high centered white blooms that have coral or peach colored edges.

18. SUNSET CELEBRATION - Color is the outstanding feature of this rose. I have not had a chance to exhibit it yet.

19. T H COOP - Saw this large exhibition rose at a show. The color is a deep red that can look almost purple.

Miniatures and Mini-floras

20. ALLENE ABLE - A deep pink test rose I was growing for Michael Williams. I suggested that it should be registered because it had good form, lots of petals and grew well. Michael has since registered it and wood was sent to James Mills.

MARY ALICE - Fred's large yellow miniflora has a touch of pink in the center. Form can vary, but can be excellent.

21. BALDO VILLEGAS - Identical twin to Shameless. Both have creamy white petals, red on the outer portion of the petals that can sometimes have a black edge. They both have petals that have superior substance so can be easily popped open for exhibition. Both are winning their share of trophies.



22. CONTRARY MARY - Introduced and hybridized by Don Myers of NC. There is nothing contrary about this rose. The bush is extremely vigorous on its own roots and produces mostly one bloom per stem blooms with very good exhibition form. The color is the same as Rina Hugo that many of us used to grow.

23. COOPER - Cooper is the darkest red miniflora I have ever seen. The bushes are very productive. The blooms come on long stems and can be single but tend to produce a lot of side buds making nice sprays. This is one of Michael Williams' best along with Shawn Sease. A Winner!

24. CRYSTAL PALACE - Beautiful white miniflora has a pink center and superb exhibition form. It is a very large miniflora. This is a shot of our winning Miniflora King entry at the Winston-Salem All-Mini/Miniflora National Show.



26. FRED'S SHOW TIME - It took cooler fall weather to produce blooms with exhibition form. The blooms are larger than most minifloras but not floribunda size. The color is a deep pink with a white reverse.



27. GLOWING SUNSET - This is a truly beautiful rose! The yellow quilled petals have red tips. Form is exhibition. You will see this on the head table.

29. PATRON - Like a lot of other roses, it would not grow on its own roots for us. It is a pretty red but the petal count seems low and it tends to get burned in the sun.

30. POWERHOUSE - Excellent form on this very bright medium colored orange rose. It has good holding power and is showing up as a winner. I like it.



31. PRINCESS KATELYN - The first year fortuniana bush was just starting some good growth in the late fall. The blooms are light white, yellow and pink on the petal edges. Need more time to evaluate.

32. SANDY'S PICK - My pick from the late Frank Benardella's seedlings has turned into a beautiful white with red petal edges. Form is great. Only complaint is short stems initially on new bushes. Now getting long stems. Princess for us at the Carolina District Show. A winner!

33. TAMMY CLEMONS - This was a 2012 winner of the Award of Excellence. The medium red blooms are non-fading and have excellent form and complimentary dark green foliage.

34. WRIGHT TOUCH - The colors on this miniflora are a pleasing blend of peach, yellow and creamy white. Form is high centered and the first year bush has grown rapidly.

35. BRENDA LEE - Small bush on fortuniana produces a few orange and yellow blooms with good form.

36. DAD'S LAD - New sport of Joy found by Ray Guillebeau. New bush this spring but growing well. The blooms are white and like Joy come singly and in sprays.

37. DADDY FRANK - As a mini, this is a great variety. As a miniflora, it was much too small. Exhibitors were glad of the change in classification. The medium red blooms have excellent form, come on long stems and have good holding power.



38. DR. TOMMY CAIRNS - New pink miniature that shows promise. Need to evaluate further.



39. EMMA GRACE - Red, yellow blooms have good form. Bush sends out some long stems that seem to have the best blooms.

40. ETERNAL FLAME - Becoming a favorite since getting 2 fortuniana bushes growing well. Long stems on these exhibition blooms of red and white.

41. GINNY - Nice new sport of Nancy Jean found by Gary Whitt. We placed one on the Court in Winston-Salem. Creamy white blooms with good exhibition form. Planted a year ago the bush is growing well.

42. KING OF THE ROAD - While still a miniflora, I have heard that it will be recommended that it be changed to a mini. Probably a good move as it is smaller than most minifloras. The problem we have with this rose is inconsistency! Lots of blooms look like they were smashed, the good ones are beautiful.

43. OLIVIA ROSE - Steve Singer of Wisconsin Roses hybridized this beautiful purple mini rose. He has named it for one of the little victims of the Sandy Hook massacre last year. As it turns out the little girl, Olivia Rose's favorite color was purple.

44. SAXILBY BELLE PINK (sport of Chelsea Belle.) - Likes to spray and has good form. Bush grows well.

45. THE LIGHTHOUSE - Brilliant yellow non fading blooms have exhibition form with quilled petals. This can win Mini Queen and has for us. Love the color!

FLORIBUNDA & SHRUB

46. ME & MRS JONES - Hybridized by Steve Jones, this was originally a miniflora, but was too big so Steve changed it to a floribunda. The bloom is creamy white with yellow in the center. The form is exhibition so it should do well in the floribunda one bloom per stem class.

47. MISS BETTY - New shrub from Michael Williams has hybrid tea form. The blooms are an orange and yellow combination.

This article was ever-so slightly edited from Sandy's original copy that she sent me.



**The Perfect
Combination For
Your Roses**



Mills EasyFeed

TO SEE OUR COMPLETE LINE OF
GARDENING SUPPLIES
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.MILLSMIX.COM
EMAIL: MILLSMIX@AOL.COM
OR CALL 1-800-845-2325

We also sell:
Bloomkote
Messenger
CobraHead
Kombi Shovels
Kelway Meters
and other fine
products



Roses I Used To Grow

by Ryan Tilley, MR

As many of you know I have been growing roses for a long time. I started back in 1988 after going through all my other gardening phases. I had an iris phase, a mint phase, an herb phase, a fruit tree phase, etc.... But I had never tried to grow roses before.

I started with 6 roses that included oldies like *Oklahoma*, *Double Delight*, *Tropicana*, and *Mr. Lincoln*. I did a generic soil prep which included river sand, Nature's Helper, cow manure, and bags of topsoil mixed into the native soil. It was the old "1/3 soil, 1/3 sand, 1/3 organic matter" recipe that had always served me well. I also threw in some lime and gypsum as well.

The roses grew very well and I was on my way to becoming a rose fanatic. I read everything I could on roses and began ordering them from companies like Donovan's and Jackson and Perkins. I joined the Greater Atlanta Rose Society (GARS), was appointed Vice President and President in following years, and became the editor of its newsletter, "The Phoenix".

At first I mainly grew hybrid teas. But I also tried some Old Garden Roses like *Buff Beauty*, *Reine de Violettes*, *Mme Alfred Carriere*, *Souvenir de la Malmaison*, and *Rose de Rescht* to name a few. The down side to these roses is they often did not repeat bloom well, colors were a bit limited, and many of them got bigger than I wanted.

Since I liked the old-fashioned, fragrant flowers, I then tried my very first English rose, *Graham Thomas* which promised a bush growing 4' by 4". It quickly out-grew its space in my garden so I moved it to another area. It again quickly out-grew that space and it ended up as a climber on my raised deck. This was my first experience with English roses that get much bigger here in the south than in other parts of the country. *Graham Thomas* does grow 4' by 4' up on Vancouver Island in the **Bouchart Gardens**. The trick was to read the descriptions of each English rose and look for "key words" to give you insight on how an English rose might grow here in Georgia. This insight served me well as I began using some English Roses like *Sweet Juliet*, *Abraham Darby*, *Evelyn, L.D. Braithwaite*, *Gertrude Jekyll*, and *The Pilgrim* as climbers for some of my rose clients. Now, finally, the David Austin catalog lists which roses can be used as climbers in some climates. Better late than never I suppose.

My next adventure in roses took me to Florida to **Giles Roses** to see the new kid on the block, roses on fortuniana rootstock. They were a bit strange in how they were grafted and there were many roses that I had never heard of before. My first roses on fortuniana roses were *Alec's Red*, *Swarthmore*, and *Valencia*. After that, many more roses on fortuniana followed them into my garden and I became a big proponent of fortuniana rootstock as their growth and blooms were superior to the other most widely used rootstocks. Soon after, I became aware of other "fortuniana growers" like **K&M nursery** in Mississippi and **Johnny Becnel Show Roses** near New Orleans.

All in all I have been growing roses for nearly 27 years and along the way there have been hundreds and hundreds of roses

that I have tried. Some varieties like *Sterling Silver*, *Halloween*, *Purple Tiger*, and *Julia's Rose* were real stinkers in that they just would not grow, even on fortuniana!

Many other roses like *Pink Peace*, *Sunday Lemonade*, and *Sanka* were nice enough, but I needed to create room for newer and hopefully better roses. The only way for me to tell you which roses are worth growing is to try them myself.

Then there are roses that grew and bloomed well, but had some major flaw. Some roses like *Pop Warner*, *Cajun Moon*, and *Uncle Joe* were botrytis magnets in my botrytis-prone garden. Time after time I would watch as most of the blooms would rot on the bush. And nothing I sprayed seemed to get botrytis under control. And as you know, I am still searching for that magical chemical that will make my botrytis problems go away. So unless I was in love with the bloom (like I am with *Affirm*), those roses were introduced to "**MR. SHOVEL**".

There were other reasons why I got rid of some roses while I kept others. Some roses did not have especially good stems or were poor cut flowers. Others might have had a muddy, muddled color or the blooms may have been too small or came too much in clusters. Sometimes a rose is just too stingy with its blooms or drops petals too quickly. Many people just want great garden color, but if I can have great color and be able to cut it, then that is what I want.

The final determination for letting a rose go is if it is not reliably winter hardy in my arctic tundra location. I have lost hundred of roses over the years to severe freezes. Some of them were varieties that I was likely going to get rid of anyway. Some varieties that I really like will get a few extra chances to stay in the garden despite sketchy winter hardness. One rose that I really like is *Just Joey*. Every winter there was significant winter damage, but it would often come back by the end of the year to be a decent size. But then there was more winter damage and the cycle continued. Finally, I gave up and stopped growing it. My clients inside the perimeter where it is significantly warmer at night do not have this problem with *Just Joey* which is good for them because I can see just how good *Just Joey* can be...just not in my garden.

Bronze Star is another rose that is a good performer. The color is a vibrant, stunning apricot blend and the stems are nice and long; but, winter is really hard on it. It has died a few times (probably this year as well) and the only reason I replace it is my wife really likes it.

So that brings us to today and the current roses I am growing. There have been many new varieties with stunning color and fragrance that are just poor growers, especially if they are on their own roots as some of the major rose suppliers are beginning to do. I have begun the practice of taking these poor performers and putting them on fortuniana rootstock to see if they will grow better. I have recently done that with *Cinnamon Dolce*, *Twilight Zone*, and *Beverly*, all of which have stunning color and fragrance. So far, the results are favorable. More on this later this year.

Even though I have very nice varieties in my garden, I sometimes consider giving a few ghosts from the past another shot in my garden. Here are some roses that I used to grow that I still think are good varieties and are worth a place in the garden.

Ain't She Sweet - Better grower than its parent, *Dolly Parton*, but like Dolly it is winter tender in my garden. Great fragrant orange blooms.

Aromatherapy - Offspring of New Zealand with slightly pinker blooms. Nice fragrance, but never was able to get much in the way of good cutting roses.

Black Bacarra - Black buds open up to blackish red blooms. Blooms come in clusters and were rather small for my taste.

Black Magic - Very nice deep, deep red rose on good stems. A bit to winter tender for my garden.

Brandy - Nice apricot blooms with good stems. A bit winter tender.

Bride's Dream - A favorite of exhibitor's with its classically formed light pink blooms. Got too much botrytis in my garden.

Brigadoon - Ditched this rose in favor of the newer variety, Gemini, that is the same color and produces more blooms. But Gemini also has more sprays than Brigadoon. Still a worthy variety to grow.

Brandenburg Gate - Decent red rose with a silver reverse.

Cary Grant - Luminous orange blooms. Stingy bloomer though.

Century Two - Clear deep pink blooms on good stems. Bush was a mediocre bloomer.

Chicago Peace - Very colorful pink and yellow blooms. Very winter tender.

Color Magic - Spectacular salmon and pink blooms. Not very winter hardy though.

Crystalline - Very popular pure white variety that had nice long cutting stems. Did well in rose shows, but I could not get much bloom size on my plants.

Classic Touch - Sport of Touch of Class. It grew well and had nice pale pink blooms.

Dream Come True - Showy yellow blooms with reddish edges. Blows open very fast in summer as it has a low petal count.

Dublin - This medium red rose won its share of rose show awards over the year, but my bushes did not produce anything like that. Guess some people just have the magic touch.

Elegant Beauty - Long buds opened to large flowers on nice cutting stems. Good garden performer. Definitely worth growing

Elina - Always a good performer. Large pale yellow blooms on good cutting stems. A favorite variety for a lot of rosarians.

Firefighter - Blooms are rich smoky red with outstanding fragrance. Blooms a bit small with short stems. But these traits are okay on a tree rose and I am going to grow it that way.

Fragrant Plum - Tall grower with cream and purple fragrant blooms. A bit of a stingy bloomer. Overall not a bad variety.

Garden Party - Good variety from the 60's with creamy blooms edged in very pale pink. Not fragrant.

Golden Masterpiece - One of the first roses I ever grew. Good cut flower, but a bit stingy with them.

Grace de Monaco - I really, really loved this rose with very large rich porcelain pink blooms that lasted forever. But it always was a very stingy bloomer.

Graham Thomas - If you have the space, this English Rose is a great bloomer; although, I never really could smell the fragrance it is supposed to have and I must have fragrance in my English roses.

Granada - Multi-color blooms with low petal count. Never got much to cut although it was pretty in the garden.

Great Century - Very large blooms of pearl pink and cream. Stingy bloomer.

Halloween - Beautiful bi-color but not so beautiful bloomer. Just did not get enough blooms to justify keeping it.

Helen Naude - Creamy blooms with a bit of pink on the edges. Great bloomer, stems a little short with medium-sized blooms. Sometimes the blooms were a bit muddy.

Heirloom - Good older lavender rose for the garden. Not much of a cut flower. I like Angel face better for the garden.

Helmut Schmidt - Nice clear yellow blooms. Not bad, but nothing special either.

Hot Princess - Hot pink low-petalled blooms were a big thing on the exhibition circuit for a brief time. Fantastic grower and bloomer with good stems. Had two bushes next to each other. One winter one was killed while the one next to it had no damage. Go figure. Blooms blew open fast in the summer heat.

Lagerfeld - Nice mauve rose. Good grower with nice-sized fragrant blooms on long stems. I decided I liked Stainless Steel better.

Liebeszauber - Very large bush puts out deep velvet red blooms that were very full. Bloom quality so-so for such a space-eater. But the bush will definitely perform for you in the garden.

Lemon Spice - Nice fragrant light yellow rose. Wish it was a better bloomer, but overall not a bad performer.

Medallion - Large bush with huge apricot blooms on long stems. Slightly leathery blooms did not have quite enough substance for me, but it sure grew well.

Marijke Koopman - The rose no one can pronounce. Blooms were medium pink on decent stems. Grew this rose for a long time before it gave way to something newer.

Marilyn Wellan - Hot pink blooms with low petal count. Opened up a bit too fast in warm weather.

Mister Lincoln - Everyone knows this fragrant red rose. Very tall bush and stingier with its blooms than you might remember.

Miss All-American Beauty - Very fragrant deep hot pink blooms. Average grower and bloomer.

Octoberfest - Beautiful blend of apricot, yellow, and orange. Blooms were always a bit too small for me.

Olympiad - Nice rich red blooms, but blooms a bit small here in Georgia.

Out of Africa - Beautiful, unusual orange blend with some fragrance. Did not bloom quite enough in my garden.

Paradise - A very good lavender rose with darker pink edges. Been around for a long time. Not much fragrance though.

Pascali - Good dependable white rose. So-so cut flower

Perfect Moment - Orange and yellow like Rio Samba, but not as good a bloomer as Rio Samba.

Pink Peace - Produced a lot of fragrant pink blooms. Not a great cut flower, but okay for garden color.

Raphaella - Nice burnt orange blooms that were large and literally never completely opened, a trait exhibitors loved. Did get a lot of botrytis in my garden, but it is a rose that I definitely liked.

Rina Hugo - Good performer in the garden with lots of large magenta blooms on long stems. Might grow this one again in the future, but *Nine-Eleven* outranks it in the garden for me.

Sanka - Great saturated bright orange color. Wish it bloomed more with better stems.

Seashell - I remember loving this rose with lovely salmon and shell pink blooms. Grew this bush for a long time. Blooms were a little on the small size. Blooms were best in cooler weather.

Signature - Splendid creamy blooms with dark pink edge. Solid rose show performer as well. I never could get decent stems on it.

Sonia - Good grower with lots of peachy blooms, but blooms were a bit too small. Would make a nice floribunda though.

Strike it Rich - Nice colorful golden yellow blooms with a tint of apricot. It was supposed to be really fragrant, but my nose just did not smell much fragrance. Very striking in the garden.

Sultry - Golden orange blooms on nice long stems. Really a nice rose. Definitely worth growing if you can find it.

Sunset Celebration - Apricot amber blended blooms has a nice fragrance. Short bush for me with short stems.

Swarthmore - Very attractive deep pink blooms with smoky pink edges. Strong bush with long stems too. Over time the bush just aged right out of my garden. Might grow again sometime.

Sweet Juliet - Great large apricot English rose, I just like Abraham Darby better.

Sweet Surrender - Super fragrant silvery, lavender pink blooms that opening up a bit flat.

The McCartney Rose - Candy pink blooms with decent cutting stems. Very good fragrance. Still a worthwhile rose.

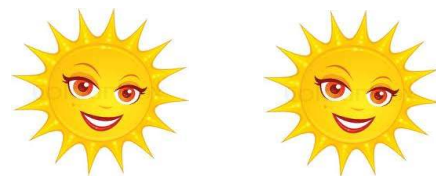
Tiffany - Really nice fragrant light pink blooms with a yellow base. Good cutting stems. Good all-around rose.

Touch of Class - Won its share of rose awards over the year. This rose grew and bloomed very well, but the blooms were always small for me.

Tournament of Roses - Two-toned pink grandiflora that was a solid garden performer. As you would expect, most of the blooms came in sprays.

Garden Tip #1

Do you love a certain rose, but it is a sluggish grower, see if you can find it on a tree rose. I have found that often times these roses grow better with the bud union elevated than when it is at soil level. I am not sure why this is, but perhaps the extra sunlight it receives stimulates the bud union to produce more and better canes. I am trying a "Twilight Zone" tree to see if I can better growth on it than the plants of it in the ground. I am also trying this rose on fortuniana rootstock. More on this later.





Exhibiting Roses

by Luci Giglio Tampa Talks Roses

Preparation:

Pruning: Prune the plants so they will bloom in timely fashion. Keep records of your garden. Remember the "time of year."

The weather (and ground) is warmer preceding the fall shows; the amount of sunlight per day is also longer.

Disbudding: To disbud is to remove undesirable extraneous buds. The rose show schedule, unless otherwise stated, generally requires blooms to be exhibited without sidebuds. These should be pinched out when they first appear on the plant. There are, however, certain classes for sprays — hybrid tea/grandiflora, floribunda/polyantha and miniature. To produce a spray, the disbudding must remove the lead bud when first spotted. This will help to create a balanced spray. Insect Control: Control of thrips becomes a paramount concern during show times. Make sure you get control by using Orthene, at the proper concentration, in a handheld sprayer.

Cutting: Cutting blooms for a show can begin several days ahead, depending on the variety. Some varieties refrigerate beautifully while others are destroyed. Preferably, the refrigerator should not be the self-defrosting type. The temperature should be maintained between 36° and 38° F. A self-defrosting refrigerator will work just as well but the whole specimen (bloom and foliage) must be protected from the harsh, drying air. Old newspaper plastic wrappers cover well. To cut blooms, carry two buckets of water (at about 103°) into the garden. Cut the bloom allowing sufficient extra cane length. Carry the bloom to one bucket and make a second cut under water and immediately place the bloom in the second bucket. Do not crowd blooms. Bring them indoors and place them in a dim, cool area to rest for approximately one hour. If you're using a frost-free refrigerator, place individual bloom in a newspaper wrapper (Head first), attach a Twistem at the lower end, replace in water and refrigerate. Some varieties are best removed from the fridge the night before the show so they can "relax." Experiment a little and learn for yourself.

Tools: Prepare a supply kit containing: entry tags, pencils, pruning shears, Q-tips, small sharply pointed knife or manicure scissors, tweezers, Scotch Tape, plastic trash bags, couple of small paint brushes and Handi Wipes. It is best to partially prepare entry tags in advance. Both top and bottom of the tag must be filled out with all information. Small return address stickers are helpful for the name and address areas. (Note: entry tags come in two sizes — large for "standard roses" and small for miniatures. Use the right size for your entries).

Study the schedule so you will have a good idea just which classes you will enter and enter the classes correctly. Don't put floribundas in a hybrid tea class and vice versa or regular HTs in a class for single-type HTs (those with 5 to 12 petals). Enter color-entries correctly; for example, don't put a light pink rose in a class that calls for medium or dark pink.

Show day:

Going to the Show: Before leaving your house, make a last minute tour of the garden to see if you cut all you want. Larger blooms can be easily transported in buckets. For large roses, some people use quart milk containers in liquor boxes. Miniatures can be placed in short containers in a short cardboard box. Seatbelt all into place or otherwise secure them. Put on your sweater and turn the air conditioner on full blast (but don't permit the air to blow directly on the blooms).

In the Prep Area: Arrive in time to prepare all your entries plus some time as a cushion. Find a working area and gather enough vases for your use. Keep track of the time; respect the committee's need to close entries at a particular time. Make sure you completely fill out the tag — variety, class, name, etc. Because water sometimes spills on tags, a pencil is preferable. Attach tag to vase by use of a rubber band and position the tag as you wish the exhibit to be seen. Tags for bowls are taped to the bowl, passing the tape over the rubber band. Ditto for boxes and palettes. If you need help with anything, ask for it. However, do not disturb other exhibitors unnecessarily since they are working against the clock too! Clean up your area when you finish. If when you arrived, you had taped the plastic trash bag you brought to the edge of the table, the cleanup will go much faster.

Which Class to Enter: Take advantage of any special classes the schedule offers. If you have several blooms of the same variety, enter them in as many different classes as you can. Read the show schedule carefully.

Grooming Hints: Foliage should be clean. No foreign substance may be used. Color faulted petals may be removed but don't knock the balance off by doing it. Remove extraneous growth from the leaf axils. Freshen and disbudding scars by scraping them with a small knife and applying a little water to it (to keep it from darkening again). Often a bloom can benefit by being a little more open. Some exhibitors use Q-tips as wedges to try to help the bloom open. Others use Kix Cereal (sometimes painted with fluorescent paint to make them more visible). Blowing your warm breath into a bloom is done by others. Sometimes a spot of sunlight can be found nearby where the bloom can be placed while working on other exhibits. Aphids, thrips and/or other critters can be brushed out with a paint brush. It also is used to "work" the petals into a looser conformation. Extraneous petaloids (particularly for Open Bloom class exhibits) can be removed with tweezers. Wedges are now permitted in the TRS shows to help position specimens in vases but use only the wedges specified in the show schedule. A wedge should always remain below the lip of the vase.

Types of Exhibits:

Hybrid Teas: Unless otherwise stated, are to be shown at exhibition stage, generally considered to be 1/2 to % open. Balance and proportion are important, i.e. cane length should be in proportion to the bloom size. Substance (the freshness of the bloom) is also important.

Sprays: All sprays must show two or more blooms — a bud is not a bloom. Hybrid tea or grandiflora sprays should preferably have all blooms at the same stage of development. Floribunda and miniature sprays should preferably show stages of bloom. Open Blooms: This class should not be used as a dumping ground for over-the-hill blooms. Certain varieties (such as Mister Lincoln, Color Magic, Double Delight and Peach Beauty) make beautiful open blooms. The stamens must show and should be as fresh as possible. Extraneous petaloids may be removed but do not gut a bloom to "create" and Open Bloom. Collections: Collections are groupings of three or more blooms, depending on the class. When a single variety is called for, they should be as alike as possible. When of different varieties, they should be complimentary (bloom size, form and color-wise). Stem length should be the same; this is a collection, not an artistic arrangement.

Cycle of Bloom: This is a special collection consisting of a bud (with the sepals down and the petals beginning to unfurl), a bloom at exhibition stage and an open bloom, all of the same variety. In Tampa, these are usually exhibited in one vase but other shows may require separate vases — check the schedule carefully. Bowls: Certain varieties lend themselves to the bowl better than others. No foliage is permitted so freshness of the bloom becomes paramount. The bloom should float well — not be tipsy. Be sure to cut off the stem just below the head of the bloom. Sometimes, trimming the sepals helps to make the bloom float better.

Boxes and Palettes: No foliage is permitted so freshness is extremely important. Because different varieties are involved, the same consideration to mixed variety collections applies. Color impact is an important consideration when doing these challenge classes.

The English Box calls for six blooms (usually 3 varieties or more). Three pairs of "twins" are ideal, although rarely attainable. The placement of the blooms should please the eye. It is generally felt that the "heavier" colors be placed the bottom. Example: a box of pairs of red, pink and white roses should preferably have the red ones at the bottom, the pinks in the center and the whites at the top. The American Box is an interesting challenge calling for nine blooms of at least two varieties. It is easier to put together than the English Box (and more fun!). Some workable combos of varieties are: 1-8, creating a "big picture frame" with a single bloom in the center; 3-3-3, three rows, either vertically or horizontally; 3-3-3, in two small triangles with one diagonal line separating them; 3-6, in three rows, one inner and two outer, done horizontally or vertically; 4-5, a St. George/St. Andrew cross combination of one upright and one across; 2-2-5, done as the latter using two different varieties for the St. George cross; 4-4-1, a cross variation with the single variety in the center. Other interesting geometrical combinations are also effective.

Our Deep South District shows also offer the challenge of a double English box calling for 12 blooms of one or more varieties. This permits the artistic side of the exhibitor to come to the fore. Use the guidance given for the American Box as a starting point.

Old Garden Roses: This is the only place in a show where a

"stem-on-stem" is not a disqualification, but may be penalized, particularly when exhibited against a similar specimen which is not "stem-on-stem." Further information on this subject can be gained from the booklet "Guidelines for Judging Roses" or a rose judge. Miniatures: Much of the above applies to miniature roses as well. Every show has entries for miniatures at exhibition stage, sprays, open blooms, cycle of bloom, bowls, palettes, boxes, etc. Adjust the above criteria to compensate for the small size of the miniatures.



Garden Tip #2

During periods of extreme heat, keep your fertilizing to a minimum. This will help prevent root burn which will show up as a yellow and brown chevron on the leaf tips. And if the weather is very hot for a long period of time, you may want to consider applying liquid fertilizer at half strength. Remember that in hot weather, water, not fertilizer, is a rose's best friend. If you apply granular fertilizer, water roses the day before and after you apply the fertilizer.



Metro Atlanta's Premier Supplier of
Landscape Material and Bulk Earth Products!

Endorsed by Local Gardeners

Alpharetta 770.475.8660 Marietta 770.590.8220 Woodstock 404.384.5640 Buford 678.745.6980 Norcross 770.717.5565

www.greenbrothersearthworks.com

OUR PRODUCTS

- Mulches
- Gravel
- Timbers
- Compost
- Flower Mix
- Landscape Mix
- Top Soil
- Sand
- River Slicks
- Stack Stone
- Egg Rock
- Sod



The Proper Way to Stake and Tie Roses

by Ryan Tilley, Master Rosarian
This article first appeared in the 2013 ARS
The American Rose Annual

Most advice you get on growing roses will be about spraying, fertilizing, when to cut, etc... But there is also an art to properly supporting those long-stemmed beauties and top-heavy bushes while they are growing.

Every rosarian has had that sinking feeling when they see a nice juicy cane with several big blooms lying battered and broken on the ground. The reason is usually winds from a thunderstorm that topple top-heavy canes. But this is needless carnage. You simply have to know how to stake and tie rose canes at risk. Here is what you need to know to avert catastrophe! First up will be my favorites...hybrid teas and other cutting roses.

For Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, and Upright Growing English Roses

Identify Which Canes Need to Be Staked

Any basal break or low lateral that comes from the bottom of the bush is a candidate for staking. These are the canes that will produce your roses in the years ahead and must be protected by staking. These canes will be fat and reddish in color at the beginning. When buds begin to form, it is time to stake. Of course, the cane can also be staked before it forms buds.

Large canes that are growing taller than 6 feet should be staked as well. This is especially true if buds are opening or if you have a candelabra (many blooming stems separated by only a few inches). Canes are especially susceptible to breaking when you have opening blooms because water gets inside the petals making each bloom heavier and weighting down the cane. Bring on some wind and these canes will be on the ground before you know it.



Fig. 1 6 & 8 ft. Green Bamboo Takiron Stakes

What To Use

I like to use the green bamboo (iron) stakes in sizes of 6 feet, 7 feet, and 8 feet (figure 1) that can be bought at most garden centers, including **Home Depot** and **Lowe's**. If you are buying a lot of stakes, the online company, **AM Leonard**, has great prices on bulk orders. So, get rose society members' orders collected and call Craig Beaty in the corporate division for even better prices. Search "takiron stakes" online (www.amleo.com) or find them in their catalog.

For the ties, I like the metal "Twist Ties" that I can get at Home Depot and Lowe's in rolls of 100 or 200 feet. The ones at Lowes tend to be easier to cut and use.

How To Stake and Tie.

First: Place the stakes as close to the cane as possible to make it grow straight upwards (figure 2).

Second: Use one tie per cane. Do not try and save ties by wrapping a tie around two different canes. The end result is congested growth and canes that scrape each other. You can tie more than one cane to a stake (figure 2), but you will use only one tie per cane. In the end, you want nice straight canes.



Fig 2. Correct Way to Tie Large Canes to Stake

Third: Tie the cane as high as is reasonable to make it straight. The higher you tie, the more support you are giving to the cane. The exception is that if the cane is growing outward too much, it will look funny pulling the top of the cane so much. In that case, tie the cane further down with a short tie and use a much longer tie to gently support the cane further up (figure 3). Re-tie canes as they grow and get longer as needed.



Fig 3. A rose cane tied low & high for additional support

Fourth: What if there are two or three big canes coming from the top of another cane, each of which has blooms on top-heavy stems? Use a tie for each of the top-heavy canes. Tie them at different heights and don't pull them too far toward the stake. You want to try to keep the canes growing as normally as possible as they get bigger. Don't be afraid to use 3 or 4 stakes, even on a first year bush (figure 4).



Fig 4. First Year Hybrid Tea with Big Canes Staked

For Staking Tree Roses

Most of the staking that I do is for cutting roses and English Roses, but tree roses or “standards” are just as needy if they are growing well. When you first plant a tree rose on its 24 inch, 36 inch, or 48 inch stem, everything looks to be in nice proportion. But after many months of being well-cared for and much growing, tree roses begin to get top heavy and large canes are at risk for breaking. Before you know it, you’ll be strolling through the garden after a thunderstorm or a very windy night only to find a large cane broken off; or worse yet, the entire top of the rose will be snapped completely off! This did not have to happen if it was properly staked.



Fig 5. Properly Staked Hybrid Tea with Several 8 Foot Long Thick Plastic Stakes

Fifth: If two large canes are too close to each other or are rubbing together, use your stake to separate them and space them apart from other canes.

Sixth: When bushes get really large, they will often start leaning in one direction. It is a good idea to put a tall 8 foot stake close to the center of the bush and use it to gently nudge the bush back to being straight (figure 5). I often use a brick under the bud union to help straighten it out.

Seventh: Once a cane has been staked, your job is not done. You need to keep checking on it to see if you need to move the tie higher or perhaps put another tie to keep it secure. You do know that roses keep growing all year...right?

Eighth: There is one easy way to know if the rose is staked properly...you will have scratches on your hand. No matter how light and flexible your gloves are, there is no way to get all those ties through those tight spaces with them on. And it is very hard to use a twist tie with gloves on. For the easy ones to tie, gloves will work, just use the following tip...

Tip: Cut longer ties than you will need and carefully weave it around the cane you want to tie. The extra length will give you more room to grab the tie and twist it without taking off your gloves. If the tie is too short, the tie will continually slip out of your fingers if you are wearing gloves.

Ninth: If your roses are growing tall and you have a lot to stake, take a stool with you to the garden. Continually reaching over your head to prune and tie is not a good thing for your shoulders, arms, and neck, especially if you are rapidly becoming an old man like me. Always have a tube of Ben Gay, and/or ice pack and heating pad ready if you will be reaching over your head for a long period of time.

Of course, you can always slack off on your rose care. That way your roses will not grow as well and then they won’t be as tall and top-heavy with blooms! The choice is yours.

Tenth: Know What Roses You Are Growing! Roses on fortuniana rootstock will grow taller with more blooms than roses on other rootstocks. It is the preferred rootstock here in Georgia. If you use 6 or 7 stakes per healthy bush, that is not too many. I have actually had to use metal fence posts on some of my hybrid teas and tree roses to keep them from toppling over. My advice if you get a *Moonstone* or *Iceberg* tree rose from a good grower, have a few metal fence posts and 8 foot stakes handy...you will need them!

The First Year

In year number one, staking tree roses is easy. Once again, you can use 7-8 foot tall plastic bamboo stakes, but I would definitely use the thickest ones that you can get. My choice is **A.M. Leonard**, who gives you the most choices of thickness as well as heights. Thicker Is Better! You want to use tall and thick stakes because they will eventually need to support a lot of weight. They even have very thick 8 foot tall stakes as well as thicker 6 foot tall stakes. Push the



Fig 6. First Year Julia Child Tree Rose Staked with Green Bamboo Stakes

stake into the ground tight against the stem when you plant the tree rose and tie it in several different places along the stem. You will also want to tie one of the actual canes to the stake as well. Or simply use a second stake and tie a large cane to it. This should suffice for the rest of the year (figure 6).

Year Number Two and Beyond

But in year number two, the situation may drastically change, especially if the rose that was grafted onto the tree stem is a hybrid tea. Hybrid teas typically grow 5 to 7 feet tall in the ground and that is what they will do as a tree rose as well. So you will find yourself with a rose that is much taller than you and very, very top heavy. This is the time to use one or more additional thick 7-8

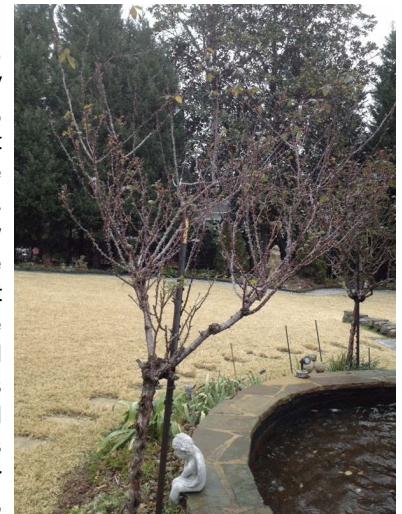


Fig 7. Large Julia Child Tree Rose with Heavy Metal Stakes

foot tall stakes. Push them in the ground next to the biggest canes and securely tie the canes to the stakes.



Fig 8. Large Iceberg Tree Rose That Needed More Heavy Metal Stakes

(figure 7) . If you don't use these heavier stakes, the tree rose can begin to lean over (figure 8) or canes can break off. If it is very top heavy, the stem can even crack or even snap totally off! If the stem is cracked or broken, it can often be fixed by using a strong tape like duct tape(Is there anything duct tape can't fix?) and tightly staking the broken area (figure 9). As long as at least part of the stem is still attached, you have a reasonable chance for success. I cannot emphasize enough how important strong support is to tree roses. Other fancy means of securing tree roses should be avoided unless you can pound them at least a minimum of one foot into the

So you're done, right? Wrong! Some rose varieties like **Moonstone, Veterans' Honor, Perfume Delight,** etc... get so large and so heavy that you have to break out the big guns. Even **Iceberg** can make an unbelievably top heavy tree rose. **My solution** - 7 foot high green metal fence posts or any other heavy stake that can be pounded at least a foot into the ground. These can be purchased at garden centers like **Home Depot** or **Lowe's**. You will need to pound them in as close to the stem as possible with a sledge hammer



Fig 9. Tree Rose with Cracked Stem Repaired with Duct Tape Then Tightly Staked

Once the stake (or stakes!!) are in place, you will need a sturdier tie. I like to use short bungee cords which you can also buy at **Home Depot**. These cords will not dig into the bark like wire ties can. You can also use coated, thicker wire which also won't dig into the canes as easily. I also like to place an old sock or piece of cloth between the tie and the stem to further avoid the tie digging into the stem. Use one bungee cord to secure the stem to post and then use another one

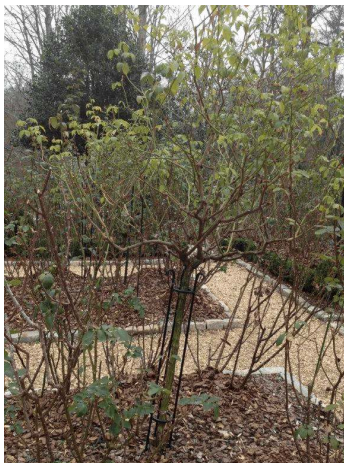


Fig 10. This Support is Not Heavy or Deep Enough to Support Large Iceberg Tree Rose

to tie a large cane to it. This may be all you need, but I like to pound another metal fence post away from the stem where I can tie another large, thick cane to it. Believe it or not, I have actually had to use as many as 3 metal fence posts to secure a large **Moonstone** tree rose (figure 11). Better safe than sorry!

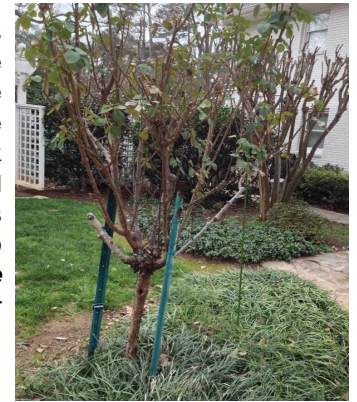


Fig 11. Well Staked Mature Moonstone Tree Rose

For Climbing Roses

As for climbing roses, I always find that growing them on a fence eliminates all need to stake as the canes can be tied right to the fence. But in other situations where there is no way to tie the climber, I once again use the heavy plastic-looking "takiron" bamboo stakes and push them into the ground as far as I can. I do this at least 3-5 feet from the center of the climber and then bend the canes horizontally (see figure 12) until they can be tied to the stake. Keeping the canes horizontal produces many more blooms than if the climber is allowed to grow vertically. There are many ways to attach climbers to walls, pergolas, etc... but that is best left for another article.



Fig 12. Climbing Rose with Cane Tied Sideways with a Green Bamboo Stake

Miniatures and Mini-Floras

Miniatures and Minifloras typically don't need much staking at all since they usually don't grow more than 3 or feet tall. If you want to stake them, placing the stake in the middle of the rose and then using a twist tie is usually enough to secure the bush and keep it from leaning. If the rose gets larger than that, the quality of the blooms usually suffers a bit even though you will ultimately get more blooms. These roses respond very well to hard pruning so don't hesitate to give them a good pruning when necessary .

For my final words of wisdom, if you ever have a question about whether to stake a rose or not, err on the side of caution. No rose was ever harmed by having too many stakes and no roses were harmed during the writing of this article..





Extreme Fertilizing...

(The following was extracted from Rosebud, March 2013, newsletter of the Central Louisiana Rose society)

Have you ever wondered "How do the rose exhibitors get those big green leaves and huge blooms?" The answer is that they were fed often and with highly nutritious food. Do you want big leaves and huge blooms? Follow a "rich" feeding schedule.

Consulting Rosarian Clyde Bartlett: "After pruning, remove the pine straw mulch. Put approximately 1 to 1-1/2 cups of a mixture of alfalfa pellets, cottonseed meal, Epsom salts and fish meal around each bush, less for miniatures. At the same time, put approximately 3/4 cup of 13-13-13 Osmocote slow release around each bush, less for miniatures and replace the pine straw. When the bushes start putting on new growth, fertilize with water soluble fertilizer (1 T. per gallon of water per bush, less for miniatures). Do this each week until they bloom.

Consulting Rosarian Dr. Don Edgerton: ...While the soil is exposed, apply the elements of first feeding directly to the soil to each large rose (1/3 for minis): 1 cup Alfalfa pellets, 1 cup Cottonseed meal, 1/2 cup Gypsum, 1/2 cup Epsom salts, 1 cup Sand, 1 cup Composted cow manure, and 1/4 cup '9-month slow release fertilizer 13-13-13'.

Place newspapers on the nutrients and then pile on a 3-4" layer of mulch. Worms love newsprint; the paper suppresses weed growth and eventually turns into organic humus." Avoid putting fertilizer on a newly planted rose. Wait until it is well established and has put out its first set of blooms.

Advice from noted rosarian A.J. "Pop" Warner, found in the book *A Year in the Rose Garden*, a collection of his articles compiled by Marilyn Wellan, says: "A large handful of 10-20-10 or 12-24-12 per bush will produce good results. Spread fertilizers on the mulch but do not dig. Digging will destroy the tender feeder roots." The objective of the organics is to supply nutrients to the micro-organisms in the soil. The micro-organisms convert fertilizers into elements that can be absorbed and used by plants. Use any combination of organics such as alfalfa, cottonseed meal, fish meal, blood meal, composted manure, or others. Broadcast the organics evenly around the plant, more for large plants, less for smaller plants.

When new growth appears begin weekly liquid feedings with water soluble fertilizer such as 20-20-20, alfalfa tea, manure tea, Miracle Grow, etc. until blooms appear in April. .

The Rose Petals April 2013 Lenna Easter editor



Surviving July

by Ryan Tilley, MR

July will soon be upon us and so will the **Worst Roses of the Year!** That's right, every year both me and my roses are battling temperatures from the 90's up to 106 degrees that produce teeny, tiny blooms, little or no rainfall, broken canes and bushes from thunderstorm winds when it does rain, hail damage from these storms, spider mites, caterpillars, spray burn on foliage, fertilizer burn on foliage, blackspot, Japanese beetles, mosquitoes, sunburn, and heat exhaustion. Oh, did I mention that it is hotter than Hades when you are out in the garden? Did I leave anything out?

Anyway, there are 31 days in July and on each and every one of them I don't worry too much about how my roses look. The only real exception to this laissez faire attitude is the threat of spider mites, which can cause long-term harm to the bushes. I am always alert to this threat and will break out one or two of my arsenal of miticides to combat the ever-present threat.

So how do I cope? I admit that each July I ponder the sanity of devoting so much time to my roses when I should be devoting more time to my swimming pool. But my solution is simple, that as long as the bushes are well-watered and the mites are under control, I just do not care how the blooms look.

If Japanese beetles attack, I shrug my shoulders knowing that they only last 3-4 weeks and the blooms they are munching on will be replaced by better blooms by mid-late August and the new growth will conceal any eaten leaves. Ditto for budworms.

If it hits 106 degrees or so, I stop spraying and fertilizing until cooler days and nights arrive and I do not even consider deadheading. Those spent blooms will be covered up soon enough.

I wait until evening to stroll through the garden with a nice cold adult beverage. Things always look better in the evening light after you have finished your adult beverage.

I help out the rose foliage by overhead watering (gasp!) in the heat of the day. I have a dozen or so overhead sprinklers attached to hoses set up on top of trash cans and all I have to do is turn them on for 10 or 15 minutes each. The roses are happy, the foliage looks better, insects are washed off, birds that eat insects are attracted for a quick splash, and all I have to do is remember to turn them off, which is not a given. Thank goodness for my well!

Sunscreen sprays are a must. They are sooo much better than the annoying lotions of summers long, long ago. The sprays go on light and don't run into my eyes.

The final thing is to make sure I keep the fridge stocked with plenty of low calorie beverage options so I do not get dehydrated. While water is considered best, I like my zero calorie friends with that delightful carbonated buzz.



Garden Tip #3

When planting roses on a slope, use the leftover heavier native soil (clay) on the lower side of the slope. By raising the lower side of the area you are planting you help to hold water in the root zone of the new rose and help stop any erosion. When you are done raising this area, the back side of the rose hole should be level with the front side of the hole.

Color in Roses

by Jolene Adams, President ARS



Here is the “color wheel” for roses. You can use the relationships shown in the color wheel to design your garden. Notice the almost straight line connecting buff, shell pink, salmon, copper, orange and vermilion. These colors mix and match quite well together. Similarly, pink, rose, cerise and purple lie on a line. They mix and match quite well also. Gold, orange, vermilion, scarlet and red lie in a connected arc. These hot colors of equal saturation work well together.

You could also try candy pink, salmon, coral, pale apricot, and apricot together. The general rule is that colors that have obvious relationships to each other on the color wheel will frequently work well together. When it is difficult to explain how the colors on the wheel are related, it usually means that the colors will not work well together.

Color Relationships

Colors have specific ways they relate to one another. One is the distinction between warm and cool colors. Draw a line from white to red. The colors that lie above this line are warm colors. Those that lie below the line are cool colors. As a general rule, warm colors work best with warm colors and cool colors work best with cool colors.

A second special relationship is between saturated colors and unsaturated colors, sometimes referred to as pastels. Saturated colors are the ones around the outside rim of the wheel. Pastels are the ones that approach white. Saturated colors have visual impact, and may clash violently. Pastels tend to blend better, allowing for a little more latitude when choosing companion plants and other roses.

Roses produce a wide variety of garden-friendly blossoms. Any gardener who plans and plants carefully, works diligently and fearlessly tears up garden groupings that just don't work is bound to end up with a visually striking and gorgeous garden full of colors that harmonize beautifully.

Give it a try - use your roses in color relationships that

work. No screaming mismatches, no hideous clashes. Just soothing and relaxing mixtures - suited to the Queen of Flowers.

Thanks to Steven Brubaker for the idea for this article
Check out this color diagram on our website version of this issue.



Ask Mr. Know It All

by Ryan Tilley

Q : In the David Austin catalog, what is the difference between the rose *Jude the Obscure* and the climbing version?

A : *Jude the Obscure* is not really a climbing rose at, but rather one of a set of roses that have been given that designation to make it easier to pick out English roses that are suitable to use as climbers. So *Jude the Obscure* is the exact same rose as *Climbing Jude the Obscure*. And of all the roses given the “Climbing” label, *Jude the Obscure* will take the most time to become what you think of as a climber.

The other roses like *Abraham Darby*, *Sweet Juliet*, *James Galway*, *Golden Celebration*, *Evelyn*, and *The Wedgewood Roses* will all grow into climbers more quickly. Given time they can be trained as one over time.

And this labeling roses as climbers is not just something you see in the David Austin catalog, many climbing roses have been labeled this way over the years. The old garden rose, *Zephirine Drouhin* and the shrub rose *Sally Holmes* are 2 examples of this.

In the end it really does not matter if a rose is labeled “climbing” or not. As long as the rose puts out long canes that can be trained over a arbor, on a fence or trellis, etc... it can be used as a climber. Even some especially tall hybrid teas could be trained as a climber if that is what you want. You would simply train the canes to go where you want them.



2013 Roses In Review Results



Every year Consulting Rosarians and Master Rosarians like myself rate the newest roses for cut flower and Exhibition potential. Here are the current top ten results.

Top Ten Big Roses

<u>Garden Variety</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Rpts</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Randy Scott	HT	w	138	8.4
Mr. Caleb	HT	m	21	8.0
Snuffy	HT	op	91	8.0
Crescendo	HT	pb	84	7.9
Sir John Betjeman	Eng.	pn	13	7.9
Grandma Allison	HT	op	15	7.8
Princess Alexandra of Kent	Eng.	pn	36	7.8
T.M. Coop	HT	rb	14	7.8
Artic Circle	HT	w	63	7.7
Bold and Beautiful	HT	pb	18	7.7
JoAnn Edwards	HT	pb	18	7.7
Love's Kiss	HT	pb	22	7.7

Top Ten Miniatures and Miniflora Roses

Shawn Sease	MinFl	pb	53	8.2
Cooper	MinFl	m	57	8.0
Magic Show	Min	rb	149	8.0
Alysheba	Min	m	41	7.9
Abby Leonard	MinFl	rb	45	7.9
Powerhouse	MinFl	rb	90	7.9
Baldo Villegas	Min Fl	w	116	7.8
Little Jimmie Dickens	Min	m	10	7.8
Mikayla Danille	Min Fl	w	19	7.8
Robin's Rose	Min	m	10	7.7

Ratings Scale

- 9.3 - 10 One of the best roses ever. Very few roses rated here
- 8.8 - 9.2 An outstanding rose. The top 1%
- 8.3 - 8.7 A very good to excellent rose. Highly recommended
- 7.8 - 8.2 A very good rose. Well above average
- 7.3 - 7.7 A good rose. Somewhat above average
- 6.8 - 7.2 An average rose
- 6.1 - 6.7 A below average rose
- 0.0 - 6.0 Not recommended

What's the Diagnosis?

Parkinson's Disease

by Barry McCalsland M.D.



In 1817 a British surgeon (not physician, and it was an important distinction back then) wrote a medical treatise that is one of the most revered descriptions of a disease in the history of my specialty, Neurology. His treatise was called An Essay on the Shaking Palsy, and his name was James Parkinson.

Some sixty years later, Jean-Martin Charcot, a famed French neurologist, renamed the condition Parkinson's Disease in his honor. The essay was based on careful descriptions of six individuals whom Parkinson never examined. He observed these people in the course of their everyday lives in early 18th century London and occasionally queried them for lists of symptoms. Amongst their behaviors, he noted tremors, stiffness of the extremities, a paucity of natural movements, and a tendency to fall, the four cardinal signs of the illness.

So what does any of this have to do with rose gardening? Well, I'm glad you asked. You see, medical science has yet to discover the cause of Parkinson's disease, but many believe there is an increased risk of developing it with exposure to mancozeb, one of our important weapons in the fight against blackspot.

An experimental model of Parkinson's disease can be induced by giving a rat or other lab animal a chemical called MPTP. The same chemical, which sometimes contaminates heroin, is a known cause in humans. So the notion that Parkinson's can be caused by a toxin is well-established.

On May 27, 2013, Neurology, the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology, published an article entitled, "Meta-Analysis: Bug and Weed Killers, Solvents May Increase the Risk of Parkinson's Disease." The article carefully analyzed more than 100 studies in the medical literature linking exposure to pesticides and solvents to the development of Parkinson's disease. The authors found an increased incidence of Parkinson's disease in individuals with exposure to a number of substances, but the strongest associations were with paraquat, a non-selective herbicide, and mancozeb, our familiar fungicide [also sold as Manzate or Pentathlon - Editor]. Interestingly, an association was found with farming, living in a rural environment, and drinking well water, all of which at least theoretically can be explained by exposure to agricultural chemicals. The article did not distinguish between exposure from inhalation and skin contact. It also did not attempt to quantify exposure, though it would be important to distinguish infrequent exposure from repeated, heavy industrial exposure over long intervals of time.

If the article is accurate, then exposure to mancozeb nearly doubles the lifetime risk of developing Parkinson's disease. To put things in perspective, there are between 500,000 and 1 million Americans with PD. That means the prevalence of the disease in the United States is about 1 in 500. However, since the illness rarely affects young adults, the incidence in individuals over 65 is much

higher. Does doubling the risk (i.e., increasing it to 1 in 250) matter much? That is for you to decide.

The mechanism by which mancozeb may increase the risk of Parkinson's disease is not known, nor is it known whether it accelerates the disease's development in the earliest stages, when it may not be recognized.

It is worth noting that welders have a higher incidence of PD than the general population; that is thought to be due to the long-term effects of manganese-containing metal fumes. Individuals who live near ferro-manganese mines in Italy have been studied, and are at higher risk as well. As you might guess, the "man" in mancozeb refers to a manganese ion (and the "z" to zinc).

Well, fellow rosarians, are you going to spray mancozeb on your roses? If you do, are you going to wear gloves and a mask? What if you already have the beginning symptoms of Parkinson's disease As I said earlier, it is for you to decide. As I look at my roses now I see the disastrous toll our rainy summer had on 'Peace' and 'Andrea Steltzer'. I will probably keep spraying.

Attention Loyal Subscribers

For those of you who are only getting the printed version of this newsletter, in order to see some of the color pictures in this newsletter, you can check out our web version. Just send us your e-mail address and we will send you a password. Or if you want the online version only, just let us know. Also, if you are already getting the web version, please make sure we have your correct or newest e-mail address.

When Do I Have Enough Roses?

Source:

<http://forums2.gardenweb.com/forums>

When you see all those luscious photos in the Rose catalogues, and you get the uncontrollable urge to

order all the ones you don't have, and your rational side rears its ugly head and says, "but you already have enough roses," here's what you can tell that rational kill-joy:

How to count how many roses you have

1. Mini roses don't count.
2. Floribundas, 'because they are not full-fledged hybrid teas', count as half.

3. Shrubs, Climbers, Ramblers, Old Garden Roses, etc. don't count because they can be considered "landscaping."

4. Roses not planted 'or in pots' don't count. (See the "Territory" Clause).

5. Roses that were discounted count as half.

6. Roses received as gifts don't count.

7. Odd numbers must always be rounded off, if you're out of room, round the number down. For every one-hundred, divide by two. This is known as a "stock split."

8. Roses whose names you don't know or can't remember obviously don't count.

9. Roses that are on "Shovel Prune Watch" don't count; the roses that replace them also don't count as they cancel each other out.

10. Duplicate/multiples count as one - they are considered a set.

11. Roses that are not planted in a bed don't count. (See the "Landscaping" Addendum).

12. Bare roots don't count because they are dormant when they arrive; once you plant them and they start to bud out, well, you've already done your count, so you will just have to wait until next season, by which time you'll be sure you already counted them.

13. Mislabeled roses don't count because you probably already have one of them somewhere, which has already been counted once, probably.

14. Anything less than Grade 1 counts only a fraction, and since fractions are not whole numbers they can be rounded off (remember the rounding off rule).

15. Roses that you think you might give away can be excluded from the count, makes it easier to part with them; if, by some chance you wind up keeping them, oh well.

16. HTs that get huge and wind up taking more than one space should be counted twice, but re-member the duplicate rule.

17. Now if, after counting, you have under a hundred roses, you must immediately place some orders and they don't count because they're in transit and therefore not in the ground.

18. Roses ordered on a whim really don't count because they were never on a list. (This is known as the List Rule: If it's not on a list, it doesn't exist, most likely).

19. If you cut many roses and give them away, this is considered Charity, and everyone knows that you get special allowances for Charity, which brings us to...

20. Tax Deductions. (see Claiming Roses as Dependents).

See? You really didn't have as many as you thought you did! Time to go order some more!

From the Nov/Dec 2012 issue of the Vancouver BC Rose Society, Dale Akerstrom and Alex Diaz, Editors.





Weather Word

by Ryan Tilley,
Meteorologist Extraordinaire

According to a new study, since November 2013, the jet stream pattern over the United States was the most extreme on record. This extreme jet pattern was responsible for the much bally-hoed “Polar Vortex”

references in the media and the current super drought in California. And it occurred without any strong correlation to any of the usual weather predictors and anomalies which means there is little to go on for future forecasts. In layman’s terms, what this means is that in the absence of an El Nino or La Nina and other known predictors, this could be the new climatological norm for us...a scary thought indeed.

As we head into May it looks like the long range weather pattern is about to undergo a significant change. Several factors near the equator and central Pacific basin indicate a very good chance of a moderate to strong El Nino developing by the middle of this summer and lasting well into next year. This would finally end the below normal temperatures across the southeast and bring us normal to above normal temperatures by July with near normal precipitation. This will also likely mean fewer tropical storms and hurricanes, although any one particular storm could still develop into a major hurricane and affect the U.S. coastal cities.

	<i>Avg high</i>	<i>Avg low</i>	<i>Avg Rain</i>
May 15			
Atlanta	81	59	4.29
Alpharetta	79	53	4.68
Athens	82	58	4.37
Blairsville	75	49	4.81
Columbus	84	61	4.17
Helen	78	51	6.05
Macon	85	59	3.57
Rome	79	54	4.51
Savannah	84	63	4.09

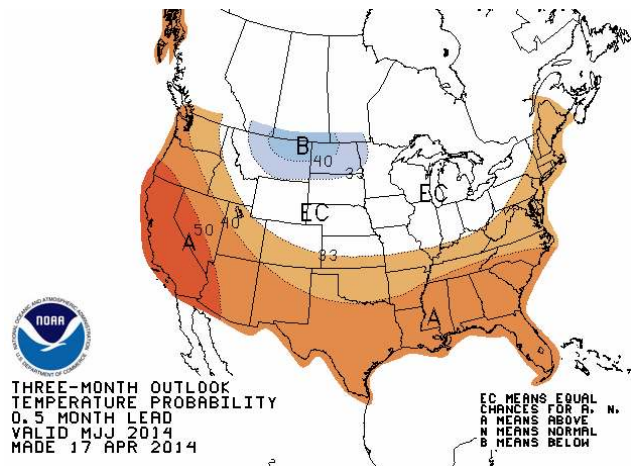
June 15			
Atlanta	88	68	3.56
Alpharetta	85	64	3.67
Athens	89	66	3.93
Blairsville	81	57	4.32
Columbus	90	68	4.07
Helen	83	59	4.58
Macon	90	67	3.58
Rome	85	62	4.16
Savannah	89	69	5.66

July 15			
Atlanta	90	70	5.01
Alpharetta	87	65	4.82

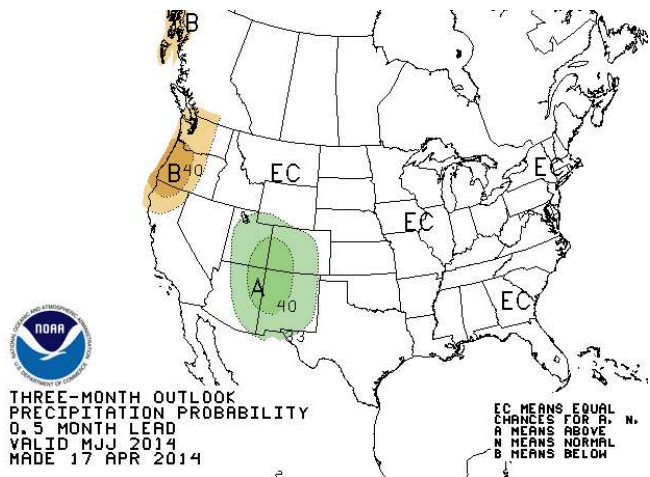
Athens	91	70	4.88
Blairsville	84	61	4.85
Columbus	92	72	5.54
Helen	86	63	6.08
Macon	93	71	4.30
Rome	87	67	4.79
Savannah	91	73	6.38

Aug. 15			
Atlanta	90	69	3.66
Alpharetta	87	65	4.12
Athens	91	69	3.70
Blairsville	83	60	4.42
Columbus	91	71	3.73
Helen	85	63	5.56
Macon	92	70	3.63
Rome	87	66	4.02
Savannah	90	72	7.46

May - July Spring/Summer Temperature Outlook



May - July Spring/Summer Precipitation Outlook



Garden Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

1st Tues each month - Greater Gwinnett Rose Society Meeting

Justice and Administration Center (GJAC)

Kim Borland, President 770-983-1806

kim.borland@yahoo.com www.gwinnettrose.org

3rd Tues each month - Atlanta Rose Society Meeting 7:30 PM

Atlanta Botanical Garden;

President: Barry McCasland 404-762-6103 or

bmccas@aol.com

4th Mon each month - South Metro RS Meeting 7:30 PM

Heritage Bank on N. Jeff Davis Drive, Fayetteville

Steve Bell, President 770-722-5395

stevebelltex@gmail.com

May 10-11 - GARS Rose Show Atlanta Botanical Garden

Barry McCasland 404-762-6103

May 17-18 - South Metro Rose Show Church of Christ,

Fayetteville, GA Steve Bell 770-722-5395

June 21 - Greater Atlanta Rose Society Picnic, 4PM, Jim & Emily

Landrum jl2ew@bellsouth.net, h) 770-948-5691, c) 404-842-5445

June 28 South Metro RS Picnic, Prime Community Park's Secret

Garden, Fayetteville, GA

July TBA...Greater Gwinnett RS Picnic berdks@mindspring.com

Oct 11 - GGRS Fall Rose Show, Bogan Park, Buford GA

NATIONAL / REGIONAL EVENTS

May 9-12 - 2014 ARS Spring Conference & Rose Show,

San Diego, CA. Town & Country Hotel. Info at:

www.sdrosesociety.org (look for Wendy)

May 8-15: WFRS Regional Convention, Barcelona, Spain

July 25-27 - ARS Mini National Convention, Mt. Laurel, NJ

Contact Gus Banks, 609-267-3809, jrsyrose@verizon.net

Oct 15-19 - ARS Fall National Conference & Rose Show,

Tyler TX.. Don Adlong, dona@alliance.net

Oct 24-26 - Deep South District Fall Convention & Rose Show

Gainesville, FL, streamj@gmail.com

(Meet Wendy at the 3 national rose conventions-- San Diego,

CA, Mt. Laurel, NJ and Tyler, TX this year)

Here is the world famous recipe for that summer tonic that roses love so well. Make the tea by itself or add the extra goodies to make it even better

Fortified Alfalfa Tea

(for an average 32-34 gallon trash can)

Approx. 8 lbs. alfalfa meal or pellets

Fill Trash can with water

Cover. Mix well. Let tea steep 4 days. Stir Daily

Extra goodies to add: 1 quart fish emulsion

1 quart chelated liquid iron

2 lbs. Epsom salts

16 Tbsp of a good liquid fertilizer like Peter's 20-20-20,

Miracle Grow, or Magnum Grow (this is half strength)

I like to also add 6 Tbsp of Response Liquid Seaweed

www.rosegardensbyryan.com

Serious rosarians!

SAVE YOUR HANDS

GARDEN SMART... be hand healthy

Do you have...?

The NEW "Muletto" 7in1 multifunction wheelbarrow, pot mover, garden cart, hand cart, trailer mover...

BARNEL pruners, loppers, thorn strippers

Bionic Rose Gauntlets &

SHORT Bionic rose gloves

Harlane rose garden labels

*ALL Bionic products are designed by an orthopaedic hand surgeon to protect your hands while worn comfortably in tough, thorny rose gardens

*Bionic gloves were tested & recommended by Arthritis Foundation

Bionic rose gloves are machine-washable goatskin

Contact Wendy, 404-771-9300

www.TheRoseGardener.com

Answers to Quiz on Page 1

1) F 2) T 3) F 4) T 5) F



Is Your Subscription Expiring???

Check the upper right hand corner of the mailing label to find your expiration date. That will be your last issue. Send your renewal checks (\$18 including archived web issues) to the address above left to continue receiving The Georgia Rose for one more year (3 more very large issues).

American Rose Society

PO Box 30000

Shreveport, LA 71130

Annual Membership

\$49 Regular \$46 Senior 3 years \$140

You get: Bi-monthly issues of *the expanded*

American Rose magazine

1 issue of *The American Rose Annual*, The

Annual Rose Selection Guide

Check out our other websites:

rosegardensbyryan.com,

harlanegardenlabels.com

therosegardener.com

The Rose Gardener

Shears

Harlane Garden Labels & more!

Bionic Rose Gloves

WENDY TILLEY
404-771-9300 • therosegardener.com

Visit our booth at the
New Bern Home & Garden Show

The Georgia Rose
6794 Woodstock Rd.
Acworth, GA 30102

