

ARS Deep South District (Florida, Georgia, Alabama)

Top 10 Rose Recommendations

The Deep South District is one of the largest Districts of the American Rose Society, (totaling 18 District).

In the DSD there are 8 different hardiness zones, 7A – 10B. The growing methods and classes of roses that do well here can and do vary quite a lot. We have been asked to compile a list of the top 10 roses that grow well here in regards to vigor and resistance. We have gone a bit further by doing this in 5 classes of both Modern and Old Garden classes.

We did a survey of our District that comprises of 25 societies, asking them for their best growers and resistant varieties. Some clubs offered a mix from Hybrid Teas to OGR's and other classes. While some had just Minis and Miniflorias for the most part, while a couple had only Hybrid Teas or OGR's. With this being the case, we comprised the following list that offers our top recommendations for each of the 5 classes. I personally have grown most of the varieties on the list and find them to have validity.

Any new grower looking to start a rose garden or just adding a few new ones can be assured that this 2017 top 10 list will perform quite well here in the Deep South region. I suggest for best results, you purchase only roses grafted on Fortuniana root stock, (the native rose of the south east). This root stock has 3 very important attributes that is essential for our District. Number one is it needs no dormancy period, number 2, it is drought resistant and number 3, it is very Nematode resistant, all three are important for having quality plants for this region.

The OGRs and Hybrid Teas will get quite large grown on the Fortuniana root stock. It is suggested to plant these approximately 6 foot apart allowing for good air circulation. Our compilation committee hopes this list will serve you well in future selections of your new beauties. (Look for this list also on the American Rose Society web-site).

Hybrid Teas	Floribundas	Minis & Miniflorias
Beverly	First Kiss	Autumn Splendor
Elina	Hannah Gordon	Breath of Spring
Heart of Gold	Iceberg	Cooper
Louise Estes	Kanegem	Daddy Frank
Mister Lincoln	Lady of the Dawn	Fairhope
Moonstone	Novalis	Joy
Nine Eleven	Play Girl	Magic Show
Pope John Paul II	Sexy Remy	Pierrine
Touch of Class	Sun Flare	Tiffany Lynn
Veterans' Honor	Sunsprite	Whirlaway

Shrubs & Climbers

Old Garden Roses

Abraham Darby	Blush Noisette
Belinda's Dream	Bon Silène
Carefree Beauty	Champneys' Pink Cluster
Darcey Bussell	Louise Philippe
Dortmund	Mrs B.R. Cant
Heritage	Mutabilis
Jude the Obscure	Paul Neyron
Molineux	Pink Pet
Prosperity	Old Blush
Sally Holmes	Rêve d'Or

This list may change as time goes by as we discover newer resistant varieties. I thank all who participated in this survey; it should help others keep from making the mistake of planting roses that do not perform in our region. Our task is to keep fellow rosarians interested by being successful.

Ralph Stream, DSD Director