

THE ROSE PETAL



A Member of the American Rose Society

Calendar

Monday January 23 @ 7 pm,
GPBRS mtg, Mounts
January 20-22 DSD
MidWinter Meeting,
Gainesville FL

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Our co-President Geoff
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Message from co-President Geoff Coolidge:

Time to feed the roses.

I can't tell you how many times I've had someone come out to our nursery and get really excited over all the hundreds of flowers and immediately want to plant a rose garden. We sometimes spend an hour or two discussing the various types of roses, their growth habits, disease resistance and of course feeding. Their enthusiasm rubs off on me as well and I envision some new members to the rose society, possibly future rose show exhibitors. We discuss the soil. Potting mix for pots and compost to replace the sand in their yards for roses planted in the ground. And of course the feeding. Unfortunately, most of the time my words fall on deaf ears or at best in one and out the other. Usually about three weeks later I will get a phone call and learn that their roses don't look so good. I ask all the usual questions, like, have you planted them yet? Believe it or not, lots of them haven't. I have fallen into that category of gardener having purchased many a plant only to let it die in its original container before getting around to planting it. If they have planted their roses I ask if they put in the "good" soil. About half the time the answer is no, but is it too late to sprinkle some on top? My third question is, did you add the fertilizer I told you about?

Continued from p. 1

Again, most of the time the answer is no, but not all of the time. Sometimes I get the call from someone that did put in some new soil with fertilizers and is calling to tell me how wonderfully their roses are growing. I think that once you see the result of your efforts, you might look forward to feeding your roses and will definitely notice when they are hungry.

Our dog Lucky is an eight pound dachshund. He has a little wire stand that holds two bowls labeled "food" and "water" and when those bowls are empty, Lucky uses his paw to drag stand and all into the middle of the floor as a friendly reminder that he is hungry. Before he started dragging it into the middle of the kitchen I would frequently walk past those empty bowls. Lucky is such a smart dog. I'm so proud of him, I starve him just to show my friends what he can do when they come over.

If your roses are well fed, they will, of course, have lots of flowers and new buds. The leaves will be large and dark green as opposed to small pale and veined. When you cut a flower, new purple growth will flush out right away foretelling the next flush of blooms and causing quite a stir among the insect population in your neighborhood.

Now is the time to feed. During the winter months it is hard to over feed your roses. I like to use timed release and organic fertilizers, but any type will do. Just feed them. During the winter months, in addition to the fertilizers I put in the soil, I add liquid fertilizers to my weekly fungicide spray as well. I use stuff like fish emulsion, Peters 20-20-20, Mimik, Epsom salts. Just about anything that I can dissolve in water. Roses will really respond to good feeding. Just remember that they also need plenty of water along with their fertilizer. This is the Johnny Becnel double secret probation once (according to Johnny) a year fertilizer program.

It works. If you can't find all of the ingredients, put down the ones you can find, and when you see the fantastic results you will scour the earth to find the rest of the ingredients. Or go to Uncle Bims on Belvedere and pick them up.

1 ½ cups fish meal or cotton seed meal (both are great, but I use cotton seed because Lucky won't dig it up)

1 ½ milorganite

1 cup 9 month timed release fertilizer, (I use Osmocote because it is sulfur coated urea and roses love sulfur)

½ cup of alfalfa meal or pellets

½ cup of Epsom salts

½ cup limestone

½ cup gypsum

2 table spoons of blood meal

This formula is per plant. Pull back the mulch and scratch the fertilizer into the soil around your plant, water them and watch them jump.

The following is a very good article I borrowed from "The Florasia" this month. I believe it's been reproduced before, but the graphics are very instructive, and bear repeating. Thanks

Pruning - It's a Good Thing ...!

Why do we prune?

To shape the bush or climber – to 'fit' the rose into its immediate surroundings.

This means we trim the bush to a 'rounded' shape:



This takes off at least 1/3 of the bush. It also contours the bush so the outer edges are slightly lower than the center.

We also clean out the center of a bush so that only 5 or so canes are left in a circular shape.



This allows sunlight to enter the middle of the shrub and also allows wind to pass through the bush. Less mass in the center means less humidity and less fungus diseases.

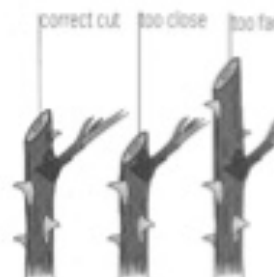
We prune back our roses so they will grow in the direction WE want them to go:

The dormant bud is 'hiding' in the scar left by last year's leaf. Find this 'smiley face' on the cane. Look closely. See the little green 'pimple' that is lying there? That is the bud eye from which the new cane will come. And it will grow in the direction this bud is facing. So, if you want the new cane to go 'out' you find a bud on the outer-facing surface of the old cane and cut just above it. If you want the cane to go 'in' you cut above an inner-facing bud.



We cut above a dormant bud eye:

If we cut too far above the bud eye there will be no nutrients flowing to the skin cells and they will decay, allowing canker to attach the 'stub.' So, we cut about 1/4" above the bud eye and at a slight angle.



We also trim off all diseased growth, spindly stuff and canes that are growing in the wrong direction.



Before Pruning



After Pruning

After pruning we spray liberally with an oil-based Dormant Spray. These sprays will coat the canes and cover the ground around the bush with a light oil that smothers insects and their eggs. The copper or sulphur they contain will kill off fungus spores

This article is from "Basal Breaks", Jeff Garret, editor

Roses 101—Deadheading

by Kim Austin

Deadheading is the simple act of removing dead, spent or withered blooms from your rose bush. There are several reasons why it's important to remove these old blooms. You may be thinking, "Why bother? Won't the bloom dry up and fall off eventually?" Deadheading is important if you want your roses to keep blooming all season and since most of us rosarians grow roses for the blooms, we definitely want to maximize our results.

A rose bush's main goal in life is to reproduce. Hence the showy blossoms, the fragrance, velvety petals and protective prickles. It wants to attract pollinators to continue its life cycle. When a flower is pollinated, it produces a hip containing seeds and this hip sends out a hormone that inhibits the formation of new buds. The hip tells the plant to stop making buds because its mission is complete. By removing the hips and the spent blooms, you are encouraging the plant to keep producing buds, therefore telling the plant to keep trying to reproduce.

So now you know that you need to deadhead, but how do you do it correctly? Well, there's good news. There's no incorrect way. You may have heard to cut back to a five-leaflet leaf, to cut it at an angle, to pinch off the spent flower, etc. Don't lose sleep over the method. Do what works for you. I try to look at deadheading as a mini-pruning activity. You're there in front of your rose bush, clippers, scissors or pruners in hand, and want to keep your rose healthy.

Decide if you want bigger and fewer blooms or smaller and more flowers. If you want larger flowers and strong canes, cut back your spent blossoms lower on the bush - don't just lop the flower off at the base of the bud. With this method, you are always shaping the growth habit of your bush. If your rose blooms in clusters, you'll have to deadhead the middle flower in the cluster first, as it blooms first and dies first. This allows the bush to put its energy into the rest of the cluster's buds. Exhibitors also cut away side buds to encourage the main flower to be as big and showy as possible to exhibit. The principle is the same. You are directing the rose bush where to put its energy into

producing the best flowers it can.

Wherever you decide to cut, whether it's just the spent bloom or further down on the plant, remember to leave as much foliage as you can. The rose will not grow without foliage to photosynthesize food. Healthy foliage produces strong canes, more basal breaks and bigger and more blooms. Regular deadheading gives you a chance to closely examine your rose bush, looking for signs of insect or fungal damage or any other problems before it gets too late to apply the proper controls.

What if I've just planted my rose bush and it doesn't have many canes or foliage yet? In this case, it's better just to snap or pop off the spent bloom with your fingers. You want the rose to put its energy into growing roots and canes.

Deadheading spent rose blossoms is an important part of rose care. Remembering to take care of the dead, faded and withered blooms will keep your rose producing more and more flowers throughout the season for you to enjoy.

Editor's Note: this article originally appeared in the September 2017 issue of the "Greenville Rose Bud," newsletter of the Greater Greenville, SC Rose Society, Frank and Rite VanLenten, editors.



A Good Time for Roses

I'd rather buy a cheap bouquet
To give my wife every day
Than a bushel of roses white and red
To be placed on her casket when she's
dead.

**Don't wait to put roses on a casket -
give them now!**

In case you're interested in hybridizing new roses, here's some interesting information from Billie Flynn, from Louisiana. Google "New Dawn" to see this beauty and where to shop for it.

First Plant Patent

information collected by Billie Flynn - CenLa Rose Soc

Patents were granted by the Greeks as early as 500 BC. Patents were used to protect the inventor's rights to profits. By the 1600s the English had developed an elaborate legal patent system used in much of Europe.

The first U.S. patent was granted in 1790 for a formula used in soap-making. Until 1930 U.S. patents were defined in language dated to laws of 1793 written by Thomas Jefferson stating patents could be obtained for: "any new and useful (art) process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new or useful improvement thereof."

The patent code said nothing about patenting a living thing and many applications from nursery-men were rejected. It was ruled that new varieties of plants were not inventions and therefore could not be made anyone's exclusive property. There was a fearful reluctance to grant anyone patent rights to plants/food sources.

Meanwhile, nurserymen were developing hundreds of improved varieties of fruit trees that never came to market for lack of profit. In 1930, Paul Stark, of Stark Brothers Nursery, then the Chairman of the Nat'l Committee of American Nurserymen was eager to profit from the release of his Golden Delicious Apple, drafted another measure to secure a Plant Patent Act.

Finally, endorsements rained down on congress from the American Farm Bureau Federation, the International Apple Association, agricultural experiment stations, farmers, horticulturalists, nurserymen, and Thomas Edison pointing out that Congress could do nothing better for American agriculture than pass a Plant Patent Act.

After much deliberation and protective restrictions, the Plant Patent Act of 1930 was passed. The first plant patent was issued August 18, 1931 to amateur gardener Henry Bosenberg for the hardy, repeat blooming, climbing rose, 'New Dawn' which was a sport (mutation) of the once blooming rambler 'Dr. Van Fleet'.

Because January is a good time to use organic fertilizers, this article should be of interest to you.

What is Milorganite®

Internet article

Milorganite is composed of heat-dried microbes that have digested the organic material in wastewater. It's manufactured by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, which captures waste water from the metropolitan Milwaukee area and uses naturally occurring microbes to digest the nutrients. After the organic matter has been consumed, the cleaned water is returned to Lake Michigan and the resulting material is dried and marketed as Milorganite.

Is it poop in a bag? No. It's been a common misconception that Milorganite is "poop in a bag." Milorganite is composed of microbes that have eaten well, died, and been dried. Microbes eat the organic material found in wastewater, die when they have nothing else to eat, and are heat-dried in dryers that operate at 900–1200°F which heats the Milorganite to an internal temperature of 176°F. Milorganite complies with all applicable federal and state requirements. It's safe to use throughout your yard and garden when used as directed.

What does 6-4-0 mean? Every bag of fertilizer has an N-P-K nutrient analysis, which indicates the amount of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) it contains by weight. Milorganite's analysis is 6-4-0, which guarantees it contains at least 6% nitrogen, 4% phosphorus, and less than 1% potassium.

Does Milorganite® expire? Milorganite has no expiration date. It will work indefinitely if stored properly in a cool and dry area out of the reach of children and animals. If you shed or garage is dry, seasonal fluctuating temperatures will not affect the product quality or effectiveness.

Does Milorganite® have an odor? Milorganite has an earthy aroma when first applied, the odor should dissipate within a few days. Rain or watering after application can help reduce the smell.

How to store Milorganite®? Milorganite like all fertilizers should be stored in a cool, dry area out of the reach of children and animals. If your shed or garage is dry, seasonal fluctuating temperatures will not affect the product quality or effectiveness.

What is organic lawn care? Organic lawn care works with nature rather than against it and can help build healthy soil, which can solve many lawn problems. An organic lawn care strategy reduces a number of things: pollution in the atmosphere; nutrient run-off into waterways; waste in landfills; and, inorganic chemicals in the soils that can disturb the natural order of life. What's the difference between fertilizers derived from organic versus synthetic sources? Fertilizer derived from organic sources are composed of nutrients from living things or their byproducts, such as microbes, animal waste, plants, and other similar natural materials. It's "slow food" for plants. Organically derived fertilizers feed plants slowly over a longer period of time and help build soil structure. Organically derived fertilizers contain no chemical salts, which can burn plants. Synthetic fertilizers are plants' "fast food," as they are fast-acting once watered in. They're manufactured using inorganic materials, chemicals, and the air, and have a high potential for burning plants, as well as leaching and runoff.

Does Milorganite® kill weeds? No. Milorganite is strictly a fertilizer. No herbicides are added to kill weeds or pesticides to kill bugs. It promotes a thick, healthy lawn, which helps choke out existing weeds and prevent weed seeds from germinating.

Does Milorganite® contain grass seed? No, Milorganite doesn't contain grass seed. It can, however, make spreading grass seed easier and more accurate, especially for smaller seeds, such as Bermuda grass. Mix four-parts Milorganite with one-part grass seed by weight. Decrease the amount of Milorganite applied during your normal fertilization schedule to avoid over-fertilization.

Why does the nutrient analysis of Milorganite fluctuate? Since production started more than 95 years ago, there have been fluctuations in the nutrient analysis—the percent of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K)—in Milorganite. The nutrients in Milorganite are the result of treating wastewater, which we can't control. Therefore, there are naturally periodic fluctuations. The N-P-K analysis is a guarantee that there is a *minimum* of that nutrient in the product.

Is Milorganite® approved for use on commercially grown USDA organic certified crops? What is a biosolid? Biosolids are residual microbes that have digested nutrients out of sewage waste streams. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates biosolids using two tiers: tier one allows non-food use and tier two, the Exceptional Quality designation, allows use on vegetables and fruits and is given to biosolids with minuscule amounts of heavy metals and pathogens. Milorganite has consistently received an Exceptional Quality designation from the EPA since the guidelines were created in 1993.

Editor's note: when applying Milorganite work it into the top 1-2 inches of the soil to avoid it forming a crust. Try applying 1 cup per bush every 3-4 months to help roses better survive the summer heat.





GREATER PALM BEACH ROSE SOCIETY NEWS!



Our January meeting will be, as usual, on the fourth Monday evening of the month. In other words, on January 23, at 7:15, after the board meeting at 6:00. Members are always welcome to attend the board meeting if interested. Many of the board members will have been attending the Mid-Winter Meeting of the Deep South District, as it's our club's turn to host the meeting. Our past president Bill Langford has been spearheading that effort.

Our speaker will be our co-President Geoff Coolidge, and he'll be demonstrating pruning techniques. He will also be giving us some ideas of how to deal with scale on our roses, which has been a problem this year in particular.

Many members have been asking after news of Mike Becker and his wife Pat. In 2021, around Christmas, Pat became very ill, and after a lengthy diagnostic period, she was finally found to have serious inflammation of the pancreas. As the days and months went by, Pat was fighting for her life, and in very serious condition. Now, over a year later, Pat is finally home, still having issues, but much improved, and hopefully on the way to full recovery.

If you wish to send your best wishes to Pat and Mike, here is their contact info:

**Mike and Pat Becker, 11110 Southwest Rose Apple Court, Port St. Lucie, 34987
becker.mike@att.net.**

We at the GPBRS all wish a speedy recovery and a much happier 2023 to Pat and Mike

GREATER PALM BEACH ROSE SOCIETY, est. 1970

JANUARY 2022

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- The annual issue of *The Handbook for Selecting Roses*, a rose-buying guide to over 3,000 roses.
- Members-only online access to Modern Roses Database with information on every rose variety.
- Online access to five quarterly bulletins, the *Mini/Miniflora Bulletin*, *Old Garden Rose & Shrub Gazette*, *Rose Arrangers' Bulletin*, *Rose Exhibitors' Forum* and *Singularly Beautiful Roses* are available online to ARS members only.
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rosegardeningworld.com

theheritagerosegroup.org

rosegardeningworld.com

theheritagerosesgroup.org

worldrose.org

rosemagazine.com

Rose File: www.rosefile.com (rose ID)

Help Me Find: www.helpmefind.com (rose ID)

American Rose Society:

www.rose.org (rose information)

UCI IPM website:

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu> (pest information)

Baldo Villegas Bugs and Roses:

www.sactorose.org (rose and pest info)

RoseShow.com:

<http://roseshow.com> (rose show results)

Heritage Rose Foundation: [https://](https://www.heritagerosefoundation.org)

www.heritagerosefoundation.org (education about and preservation of old roses)

Rose Hybridizers Association: [https://](https://rosebreeders.org)

rosebreeders.org (all about hybridizing)

The Redneck Rosarian: [http://](http://www.redneckrosarian.com)

www.redneckrosarian.com (podcasts and more)

The Heritage Roses Group: [http://](http://www.theheritagerosesgroup.org)

www.theheritagerosesgroup.org (education about old garden and species roses)

FACEBOOK

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GREATER PALM BEACH ROSE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2023

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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PHONE (____) _____

EMAIL _____

OCCUPATION _____

(optional)

BIRTHDAY (MO.) _____ (DAY) _____

___ NEW MEMBER ___ RENEWAL

Choose one type of membership below:

___ ANNUAL MEMBERS DUES : \$25.00

___ CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS : \$35.00

(Membership period runs from January to December. **As of January 2023, dues will rise to \$25.00 for a single, \$35.00 for couple or contributing**)

Make checks payable to: GPBRS and mail with this form to:

Bob Ewart, 445 NW 10th St., Boca Raton FL 33432-2542

Florida Rose Resources

Angel Gardens

P.O. Box 1106 Alachua, FL 32616

352-359; gardenangel22@gmail.com www.angelgardens.com; Own-Root, Organically Grown, Old Garden Roses (Teas, Chinas, Noisettes, Bourbons, polyanthas, Hps, Earth-Kind), Modern shrubs, climbers, miniatures, Buck, Austin, Weeks roses, Rare Imports, Specializing in roses for warm climates. Almost 2000 vars, Catalog on line, order year round qts. and gallons. Potted and bare root.

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www.coolroses.com; Fortuniana (warm weather). Modern, Miniature & Old Garden. 150+ vars. Website list. Email for orders.

*Please note, Cool Roses has moved to a nearby location. Their address is no longer 888 Chase Road, **it is now 852 B Chase Road.***

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022**Co-Presidents,** Debbie & Geoff Coolidge

Debbie 561-313-0077, Geoff 561 310-8508

coolidge38@gmail.com**Past President,** Bill Langford 561-309-8736whl2@prodigy.net**1st Vice President.** **Position vacant, applicants welcome!!****2nd Vice President,** Membership **If you can help call Debbie or Bill or Nakita, who is taking a leave of absence while baby is small.**

Nakita Daniels 351-246-3334

nsdaniels7@gmail.com**Secretary,** Karen Sullivan 561-596-8072**Treasurer,** Bob Ewart 561-445-2483jinnicky@bobsown.net**Hospitality** Susan Leiken 561-373-9371**Directors:**

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Newsletter Editor Kathy Rose 561-665-0535kathleenarose@gmail.com**Website** Bob Ewart 561-445-2483jinnicky@bobsown.net**Consulting Rosarians**

Our Consulting Rosarians are appointed by the American Rose Society after spending years growing roses and being tested on their overall knowledge of roses and their care. They freely share this knowledge with anyone who loves roses and wants to grow them.

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*Mike Becker 817-522-2970

becker.mike@att.net

* Master Rosarian

The club has an urgent need for more participation at the board and committee levels. We know we have many talented members, and for the club to continue to thrive, we invite anyone interested to contact any of the board members. Their contact info is on the left.

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