

Caring For Roses

Notes from Chad Perkins

December 4, 2015

Selecting and Planting:

Find a rose with 3 +/- strong canes and free of visible diseases.

Plant in full to part sun with good air flow.

Roses like moisture but do not want to be wet....raised beds work great.

Plant the graft 2" BELOW the ground in Northern climate. This will help with winter hardiness and the graft will not rot out like planting other grafted items below ground.

Insecticides and Fungicides:

Synthetics:

Bonide Rose Shield: spray with translaminar fungicide and long lasting insecticide. One of the Best Rose/Perennial sprays on the market.

Bayer All in One: Both systemic insecticide and fungicide with fertilizer. This is the most convent Rose product on the market. Come in 2 versions drench and granular.

Bonide Fung-onal or Daconil: Good fungicide stand along product.

Bonide Rose Rx drench: 2 in 1 spray. Fungicide and systemic insecticide.

Organics:

Bonide Rose Rx spray: Not to be confused with the Rose Rx drench the spray is organic and uses Neem as the active. Neem is an insecticide, fungicide and mitecide.

Bonide Bon Neem: Good product that uses Pyrethrums as a quick knock down and the Neem oil as a longer lasting.

Companion planting to help repel Japanese Beetles: Comfrey and/or Rue

Deer Repellants:

Repellex: This product uses taste to repel. It is a tablet or granular application. It has water soluble Capsaicin as the active. This is the HOT chemical in Peppers. This is absorbed into the plant and makes the entire plant taste Hot. This can take up to 2 weeks to fully protect the plant but works all year and can't get washed off and continues to protect the new growth. DON'T USE ON EDIBLES!!

Deer Scram: All Organic granular. My recommendation for the Summer. Uses strong oils like peppermint and garlic to repel. Very Pleasant scent. Smells more like cooking than repelling deer.

Liquid Fence: This is a great product for the Fall and Winter when your windows are closed and you are not out in the garden. Repels mainly by odor...bad rotten egg odor but work great. The liquid application works best for the winter. You do not need to spray that entire plant but nose high of a deer and down to the ground.

Winter Care and Pruning:

Mulch the plant in late fall. I like to mulch in when the leaves are still green in late October. This is to make sure that it gets done just in case winter comes early.

When rose is dormant prune down to 2.5'. Keep the cane short enough so that they will not blow in the winter winds and cause damage to the plant, but long enough to leave extra buds in case the plant comes out of dormancy early and the buds get froze off.

In spring after last frost, re-prune canes to leave 4-6 buds approximately 12".

Rose Rosette Disease:

This is a very bad disease with NO cure and yes it is in our area. It is a virus that is spread by a mite in May – Mid July. You will see symptoms starting Mid July. Multiflora and Knock Out Roses seem to be more susceptible.

What to look for:

Starts with 1 cane.

Redness pigmentation on the underside of the leaflet

Swollen Canes

Extra thorns and the top may droop over or create a witches broom.

While there is no cure there are a few things that you can do:

Control the Mite: Use a spray Miteicide end of April – Mid July

Look for the first sign of the disease. Normally it start with only 1 cane being affected. If caught early enough prune the cane down as low as you can. This works about 50% of the time.

When in doubt pull it out and BURN it! If you have other roses this can spread quickly. A young rose will die within 2 year and an old rose can take up to 5 years.

Please Contact me with any other questions:

Chad Perkins

810-969-5305 cell/text Chad.perkins1@yahoo.com