

The Rose Vine

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Volume 44, Issue 2

Penn-Jersey District of the American Rose Society's Quarterly Newsletter

From the District Director's Desk—Kevin Glaes

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Check out our new website:

<http://PennJerseyRose.org>

Dreams of blooms to come. 6 to 10 inches of growth and buds are beginning to form. Both experienced and new rose growers share the anticipation of what the garden will look like in 4 weeks. (Of course, for some of you in the tropics like Philly, it will be sooner!) I hope you have planted some new varieties. I always like to go by the new plantings first as I go through the garden and see how

they are doing. Will they be as good as I hope? Will they live up to the catalog billing? (Yeah, right!) Here's hoping your garden is everything you want it to be this year.

The news from the American Rose Society headquarters is encouraging. March membership is up. The income flow is getting better. Cost cutting measures are beginning to take effect. For those of you who have joined the Patron program, I thank you. Your contributions are helping us get on solid ground financially. There are other means for you to help support the ARS. The library membership program helps your local library diversify it's offerings and it puts our award-winning magazine in front of more people. See the library membership form in this issue.

There are great opportunities to participate in a national convention this summer. The Spring National Conference and Show will be held June 2– 6, 2011 in Winston-Salem North Carolina. Definitely easy driving distance. Visit www.wsrs.us for more information. The National Miniature Rose Show and Conference will be June 24–26, 2011 in Syracuse, New York – another easy drive. Many of you remember how much fun we had

at the “mini national” in Harrisburg several years ago and Syracuse promises to be another fun event. Visit www.syracuserosesociety.org for the details.

Of course, we have a number of local rose society shows in the District in June. The schedule of local rose shows can be found later in this issue. The local shows offer one of the best opportunities to show the public the quality of roses that can be grown in our area and the enthusiasm we have for the rose. Please take time to participate as an exhibitor or as a worker (or both) and I think you will be glad you did.

And to close out the District's season, the District Fall Convention will be held at the Sheraton Great Valley in Frazer, Pennsylvania, September 16–18, 2011. There will be a Horticulture Judging School on the 16th. We encourage any of you who are interested in becoming a judge or just learning more about how roses are judged at a show to come and learn. See detailed information about the convention in the article further on in this issue.

**My e-mail address has
changed to:
glaes1215@comcast.net**

Kevin

The Fall Convention of the Penn Jersey District

Come one, come all! The Fall Convention of the Penn Jersey District will be held at the Sheraton Great Valley on Lancaster Pike in Frazer, Pennsylvania. September 16-18, 2011. The hotel is known for its very comfortable accommodations and excellent food. It is conveniently located at the intersection of Route 202 and Route 30. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at 888 617-8166. Ask for the American Rose Society Convention room rate, \$99 per night.

On Friday, Sept. 16th there will be a Horticulture Judging School (starting at 8:30AM) and Judges Seminar starting at 1PM in the afternoon. Those arriving on Friday but not attending the school can visit the many historic, cultural, and horticultural attractions in the area – Valley Forge, Brandywine Museum, Longwood Gardens, Winterture, the Philadelphia Historic District, Art Museum, Franklin Institute, to name just a few. Shopaholics can enjoy the Court and Plaza at King of Prussia.

The Hospitality Room will be open Friday night for a social hour before dinner and again later. Dinner will be in the historic original inn dining room.

On Saturday, the Prep Room will open for exhibitors at 6am. Judging will begin at 10:30, and the Show will be open to the public at 1pm. In the afternoon there will be several programs of interest. The Saturday banquet will be across the hall from the Show which will remain open until after dinner. Entertainment will be provided by some of Penn Jersey's favorite people – Don and Mary Myers accompanied by Ken Borrmann at the piano. And, of course, the Hospitality Room will be open late into the evening (morning?) hours.

The District Meeting and Breakfast will be Sunday morning. Following the meeting those who wish can tour Michael Bowell's eclectic garden a few miles from the hotel.



Westerland in Michael Bowell's garden
Photos courtesy of Michael Bowell

This Chester county garden is a fascinating mix of ponds, meadows, and garden walks though tall trees under planted with a huge variety of unusual plants including roses. The garden surrounds his home and two-story, two-zone greenhouse filled with tropical plants and orchids.

The paths through the garden lead you pass pots overflowing with combinations of plants in differing color schemes and unusual garden statuary and art. Other paths lead you to gardens where roses are used as backgrounds for plant mixes. Roses tumble over fences that protect growing areas. Comfortable shoes are a must for this tour as you are in real Chester county country.



Pink climber in Michael Bowell's garden

We hope to see you all there!

Elaine Adler and Bill Kozemchak, Co- Chairs

2011 PENN JERSEY DISTRICT ROSE SHOWS

- June 4** **WEST JERSEY ROSE SOCIETY** - Moorestown Mall, Moorestown, NJ
Contact: Brenna Bosch brennabosch@att.net
- GARDEN STATE ROSE CLUB** - To be determined.
- June 5** **PHILADELPHIA ROSE SOCIETY** - Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia, PA
Contact: Pat Bilson patbilson@yahoo.com – Rose display – not an ARS judged show this year
- GREATER HARRISBURG ROSE SOCIETY.** – No Rose Show scheduled for 2011
- June 11** **DEL-CHESTER ROSE SOCIETY** - Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA
Contact – Elaine Adler eadler@westtown.org
- YORK AREA ROSE SOCIETY** – No Show this year
- June 11-12** **SOUTH PENN AREA ROSE SOCIETY (SPARS)** First Lutheran Church 43 West Washington Street, Chambersburg, PA.
Contact: Dale Martin dmartin5222@comcast.net
- June 12** **READING BERKS ROSE SOCIETY** - Boscov's North, Reading, PA
Contact: Kevin Glaes glaes1215@comcast.net
- Sept. 10** **PITTSBURGH ROSE SOCIETY** - Bidwell Training Center, Pittsburgh, PA
Contact: Georgiana Papale msgeorgi@ix.netcom.com
- Sept. 17** **PENN JERSEY DISTRICT ROSE SHOW** –Sheraton Great Valley Hotel, Frazer, PA
at the intersection of Route 30 and Route 202.
Contacts: Pat Bilson patbilson@yahoo.com, Gus Banks jrsyrose@verizon.net
- Sept.** **JERSEY SHORE ROSE SOCIETY** – Date to be determined
Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown, NJ
Contact: Leslie Cox jsroseprez1@yahoo.com
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2011 PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

Penn-Jersey District Winter Rose Get-a-Way Weekend
February 18-20,2011

Reprinted from the March, 2001 edition of *The Rose*, newsletter of the Philadelphia Rose Society, Bill Kozemchak, editor

First Place Overall: Tom Mayhew-Signature (Won Class 2)

Second Place Overall: Tom Mayhew- Bonica (Won Class 9)

Third Place Overall: Bill Kozemchak- Kozemchak Garden -Side Yard (Won Class 11)

List of all the winners by Class:

Class 1- Novice (Photo appropriate for any of Classes 2-12) Kathy Kozemchak-
Dream Come True (HT)

Class 2- One Exhibition Bloom - HT, GR, or FL. Tom Mayhew- Signature (HT)

Class 3- One Exhibition Bloom - Miniature or Miniflora Joachim Makosch- Tiffany Lynn
(MinFl)

Class 4- One Open Bloom - HT, GR, or FL. Julia Saurbaugh- Grand Prize (F)

Class 5- One Open Bloom - Miniature or Miniflora (No Single or Semi-Double roses allowed here) Julia Saurbaugh-
Jennifer (Min)

Class 6- One Open Bloom of a rose classified by ARS as a Single or Semi-Double Julia Saurbaugh Euphoria (Peachy
Creeper) (S)

Class 7- One Spray, HT, GR ,FL, Polyantha, Miniature or Miniflora Joachim Makosch- Tiffany Lynn (MinFl)

Class 8- One Exhibition Bloom or Spray - Species or Old Garden Rose Gus Banks- Marchesa Boccella (HP)

Class 9- One Exhibition Bloom or Spray - Shrub or Climber Tom Mayhew- Bonica (S)

Class 10- A Rose Arrangement Bill Kozemchak- Arrangement by Catherine Button

Class 11- A Rose Garden Bill Kozemchak- Kozemchak Garden - Side Yard

Class 12- A Rose Society Activity Tom Mayhew- Judging Roses Jersey Shore 2007 Rose Show

This year, 8 photographers entered 119 5x7 color prints in the Penn-Jersey District 2010 Photo Contest. The photos were submitted to the Photo Judge, Bruce Monroe, who winnowed down the field and selected several potential winning photos for each of the eleven classes. These were then voted on by the Winter Rose Get-a-Way attendees to select the winner of each class. From these twelve winners, the final selection of the first, second and third place overall winners was done by Kevin Glaes. All of the 119 entered photos were on display at the Winter Rose Get-a-Way Weekend in Lancaster.

The number of photos entered in this contest has varied over the years. There were 53 photos entered in 2002, 70 in 2003, 83 in 2004, 90 in 2005, 75 in 2006, 66 in 2007, 101 in 2008, 105 in 2009, 121 in 2010 and 119 in 2011. The number of photographers has varied between 7 and 11 contestants during these years.



Left to right: Class 2, Class 9, Class 11 & Class 10 winners



Top row: Class 1, Class 3, Class 4 and Class 5 winners Bottom row: Class 6, Class 7, Class 8 and Class 12 winners

2011 Winter Rose Get-a-Way Weekend

Reprinted from the March, 2001 edition of *The Rose*, newsletter of the Philadelphia Rose Society, Bill Kozemchak, editor

The Penn-Jersey District hosted the 2011 Winter Rose Get-A-Way Weekend February 18th -20th at the Eden Resort Inn in Lancaster. Curtis Aumiller did a wonderful job his first year as the Rose Getaway coordinator. Gus did a magnificent job for many, many years and now gets a well-deserved break. The event had its best attendance in some time. After District Director Kevin Glaes welcomed everyone, Curtis Aumiller started the Saturday programs with a presentation on Building Your Rose Society. He gave us different ideas how to benefit the members of your society and make it an active and thriving one. In the days of declining memberships hopefully some of these ideas will help. Pat Bilson presented a hands-on arrangement seminar that provided many beautiful arrangements for the dinner tables Saturday evening. After lunch Donna Smith presented "Cooking for the Birds- Natural Insect Control" on ways to economically feed birds, who then help to control the insect populations in your garden. If you maintain a large bird population, it will lessen or eliminate the need to use insecticides. John Smith came up from Maryland and gave a great presentation on hybridizing. He told us about his methods and goals he has developed over the ten or so years he has been involved with this phase of rose growing. He still enjoys exhibiting with his wife Cheryl and they are an excellent team as we show last fall at our District Show. Thanks to donations from local societies and individuals, the raffle run by Henry and Marion

Forstenhausler was a big success again. After John's presentation, the winners of the Photo Contest were announced. Bruce Monroe and Tom Mayhew did a great job again with the PJ District Photo Contest. Good job PJ members! Kevin Glaes presented members gardens after the Saturday dinner with a power point presentation which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Unfortunately he did not get great response from the membership this year. It is a great way to see member's gardens we might not ever get to visit. Kevin urged other members to share their gardens next year, so remember to get that camera out in early June when your garden looks its best! Mary Slade and her husband did a marvelous job hosting the hospitality suite once again. At the District meeting on Sunday Kevin Glaes led discussion on a donation to the ARS. The membership decided on a \$1,000 to the ARS to help with their deficit and help try to get the book back to a zero balance. A \$250 donation for the Region 1 request was also approved. Pennsylvania is in Region 1 with New York. A \$500 request was made for each region. Hopefully with changes at ARS Headquarters and donations from the districts and regions the budget will get back on track. The Del-Chester and Philadelphia Rose Societies will host the 2011 District Convention at the Great Valley Sheraton September 16th- 18th 2011. This hotel is located at the junction of Rt. 30 and Rt. 202. It was a fun and interesting weekend. Hopefully more of you will attend this great rose weekend next year.

New Approaches for Combating Rose Midge **by Corky Thacker**

Ed's note: This article was found in the American Rose Rambler, Peter Schneider, editor. It originally was printed in The Thorn, newsletter of the Cleveland Rose Society, Neil Evans, editor.

The presentation on "The Rose Midge and Other Rose Pests" by Dr. David Shetlar, Extension Entomologist at The Ohio State University was well worth the trip to Delaware, Ohio, for the Buckeye District Spring Meeting. (The presentation, with added material on additional rose pests and great photos, is an excellent reference. It is posted online with complete notes at http://www.bugs.osu.edu/~bugdoc/Shetlar/BugDocPages/2011RosePests/2011RosePests_01.htm)

His description of the life cycle—a mere five to seven days when temperatures are in the 70s and 80s—coupled with the fact that all stages are present at all times explained why the pest is so difficult to control. The female lays eggs in crevasses of new growth which are so deep that contact pesticides cannot reach the larvae that feed on the stem and rob it of bloom. Likewise, most commonly used systemic insecticides sprayed on foliage are unable to disperse to these interior tissues and aren't entirely effective when used as a drench due to limited solubility in water. Granulated insecticides put on the ground in hopes of killing emerging adults have some effect, but the insects are typically tough enough at this stage to survive.

New Product Offers Improved Control

Dr. Shetlar uses a new product, dinotefuran, which has the unique attributes of water solubility and the ability to diffuse into surrounding plant tissues. Commercially available in Green Light[®] insecticides containing Safari[®] (www.greenlightco.com), he applies it as a soil drench at the first hint of bud formation and reapplies after the first flush and with deadheading of subsequent bloom cycles or every three weeks for ever-blooming roses. He noted that reapplication is only required in gardens that have heavy infestations or are close to neighbors who don't treat. Those in isolated areas may be able to apply a single treatment.

He also said dinotefuran does not need to be alternated with other chemicals and has a Category III toxicity level (Caution), so it will not harm earthworms or wildlife. He says that, like all the insecticides we use, it is toxic to bees. The product can also be applied as a spray. It is clear in the tank, and can be mixed with commonly used fungicides.

Early Treatment is Critical

Regardless of the chemical selected, Dr. Shetlar says preventive programs often aren't started early enough to install the control material in the plant. For those of us using imidacloprid (Merit[®], Bayer[®], Advanced[®], Bonide[®]) or cyfluthrin (Tempo[®]), the first treatment should be made when there is about 1.5—2.0 inches of green showing—which would be now in most of our gardens. This is because seven to 10 days are required for uptake of this insecticide into the plant. Because dinotefuran's uptake is just one to two days, we should wait until we see the first buds forming to treat.

Another mistake Dr. Shetlar sees is improper application of drenches. He stressed that mulch must be pulled back first, and the drench should be poured right at the base of the plant. Mulch can then be put back in place.

Study Compared Methods' Effectiveness

Studies by the USDA and others have shown that the two chemicals mentioned above are the most effective control agents for midge. Both are neo-nicotoids (interestingly, tobacco leaves under roses and nightly fumigation with tobacco smoke were early means of controlling midge, which were first reported in New Jersey greenhouses in 1894 and achieved outdoor garden pest status by 1950).

Studies have found that imidacloprid is most effective when applied at two-week intervals, but that dinotefuran provides the most effective level of suppressing midge. Cyfluthrin has also been found to be very effective. Cultural controls, such as using woven cloth mats or agricultural plastic beneath plants and hand-picking insects combined with pruning out infested stems might work if implemented early in the season.

Commercial Availability

Green Light offers two products: Rose & Flower with Safari Insect Control + Fertilizer Concentrate® (liquid with 0.96% dinotefuran and 5-5-5 fertilizer) and Tree & Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G Insecticide® (granular with 2.00% dinotefuran). In follow-up email correspondence, Dr. Shetlar said both would be effective; the liquid's advantage is easier application, the granular's is lack of interference with an established fertilization program. Although the liquid product's label omits bees from its toxicity list, Dr. Shetlar says both concentrations will harm them.

I plan to start with the Rose & Flower product for the early-season applications to give a boost to my organic fertilization, then switch to the granular. Cost at the online retail option at the Green Light Website is \$13.99 for a 40 oz. bottle, which will treat 13 large roses. Four local retail outlets are also listed in my zip code, and I'll check their price and availability first to support area merchants who carry products for roses.

More About Midge

Dr. Shetlar shared some additional facts of interest about this pest. The first sign of midge is wilting leaves with a nick at the base of the leaf stem. The larvae must eat all the way into the center of the leaf stem to do its damage, thus roses with thicker peduncles (the part of the stem just below the flower) are more able to bloom despite the presence of midge—perhaps a trait to incorporate in hybridizing for midge-resistant varieties.

Finally, midge can only fly a maximum of 50-100 feet. So being a good neighbor and treating adjacent gardens of those who are willing can offer the reward of reducing the numbers of midge that will bug you!

Reprinted from The Thorn, newsletter of the Cleveland Rose Society, Neil Evans, editor.

We are always in need of articles from District members. We know each of you has an article (either already published or in your head) that deserves to be published here. Please forward any articles you would like to appear in *The RoseVine* to Kevin at glaes1215@comcast.net.

Every society should have the 2011 Official List on hand as a reference at the show. Every judge and exhibitor should also have a copy. Send for your copy today!

2011 OFFICIAL LIST OF APPROVED EXHIBITION NAMES

The latest edition of THE resource for exhibitors and judges includes 316 pages of approved exhibition names. Paperback, 324 pages.



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Old Garden Roses (Part VI)-The Albas

By Paul Banish (CR & Judge)

Printed in "Rose Lore, Newsletter of the Detroit Rose Society, April, 2011

This month's column will concern itself with another class of old roses, the Albas. It seems to be generally accepted that the Alba roses are quite ancient, but how or where they originated remains a mystery. Most authorities believe Rosa alba to be a cross of either R. gallica x R. corymbifera or R. damascena x R. canina. It may possibly be of Roman origin, and thus spread to other parts of Europe via the conquering legions. Alba roses figure very prominently in Renaissance paintings, and identifiable depictions of roses like Rosa alba semi-plena, Rosa alba maxima, and Maiden's Blush appear in some very famous works of art, such as Schongauer's "Virgin of the Rose Bower" and Botticelli's "Birth of Venus".

I must confess that, of all old garden roses, the Albas are my favorites. They usually make splendidly graceful, arching shrubs, although the growth habit and ultimate size of the plant is largely dependent on the individual variety, ranging from around five feet to possibly ten or twelve feet tall. The Albas only occur in light to medium pink or white, with the flowers being borne in small clusters. Most varieties have very beautiful blue-green or gray-green foliage which is extremely healthy. The delicately colored blossoms look especially good with this fine and unusual foliage. The scent is exceptionally pure and sweet, having been compared to that of white hyacinths, but my nose does not detect the similarity. The Albas bloom only in June, but they provide a show that you will remember all year long. Some recommended varieties follow:

- Maiden's Blush (approximately fifteenth century): This very beautiful rose has been loved and admired for centuries, which accounts for its many common names, the most interesting of which is "Cuisse de Nymphé Emue", which translates roughly to "Thigh of the Passionate Nymph". Leave it to the French to come up with a sexy name for a rose! It has the characteristic blue-green foliage of the best Albas, and the color is a delicate pale pink, fading to white, but always retaining the blush in the heart of the bloom. The fragrance is outstanding, and the plant is capable of producing some decent length stems. The blooms are reasonably long lasting when cut, making it one of the better old garden roses for exhibition. What about the plant habit? That all depends. I've heard of plants that grew to enormous stature and then became incapable of supporting themselves and collapsed, but I grew the small form for many years. This smaller form of Maiden's Blush originated at Kew Gardens in England in 1797, and my plant was very well-behaved to around six feet tall.

-Felicite Parmentier (1836): This does not have the beautiful foliage of the best of the Albas, but it is still a wonderful rose. The blooms are medium size, the fat buds opening out cupped, and then reflexing into a ball shape. The color is especially nice, being flesh-pink in the center and fading to almost white at the outer edges of the blooms. They are very fragrant and last fairly well when cut.

- Celestial (late eighteenth century): Celestial has the outstanding blue-green foliage of the finest Albas. It makes a large but still graceful arching shrub. The blooms are semi-double and delicate clear pink, with golden stamens and good fragrance. Among the most beautiful buds in the genus Rosa.

- Konigin von Danemark (1826): This terrific rose shows signs of being a hybrid between the Albas and some other class of OGR, possibly the Damasks. The leaves are the typical good healthy blue-green of the Albas, but the growth habit is a little more open than most Albas, and the color is deeper than usual, being a bright rose-pink. The flowers have an outstanding old-fashioned quartered form.

- Mme. Plantier (1835): Another outstanding and curiously interesting rose, possibly an Alba and Moschata hybrid. The leaves are not at all Alba-like, with leaflets that are small and sort of hexagonal in shape. The stems are quite smooth, with few thorns. The blooms are not large and are creamy-white in color. The growth is rampant, even being used by some growers to climb into old trees. One of the most profusely blooming roses I know. A large mature plant is capable of producing thousands of blooms in season.



Maiden's Blush



Felicite Parmentier



Celestial



Konigin von Danemark



Belle Amour



Mme. Plantier

Note: All the above photos taken by Paul Banish

ASPIRIN AND ROSES

By Charles Shaner – Master Rosarian

From the **Shenandoah Rose Society** A Society of the Colonial District, *Volume 13, No. 4 May 2011*

I have seen several newsletters with articles about aspirin and roses this spring. I wrote an article on this several years ago and use aspirin in my spray every time I spray. I am sold on it and have had excellent results.

The application of salicylic acid to plants helps to enhance the natural immune system of the plant and aspirin is acetylsalicylic acid. Salicylic acid is a natural component in all plants.

Many people were using Messenger a few years ago. Messenger did the same thing but was expensive and had a very short shelf life. The company which produced Messenger is no longer in business.

Dissolving two aspirin tablets to a gallon when sprayed on plants will help to prevent diseases, some insects, and environmental stress. In the years I used aspirin weekly, I did not have a single case of Rose Rosette Disease in my roses. I got lax on using it for a year and the Rose Rosette Disease returned. I do believe the regular use of aspirin in your spray will aid in the prevention of RRD.

You will notice the aspirin is slow to dissolve in water. I drop the aspirin in a bottle of water and place it on a shelf for a couple of days and shake the bottle occasionally as I walk by. I always mix two gallons of spray so I will place four aspirin tablets in the bottle. When I am ready to mix my spray I dump the contents of the bottle in the sprayer.

Keep in mind that aspirin is not a registered pesticide or fungicide. It only works as a preventive and will not kill insects or diseases after the plant is infected. Any brand of aspirin will work. I usually buy the cheapest one I can find and use a 325 mg tablet. Do not use coated aspirin as it will not dissolve.

The aspirin not only enhances the plant's immune system but also produces an all around healthier plant with more vigorous growth. I have always heard it said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Aspirin is the ounce of prevention.

Pruning David Austin Roses

by Corinne Clifton

The major complaint of rose growers who are accustomed to the growth habits of hybrid teas or floribundas and who begin growing English roses is that English rose canes are often lax and sprawl all over the ground.

This is especially true the first several years after an English rose is planted.

English rosarian Graham Thomas, considered the dean of English rosarians, says in his latest book that English roses will tend to grow the lax canes until they have reached their maturity, often occurring about 5 - 7 years after they are planted.

Once mature, these roses have much stronger canes and then tend to grow more upright.

However, an English rose, because of its Old Garden Rose parentage, will never grow as straight and upright as a hybrid tea.

For those of you who do not like this floppy growth habit, Thomas recommends that English roses be pruned to an inside bud rather than an out-side bud as is customary for other roses.

I have found that my English roses do not like to be severely pruned. Last year, I pruned *Tamora* in the same manner as I pruned my hybrid teas and I almost lost the plant. It took it a full growing season to recover. Others report that they can prune the English roses severely and it does not affect them.

Pruning English roses can be rather complicated because there are different techniques used depending on the type of English rose grown. David Austin, creator of the English roses, has classified his roses into several types depending on their parentage.

Since I grow several English roses, I still refer to the book when it comes to pruning them.

One trick I learned in reading about these roses in various sources is to prune the cane back to where it is the same thickness as a pencil. This simplifies the process.

Also, Austin recommends that his roses be pruned in early winter, long before hybrid teas and floribundas would be pruned.

Since our climate is so similar to England's, I tend to follow Austin's recommendations when it comes to cultivating the English roses. Last year I pruned my English roses in late December and was rewarded with so many blooms on *Bow Bells*, *Graham Thomas*, *Bell Story*, and *Abraham Darby* that the canes had to be supported because they were in danger of breaking from the weight.

Austin recommends pruning in late November or December because it gives the roses a chance to shoot early, thus providing earlier blooms and a longer flowering season.

His overall advice is if you are looking for a smaller plant with larger, better quality flowers, then reduce the length of canes by half. If you are looking for a larger bush with more flowers, then reduce the bush's size by one third.

Because English roses are sometimes regarded as shrub roses, some growers think these roses should not be pruned at all. Austin cautions against this notion because without the removal of some growth, a rose will not be able to produce flowers of sufficient quality nor will it repeat bloom adequately.

[Editor's Note: Corinne Clifton is Editor of the *Rambling Rose*, newsletter of Southwestern Oregon Rose Society. Reprinted as seen in the Houston ROSE-ETTE, Marc 1999, Patsy Williams, Editor.]

Printed from the Earthkind roses website:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/roses/select.html>

How Cultivars Are Selected

- [Earth-Kind Roses Home](#)
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Earning the Earth-Kind® Rose Designation

The decision as to whether a particular rose cultivar is worthy of receiving the prestigious Earth-Kind® designation is, on average, based on eight years of research and field trial data. Specifically, this long-term, labor-intensive process features four years of randomized, replicated research at Texas A&M AgriLife Center - Dallas in which plants were evaluated and data collected by a team of seven Ph.D.s which included horticulturists, plant pathologists, a soil scientist, and an entomologist.

These scientists have coauthored abstracts and peer-reviewed scientific journal articles documenting these research results which have been published as follows:

- Mackay, W.A., S.W. George, C. McKenney, J.J. Sloan, R.I. Cabrera, J.A. Reinert, P. Colbaugh, L. Lockett and W. Crow. 2008. Performance of Garden Roses in North Central Texas under Minimal Input Conditions. HortTechnology 18(3): 417-422.
 - Colbaugh, P.F., W.T. Crow, W.A. Mackay and S.W. George. 2005. Varietal reaction of selected rose varieties to Alternaria petal blight. Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases. Vol. 20 p. 18. A.P.S. Press.
 - Colbaugh, P.F., W.T. Crow, W.A. Mackay and S.W. George. 2005. Varietal reaction of selected rose varieties to black spot. Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases. Vol. 20 p. 17. A.P.S. Press.
 - Colbaugh, P.F., W.T. Crow, W.A. Mackay and S.W. George. 2005. Varietal reaction of selected rose varieties to powdery mildew. Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases. Vol. 20 p. 19. A.P.S. Press.
 - Mackay, W.A., C.M. McKenney, P.F. Colbaugh, S.W. George, J.J. Sloan, and R.I. Cabrera. 2005. Performance of Garden Roses Under Minimal Input Conditions in North-Central Texas. HortScience (Abstr.) 40 (3): 881.
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- Mackay, W.A., W. Crow, P. Colbaugh, S.W. George, C. McKenney, J.J. Sloan, and R. Cabrera. 2001. Performance of 33 Rose Cultivars in North-Central Texas Under Minimal Input Conditions. Southern Region ASHS. HortScience (Abstr.) 36(5): 841.

This initial research was followed by four years of confirmational field trials at such diverse Texas locations as Abilene, Addison, Beaumont, Conroe, El Campo, Ft. Worth, Houston, Mineola, Odessa, Rosenberg, Tomball, and Tyler representing USDA Cold Hardiness Zones 7 to 9 and soils ranging from acid sands to highly alkaline clays. During all eight years of testing, no pesticides, chemical or organic, were ever applied to the research and trial roses. The success of this approach to growing landscape roses contributes significantly to the consumer's desire for beautiful, lower-maintenance, environmentally-responsible landscape plants.

The rationale and results of Earth-Kind rose research in Texas are so compelling that scientists at six other universities (Colorado State, Iowa State, Kansas State, LSU, University of Minnesota, and the University of Nebraska) have now initiated similar Earth-Kind research programs. Members of this new team have already coauthored two scientific publications which further support the Earth-Kind rose research program. These publications are:

- Harp, D., D. Zlesak, G. Hammond, S. George, and W. Mackay. 2009. EarthKind™ Rose Trials - Identifying the World's Strongest, Most Beautiful Landscape Roses. Floriculture and Ornamental Biotechnology 3 (1): 166-175.
- Zlesak, D.C., J. Griffin, D. Harp, K. Cue, N. Howell, T. Blunt, R. Nelson, and S. George. 2008. Initiation of the northern EarthKind™ rose trial. HortScience 43: 1144-1145.

In addition to a sound field research and trialing foundation in Texas, cultivar performance input is obtained from a 14-member advisory panel composed of rose experts before a cultivar receives the Earth-Kind designation. The advisory panel includes: Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension personnel (Dr. Brent Pemberton, rose researcher, and Tom LeRoy, Extension horticulturist), industry representatives (Mark Chamblee, Chamblee's Roses, Mike Shoup, The Antique Rose Emporium, and Beverly Welch, The Arbor Gate), rosarians (Gaye Hammond, past president of the Houston Rose Society, and Clyde Cannon), and authors (Dr. Bill Welch, Liz Druitt, and Kathy Huber). Input is also sought from County Extension Horticulture Agents, such as Deborah Bengé-Frost, Melissa Sturdivant, and Micah Meyer, who served as Earth-Kind Rose Trial site coordinators.

With these intense, multi-year research and field trials, plus the wealth of experience provided by advisory panel members, rose cultivars are chosen to receive the Earth-Kind designation. This process makes Earth-Kind roses the most thoroughly tested, research proven, and environmentally responsible landscape roses recommended for use in Texas landscapes.

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December 14, 2009

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