

Summer Rose Tips (collected by the editor)

- Water, Water, Water. Keep those roses hydrated. That is, do not water every day, but when you water, allow water to soak deep into the ground around your bushes. Roses need the equivalent of an inch of water a week.—Bob Jacobs
- Hot, dry weather brought spider mites. Watch for a dull or mottled appearance on the leaves. Turn them over and they will feel somewhat gritty. When the mites are really bad, you will see webbing between the leaves. Kent told me to take a leaf and shake it on a sheet of white paper, then the mites would be visible. Use a water wand or spray with pressure the entire bush making sure to get the underside of all leaves. Do this every two to three days and repeat at least three times. I also purchased Avid and spray with it when I see them every three days for about two weeks as it only kills the adults. There are other chemicals available that will kill both adults and eggs but they are expensive. The water wand works great if you keep a watchful eye.—Mary Hext
- During the summer, roses are still hungry. Feed them your regular fertilizer, but use a little less. They will not require as much as they do in the spring and fall. Don't fertilize if you are not able to water at least by the next day. Organics are also a good choice of fertilizer.—The Houston RS Rosette
- Remember to give your roses lots of water. They need at least an inch of water a week. If you have Japanese beetles on your roses, just knock them off into a bucket of soapy water. Spraying will only kill the ones that are on the bush at the time you spray. Just cut the blooms and bring them in the house for your enjoyment instead of the beetles.—*Kathy Dodson*
- An organic method of controlling Japanese beetles is to plant red geraniums in with your roses. The beetles love the flowers on these plants and it is toxic to their system. The beetle will take a tasty bite of the geranium and fall to the ground paralyzed. After being comatose for about 8 hours, the toxins wear off and the beetle, not realizing the error of his ways, will climb up and take another bite and start the cycle all over again. You can kill the beetles by dropping them in a bucket of soapy water. Do not squish the beetle, especially around your garden, as this causes them to release an odor which attracts more beetles. Use needle nose pliers to nab them and drop them in the soapy water. *—The Pikes Peak RS Rose Companion* (continued on p. 2)

From the President—Ben Matus

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Dang! it's hot. It's been tough for Pauline and I to get out to take care of the roses the past few days. But, we try. We all know it's important to keep them watered, especially if it hasn't rained much. And it sure hasn't down here in L.A. (Lower Alvaton). So we're watering, feeding and spraying in the mornings whenever we can. Japanese beetles have arrived. Good luck to the rest of you as you tend your plants.

Most of you got Mary Ann's forward of the Louisville Rose Societies' news letter. It truly was a kind review of our rose show that gives one pause. If we could only find a way to increase membership just a little bit with slightly younger members it would be a no brainer.

Personally, even though I am not an exhibitor, I've always enjoyed participating in our show. It's fun to get together with friends to make something good happen. We all learn something at every show. And the opportunity to work and socialize with folks from other societies is indeed a blessing.

We all (me too) need to renew our efforts to interest others in our rose society. With just a half dozen younger, enthusiastic new members we could hold our own or perhaps even grow the good we do in the world by growing roses. I'm sure that you do understand that the world IS a better place because you grow a few roses. We need to help some other folks reach that understanding and join us in the cause.

Happy Fourth of July. Long may she wave!

Summer Rose Tips (continued from p. 1)

- Deadhead spent roses. When deadheaded, the bushes will direct energy into growth instead of maintaining the spent bloom.-St. Louis Voice of the Rose.
- Continue a fungicide spray schedule. Do not apply fungicide to dry plants. Roots should be well watered before spraying with any fungicide or insecticide. If blackspot is under control spray with a preventive fungicide such as Ortho/Rose Pride, Bayer/Disease Control, ferti-lome/Rose Spray, Funginex, Banner Maxx, Compass or Honor Guard. If blackspot is visible spray with a contact fungicide such as Mancozeb, Manzate, or Dithane M-45. Follow label directions. The less expensive, less concentrated fungicides work just as well, but require using more and must be applied more often.—The CenLa RS Rosebud
- Too much water and too little water produce many of the same symptoms. Just stick your finger in the ground to tell which.—*Bradenton-Sarasota RS The Bulletin*
- Roses are heavy feeders. Watering leaches the nutrients from the soil, more so in potted plants. Now is a good time to replenish nutrients with organics such as alfalfa meal, alfalfa tea, fish emulsion, cottonseed meal, compost, cured manure, etc. Water soluble fertilizers, Miracle Grow, Mills Magic, can usually be applied every two weeks. Read and follow label directions. Fertilizer, even water soluble fertilizers, should not be applied to dry roots. It will burn the roots and damage the leaves.—The CenLa RS Rosebud
- Watch for rose rosette disease. I have only had it on one bush this year, but have seen many around shopping areas in town. Hopefully, the research that is going on at UT will help us find a way to prevent this disease. —M. Hext



July 2016

BGRS Member Photos—Thanks for sharing!



Japanese Beetles on 'Strike It Rich' which is their favorite rose to devour in the Hext garden



Sheila Payne with 'Queen Elizabeth' that was her Mother's rose that she moved to her house 14 years ago.

BGRS Public Garden Photos

The Jacobs worked in our public rose garden at Riverwalk Park on June 22 and took these photos!



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ARS Trial

Membership Available



The American Rose Society is now offering

a four-month trial membership for only \$10 to anyone who is interested in becoming members of our organization. Most ARS members are home gardeners who enjoy growing roses and want to expand their knowledge of rose culture. Four-Month Trial Members receive:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians.
- Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just 3 uses.
- Free online access to four quarterly bulletins, a \$45 value.
- 2 issues of American Rose magazine, \$16 value.
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners.
- A four-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!

Visit <u>www.ars.org</u> for more information and to take advantage of this offer.

IMPORTANT DATES - 2016

- July 29-31: M/MF National Rose Show & Convention, Harrisburg, PA
- September 23-25: Tenarky Fall Rose Show and Convention, Nashville, TN
- October 1: Louisville Rose Show



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