



Rosarian Reminder

Tulsa Rose Society

August 2016

No meeting during August Next meeting will be September 11th.

This is our second year to skip meetings during the hottest summer months. We will resume our meetings on September 11th. September's speaker is Linda Vater, OKC Channel 4 Gardening host. She is the "Garden Guru" on Oklahoma City KFOR's "Four Your Garden" segment. She also writes regularly for *Southern Living* and *HGTV* magazines. She conducts seminars and workshops and is a member of the Garden Writers Association. Her topic will be English Gardens.

We do not have a confirmed speaker for October but Casey Hentges, current host of Oklahoma Gardening will be our speaker in November.

There was no business meeting during July so there are no minutes to publish this month.

The Summer heat has been brutal on our gardens and on us. Lots of water for the garden and our bodies is essential to take care of both. There have been warnings about how hot the water becomes within a hose lying in the sun. People have been scalded and plants can be damaged also. Allow the hot water in the hose to run on the grass or on an area of soil or mulch and not directly on the foliage of any plant until it has cooled down. This is only common sense but sometimes when we are in a hurry and want to get out of the heat ourself, we may not think about this.

Your Place in History - second request

You may not have a place in history as Arthur Truex does, but your membership in the Tulsa Rose Society makes you important to the Society here in 2016. We would like to feature some biographical information about our members so that we get to know each other better. I ask you to write up a paragraph or more about what got you interested in Roses and what are some of your other interests. We will take a page or two each month to include this information in the newsletter so we get to know each other beyond our contact at our meetings. We have some very talented members who play musical instruments and make many beautiful things that are not rose related and we would love to hear from you.

Write up your interest/experiences and family information that you would like to share with your fellow members of the Tulsa Rose Society. You can hand them to me at a meeting or include them in an email or as an email attachment to editor@tulsarosesociety.org.

Inside this issue:

<i>August 1996</i>	2
<i>Rose Care for August</i>	3
<i>Watering your roses</i>	4
<i>Watering your roses</i>	5
<i>Watering your roses</i>	6
<i>Memories of the Past</i>	
<i>Letter to the Editor</i>	7
<i>Memories of the Past</i>	8

Looking Ahead

Aug 20 - Weeding in the Tulsa Rose Garden

Sept. 11 - TRS meeting at TGC

Sept. 17 - Weeding in the Tulsa Rose Garden

Oct 21-23 SCD Rose Show, Pasadena, TX

Refreshments -

If you would like to help with refreshments for September let Judy Carter know.



Looking Back 20 Years

The following appeared in the August 1996 Rosarian Reminder

DOG DAYS OF AUGUST

The hot dry weather is taking a toll on both rosarians and their bushes, but fall will be here before long and once again we will enjoy big beautiful blooms if we prevail with good rose care.

With this extremely hot dry summer, a good thick layer of mulch is extremely important. Take a look at your mulch and see if you need to add more. A three to four inch covering is recommended.

Water, Water, Water (can't be emphasized too much). If your new growth turns limp, you are probably not watering your roses enough.

Speckled leaves are a result of spraying roses that have not been properly watered.

Brown dry edges indicate spray burn. This is a result of a combination of too little water and/or high temperature. Spray roses in early morning (that means before 10 am) or late evening when temperatures are lower. If you choose to spray in the evening, try washing down the foliage with a cooling spray of water before applying a spray material. Spray material will be less likely to burn.

Control blackspot. Blackspot requires regular spraying every 7 to 10 days. For blackspot use one of the following fungicides:

Triforine @ 1 teaspoon per gallon

Funginex @ 1 Tablespoon per gallon

Fungi-Gard @ 2 Tablespoons per gal.

Maneb Flowable @ 1 Tablespoon per gal. For severe blackspot clean-up, many rosarians recommend a spray combination of

Maneb Flowable @ 1/2 Tablespoon and Funginex @ 1 Tablespoon per gallon. This combination can be applied every 4 to 5 days for three weeks. Nothing will repair the damaged leaves, but this should prevent future damage. Remember to carefully spray the top and bottom of foliage on all plants that host fungus spores like ramblers and climbers. *(From the Houston Rose Society Bulletin, Debra Mock, Editor)*

YELLOW LEAVES:

One condition which concerns many rosarians, particularly beginners, is the yellowing of foliage. There are many different conditions which result in yellow leaves. To determine the cause, study the pattern of yellowing. Is it restricted to the bottom? Inside of the bush? Are the yellow leaves tinged with maroon?

Yellow leaves accompanied by no new growth, small, pale flowers and buds which fail to open indicate a lack of available nitrogen in the soil. Have soil tested to determine the pH of your rose bed. Very high or very low pH locks up the nitrogen in the soil, making it unavailable to plants. If your soil test reveals a pH above 7.0, it can be lowered by the application of sulfur. Acid soil, pH below 6.0, can be raised by using lime.

If the pH is within the acceptable range and the problem is simply a lack of nitrogen, correct by adding one rounded tablespoon of Ammonium Nitrate (33-0-0) per bush once a month through August. In this instance, more is definitely not better. An over application of nitrogen will severely burn roots. Milder, quicker acting Sodium Nitrate (16-0-0) is a better choice to correct nitrogen deficiency in miniatures. Use about 1/2 teaspoon per plant once a month.

Iron-deficiency Chlorosis is an unnatural yellowing of foliage, with the veins usually remains a darker green. It is caused by a shortage of iron available to the plant, which is a result of poor drainage, high pH, or a lack of iron in the soil. To improve the soil, work in iron chelate fertilizer around the plant.

Severe drying out of the soil will cause a plant's foliage to turn yellow and drop off the plant. Once a plant reaches this stage, permanent damage to the root system may have occurred. To prevent drying, be sure your plants receive an adequate supply of water. Remember, if your beds are well drained you cannot over-water roses during the hot, dry days of summer.

Perhaps the most common occurrence of yellow leaves during mid to late summer is that they have outlived their usefulness. This is found only on the lowest set of leaves and is natural, nothing to worry about. *(Taken in part from the Rose Leaf, Nashville Rose Society, newsletter).*

It looks like 1996 was not much different than 2016 as far as being a hot dry summer. How many of you remember reading this? Do you still have the newsletter? Our president was Harry Smola.

What To Do in August

1. **Water - Water** The rain we have had this year is no longer sustaining our Roses. The temperature has now reached the century mark so the beds will be drying out pretty quickly.
2. **Maintain your mulch.** If you keep 3 or more inches of mulch, your moisture will be retained even with the heat and grass and weeds are much easier to control. Pine straw, pine bark mulch, hardwood mulch, cotton burr compost and grass clippings can be used. Use what is easiest for you to obtain at a reasonable cost.
3. **Maintain your spray program.** It is best to water your roses before spraying so they do not overdose on your chemicals. The dryer weather should help us with the black spot which was difficult to fight with all of the rain.
4. **Deadheading and pruning for show.** Both are necessary to keep your roses blooming either for your enjoyment or to develop the "show quality" blooms for our fall show. See page 4 for more about pruning for show. Grooming your bush to keep it in the rose bed and to keep the center open for good air circulation is something you should do year around but it is more important in getting your roses ready for their show blooms.
5. **Feeding should be continued but not heavily.** Water soluble fertilizer or liquid feeds such as Easy Feed or fish emulsion are easy to apply. The roses should be watered adequately before feeding them. You can also use granular fertilizer but use caution not to get too much in one spot that will cause a chemical burn to the rose.
6. **Watch for mites and insects.** Spider mites enjoy the hot dry weather. A good dousing with the water wand will discourage them. Repeat several days in a row so the mites learn you are serious about them leaving. You will want to watch for thrips and aphids as your show blooms begin to appear. Treat as necessary.
7. **Take care of yourself.** Work early in the morning or in the evening to avoid the heat of the day. Drink lots of water to keep your body hydrated.

Who We Are

The *Rosarian Reminder* is published monthly by the Tulsa Rose Society. Submit information and articles to John Carter, Editor at 1825 W. Lincoln St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509 or via email at editor@tulsarosesociety.org or call 918-355-8020. Newsletters are mailed or emailed to Tulsa Rose Society members. Memberships are \$20 for individuals or families. Membership benefits include the newsletter, group purchases of roses and rose care products and support from an active organization.

Your Club Officers for 2016 are:

Gordon Beck - President
 Carol Puckett - 1st Vice President - Programs
 Mary Horrigan - 2nd Vice President - Membership
 Liz Enochs - Secretary
 Judith Carter - Treasurer
 Dr. Don Johnson - Immediate Past President

Consulting Rosarians:

Don & Brenda Johnson (Sapulpa) 918-227-1954
 John Carter (North Broken Arrow) 918-355-8020
 Liz Enochs (South Tulsa) 918-664-5301
 Norma Whitehead (North Broken Arrow) - 918-286-8244
 Butch Neumeier (Claremore) 918-342-2885
 Mark Stelljes (Bixby/So Tulsa/BA) 918-232-0244

Meetings are normally held at the Tulsa Garden Center at 2 PM on the second Sunday of each month. Monthly business meeting is the first Thursday of every month at the Tulsa Garden Center at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome. Visit our website at www.tulsarosesociety.org.

Looking at the calendar!

August - No regular meetings - watch for special activities.

August 20 - Weeding in the Tulsa Rose Garden.

September 11 - Regular meetings resume

September 17 - Weeding in the Tulsa Rose Garden.

October 9 - Report of Nominating Committee for 2017 officers

October 15 - Weeding in the Tulsa Rose Garden

October 21-23 - SCD Rose Show, Pasadena, Texas

November 13 - Election of 2017 Officers

December 11 - Installation of Officers and special activity.



Watering Your Roses

[Ronald G. Schwerdt](#) , Consulting Rosarian

The key to growing bigger and better roses is maintaining the proper balance in the soil of air, water, and nutrients.

While there are many reasons why your roses did not perform as they should last year, some problems have simple solutions while others are more complex. Many are simple physiological problems, and have no relation to an infectious disease. Many arise from problems with plants environment, such as: too much water or too little water, poor drainage, insufficient soil aeration, or a nutrient deficiency, etc.

To better understand water and its relationship to the soil, you should first understand how plants' roots and stems utilize water in the soil. By implementing changes in the soil's structure, you will allow for better soil drainage and an improvement in the air and soil movement.

Water is one of the most common compounds on earth, profoundly affecting all plant growth, both physically and chemically. The dictionary refers to water as a transparent, odorless, tasteless fluid. To a plant, it is the lifeline of its existence. Water is the means by which fresh air is introduced into the soil, since rainwater contains more oxygen than normal tap water. When the soil contains sufficient oxygen, combined with the proper nutrients, it results in a greater pulling in of moisture by the root system. This abundance of moisture is what puts that crispness in the petals of your finest looking blooms, and substance in the foliage.

A plant's tissue is about 90% to 95% water. With this in mind, it is easy to see that without this vital compound, roses would not exist. While water is considered one of the main resources required to sustain life on the plant, it can also cause some significant changes to take place within the soil that should be addressed. These changes can trigger the start of retro-gradation in a balanced soil.

What happens when water is added to a soil? It forces carbon dioxide out of the soil. The carbon dioxide is generated by the plants roots and soil microorganisms. At the same time, it carries dissolved nutrients to the root zone where they can be absorbed by the fine feeder roots. Even though roots absorb fertilizers from the soil, they do not benefit from it at this time. It is only after fertilizer has gone through the cycle in the leaves (photosynthesis), that roots derive the benefits of the nutrients. This is one of the reasons why a deep soaking once a week is more beneficial than a light sprinkle two or three times a week.

Now that you know how water interacts within the soil, it is easy to understand how a rose bush standing in water because of inadequate drainage will affect that plant's growth. While roses in containers require a large quantity of water, having their roots constantly immersed in water is the best way to kill the plant because it interrupts its supply of oxygen. The ideal situation is to have a soil retain as much water as the soil's texture allows. This is referred to as "field capacity" and assures sufficient moisture to keep leaves turgid at all times.

What you want is an evenly moist soil, not one that is wet constantly (saturated). It is hard to overwater if there is good drainage. In container grown plants, wet roots are the number one cause of death.

In the soil, water is contained in three forms. One is hydroscopic water. This is water that is chemically tied up by the soil particles. The second form occurs when the soil is watered. The water gradually works its way down, filling the pore spaces with water and air - this is referred to as gravitational water. A soil is said to be at full "field capacity" when all the soil particles are coated with water. This is capillary water and is what the plant uses.

Even though the soil is kept moist with nutrients that are made available, plants can wither if they can't utilize them. One reason for this is the constant and excessive use of chemical fertilizers containing a high concentration of mineral salts, which must be periodically flushed out of the soil. As these salts are leached out of the soil, various nutrients and trace elements are washed out with them. This may cause a deficiency in the soil, and those nutrients will need replacing. A high concentration of salts can draw water and nutrients out of the roots causing a nutrient deficiency that can cause the lower leaves on a bush to fall off, stunted growth and dehydration, etc. This does not

mean you must stop, or even reduce your fertilizing program. What this **means** is you must **water before, as well as after a fertilizer is applied.**

Water and a soil's structure go hand and hand. No matter what method is used to water you must have, or condition your soil into, one that is friable and well aerated so it can breathe. The key to watering is not how much you water, but how much moisture the soil is retaining. The more organics incorporated into your soil, the more water the soil will retain. This plays a major role in helping build the foundation for growing healthy plants. The pH of the soil and the pH of the water you use is also extremely important and is one of the determining factors in how well your roses grow.

Soils conditioned for optimum plant growth consist of about 50% soil and 50% pore spaces. These pore spaces between soil particles can be filled with either air or water or a combination. Normally these voids are filled with half air and half water. As water decreases, air increases. Too much or too little of either can be fatal to the plant.

In the Mid-West, July and August are the months when close attention should be given to the roses and soil. The weather is generally very hot and extremely dry, with not too much rainfall. Using a rain gauge will give some idea on the amount of water the soil received during each rainfall. It is during this period you are thankful that you applied mulch; helping conserve soil moisture. If you don't do anything else during these two months keep the soil moist by regular, deep soakings.

There are many ways to soak the soil. An easy way is to form an 18" ring of soil about 4" high at the base of each plant. If you have hilled up your plant with soil for winter protection, you can re-use this soil. Place the open end of the water hose inside for 5 to 10 minutes and flood the circle. Having enclosed rose beds; I lay the hose in a bed and flood it with 2" to 3" of water, on the average, about once a week. Again, much depends on your soil's structure, thickness of mulch, temperature, and wind velocity, etc. Besides being the cheapest watering system, it's fast and efficient.

You can also use a drip or soaker hose, which will supply 1/3 to 2-1/2 gallons of water per ft. per hr., depending on your water pressure. By adding a water timer, it's now as easy as turning a dial to set the system for the correct amount of time.

When a plant uses up available soil moisture faster than normal, the plant is put under stress; when this happens plants more likely than not attract plant pests and insects. While under this stress, plants that have suffered winter damage that was not noticeable in spring show the damage, resulting in some cane deterioration such as die back.

The same can be said about the foliage on a healthy plant. If it transpires moisture faster than the root system can absorb it from the soil, it will cause brown leaf edges from dead plant cells. All this leads to the number one object in these months. WATER, WATER, WATER.

Flushing the foliage with water early in the day gives the foliage a chance to dry, lessening the chances of diseases developing. Done every two or three days using a strong spray of water, over and under the foliage, will keep the bushes free of most plant pests. When spraying, adjust the setting so it produces a fine mist which will adhere to the foliage, rather than large droplets that roll off the leaves.

A rose bush needs one inch of water per week. Will this water reach the root zone where it can be utilized? This depends upon the soil structure. In a sandy soil one inch of water will penetrate about 12", in a medium loam about 7", and in a clay soil about 5". All things being equal, your success in growing roses will be in direct proportion to the quantity of water in the soil that reaches the root zone.

How many gallons of water is this, and how long will it take to deliver one inch of water for a 200 sq. ft. rose bed? First you must know the water flow from your hose. A simple way to do this is to place your water hose into a container and measure the amount of water in the container after one minute, with no water being diverted elsewhere. Or you can use an in-line meter. For practical purposes, let's say the rate of water flow is 4 gallons per min.

Known Factors:

1- One inch of water = 28,000 gallons of water per acre or (43,560 sq. ft.)



- 2- The rate of water flow is 4 gallons per min.
- 3- The area to receive one-inch of water is 200 sq. ft.

Unknown Factors:

- 1- The amount of time required applying one inch of water.
- 2- The amount of water being used.

200 sq. ft. x 28,000 gallons per acre = 5,600,000 gallons

5,600,000 gallons / 43,560 = 128.55 gallons of water used.

128 gallons / 4 gallons per hour = 32 min. per one inch of water.

In conclusion

Having read this article, you cannot help but realize that water is the essence of life for a plant. It plays the dominating role in all functions of a plant's existence, at present and in future years. There is a parallel to this point; that was addressed in an article written on soil nutrients, which seems appropriate: "When asked about all the men in her life", Mae West eloquently replied, "... Honey, it isn't the men in my life, it's the life in the men". This same ideology applies to water and a plant's survival. Repeated many times over ... if you don't do anything but water your plants they can survive, but without water they will die.

Roses in Review - Due by September 26, 2016

In the July/August edition of the American Rose Magazine the forms for submitting your Roses in Review for 2016 appear. You can also submit your information from the ARS website. Consulting Rosarians are required to submit the form every year. If you do not grow any of the roses listed still submit the form.

Memories from the Past — a short history lesson.

From Norma Hedrick-Whitehead

In response to my request for information about TRS members and their history with the society, Norma Whitehead has supplied the following information. Norma is probably the current member who has maintained continuous membership in the Tulsa Rose Society the longest.

"When Blake (Hedrick) and I first learned about the existence of a rose club or society there was only the Men's Rose Club that met at the bank in Utica Square. Probably when the Bank changed owners the Club stopped meeting (or stopped having a Rose Show). The next time that I recall finding a rose show was by accident; we went to Southroads Mall and found they were having a Rose Show. This was not the Men's Rose Club, but now the Tulsa Rose Society. Blake talked at length to some of the men. When he learned it was possible to grow roses like the ones there, outside in the garden and not in a greenhouse, he starting planning to start a garden.

We became friends of Homer Spencer when we found him tending the new roses in the ARS Test Garden located in the Tulsa Rose Garden. Hadle Meyers was a good friend of Homer Spencer, but he soon moved to Northern Florida. Later Homer Spencer retired from (continued on page 8)

Letters to the Editor

On Jul 15, 2016, John T Carter <johnrcarter@valornet.com> wrote to our members:

The Tulsa Garden Center is sponsoring another weeding day in the Tulsa Rose Garden from 7 AM until 10 AM in the morning. Donuts and water will be provided. Parks department staff will be there to remove the weeds harvested.

As a group, the Tulsa Rose Society, we need to show our support for the work in the Tulsa Rose Garden. Wear a t-shirt of some item that will identify you with TRS. This is not pruning or deadheading but it is important to help the roses still surviving. Every weed removed is a help. Bring a hoe or shovel that will harvest weeds. Some areas the hoe will work best. Some weeds are 3 feet tall and need a shovel to dig out. The rain yesterday should make it easier to get them out.

If you live in the Tulsa area try to come out for a while and remove a weed. The third Saturday for the next 3 months will be weeding work days.

Thanks! John

Reply -

How will our Tulsa Rose Society be acknowledged? Entrusted to the management of the City, the rose garden has been decimated. Refusing to deal with Rose Rosette, those responsible concluded the rose monoculture set in motion the garden's demise. Without getting into the politics, I'm just not feeling the kumbaya spirit. Using our Rosarian talent to pull weeds? Why would our Club entertain this undertaking? The City must step up its responsibility; anything less is not a solution.
Concerned member

Dear Concerned Member,

Thanks for your feedback. You are correct that the problem is city management of the Parks Department including the Tulsa Rose Garden.

One effort underway is to form a consortium to take over administration and care of the Tulsa Rose Garden. The consortium would be volunteer based with support from corporations, horticulture affiliates and volunteers from the community. The weeding effort has been a chance to determine a measure of the amount of volunteer support from the community. The first two volunteer days had over 60 people out for more than 2 hours. Last week we only had about 20 volunteers.

We have some corporate donations offered and funds are available for new plantings but none of this can be done without city approval which is the hold up. If the consortium gets approved then city approval for every little thing is not required.

Tier one of the Tulsa Rose Garden has been redone and is cared for by the Linnaeus gardeners. There are roses but not in the monoculture environment. Funds are not available to continue with the pavers and irrigation system to the extent that was done on level 1 right now, but the planting design can be followed.

Why should the Tulsa Rose Society be involved in weed pulling? In my opinion it is because we care about the future of the Tulsa Rose Garden. Many people believe that the Tulsa Rose Society and the Tulsa Rose Garden are closely related. We know that is not true but having a beautiful rose garden benefits the Tulsa Rose Society as well as the city of Tulsa and its citizens. Having a beautiful rose garden encourages people to try growing roses in their gardens. This benefits those businesses that sell roses and rose care products.

I hope you have a better understanding of why I asked for support from the Tulsa Rose Society for weed pulling.

John



Tulsa Rose Society

John T Carter, Editor
1825 W Lincoln St
Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509



The following will be available at our meetings.

For Sale:

Stainless Steel Plant markers:

20" \$2.00 15" \$1.75

Keep these in mind for birthday and holiday gifts!



the City of Tulsa Lab and moved to the same city where Hadle Meyers had moved. Others from that time were W. C. Williamson, Bill Stewart, Oney Salyer, Paul Bunnell and Henry Detweiler. Right after we joined and started growing and showing roses, Bobby Palmer joined. Emmett Farris was from Muskogee and was a very good exhibitor. I remember his being so fond of the variety *Garden Party*. It was considered something of a miracle among roses. Its greatest asset was its petal substance, giving it a long life whether cut or left in the garden. However, it was very prone to powdery mildew and there wasn't much you could do about getting rid of that, so it went to the way of so many great roses. After he passed, his wife gave an award for the best *Garden Party* for several years until she became ill. I have three beautiful crystal baskets that we won with this outstanding rose.