



The Rosarian Reminder

Tulsa Rose Society
Tulsa, Oklahoma

July 2014

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No Meeting in July and August 2014

NO Meeting during July 2014

A poll was taken of our membership during the first meeting of the year and the general consensus was that the Tulsa Rose Society should not meet during July and August. Attendance at these meetings has been low even with serving ice cream and offering an educational program. So we invite you to stay tuned to our newsletters for ongoing tips and news, water and feed your roses and enjoy your summer. Have a safe and fun Fourth of July!

President's Letter—July 2014

Some Summer Rose Thoughts

Now that summer has arrived, we need to think about caring for our roses a bit differently. Roses growing in pots or containers need extra attention. They will likely need daily watering. I like to move mine, where possible, to locations where afternoon shade is offered and have discovered they perform much better. The east side of the house is ideally the best or on the east side of a fence or shade tree.

There is controversy over fertilizing in hot weather. The old rule of thumb is to either not fertilize or reduce fertilization in half. I think if one provides enough water that fertilizing is beneficial even

though the blooms will be small and bloom scanty. It takes time for the plant to take up fertilizer and when cooler weather returns the food is there in the soil and the fall bloom will be much more spectacular than if you wait until cooler weather to resume fertilizing. Certainly if you stop fertilizing in the heat no harm will come.

The greatest challenge we all face in the heat is the occurrence of spider mite infestation. This is a SERIOUS problem. Two options are available for treatment. One is to use a forcible stream of water to wash off the undersides of the leaves and to do this regularly if you suspect mites. This not only helps control the mites but in the heat of the day cools down

the plants and they seem to grow better. The second option is to spray with effective MITICIDES - NOT INSECTICIDES, which can actually promote the mites.

Getting plants thru this miserable part of the summer will give you superb bloom this fall. I think fall bloom is actually better than spring. Don't worry if your plants seem like they are not doing as well even though you are providing proper care as that is normal in the severe heat of summer.

Remember, if you have questions there are consulting rosarians around to help you with any problems and we are eager to help.

Don

Special points of interest:

- ◆ Refreshments:
Snacks -
- ◆ Drinks -

What to Do In July . . .

1. Water - Rain has been pretty scattered and amounts varied greatly. We are about 9 inches below average so my garden is pretty dry. If you are using a sprinkler system check to see if everything is working and the water is getting distributed as needed. I had plantings that had grown up and blocked the water distribution. A rain gauge is an inexpensive investment to know what your garden actually received. Remember to always water before and after fertilizing.

2. Spray - prevention is the key to keeping Blackspot off our roses. Whether you choose the chemical processes or "go green", acting instead or reacting will be the key to success. You should alternate treatment methods to help the disease from building up resistance to one type of treatment. Remember you can always pick the infected leaves if you get an early start. Spider mites are not insects and require a miticide if you are to spray for them. You can wash them from the leaves using pressurized water sprayed on the underside of the foliage. You will need to do this at least 3 days in a row.

3. Monitor your insect population. Remember, general spraying of a general insecticide will kill the good bugs as well as the bad. Are the insects you see really causing damage that will harm your roses in the long term?

4. Mulch - You might have adequate mulch if you used it for your winter protection and then spread it out. If you are a little light on mulch now is a good time to add it before the temperatures get higher and the soil dries out more quickly. Try to have at least 3 inches.

5. Feed your roses - probably a liquid treat will give them a boost so they will come through for you. Check your plants to see that they have a healthy color. Fish emulsion is a good treat to them. Remember to water before fertilizing and after. Nitrogen is the primary food that they need at this time of the year.

6. The roses are blooming so it is time to start your dead-heading. Taking off the spent blooms will keep the cycle going so you will have bloom all summer. If hips develop the rose thinks it has completed its reproductive cycle and may stop blooming.

7. Have your own rain gauge so you know what falls in your yard. Don't trust the weather man. Check your soil conditions occasionally. Roses need water!

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 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 2014 are:

Don Johnson - President
 Ed Neumeier - First Vice President - Programs
 Carol Puckett - Second Vice President - Membership
 Norma Whitehead - Secretary
 Judith Carter - Treasurer
 Judith Carter - Immediate Past President

Consulting Rosarians:

Don & Brenda Johnson (Sapulpa) 918-227-1954
 John Carter (North Broken Arrow) 918-355-8020
 Norma Whitehead (North Broken Arrow) - 918-286-8244
 Butch Neumeier (Claremore) 918-342-2885

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 Wednesday of every month at the Tulsa Garden Center at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome. Visit our website at www.tulsarosesociety.org. Like us on Facebook also.

8. Check for broken canes from the recent strong winds which have passed through. Look for plants that may have been rocked by the wind. They may need to be staked to prevent further damage and give the root base a chance to heal.

It is Time for the 2014 Roses in Review

In your July/August American Rose Magazine, instructions for the process of evaluating a list of roses are given. Everyone who grows any of these roses is invited to submit their information. Instructions and forms are included in the magazine. If you are familiar with the process you can go the American Rose Society website and complete the information online. All Consulting Rosarians are required to complete the review as part of their responsibilities.

**Tulsa Rose Society
Executive Board Meeting
June 4, 2014**

President Don Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. in the Tulsa Garden Center Volunteer Meeting Room. Also attending were Brenda Johnson, John Carter, Judy Carter, Norma Whitehead, Butch Neumeier, Dennis Voss and Beverly Forester. Carol Puckett and Gordon Beck were absent.

The Minutes of the May 7, 2014 meeting were read by Secretary, Norma Whitehead and approved as printed.

Treasurer Judy Carter gave the financial report and noted a balance of \$11,483.74 in total assets.

Dennis Voss reported on the upcoming trip to Stillwater. We will be meeting at Utica Square instead of the Garden Center. Those making this trip are to be there and ready to leave by 8:00 A. M.

Beverly Forester reported on the (KBAB) Keep Broken Arrow Beautiful promotion and thanked The Tulsa Rose Society for presenting our May show at the Nienhuis Community Center.

Since we will not be meeting in July or August, John Carter, Editor will be sending a newsletter in August about the September meeting and possibly one in July as a schedule reminder.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A. M.
Norma Whitehead, Secretary

(There will be no Board meeting in July.)

We still have one container of Mills Magic Food (dry) 10 pounds for \$17 and one gallon of liquid Easy Feed for \$30. Contact John Carter.



Cathy Vaughn in her Beekeepers jacket.



Two Miniature Arrangements from 2014 Show



Four additional arrangements from 2014 show

South Central District 2014 Awards Banquet and Meeting

The South Central District will hold its Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet on Friday, October 17, 2014 during the ARS Fall National Convention and Rose Show. It's a chance to learn about what is happening in the SCD, socialize with SCD friends and members, and recognize those whose service has gone above and beyond for the SCD.

The Banquet will be conveniently held at the *Holiday Inn on South Broadway in Tyler* (the ARS Convention hotel) from 6:00 -9:00 pm in the Constellation 1 room. The price per person is \$25 payable to Jo Ann Bradley, SCD Treasurer. **Reservations must be made in advance. Reservations must be made by September 1 for this limited seating event.** Please make your reservation now and plan to attend this fun event! We hope to see you there!

Menu:

Seasonal baby greens with Raspberry Vinaigrette dressing
 Chicken with Boisin Stuffing or London Broil with Mushroom Sauce
 Whipped Potatoes
 Oven Roasted Vegetable Medley
 Fresh Hot rolls and butter
 Pecan Pie or Cheesecake with fruit topping
 Coffee, Tea and water
A cash bar will be available for your enjoyment.

Please indicate the number of meals by main entrees:

Chicken with Boisin Stuffing	_____	X	\$25	_____
London Broil with Mushroom Sauce	_____	X	\$25	_____
		Total		_____

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please send your completed form and your payment check (made out to the *South Central District*) to:

Jo Ann Bradley
 8811 Phoenix
 Universal City, TX 78148

Direct any questions to Debra Bagley (dlb0319@msn.com) and 972-422-5068.

Summer Rose Care Tips From the Spring Valley Roses website

Ahhh, mid summer. This is the time of the year when all the annuals you planted this spring are finally blooming. And the long, warm days seem to intensify the fragrance of summer blooming Lilies and roses. It's the time to revel in the glory of the garden.

But, then you notice a few flaws. Uh, oh, that rose plant over there just doesn't look like it's doing very well. What's the deal? Mid summer, in all it's glory, can also create stressful conditions for plants. All that heat causes plants to move water through their systems (evapotranspiration) pretty quickly. If plants don't have enough water, they get stressed out in the heat. They can't just pick themselves up and move into the shade or go get a drink of water like we can.

As you look a bit closer you notice there are some funny looking bugs covering the new growth on your roses. Mid summer can bring out the aphids in full force. Especially, if you haven't had any recent heavy rains to wash them off the plants.

Then you notice that a rose in the corner has some funny spots on its leaves, a few leaves are turning yellow, and some have fallen off the plant. Oh god, blackspot!

And, then you start thinking that perhaps your roses aren't blooming as much as they should be. If your soil is a bit low on the fertility scale, the blooms may be in short supply. What to do, what to do!! First, don't worry. These minor problems are just that -- minor. And, they're easily fixed.

Water

The most important thing your roses need this time of year is water. They demand the equivalent of at least one inch of rain each week. That's about equal to one gallon of water per plant. So, if it hasn't rained, give your roses some water.

The best way to water your roses is with a soaker hose that causes the water to slowly saturate the soil. These are usually made out of recycled tires and can be laid right on top of the soil and covered with mulch. This works great -- no evaporation and the water slowly soaks into the soil. I actually run mine overnight. The mulch on top of the hose prevents any water from squirting onto the roses, so watering at night is great. Just remember to turn off the hose in the morning. Or, better yet, set it on a timer.

Water is the ultimate "fertilizer." It moves nutrients from the soil into the plant. And a consistent supply prevents the rose from getting stressed by heat. A nonstressed, healthy rose can better defend itself from insects and disease.

Bugs

Mid summer bug problems on roses are usually caused by aphids. They are almost always found on the new growth of rose plants. They seem to come out in full force in mid summer when there hasn't been much rain. Aphids suck the juices out of your roses and can cause leaves to curl and be disfigured.

The best defense against aphids is healthy plants that have received adequate amounts of water. The second best defense is a good supply of ladybugs in your garden. I release these aphid eaters every two weeks during early summer and mid summer. They really clean up the aphid problems. Sometimes I have to wait a few days after the release to see the effects, but they do a great job in reducing aphid problems.

If the rain hasn't come and the ladybugs haven't done their job, then you need to stop the aphids before they take over. Insectidal soaps work great -- they don't hurt bees, fish, kids or you. But they'll kill most soft bodied insects. It works by suffocating them.

The trick to success with insectidal soap is to apply it twice. First, spray it on the aphids (it has to have contact with the bug to work) late in the day -- usually right before sunset. Spraying late in the day prevents leaf damage caused by the sun hitting the spray or heat reacting with the spray. Then, two days later go out and spray any aphids that escaped your first spray. You'll be amazed at how quickly they reproduce! If

you miss one, you'll quickly have hundreds in a matter of days. I think they're born pregnant. Another quick way to get rid of aphids is to squish them between your fingers. Or, if you can't handle that, then wash them off the plant with water -- a hose set on high pressure works well (be careful not to blast the leaves off your plants).

Disease

Rose diseases are what keeps lots of people from growing roses. The idea of dragging out an arsenal of chemicals and spraying them over the entire garden once a week is enough to cause even the most undaunted gardener to wonder what the heck they're doing.

What to do? First, decide what you're willing to accept. Remember the words to a Joni Mitchell song, "please farmer put away that DDT, leave the spots on the apples and give me the birds and the bees." If chemical control is not for you, you can still grow roses. First, you have to select roses that are less susceptible to disease and then you have to keep them healthy by planting them in the right spot and giving them enough water and the right kind of food.

Right plant in the right place. Every garden is filled with "microclimates" that can be good for some plants and certain death for others. You know that corner spot in your garden that always has mosquitoes and slugs hanging out in the damp shade? Don't plant a rose there. It will get disease, unless its made out of plastic. Plant your rose in sun with good air circulation and it will have what it needs to stay healthy without spraying. If it gets disease, consider replacing it with a variety that has more disease resistance.

Organic sprays. If you have a disease problem, there are organic products you can apply to your plants to prevent and control the diseases. Before World War II, there were very few agricultural chemicals used to control plant disease. And guess what, people were growing roses way before World War II.

Most organic sprays are composed of minerals; specifically, copper or sulfur. New fungicide products use Neem oil derivatives, made from the Neem tree. Some of these products are available at local garden centers. Others are available through mail order only. One good source for these products is: Gardens Alive, 510 Schenley Place, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025; 812-537-8650.

Lots of other nonorganic sprays are available for those of you willing to use them. Check with your local garden center.

To avoid disease problem, remember to: select roses that have good resistance to disease, plant them in the right spot, and feed and water them well.

Food

Roses are known as "heavy feeders" (or how about gluttons) when it comes to using up soil nutrients. But, they convert all those nutrients into a ton of blossoms, which is why we grow them, right?! So, if we expect them to bloom, we have to feed them.

We've got lots of pages devoted to fertilizing, which I've listed below. But, before you leave this page, there are a few pointers to keep in mind when fertilizing.

- Don't apply liquid fertilizers to dry soils. The roses will suck up the fertilizer quickly and it may cause the leaves to burn.
- Avoid using liquid chemical fertilizers -- especially on Rugosas! These types of fertilizers cause the most leaf burn and leaf drop. You don't want to hurt your plants with fertilizers.

Feed the soil, which in turn feeds the plants.

What is Blackspot?

By: Danny Craft, drcraft@aol.com, Charleston, WV
(Reprinted from the ARS website)

Symptoms Blackspot is a plant disease caused by a fungus (*Diplocarpon rosae*) that is generally damaging and usually a source of major problems. Blackspot looks like circular black spots with irregular edges on the top side of the leaves. The tissue around the spots or the entire leaf may turn yellow and the infected leaf may drop off. Plants with a severe case may lose all of their leaves if not treated. Flower production is often at a minimum and the quality of bloom suffers badly.



Biology High humidity is one factor that helps the spores to germinate. The spores germinate in 9-18 days on a moist leaf at 70-80°F temperatures. The spores can be spread by splashing water and by the Rosarians themselves. The spores are wind-borne only in water drops. The spores can be spread on clothing, tools or even your hands, but the way it is spread most often is by infected leaves that have wintered over in the rose bed.

Control Blackspot can be satisfactorily controlled by spraying with a good fungicide every seven to ten days (read the label and follow the directions). There are also a number of measures that should be taken to keep from getting and/or controlling the disease. Avoid watering in a way that splashes water up on the leaves and avoid watering late in the evening with a hose or sprayer. Make sure to clean up the beds completely of all leaves or stems to help keep the disease from wintering over. Always have good ventilation through the plant and good soil drainage. Apply fungicides after a rain to keep down spores. Put the plants on a spray schedule and spray with a fungicide that gives good control, such as, Manzate®, Maneb®, Daconil® and Lime-Sulfur compounds.



There are also organic methods of controlling Blackspot. Baking soda has been tried as a cure and as a preventative measure. It was found that using baking soda and spray oil mixed with water as a spray can damage roses if it is not mixed in the proper proportions. It was also found that baking soda gave only moderate control of Blackspot, but appeared to be effective as a preventative. There is a new product coming on the market that has been used by our local Rose Society that does show promise. This product is derived from the Neem tree. It is called "Rose Defense" by The Green Light Co.

One other way to prevent Blackspot is to plant roses that are disease resistant. There are some roses that have some resistance built into their genes. But remember, they are **Resistant** not **Immune**. They still need to be sprayed on a regular schedule.

Roses should be kept on a regular spray schedule regardless of which method is used. Remember, prevention is the key to controlling Blackspot.

Editor's Note: Also, be aware that the spray for prevention will not kill the disease after it is established. You can hand pick the infected leaves off of the plant but remember that the gloves that you use can spread the disease to healthy plants unless precautions are taken.

Tulsa Rose Society

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The following will be available at our meetings.

For Sale:

Stainless Steel Plant markers:

20" \$2.00 15" \$1.75 10" \$1.50

Diamond Sharpening tools:

Single file \$8.00

Package of 3 files \$18.50

One medium, fine & super fine included

