

Queensland Rose Bulletin

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www.hainsroses.com

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Disclaimer:

This Bulletin may suggest some controls for pests and diseases. This does not mean endorsement of a particular company's product. The suggestions are intended as a guide only and the choice or controls is yours. The information is gained from sources we deem reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy, and interested persons should rely on their own enquiries.

Coming Events

April 8th, Wednesday
Qld Rose Society
Monthly Rose Show
and Meeting at the
Church Hall, 459 An-
nerley Rd, Annerley
Junction, 7pm Rose
Show. 8pm Judging,
8.30pm Meeting

MAY IS ROSE SHOW SEASON

2-4th DDRS at
Toowoomba Garden-
fest. Tafe
**9-10th Queensland
Rose Society** at Mt-
Coot-tha Botanic Gar-
dens Auditorium
16-17th Roselovers
at Ashgrove Bowls
Club

Roses Grow Towards The Setting Sun

Paul Hains, Mt Gravatt East, Qld

This is something you may have noticed with your rose bushes. Sunflowers will track the sun during the day. Roses are not quite that sensitive but they do grow to face the direction of the setting sun.

Go outside and have a look at them, you will notice all of the buds facing in one direction. This picture is of Altissimo taken in the afternoon and you can see all of the flowers stretching out to the Sun. The flower stems are not tied that way on the wires but grow freely.

What does this mean to you? It is important if you

are wanting nice straight stems, especially for showing roses or even for nice vases or bunches.



How? Well, firstly work out where the sun sets in your garden. When you cut a stem back do it to a bud that faces toward the setting sun. A bud that faces the opposite direction will end up with a stem that goes out then curves back towards the sunset.

Breaking the Rules.

Around show times, or if you have an event coming up where you want nice bunches of straight stems, you will end up cutting buds to allow some of the stems to cross back across the centre of the bush, as they will create the straight lines you want. It is against traditional rose lore, but it won't hurt.

Embracing the Challenge

Roy Grant, Margate, Qld

Paul & Toni. Thank you for your continuing efforts towards the Queensland Rose Society Inc, particularly the upgrade to colour and format of the newsletter (*The Queensland Rose*) aware of the years of effort that Bill Allen tried to gain personal insight as to why and how members embrace the challenge of their roses. Growing and showing attracts the competitive search of catalogues for the latest release but in most gardens a good display

with cut flowers handed to friends or medical centres brings life and goodwill atmosphere.

The past weeks has awakened female enquiries as to the preparation and ongoing challenges to establish a rose garden. Time spent trying to explain the need for open air, tree root, soil structure is the easy part. Come the choice of varieties proven to tolerate the continuous 15 to 20 knot breezes or the need to deep

soak for best results are sometimes negated if you allow a couple of weeks loan of current nursery catalogues—yes, yes, this is the driving force of an association with the rose.



Next Month: Baxter Williams from Houston, USA teaches us how to make a 12-Rose Garden Bed in around an hour — get those catalogues out and find an area to create your new garden.



*"I walk into the
room hoping to
fall in love.
Roses seduce me.
I'm as
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their beauty as a
lonely cowgirl
on Saturday
night"*



Rose Shows? Why Bother?

By Jeri Jennings, Ventura, USA

- "HEY! See you next week-end at the rose show!"

- "Rose show? Oh, no! I don't go to rose shows. I'm not interested."

Not interested? You're a member of a rose society, and you're "not interested" in rose shows? I don't understand how that can be.

There are two simple reasons why you should "bother" with rose shows. You go to rose shows, or take part in them, either to do good for yourself, or to do good to others. Some of you might go for both of those reasons. I assume that you joined a rose society because you LIKE roses. You probably grow some roses. Perhaps you even grow a great many roses. You enjoy seeing roses, and being around people who share your interest in roses. You do, of course, find the requisite roses and lovers of roses at our monthly meetings, but that opens only a very small door to a very small sampling of the greater world of roses.

At a rose show, usually for free, you will see, smell, touch, and enjoy roses that, in all probability, you will never see in your neighborhood nursery. At a rose show, you will have the opportunity to pick the brains of the folks who GROW those unfamiliar, tantalizingly lovely roses. With the beauty that a rose show rolls out in front of you I can't see why ANY lover of roses would NOT want to take advantage of the opportunity to take part, or at LEAST to go to a rose show!

What's that you say? OH! Some of the roses you see at a rose show won't do well in Your garden? I still don't understand! Why wouldn't you still want to see and enjoy

them, after someone ELSE did the work? I'm an artist of sorts, but I haven't the talent to paint like Monet. I ENJOY Monet's work, though, and I wouldn't miss an opportunity to attend an exhibit of it especially if there was no charge for the privilege! Besides, you'll find, if you ask some questions, that many of the roses you'll see at a rose show WILL do well for you. With just a little detective work, you'll quickly learn which is which.

When the doors open on a rose show, I walk into the room hoping to fall in love. Roses seduce me. I'm as vulnerable to their beauty as a lonely cowgirl on Saturday night . . . so I've learned to slow down, take a deep breath and make sure I'm not dancing with the wrong beau. When I see a rose that's new to me, a rose that fills my eye, and makes my heart flutter . . . I take myself sternly in hand, and open the entry tag. I look to see who grew it, and where it was grown. I look at the foliage. (A clever exhibitor can clean mildew away, but the disease usually leaves damage. If you look closely, you'll spot it. And I ASK! Go to the exhibitors, and ask them about the roses they brought. They don't mind! In fact, they're pleased to have been asked. (THEY love roses too). "Does this rose mildew?" "Does it rust?" "Will it handle a cool, coastal climate?" I ask, and if I'm lucky, I may find an 'Excellenz von Schubert,' or a 'Vineyard Song' roses that flourish in the conditions my garden offers.

The matter of Doing Unto Others . . .

I grow quite a few roses that you won't find at the corner

nursery. Look around your garden, the day or so before the next rose show, and look at your roses. Pick some with the longest stem you can. Wash the foliage off with warm water. Bring your roses to the rose show, and enter them so that others can see them, and enjoy them and maybe even fall a little bit in love.

What's that you say? Your roses won't WIN? True they might not. So what? How badly, after all, do you need a piece of inexpensive crystal? It's fun to win. We'd all rather win at whatever games we play than lose at them but at a rose show, you can't lose.

How's that? Right, that's what I said. YOU CAN'T LOSE at this game. You enter your rose, and the WORST thing that can happen is you make an error, and it's disqualified. That doesn't happen often but even if it should happen to your entry, the rose is still out there on the exhibition table. People who come to see the show still get to see it, and enjoy it. THAT is what's important. Not the ribbons, not the trophies, but the sharing of something beautiful.

So come to a rose show, whether to help, to enter, or simply to enjoy the beauty of the show.

Reprinted from the September 2000 issue of The Ventura Rose, bulletin of the Ventura County Rose Society. By permission of Jeri Jennings.

There are three Rose Shows on in May. The biggest is the Queensland Rose Society Autumn show at Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens on the 9th and 10th of May. Opens 11.30am Sat and 9am Sun.

Rose of the Month – Jane McGrath

www.mcgrathfoundation.com.au

The Jane McGrath rose was launched last Wednesday at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show.

Australian breeders from Ballarat, Ron and Barbara Inverarity, approached Jane along with Treloar Roses just before she passed away in June last year. She was looking forward to it being released and was delighted to have a rose bred in her name and with 80 cents

from the sale of every rose going to the McGrath Foundation.

The Foundation was established by Jane and her cricketing legend husband Glen McGrath after Jane was diagnosed with breast cancer and had received the support of a breast care nurse. Their aim is to provide funding for breast care nurses on a national basis and to increase awareness of

breast cancer. It costs approximately \$100,000 to fund each nurse and the Foundation provides funding for 3 years at a time for each position.

This rose is described as an old English style floribunda with lightly scented blooms produced in clusters on slightly arching canes. Its growth habit is indicated to be 1m x 80cm.



Picture from Treloar Roses
www.treloarroses.com.au

Gardening Australia Expo 18th-19th April

Can anyone help at the display?

Gardening Australia is on again this year and will be held at the EKKA (Exhibition) Showgrounds. If you can assist

with the QRS stand please call Paul or Toni on 3420 6777 or email us. Also, if you can help by providing some flowers for

the display please let us know. Workers get into the expo for free and will have some opportunity to look around.



More on Chemical Sprays

Paul Hains, Mt Gravatt East, Qld

I keep getting asked about my spray routine. Put simply, I spray to prevent disease and bugs. I know you will read things that say you should only spray to cure and only spray when bugs are present. If you only have a handful of bushes, refer to the recommendations at the QRS website above. The premixed sprays will do the job for you without overcomplicating things.

What do I use? This is the question I have been asked most since we started competing successfully with our roses.

I alternate between two different combinations (I hope you read last month's article on systemic sprays). The sprays I use were purchased in commercial quantities in 5 litre bottles. You can buy equivalents at Bunnings in smaller quantities. The important thing is to find a combination that works for you and to ro-

tate it **every time** with another combination.

Combination 1: The fungicide *triforine* (Triforine or Sapro) with the insecticide *alphacypermethrin* (Dictate Duo).

Combination 2: Fungicide *propiconazole* (Cracker EC 250 or Banner-Maxx) with the pesticide *maldison* (Malathon).

I also add *Phostragen* or *Flourish* foliar fertilisers to these mixes unless I am adding *Mancozeb*. I add *Mancozeb* when I have active blackspot or powdery mildew. This acts as a protectant on the stems and leaves to enable the systemic fungicides to get into the bush with less of a fight. It also seems to be the best at combating active disease.

Why do I always add a pesticide? The ones I use are relatively low cost per spray and I figure that I am spraying anyway, so I might as well add it

in, particularly to combat the moths and thrips.

A word on commercial quantities: It is illegal to repack sprays into smaller containers so I cannot recommend buying in bulk and splitting it with like-minded friends.. It might suit your needs to purchase different products that are available in smaller quantities. Malathon and Triforine are readily available in smaller quantities (see pictures). Dictate Duo is a synthetic pyrethrum, with many alternatives, however, the 5 litre container was only \$66. Rural Buying Service have lots in stock (previous supply issues resolved). Their number is (07) 5571 6111. They are at 26 Demand Avenue, Arundel at the top of the Gold Coast.

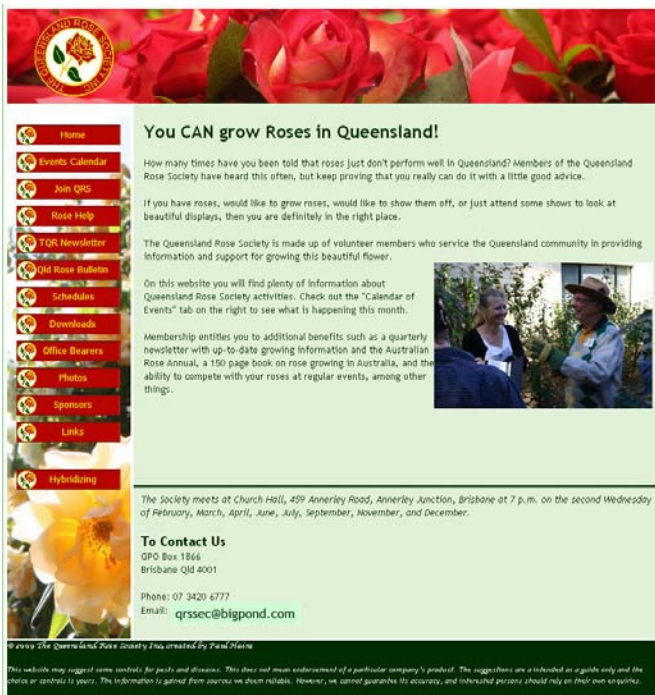
I have given these as examples of combinations, but recommend you seek your own advice for your situation.

"I add Mancozeb when I have active blackspot or powdery mildew. This acts as a protectant on the stems and leaves"



New QRS Website – www.queenslandrosesociety.org.au

Let us know if you have an interesting website we should know about



The Queensland Rose Society has launched its new look website that can now be found at www.queenslandrosesociety.org.au. This web address should be an easy one for you to remember.

The site is a great source of information on rose growing. The objectives of the site are:

1. Provide up-to-date information for QRS members;
2. Encourage rose growing in Queensland by providing help and advice.

The Rose Help pages include growing tips and a monthly guide to rose care along with the recommended roses list for Queensland.

All of the activities for members are listed on the Events Calendar along with a map of how to get to the meetings.

You can download show schedules and the Exhibitor's Handbook. There are plans to have many more downloads available shortly.

A members only page will come in the future allowing QRS members access to additional information and downloads not available to the general public.

Please email Paul at qrssec@bigpond.com with any feedback you may have on the site, including anything you think should be added.

“There are even Australian articles on hybridizing and propagating from the 1950s and 60s Rose Annuals”

Bulletin Website – www.hainsroses.com

Download all issues free

You can now download all issues of the Bulletin for free. If you have missed any issues or wish to tell a friend so they can download them, then this is an easy way to do it.

The new site also aims to encourage more people to begin hybridizing (breeding) roses. Our quarantine laws are such that we will not be getting many new roses from overseas, so if we want something different we will have to do the work here. There are already many excellent hybridizers in Australia, but there can never be too many.

The site also includes a large dedicated section to all forms of propagating including growing from cuttings, layering, budding onto rootstock and even cloning through tissue culture (with instructions).

When I was developing an in-

terest in hybridizing and in reproducing hard to find roses I had to scour the internet to find the best articles and information. Many of the links in sites no longer work and are not updated which led to frustration and wasted efforts.

I thought it would be good to have a site that helped others avoid the lengthy search process for useful articles.

There is a multimedia page with videos on budding and getting started in cloning as well as a couple on how to grow better (and bigger) rose blooms.

There are Australian articles on hybridizing and propagating from the 1950s and 60s Rose Annuals. Reading some of the articles from the past annuals has proven to be very interesting. Many of the ideas are still relevant today and in

fact are the methods used by many of the Australian and International rose breeders I have talked to. It also gives an insight into the early days of some of the greats of rose hybridizing like Dr Sam McGredy, Herbert Swim and Ralph Moore.

You can download a book on propagating roses written in Sydney that simplifies everything so that you can do it without special equipment.

This site is still in its infancy and will continue to grow with information. If you have an article on hybridizing or propagating you would like me to add, please send it to me.

If you have a website, **please add a link to this site** so that your visitors can download the Bulletin free too. I am happy to reciprocate.

Paul Hains

