

Queensland Rose Bulletin

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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.

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Cultural Notes for Spring

Paul Hains, Queensland with no address now...

During winter usually re-home about 20 rosebushes to other people. Those not achieving our objectives in the garden. This year is different—see page 3 ☺

Without saying anything more, I implore you to buy some good secateurs. If you love your roses, show them by cutting them with sharp blades.

Before winter I plan and select new bare-root roses to supplement the garden or replace the cast-offs. As the new plants grow in this early period I tend to cut many of the flowers short, just below the bud, to help build the shape and size of the bush. A maiden bush should be treated gently and nurtured. If you cut long stems from a newly planted rose, you are holding it back from its potential. The plant will build its size and shape geometrically from every place you cut it. Cut it low and it will be a low bush. Every leaf is also a solar panel producing sugar for the bush through photosynthesis.

I spray my new and established bushes weekly with phostrogen, a foliar feed, being careful not to spray while the bushes are in direct sun. In spring I can do this in the morning. As it grows hotter, I find I do this in the afternoon to avoid burning precious new foliage. I mix the phostrogen with my liquid sprays and do a single application.

The important thing to re-

member with spraying is that it is primarily to *prevent* diseases and pests. If you wait until the blackspot has arrived you have missed the boat and the leaves will die off. You need to protect your leaves as they feed your plant. This is due to the high humidity in Queensland.



City of Newcastle

You may see tiny white spots on your rose petals in Spring. These are moth eggs. You can gently brush these off by hand or paintbrush if there aren't many. They take three days to hatch and begin eating your precious flower.

With all roses, especially your new ones, you are looking for basal breaks (water shoots). This is the new, usually red, growth coming from the bud union of the plant (That's the nobly bit at the base of the plant). If it is coming from below this on the understock buried in the ground, then it is a sucker. It looks nothing like the plant you are growing. Only suckers should be removed. The

new growth from anywhere on the bud should be cherished. This is next year's plant. So, **if in doubt, be patient** and wait until you are sure. Don't run the risk of breaking off a watershoot by mistake.

To encourage basal breaks you can add a small handful of epsom salts (magnesium sulphate) around the drip line of the bush. Don't do this on your bare-root plants until they are well established. You can do this each bloom cycle, so around every six weeks leading up to summer.

As your new watershoot grows, you may be tempted to tie it to a stake to protect it from winds while it is in its fragile state. Wait until the bud on it is building size and showing colour, then cut the stem back about 15cm to an outward facing bud, unless it is a very small shoot. This will then cause it to create two or three new branches near where it was cut.

Once your bush is well established, you can look at any branches that are only producing weak, spindly growth. If they are not contributing **and** you have plenty of new strong growth, cut them out.

Get real life advice. The best rose growers are the exhibitors. They nurture every bush with loving care and devote themselves to growing the best flowers. Go to a monthly meeting or show and ask questions. There are not wrong or silly questions, so any question is a good one.

Bare Root Roses Still Available

Allan Trebbin, Trewallyn Nursery, Queensland, Australia

Editor's Notes:

Toni and I have bought many roses from Allan over the years and have had some excellent results. Our huge Aotearoa was from Trewallyn and grew larger than the others bought elsewhere. I have transplanted it into a 500mm pot for moving to our new house. He also has some rarer older plants like Nocturne which has a wonderful smell and some of the newer roses grown under licence from Swanes.

Hi There

Just a reminder that we are still digging our roses for another month or so yet and that we still have good stocks of most varieties, including the roses featured in these pictures.

If you would like to see some more of what roses we still have available just click on the [website link](http://www.trewallyn.com.au) below or call me on (07) 4159 7313 to make any inquiries or answer any queries you might have on any of our Roses. www.trewallyn.com.au

Kind Regards

Allan Trebbin for

Trewallyn Nursery



Clockwise from top left.
Ebb Tide, Fire and Ice,
Heaven Scent, Love In,
Good Samaritan



Heritage Roses Conference Garden Tour

"The Subtropics: Rainforest to Roses"

4 day Conference Garden Tour, 5 – 8 October, 2010

ONE DAY TICKET

Wednesday 6 Oct, 2010

\$45 per person (registrations close 15 Sept 2010) at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens, Auditorium, Brisbane

7.45am to 1.00pm then to the Heritage Rose Garden at New Farm Park from 1.30pm – 3.00pm

- 7.45am Craft, book and art stalls open for business
- 9.00am Maurice Wilson

– 'The History of the Queensland Garden'

- World Federation of Rose Societies' President Sheenagh Harris

- Penny McKinlay - ABC Toowoomba gardening personality 'Gardening on the Downs'

1.30pm New Farm Park Heritage Rose Garden – Experience the tastes of Queensland – this is a must – supported by Subtropical Fruit Club of SE Qld

Morning Tea, Lunch and Afternoon Tea all supplied

Optional extra – 6.00pm Gala Dinner at The Summit Restaurant

Mt Coot-tha. Cost: \$95 Speaker Noel Burdette

For payment please contact Conference Convenors: Bernadette and David Curley, 9 Woodgate Ct, Ferny Hills Qld 4055 ph 07 3351 1559 or email djcurley@bigpond.com



Where did all the Roses Go?

Paul Hains, Queensland with no address now...

In the May Bulletin I mentioned that we were planning a move to acreage. Well we didn't progress with the property we were looking at due to building restrictions relating to flooding in the area. We did, however, sell our house in the process and are now out searching for a place to call home.

Part of the contract was that all the roses had to be removed (their request, not ours). I had already removed about 70 bushes with some given away and most being fostered by my parents. Now, before I am inundated with calls and emails about the rest of the bushes, they are all gone or spoken for, sorry. I transplanted around 70 more into 430mm pots to keep.

I broke up styrafoam and put in the bottom of the pots, followed by a good quality potting mix. I should have done an advertising deal with Searles or something because it cost me a fortune for the 30+ bags I bought. I then dug the plants to the size of the pots. They were only down 200mm as everything here is built onto rock. So as much soil as I could went into the pot around the roots, then I topped up again with the potting mix. This has fertiliser and wetting granules incorporated into it already and has shown great success with the ones transplanted a month ago.

What about the rest? We gave them away to good homes. I expect to see flowers from our discarded Tinekes, Scarlet

Mimis and Good Samaritans on the show bench very soon.

We were actually very happy to be able to remove them in the end, despite the effort involved. I grew a rainforest at our last house only to see huge tree ferns die over a period of years to the point that I don't drive past anymore. I would hate to have driven past and seen our beautiful rose garden dead or removed. For those of you who did get a chance to see our garden, I hope you enjoyed it and remember it for the display of flowers. The next one will be bigger and better....



Above Left, the garden in it's glory in May and right, almost bare with pots in place of bushes, below left, Nov 2005, newly planted



A Family of Double Bar Finches has a nest in one of the Dublin Bay climbers which is holding off its removal. We may see if the new owners will keep it.

Garden Tool Maintenance

Reprinted from Rosy Reflections, Kitsap County Rose Society, June 2010

*“Always hose off
and dry your
tools after use to
keep them sharp
and prevent
rust.”*

Tools with sharp, forged blades take out weeds painlessly, cultivate effortlessly, and are a pleasure to hold. Never cheap, such tools require regular care to hold their edge and retain their value. Tools that have been cared for take on a patina over the years and become constant companions. As the price of high quality tools rises, you'll notice the higher quality of your older tools as compared with similar new tools with increasingly hefty price tags.

Metal surfaces

Store metal tools like shovels in a 5-gallon bucket filled with coarse sand to which oil (motor oil or vegetable oil) has been added. You can store tools in the winter in the sand or remove and wipe off. Alternately, you can use a smaller bucket of sand and oil as a cleaning step. Each time you use your tools, clean as much dirt as you can, then dig the tool up and down in the sand a few times to clean off remaining dirt and coat the head with oil. The oil coating prevents rusts.

Once a year, clean metal surfaces with a wire brush to remove dirt and light rust.

If the rust is a bit worse, you can sometimes remove it by soaking the tool in white vinegar; otherwise, use steel wool. The extent of the rust determines what grade to use. Start with the least coarse grade you can to remove the rust. Once the rust is removed and the entire surface is clean, you can apply a rust-proofing primer. Steel wool and repaint any rough areas.

File the cutting edge of your metal tools to keep the blade sharp. Practice makes perfect. Even a badly sharpened tool is easier to use than a dull tool. To make short work of your filing projects, install a vise on your workbench. With the tool securely gripped by this second set of "hands" you'll be able to quickly and safely file the business end of your tool. If you regularly file your tools, it will take but a few strokes to keep a fine sharp edge.

To file, use a mill file. Start with the top edge of the tool.

File away from you, using long even strokes at the same angle as the original bevel. Lift the tool between strokes. File the opposite side **lightly** just to remove roughness or burrs for a clean, sharp edge.

Always hose off and dry your tools after use to keep them sharp and prevent rust. Use a general purpose oil to quickly wipe blades and metal surfaces to condition between uses.

Pruning tools

Clean the tool and its blades each time you use it. Use WD-40 to keep hinges working freely.

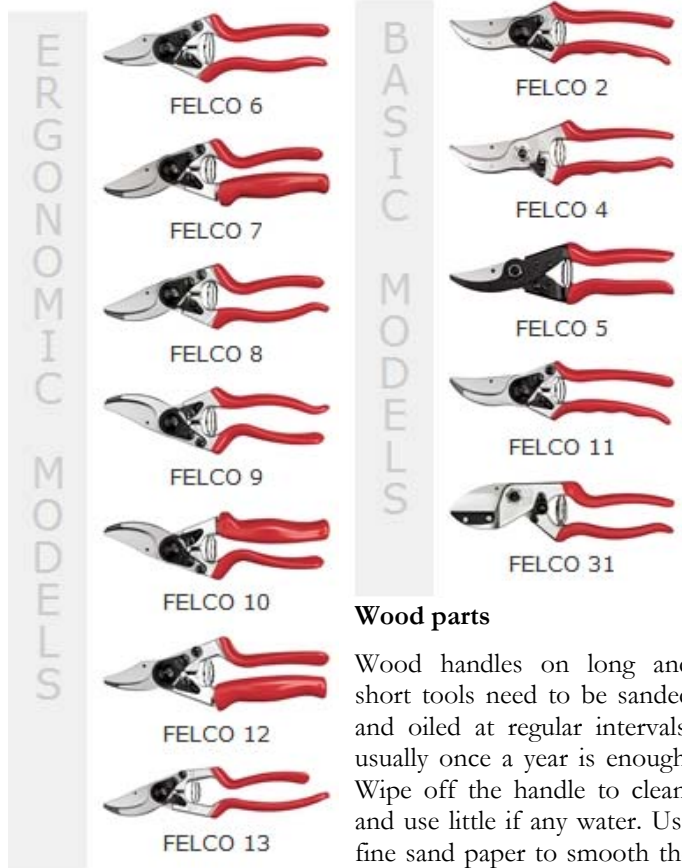
Pruners may need to be disassembled first. Use a whetstone to sharpen blades. Many gardeners color the blade to be sharpened with a black felt tip marker and sharpen evenly until all traces of the marker have been removed.

Sharpen only beveled edges and always shape blades to maintain the original shape of the bevel.

For very expensive pruners, have them professionally sharpened or invest in a specialty tool to make sure you can sharpen them correctly.

Editor's Notes:

We both use Felco and swear by them (and no, I don't get anything for saying that). I love my Felco 7s that have a rotating handle which is claimed to reduce cutting effort by 30% and I would agree with this. It also stops your hands getting sore after a whole day of pruning. Toni swears by her Felco 6s as she has smaller hands so the compact size works for her.



Wood parts

Wood handles on long and short tools need to be sanded and oiled at regular intervals, usually once a year is enough. Wipe off the handle to clean, and use little if any water. Use fine sand paper to smooth the surface. Remove the dust and rub linseed oil into the handle. Let it soak in. Use as much as it takes until it doesn't absorb any more. Wait about a half hour, then dry off any remaining on the surface.



**australian
rose
championships
&
qld rose society
spring show
1-4 Oct 2010**

**Auditorium
Brisbane Botanic Gardens
Mt Coot-tha**

The Queensland Rose Society would like to invite all Rose Society members to attend the 2010 National Rose Show.

With members from through out the state, the Queensland Rose Society has two subsidiary Societies, The Gold Coast Rose Society and the Darling Downs Rose Society. When you attend the Australian Rose Championships in Brisbane you will see roses grown in many differing microclimates from Queensland as well as those who have travelled from interstate.

We have organised special rates at the Hotel Grand Chancellor for guests of the Championships. All of the functions will be held at this site except for the Championship Show which will be at the Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha. We look forward to seeing you there.

Tony Stallwood

President, National Rose Society of Australia & Qld Rose Society

Show Times:

Saturday Oct 2

11.30am-4.00pm

Sunday Oct 3

9.00am-3.00pm



Friday Welcome Cocktail Party and Monday Bus Trip
For more details and registration forms go to:

www.rose.org.au

www.qld.rose.org.au