

# 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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## Chlorosis- Leaf Yellowing on Roses

I was asked last week about the cause of yellowing in leaves where the veins stay dark. The term chlorosis in plants refers to the lack of the green pigmentation chlorophyll which appears as yellowing of the plant tissue. The location of chlorosis in leaves and the symptoms produced can be a general guide in diagnosing plant nutrient deficiencies.

### Soil pH out of balance

Nutrients come in two forms - mobile nutrients and immobile nutrients. The mobile nutrients are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium. That is, these nutrients can move quickly from the soil to the plant. The immobile nutrients are iron, sulfur, calcium, manganese, copper, zinc, boron, molybdenum, and chlorine. These can potentially bind with the soil and become unavailable and the determining factor for this availability is the soil's pH.

Extremes in soil pH are the most common reason for yellow leaves. Roses prefer their soil slightly acidic (6.5) to near neutral (7.1).

Symptoms to look for:

- Yellow leaves only on the bottom of the shrub
- Irregular-shaped leaves
- Burned leaf edges
- Small blooms

Treatments:

- A quality soil test, performed at least bi-annually,

will help determine not only the soil's pH but the available nutrients it contains.

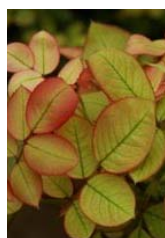
- Check the pH of your watering system/supply
- If the pH is too high add organic soil amendments
- If the soil's pH is too low add lime



### Iron deficiency

Iron is one of the chief elements necessary for the production of chlorophyll - the molecule

that makes green plants green. Lack of iron is characterized by light yellowish-green leaves and dark green leaf ribs that appear near the top of new growth, but are generally distributed throughout the plant. Add iron sulfate or chelated iron liquid or granular inorganic amendments.



### Magnesium deficiency

Magnesium also promotes chlorophyll formation and is vital producing dark green foliage. A lack of magnesium is characterized almost identically with iron deficiency, but the yellow leaves with dark leaf ribs are generally found only at the bottom of the plant. Add epsom salts (magnesium sulfate).



### Nitrogen deficiency

Nitrogen stimulates growth of the rose's

canes, dark green foliage and good blooms. A lack of nitrogen manifests as small, light green leaves. On roses with yellow blooms, a lack of nitrogen frequently appears as yellow leaves. If nitrogen is deficient, add blood meal and/or manure, or add nitrate of soda or ammonia sulfate.

### Sulphur deficiency

Sulphur is the building block of amino acids and proteins necessary for plant health. Sulphur deficient soils produce rose leaves with both yellowish leaves and veins. Generally, these appear near the top of the plant on newer growth. Add sulphur, ammonium sulphate and/or potassium sulphate as necessary.

### Manganese deficiency

Manganese, like magnesium, aids in the production of chlorophyll and activates enzymes to assist the photosynthetic process. A lack of manganese looks very similar to magnesium deficiency except that the smallest leaf veins remain green and take on a spider web or netted appearance. In deficient soils, add manganese sulfate.



# Thrips in Roses

<http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au>



The thrips that damage your roses are in there because mama thrips made a small slit in the bud or new growth tissue, then laid her eggs. After a few days, the eggs hatch and go about sucking plant fluids until they get fat enough to pupate, commonly in the soil. Eventually they emerge as a flying adult, mate, and the process renews. This whole life cycle, from egg to adult, takes only about two weeks during warm weather, and about a month in cooler weather.

Damage to the rose bud is most noticeable in light colored roses, although thrips may attack all roses. If the buds open at all, the petal

edges may look brown or discolored. Sometimes the buds will only partially open.

No pesticide provides complete control of thrips. In comparison with other insects, most thrips are difficult to control effectively with insecticides. Reasons include thrips' tiny size, great mobility, hidden feeding behavior, and protected egg and pupal stages. Improper timing of application, failure to treat the proper plant parts, and inadequate spray coverage are also common mistakes and can be more important in influencing the effectiveness of treatment than choosing which pesticide to apply. Before using a pesticide, learn more about your

specific plant situation and the biology of your pest species. Often you will learn chemical control cannot be effective until the next season when new plant growth develops. If insecticides are used, they will only be partially effective and must be combined with appropriate cultural practices and conservation of natural enemies.

The first step in eradicating thrips is to disbud the plant. This means removing all flowers and flower stalks. It deprives the thrips of their favorite food. After disbudding, treat with Neem Oil, Malathion, Marathon, Avid or Conserve. Keep disbudding for at least six weeks.

## Rose of the Month – Irresistible



Name: Irresistible (TINresist)  
Introduced: 1989 USA  
Hybridizer: Dee Bennett  
Type: Miniature  
Parentage: Tiki x Brian Lee  
ARS Colour: White  
Blooms: 43-45 petals  
Fragrance: Spice Fragrance

This is a fantastic little rose and you can only get it in Australia through propagation. It is not on the market here. It is a fantastic exhibition miniature which dominates roses shows. It makes for a great coffee table arrangement too. Unfortunately, I have had no

success at all with breeding from it as it fails to give much pollen and the hips start forming but fail to set properly. Follow the tips in this bulletin for growing from cuttings and find someone who has a bush (or five).

## Plant Breeders Rights (PBR)

How does it impact your personal propagating?

*“PBR is a form of patent protection that grants the rose breeder control of the propagating material ”*

PBR is a form of patent protection that grants the rose breeder control of the propagating material (including seed, cuttings, divisions, tissue culture) and harvested material (cut flowers, fruit, foliage) of a new variety for twenty (20) years.

Please note that you cannot propagate via cuttings, budding etc.. a rose that has been granted PBR and then **give it or sell it** to another person.

Out of respect for hybridisers

who spend years creating wonderful new roses, we would suggest that no propagating should be done of PBR plants by the methods described on this page. However, as seed and pollen parents for hybridising future roses, they are an essential element.

From a legal perspective regarding the reproducing roses for your own personal use:

"There are exceptions to the extent of the monopoly of-

fered by PBR.

For example, it does not prevent others using your variety for:

- private and non-commercial purposes;
- experimental purposes; or
- breeding other plant varieties."

*The Plant Breeder's Rights Application Kit, IP Australia, Australian Government*



# Producing Roses From Cuttings in Qld

Paul Hains, Mt Gravatt East, Queensland

I guess there are many ways to produce roses from cuttings and I must say that I have tried them all. I have had a terrible failure rate in Queensland with almost every method recommended to me. Not a good start to this article? I shall share the method that does work for me.

Methods I have tried: Seed raising mix, sharp sand, cheap potting mix, wrapping in newspaper and putting in a plastic bag on top of the fridge to callus them...

Problems I have encountered mainly centre around the cuttings getting to wet and rotting. I have tried leaving them without any water, but they still have died.

**Take heart ... I have discovered a method that works in Qld.**

## Products I use:

I use a product called Rootex-G which has an active ingredient 4g/l Indole Butyric Acid. This is a hormone rooting gel to help with striking cuttings. You may find a similar product with similar active ingredient. As I am using softwood cuttings, I mix it 50/50 with water.

I also use a 50/50 mix of Searles Peat 80 plus potting mix with fertilisers in it and Vermiculite. Using fertilisers in the

mix is against everything I have read about striking cuttings but it is the only thing that gives me a 90% strike rate.

## My Method:

(1) I look for a stem that has just flowered and I cut it so that I have 4 sets of leaves *plus* the two sets directly under the flower. These two sets of leaves cover flower buds that will not generally produce strong shoots.

(2) I cut off the flower and the top leaves directly under the flower (usually defined by less than five leaflets).

(3) I pull off the bottom two sets of leaves and all thorns. I then trim back the two sets left to only two leaflets each. I am left with a stem with four buds and two sets of two leaflets at the top (see pic).

(4) I cut the bottom about 5-10mm below the bottom bud. I then slice about 10mm of bark off the back of the cutting at the bottom (other side from the bud) to create extra root formation.

(5) I dip this cutting in the Rootex solution while I prepare the next couple. (6) I then get one of my 75mm tubes and half fill it with my planting mix. I hold the stem in with the leaflets out and the other two buds to go under

the soil level. I then dribble my planting mix in around the cutting. I do this dry.

(7) I then use a shower nozzle and wet the mix thoroughly so water runs from the bottom. The vermiculite creates great drainage.

(8) I use a 600ml coke bottle or similar with the bottom cut off as a small terrarium over the cutting. I have had even more success using a 1.5l or 2l bottle over the entire sube as it allows some air circulation.

I put this in my greenhouse and ignore it. DO NOT WATER IT! Killing with kindness was my old problem. After two or three weeks your cutting will be shooting away. Hardwood cuttings I have found take about 4 or 5 weeks. When the shoots are hitting the top of the bottle it is time for the bottle to be removed, but leave it in the greenhouse. Monitor it every day now and mist it to keep it moist, but not wet. It needs the air to get growing properly, but also needs some moisture.

You now have beautiful new clones of your rose bushes. Once the roots grow out of the bottom, pot on into a larger pot. You can then gradually introduce it to outside.

Please read my note on the last page on PBR and good luck!





# My Hybridising Progress

Paul Hains, Mt Gravatt East, Qld

*“you must have  
pollen dust  
released for it to  
work”*

It seems like only a couple of weeks ago I gave an update on the progress. I have collected 3,200 seeds to far this year which seems like a lot but is represents only 50 different crosses. Last year I had a total of 1,637 seeds from 88 different combinations. This is an indication that I have been a lot more selective this year, taking more care with selecting good parents. Any one interested in breeding should talk to people who are presently doing it to find out what the most productive parents are and start from there.

Ted Hayes came over last weekend for a look and I showed him how I went through my process. He noticed that I left the pollen until it became a fine powder before applying it. This is the key, you must have pollen dust released for it to work. The pollen must be kept somewhere dry and warm and must be exposed to air. Sealing it in a container will make it mouldy. Paper envelopes are good and leave the tops open. Sometimes the pollen busts forth overnight. Some flowers may take a few days to release the pollen. Be

patient.

I have a new record for the number of seeds from one hip (seed pod). It's now 108! It was Moonstone x Playgirl.

It is now time to be cruel to the seedlings that haven't stood out. I have been more ruthless with my final selections. Another 100 seedlings went in the bin this week. I shake the dirt onto the lawn and recycle the pots. Toni says I am far from being ruthless and need to get a bit firmer with them. I bin more every day now.



*Henri Matisse x Gold Medal  
Possibly a Floribunda*



*108 Seeds from 1 Hip  
Averaging 23/ hip this season*



*My rubbish bin full of tiny roses*



*Melinda Gainsford x Figurine  
Mini or MiniFlora. Have to wait to see*



*Melinda Gainsford (Anne Morrow Lindbergh) still has plenty of  
very large hips to be harvested yet.*



*Our huge Aotearoa (New Zealand)  
A pollen parent this year*



*Moonstone x Altissimo  
Potentially a Climber*

# Calendar of Rose Events for 2010

Rose Society Activities—Major upcoming events



**March 10th - 2nd Wednesday. QRS Monthly Rose Show & Meeting and Exhibitors Workshop**  
Church Hall, 459 Annerley Rd, Annerley Junction. Doors open 7pm. Please note this meeting will be Christmas Schedule only to have extra time for an Exhibitors Workshop. Christmas Schedule is printed in this issue as a reminder.

**April 3rd - 1st Saturday, Roselovers' Association Monthly Meeting**  
St Michael's Catholic Church Hall, 250 Banks St Ashgrove. 2pm start.



**April 14th - 2nd Wednesday. QRS Monthly Rose Show and Guest Speaker**  
Church Hall, 459 Annerley Rd, Annerley Junction. Doors open 7pm. Special guest will be florist Jill Bray to show us some tips and tricks.



**April 16-18 Friday-Sunday Gardening Australia Expo**  
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, South Brisbane 10am-4.30pm daily, \$15 entry, \$13 Pensioners, \$6 Children. QRS will have a display on site. Contact Tony Stallwood on 5546 3975 if you can assist on any day with the stand.



**April 24th - 4th Saturday. GCRS Monthly Rose Show and Guest Speaker**  
The Robina Community Centre (Meeting Room next to the Auditorium). Doors open at 1.30pm for a 2pm Start.

**May 1st - 1st Saturday, Roselovers' Association Monthly Meeting**  
St Michael's Catholic Church Hall, 250 Banks St Ashgrove. 2pm start.



**May 15th -16th ROSE SHOW - EXHIBITION OF ROSE FLOWERS AND CRAFT SALES.**

Auditorium, Botanical Gardens, Mt Coot-tha. For the entire Show Schedule see the website or contact Sue Stallwood after hours on 5546 3975 or e-mail qrssec@bigpond.com Bring your mum along to see a great display of roses and craft. All exhibitors welcome, but all entries must be registered with Sue. **Please Note - The Autumn Show is NOT on Mothers Day.**



**May 22nd - 4th Saturday. GCRS Monthly Rose Show and**

**Guest Speaker**  
The Robina Community Centre (Meeting Room next to the Auditorium). Doors open at 1.30pm for a 2pm Start

**June 5th - 1st Saturday, Roselovers' Association Monthly Meeting**  
St Michael's Catholic Church Hall, 250 Banks St Ashgrove. 2pm start.

**June.**  
Pruning Day held for each Society. Check with your secretary.

**July 3rd - 1st Saturday, Roselovers' Association Monthly Meeting**  
St Michael's Catholic Church Hall, 250 Banks St Ashgrove. 2pm start.



**July 25th - Sunday. Christmas in July Lunch.**  
Oxley Golf Club, Boundary Rd, Oxley. This event is subsidized by the Society and the cost to members will be \$10 per head, with non members \$25. RSVP will be essential. More information in the Bulletin closer to the date.

**August 7th - 1st Saturday, Roselovers' Association Monthly Meeting**  
St Michael's Catholic Church Hall, 250 Banks St Ashgrove. 2pm start.



**August 15th - Sunday Open Day at Donelle's**  
Donelle's Nursery. 37 Crossacre St, Doolandella 10am-1pm. Donelle is opening the nursery especially for us on this day. Come along to see Donelle's stock for the new rose year. Bring a big car as it is very hard not to make a purchase. Light lunch and tea and coffee provided. Cold drinks may be purchased. Experienced rose growers will be present to give tips on planting and care of your bushes. RSVPs will be essential closer to the time.



**August 21st - 4th Saturday. GCRS Monthly Rose Show and**

**Guest Speaker**  
The Robina Community Centre (Meeting Room next to the Auditorium). Doors open at 1.30pm for a 2pm Start



**September 25th - 4th Saturday. GCRS Monthly Rose Show and**

**Guest Speaker**  
The Robina Community Centre (Meeting Room next to the Auditorium). Doors open at 1.30pm for a 2pm Start

**September 26th—Sunday Roselovers' Association Rose Festival**  
Ashgrove Bowls Club



**October 1st to 3rd Friday-Sunday ROSE SHOW 2010 AUSTRALIAN ROSE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Queensland Rose Society would like to invite all Rose Society members to attend the 2010 National Rose Show. Click here to download the information flyer and registration form. The Schedule will be available for downloading mid year for those interested in exhibiting.



**November 20-21 GCRS SPRING ROSE SHOW**  
The Robina Community Centre

## Contacts:

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