

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.

Coming Events

October 4-5 Sat/Sun
SPRING ROSE SHOW
Auditorium, Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.
Opened by Col Campbell at 12pm on Sat.

October 11-12 Sat/Sun
Darling Downs Rose Society Spring Show,
Holy Name Hall,
Toowoomba. Opens
10am Saturday

November 12 Wed.
QRS Monthly Show/
Meeting. Special Presentation from October
World Rose Meeting
in Adelaide. 7pm start

First Edition of the new email Bulletin

Welcome to the first edition of the "Queensland Rose Bulletin."

We hope to publish this as a monthly e-bulletin to keep rose enthusiasts up to date with what is going on in Queensland, Australia, and around the world.

We are often sent articles by email and are reading information of great interest to rose society members. Often, however, everyone doesn't gain access to this information. We also have archives of Rose Annuals going back many years with a wealth of information.

It is the goal of this Bulletin to inspire and encourage you in your love of roses. Whether you are growing

hundreds of bushes or you have none and just have a passion for the rose, we aim to provide a little extra information for you. There are no paid advertisements or endorsement agreements for this bulletin.

On the weekend of the 4th and 5th of October the Queensland Rose Society Inc will be holding its annual **Spring Rose Show** at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. The show is open to the public from 11.30 to 5 on the Saturday and 9-3 on Sunday.

Col Campbell will be officially opening the show at 12pm on the Saturday, so please come along and look through all the magnificent blooms.



We will endeavour to include information about courses that are on and update you on pests and diseases. There will also be future articles on people's gardens from around Queensland.

Rose Sex

By Aurelia C. Scott, Portland USA, www.aureliascott.com

"I hated roses when I first came here. Did Keith tell you?" Debbie Vachuda whips a baby rose, roots flailing, from potting soil and drops it into a four-foot high plastic garbage can. "Hated them." She uproots a pink-budded one. "But Keith converted me. I'm madly in love with roses

now." She lets go. The seedling plummets into the trash.

Deeply tanned and lanky in blue jeans, Dr. Keith Zary leans against another planting bench as he watches his assistant kill roses.

"Debbie has a cold heart. That's why she's so good."

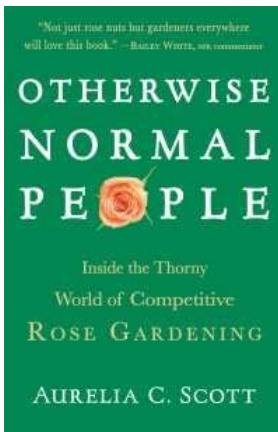
Debbie laughs. Keith smiles.

"Shove this up your nose." Debbie decapitates an apricot seedling and holds the blossom toward us.

Keith leans over to inhale. "Nice."

I sniff. "Oh, that's lovely." It actually smells of apricots.

Rose Sex Continued..



“She’s a brute.”
Keith’s smile
lights his eyes
behind gold-
rimmed glasses.
“It’s great.”

Debbie drops blossom and seedling onto a rising mound of sacrifices in the trash barrel. “Slow grower, sparse bloom, poor form,” she explains when she sees my shocked expression.

“She’s a brute.” Keith’s smile lights his eyes behind gold-rimmed glasses. “It’s great.” Keith Zary is Vice President for Research for Jackson & Perkins, the country’s largest rose purveyor and cause of many a rose-lover’s obsession.

I stopped by J&P’s research facility in Somos, near Los Angeles, after my visit with Rachel and Phil. I’d been impressed with Rachel’s affection for the cream-and-pink Keith Zary hybrid tea named ‘Gemini.’ As it turns out, ‘Gemini’ is Keith’s favorite among his own roses. He says that plant’s qualities were apparent so early in the breeding process that it was immediately flagged for reproduction.

Evidently, ‘Gemini’ took the rose exhibition world by storm when it was introduced in 2000. According to Bob Martin, who keeps track of exhibition statistics, ‘Gemini’ won more Queens of Show from 2000 to 2004 than any other hybrid tea. In 2005, it won the ARS Members’ Choice Award.

J&P has bred hundreds of rose-show hybrid tea Queens and won more All America Rose Selection (AARS) awards – 63 and counting – than any other American nursery. The AARS competition, which was begun in 1938 by the ARS, is one of many rose assessments that take place around the world annually. In countries as far flung as South Africa and the Netherlands, new roses are evaluated in test

gardens for one to three years. Judges examine than everything from bloom color to disease resistance. Top scorers go on to decorate the pages of the world’s rose catalogues and color our gardens. Losers are dug up and trashed. Some other flowers, including tulips and carnations, are also tested in international trials, yet only the rose competes in as many contests held in so many countries. We love the Queen of Flowers, but we make her work for our adoration. With seven AARS awards to his name, Keith is well on his way to matching the AARS record of 24-wins set by J&P’s famed hybridizer, the late Bill Warriner.

‘Gemini’ may be Keith’s favorite because its blossoms are paler than the other prize-winning roses he has created. White, you see, is his preferred color.

“Whereas I like roses that go ‘Bam!’” Debbie has stopped her ruthless culling and come over to chat beside a greenhouse bench covered in two-year old roses. “Big, bold, loud.” She says this with her hands on blue-jeaned hips, honey-hair atumble.

“I prefer pastel,” insists Keith.

Debbie and Keith regard each other. They grin. He says, “Having different taste in roses works. We miss fewer potential beauties.”

Keith began his career breeding peas and beans. Peas and beans offer a certain fascination; after all, Gregor Mendel learned a lot about heredity by studying succeeding generations of peas. But in 1985, when Keith spotted an advertisement in American Vegeta-

ble Grower Magazine for an Assistant Director of Research for Jackson & Perkins, he applied immediately. He says that it looked like fun, which wasn’t an attribute he associated with legumes. Keith, who is a Californian by way of Canada and Minnesota, had always loved roses, but he had never thought that anyone actually bred them and made a living.

“Roses are the most perfect of perennials. They bloom all season. They flower prolifically. They have fragrance. They have amazing colors. They have amazing flower forms. They come in every size from dwarf to climber. They are the most rewarding and the toughest of plants.” He shakes his head. “What could be better than this job? I still have a copy of that ad.”

© 2007 - Aurelia C. Scott

This is reprinted by permission from Aurelia’s website. Her book “Otherwise Normal People: Inside the Thorny World of Competitive Rose Gardening” is a witty insight into the rose world.

When she began writing the book, she had two roses. She says that fifteen months later she began compiling a list of roses she cannot live without.

The book can be purchased online from Amazon in the USA at www.amazon.com



A Bucket of Roses

By Toni Hains, Mt Gravatt East, toni.hains@hotmail.com

Why a bucket of roses you may ask? We are in the process of designing a name plaque for our letterbox. We are going to call our place "Benne delle Rose" which translates (from Italian - I have Italian heritage) to a bucket of roses. We chose this name because in our laundry we have a dozen green plastic buckets and whenever we go visiting a friend, we take a bucket full of roses.

Our roses are coming on nicely but a little more warm weather a little earlier would have been nice in early Sep-

tember. Our roses are starting to produce some nice blooms, although our past Champion bushes are a bit slow.

We planted about 50 new bushes this year and are very happy with most of them. Hannah Gordon is one of the floribunda roses we planted at the top of the drive. It is currently covered in clusters of blooms that are white with bright pink edges. We are expecting it to grow to around 170 cm. Hopefully it doesn't grow too much bigger than that. This rose is often con-

fused with a sister seedling named Nicole. Nicole is a much shorter plant and its blooms have at least 35 petals in comparison to the 20 petals of Hannah Gordon.

Another new rose we are expecting great things from is Magma. We have planted 2 of these bushes. This is our first bloom. As you can see it is a large, full (26-40 petals) red and yellow Hybrid Tea. It was bred by Kordes and Sons.



Magma (KORdaelf)
2005, W Kordes & Sons

Subtropical Landscape and Garden Photography

Sunday October 12th 9.00-12.30 Cost: \$45, Roma St Parklands
Call Linda for enrolments and enquiries on 3349 2962

Presenter: Paul Plant – If you love taking artful photos of plants and landscapes, gardens and wildlife, this is definitely a class for you!

Bring your camera and Paul will help you to achieve greatness in your images. Perfect daylight close-ups, learn how to maximise the features of your camera and wow every-

one with your excellent images.

Find out what all the jargon means and what quality means when emailing or printing. Bring your camera, any filters and attachments and book early as this class promises to fill fast.

Paul Plant is the editor and

photographer for subTropical Gardening Magazine. Paul has been photographing gardens, plants and wildlife for decades and knows how to bring out the best features of your subjects and camera. He has an 'up close and personal' relationship with professional plant and garden images and will guide you to greatness.

*"Bring your camera
and Paul (Plant)
will help you to
achieve greatness in
your images."*

Champion Roses in USA Rose Shows

By Paul Hains, Mt Gravatt East, qrssec@bigpond.com

Although roses often grow completely differently in Australia, it is often interesting to look at what their top roses are and see how Australia compares.

For the 2007 exhibition season in Hybrid Teas, Gemini re-

ceived the most honors. Moonstone had the most "Queens" (Champions) but finished 2nd overall and City of Newcastle finished 3rd. Marilyn Monroe was 5th, Signature 8th, and St Patrick 9th. The other roses in their top 10

are not available in Australia.

In minis, the top Australian available rose was Irresistible in 4th place and in Floribundas it was Day Breaker at Number 1. I am happy to say we have all of these roses and they grow well in Brisbane.



Gemini (JACnepal)
1997, Dr Keith W Zary