Rose Reflections...

Produced for members of Sacramento & Sierra Foothill Rose Societies

February 2024

Finish your pruning!!! I am already starting to see some the buds swell and Basel breaks on the roses that I have pruned. After completing rose pruning, I rake up as much of the fallen leaves as possible. In some areas I can blow the leaves onto the lawn to be picked up by the lawn mower. From there, all those rose leaves which harbor fungal spores go into the trash.

While cleaning up, I pull the weeds that I see. The most prominent ones that I have are Oxalis, annual rye grass, Little Bittercress. Oxalis is sneaky; it burrows the new growth underneath the soil! So make sure that you get the new growth that is hiding from sight. At the end of this article I have the Weeds I love to HATE Gallery.

This year I am trying something different. After pruning I have been spreading compost which contains manure around each of my roses to reduce the amount of blackspot spores that maybe splashing up from the soil. I want to if it makes a difference. You can see it in the photo. In the past, I haven't had the opportunity to spread compost until much later in the spring. Hopefully, it will work.

Later I will add more compost/manure plus some organic fertilizer with soil microorganisms in all my garden beds. In areas that I have lots of weeds, I will be spreading preen (a pre-emergent to stop weeds from popping up in my beds) or use a pre-emergent spray in larger areas. Some areas I don't spread any preen because I am looking for volunteers like my lobelia, alyssum or pansies.

Loving these Basil Breaks

Don't forget to check plants under the eaves and in pots to see if they need water. Check your pots if we go a few days without rain.

I am going to be shovel pruning a few roses that are waning due to age. I made sure to they had as much fertilizer or more than the roses adjacent to them.

I plan to move some roses as they are getting too much root competition from the redwoods.

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Plants, AND other garden stuff

FINISH PRUNING BY VALENTINES DAY!

SIERRA FOOTILLS FEBRUARY 1ST PROGRAM

Growing Polyanthas is Easy & Fun by Cindy Phipps

Cindy, who wears lots of rose hats--Consulting Rosarian, Horticulture Judge, Board member for Sacramento and Sierra Foothills and Gold Country Rose Societies as well as a secretary for the NCNH District Board-- is enamored of polyanthas.

Polyanthas is not a widely known class but it has lots of great attributes. Once you grow them; you will fall in love with them. Cindy did. She'll have lots of pictures.

Cindy will discuss the different ones that are available, how easy they are to grow, their general characteristics and care. This is an interactive program so please come with questions, and if you grow them what are your favorites and why.

Find out what Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs have in common with polyanthas.

Come and bring a friend, it should be a fun evening.

Meeting starts at 7:00 pm at the Maidu Community Center in Roseville.

~Paula Agostini, Vice President for Programs

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CONSULTING ROSARIAN?

A Consulting Rosarian is a person with a passion for growing roses and who loves sharing knowledge. So, how do you become a Consulting Rosarian? The district plans to have a in person CR class in May.

Some basic requirements:

- Are at least 18 years of age.
- Been a member of the American Rose Society of two consecutive years.
- Be an active member of a local rose society.
- Have grown a variety of roses for at least 5 years.

To become a CR:

- Send in Completed CR candidate form to the District CR chair at least 30 days before CR School.
- Attend all programs presented at an approved ARS School for Consulting Rosarians.
- Complete and pass an open book exam based on material contained in the CR manual with a score not less than 75%.
- Must know and be willing to live up the to the CR code listed in CR manual.

To continue as a CR:

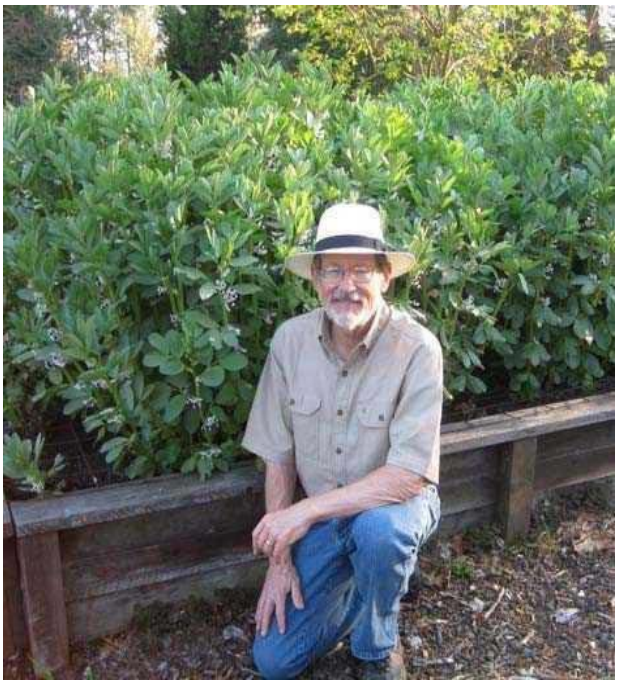
- Be willing to attend no less than one CR School/Seminar every four year or accrue Continuing Education (CE) credits (one must be chemical safety) in four years.
- Files a Roses in Review (RIR) report annually
- Completes a CR activity report form annually.

Our CR coordinator for both rose societies is Sue Magill, whose contact info is 916 599-7673.

If you are interested knowing more, the CR webinar (see page 3 for more info) or the in person class can be audited. Or the CR manual can be downloaded to your computer. It just is a great reference.

~Charlotte Owendyk, master rosarian

Learn about heart healthy gardening from Farmer Fred



February is Heart Health Awareness Month. With that in mind, we have the perfect inspirational speaker and topic: longtime broadcaster/podcaster Farmer Fred Hoffman and "The Heart Healthy Garden."

Farmer Fred knows firsthand how his own heart healthy garden changed his life. In March 2012, the award-winning radio host was diagnosed with FOUR cholesterol-blocked heart arteries. His doctor also told him he had full-blown Type 2 Diabetes. (His A1C was 10.4.) He underwent quadruple coronary artery bypass graft surgery, then embarked on the long road to healing. That included a makeover of his diet. Farmer Fred lost more than 60 pounds – and kept the weight off. An avid cyclist, he rides his bike more than a 100 miles a week. He no longer needs to take diabetes medication and is active as ever in his garden and the community.

His secret? Growing, and eating, heart-healthy fruits and vegetables, loaded with fiber. That includes artichokes, blueberries, apricots, shell beans and green peas.

Farmer Fred will share how anyone can help their own heart health via fiber-packed fruit and vegetables. Besides his personal health experience, he's also one of the leading gardening experts in California. A lifetime master gardener, Fred has been certified by the UC Cooperative Extension program for more than 40 years and has logged well over 10,000 hours as a master gardener volunteer.

Most Sacramentans know Farmer Fred from his four decades as host of his award-winning radio shows, "Get Growing with Farmer Fred," "The KFBK Garden Show" and "The KSTE Farm Hour." Now, he shares his talents with a national audience online via his podcast, "Garden Basics with Farmer Fred." Farmer Fred also has appeared on several TV shows including "California Heartland" on PBS, DIY Network's "Gardening by the Yard" and "The Dirt on Gardening" plus HGTV.

His garden has evolved, too. He and his wife, Jeanne, traded their 10-acre ranchette in Herald for a suburban home and backyard in Folsom. Although his garden's footprint is much smaller, it's still packed with the heart-healthy foods that changed his life.

Come hear Farmer Fred and learn how you, too, can make a difference in your own heart health at our Feb. 8 meeting of the Sacramento Rose Society at Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, in McKinley Park. As always, our program is open to the public. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. Admission and parking are free; bring a friend!

~Debbie Arrington

ARS WEBinars

National Consulting Rosarian School: ***to register go to https://www.rose.org/webinar-access***

- February 03rd 9:00am - 11:00am PST CR Mission & Ethics, Soil & Water and Chemical Safety
- February10th 9:00am - 11:00am PST Fertilizer and Insects & Diseases -

Missed an ARS webinar or want to see what other interesting webinars are available
go to: https://www.rose.org/webinars

FEBRUARY IN THE GARDEN

February is a great month to move your roses before they leaf out too much further. Make sure to keep a portion of the root ball intact to minimize the amount of stress the rose will experience from the move. Check on your new roses and the transplants frequently. If we go a week without rain, give them water.

As soon as I finish working on the roses, I will be moving a few plants around and dividing perennials as the weather permits.

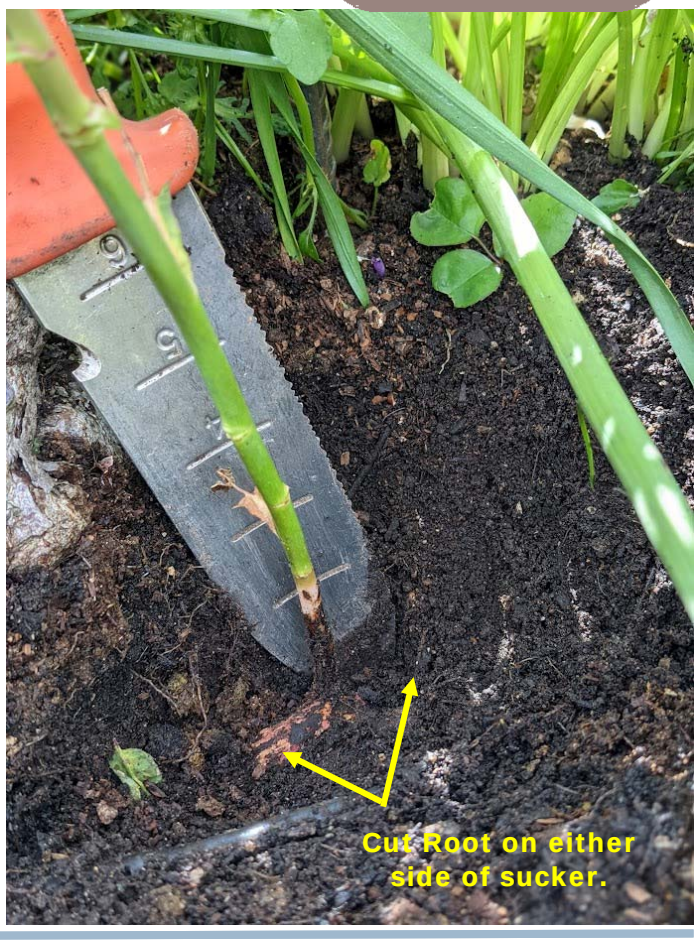
Next, I will begin to check my drip irrigation system. Lastly, I top dress with compost which makes the garden look so good. Besides looking good, it helps smother weeds, keep the roots cooler, and helps retain moisture during the summer.

This is also the perfect time to eradicate suckers! Pruned roses make it easier to spot suckers. A sucker is **a growth that originates from the rootstock of the rose, below the bud union where the rose was grafted**. Pictures below how sucker originated from rootstock below the soil level.

Rose suckers need to be removed as soon as they are large enough to deal with, but it isn't as simple as just cutting them off at the just below the soil. The picture at right shows just removing the emerging canes at soil level, it will rapidly generate more new canes. The stem supporting all the canes will grow bigger and bigger and take more food from the rose you purchased. Eventually, the original rose will die.

So it's important remove at the root the original growth point. Dig until you see where Dr. Heuy has sent a sucker from the root. (See below right). Cut the root on both sides of the cane. This will not harm the plant it has plenty of roots. Cover up with soil.

Charlotte Owendyk, Master Rosarian



GALLERY OF WEEDS TO ATTACK THIS MONTH

Little Bittercress (Cardamine oligosperma)

Is wicked since it seeds by ejecting the seeds more than 6 feet. I believe the seeds are sticky—weeding a mature section, I had pods explode and my glasses had little seed stuck to the lenses. So it can travel even further than the 6+feet when the seed pod explodes!

It is both a winter or summer annual. Plants range from 3 to 12 inches

Its range is expanding, so you may get this. It is prolific!. Both Linda Knowles and I found this weed in our vegetable garden first. It has spread all over my garden. I even see it when I take Emma for walks.

Best is to get it before it ejects those seeds!

Pointers are showing new oxalis growth which was buried. Try to get all, otherwise it will magically reappear. .

Creeping woodsorrel (Oxalis corniculata)

Oxalis is a low growing perennial broadleaf plant with shamrock-like leaves.

Its creeping, aboveground horizontal stems grow to about 12 inches (30 cm) long and root at the stem joints (node) allowing it to invade new areas.

Leaves resemble those of clover and range from green to dark purple-tinged. Hairless to sparsely hairy, leaves are fully subdivided (compound), each consisting of three heart-shaped leaflets that are 1/4 to 2/5 of an inch (0.6–1 cm) long and 1/6 to 1 inch (0.4–2.5 cm) wide. In comparison to the leaves, leaf stalks are long, almost 3 inches (7 cm) in length. Leaves are alternate to one another along the stem and usually fold downward at midday and at night. Leave are generally green but a variant with purplish leaves is also common.

Seeds and creeping aboveground horizontal stems that root at stem joints (nodes).

In winter I find the horizontal stems burrow underground.

January Activities —-Pruning Teaching and Coaching how to for Climbers

Climber Pruning Instruction @ Linda Knowles Garden and Winter Rose Care Workshop

FERTILIZE IN FEBRUARY

~ Charlotte Owendyk, Master Rosarian

Have you seen any new growth yet? I am seeing buds swell, a few base; breaks, and new leaves popping out. I expect the warmer storms will jump start the ones who are lagging behind on pushing out new growth. To make sure that your roses have plenty of the basic nutrients it needs, fertilize your roses after you have finished pruning. Also add some compost/manure.

The initial push of growth uses the food the plant has stored in its roots from last year. What we want to do is to make sure the soil has sufficient amounts of all the elements it needs to ensure continued growth during the growing season.

Most of us have heard the term "*Photosynthesis*" – which is the process whereby the plant produces energy it can use and store (carbohydrates). The information below describes what happens.

Your rose bush takes in carbon dioxide from the air, water and nutrients from the ground and makes sugars and starches (the source of energy to do that is sunlight and the reaction is known as photosynthesis). These building blocks in rose plants are technically known as carbohydrates (carbon and water). The plant uses this to grow healthy stems, leaves and make beautiful roses. The plant does not need the oxygen left over from the carbon dioxide so the plant releases oxygen back to the atmosphere.

Carbon dioxide + water + energy = sugar + oxygen.

The only variables are how water is applied, rain or artificial irrigation. And where the nutrients from the soil originates.

TWO TYPES OF FERTILIZERS

Chemical Fertilizers are synthetically produced and are salts and can interfere with the ability of the plant to obtain water. NEVER APPLY CHEMICAL FERTILIZER TO DRY SOIL. Heavy applications of chemical fertilizers will cause burn on their leaves similar to not watering plans during hot weather. These fertilizer can be manufactured to be either water soluble and can leach into waterways and cause pollution. The alternative is slow release (coated to release over several months). They change the nature of soil, making it either too acidic or too alkaline. Lastly, they are expensive for the short term benefits.

Organic fertilizers are source nutrients from natural sources such as microbes, organic waste, and other similar materials and as such won't burn or damage plants. Moreover, organic fertilizers stimulate beneficial soil microorganisms and improve the structure of the soil. Soil microbes play a key role in converting organic fertilizers into soluble nutrients that can be absorbed by plants at a rate they can use.

Organically fertilizers typically have a lower **NPK** analysis (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium) than synthetics fertilizers, but they feed plants for a much longer period of time. Plus, organically derived fertilizers often provide the secondary and micronutrients plants need, usually absent in synthetic fertilizers.

As a result, the impact of organic fertilizers on gardens may take a little longer to see results. The organic option is a long-term healthy option that works as a partner with the soil to create a strong and thriving garden.

What are the basic building blocks used by plants to make starches and sugars? What follows is a list organized by the primary or main need, secondary, and trace elements and how the plant uses the element. Inorganic and organic sources are listed for each element.

PRIMARY ELEMENTS or macronutrients are: **Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium (NPK).**

Nitrogen (N): contributes to making the plants have tall, strong canes, good blooms and green leaves (TOP GROWTH). Deficiencies show in older leaves, light foliage beginning at the bottom of the plant and veins of leaves are yellow. Nitrogen *leaches easily* from soil with too much rain; lack of oxygen in soil after heavy rains can mimic nitrogen deficiency.

Inorganic Forms: water-soluble nitrate. Organic Forms: Alfalfa Meal, Fish Emulsion, Sewage Sludge, Blood meal, ***compost and manure***.

Be careful not to apply too much inorganic nitrogen during a growing season as the rose blooms get vegetative centers (looks like the Green Rose growing in the middle of your bloom).

Phosphorus (P): stimulates root growth, big bloom production and hastens plant maturity adding to winter hardiness (ROOTS & BLOOMS). Deficiency appears in older foliage developing dark red and purple colors. Phosphorous *moves slowly* through the soil. To counteract add fertilizer to bottom of hole when planting roses.

Inorganic forms are found in superphosphate. Organic forms are found in fishmeal, Sewage Sludge, Bone meal, ***compost and manure***.

Potassium (K): contributes to the vigor in root and cane production; high turgidity in bloom and foliage; need this element for starch formation; works to balance surplus of other two primary elements (VIGOR). Potassium deficiency usually is seen in older foliage. Leaf margins are brown, weak stems and many blind shoots. Potassium *leaches easily* from the soil.

Inorganic forms: SulPoMag (SPM) Nitrate of potash (avoid using muriate of potash) Organic forms: kelp, seaweed, ***compost and manure.***

THREE SECONDARY ELEMENTS: Calcium, Magnesium and Sulfur.

Calcium (Ca): Increases cell wall growth; reduces dieback; improves vigor and strength of plant; neutralizes harmful acids; improves soil and leaches salts. Calcium deficiencies appear at new growing tips-brown edges appear.

Inorganic forms: Dolomite, gypsum, rock phosphate. Organic forms: Bone meal, ***compost and manure*.**

Magnesium (Mg): Promotes chlorophyll production, which makes foliage green and healthy, promotes disease resistant plants; increases basal break development. Magnesium deficiency will be shown in older leaves yellowing, starting from center of leaf with signs of dying tissue overlaying the affected parts; With a high rainfall, magnesium leaches from soil.

Inorganic forms: Epsom salts, SulPoMag, Dolomite lime. Organic Forms: ***compost and manure*.**

Sulfur (S): Essential to root growth; key element of several important amino acids, lowers pH. Sulfur deficiency shows when veins of older leaves become pale.

Inorganic Forms: Epsom salts, gypsum, SulPoMag. Organic Forms: manures, ***compost and manure***.

6 TRACE ELEMENTS (Micronutrients): Iron, Manganese, Boron, Zinc, Copper and Molybdenum. *Very, very small amount of these elements needed.*

Iron (Fe): Essential in production of chlorophyll for green foliage. Regulates respiration of oxygen and sugar burning enzymes. Deficiency shows in young leaves at top of bush (chlorosis), leaves yellow, veins are green.

Inorganic forms: Chelated Iron (Sequestrene). Organic forms: meals that covert to usable form in acidic soil, ***compost and manure***.

Manganese (Mn): Enzyme activity for photosynthesis, used in respiration and nitrogen metabolism. Deficiency in young leaves, brown, black spots next to veins.

Inorganic forms: Manganese sulfate. Organic forms: Sewage sludge, ***compost and manure.***

Boron (B): Controls starch formation, stimulates cell division and flower formation. Deficiency shows in terminal bud dying and young leaves curling. Available at less than 6.5 pH.

Inorganic Forms: Essential minor elements and in “20 mule team borax”. Organic forms: trace amounts in meals, ***compost and manure*.**

Zinc (Zn): Stimulates stem growth and flower bud formation. Deficiency shows in mature mottled leaves, irregular yellow areas available at less than 7.0 pH. Inorganic forms: Essential minor elements, Zinc sulfate. Organic Forms: trace amounts in soil, meals, ***compost and manure*****.**

Copper (Cu): Stimulates stem development and pigment, enzyme activator. Deficiency is seen when young leaves get light edges with some brown spots.

Inorganic forms: Essential minor elements, Copper Sulfate. Organic forms: trace amounts in soil, meals ***compost and manure*****.**

Molybdenum (Mo): Needed to make amino acids to stimulate plant growth and for nitrogen fixation. Deficiency shows in pale mature leaves with rolled margins.

Inorganic forms: Essential minor elements. Organic forms: trace amounts in soil, sewage sludge, ***compost and manure*****.**

BOTTOM-LINE: Did you notice that ***compost and manure*** is listed as a source for each element?

If that isn't enough, ***compost and manure*** also:

-Regulates soil pH.
-Improves soil texture,
-Regulates moisture,
-Help correct imbalances in the soil,
-Doesn't build up harmful chemical residues,
-Do not cause pollution due to run off from rain or irrigation,
-Presents no danger of over-usage of nutrients, and
-Encourages microbes critical in transferring nutrients to plant roots.

The most common con is: It often takes longer to help your plants grow.

This is what Baldo has been doing to grow fabulous roses! He grows his roses in soil enriched with lots of well aged horse manure. He adds more horse manure several times a year. Most of us do not have a horse barn next door producing such bounty and a horse owner willing to deliver. .

The organic fertilizers that we can purchase has been produced to imitate all that well aged, like fine spirits horse poop. Amendments and compost available for purchase contain all the organic ingredients listed earlier that the plant can use. In addition, many contain beneficial soil micro-organisms.

It's a good idea to add manure, compost or other type of organic amendments or top dressings that will slowly breakdown and feed the soil, and consequently your plants.

If you are inclined, consider composting to recycle your garden waste. This will take time since organisms must breakdown the garden waste. (If you are interested there are lots of classes available explaining how to do this.) The only cost here is your time and energy.

The real message here is that any organic material works for adding all the essential nutrients back into the soil while improving the soil. Just remember that it takes longer to show the effects. However, if you add organics all year long, the soil and plants are enriched all year.

What is true compost? How can you tell when manure has become compost? Well-made compost should have a carbon to nitrogen ratio of between 20:1 and 10:1, with 12:1 down to 10:1 generally considered as most preferable.

So long as the C/N ratio is between 10-20:1 there is a sufficient amount of both carbon and nitrogen so that both microbes and the crop can take up sufficient amounts.

If a compost has C/N ratio is 7:1 or 8:1 it is not a true compost – it is still manure!

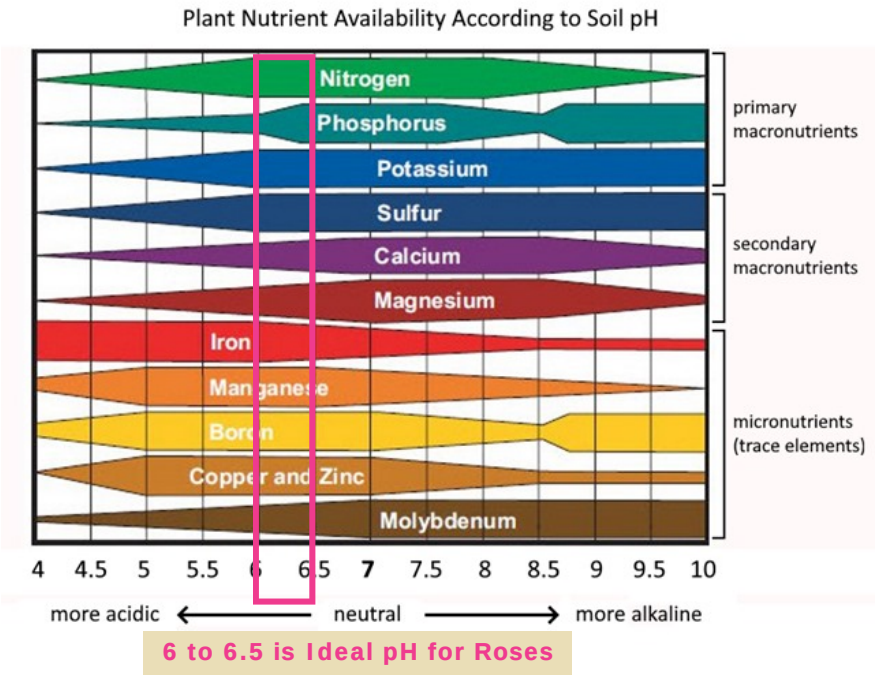
Too much raw material (carbon) uses up the nitrogen versus too much nitrogen in the material uses up the carbon. Either extreme does not does not produce healthy soil.

PH CONSTRAINTS & ELEMENT DEFICIENCIES

"Ph" is a measurement of the acidity of the soil. And as you can see by the adjacent graphic, the acidity or pH affect the ability of the rose to uptake nutrients.

Your rosebush will absorb most nutrients within the **pH range of 6.0 and 6.5** so it is important that you know the pH of your soil and how to adjust it.

Dolomite lime, when applied, raises the pH of your soil in about two months. Sulfur, when applied, lowers the pH of your soil. Amounts and frequency of product applied depends on your soil analysis. It is good to establish a baseline and then test again when you see nutritional deficiencies or every few years.



6 to 6.5 is Ideal pH for Roses

As mentioned in the earlier article, use of compost and/or well aged manure helps stabilize soil pH. There are relatively inexpensive pH meters available at nurseries and on Amazon.

If you want a more complete analysis of your soil showing UC Cooperative Extension does not do Soil Testing. However, they recommend UMass Extension which does do home gardens for a very reasonable price of $10.

This is the perfect time of year to take samples. The link below explains what is required and has a form for you to fill out.

https://ag.umass.edu/services/soil-plant-nutrient-testing-laboratory

See link for pictures of the most common deficiencies in roses.

https://www.rose.org/single-post/nutritional-deficiency-in-roses

DEFICIENCY IMPACT OF THE 12 ELEMENTS ON ROSES

Element	Leaves Affected	Symptom
Nitrogen	Old	Pale green leaves and yellow veins
Phosphorus	Old	Purplish tints on underside of leaf
Potassium	Old	Yellow areas, then browning of leaf edges and tips
Magnesium	Old	Yellow spots with dead centers
Sulfur	New	Similar to nitrogen deficiency
Calcium	New	Damage and die off of growing points; yellowish leaf edges
Manganese	New	Dead yellowish tissue between leaf nerves
Copper	New	Dead leaf tips and withered edges
Zinc	Old	Yellowish areas between nerves starting at leaf tip and edges
Boron	New	Dead shoot tips, new side shoots also die
Molybdenum	New	Yellow spots between leaf nerves, then brownish areas along edges. Inhibited flowering
Iron	New	Yellow leaves, dark veins

DO YOU NEED ANOTHER ROSE?

PLANNING - How many plants can you really take care of? Consider weeding, water and deadheading. Think about starting small; you can always expand. No matter how many roses, it helps if you buy with a strategy. - Are you looking for sustainable roses, exhibition roses, fragrant roses? Less is more sometimes.

Here are some things to know.

ROOTSTOCK - Grafted vs. Own Root. Own-root roses grow from a cutting and develop their own root system. Grafted roses are created by attaching a cutting of a desired rose variety onto the rootstock of a different rose plant. The rootstock is a hardy, vigorous variety that can withstand harsh conditions and diseases. Common rootstocks are Multiflora, Dr. Huey, Indica and Fortuniana.

Own-root roses generally take longer to grow, but they are more resilient and have a longer lifespan. Grafted roses which already are two years old grow faster, initially providing bigger and more blooms.

Rosarians recommend buying roses from nurseries with a good reputation which sell Grade #1 roses. Grade #1 roses have at least three strong canes with a minimum of 5/16" in diameter. Bare-root roses are often shipped by nurseries (bare root means no soil, no pot, just the rose.

All our local nurseries carry a wide range of roses. Some of the nurseries web-site list their roses. Selection is best starting this month. However, the rose varieties they carry can change with additional shipments from suppliers.

This is not a complete list, nor have I ordered from all of them.

"Plastic bagged roses" are NOT RECOMMENDED.

Even if the root ball is fresh, there is often a wax coating on the stems which deters bud breaks. This coating is applied to the roses when they are removed from the field in early winter and then stored in a warehouse until it is time to ship them to the big box store or a nursery outlet. It helps the rose maintain moisture inside their canes in such a dry place.

In our climate the wax coating intensifies the suns heat and burns the canes. The wax is impossible to remove. So give these roses a pass.

West Coast Rose suppliers:

Burlington Roses: Located in Visalia (near Bakersfield) Has extensive list of roses. Contact to get list of currently available roses. Telephone: 1-559-747-3624, Email: BurlingtonRoses@aol.com

Grace Roses: Has unusual roses. Pricey. https://rosebushes.gracerosefarm.com/

Heirloom Roses www.heirloomroses.com Large selection of own root roses. Have hard-to-find roses, especially old garden roses. Can be expensive and the plants are going to be smaller at first due to being on their own roots. Worth considering if you can't find a rose elsewhere. Will do custom grafting.

Regan Nursery - https:/ /www.regannursery.com In Fremont, CA. Mail-order or pick-up. Large selection of exhibition and heirloom roses. Can be ordered from October to mid- January.

Rogue River Roses: Specializing in Antique, Rare & Exceptional Roses. https://roguevalleyroses.com/

Other rose suppliers:

Edmunds - https://www.edmundsroses.com Often have "early preview" of the roses from Weeks.

K & M Roses www.kandmroses.com Largest selection of exhibition roses in the country. Grafted on fortuniana rootstock. High shipping costs (shipped in 2-gallon pots). Sells the Dave Bang roses!

Wisconsin Roses www.wiroses.com Bare-root "maiden" roses on multiflora rootstock. Exhibition roses/grafted roses of your choice. Provide a smaller plant at a cheaper price and shipping. These maidens will be Grade #1 roses by mid-summer.

Palatine Roses www.palatineroses.comHighest quality bare-roots, long roots, healthy. Grafted on multiflora rootstock. Canadian company. Specialize in disease resistant roses vs. exhibition roses Sell out quick (early December).

Witherspoon Roses from Durham, NC. www.witherspoonroses.com Bare-root or potted roses. Grafted on Dr. Huey. Nice selection of some exhibition roses, and good all-around roses. Ordering begins in November, shipping in February.

UNDERSTANDING LIGHT LEVELS IN YOUR GARDEN

~Charlotte Owendyk, Master Rosarian

Full sun, part sun, part shade, full shade…what exactly does it all mean? And how do you know what you have in your own garden? Let's take a closer look at light levels so you can be sure to select the right plants for your containers and landscape.

Sunlight is the most essential element all plants need to live, so it's important to understand it. So, let's talk about sunlight—what do the terms full sun, part sun, part shade and full shade really mean? And how to you know what kind of sun you have in your garden? Whether you're shopping for annuals, perennials or shrubs, light levels are defined the same way for all kinds of plants.

However, if you live in a climate like the West, Southwest or Southeast, you'll need to factor in the sun's intensity, too. Since those areas are closer to the equator, the sun's rays are more intense and hotter than in northern climates. As a result, some sun loving plants will need protection from the midday sun to prevent scorching and may need to be watered more often, too. . Plus, we need to take into account our low humidity.

How Do You Know How Much Sun You Have?

What is Full Sun? It's more than six hours of direct sun per day. If you live in a newly constructed development or out in the country with few trees, your garden may not see any shade at all during the day.

When full sun is the only light level listed for a plant that means it is going to need more than six hours of direct sunlight to grow and bloom. If you plant it in a lesser amount of light, it likely will not bloom and in some cases the plant may not survive. Oftentimes, full sun loving plants also are heat tolerant and some can handle drier soils. Choose full sun plants for your sunniest garden spaces.

What is Part Sun? Is defined as four to six hours of direct sun per day. Not all those hours need to be accrued consecutively—it could mean a few hours of morning sun plus a few more in the afternoon. When a plant prefers part sun, although it does not need to be in direct sun all day, it will grow and bloom best with at least some of those hours being in the afternoon. These plants need some heat and intense sun exposure in order to produce flowers and new growth.

When part sun to sun is listed for a plant that means it will grow and bloom in both part sun and full sun conditions, meaning a minimum of four hours of direct sunlight. Since part sun means the plant needs some heat and intense sun to produce flowers, you would choose a spot where at least a few of those hours were in intense midday sun. Expect most part sun to sun plants to bloom most prolifically in full sun and produce fewer flowers in part sun.

What is Part Shade? Is also defined as four to six hours of direct sun per day, but most of that should come in the morning hours when the sun's rays are less intense. We say that plants which prefer part shade enjoy "cool sun", meaning direct sun in the morning or evening and protection from the hot midday sun.

When part shade to shade is listed for a plant that means it prefers to grow in less than six hours of direct sunlight per day with most of that being the less intense morning sun. These plants often thrive in cooler climates where moisture is plentiful, and they can easily scorch in the hot afternoon sun. Some part shade to shade plants produce flowers, but many are grown more for their decorative foliage.

What is Full Shade? Full shade is defined as less than four hours of direct sun per day. Notice we didn't say zero hours of direct sun—that would be dense shade which is the darkest of all light levels where few plants can survive. Full shade loving plants enjoy a few hours of sun each day, preferably in the morning.

Roses and Shade It takes energy (sunshine) to produce blooms; the more petals the more sunshine needed. Roses can have a petal count stretching from the simplicity of five petals all the way to 50 petals or more. The American Rose Society defines the fullness of the bloom based upon petal count: a rose with four to eight petals is a "single," nine to 16 petals is called a "semi-double," a "double" has 17 to 25 petals, a "full" bloom has 26 to 40 petals, and a "very full" bloom has 41 to more than 100 petals. Go ahead and experiment.

I have Lyda Rose, Sally Holmes, Dublin Bay, the Fairy, Green Rose in areas that get some shade during the day and they continue to bloom for me.

Sierra Foothills Rose Society

Good Roses, Good Friends!

President's Message

Happy February everyone!!!

First of all, I would like to thank everyone that made this month's "Winter Pruning Workshop and Chili Cook-off" a success. We had about 55 attendees to the workshop and Cherry Hoover easily won the chili cook-off again. The following weekend Linda Knowles hosted a workshop on "Pruning Climbers", and it was well attended despite the rain. My sincere thanks to everyone that helped in these two society events.

Kudos also go to Paula Agostini and Ramon Lopez. They have been very busy not pruning their own roses but also pruning their church rose garden, teaching pruning techniques to new members as well as the public. They were also instrumental in bringing 2-3 new members into the society.

I have been very busy pruning my hundreds of roses. This year it seems like it is going to take another month as I am way behind. What is sad is that some roses have already started breaking dormancy. Yesterday I pruned the Miniflora rose called Dr. Troy Garrett and some of the canes already had 1-2 inches of new growth. I ended up pruning all this growth as it is still too early in the year. I will continue pruning through February until the main rose garden is pruned.

Our Annual Rose Auction has been moved to May 5th. This is mainly due to the fact that we do not get any bare root roses from the rose growers due to the current economy. Our main source of roses has been through roses propagated from cuttings by our members. We could use more volunteers that would like to propagate roses for themselves as well as for the Society. I will be willing to teach and train anyone willing to learn. Please contact me. I plan on holding a workday late In February to go over the list of roses that will be available for the rose auction.

We are still working on a catchy phrase for the May 5th rose auction. Please give me suggestions! The rose auction will take place from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the back acre of my property in Orangevale. There will be plenty of parking in the back acre and people will have a chance to see how the roses grow in my garden before they bid on the roses.

Baldo

TAKE A LITTLE TIME TO HELP BIRDS THIS SEASON

With cooler temperatures and fewer hours of daylight, everyone must change their routines during winter, including the birds. It's a fun time to watch for birds fluffing up their feathers or drawing one leg to their chest for warmth.

During winter, it's especially important for larger birds to find a reliable source of high-calorie, high-fat foods for extra energy. Keep your feeders filled with a seed blend high in oil sunflower or foods suets.

Locate feeders so they're out of the wind. The east or southeast side of a house or near a row of trees is ideal.

Position feeders near cover, but in the open, to allow birds to watch for danger. Provide an open source of water. .

Sacramento Rose Society

Take time to Smell the Roses!

President Message

Our **February 8th** meeting features "Farmer Fred". Old-time gardeners, like me, looked forward to his weekly radio garden program. Come join one of our favorite garden podcast hosts in person, up front & close for an interactive evening of garden information! We are thrilled to be meeting with Farmer Fred. Networking & social half hour begins at 7 pm, with our program starting at 730pm. **Location is the Shepard Garden & Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento.**

Big thanks goes to our team of Consulting & Master Rosarians who presented January's program on "When to Shovel Prune" & "When & How to Transplant Roses " Debbie Arrington, Dave Coop, Sue Magill, Charlotte Owendyk & Linda Knowles presented some great tips & answered tons of questions!

BIG NEWS! Sacramento Rose Society is hosting our first-ever **"High Tea & Garden Tour" fundraiser**. Dave & Ruth Coop have offered their rose garden & big shaded patio to us on **May 18, 2024.** We know tickets will sell out fast in advance, so be sure to invite your guests and friends now & reserve this date on your calendars. A High Tea held in a gorgeous rose garden is a unique event you won't want to miss! Those of you who love to bake, here is your excuse! I have a mouthwatering recipe for Apricot Scones that I plan to make, just lovely with tea or coffee. Let me know if you would like to join our team of bakers and/or servers who will be preparing & serving the treats!

My garden activity focus for February is to finish the pruning of my rose bushes, & by the end of the month, if the weather stays as warm as it has been running, the roses will start pushing out strong new growth, so it will be time to start putting down that first important dose of rose fertilizer. With the soft wet soil, it's also perfect for finding & planting new roses, or transplanting ones that need to move to a new location. I am also shovel pruning, which for some of my 15+ year old roses that have lost their vigor, means I need a hacksaw or better yet - a battery-powered "saws-all" to cut the old, gnarly root ball into manageable pieces I can lift out & drag away on a tarp. It's too wet for the tractor!

Remember Valentine's Day too: treat yourself & your favorite valentine to something sweet on February 14th.

Rosy Cheers & Happy New Year! Kay

SRS Refreshments: Our thanks to all our SRS board members for bringing such delicious refreshments to our last meeting!

The board will also bring the refreshments for our February meeting, and we so appreciate them! Please join us at the table for some great treats and conversation!

See you at our February 8 th meeting! Janice Lauinger (Jlauinger@softcom.net , (916) 993-9221) and

Cherilyn Duncan (cherilynduncan@gmail.com , (916) 408-3455)

FACT Found in January/February issue of American Rose Magazine article on Rose Aphids by Dr. Raymond A. Cloyd.

Avoid over fertilizing roses with water-soluble, nitrogen based fertilizers because roses receiving too much fertilize produce soft, succulent growth that is easy for rose aphids to feed on. In addition, rose aphid females feeding on rose that contain high levels of nutrients (e.g. nitrogen) can produce substantial numbers of individuals (nymphs).

Husband:"Why do you keep buying plants when you just end up killing them?

Wife: "Just to remind you what I'm capable of."

Rose Society Membership INFO

SACRAMENTO ROSE SOCIETY: Dues are $30 for paper newsletter or $20 for email recipients of the newsletter. Make the check payable to the Sacramento Rose Society and send to Cherilyn Duncan 2460 Hidden Hills Ln Lincoln Hills, CA 95648.

SIERRA FOOTHILLS ROSE SOCIETY: Annual dues are $20 per household. Members will receive issues of this newsletter by email or snail mail. For more information contact .Cindy Phipps 4977 Chicago Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY (ARS): membership entities you to five issues of their bi-monthly magazine The American Rose plus Handbook for Selecting Roses, and the American Rose Annual. All this for $49 and $46 for seniors. **Trial Membership Available!!!** Contact ARS at (800) 637-6534 or www.rose.org.

When you become a member of ARS via a rose society, you will receive an American Rose Society Handbook for Selecting Roses when you present your ARS membership form and a check for payment.

Sacramento Rose Society

sacramentorosesociety.org

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month except July and August in the Shepard Garden & Arts Center at McKinley Park located at 3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento. Room opens at 6:45 pm.

Take E Street (southbound) or H Street (northbound) exit off business I-80; go east past the park. (E Street turns into McKinley Boulevard.) Enter parking lot off 34th Street and Parkway.

Rose Reflections...

Charlotte Owendyk, Editor
204 Park Meadow Court
Roseville, CA 95661

Sierra Foothills Rose Society

SierraFoothillsRoseSociety.org

Meeting are at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month except for January, July and August unless announced otherwise room opens at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting location is in the **Crafts Room at the Maidu Community Center in Roseville.** The address is: 1550 Maidu Drive Roseville