

Dursban, Chlorpirifos or Malasol; Herbs like mint and pyrethrum will help keep the bugs away.

Red spider is most prevalent during hot, dry weather. Treat it immediately with spidermite spray. When watering, try to spray the undersides of the leaves to deter these bugs.

Chafer beetles eat the leaves of roses. Treat with Karbasol or Folithion in the summer. (September is when the beetles become active, so a spray early in the month will prevent damage).

Pruning

Roses need only a light pruning in the summer (December/January) and a heavy pruning in the winter months. After pruning spray with Lime Sulphur, which kills all insects and fungi around the plants. For tips on pruning of roses ask at the Gardenshop's information kiosk.

In order for your rose to continue producing flowers, remove the spent blooms and rose hips that have formed.

Happy rose growing!

Happy Gardening!

Contact details:

For details and further information, come in to any GardenShop or call our GardenLine on 0860 100 403. Alternatively, e-mail us at info@gardenshop.co.za or log on to www.gardenshop.co.za

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ROSES

An expert guide to the planting and care of Roses



GardenCare



Positioning of Roses

Roses have a variety of uses and there will always be the perfect rose to fill that special spot. Roses are available in bushes, climbers, standards, groundcovers, English and miniatures. They need full sun - at least 6 hours of direct sunlight per day. As well as growing out in the garden, they can also be grown in containers. They require a well-drained soil that has been enriched with compost.

Planting

Dig a good size hole (50cm x 50cm x 50cm). Place the excavated soil to one side. To this add 1/2 a bag of compost, a good handful of 2:3:2 and superphosphate to the soil. Mix this in well and shovel about half of this back into the hole. Place the rose into the hole and check the soil level. Add or remove soil as necessary. Remove the bag from the plant and place the rose gently into the hole. Add the rest of the soil and firm down the soil around the bush. Water well. A tip to help plants settle is to make sure that they are watered about an hour before they are planted out.

Mulching

Mulching is an essential part of rose growing. Mulching helps to keep the roots cool in the summer

months and warm in the winter months. It will also help to control weeds. Instant mulch is available in bags from Gardenshop. You can also use lawn clippings, bark, leaves, pine needles etc. If you are using material that is not yet decomposed, it is best to add a little LAN to the soil, this compensates for Nitrogen lost during decomposition.

Watering

Roses are waterholics and will suffer from withdrawal symptoms if they are deprived of sufficient water.

A rule of thumb is to give a good, deep soaking at least once a week in the summer months supplemented by a light watering twice a week. The more you water roses in the growing period, the longer the stems will be. In winter, the ideal would be to give the roses a good long soaking only once a week. This is just a guideline, but will differ from garden to garden depending on the soil type, climate and position of the roses. Deep watering is preferable to shallow watering as it encourages strong, deep roots.

Fertilising

Roses will benefit from extra nutrition by growing taller and stronger and producing more blooms. Start feeding in July or early August once you have

pruned the roses. The first feed should be approximately a handful (50 grams) of 5:1:5 or 3:1:5 fertiliser. Feed again with the same approximately 6 weeks later as the new buds are forming. Roses should now be fed every month with 3:1:5 or 5:1:5 until the end of April. You can also alternate every second feeding by using 3:1:5 and a foliar feed like Multifeed. Multifeed contains micronutrients that are not found in the granular fertilisers.

If the leaf develops yellow veins or yellowing between the veins, it is more than likely a nutrient deficiency. Correct these imbalances as soon as they become apparent.

Pests and diseases

Roses tend to attract various insects and fungi. There are two schools of thought as to the spraying of roses. One is that roses should be sprayed according to a spray program, the other is that roses should only be sprayed when there is a problem that needs to be treated. The most common problems are:

Mildew and Blackspot - Treat these fungi with Funginex, Rosecare, Fungi Gun, Folicur or Bravo.

Scale, Mealy bug, Australian bug and Aphid can be controlled with insecticides such as Garden Gun,