



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

Rosebuds

April 2018

E-mail: bgrs@twc.com

Meeting
April 8

WCEO—2 pm
Program: Mulches
Tonya Fulgham
Simply Mulch

Refreshments
Claire & Mary Ann

Did you get or give roses for Valentine's Day?

If you did, you can probably thank the rose growers of Colombia, South America.

MADRID, Colombia — The majority of roses Americans give one another on Valentine's Day, roughly 200 million in all, grow here, the savanna outside Bogotá, summoned from the soil by 12 hours of natural sunlight, the 8,400-foot altitude and an abundance of cheap labor.

Thousands of acres of white-tarped greenhouses, some the size of several football fields, are crammed with seven-foot stems topped with rich red crowns. Many are pulled into warehouses by horses, chilled to sleep in refrigeration rooms and then packed with other flowers onto planes — 1.1 million at a time—to be sold in the United States. Inside a steamy greenhouse near Bogota, a worker, dwarfed inside a giant rose bed, surrounded by tens of thousands of bright red roses, eyeballs a stem, cuts it 25 inches below its red top, and places the flower in a basket. Through a mix of high-end technology and a few anachronistic touches, the flowers from beds outside Bogota get to U.S. retailers in a matter of days—often faster than flower growers in California can get their products to East Coast markets. *(photo right)*

It's peak season for a massive Colombian industry that shipped more than 4 billion flowers to the United States this past year—or about a dozen for every U.S. resident. The Colombian industry has bloomed thanks to a U.S. effort to disrupt cocaine trafficking, the expansion of free-trade agreements—and the relentless demand by American consumers for cheap roses. Colombians don't even celebrate Valentine's Day, but among flower growers, the foreign holiday can account for close to 20 percent of annual revenue. The volume of the rose trade is breathtaking. In the three weeks leading up to February 14, 30 cargo jets make the trip from Colombia to Miami each day, with each plane toting more than a million flowers. From Miami's airport, the flowers are loaded into refrigerated trucks—200 are needed each day—and from there many go to warehouses in South Florida, where they are repackaged, assembled into bouquets, and then shipped all over the country *(photos right)*. Walmart alone purchased 24 million Colombian roses to sell for Valentine's Day.

The red roses many Americans will purchase this week are called 'Freedom' roses in Colombia, a particular breed that was put into mass production around the time of the 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States. These roses are durable, bright and strong, but they have little fragrance.

Editor's Note: This story appeared in the March 2018 issue of The Rose Herald, newsletter for the Tri-City Rose Society. It is used with permission of their editor, Katie Henderson. It originally was written by Damian Paletta for the February 10, 2018 edition of The Washington Post. Adapted and edited with permission for use in this article. All photos are accredited to Matt McClain of The Washington Post. The original article and more photos can be found at [this link](#).



Roses are processed in January at Flores de Serrezuela, a large rose farm roughly 20 miles west of Bogota, Colombia. The South American nation sends 4 billion flowers a year to the United States—and Valentine's Day is especially busy.





President's Corner by Bob Jacobs, Master Rosarian

Yes we are all anxious for warm, sunny days. Take time now to get your tools in shape. I will have my kit to sharpen pruners at the April 8 meeting.

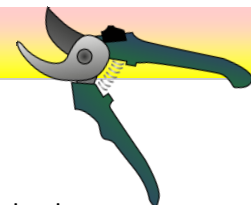
My roses are leafing out and are looking good. I still have soil and mulch around the bud union as we may have another freeze. I plan to start uncovering and cutting back the first week of April. Count back about 45 to 50 days from our Rose Show on May 19 to start cutting the hybrid teas first as they take longer to bloom.

The roses available from Certified are potted and have been in a Greenhouse. We have several available for sale for \$15. They look very good and you will not find roses any cheaper. Contact Mary Ann as she is keeping track of those sold and/or spoken for.

I am very excited to have Tonya Fulgham, owner of Simply Mulch located at Veterans Memorial Lane, speaking at our meeting April 8. She plans to bring samples of the mulch they have. Simply Mulch has been a sponsor for our Rose Show several years. I hope all members will be at the meeting, and invite others interested in roses, gardening and landscaping.

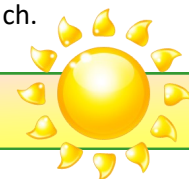


Pruning for our Rose Show by M. Hext, CR



As the forsythia has been blooming for several weeks, we know it is time to start our spring pruning and fertilizing. However, our weather has not been very cooperative for this task. Since our rose show is less than 50 days from now, as soon as the weather breaks, we should start pruning beginning with the hybrid teas. I have many black canes but believe I have only lost a few bushes and two of them were in the garage. Remove all of these dead canes and small spindly canes and any crossing branches. Shape the bush the way you want it to look. Cut the canes back to a healthy white pith. Remove canes smaller than a pencil. Keep the center open to allow air to circulate which will help to reduce the chances of disease and mites. Hard pruning (6-12) inches will produce fewer but larger flowers on thicker, longer canes. Little pruning or just shaping the bush will produce smaller but more blooms. We may have to prune more severely this spring due to our winter temperatures being much colder than the past few years. Don't cut back fortuniana bushes as much.

Rose Tips by Noah Wilson, Master Rosarian, Holston Rose Society



Things I am doing to my roses in April:

1. With the unseasonably warm weather we have had in February and March, I will complete my spring pruning now and check all bushes carefully to see if I need to re-prune. I will seal all canes I cut with exterior carpenters glue. I will not remove my mulch from the base of my roses as this will protect from any freezes that may come in early April.
2. Spray all bushes with Daconil and Banner Maxx.
3. Clean up any remaining leaves left over from last year's growth.
4. I will pull my mulch back from around the bushes and apply Mills Magic Rose Mix along with my regular fertilizer and apply Epsom salt (magnesium sulfate) which encourages new basal growth. Also, I will add gypsum (calcium sulfate) to my soil.
5. I will reapply mulch to a 4 inch depth over my bed area.
6. If God does not send rain of one inch this week, I will water to get all this added fertilizer into my soil so it can go to work.
7. I will keep a sharp eye on all my bushes and if I hear the weather forecasters calling for freezing cold I will act to protect my bushes accordingly.
8. I will help other rose growers I have gotten into this great hobby I enjoy and encourage them to call me for advice to help them be better rose growers.
9. I will begin my regular rose spraying program and stay ahead of any troubles that may face my roses.
10. April is exciting time for us rose growers as we can learn from last year's mistakes and move on to more beautiful roses this year.

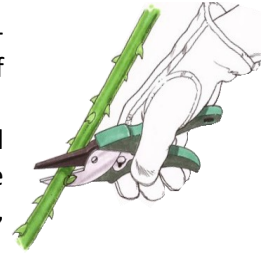
Pruning by Billie Flynn, Editor of "Rosebud" CenLa Rose Society



THE PURPOSE OF PRUNING

Valentine Day in Louisiana not only brings thoughts of romantic cards and red roses, it also signals it is time to start pruning roses. Pruning roses prevents a spindly, overgrown tangle of unproductive branches. **The worst thing that can be done to a rose is not to prune.**

The confusion about pruning is caused by the fact there are many varieties of roses, hybrid teas, old garden roses, shrubs, once-blooming varieties, miniatures, etc. and each must be pruned differently. However, the goal for pruning all varieties is the same: control the size, form a healthy plant with a pleasing shape with lots of beautiful blooms.



CONTROL THE SIZE

What you cut will grow back. What you leave will grow taller. Prune according to the desired blooming height.

The amount that can usually be removed:

Old Garden Roses - 1/4 - 1/3

Hybrid Teas - 2/3

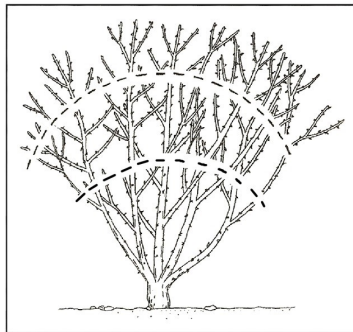
Miniatures - 2/3

Modern Shrubs - 1/2

Floribundas - 1/4 - 1/3

Polyanthas - 1/3 - 1/2

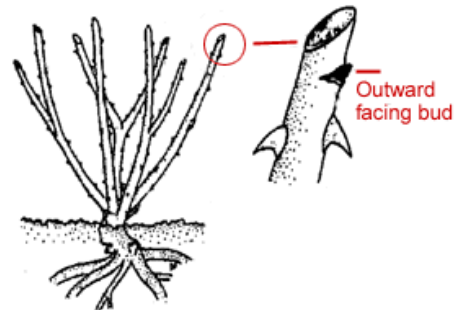
Noisettes - 1/3



CONTROL THE SHAPE

Creating an empty space in the center of the plant will allow for sunlight and air circulation inside the bush for a healthier plant. Create a vase shape.

Pruning stems to outward facing bud eyes will insure new growth is directed to sunlight instead of inside the plant.



BGRS Rose Show—May 19



- Our rose show schedule is available on our website: www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org and on the Tenarky site: www.tenarky.org
- Make plans now to enter. There are categories for novice exhibitors in horticulture and arrangements.
- For the first time, we will have a rose photography section. Look at the schedule, then go through your rose photos and find ones that you can enter.
- Please purchase or sell an ad to help with expenses. Contact Ann or Ben for information.
- Mark your calendars to help with the rose show set up on Friday afternoon, May 18 at 1 pm.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the many rose show jobs. Contact Bob, Ann, Kathy, or Mary Ann to help. Please let us know at the April meeting if you will volunteer to help with the jobs below.
 - Sell ads
 - Rose show set up on Friday
 - Organizing food Saturday morning for rose show participants and judges
 - Organizing and collecting for box lunches on Saturday
 - Rose show tear down on Saturday afternoon
 - Selling roses
 - Putting roses in containers to take to veterans in nursing homes
 - Helping with ribbons, certificates, and prize distribution
 - Clerking at the show
 - Welcome table

Be sure to save cans and plastic containers to put roses in to take to the nursing homes. Please rinse out the containers and remove the labels. Bring these to the next meeting to be stored in Mary Ann's barn.

Tetanus – The Silent Killer by Mary Peterson, National CR Chair 2010-2012



How many times have you pulled a weed or walked barefoot in your garden, 'for just a minute' without adequate protection? Shoes, gloves and a tetanus shot are vital tools to do the job right and do it safely.

Tetanus is an extremely serious disease of the nervous system caused by an exotoxin (bacterial poison) produced by *Clostridium tetani* bacteria. Although tetanus is preventable through safe and effective immunization, nearly 1 million people die each year world-wide. In the US, there are about 200 cases reported annually.

Most of these cases are newborns who contract tetanus through contamination or infection of the umbilical cord. Emil von Behring developed a vaccine against diphtheria and tetanus in 1890 and outbreaks of tetanus in the trenches in 1915 were controlled through serum injections. In 1925 a Canadian pathologist James Collip obtained an extract from the parathyroid gland for treating tetanus.

So who is at risk? Anyone who has not received an immunization; anyone working in a garden who comes in contact with thorns or sharp tools; anyone who has allowed their immunization to lapse.

You get tetanus by having a cut or deep puncture wound that receives little oxygen and becomes infected with *C. tetani*. Wounds that are deep, jagged, dirty or have gone untreated for several hours carry a high risk of tetanus. Worldwide, tetanus is estimated to kill 1 million people annually, mostly in the third world countries where people haven't been immunized.

While this bacteria is wide spread, it is most commonly found in soils contaminated with animal or human feces (solid waste). Horse manure is often the source of this bacteria. The tetanus bacteria produces spores that are resistant to drying and therefore can survive for long periods of time in soil, street dust, dried fecal material and in injectable street drugs.

Clostridium tetani infects human cells at the wound site, and causes them to produce the tetanus toxin. This toxin is poisonous to nerves. Tetanus causes painful muscle spasms usually starting with the jaw and neck and can affect the muscles required for breathing. Symptoms include headache, depression, difficulty in swallowing and in opening the mouth. Stiffness of the neck and spasm of the facial muscles gradually spreading to other muscles of the body.

There is no microbiological or blood test to confirm the diagnosis. Clinical physical evidence confirms the diagnosis along with the history of a contaminated injury. In addition to antibiotics respiratory support using a ventilator may be required along with muscle relaxants.

Aside from keeping your tetanus immunization renewed every 10 years, all wounds should be promptly and carefully cleaned with soap and water.

Fortunately there is an immunization against tetanus. It is routinely given during childhood, but immunity is not permanent. Boosters are needed at least every 5 to 10 years. A tetanus booster is only effective if given within 72 hours of a wound. The usual period between boosters is 10 years.

Any serious, contaminated puncture wound should receive a booster shot of tetanus toxoid and a doctor may order additional antibiotics to prevent any further infection of the wound. Left untreated, symptoms usually start 10 days after the wound is contaminated by the bacteria, but the onset can range from 3 to 21 days. Even with aggressive treatment, tetanus kills between 10 and 20% of the people who develop it. If left untreated approximately 60% of all cases are fatal.

Rosarians, especially those who have not had their tetanus booster in the last ten years, are at risk. Those over 60 are most vulnerable. While you are looking over your catalogs for new roses for the coming season, review your immunization record too and if your last shot was 10 years ago, schedule an appointment to have your tetanus immunization upgraded. There could be a killer lurking in your garden, so you want to be prepared.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD A TETANUS BOOSTER?

Most physicians recommend a tetanus booster at least every ten years; though, for gardeners, yours may prefer a five-year interval. We all work in the soil and occasionally get stuck with thorns. This makes having the booster important. Tetanus is a soil born bacteria that can be fatal. It is a good idea to make sure you are up-to-date with your tetanus vaccine before the busy growing season begins. Tetanus is a bacterial infection often called "Lock Jaw". It can lead to death. However, the tetanus vaccine has made it a preventable disease.

Please check the date of your last vaccination and if you are due for a booster, make an appointment today!



April 2018

Pruning Roses Made Easy By Dr. Suni Bolar, Consulting Rosarian, Jersey Shore Rose Society

Pruning Roses is perhaps one of the most daunting tasks faced by a new member of a rose society. As a Consulting Rosarian with the ARS, one of the most common questions people ask me is about pruning. In this article I will address most questions I am asked about pruning in a Question and Answer form.

Q. When is the correct time to prune roses?

A. For this part of the country, the correct time for pruning most roses except OGRs is when the Forsythia blooms in spring. Do not prune in fall as it makes the plant put forth new growth when we want the plant to go dormant for the winter and to store most of its reserves in its roots. The only pruning done in Fall is to prune extremely large canes (not including climbers) to about 5 feet in height so that the plant does not get tipped over or uprooted over winter with strong winds or the weight of the snow. Some Climbers can also be pruned a little if they have large lateral canes.

Most OGRs are not pruned in Spring as they bloom on last year's wood and not on new wood. This is what JSRS member and Master Consulting Rosarian Tom Mayhew has to say about pruning OGRs:

"Regarding OGRs that are once blooming and therefore should be pruned in the summer after they bloom in the spring, I have a few comments. These once blooming OGR's that bloom only on old wood include the following classes: Hybrid Gallica, Alba, Centifolia, Damask (except for Autumn Damask) and Moss. The repeat blooming OGRs that bloom on new and old wood include Portland (like Rose de Rescht), Hybrid China (like Old Blush), Hybrid Perpetual (like Marchesa Boccella), Noisette (like Champneys' Pink Cluster), and Tea (like Lady Hillingdon). I have grown all of the roses that I mention here."



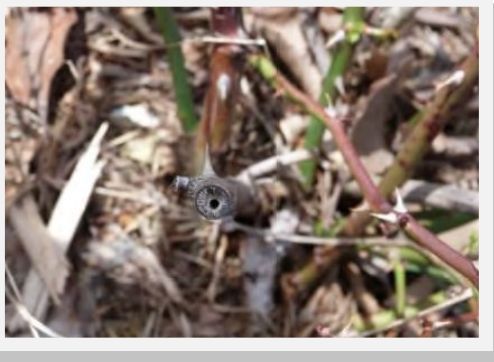
Forsythia blooming in Spring



OGR Rosa Mundi

Q. Why do we need to prune roses ?

A. We need to prune the plant primarily to rejuvenate the plant and to shape the bush. Pruning stimulates the plant to put out new growth and it stimulates basal breaks. Pruning also removes dead wood from winter die back and borer damage. Pruning prevents borers from eating up healthy canes.



Borer damage and cross over cane



Dead and damaged canes



Pruning Roses Made Easy (continued from p. 5)

Q. How should I prune a rose and how much should I take off the plant ?

A. Before pruning any rose, it is important to take into account what type of rose it is. Generally speaking, the pruning technique is different for different varieties of roses such as hybrid teas (HT), floribundas, climbers, shrubs, polyanthas, miniatures, OGRs, minifloras, etc.



Before pruning picture of a HT rose



After pruning picture of a HT rose

One thing that is common to all varieties is the 3 D rule – you need to remove anything that is Dead, Diseased and Damaged. Dead wood is mostly from winter die back. Diseased wood will show borer holes in the pith. Damaged wood is from broken canes or cross over canes rubbing against each other.

How much you take off after taking care of the 3 D rule depends on what you are growing your roses for. If you are growing your roses for exhibition, you would prune really hard leaving only 2-3 canes per HT rose so that you can get large blooms to take to the show. If you are growing your roses for just enjoying the blooms, you can leave more canes on the plant. This will give you more blooms but smaller size blooms. You also have to keep in mind that if your HT roses are pruned to 4 feet, you will need a ladder to view and enjoy this year's blooms.

While pruning, it is important to remove any canes that are growing inwards toward the center of the plant as these canes will prevent aeration in the center of the plant and make the rose susceptible to fungal diseases. You want to make a pruning cut at a 45 degree angle a ¼ inch above an outward facing bud eye with the slope of the cut away from the bud eye.



45 degree angle 1/4 inch above an outward facing bud eye

(All photos by Suni Bolar)

April 2018

Pruning Roses Made Easy By Dr. Suni Bolar, Consulting Rosarian, Jersey Shore RS (All photos by Suni Bolar)

For a Floribunda, you want to prune to a nice rounded form leaving many canes.



Before pruning picture of a floribunda rose



After pruning picture of a floribunda rose

For Shrubs, you can get away with being more ruthless. Some people use a hedge trimmer to trim their 6 feet tall Knockouts and they do just fine. However it is important to seal every pruning cut you make with Elmer's Glue so that borers will not enter the cane.



Before pruning picture of 2 shrub roses



After pruning picture of 2 shrub roses

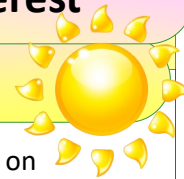
For miniatures and minifloras, you want to prune away anything that is less thick than a pencil.



Before pruning picture of a miniature rose



After pruning picture of a miniature



Pruning Roses Made Easy (continued from p. 5)

For Climbers, you want to leave intact the long main canes and prune back to 4-5 inches of each lateral on each main cane.



Before pruning picture of a Climbing rose



After pruning picture of a Climbing rose

For Polyanthas, first take care of the 3 Ds and then prune back to healthy pith. Healthy pith should look white, not brown. However it is important to keep in mind that some varieties of roses do not have a white pith.



Before pruning picture of a Polyantha rose



After pruning picture of a Polyantha rose

(All photos by Suni Bolar)

April 2018

Pruning Roses Made Easy By Dr. Suni Bolar, Consulting Rosarian, Jersey Shore RS (All photos by Suni Bolar)

For Hybrid Musks like Ballerina, very little pruning is needed. Only taking care of the 3 Ds and shaping the plant is needed.



Before pruning picture of a Hybrid Musk rose



After pruning picture of a Hybrid Musk rose

Q. What tools will I need for pruning my rose?

A. You will need a pair of loppers and bypass pruners. Anvil pruners are not good as they crush the cane instead of leaving a clean cut. A saw may be useful to prune off a large dead cane on an older rose. Goat skin gloves and a hat will offer good protection from thorns. A knee pad, Elmer's Glue, a large trash can, and a brush to remove the mulch closer to the bud union are also good to have.

To conclude, do not be afraid to prune your roses. Even the most experienced among us have had an 'oops' moment while pruning when we have hacked off a nice basal break!

Editor's Note: This article was written by Suni Bolar, one of my rose friends who lives in New Jersey. She and her husband and children grown all types of roses and are very active in their rose society and district. This article appeared in the March-April 2018 of Rosewaves, the newsletter for the Jersey Shore Rose Society. Her husband, Rafiq, is the editor and is used in our newsletter with her permission.

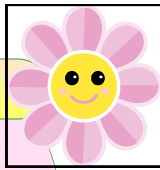
BGRS ROSES STILL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE—\$15

2—Altissimo
2—Gold Medal
3—Sally Holmes
2—Sunstruck

2—Dream Come True
3—Playboy
2—Strike It Rich
1—Tahitian Sunset

Email mhext@outlook.com if you want any.

E-mail: bgrs@twc.com



Bowling Green Rose Society

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We're on the Web!!

www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org



Claire Campbell	April 4
Connie Baird	April 18
Sue Kutay	April 23



Join the ARS for just \$10

4-Month Trial Membership

The American Rose Society is offering a four-month trial membership for only \$10 to anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our organization. Most ARS members are home gardeners who enjoy growing roses and want to expand their knowledge of rose culture.

Four-Month Trial Members receive:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians
- Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just three uses
- Four issues of the online newsletter *Roses & You*
- Free online access to five quarterly bulletins, a \$45 value
- Two issues of *American Rose* magazine, a \$16 value. View a free issue online at www.ars.org
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners

A 4-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!

Join Now!

You may [complete the online form](#) or call us at 1-800-637-6534.

IMPORTANT DATES - 2018

- May 4-6: ARS National Miniature Rose Convention & Rose Show in Jacksonville, FL
- May 19: BGRS Rose Show
- September 22-23: Nashville RS Rose Show
- September 29: Louisville RS Rose Show
- October 12-14: Tenarky Fall Convention & Rose Show hosted by M&D Rose Society
- October 25-29: ARS National Rose Show & Convention in San Diego, CA

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