
RALEIGH ROSE SOCIETY

March / April 2007

Membership Drives

Mark your calendars for two important dates!! Our regular meeting will be held on Saturday, March 24th, at Garden Supply Company in Cary. After that meeting we will stay on and recruit some new Members!!

On April 21st, we will be having another Membership Drive at the NC Farmers Market. We will be setting up in the grassy area of the parking lot between the NC Seafood restaurant and the open air building. This will be a crucial event and everybody is needed. We will be meeting around 9:00 am to set up and will continue until 1:00 pm. All brochures and info will be provided. Staying all day is not necessary, please come and work a shift of 30 min. This will be a fun event for all!

To select the first text box, move the pointer over the border of the text box until the pointer becomes a four-headed arrow and

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Timing Your Garden for a Rose Show
- 3 Spray Maintenance
- 4 Just the Details

RRS Annual Rose Show

Ready.... Set....Show!! Whether you are a veteran rosarian or a novice, get ready for the Raleigh Rose Society's Annual Rose Show. If you are not interested in exhibiting, come and see some of the most beautiful and often rare varieties of roses. The RRS Annual Rose Show will be held Saturday, June 2, 2007. While we are still finalizing the details, make sure your garden is in order and timed for this date!! We will be needing everyone's help to make this show a success. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Julie Atteberry at jva400@yahoo.com (no experience necessary).



Timing Your Garden for a Rose Show

By: John Sheldon

You've made the decision to enter the rose show and think all you have to do now is water, fertilize, spray and wait until it's time to harvest the roses. Right? Well, not exactly. You will undoubtedly have roses at the time of the show but will they be the ones you want? You see, every variety has a general recycle time, the time from when it was last pruned until it blooms again. Some recycle as fast as 40-45 days, most a little longer 45-55 days and some take a long time to recycle 55+. Many factors contribute to the cycle time: the amount of water they received during the growing period, how much fertilizer they received, how many sunny days, temperature, the health of the plant, number of petals etc. Many of these variables are controllable especially the most important one, the cut date. Not the date they are harvested but the date they were last cut prior to harvesting. Knowing that *First Prize* cycles fast, helps you know to start your "cut back" 40-45 days ahead of the show. For example, our Show this year will be held on June 2nd Rose, therefore, 45 days before June 2nd is April 18th so you would cut one cane from each *First Prize* bush on April 18th. On April 19th you would cut another one and so on for a week. If you only had a few bushes you could cut one cane every other day. This increases your chances of having a *First Prize* ready on the show date. Knowing *Uncle Joe*, has a long cycle time 55+ days, I would start to cut back much earlier. I would make my first cut on *Uncle Joe* 60 days before the show date. That would be April 4th and continue each day for the next week.

Now that we have the concept but how do we know how long it takes for each variety to recycle? A general rule of thumb is, the more petals a rose has the longer it takes to recycle. A better way to ensure you'll have the roses you want when you want them is to "time" your garden. While the exact number of days will always vary you can get a good idea of how long any given variety takes by timing it. The process is simple and goes like this. When you prune the rose take a piece of non-fading color-fast yarn (embroidery floss works even better) and tie it around the terminal leaflet of the first leaf just below where you made your cut. Then on a piece of paper write RED (meaning the color of the yarn used) and the date you used RED, in this case, July 17th. Continue to use RED that day for all the canes pruned regardless of variety. The next day switch to a different color of yarn, say BLUE. Then write down "July 18th, BLUE" indicating BLUE yarn was used for all the cuts made that day. And so forth for the next few weeks. A lot of people skip a day between prunings. Remember this is not an exact science. One of the most critical factors in determining recycle times is the degree of dormancy of the eye you prune to? A dormant eye could add well over a week to your time an eye already growing will recycle much faster. Ideally each eye would be "plump" but not have started to grow yet. When you start harvesting the roses write down the name of the rose, color of the yarn and date it was harvested. To make it easier I write down the date at the top and then list all the roses harvested on that date with the color of the yarn beside their name. You can then calculate the exact number of days each cane of any given variety took to recycle in your garden. I like to throw out the longest and shortest times for each variety and then average the remaining times. This gives me a general idea of how many days ahead of next year's show date I need to cut back that variety to have blooms ready for the show. Good luck and I hope you all come away winners.



John Sheldon is a member of the RRS and full time hybridizer for Sheldon Roses. His roses are distributed through Certified Roses and can be found at Walmart, Kmart and Lowes Home Improvement on the West Coast.

Recommended Spray Program

Reprinted with permission from *Rosemania.com*



As soon as you receive your fungicide, insecticide or miticide, write the date on the label. If properly stored in a climate-controlled area, the product should be good for 5 years. Remember to always wear protective clothing and a pesticide respirator when spraying any pesticide.

Fungicides: With any good spray program, the key is "Prevention". You don't want to be spending all your time fighting blackspot and powdery mildew. You want to prevent it from happening in the first place. When you prune in the spring, you should immediately start your spray program. We recommend you spray the canes and bed with a blackspot contact killer such as Mancozeb/*Pentathlon LF* or Manzate/*Pentathlon DF*. This will eliminate any blackspot spores that may have wintered over. One week later, start your preventative program and continue until your roses go dormant from cold weather. Rosarians in warmer climates like Florida and California will need to continue their spray program year round.

Our Best Program: If you have a large garden (100+ bushes) or if money is no object when it comes to protecting your prized roses, we recommend alternating Banner Maxx with Compass every two weeks. Less work, less exposure to chemicals, more time to enjoy the roses.

Economical Program: Spray Banner Maxx every two weeks. Add *Pentathlon DF* or Mancozeb to the Banner Maxx every other spraying. The *Pentathlon* or Mancozeb (*Pentathlon LF*) will kill any blackspot spores that are building up a resistance to the Banner Maxx. Remember: Anytime you combine products, always use them at full strength. If blackspot is already active in your garden, spraying a preventative alone is not going to be enough. You need a blackspot contact killer. Spray *Pentathlon DF* or Mancozeb every three days for three intervals. Example: Spray on Monday, Thursday and Sunday. Be sure to spray the top and bottom side of the leaves and the soil in the bed. This will kill all the active spores and give you a fresh start. Once completed, go back to your regular preventative program. If you are using products like Cleary's, Funginex and Immunox, you will need to spray every seven days. These are excellent products but they do not give long protection like Banner Maxx and Compass.

Insecticides & Miticides: We do not recommend spraying insecticides or miticides preventively. Spray them only when you have a pest problem. Products like Orthene work great on most common pests like aphids and thrips. However, they also kill the beneficial insects that naturally keep the spider mites under control. For best protection against aphids, we recommend Merit. For thrips you cannot beat Conserve SC. Spray for spider mites when you first start to see evidence of them. Remember that Avid only kills the adults so you will need to repeat after three or four days to kill the newly hatched mites. Floramite will eliminate both the adult mites and the eggs so it is rare to have to repeat more often than 21 days. We recommend the use of Indicate 5 with all of the products mentioned above. Indicate 5 will enable the spray to easily coat the entire upper and lower surfaces of the leaves.

We're on the Web!

www.raleighrosesociety.org

Check out the website for up to date information, meeting locations, helpful articles and more!

Helpful Websites

American Rose Society

www.ars.org

Rosemania

www.rosemania.com

Help me Find

www.helpmefind.com

Eden Bioscience – Makers of Messenger

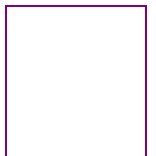
www.edenbio.com

Carolina District

www.carolinadistrict.org



Kathy Nicoll, VP Membership
100 Midden Way
Holly Springs, NC 27540



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED