Avoid nutrient shortages

Dr. Alan Wicks shows us all the signs at our meeting April 27, 2009

Dr. Alan Wicks, Sr. Director of Research for Northwest Ag Products, will give an audio visual presentation showing what rose leaves and flowers look like when they lack a certain nutrient or micronutrient. Knowing what is causing a problem, rose growers can add the missing nutrient(s) and correct the situation.

The picture above shows a nitrogen nutrient deficiency with the fungal disease blackspot thrown in for extra drama.

Come and bring a friend.

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PRESIDENT RICHARD KERKOF

Bring on the warm weather! We have about six weeks until the annual Tri-City Rose Show and we hear everyone saying, “Do you think we will have roses for the show?” We can’t control the weather, but we can be sure to give enough water and nutrients. April’s program (see above) will help guide us in our rose care choices.

SHARING NEWS AND VIEWS

I want to thank everyone who came to the Rose Pruning Day at the Honor Garden in Lawrence Scott Park. We got a lot of good questions, a little wet, and a job well done. Now we just need to watch these 300 roses grow and turn into a great showcase for all to enjoy.

Continued on page 2
MEETING TIME
Monday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.

HOW TO GET THERE
On Interstate 182, take Queensgate Exit 3B. Stay on Queensgate, passing Walmart on your left. Immediately after the first traffic light on Duportail, turn right toward the one-story Richland City Shop Complex, 2700 Duportail. (almost hidden behind a new fast food place).

Minutes, March 23, 2009
by Cyndy Sharer, Secretary

The March 23 meeting of the TCRS was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Richard Kerkof. Harlow Youn introduced our speaker, Dr. Rod Coler, a retired Tri-City physician who has had a life-long interest in collecting and learning about insects. His entomologist friend, Jim Hyde, was there to assist him. Jim has been a WSU Master Gardener for many, many years. Hundreds, if not thousands, of fifth graders have learned from him during Master Gardeners’ Plants Grow Children program. Dr. Coler gave a very interesting talk using colorful slides to inform us about the insect world. He brought cases of impressive preserved specimens, some of them very large and beautiful. The luna moth and the walking sticks were really cool.

June Beetles, Colorado Potato Beetles, Dog Bane Beetles, Blue Milkweed Beetles and Spotted Asparagus Beetles were some of the Hemiptera specimens on his slides, as well as the Darkling Beetle that can stand on its “hands” and the Click Beetle that is able to throw itself 6-12 inches into the air to escape its enemies. The Western Rose Chafer is rare here, although common elsewhere. Too bad stink bugs aren’t rare here! He gave BugGuide.com as an interesting website to learn more about the insect world. A special note to gardeners: of the two million known insects, only 1% are harmful, while 1-2% are helpful to man.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

President’s Message, Cont.

As your roses grow, watch for chances to direct branch structure. You can easily pinch off any shoots that would grow into another branch or shoot. Later in the season you would need pruners to achieve this same result.

If you want to show a rose that usually puts on arching canes, plan on using stakes to train them for a long, straight stem to showcase your blooms.

Remember to come to the April 27 meeting at the Richland City Shops, bring a friend, your good ideas and questions, and a rosy smile to share with all.

Rose Show Luncheon
from JoAnn Brehm

The Shilo has worked out a choice of three menu options for us at a slightly reduced rate that we can vote on for our buffet luncheon after the Rose Show. The prices include a service fee and tax. All buffets include coffee, decaf coffee and a selection of teas. We will vote during the April meeting, so come and have your vote counted!

Manhattan Deli, $13 per person
Platters of Shaved Ham, Turkey and Roast Beef; Sliced Cheddar, Swiss and Pepper Jack Cheese; Chilled Lettuce, Sliced Tomato, Red Onion; Kosher Dill Pickles, Mayonnaise, Whole Grain and Dijon Mustards, Creamed Horseradish; Fresh Deli Breads and Hoagie Rolls; Mixed Salad Greens with Dressing

Homestyle Comfort, $15 per person
Mom’s Meatloaf, Old Fashioned Fried Chicken, Homemade Macaroni & Cheese; Honey Corn Muffins with Honey Butter; Mashed Potatoes with Country Gravy; Three Cabbage Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad; Apple Pie and Devil’s Food Cake

Italian Riviera for $17 per person—or $19 per person, including Assorted Desserts
Chicken Parmesan and Baked Lasagna; Rigatoni Alfredo Prima Vera; Focaccia Bread; Fresh Seasonal Sauteed Vegetables; Tossed Caesar Salad; Fresh Fruit and Berry Display

ROSE HERALD
April in the Rose Garden
by Norma Boswell, CR

Some of our roses need re-pruning. Prune off unproductive tops of branches and canes; pinch or scrape off new shoots heading for the center of the bush. When you notice two or more shoots coming from the same node, remove all but one shoot.

You may discover leafed-out shoots that have no more leaves coming from their centers. These aborted shoots are “impossible.” It’s impossible for them to make roses. Cut below the “impossible” to the next shoot that shows a developing center. Also check the inside color of the branch you cut. Look for creamy white pith, the color of a freshly cut apple.

Work Smarter

Taking physical therapy for tendonitis around my rotator cuff (and reading the ever-helpful Tri-City Herald), I have belatedly discovered a few ways to reduce self-inflicted injury from gardening. Maybe you will find these tips useful.

Unless you are in great physical condition, limit gardening to 1–2 hours per session...

Use long tools that fit your body—tools that allow you to do less bending. Jeffrey Restuccio, www.getfitthroughgardening, tells us his favorite tools and shows us where to get them.

Stretch the muscles in your legs, hips, shoulders and neck before and after each gardening session... I am just now learning how to do stretches. Books and instructional videos are available.

Change garden activities every 3–5 minutes. Do not keep at the same big job until it is completely done. If you doggedly pursue the same activity, you’ll only encourage bursitis, tendonitis or repetitive stress syndrome. Save something for tomorrow.

You probably know this tip, but it bears repeating: bend from the knees, not the waist. Keep your back straight as you work.

Now, for a delightful essay on how to do things in the garden, read Glenda Higgins’ “Easter Morning Musings” on page 5. Happy gardening!
'KNOCK OUT' THANKS TOM MILES AND TCRS FOR PRUNING DEMO MARCH 21, 2009

My name is 'Knock Out' and I am Vice-President of the Rose Homeowners Association in Lawrence Scott Park. You can see my picture and read about me in the story below.

It is my pleasure to express the appreciation and respect we roses have for the dozen members in Tri-City Rose Society and the Rick Olivas family from the Work Force Center who came out on a showery Saturday morning March 21, 2009.

This group of volunteers arrived as early as 8 a.m. and by 1:30 p.m. had pruned the entire garden of 300 roses and loaded two city trucks. Those were big heaping loads totaling two to three tons of clippings and leaves. This impressive result followed TCRS volunteers’ demonstration of how to prune many types of roses. At least two dozen visitors, from children to adults, came and learned.

It was remarkable how cheerfully and patiently the technique of pruning roses was conveyed by clear, simple communication in a short period of time. Thank you!

Below, Harlow Young demonstrates pruning

(Photo contributed by Dorothy & Jim Campbell)

'KNOCK OUT' SAYS HELLO AND INVITES YOU TO VISIT THE HONOR GARDEN

Hello, Tri-City Rose Society. I am 'Knock Out,' a five foot shrub giving you bountiful 3-inch, cupped, cherry-red flowers with small white centers enhanced by yellow stamens. Tom Miles likes my musky sweet fragrance, while others think I have just a light tea rose scent. Human noses tend to differ when they interpret a rose's odors or intensity of fragrance.

I was an AARS Award winner in 2000, and in 2004 I received the ARS Members’ Choice Award. Although I am rugged and hardy, my continuous blooming trait will be delayed this year until mid-May because of the frosty winter and spring weather. Once I get started, I will bloom again and again for you every 5-6 weeks until frost.

Probably because of my disease resistance and flower power, I am the most widely sold rose in North America. Tri-Cities roses don’t have much trouble with blackspot; but even if the rose planted right next to me got it, the fungus would not infect my foliage. I also resist mildew, which causes a lot of roses around here considerable anguish in both spring and fall. Rosarians around the country report no mildew on 'Knock Out' leaves and canes.

All roses prefer sun, but I can tolerate a little shade.

I provide extra interest in fall by setting hips. Take a look—I think you’ll like what you see.

JIM CAMPBELL RECEIVES AWARD OF MERIT FOR TCRS LEGACY SERIES

Jim Campbell has been awarded the American Rose Society’s Award of Merit for his series of three articles interpreting the history of the Tri-City Rose Society. Entitled “The Legacy Continues,” this three-part series appeared in the Rose Herald in 2008. Congratulations, Jim, for your insightful labor of love, exploring and saving the history of our society.
Easter Morning Musings
by Glenda Higgins

What a pleasure to water by hand this early spring morning. Baby plants are bravely standing in the cold, dry ground. “I made it,” I think I hear them say.

My first thought is thankfulness to my dad for teaching me love of the earth. Then others, most of them gone, still speak.

My first landlord, quite a gardener herself, reminds me not to transplant when the flowers are in bud. “How would you like to move when you’re nine months pregnant?” she said over thirty years ago. I never forget.

The tulips my friend planted on a 100 degree August day, twenty-seven years ago, still come up. It was too hot for me, but she did it in that dry, rocky soil. She moved to California, but the tulips are still here. I never forget.

The lavender is happy. It reminds me of making lavender wreaths with friends on a warm summer morning a few years ago. I never forget.

I admire the perennials that come from friends or the kind irrigation water that brought them along to a new home. There are the hellebores from Vina Hudson; oh, how she impressed me with her beautiful dried Lenten roses. She happily shared a small start with the advice that they don’t like to move, so plant them once and leave them alone. I never forget.

The apricot tree that dad so graciously pruned every year still stands. It is getting old too. I never forget.

The miniature roses that Norma Boswell taught me to love sneer at the cold winter and don’t seem to understand their bigger cousins having such a hard time.

The Roses. How did this happen? Seems to me I had two or three roses. Double Delight came to me from a friend in 1976, the year our son was born. It was my first. I never forget.

I know how this happened. Leona is how it happened. I was in my twenties when I asked “Mrs. Mattison” if I could help her in her yard. That was a gutsy move on my part. Little did I know that pruning was an art that I would not be able to master in her eyes for seven years. First I was allowed to watch Leona prune her roses, and I was allowed to apply glue. The second year I was able to prune her minis while under her close eye...next the floribundas...until seven years had passed and I had either passed her tests or she was very tired. Finally she said, “Go to it.” I was shocked. I counted her roses every year. I think it was 286, if you counted all the minis. I never forget.

So it is, this spring like every other spring; Leona guides my hands as I prune each cane. She tells me to cut lower, to the healthy pith. She tells me anything smaller than a pencil needs to come out. She tells me the rose needs room for air circulation. She tells me to hold my nippers/loppers so the blade is on top. That was repeated often. She gave me my first pair of good rose pruners. I still have them. She gave me real leather gloves that I still have. She gave me love of roses. She gave me her love. I never forget.

There was the time on Memorial Day, several years ago that a new sport appeared on ‘Playgirl.’ A quick call to Jane Melville brought her running. We were so happy. It was beautiful. Never mind that a few weeks later my sweet husband fell from the ladder and landed on the sport and broke it off. Oh, by the way, he also fractured his foot. As he was groggy, coming out of surgery, his first words to the nurse were, “I landed on the sport.”

My yard is full of friends. They are still here. I never forget.
Spring has Sprung

by Jo Angelos and guest, Tom Miles

No one could be more excited to see some warm weather and bask in the sunshine than I am this week. Ah, finally signs of Spring and the promise of good days ahead. After the extended winter we have endured, I made the promise, “I will not complain about dragging hoses around or watering and weeding every day.” My husband will be happy if my pledge lasts at least until the end of May. After the chilly day pruning at the Lawrence Scott Park a few Saturdays ago, I think it is safe to say, “A warm rose gardener is a happy rose gardener.”

Speaking of that fabulous rose garden, Tom Miles our guest contributor for this page has been deemed “the master of all masters” for his work on the park. Tom will share the spray that makes the garden healthy, disease resistant and one of the most beautiful sights in the Tri-Cities. I think he is working on a spray to eliminate deadheading but it is still a work in progress. Once complete, I’ll be sure to give him additional space in the newsletter!

Rose growers everywhere love Tom for his congenial personality, appreciate him for his hard work and dedication and seek him on advice for the latest and greatest rose growing techniques. Here is the latest and greatest revised recipe for beautiful roses. Thank you Tom!

ADVANTAGES:

- Invigorates plant’s immune system and promotes natural growth of roses.
- Non-toxic to humans and beneficial insects like ladybugs, honeybees, birds, wasps and hornets.
- Effective deterrent to significant damage by black spot, mildew and rust; also deters harmful insects like aphids, root weevils, earwigs and thrips.
- Tested for one year on 300 roses in Lawrence Scott Park public rose garden in the city of Kennewick. Also tested effective in home flower garden on a variety of annual and perennial flowers and shrubs for three years in the city of Richland. Both sites are located in an elevated, arid, desert region in southeastern Washington State with a weather classification of Zone 5 winter and Zone 7 summer.
- Encourages increased population of earthworms and night crawlers that aerate the soil and convert soil organics to valuable nutrients that enhance plant growth and health.

CONTENTS:

- Four gallons of water (rain water preferred).
- Four 375 mg aspirin tablets.
- One cup of apple cider vinegar (5% acidity).
- Four tablespoons of Miracle Gro
- Four tablespoons of liquid dishwashing soap
- Five tablespoons dormant Spray, Lilly Miller Polysul prior to leaf growth in spring, or after leaf growth two tablespoons powdered wettable Sulfur Plant Fungicide to prevent mildew.

SPRAY PREP INSTRUCTIONS:

- Add four aspirin tablets to one cup of apple cider vinegar until dissolve. Stir to mix and add to four gallons of water in sprayer.
- Add four tablespoons of Miracle Gro. Add four tablespoons of liquid dishwashing soap last to alleviate soap foaming nuisance.
- Cap sprayer and shake well to thoroughly mix solution.

Estimated Cost of Spray 50 cents to $1.00.

SPRAY APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

A back pack sprayer with four gallon capacity, manual pump, and a float mixing agitator was used in the large garden to minimize labor. Less expensive small sprayers are adequate for small home gardens. It is important to have a two or three foot wand on sprayer hose so nozzle can be inserted into the dense cane and leaflet areas promoted by use of this spray. Use a sprayer with sufficient spray force to thoroughly wet all foliage above ground, including top and bottom of leaves.

Recommend starting the spring spray cycle in our area following the last winter hard frost around the first of May when new canes and leaflets on old canes pruned in late March start to develop. Spray should be applied as necessary to prevent disease and keep roses healthy until the first light frost occurs by mid October and the rose plant enters the dormancy cycle.

The rose plant has the deciduous traits of a sugar maple tree. The sap in the growth above ground level migrates and is stored in the roots as the weather cools. Nutrients contained in the sap of a healthy rose plant migrate to the root after the late fall frost and are stored to provide more energy for better new spring growth.

Spray cycle of twice a month was sufficient to prevent significant fungus or insect damage when the spray was allowed to remain on the plants for 24 hours without rain or application of overhead irrigation water. Watch for early signs of mildew during spring and fall combinations of cold night - warm day periods, and spray immediately before mildew spreads. Plants highly susceptible to fungus and insect damage may need to be sprayed more frequently or replaced with more disease resistant varieties to lower maintenance effort and cost. Tom Miles Phone: 509-627-7003 Email: thmpmi@charter.net
**It's Our Turn: Support Our Advertisers**

As I helped conclude the task of reaching out to businesses to sponsor an ad for this year’s Rose Show Schedule, it is my goal to help members realize the importance of their advertising support. Due to our uncertain economic times, we lost some of our usual ads. With this in mind, I hope we can in turn be dedicated to endorse their businesses. The ad monies go toward some of the show costs such as printing the schedule, renting the rooms at the Shilo Inn and providing lunches for the judges.

Some of the definitions of support include: encourage, assist, hold up, sustain, maintain, cheer on, espouse and bolster. These are the companies in our area that have become our champions in the last few weeks. They are our cheerleaders; they support and cheer for our society's efforts. The listings on this page provide the names and contact information of our valuable supporters. Now is our chance to step up to support them, especially with a sincere “Thank You” as we walk through their doors.

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**Kennewick Area:**
- **Flower Farm**  Columbia Center Blvd  735.3232
- **Ranch & Home**  845 N Columbia Center Blvd  737.1996
- **Earthworks Plus Inc.**  151 Reata Rd  627.3844  [www.earthworksplus.com](http://www.earthworksplus.com)
- **Washington Hardware & Furniture**  6 W Kennewick Av  582.2141
- **Heritage Nursery & Garden Center**  2816 W 27th Av  586.0744
- **Pallis Pool & Patio**  201 N Fruitland  586.9108  [www.pallispool.com](http://www.pallispool.com)
- **Farmer’s Exchange**  215 W Canal Dr  586.3101
- **Jesse’s Lawn Maintenance**  6418 W Deschutes Ave  734.9536
- **B & B Express Printing**  7519 W. Kennewick Ave Suite A  783.7383  [www.bbprinting.com](http://www.bbprinting.com)

**Richland Area:**
- **Harrington’s Trophies**  717 Jadwin  943.2593  [www.harringtontrophies.com](http://www.harringtontrophies.com)
- **Wood’s Nursery**  2615 Van Giesen  943.1926
- **C & M Nursery & Gift Shop**  2517 Van Giesen  946.0221
- **Gannon’s Nursery**  2723 Van Giesen  946.5000
- **Rosy’s Ice Cream & Diner**  404 Bradley Boulevard  Between Shilo and Hampton Inn  943.0102

**Pasco Area:**
- **Job’s Nursery**  4072 Columbia River Rd  547.4843  [www.jobsnursery.com](http://www.jobsnursery.com)
- **Mac’s Garden Center**  6711 W Court (at Rd 68)  547.8109
- **Columbia Grain & Feed**  2001 West Lewis St  547.8818
- **Flower Farm**  6300 Court St  547.8337
- **Ranch & Home**  516 North Oregon Ave  547.5513
- **B & B Express Printing**  3616 W Court St Suite D  545.5237  [www.bbprinting.com](http://www.bbprinting.com)

**Surrounding Area:**
- **Benton City:**
  - **Wildland’s Nursery**  68911 River Rd  588.4328  email: wildlandsnursery@aol.com
  - **Cornerstone Flower & Nursery**  10202 E Kennedy Rd  588.6351  email: dpnrod@aol.com

- **Spokane:**
  - **Northland Rosarium**  9405 S Williams Lane  Spokane, WA  509.448.4968  [www.northlandrosarium.com](http://www.northlandrosarium.com)

- **St. Paul, OR:**
  - **Heirloom Roses**  24062 Riverside Drive NE  St Paul, OR  503.538.1576  [www.heirloomroses.com](http://www.heirloomroses.com)
Call TCRS Officers & Consulting Rosarians (CR) for Help

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* Helping to collate, fold, staple, and label: Jim & Kathy Weber jwweber@clearwire.net

Mark Your Calendar

April 25, 2009 (8 a.m.–2 p.m.)  
Mini Rose Sale, Demo Garden, Union St.

April 27, 2009  
Dr. Alan Wicks, How to Recognize and Control Nutrient Deficiencies

May 16, 2009 (9 a.m.–4 p.m.)  
Mini Rose Sale, Albertson’s and Yoke’s

May 18, 2009 (one week early)  
“Get Ready for Rose Show” Meeting

May 24, 2009  
Rose Show at the Shilo Inn, Richland

June 22, 2009  
Our first summer garden meeting will be at Norm and Claudia Ferguson’s

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