

# ROSE

## A CLASSIC FLOWER FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Each year throughout the world, roses sell increasing numbers and bring enjoyment to countless people. We are therefore more than interested to offer our cultural notes on roses that our clients may be better informed and more able to cope with the particular cultural needs of these glorious plants. The difference between a rose properly cultivated and one neglected is the difference of excellence down to despair- even disaster.

Roses must be properly tended and they really will give their best.

The following information may be followed with confidence.

### ASPECT

Roses require full sun (at least 6 hours per day) for maximum vigour. They will grow in less sun but will be straggly and produce blooms of inferior quality.

Protection from harsh winds is preferable to prevent drying out and spoiling of flowers.

### SOIL

Roses can be grown in a variety of soils with good results. In sandy soils, drainage is usually good but drying out and leaching of nutrients is a problem. Frequent watering and regular fertilising can compensate for this. Mulching at regular intervals with well-rotted matter, eg: **MUSHROOM COMPOST** will improve moisture-holding capacity and nutrient retention. Clay soils hold moisture well but because of the fine structure are poorly aerated and drained. The addition of well-rotted organic matter or compost will lighten a heavy soil and improve aeration and drainage. Drainage can be further improved by raising soil beds and digging in **GYPSUM**. A medium loam is ideal soil for roses- a combination of sand and clay particles to give a well- drained and well-aerated soil with good moisture retention. We cannot over-emphasise the value of compost in soil preparation. Remember to prune new roses before planting.



*Rosa Mister Lincoln*

### TYPES OF ROSES & PLANTING DISTANCES

**PLANTING ROSES:** Dig a hole at least three times larger than the container size and mix a generous amount of **PREMIUM GARDEN MIX**, **COW & COMPOST** or **MULCH 'N' COMPOST** with the soil from the hole. Remove the plant from the container gently and plant it into the same soil level as it is in the container. Gently replace the soil around the planted rose and firm down.

Make a small wall of soil around the planted rose approximately 30cm from the stem and water plant thoroughly. The soil wall will stop the water running away and thus ensure the rose is thoroughly watered. It is best to insert a firm stake to support standard roses at the time of planting.

Weeping standard roses require the support of a **ROSE WHEEL** and **PIPE** to obtain the best results. Both standards and weeping standard roses should be tied firmly to the supporting stake using expandable budding tape or old nylon stockings, by tying in a figure 8 around the rose stem and the support. This should stop the stem rubbing against the stake and thus damaging it.

## FERTILISING

Roses require regular fertilising with a complete plant food, such as **THRIVE ROSE FOOD**, commencing in early Spring and thereafter at monthly to six-weekly intervals until early Autumn.

A mulch of **MUSHROOM COMPOST** in Spring and late Summer will also benefit roses. This provides a quick release of nitrogen and helps to retain soil moisture.

Roses that are planted in winter should not be fed with manure or fertiliser for 2 months.

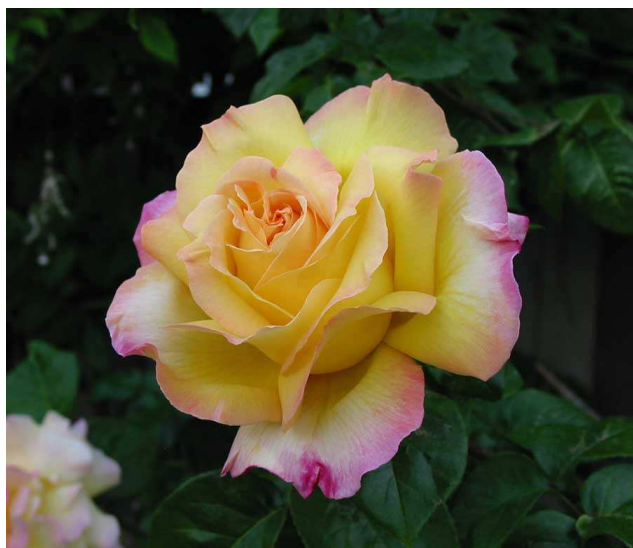
## PRUNING

Pruning is an important part of growing roses. It helps to maintain vigour and produce the maximum number of flowers. It also keeps the plants manageable and attractively shaped. Pruning cuts should be treated with a tree wound dressing i.e. **STERIPRUNE**. Most roses should be pruned in Winter- late July is ideal for Sydney.

Once the roses have been pruned it is advisable to spray a mixed solution of **LIME SULPHUR** over, but ensure there is no leaf growth as the spray may cause deformity. **LIME SULPHUR** will also help to prevent dieback during the growing season.

## GURU'S TOP 10

VARIETY	COLOUR	SCENT	RESISTANCE TO FUNGAL DISEASE
Double Delight	Cream/Pink	Outstanding	Good
Iceberg	White	Good	Very Good
Mister Lincoln	Deep Red	Outstanding	Very Good
Friesa	Bright Yellow	Good	Good
Peace	Pale Lemon/Pink	Good	Limited
Just Joey	Apricot	Good	Good
Lagerfeld	Lilac	Fair	Limited
Papa Mielland	Dark Red	Outstanding	Good
Princess De Monaco	Ivory/Pink	Good	Limited
Apricot Nectar	Apricot/Pink	Soft	Good



*Rosa Peace*

*Sherringham's - "Where your 'Rose' gardening world begins"*

When considering the rose variety of your choice we recommend a solution of **SEASOL** / **POWERFEED**, **MAXICROP** or **HARVEST** when planting.

**SEASOL**: a tonic that stimulates root development and promotes healthy growth. Increases resistance to heat, drought, frosts, disease and insect/ fungal attack. Encourages vigorous flowering, fruiting and overall health. Keeps your roses in peak condition all year round.

**POWERFEED**: contains liquid fish compost, promoting vigorous growth and stimulating flowering and fruiting. Adds significant nutrient to the soil. Can act as a clay breaker and improves sandy soils. A rich source of nitrogen, potassium, trace elements, protein and amino acids.

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