



ORGANIC ROSE PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER PRUNING:

If using roses for show

Only 1/3 or less of the rose bush should be cut back. Cut to pencil sized canes having outward pointed eyes. Remember, the more eyes that are allowed to grow on a single cane, the smaller the blooms. Remove all dead branching canes.

It takes 35 to 50 days for a bush to produce new blooms after you have pruned. The more petals the rose variety has the longer it takes to repeat its bloom.

Prune Roses again in February.

WEEDING ROSE BEDS:

Hand remove all grass and weeds from beds. Do not use any herbicides. Use a small hand trowel to get under the root of weeds that break off. Remember that when your soil health improves, fewer and fewer weeds will grow.

FERTILIZING:

Use a small rake and pull MULCH away from each rose bush to expose the soil. This may be an area of 2 to 3 feet, depending on the size of the bush.

Apply to each rose bush.....

- 1 cup of Rabbit Hill rose food
- 1 cup of Horticultural corn meal
- 1 cup of Dry Molasses
- 1 cup of Humates 70%

Work these ingredients into the soil being careful not to disturb the roots of the roses.

FOLIAR SPRAY FEEDING:

- Apply **SUPER SEAWEED** at a ratio of 3 tablespoons to 1 gallon of water, or Use setting **#2** on a **GILMORE** hose end sprayer. Foliar feed roses in morning hours once a month.
- **Compost Tea:** Made from alfalfa pellets or meal soaked overnight. Contains many micro-nutrients and minerals. Compost tea can be made from many different types of materials.

COMPOSTING & MULCHING:

Cover all soil in the beds with **1 inch of aged compost and or earthworm castings** followed by **3 inches of Shredded Native Mulch.**

- **DO NOT PILE MULCH UP ON THE STEMS OF THE ROSES.**

WATERING:

Using an overhead or low level sprinkling system can be a problem for roses. Many funguses appear on leaves and stems when water is sprayed in these areas. A drip type or bubble emitter irrigation system is a more desirable method of watering. Using saved rainwater is very beneficial, if you only have a few roses. **REMEMBER DON'T OVER WATER.**

PEST & DISEASE CONTROL:

- **Compost tea:** An excellent immune stimulator as well as an excellent disease suppresser of several funguses. Garrett Juice is also considered the same as compost tea.
- **Super Seaweed:** This is a plant hormone, growth and immune stimulator that also has insecticidal affects on aphids, spider mites and many other garden pests.
- **Garlic tea:** Apply at ¼ cup per gallon or use label directions for minor insect infestation.
- **Citrus Oil, orange oil or d-limonene:** Use at 1 ounce per gallon of water as a spray.
- **Potassium bicarbonate:** 1 rounded tablespoon per gallon of water sprayed for fungal disease.

- **Liquid biostimulants:** Super Seaweed, MaxiCrop, Neptune Seaweed, AgriSpon. Follow label directions.
- **Granular biostimulants:** Use **MicroGro**, an excellent way to fight **soil pathogens**. Follow directions on bag.
- **Neem “Rose Defense”:** Spray according to label directions for serious insect and disease infestation, such as **Black Spot & Rust**.
- **Fish emulsion:** Use **Ocean Harvest**, **BioForm** liquid or **Neptune Fish** at a ratio of 2 ounces per gallon of water for additional nutrients. Use during growth period for **aphids**.
- **Beneficial nematodes:** Apply to the soil in early spring for **thrips control**. Do first spraying at pink bud in spring. First 2 sprayings should include Garrett Juice and Garlic Barrier tea. Use additional spraying as necessary. For best results, spray every 2 weeks, but at least once a month. When soil is healthy, just use Garrett Juice or Compost Tea as needed.

FERTILIZER PROGRAM

FEBRUARY: 1 – 15th Add organic fertilizer @ 20 lbs./1000 sq. ft. Lava sand at 80 lbs./1000 sq. ft. and Horticultural cornmeal @ 10-20 lbs./1000 sq. ft.

JUNE: 1 – 15th Apply organic fertilizer @ 20 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. Texas Greensand @ 40 lbs./1000 sq. ft. **If soil is acidic** apply Soft Rock Phosphate @ 30 lbs./1000 sq. ft.

SEPTEMBER 15-30th – Apply organic fertilizer @ 20 lbs./1000 sq. ft.; Sul-Po-Mag @ 20 lbs./1000 sq. ft. In addition, Wheat/Corn/Dry Molasses soil amendment @ 30 lbs./1000 sq. ft.

FOLIAR FEED twice monthly with compost tea or Garrett Juice (recipe on last page).

Use minerals only the first 2 or 3 years reducing the amount by half each year.

MATERIAL LIST:

- Microlife and/or Rose Food from Rabitt Hill in Spring; Something Special from Rabbit Hill in Fall
- Alfafa pellets or meal
- Super Seaweed or MaxiCrop add Molasses
- BioForm liquid or Neptune Harvest
- Horticultural Cornmeal

- Dry Molasses
- 70% Humates
- Wheat meal
- Soft Rock Phosphate
- Lava sand
- Greensand
- Leaf Mold Compost (Nature's Way)
- Native Mulch (Nature's Way)
- Garlic Tea or (Garlic Barrier)
- Citrus Oil or Orange Oil
- Neem
- Potassium bicarbonate

GARRETT JUICE : Garrett Juice can be purchased from **Wabash** or you can make your own by using the recipe that follows.

Garrett Juice (ready to spray)

Mix the following ingredients in a gallon of water:

1 cup manure based compost tea or (liquid humates)

1 ounce molasses

1 ounce natural apple cider vinegar

1 ounce liquid seaweed

For disease and insect control add:

¼ cup garlic tea or

¼ cup garlic/pepper tea

or 1 ounce of orange oil

Alfalfa Tea

Place 1 cup alfalfa meal in a 5 gallon bucket and fill with water. Let stand overnight; the result will be a thick tea. Apply generously to the root area of shrubs and flowers or use as a foliar spray after straining.