

**Advice to Grow By
... Ask Us!**

UCCE Master Gardeners
San Mateo & San Francisco Counties

Rose Care

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January 9, 2017



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ UCCE Master Gardener Program

Types of Roses

1. Wild Roses or Species Roses
2. Old Garden Roses or Heritage Rose
3. Modern Roses



Example 1. Rosa californica, California Wildrose,
www.pilitas.com



Example 3. Rosa
'Double Delight'
Rose *'Double Delight'*
www.gurneys.com

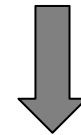


Example 2. Rosa 'Madame Hardy', Rose
'Madame Hardy', www.rhs.org



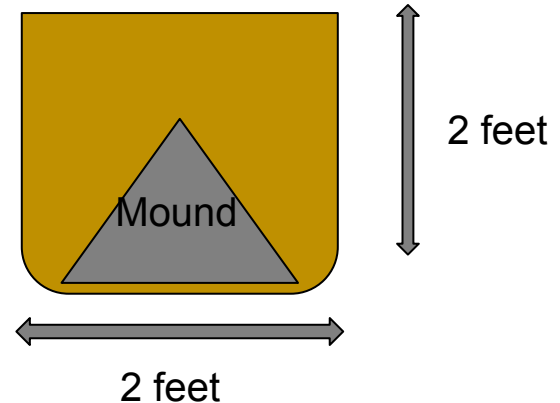
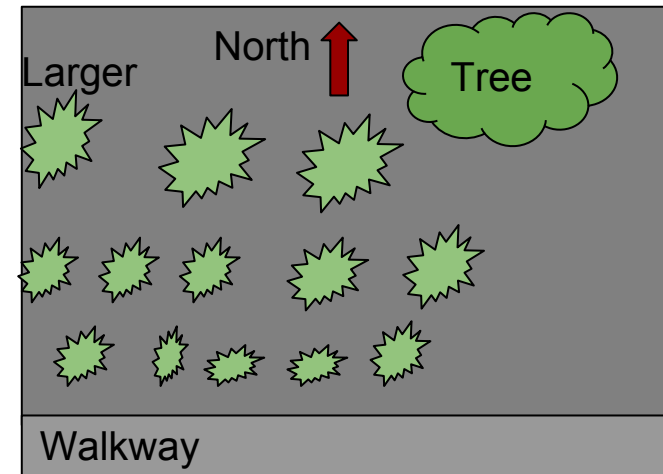
Stop, Look

- In the Fall to Early Spring
- Stop-fertilizing, deadheading (after October 1) - remove petals
- Look -what to (re)move (Winter is a good time to move or “shovel prune”/discard)
- Look - reduce watering when it rains
- Look if you see issues -size, location, thorns in walkways, color clashes



Planning to Plant

- **Bare Root** Plants do well planted as soon as available - Late December - January
- **6 hours of sun** in Spring to Fall (some roses are more shade tolerant e.g., hybrid musk)
- **Select roses**
 - Small = front, Big = back
 - Plant-to-plant **spacing** about height of mature plant (allow access)
 - Dig a large hole and **amend** soil as needed
- **Mound** on the hole bottom to spread roots



Get Plants, Amendments

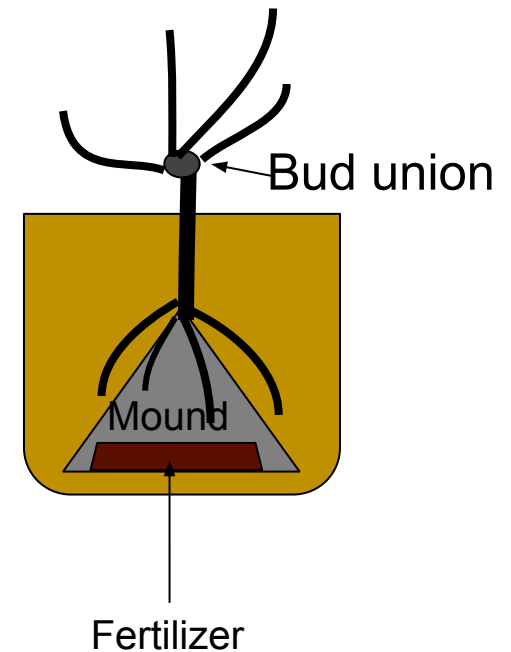
- Test your soil conditions (pH, clay, loam, sandy)
- Ideal rose pH 6-6.9. Many gardens in the Bay area have clay but some areas in SF ve sand or fill
- Get soil/planting amendments

Example Amendments



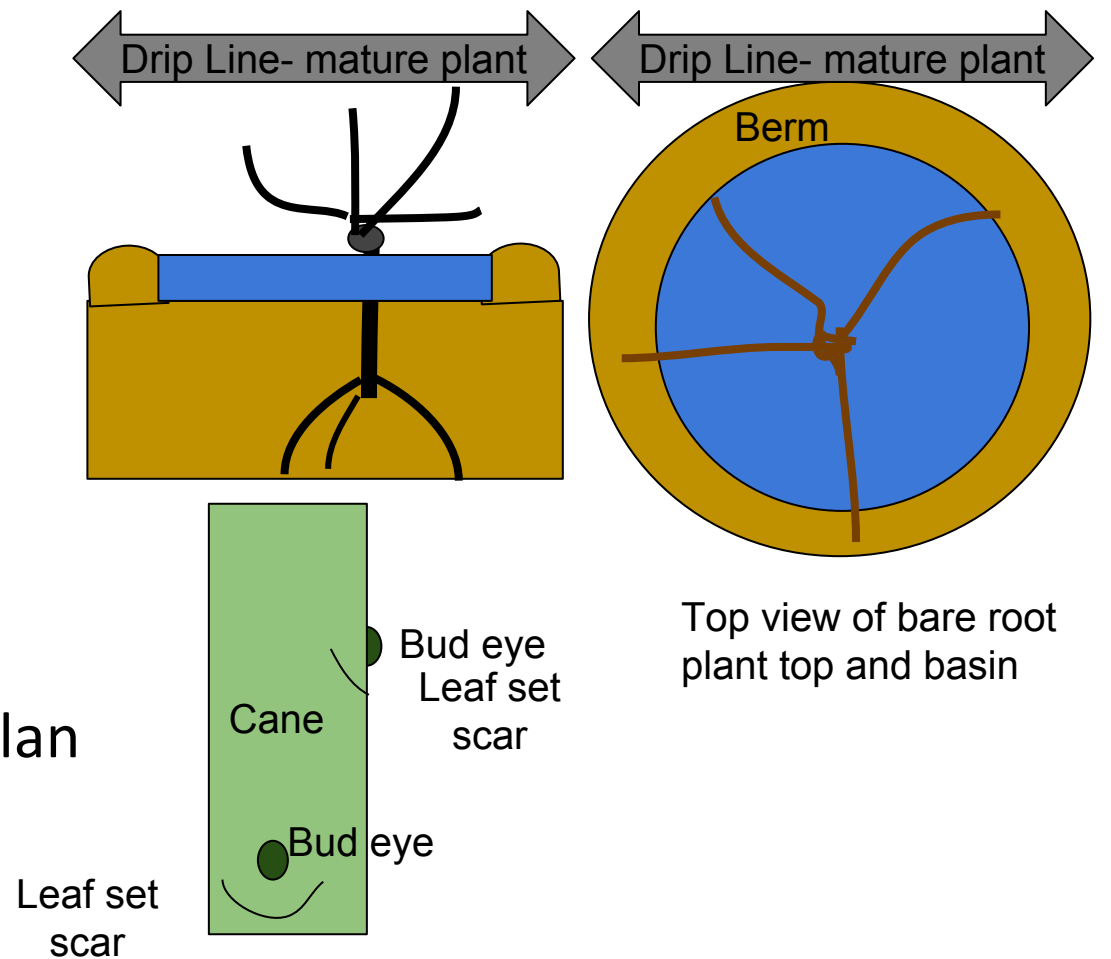
Plant (Jan - Mid Feb Bare Root)

- Bud union **above** the ground (2")
- Spread roots over mound
- Fill with amended soil mix with $\sim\frac{1}{3}$ compost (pH 6-7)
- Fertilizer mixed in hole bottom
- Wait to prune tops (canes) until they start growing and budding out
- Soak bare roots 24 hours in water with bleach (6 drops per gallon)
- Water immediately



Plant... then water and wait

- Water - keep moist
- Use a **berm/ watering basin** at the drip line
- Or put in drippers or bubblers
- ~5 gallons per plant per large plant per week if warm or dry
- When **bud eyes** swell, plan how to prune



Sharpen Your Shears

- Use a diamond dust or carbide sharpener
- Follow the old edge angle ~25 degrees
- Afterwards the edge should be able to slice paper



Existing Plant Pruning

(Repeat Bloom, Modern Roses)

- Prune ~ Jan 1- Feb 15
- Prune Old roses **after** bloom
- Prune out dead, diseased or damaged and crossing or weak canes and suckers
- Shape the plant
- Prune large plants leaving pencil size canes
- If it is getting too big, be aggressive, too small, lightly prune
- Prune to point growth buds outward

January -
February 15

Modern Rose
Pruning Time
In the SF Bay
Area



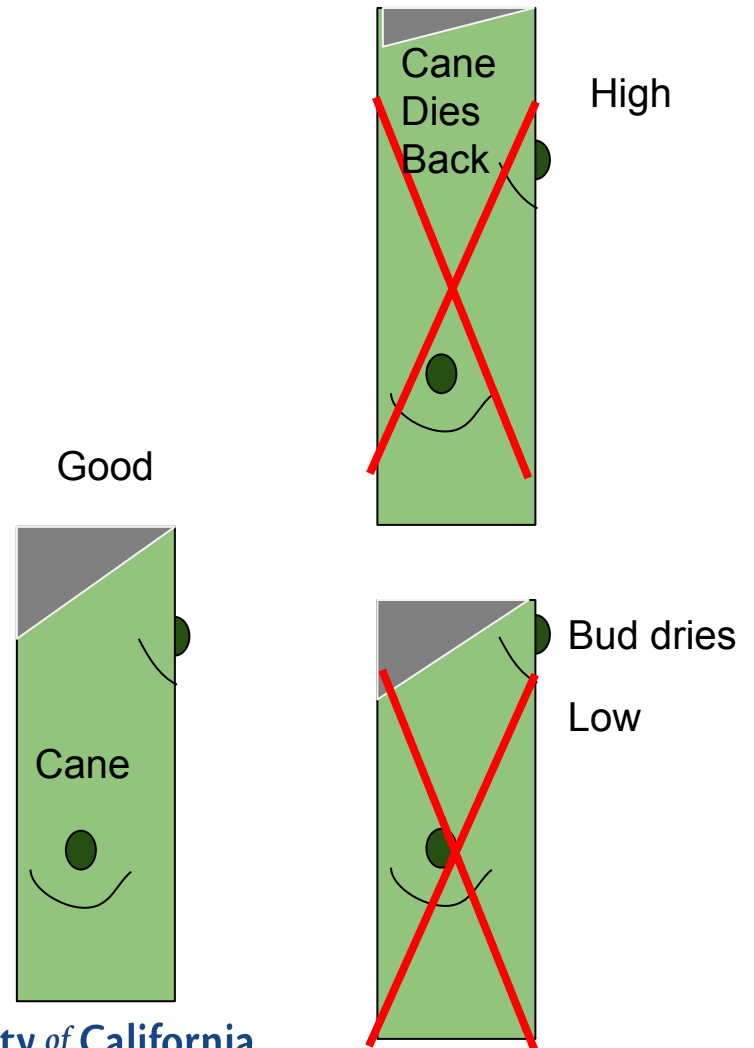
Tips for Pruning

- Dull blades crush the cane/ stem causing the cut to dry out and possibly die
- Large cuts (> ¾-1" on canes) can be sealed with white glue
- Put the sharp side on the “keep” side and the blunt blade on the discard side for cleaner cuts
- Use good gloves



Prune/cut at 45 degree angle

- Prune so it heals
- Prune to **point the growth outward**
- “Point” buds **away** from the center
- Sharp **bypass shears** not “anvil” type
- 45 degrees (a natural healing angle) ending across from bud eye
- Too high - dieback
- Too low - bud eye dries and dies



Good Cut/Bad Cut Photos

- A good cut ends across from the bud eye
- Hold the shears' sharp blade to part you keep



Good



Too High
Too Low



Prune to Clear Access

- If it is in the path, clear it out
- Some roses grow too big



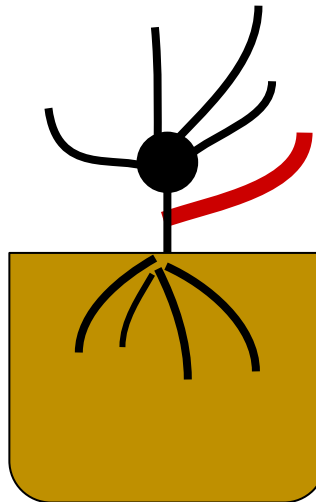
9' high "Pink Promise" in walkway



Established Plants Get Suckers

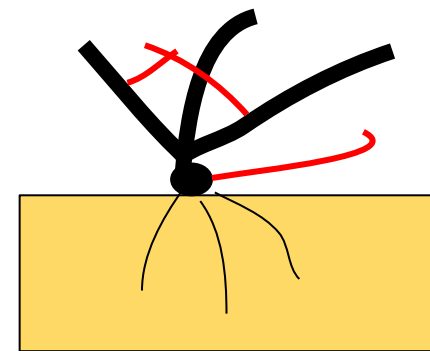
(They Suck Life Out)

- Below bud union
- Remove suckers completely
- Rootstock can sprout
- Cut flush /break off at base
- Photos are of a standard/ tree rose “trunk”
- Don’t bury bud union - hard to see suckers



Prune Large and Mini Roses

- Remove dead, diseased, crossing or very weak growth (red)
- Clear out center - leave “open vase”
- Leave strongest canes (3-5 is plenty for modern roses)
- Remove oldest canes periodically
- Floribundas leave more branching structure
- Light pruning $\sim \frac{1}{3}$;
heavy pruning $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ reduction

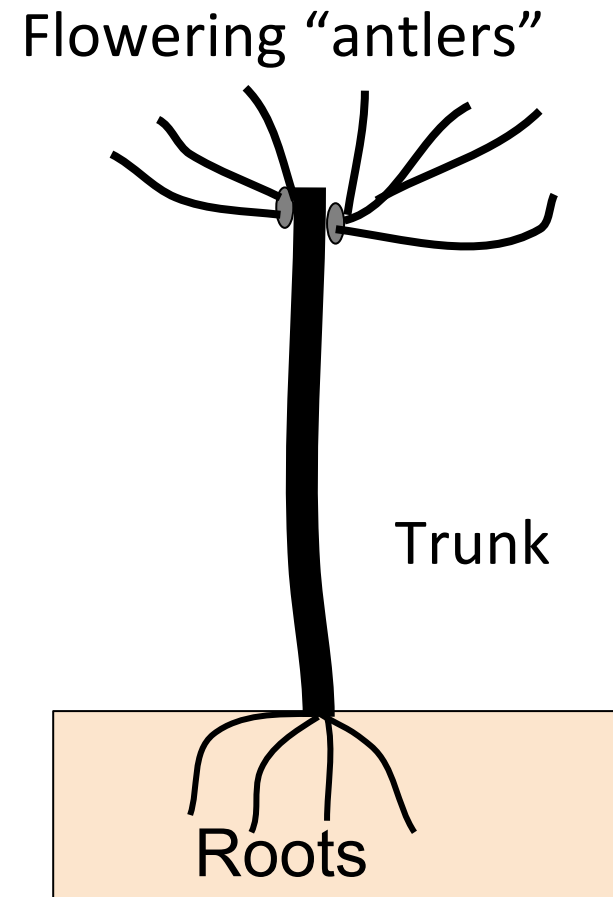


Minis have no
bud union - on
own roots



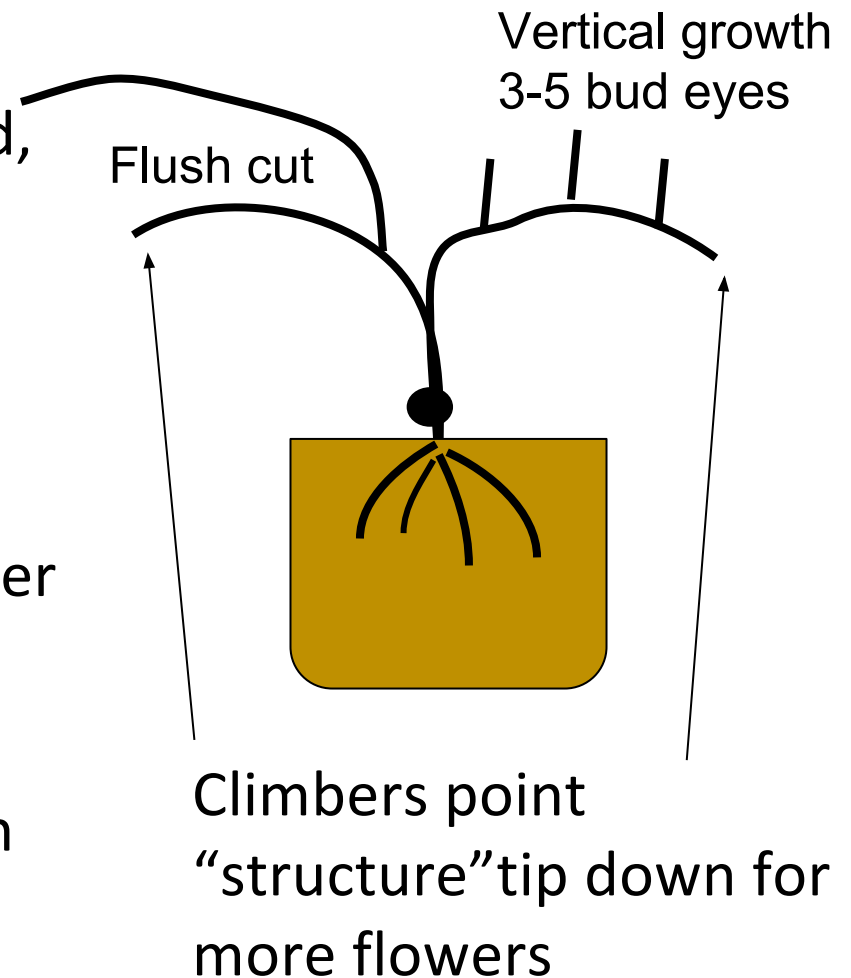
Prune- Standards (aka Tree Roses)

- Standards have four pieces
- 1- Rootstock, 2-trunk, 3&4- two budded “antlers”
- Prune the antlers
- Anything else from the roots or trunk are suckers



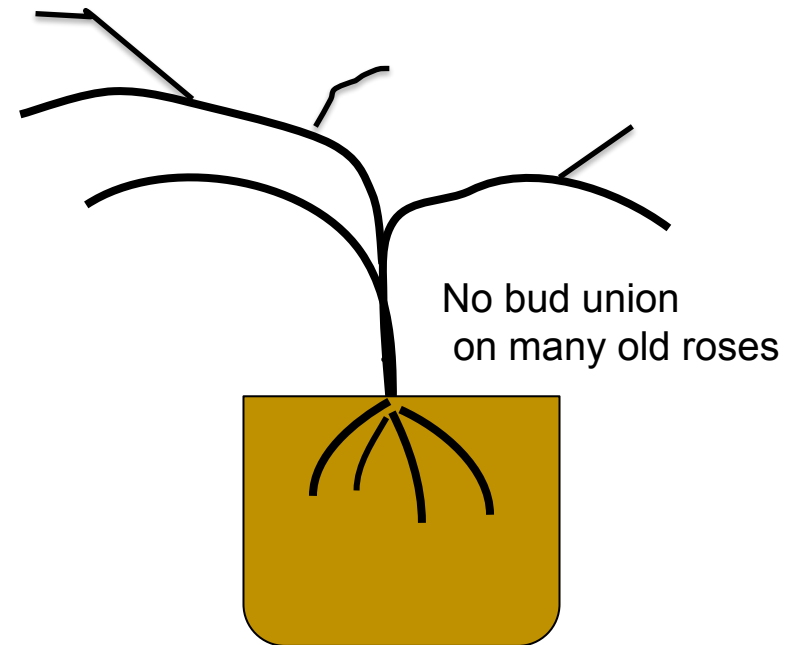
Prune- Reblooming Climbers

- Remove dead, diseased, damaged, crossing or very weak growth
- Climbers are different
 - Train for the first year don't prune – point tips DOWN
 - For trellises or arches train over the top and down
 - Prune flush to the horizontal canes or leave 3-5 bud eyes on vertical growth



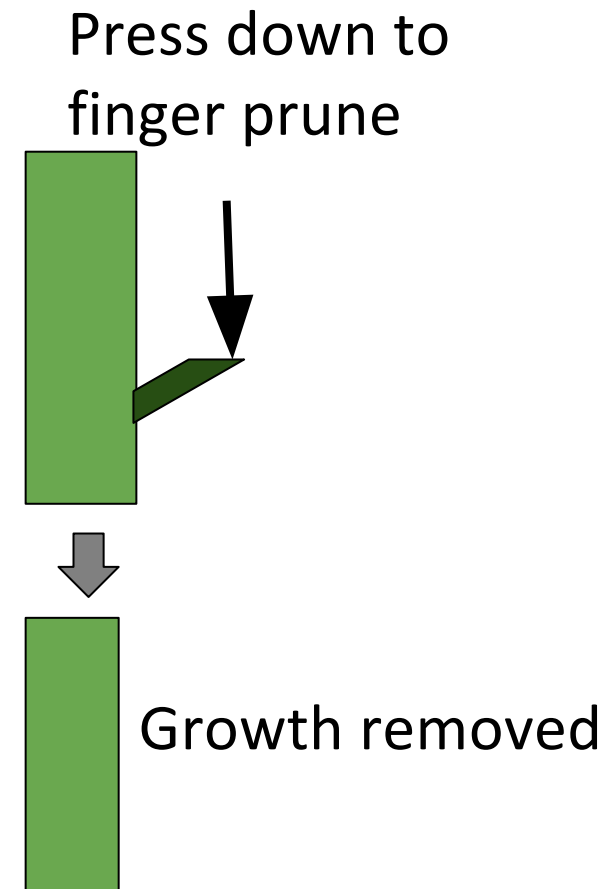
Prune- Old Roses

- “Old roses” (once blooming) need need light pruning AFTER they bloom
- Remove dead, broken, diseased, damaged, crossing or very weak growth
- Shape and prune back lightly to suit the space



After Pruning (Finger Prune)

- Weeks after you prune, buds swell and grow
- Some will “point” to the middle and be near the bottom
- With a glove, push down to remove the ones toward the center and near the bottom of main canes
- Leave other growth where you want it to be (point it)
- Keep growth from bud union



Mulch and Check Water

- If roses dry out in winter, especially new plants with growing roots, they die
- Add several inches of mulch in beds but keep **6 inches clear** around rose base
- If old mulch is good you can keep it and just add new
- Adjust watering if needed

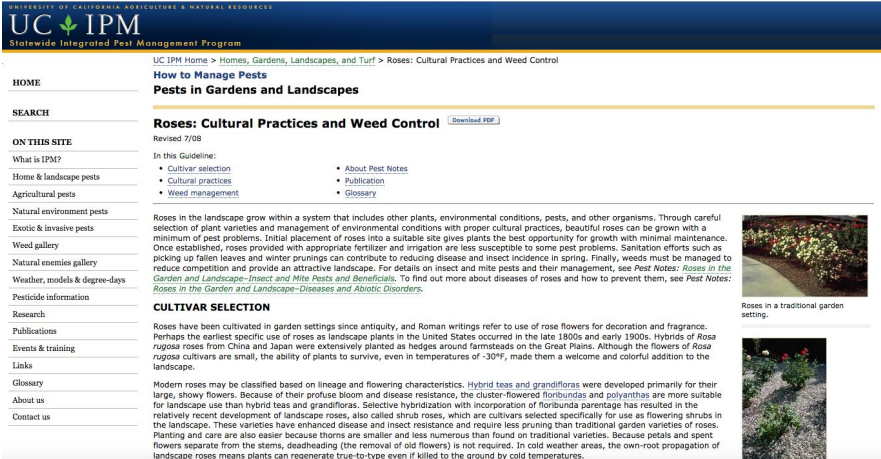


Fungal Disease, Insects

- Some roses are fairly disease free and some excel at growing fungus!
 - Rust, Powdery Mildew, Blackspot
- Common Insect pests
 - Aphids (early), Thrips, Mites

Use **UC IPM Pest Notes** to diagnose understand, manage (search: UC IPM roses pest notes)

[UC IPM Home](#) > [Homes, Gardens, Landscapes, and Turf](#)



The screenshot shows the UC IPM website page for 'Roses: Cultural Practices and Weed Control'. The page includes a navigation menu on the left with categories like HOME, SEARCH, ON THIS SITE, and various pest types. The main content area features a title 'Roses: Cultural Practices and Weed Control' with a 'Download PDF' button. Below the title, there is a 'Revised 7/08' date and a 'In this Guideline:' section with links to 'Cultivar selection', 'Cultural practices', 'Weed management', 'About Pest Notes', 'Publication', and 'Glossary'. The main text discusses rose cultivation in landscapes, mentioning environmental conditions, pest management, and the importance of sanitation. It also includes a 'CULTIVAR SELECTION' section that describes different rose varieties and their characteristics. Two photographs of roses in garden settings are included on the right side of the page.



Common Rose Problems

1. Aphids

- Check plants daily
- Wash off with water/insecticidal soap
- Use sticky traps to keep off ants



Aphid
www.
Gails
Aqua
Ponic
garde
n.com

2. Black Spot

- Prune out and dispose of infected leaf
- Fungal spores spread by splashing water



Black spots, www.apsnet.org



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Common Rose Problems

3. Mosaic Virus

- Prune out and dispose of infected leaves
- Usually disappears by summer
- Only permanent fix - remove infected plant



Mosaic Virus
www.marinrose.org

4. Powdery Mildew

- White gray powder cover the leaves, stems and flower buds
- Less insunny spot and good air circulation
- Do not over fertilize
- Apply Bicarbonate plus horticultural oil



Powdery Mildew
www.missouribotanicalgardens.org



Common Rose

5. Rust Problems

- Likes cool moist weather
- Avoid overhead watering
- Prune back infected canes
- Dispose of all infected leaves

6. Thrips

- Tiny slender yellow insects found within the blossoms
- Frequent clipping of old blooms reduces pest population



Rust,
www.apsnet.org



Thrips,
www.ent.uga.edu



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If You Spray - Dormant Spray

- Dormant = important spray
- Protect yourself- gloves, glasses, hat, long sleeves and wash up
- **READ and FOLLOW the label!**
- Spray on a day that is dry, not windy and will be dry for 24 hours
- Spray dormant canes after stripping leaves, cleaning ground
- Spray ground around the plant
- “Organic” Sprays - fewer issues for beneficial insects, microorganisms



Example “organic”
sprays



References

- Flint, M. L., and J. F. Karlik. 2000. *Healthy Roses*. Oakland: Univ. Calif. Agric. Nat. Res. Publ. 21589.

- UC IPM Pest notes

–<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7465.html>

Roses: Cultural Practices and Weed Control

–<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7466.html>

Roses: Insect and Mite Pests and Beneficials

–<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7463.html>

Roses: Diseases and Abiotic Disorders

UC Davis Rose Encyclopedia

–<http://fps.ucdavis.edu/>



Acknowledgements

Thank you for hosting and supporting this presentation:
Atherton Garden Guild

Presentation Prepared by:
Stu Dalton with several slides by Patti Spezzaferro
UCCE Master Gardeners of San Mateo & San Francisco
Counties (electronic copies available)

Photographs and illustrations by Stu Dalton, unless noted
otherwise



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**UCCE Master Gardeners
San Mateo & San Francisco Counties**

Got Questions? We're here to help:

Call our helpline at (650) 276-7430

Email questions along with an attached photo to mgsmsf@ucanr.edu

Mail questions along with a sample to
1500 Purisima Creek Road, Half Moon Bay, CA, 94019

See us in person with a sample [[map/directions](#)]

Visit our website at <http://smsf-mastergardeners.ucanr.org>

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