



Rose Lore

Mesa-East Valley Rose Society
 Affiliated with the American Rose Society

Dona L. Martin, Editor

www.roses4az-mevrs.org

June 2006

Thursday

June 8th, 7:00 p.m.

**Monthly meeting, Elsner Library
 Community Room**

"Summer Rose Care"

**It's already time to modify
 how we take care of our gardens.
 Come listen to our panel of
 experts, get some new ideas
 and solutions for common
 problems. Our new
 VP Programs LeRoy Brady
 will moderate.**

We are helping with carpools for
 those who are interested.
 Call Dona Martin for information

Your friends and family are always
 welcome. Refreshments will be served.
 Bring your rose questions
 and concerns.
 See you there!

Paid your dues yet??

**STEVE'S TOP TEN
 OGR TIPS**

**By Steve Jones
 ARS Vice President**

Old garden roses (OGRs) and shrubs
 are becoming more popular every
 day. Before you go out and buy eve-
 rything in sight, here are some help-
 ful tips:

**1) Determine how you are going
 to use the rose.** It may sound odd,
 but to get the best rose, you need to
 have an idea where and how are you
 going to use it, and then search for
 the best fit. Examples would be in a
 pot, on a pillar, trellis, tree, stand-
 alone, etc.

**2) Check with your local rose
 society** – It is important to find out
 what grows well and the size of the
 rose in your area. This is where Con-
 sulting Rosarians can help. You can
 get size, disease resistance, etc. in-
 formation that is applicable here. For
 example, once bloomers do well in
 SCV because we get a lot of chill
 hours, while close to the beach and
 lowlands, they get little to no freeze
 and don't perform as well.

**3) Determine if you want budded
 or own root plants** – A budded
 plant will get bigger quicker, but an
 own-root will survive longer in my
 opinion. For roses that spread by
 suckers, such as gallicas, mosses and
 species roses, it may be best to get a
 budded plant unless you want a large
 ticket forming and taking over your
 yard.

**4) Search for the best rose to fill
 that spot** – This is where the Inter-
 net helps. There are several excellent
 OGR nurseries including Antique
 Rose Emporium, Heirloom Roses,
 Roses Unlimited, and Vintage
 Gardens. To find a specific rose, try

www.helpmefind.com/roses or the
 Combined Rose List, which lists all
 roses that are commercially available
 and by what nurseries. A must for
 OGR people.

5) Check for disease problems –
 Powdery mildew is one of the main
 diseases we get here. Many of the
 OGRs do have problems with mildew
 so if you want to grow them, you will



Victorian Award
 'Francis Dubreuil'
 Shown by Steve Jones

either have to plant in an area with
 good air circulation or spray. Gallicas,
 mosses, centifolias, chinas and dam-
 asks are more prone to mildew than
 the other classes. Albas are one of
 the cleanest rose classes for diseases.

**6) Don't overlook the once
 bloomers** – Many people are spoiled
 by today's roses that seem to bloom
 continually. Once you see a display of
 Lady Banks (Rosa banksiae) or some
 of the old ramblers such as Newport
 Fairy in full bloom, you will fall in
 love. The plant is literally covered
 with thousands of blooms. A once
 blooming rose often blooms longer
 than most other flowering plants,

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MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS

The following nurseries will give MEVRS members a 10% discount (unless otherwise indicated) on any rose-related purchase when you show your membership card. In some stores you must pay by cash or check only to receive the discount.

Be sure to get your annual Membership Card from the Membership Chairman.

A & P Nurseries

All three East Valley locations
(15% off all products, except
Advertised Specials.)

Pine needle much now in stock

****New Delivery May 6th**

**2601 E. Baseline Rd.
480-892-7939**

Baker's Nursery

3414 N. 40th St., Phx

Berridge Nursery

**4647 E. Camelback Rd., Phx
Potted roses always in stock!**

Gardener's World

3401 E. Baseline Rd., Phx

Harper's Nursery

**Three locations:
Mesa, Scottsdale and Phx**

Summer Winds Nursery

**3160 S. Country Club Dr., Mesa
480-892-1469**

**When you patronize
these businesses, please
remember to thank the
manager for supporting
the MEVRS!**

President's Message

By Dona Martin

I believe that many of you know who I am, but I want to quickly share a bit about how I got here, in this position and in the others in which I serve.

In spring of 1995, I planted my first roses, with some help and advice from our friend, **Barbara Schoenberg**. About two years later, I visited the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society...and stayed. **Marylou Coffman** invited me to serve on the Board to replace a member who had left with medical problems, serving as VP Programs. By that time, I had over two hundred roses and the MCC Rose Garden was in its infancy.

After a while, I wondered why we didn't have a website. So I bought a book and made one, hoping for a committee of internet savvy helpers. Because of the type of work and time it takes to keep the site updated, I ended up being a committee of one, most of the time. I had also been invited to write articles from time to time for other rose publications and when the opportunity came up to edit the newsletter, I gladly accepted it. I continue to enjoy both of these endeavors and work for constant improvement in their quality and value to the viewer/reader. I have also served on ARS national committees, as well as editing our PSW District newsletter.

After being on and off and on the board again for the past few years, I am please to be able to serve as President. We have grown from 35 or 40 members when I started to over 200 memberships. There is an amazing amount of talent in our organization and as it continues to grow and evolve, I hope we can get to know each other better, to share the responsibilities that come with the rose shows, auctions, garden tours and other events and promote with the public our love of all things roses.

In May we enjoyed our annual potluck dinner, generously contributed by our members, followed by the installation of the **Officers and Board of Directors for 2006-2007**. A special thank you goes to **Bob Martin**, our current ARS Pacific Southwest District Director, for performing the installation ceremony. As many of you know, he is a special support to me and to our club, bringing over thirty years of rose growing expertise, awarding winning writing and leadership to our club, to Arizona and to the American Rose Society. He serves there on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and is currently running for national vice president. Together we grow over 400 roses of all types and love our many rose friends all over the country. Or, as Bob says, even the friends we have not yet met!

In addition to the installation, we awarded the **ARS Bronze Medal** to **Phyllis Humphry**. This is the highest American Rose Society award presented to a member of a local society. It is given to someone who has shown outstanding service to the society, above and beyond that of most other actively involved members. We have many members who contribute regularly to our society, but Phyllis has generously given enormous amounts of time and energy to the society, as well as to the Deadheader Volunteers at MCC, co-chairing that huge job with Carol Poe. **Congratulations Phyllis!**

So now we are off on another adventure and I look forward to serving our society and the American Rose Society. Bob and I also encourage you to investigate membership in the ARS, which will enrich your knowledge and enjoyment of our National Flower, the rose. See you on July 8th.

Dues were due June 1st! Please be prompt!

Rose Care for June 2005

by Dona Martin, ARS Consulting Rosarian

Hot weather started early this year. It hits gardeners as well, so advance preparation will allow for healthy, stress resistant plants, to keep the maintenance reasonable! Beds should be mulched with *at least* two to four inches of forest mulch or pine needles, which will keep the ground cooler, assist in moisture retention and discourage weeds. Pine needles, as available from White Mountain Pine at A & P Nursery's Gilbert location, are less than the cost of mulch, last much longer and upon breaking down, help neutralize our alkaline soils.

IRRIGATION - If you flood irrigate, water deeply two to three times a week. If you drip irrigate, water three to four times per week, a minimum of 4 to 5 gallons each time. Water needs to be able to soak down 18-24" below the surface of the bed. Notice how long it takes for the wells around the roses to drain. If water sits for too long, you may need to add a soil sulfur product such as Dispersul or Tiger Brand Soil Sulfur, which helps open up the soil structure. Another aid in promoting water penetration is to water a second time in the same day once a month or more. This allows the water to move lower and wider, washing the salts in the soil further away from the root system. This helps prevent salt burn on the roots of the plant.

If you grow roses in pots, water four to seven times per week because of more rapid transpiration and lower capacity. Deep watering pots at least once every two weeks will help push salts out of the root zones here as well. It is also good to hose off your roses at least once a week. Use a water wand, with an adjustable jet nozzle on the end. Spray the tops and undersides of the leaves. This will increase the humidity around the bushes, clean dust off the leaves and knock off any lingering spider mites you might have. If spider mites continue to be destructive, there are a number of good miticides on the market. These include Avid, Hexygon, and Floramite (which kills both adults and eggs), to be used per instructions on the label. Be sure to read our article on spider mites, pages 8 and 9!

FERTILIZING – Fertilize at half rate at least every six weeks during the summer. Use a good organic fertilizer like Groganic Rose Food (still available from Mike Jepsen), along with alfalfa meal. Apply ½ cup rose food and ½ cup alfalfa meal on June 1st, July

15th and September 1st. The organic products nourish the soil, adding micronutrients and other biologically important substances, like food for earth worms. Alternatively, an inexpensive granular 12-12-12 or 20-20-20 fertilizer can be applied at 1/3 to 1/2 the normal rate. A time release fertilizer like Osmocote is also very good, but will only last about sixty days (not 90) because of the heat and watering. Messenger can be used throughout the summer to promote

Do not forget to water deeply both before and after fertilizing, very important steps to prevent fertilizer burn damage. This also allows the fertilizers to be washed down through the mulch into the soil. Roses and other plants still need to be fed during the summer so that they will be healthy enough to start growing again when the weather becomes more hospitable. By reducing the amount of fertilizer, we do not risk stimulating excessive new growth which would burn even more easily.

DEADHEADING – It is important during this time to remove spent blooms on a regular basis. A number of rose growers experimented with leaving them on, but this resulted in the bushes becoming so dormant that they made a slower return in the fall. The roses will also think it is time to start making hips (seeds), causing energy to be spent there instead of in foliage production. We have, however, found that deadheading very conservatively, cutting at a shorter distance below the bloom and leaving as many leaves as possible, resulted in healthier plants for two reasons. First, more leaves are present to provide more protection of the canes from the sun. Second, there are more leaves providing nutrition to the plant. This is especially important if spider mites hit, causing the loss of leaves on the lower half of the bush. Follow these steps throughout the summer months!

With our "extended summer," the suggestions above will continue to apply to your monthly rose care routine for the next three to four months. So if the ideas sound redundant, it is because they are! As they say, "It isn't rocket science." It is **consistent care** of our gardens that allow us the opportunity to enjoy them twelve months a year instead of only two or three or four. Spread the jobs out and do them as you can in the cool of the early morning. Remember, when it comes to summer care, we aren't looking for perfection, just consistency!

(Continued from page 1) **OGR Tips**

such as tulips, Carolina Jessamine, fruit trees, etc. [e.g., gallicas bloom here for 2 months]

7) Feed them heavy – All roses love to be fed heavily, they are pigs when it comes to fertilizer. I find organics work real well with OGRs.

8) Beware of heavily armed roses – Don't plant a heavily thorned rose or one with sharp, hooked thorns near a place where it will reach out and grab you or your clothes. I often have this problem with Newport Fairy if a branch drops out of the tree.

9) Prune at the right time – Once-bloomers need to be pruned after they are done blooming. Many will only bloom off of year-old wood. The repeat bloomers can be pruned in winter, but not as heavy as modern roses.

10) Join OGR groups. The Heritage Rose Foundation and Heritage Rose Group are devoted to OGRs and old roses. The Dallas Area Historical Rose Society is one of many local societies dedicated to OGRs. The American Rose Society has an OGR specialty bulletin, the OGR & Shrub Gazette. There are also OGR blogs on the Internet as well.

[Reprinted from June 2006 *Rose Ecstasy*, Kitty Belendez Editor]

More on Old Garden Roses that do well in Arizona...



In both photos above, the spring blooming gallica rose Cardinal de Richelieu adds its deep purple hue in special OGR collections. Shown above left with pale peach noisette, Souvenir de Mme de l'Avocat, a PSWD Convention winner. Above right, the Scottsdale Challenge class with the Green Rose, which always adds great texture to arrangements, 1891 tea Mons Tillier, fragrant icy pink hybrid perpetual (1860) *Enfant de France* and *L'Ouche*, a smaller medium pink 1901 china rose from the Fineschi Rose Garden in Italy.



**OGR
Commentary and
photos of award
winning show
entries
by Dona Martin**

Mme. Isaac Perriere, above, thrives in warm weather, with masses of medium pink blooms on long lax canes. Great as a small climber on an obelisk or "pegged", with the long, lax canes pulled horizontally to the ground. On the right, one of our best known OGRs is *Rose de Rescht*, named for a city in Persia where it was found. It is an ancient damask rose of unknown origin and great for a smaller spot in the garden. Also among the top exhibition roses in the country.





Pictured above is the ancient *Rosa rugosa* Alba. Notice the "rugose" foliage, a ribbed texture to the thick leaves. One of the rugosa family's most beautiful specimens, the sheer, pure white petals make the yellow gold stamens and center green pip stand out prominently. Rugosa like neither spraying nor deadheading!

Finally, let's look at the beautiful rose Eugene de Beauharnais, particularly as an example of what is to me so fascinating about old garden roses. The real Eugene de Beauharnais was born in Paris, France and became the stepson and adopted child of Napoleon, following the execution of his father during the revolutionary Reign of Terror. His sister was the Empress Josephine. He lives on in this beautiful china rose of unknown parentage, was introduced in 1838 by Hardy. It's eye-catching dark mauve shaded to purple, quartered blooms, a great OGR for small spaces, even in a large pot.



Consulting Rosarian Corner

By Steve Sheard, Consulting Rosarian

This is the month when our Bermuda grass starts going crazy in our gardens. There is finally some help for rose growers, as you will see in this product review.

Fusilade II

Grass control – including Bermuda!

What is it: The active ingredient in Fusilade II is Fluazifop-P-butyl, in a 24.5% solution. It is a very effective selective herbicide for the control of specific grasses in landscape areas, nurseries, greenhouses and interior-scapes for both commercial and residential use. This includes use in and around flowers. It is easy to use, has a low odor and can be used on a wide range of ornamentals.

What does it do:

It is a "Caution" classified product and the label gives directions for use on a large variety of plants. It works best when the grass is growing well as it gets absorbed and works its way throughout the plant, killing the roots as well as the top growth. Spraying on dormant Bermuda grass in the winter will have little effect.

How to use it:

The label has instructions for large areas as well as mixing it down to 1 gallon. The strength I use is 0.75 oz. per one gallon of water. Mixed in a one or two gallon sprayer, it can be applied directly over the roses and other plants. The more you get on the grass rather than the other plants the better! It is also best to use a non-ionic surfactant for better, more even absorption. This can be Indicate 5 or in this case, a few drops of dish soap will work as well. It is best to follow the label and cover up – as with any chemical you spray, the less on you the better. According to the label, "application in the evening, at night, or under cloudy conditions will enhance translocation of Fusilade II Herbicide and increase systemic control." In other words, it gives it more time to work its way through the grass prior to breaking down.

Testimonial: Steve Sheard.

I have used it for two seasons and find that it works wonders. This year I decided to trust the label and spray it over my other bedding plants, (petunias, snap dragons, sweet peas, pansies.) It killed the grass and the bedding plants thrived at not having the grass to compete with. HOWEVER – It does take its time, like 3 to 4 weeks, so be patient. It will take more than one spraying to eliminate the Bermuda grass completely. Of course if it is growing nearby it will return, so stay on top of it.

We use it in the rose garden at MCC to control the grass.

Where to buy it:

There are a number of online mail order sites that sell Fusilade II. It is available locally from Wilbur-Ellis in Tempe – (480) 921-8500.

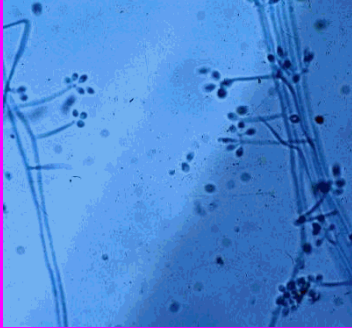
Label available at SygentaProfessionalProducts.com

Dr. Tom Volk's Fungus of the Month:

Sporothrix schenckii

cause of Rose-picker's Disease

For the rest of his pages on fungi, please click
TomVolkFungi.net



When drinking wine amongst the roses
Or guzzling beer while throwing bricks
Or playing games in bales of hay
Where lurks the tricky sporothrix,
Beware, the price you pay for play
When you get struck by dread mycoses

---author unknown

[Feb. 2003] In this month of Valentine's Day and love and flowers and all that, what could be a better choice than a fungus that grows on roses? More specifically *Sporothrix schenckii* grows on the thorns of roses and can be inoculated into the body by an innocent prick of the thorn. The fungus can then morph to a yeast and grow in the lymph system, manifesting itself as lesions in the lymph nodes, as shown below and to the right. You can actually trace the location of this person's lymph nodes in his arm. The fungus in this case was acquired with the puncture of a rose thorn.

We generally characterize mycoses by which part of the body they colonize. Most patients are not even aware of their superficial mycoses, which only grow on dead skin, hair and nails, because they never secrete their metabolites into the body. The cutaneous mycoses infect skin, hair, and nails and secrete their metabolites into the skin,

Sporotrichosis showing at each lymph node



so that the person is definitely aware of the infection. An example of this is *Epidermophyton floccosum*, one of the causes of athlete's foot. In subcutaneous mycoses, the fungus must be traumatically implanted into the body. The deep (aka systemic) mycoses are inhaled into the lungs and subsequently are transported to other internal organs, usually through the bloodstream.

Most commonly, sporotrichosis is a chronic infection characterized by nodular lesions of subcutaneous tissue and adjacent lymphatics that suppurate (make pus), ulcerate (digest the tissue) and drain. There are several kinds of diseases that may be caused by *Sporothrix*

- lymphocutaneous infection: localized lymphocutaneous sporotrichosis
- Osteoarticular sporotrichosis -- bone and joints may be infected
- Keratitis-- the eye and adjacent areas may be infected
- Systemic infection-- Occasionally central nervous system is invaded
- Pulmonary sporotrichosis, about 25% of cases. Caused by inhalation of conidia

In nature *Sporothrix* lives as a saprophyte on wood, decaying vegetation (including rose thorns), *Sphagnum* moss, animal excreta and soil. *Sporothrix* can also cause lung infections, and is particularly abundant in central Wisconsin and other areas where *Sphagnum* moss is abundant. *Sporothrix* can naturally grow on *Sphagnum* moss, but it is only rarely transmitted to humans in the field. However, when this moss is collected and used for floral arrangements, this provides the right conditions for *Sporothrix* to thrive. Workers who are exposed to large quantities of the *Sphagnum* are likely to inhale large quantities of *Sporothrix* spores. To the left is a little sphagnum bear sent to me by some of the moss collectors in central Wisconsin.

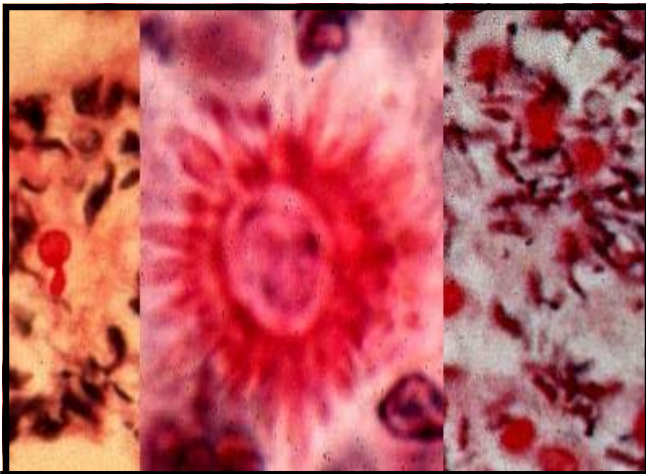
Although Sporotrichosis is the only common subcutaneous mycosis the temperate zone, the tropics and subtropics host a variety of other subcutaneous mycoses, such as Chromoblastomycosis, Mycetoma, Pseudallescheriasis, and Phaeoerythromycosis. None of the fungi that cause these diseases can infect the subcutaneous regions on their own-- they need some sort of trauma to the body, such as a wound or puncture, that inoculates the spores of the fungus into the lower regions of the skin.

Diagnosis of sporotrichosis must be confirmed (i.e. distinguished from the other subcutaneous mycoses) by looking at sections of infected tissue. Budding yeasts can often be seen in histopathological sections of the lesions. However, depending on the conditions and the strain of fungus, sometimes these sections contain cigar bodies or asteroid bodies instead of (or in addition to) the yeasts. There seems to be quite a bit of variability even within a single patient. The other subcutaneous mycoses have their own distinctive histopathologies.

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Diagnosis of the disease can sometimes be aided by the sporotrichin skin test. Patients with all forms of the disease develop circulating antibodies. Although it is not clear whether these are of any protective value, they do allow for serological confirmation of the disease. There is a skin test available, similar to the skin prick tuberculosis (TB) test. However, although such tests are usually positive in cases of pulmonary infection, they are mostly negative in cases of skin infection. People living in high endemic areas develop a hypersensitivity response to a skin test. Upon subsequent exposures to the fungus, this hypersensitivity appears to either prevent the disease or at least modify it to a less severe form. The skin test may also be useful in determining prevalence of the organism in an area; in regions where no cases have been reported, almost all people test negative.

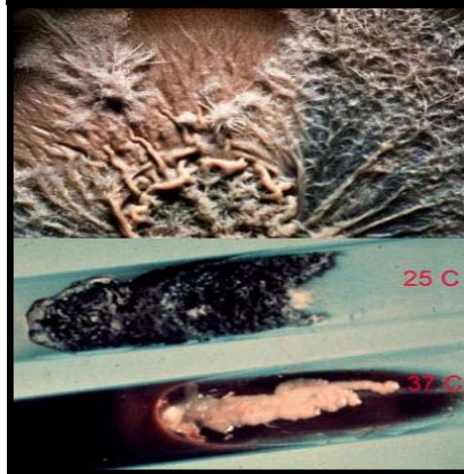


Yeast, asteroid body, cigar bodies in Histopathology of Sporotrichosis

The disease responds well to treatment with a saturated solution of oral potassium iodide. Although it works against cutaneous infection the mode of action unknown. Direct application of heat may kill the fungus in early infection, especially in more distal lesions. Ketoconazole may have some effect in cutaneous infection. Itraconazole shows some promise at low doses for several months. Intravenous Amphotericin B, usually the drug of last resort for fungal infections, works poorly and slowly.

Sporothrix schenckii is one of five species of thermal dimorphic fungi of medical interest. Dimorphic fungi produce hyphae *in vitro* (literally "in glass") at temperatures below 37°C, but produce a yeast form *in vivo* (literally "in living things") and *in vitro* at 37°C and above. Many studies have been made of the morphological and physiological changes and changes in cellular composition that accompany the dimorphism. Newly isolated cultures produce moist yeast like colonies with a flat or finely wrinkled surfaces. White to creamy, but becomes dark brown or black. Pigmentation is extremely variable. Two kinds of conidia: hyaline and thin-walled or dark brown and thick-walled (triangular). Sometimes in culture for a long time the fungus loses its

Sporothrix colony, morphing from fuzzy mycelium to slimy yeast



pigmentation. The colony shown to the left is in the process of morphing from the hyphal to the yeast form. Note the fuzzy mycelium and the slimy yeast. Yeast formation at 37°C is an extension of the blastoconidiation process.

Acropetalous budding (i.e. from the top) of conidia borne on mycelia was thought to be the source of the yeast, but it was shown that yeast cells bud directly from the sides of the mycelium.

Sporothrix schenckii may be closely related to *Ophiostoma minus*, a perithecial member of the Ascomycota related to the organisms causing Dutch elm disease, *Ophiostoma ulmi* and *O. novo-ulmi*. (see Berbee, M.L. and J.W. Taylor. 1992. 18s ribosomal RNA gene sequence characters place the human pathogen *Sporothrix schenckii* in the genus *Ophiostoma*. *Experimental Mycology* 16: 87-91). Like *Ophiostoma*, in nature *Sporothrix* lives as a saprophyte on wood, decaying vegetation, animal excreta and soil. However, no one has been able to observe the conversion to the *Ophiostoma* teleomorph directly, so *Sporothrix schenckii* must remain classified in the deuteromycetes. In terms of its pathogenicity, I guess it doesn't really matter what we call it. As Shakespeare might have written (to be said aloud, using your best British accent),

"What's in a name? That which we call *Sporothrix* by any other word would still cause subcutaneous mycosis."

---from *Romeo and Sporothrix* - (1595) Act II. - Scene 2. - Rows: 47-48

I hope you learned something about *Sporothrix* today. All of the pictures on this page are from my good friend Dr. John Rippon, who has given me almost all of his medical mycology slides.

I hope you have a Happy Valentine's Day. But watch out for those roses... and the motive of the person who gave them to you!

This page and other pages are © Copyright 2003 by Thomas J. Volk, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

[Ed. Note: I included this article because this is a risk in pruning without gloves. I did not wear them very often until I saw pictures of what happened to a rosarian in TX.]

An Interview with *Tetranychus Urticae*

By Robert B. Martin Jr.

During the year, the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society presents speakers monthly to address many aspects of rose culture. With the advent of summer, it occurred to me that during this time of year there appears in our rose gardens a prominent resident who, because of its size, has yet to appear at a meeting. I am speaking of the spider mite. To remedy this neglect I have undertaken to interview *Tetranychus Urticae* — the “two spotted spider mite”. There follows a report of this interview.

Although *Tetranychus Urticae* proved difficult to see, even with a large magnifying glass, I had little difficulty locating his many companions in their silk webs amid several yellowed leaves on our ‘Rose de Rescht’. The leaves had what might be described as a “salt and pepper” appearance. They had also built a large canopy of webs covering several adjacent blooms.

I found *Tetranychus* sipping on plant juice — a practice he continued throughout the interview pausing only long enough for a polite answer to my questions. In appearance I found *Tetranychus* to be quite unusual in spite of his rather small stature. His flattened oval body was less than 1/32 of an inch in diameter, however the pair of fang like appendages in front of his mouth were impressive. He appeared to have little color although a pale green or yellow with dark spots may be a more accurate description. The weather being unusually pleasant, as it has through most of the spring, I turned first to this subject.

Reporter: “*Tetranychus* — I realize that a discussion of the weather may seem trivial in beginning an important interview, but since the weather has been so unusually mild this spring, I was wondering if you’d care to comment on it?”

Tetranychus: “Certainly. The weather has been a subject of considerable interest to us this spring. Ordinarily, my friends and I like to visit the garden in the summer months. Winters are very hard on us and most of us die of the winter cold. But the weather this spring has been nicely dry and warm, giving us a good start on the summer months.”



Entire Lavaglut bush covered with webbing, particularly in a full canopy effect over the many sprays.

Reporter: “Is this a matter of preference or is there some benefit to your species from the heat?”

Tetranychus: “Both. We tend to prefer heat, but not sunshine — mind you — which explains why we are all gathered in the shade provided by the underside of these leaves. The heat assists in the rapid development of our young. Under the best weather conditions our families can produce as many as ten generations within a successful growing season.”

Reporter: “At the risk of prying into personal matters, perhaps you might care to describe to our readers your reproductive practices?”

Tetranychus: “Well — it’s nothing too exciting, but it is a little complicated. Our females lay eggs that hatch in 5 to 8 days, depending on the weather. Our infants are called the protonymph stage and later molt into juveniles in the deutonymph stage. Both nymph stages have four legs. Then they reach the adult stage with 8 legs. The time from egg to adult normally requires about 3 weeks, but takes less time if the weather is nicely hot and dry. I should add we are quite proud of our eggs and youngsters, as they are unusually strong. When humans try to kill us, they often survive while the adults do not.”

Reporter: “Anything else unusual about your sex life?”

Tetranychus: “Not really — our males do like to protect unmated females by shooting silk to ward off competitors — but I suspect this is about as unusual as we get.”

Reporter: “I’ve noticed as we’ve been speaking, that you seem to be enjoying the plant juice you’ve been sucking on. Is this your typical diet?”

Tetranychus: “Yes — that and plant tissue. We enjoy plant tissue and juices from a variety of indoor and outdoor plants. In fact, when cooler weather arrives we often move indoors. You will notice we are quite serious feeders and are generally motionless during meals — at least until we’re disturbed.”

Reporter: “I’ve noticed quite a number of yellowed leaves surrounding you — is that caused by your feeding?”

Tetranychus: “Oh yes. Our feeding tends to yellow the leaves and cause them to drop off. Fortunately, there seems to be an ample supply in the garden here. Like your writer, Horatio Alger, we like to start at the bottom and work our way up. But when the weather is really nice, like it has been lately, the

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crowds get so big that we finish off the leaves on a rose bush in two or three days. That is — unless we're disturbed."

Reporter: "You've mentioned being 'disturbed' several times. You don't like being disturbed I gather?"

Tetranychus: "No we don't. We're easily disturbed which causes us to run crazy over our webs."

Reporter: "What causes you and your friends to become 'disturbed'?"

Tetranychus: "Well, there are a number of things. We usually get pretty excited with the mating business 'cause we have this thing, maybe it's a scent, or something — I think I heard somewhere that it's called a "pheromone" — that really gets us excited and running around. But what bugs us is that we've found some gardeners have been spraying a synthetic version of it called "Stirrup M" and then cruelly mixing it with poisons, so we get all excited and run around in the poison, causing many more deaths in our population."

Reporter: "Anything else?"

Tetranychus: "Well, I should mention that we are really annoyed by water. I'm not speaking of water directed from above, as our preference for the underside of leaves generally protects us from

rain or overhead watering. However, water in a hard, fine stream directed from the bottom tends to knock off most of us and drown quite a few." But as I have said, our eggs and youngsters are pretty tough and often survive."

Reporter: "I take it then that you are not fond of water wands?"

Tetranychus: "Absolutely not — hate the things."

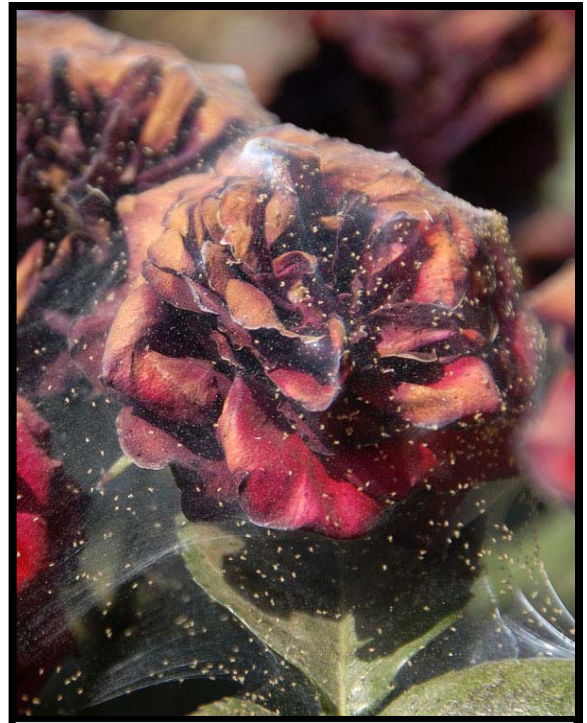
Reporter: "How about soap?"

Tetranychus: "Funny you should mention that. We've noticed some older humans toss their dishwater on us. However, this has little effect other than to temporarily disturb our feeding."

Reporter: "How about insecticides?"

Tetranychus: "Doesn't bother us much — we are not insects. The water it is mixed in is annoying though. If you want to kill us, you'll have to use a miticide, but don't tell anyone that because most gardeners don't know the difference."

Reporter: "Since you're known as a 'spider' mite does this mean you are related to spiders?"



From the Martin garden, unfortunately!
Photos by Dona Martin

Tetranychus: "Absolutely. Like spiders, we are considered arachnids. Did you know that we are the largest non-insect class, with over 75,000 named species worldwide?"

Reporter: "No I didn't. Anyway, my time is running short. Would you care to comment on your future plans?"

Tetranychus: "Well personally I intend to continue enjoying this juice — in fact, I think I'll catch a web over to the next leaf there — where, if the humans are willing, I'll continue to enjoy the summer days."

Reporter: "Good-bye then. Thank you for the interview."

Tetranychus: "Don't mention it — I've enjoyed our visit. By the way, you should mention to your readers that we've been around for over 350 million years. I would suspect therefore, it would not be presumptuous for me to say — we'll be around."

Reporter: "I'm sure you will be."

[*Editor's Note: "Stirrup M" now available for "spidiemergencies" from Wilber-Ellis stores, special order, in 8 oz size.! This is so important to add to Floramite, Avid and Hexygon to improve their efficacy.*]



Floribunda Amazing Grace, also covered with thick, glossy webbing and spider mites rampant inside the webs. After deadheading and cleaning with water wand, Floramite w/Stirrup M was applied. Mites are gone.

**The Rose Society of Tucson Hosts
ARS Consulting Rosarian
School & Seminar**

**Sunday, July 30, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 or 4:00 p.m.**

**The Windmill Inn of Tucson
4250 N. Campbell Avenue,
Tucson, AZ 85718**

**(520) 577-0007 or (800) 547-4747
Room Rates - \$79, \$69 with**

AAA or AARP Discount

**Deadline for CR Seminar Registration is
July 24, 2006**

Cost: \$25 per person

Includes Seminar, Morning Refreshment and Lunch

**Mail registration form and a check payable to
the Rose Society of Tucson to:**

**Judy Singer
1631 Calle Altivo
Tucson, AZ 85718**

For more information contact Judy at jude@hot-roses.com or (520) 529-6020

**HOW TO RECEIVE
OUR EMAILS!**



**To receive the MEVRS
emails regarding activities,
the newsletter and other
communications, please be sure that
Madge Thomas's e-mail address is in
your address book!**

madgethomas@cox.net

ARS National Convention Schedule

Join the **American Rose Society** and join us at these great events! Meet rosarians from around the country, see area gardens and attend educational seminars, so it's tax deductible!

June 21 - 26, 2006

2006 ARS Spring National Convention & Rose Show - Bellevue Doubletree Hotel

Bellevue, WA (Seattle area)

Contact: Kenneth Sheppard

206-883-6197 / ksheppard@sksp.com

July 21 - 23, 2006

2006 All Miniature Rose Show & Conference

Wyndham Harrisburg-Hershey

Harrisburg, PA Contact: Glenn Smith / 717-938-9991

rosyrmblns@aol.com / Website: YorkAreaRoseSociety.com



Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Officers & Board of Directors 2006-2007

Left to right, Madge Thomas, Dave Presley standing in for Sam Presley, Cheryl Doan, Evelyn and Bruce Gannon, Pam Thuillez, Donna Dibble, LeRoy Brady and Dona Martin

Mesa- East Valley Rose Society

You or your recipient will receive our monthly 8-12 page newsletter, local nursery discounts and more. **Membership is \$20, due June 1 of each year.** This is for a single or family unit living at the same address. New members joining after September pay \$5 per quarter, from quarter joining through the following May, payable in full at month of joining. Please bring your completed application and payment (please make check payable to **MEVRS**) to a meeting or mail to:

MEVRS/Membership, P.O. Box 40394, Mesa, AZ 85274-0394

Date _____ New _____ ***Gift*** _____ Renewal _____ Amount Paid _____
 Cash _____ Check# _____

Names: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ **E-mail address** _____

Yes! I would also like to join the national organization with which we are affiliated, the American Rose Society, for which I will receive the monthly *American Rose* magazine, the December *American Rose Annual*, the "Handbook For Selecting Roses" and more! I am including in my check an additional amount of \$37.00 for a one year membership.

****Please note! By joining the ARS through the local society, \$5.00 of the cost will come directly back to us. Thank you for your support!**

Consulting Rosarians

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.....	Candee Raper.....	480-736-1120
Librarian and	Alice Flick.....	480-839-4563
.....	*Cathy Pirch.....	480-812-8960
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.....	*Steve Sheard	480-831-2609
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Rose Garden Volunteers .	Carol Poe**	480-895-7793
.....	*Phyllis Humphry**.....	480-529-8172
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.....	Bruce Gannon.....	480-857-3090
+Web site	Dona Martin	480-807-3475
+RS Communications, Liaison	Pam Thuillez	
*Board Member Liaison		
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Phyllis Henslin (Mesa, Apache Jct.)	480-807-3592
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Cathy Rose (Tucson).....	520-722-0010
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Liz Strong (Tucson)Lizzie441@comcast.net.....	520-797-7890
Terry Swartz (Tucson).....	520-623-8285

*ARS Judge
 #PSW District Director

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at
Mesa Community College:
Paul Elsner Library Community Room
1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ
New Member Orientation at 6:30 pm

Calendar of Events

Third Saturdays - 8 am Volunteer Care at MCC Rose Garden.

June 8th - Monthly Meeting - Summer Rose Care

June 22nd - 25th ARS National Spring Convention, Seattle WA

July 13th - Monthly Meeting - Program to be announced

**Check out the updated articles and pictures on our website:
www.roses4az-mevrs.org**

Dues are due June 1st! Please be prompt!



*The Rose:
Our National
Floral Emblem*

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted to the Editor by the 20th of each month.

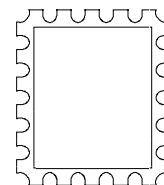
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Rose Lore

Dona L. Martin, Editor
Mesa-East Valley Rose Society Inc.
PO Box 40394
Mesa, AZ 85274-0394

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REQUESTED**



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Sam Presley
Madge Thomas

Visit us at:

www.roses4az-mevrs.org

*Developers of
The Rose Garden at Mesa Community College,
the largest public rose garden in
the Desert Southwest!*

Dues were due June 1st!