

Sydney Regional Rose News

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'Seduction'
Signature rose of Sydney
Regional

Monthly meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 7.30 p.m. from September to May and the first Saturday of June, July and August at 11 a.m. at the Newington Community Centre, Cnr Avenue of Europe & Avenue of Asia Newington

Visitors are welcome

Meetings

Friday, 7 February, 2025 @ **7.30 p.m.**
at the Newington Community Centre

Friday, 7 March, 2025 @ **7.30 p.m.**
at the Newington Community Centre

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(Closing date for contributions is
Monthly Committee meeting)

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The December NSW Rose was only delivered in an electronic format. If you provided an email address when you renewed, you would have received a link to the pdf only version. The cost involved with the NSW Rose has become very expensive to compile and then there was an extra cost to print and post. There will be two issues per year by electronic delivery.

The December meeting saw the handing out of annual prizes. As listed earlier Robyn East was presented with the Annual Show Bench Award, and



Jacqueline & Robyn East

Ailsa Wareham the Eva Louise Trophy.



Jacqueline & Ailsa

The BBQ chicken cuts along with the fish cocktail and chips provided a good food variety. A garden salad and a platter of fresh fruit completed the Christmas fare. Meryl's cheesecake was so good. A fun time was had by all present.

Anne's Rose Quiz included pictures which was a change of how clues were given.

The Rose Quiz was won by Braidan Swan. The raffle of leg ham won by Michael Brook, Xmas cake, Ted Morphett. The December special Vase of Roses by Popular Vote was awarded to Meryl Morphett.

The first meeting for 2025 was at Parramatta RSL (also called Club Parramatta) on Friday 10th January for lunch. The club underground parking came in handy with the rain. Hope your garden received some rain this week.

At the February meeting we will see results from the National Championships held in Melbourne in November.

Preparations are well advanced for the Miniature and Miniflora Show at Mittagong on March 21st & 22nd. Schedule can be emailed by request to jackietweedie@hotmail.com.

At the March meeting there will be a discussion on growing Miniature and Miniflora roses. Bloom/bush preparations can be found in the cultural notes in this magazine. If you want to see Miniature and Miniflora roses then visit the show, a short drive from Sydney or stay overnight and see what else the area has to offer.

The Easter Show starts on April 11th and ends April 22nd and during this time there will be three periods when roses are displayed for two consecutive days. This is a good opportunity to see what rose cultivars are available and see which ones entice you to purchase.

Our meetings are the ideal place to come and ask questions about growing better roses or increasing the number of blooms per bush. The cultural notes are just advance help notes so you can manage the obstacles sent by mother nature. Any other problems with your rose bushes should be directed to a Rose Consultant listed on the back page.

If you have not been well, we wish you a speedy recovery and hope to see you again, soon.

Jacqueline

MONTHLY SHOW BENCH – 2024-2025

CUMULATIVE POINT SCORE 24-25			
	JULY 2024/JUNE 2025 Classes 1-11	NOVICE ONLY Class 12	EVA LOUISE TROPHY Class 13
Michael Brook	6.00		
Robyn East	24.00		16.00
Sharon Matthews	14.00		
Braidan Swan	28.00		
Ailsa Wareham			5.00
Roses in the 'vase of roses' competition in December: 'Baronne E. de Rothschild', 'Black Tie', 'Bridal Pink', 'Country Woman', 'Diamond Jubilee', 'Figurine', 'Fire 'n' Ice', 'Lilac Festival', 'Magic Show', 'Nemesis' 'Pink Moon', 'Queen Elizabeth', 'Rise 'n' Shine', 'Sarah Anne', 'Sprayer'.			
<i>Floral art</i> – Robyn East – 19.00			
<i>EXTRA CLASS (NOT NECESSARILY ROSES)</i>			
<u>Any potted plant in a pot up to 30cmSs (12") diameter.</u>			
Where is your competitive spirit? The above class of a potted plant operates all year round.			
<i>BEGINNERS OR NOVICES</i>			
Class 12 is expressly for Novices. You are invited to place <u>one stem or cut of any rose variety</u> in this class. A cut carries one bloom and bud / buds or more than one bloom with or without side buds. A stem has one developed flower, i.e. no bud or flower has been removed to encourage growth in the remaining bloom. Any new member/exhibitor can enter into this class.			

REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

A decision has been made to continue with the \$10 extra payment to cover the cost involved with the running of Sydney Regional.

This fee applies from January to December each year. Some members pay in the first couple of months while others leave it until later, but it is preferable to pay the money in February, so we have the funds for the calendar year. You can pay at a monthly meeting if you prefer or do a direct bank deposit.

Thank you to those who have already deposited the \$10. The banking details are BSB 012 263 008688516 Name of account is Rose Society of NSW Sydney Regional. Please leave your name as a reference.

FLORAL ART – FEBRUARY – ‘SUMMER HOLIDAY’

Roses only to be used, any embellishments

The title suggests heat, sun, water, eg, beach, camping, lazing away, doing nothing important in the heat. You may need to use an accessory that helps demonstrate your holiday. A small paper umbrella (the kind that appears on a cocktail), a piece of towelling. A walk along the beach you can use sand, seashells, coral etc. A woven basket with flowers for a country walk/visit, etc. Orange, red and bright yellow signify heat, green foliage will make your warm to hot colour appear brighter.

FLORAL ART – MARCH – ‘WELCOMING AUTUMN’

Roses only to be used, any embellishments.

Has the weather become cooler, colour of petals not as faded, more intense colour. These are signs of the start of Autumn. The very hot days of summer are not as frequent now. Foliage is showing signs of deeper colour and more lush looking. The colour of Autumn is usually yellow, orange, light red, fawn not brown, cream but not white, the paler shades represent Autumn while the darker and deeper ones can signify Winter.

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION HIGHWAY

The web address is www.nsw.rose.org.au

It has been designed to be interactive with anyone who logs on from anywhere. Member information about events, Rose Consultants, photos of various roses from around the State submitted by members. Log in, will be ‘rmember’. The password is ‘Seduction’ (a capital S is needed).

SOIL TESTER

Do you have the means to easily test the PH level in your rose garden? We have a PH soil test meter. Just push it into moist soil wait a few minutes and the answer appears on a dial at the top of the unit. If and when you borrow the unit you will be expected to return it in good condition. If it is lost, broken or damaged while in your possession you will be held responsible to replace the unit. A register to record each member as they borrow the tester will be kept and the borrower will need to return the tester to the Chairman at her home or at the following monthly Friday meeting.

CULTURAL NOTES

Hope you heeded the warning about hot weather. It is not too late to mulch to conserve moisture. If severe heat is forecast, then give all plants a deep watering a few days before to build up water reserves.

Mulch acts as a blanket against our hot summers by keeping the soil 5°-15 °C cooler than in a bed without mulch. Any kind of mulch is better than none.

Did you get some of the rain that was forecast around the 10th January? Was it enough to encourage water shoots to grow? With all new growth comes the sap sucking aphids, so keep alert after you have completed the light Summer trim. This Summer trim will get you a good flush of blooms for the house or show bench.

With the Miniature and Miniflora show coming in March, if you want blooms to exhibit you need to do a trim NOW (mid-February is too late) so there is time for flowers to form and be ready for the show by 21st March down in Mittagong. A Summer trim is not a Winter clean-up prune. This light or Summer pruning was described in the last magazine. Trimming bushes for the Easter Show is best done at the end of February early March.

Deep soakings are most beneficial to help water penetrate to roots deep down in the soil. At least 5cm once a week is recommended. Light waterings are lucky to wet the soil a little over 10cm deep and this causes the roots to congregate in this area which is not what you wish for if you want the best growing results for your plants. Fertilize a little often, say a clenched handful per plant once a month out along the drip line. Always water before applying fertilizer and again after the application.

Should rain and hot humid weather be experienced use a fungicide to control blackspot and mildew which thrive in these conditions. Mildew will be more prevalent in Autumn when we have warm days and cooler

nights. Signs of Mildew - watch for deformed leaves and if seen spray with a fungicide immediately.

Roses grown in pots need watering every day or more often in hot weather. Smaller pots need more watering as they dry out quicker, less growing medium to hold moisture. Liberal helpings of mulches and manures are necessary. **The over-fertilizing of pots can lead to disaster. Less is best and we should all know water is your best fertilizer.** If for some reason or other, there is a lack of heavy watering, then the plants can burn in a very short time. Don't be misled by rainfall. Even a 5cm drenching from the skies is only good for one extra day. Make sure your pots do not have direct contact with any sealed surface eg. tar, pavers, concrete, tiles etc. You need to place pot feet underneath the pot, do not use a pot saucer as water accumulates and eventually bacteria will grow, and your rose will suffer accordingly.

If foliage and buds are being chewed then caterpillars could be present.

Two spotted mites also called red spider mite thrive in hot dry conditions. They can be seen on the underside of the leaves by using a magnifying glass. Wetting the underside of the leaf is good as they like to be dry. Should you discover any of these mites act quickly as they multiply rapidly and cause damage to the bush. Your local nurseryman will recommend suitable products for all these pests. Don't forget to take care and use protective clothing when spraying poisons. Make sure when finished all clothing is laundered.

March is the ideal time to secure those soft pliable new canes on your climbing roses. Varieties that bloom in Winter may be pruned in March eg. 'Lorraine Lee'. **New bed preparations, need to start in March, also any new spot selected for a future planting.** Dig over the area to spade depth, then mix in manures and or compost. Leave to settle before re-digging the area. If the soil is too hard or clumpy then gypsum may need to be added. Early bed or soil preparation is the key to a thriving new bush planting. March is the start of Rose catalogue viewing and jotting down the names of various cultivars that appeal.

Come along and find out information that will help with growing better roses. These cultural notes are to help you keep informed but do not replace face to face information which is given freely at our meeting.

LIBRARY

The Regional library is open for all members to use free of charge, so have a look. Have you browsed through the library books Meryl and Ted bring with them to the meetings? Have you considered borrowing a book or two? This collection of interesting Rose books is for your use. Subjects cover growing, pruning, general maintenance and seeing what specimens others have grown here and in other parts of the world. There are some books detailing Old Fashioned and Heritage Roses. A full list can be obtained at any meeting or by post. If you want a book or books listed please contact Ted and Meryl Morphett on (02) 4735 3668. Returned books can be left with the Chairman or Secretary if Ted and Meryl are not in attendance.

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.
But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true,
Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too.
All things sprayed and swatable, disasters great and small,
All things paraquatable, the Lord God made them all.
The greenfly on the roses, the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our roses, He gave us all of these.
The fungus on the gooseberries, the club root on the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.
The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns our seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds.
The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows on the seeds.
The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums,
How black the gardener's outlook, though green may be his thumbs.
But still the gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours will somehow bypass ours.*

Wally Richards

Ack: Manawatu Rose Society, September, 2010

DECEMBER QUIZ



1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6	American president that freed the slaves			
7	Type of orange			
8	Two condiments			
9	French president who led the French forces in World War II			
10	TV show starring Elizabeth Montgomery			
11	Prince William's daughter			
12	Small finger			
13	Founder of evolution			
14	Country singer that sang Joeelen			
15	She starred in Casablanca			
16	Married Patricia Neal			
17	Paper hobby			
18	Type of dancer			
19	Starred in Greece			
20	A member of the emergency services			



So tell me. Which way should I go?
 To the left where nothing is right?
 Or to the right where nothing is left?



ROSA FOETIDA
THE SPECIES with the
“MIDAS TOUCH”

Drs. David C. Zlesak & Larry Davis
ack: American Rose Nov – Dec 2022

Roses with rich yellow, gold, and warm-multicoloured blooms are the beacons of the rose garden. They draw our attention from afar. After our attention is piqued, our eyes often slow and appreciate the “cooler” colours and broader design elements (e.g. texture, scale, etc.) of a garden. It is hard to imagine a garden with modern roses that does not contain at least some that are warm in colour. What is the source of rich yellow, oranges, and the various warm blends that we enjoy as standard in our modern day rose gardens, and who helped make such roses possible?

The key genetic source contributing striking golden hues in modern roses is *Rosa foetida*, in particular, the double yellow form, ‘Persian Yellow’ (aka *R. foetida persiana*). Typical members of the species (single yellow) are found throughout parts of the Middle East and southwestern Asia. The name foetida



Rosa foetida persiana
“Persian Yellow”
Double Yellow blooms



‘Persian Yellow’ taken at Chico Hot Springs Gardener, Montana

refers to an

unpleasant fragrance (blooms smell like boiled linseed oil), but not everyone finds it disagreeable.

‘Persian Yellow’ is thought to have come from Iran, likely centuries before it was introduced to England by Sir Henry Willock in 1837.

Demand for ‘Persian Yellow’ in England and throughout nearby

Europe was high after its introduction, exceeding supply for a number of years. People were impressed by its relatively large, deep golden double blooms and its relative ease of culture compared to their other yellow rose options.

Other yellow roses available to European gardeners when 'Persian Yellow' was introduced included the soft creamy-yellow tea roses as well as some other bright yellow relatives/hybrids of *R. foetida* that are within the same section of the genus *Rosa* (*Pimpinellifolia*). The *Pimpinellifolia* group includes species many may be familiar with including *R. hugonis* ('Father Hugo's Rose'), *R. omeiensis ptercantha* ('Wingthorn Rose'), *R. spinosissima*, and *R. xanthina*. One relative with flowers that looks similar to 'Persian Yellow' that was available in Europe before 'Persian Yellow' (and from a similar region) is *R. hemisphaerica* 'Flore-Plena'. It was introduced in the early 1600's.

Although still grown and appreciated by rose enthusiasts, 'Flore-Plena' has challenges including weak necks, sensitivity to powdery mildew and other diseases, and general difficulty of culture outside of a dry, arid climate. 'William's Double Yellow' (1820) is a suspected hybrid of *R. spinosissima* and *R. foetida*.



It has bright yellow double blooms that are smaller and not as full as 'Persian Yellow'. 'William's Double Yellow' has the challenge of suckering aggressively (from *R. spinosissima*), which makes it difficult to manage in a garden setting. *Rosa foetida* and some hybrids also tend to be a bit difficult to propagate by cuttings, which also limited distribution. Suckering (most are much more modest in suckering than 'William's Double Yellow') and layering were

the key means of propagation for these challenging to root yellows. Eventually when budding/grafting became popular, that offered an additional propagation option.

Another widespread selection of *R. foetida* that likely arose earlier than 'Persian Yellow' is 'Austrian Copper', aka *Rosa foetida bicolor*



'Austrian Copper' has 21 chromosomes (triploid: 3 sets of the base number of 7 Chromosomes for Roses)

(documented before 1600). Single flowers are bright vermilion-red on the upper surface of petals and yellow on the reverse. The connection of Austria in its common name comes from people finding plants of it growing there. It is thought now that plants were introduced to Austria at some point and it naturalised over time with thickets developing where it was planted. 'Austrian Yellow' is a solid yellow form,

otherwise grows very similarly to 'Austrian Copper'. 'Austrian Copper' periodically sports branches with solid yellow blooms (Austrian Yellow) without the red pigment and sometimes the sport occurs in reverse as well. It is interesting that when 'Austrian Copper' sports to the pure yellow form, not only do the petals lose the vermilion colour, so do the pistils (located in the center of the blooms). This suggests something interesting about the timing and location of gene expression for colour development in the formation of rose flowers and warrants further study.

The origins of 'Persian Yellow' and 'Austrian Copper' are mysterious. They are both nearly sterile. They almost never set hips, and there is also low pollen viability. That brings their status as a subspecies (i.e. *R. foetida* and *R. foetida bicolor*) into question by botanists. A subspecies typically represents a collection of genetically distinct individuals, often isolated in geography, that possess a common character trait or collection of traits (flower colour, etc.) that is distinct or unique from other, more abundant or common, members of the species. When these individuals intermate, their offspring also typically share the signature distinction(s) that set them apart from the typical members of the species. For instance, *R. rugosa alba* is a subspecies of *R. rugosa* that has white flowers. When plants of this subspecies are isolated and allowed to intermate, the seedlings should also have white flowers. There is building evidence that

both ‘Persian Yellow’ and ‘Austrian Copper’ may actually be hybrids, with lack of fertility being one major clue. When successfully crossing genetically very diverse parents there is a tendency for the offspring to have reduced/limited fertility (it is like crossing a horse and a donkey to get a sterile/near sterile mule).

An additional clue to hybridity is that at least some forms of both ‘Persian Yellow’ and ‘Austrian Copper’ sold in the U.S. are triploid (three sets of chromosomes; ‘Persian Yellow’ obtained from Greenmantle Nursery and ‘Austrian Copper’ from High Country Roses). Perhaps both are hybrids between one of the bright yellow diploid (two sets of chromosomes) species (maybe *R. xanthina* or *R. hugonis*) and a tetraploid species (four sets of chromosomes; maybe *R. foetida* or *R. hemisphaerica*). Both ‘Persian Yellow’ and ‘Austrian Copper’ have been reported in some literature as being tetraploid. Perhaps there are different forms of these roses being distributed, or a mistake was made counting chromosomes or reporting ploidy.

The longevity and abundance of the near sterile ‘Persian Yellow’ and ‘Austrian Copper’ could be attributed to passionate horticulturists from the Middle East/southwestern Asia recognizing them as special and preserving and distributing them through clonal propagation. In fact, researchers (Samiei et al., 2009) tried to better understand the diversity of *R. foetida* in Iran by collecting forms growing across the nation and generating and comparing their DNA fingerprints. They also included samples from specimens housed in botanical gardens in Europe. They found only four distinct clones (genotypes). All the single-flowered samples collected throughout Iran (both ones that were solid yellow and the vermilion/yellow bicoloured ones.) were the same genotype (consistent with ‘Austrian Yellow’ and ‘Austrian Copper’ sporting back and forth). The only other genotype identified in the specimens collected in Iran were two double-flowered yellow samples that shared the same fingerprint. The authors did not elaborate how close in appearance these two plants were to what is recognized as ‘Persian Yellow’. A third genotype was a plant originally collected from Turkey and was in a botanical garden in Europe, and the fourth was another specimen in a

European collection that was broadly documented as being collected in Asia. With the expectation that Iran is within the center of origin for *R. foetida*, it was odd that there was such narrow genetic diversity and that these established specimens that were sampled generally lacked fruit production.

How did bright yellow get into our modern, repeat blooming roses?

By the mid-to-late 1800's, the Lyon region of France became the epicenter for rose growing and breeding. Many of the nurseries that started during that time are still in business today (e.g. Ducher, Guillot, Meilland etc.). Strategically making crosses rather than raising open-pollinated seed became commonplace in this region and greatly propelled rose breeding forward. Joseph Pernet was born in Lyon in 1859 to parents that were second generation rose nurserymen. He apprenticed at Ducher Nursery in 1873 and in 1879 was hired on and eventually became the nursery foreman. Ducher Nursery introduced many beloved roses including 'Ducher', 'Mademoiselle Cécile Brünner', and 'Reve d'Or'. A few years after working at the nursery Joseph officially became part of the family. He and Marie Ducher married and Joseph changed his last name to Pernet-Ducher. Hybrid perpetuals were the premier class of roses at this time and many breeders daydreamed of bringing rich yellow into them, a feat that did not seem possible using the soft yellow and cream tea roses of the time.

The rich yellow double blooms of the spring-flowering 'Persian Yellow' impressed Joseph (and other breeders). He collected its sparse pollen from the very double blooms with awkward centers and pollinated hybrid perpetuals such as 'Antoine Ducher'. With the challenge obtaining anthers and pollen from 'Persian Yellow', other breeders have mainly tried putting pollen of reblooming roses onto pistils of 'Persian Yellow', but hips seldom, if ever, formed. Joseph successfully raised first generation hybrids using 'Persian Yellow' as a paternal parent. The hybrids were once blooming and generally didn't have flowers that were very warm in colour. As the story goes, in a bed of seedlings of 'Antoine Ducher x 'Persian Yellow' a naturally occurring open-pollinated seedling was found that became the famous 'Soleil d'Or' ('Golden Sun'). It is

suspected to be a second generation hybrid from the intermating of the first generation hybrids or a backcross of one of them to some reblooming rose. 'Soleil d'Or' is classed as a hybrid foetida/Pernetiana. Pernet roses/Pernetianas became a new class to honour Joseph and his efforts for combining the rich warm colour of *R. foetida* with the popular roses of the day. 'Soleil d'Or' was impressive and was broadly offered for sale beginning in 1900. Joseph's breeding work continued, and a child of 'Soleil d'Or' ('Rayon d'Or', 1910) was introduced and is now recognized by many as the first yellow hybrid tea. Through 'Rayon d'Or' ('Golden Ray'), and particularly its grandchild ('Souvenir de Claudius Pernet'), yellow and warm colours in general have been introduced into all the popular warm coloured modern roses we find at the garden center and florist shop today (i.e. hybrid teas, floribundas, miniatures, shrubs, climbers, etc.). 'Souvenir de Claudius Pernet' and 'Souvenir de Georges Pernet' were named to honour Joseph and Marie's two sons who died in WW1.

An attempt to introduce the striking bicolour pattern of 'Austrian Copper' was successful in the mid-1930's. As told by J.H. Nicolas (rose breeder for Jackson and Perkins), Jean Gaujard (successor to Joseph Pernet-Ducher at Ducher Nursery) succeeded in crossing the hybrid rugosa 'Conrad Ferdinand Meyer' as a female parent with 'Austrian Copper' (or likely a seedling thereof). The result was one double-flowered bicolour seedling with a striking intensity of 'Austrian Copper' on a repeat blooming plant. It went by the name of 'Picardy' (or 'Ronsard' in different countries) and was marketed as a hybrid tea. It leaves no known offspring. Sam McGredy from Ireland introduced 'The Queen Alexandra Rose' in 1918 which claims 'Austrian Copper' as its sole genetic source. Getting a repeat blooming double-flowered hybrid from a self or sport of 'Austrian Copper' is unlikely and suggests that there is more in the pedigree than what was revealed. Its foliage, armature and growth habit are also very distinct from 'Austrian Copper', though the colour contrast of petals with vermilion inside and old-gold outside is similar. This rose has a multitude of descendants, including 'Peace'. Neither 'Picardy' nor 'The Queen Alexandra Rose' seem to be in commerce now.

It is often said that warm coloured roses are particularly susceptible to black spot and that it is because ‘Persian Yellow’ and ‘Austria Copper’ passed susceptibility on to their descendants. Even though the founding *R. foetida* parents and the early hybrids are generally more susceptible than the tea, hybrid tea, and hybrid perpetual roses of the time, this may be an overstatement. Thankfully through generations of breeding there are many modern yellow and warm coloured roses with good to excellent tolerance to black spot (e.g. ‘Prairie Harvest’, ‘Sunsprite’, ‘Westerland’ etc.)

Recent efforts to re-access the warm colour of *R. foetida* into modern roses

In the 1970s the very prolific Dutch rose research team of Drs. Dik de Vries and Lidwein Dubois (Wageningen University) began work to study the transmission of flower colour in roses. To study inheritance of yellow petal colour, they crossed white hybrid teas as females with ‘Persian Yellow’ and what they report as ‘Austrian Briar’ (likely the single yellow form of *R. foetida* also known as ‘Austrian Yellow’). Although fertility of both *R. foetida* parents used as males was generally low, it was a bit easier for them to obtain hybrids with ‘Austrian Briar’ than ‘Persian Yellow’. The first generation hybrids were once blooming and described in their article as “intensively” yellow. Backcrossing these plants to white hybrid teas allowed for the recovery of a proportion of repeat blooming yellow roses (repeat bloom is recessive).

Drs. De Vries and Dubois studied the transmission of not only carotenoid pigments (which leads to yellow/warm coloured petals), but also anthocyanins (pigments that appear pink, red, or purple). Their work reinforced to breeders that these pigments are inherited separately. Knowing the inheritance of pigments helps breeders better strategize paths to their colour goals. These two classes of pigments are located in different parts of petal cells. Carotenoids are fat soluble and are found in lipid-filled plastids, while anthocyanins are water soluble and are located in the cell’s water-containing central vacuole. Our bright scarlet and multi-coloured roses combine both pigments in different parts of cells, or different layers of cells, giving us a combined overall colour impression.

Drs. De Vries and Dubois are retired now. About a decade ago they were asked about what happened to these new lines of *R. foetida* hybrids that had hybrid teas in them. They shared that unfortunately due to a number of circumstances the plants were not shared with industry and have been plowed under. At least the plants showed what could be possible by re-accessing *R. foetida* genetics combined with popular modern rose genetics. Their hybrids served the rose community well by being useful to study the inheritance of flower colour and repeat bloom and inform and inspire rose breeders.

Dr. Larry Davis (Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry at Kansas State University) has been breeding roses since the 1960s and has a love especially for yellow and warm coloured roses. This has inspired him to re-access *R. foetida* genetics in new breeding lines. His breeding goals



'Carefree Copper' is a hybrid of 'Carefree Beauty'TM x 'Austrian Copper' and is a key ancestor of most of Larry's advanced generation 'Austrian Copper'

have mainly focused on breeding warm coloured roses with elevated disease resistance and improved hardiness (the extreme temperature swings and ice can be difficult for roses in Kansas and places farther north). In the mid- 1980s, Larry intensively pollinated 'Carefree Beauty'TM (a very amenable seed parent) with 'Austrian Copper' and generated a couple hundred seedlings. One became his 'Carefree Copper', a once-blooming shrub and key progenitor of his future hybrids.

Larry has generously shared many of his advanced hybrids with rose breeding friends (e.g. miniatures: 13-1, 'Orange Surprise', 'Big Surprise', 'Scarlet Surprise; shrubs: 'Carefree Copper', 1100, and others). Combining today's everblooming modern roses having elevated disease resistance with 'Austrian Copper' has led to many of his hybrids not only have warm flower colour, but also very good winter-hardiness to

0°F(-18°C) or below, and resistance to fungal diseases. As Larry continues his breeding program and connects with industry outlets, hopefully soon some of his beautiful and boldly coloured hybrids will become commercially available.

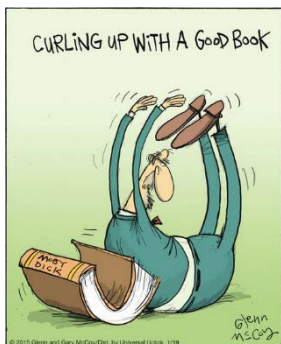
R. foetida has given us much to be thankful for by greatly expanding the colour palette of our modern rose classes. Although the origin and chromosome counts of the key cultivated forms of this species (‘Austrian Copper’ and ‘Persian Yellow’) are questionable there is no doubt that this species has the “Midas Touch”

References

- De Vries, D.P. and L.A.M. Dubois, 1978. On the transmission of the yellow flower colour from *Rosa foetida* to recurrent flowering hybrid tea-roses. *Euphytica* 27:205-210
- Nicholas, J.H., 1937. *A Rose Odyssey*: Reminiscences of many trips to European rose centers, Doubleday, Doran and Co., New York, p20.
- Samiei, L. Naderi, R., Khalighi, A., Bushehri, A.A., Mozaffarian, V., Esselink, D. and M.J.M. Smulders, 2009. In search of genetic diversity in *Rosa foetida* Herrmann in Iran, *Acta Hort.* 836:25-30

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Iceberg | 8. Ketchup and Mustard | 14. Dolly Parton |
| 2. Iced vo vo | 9. Charles de Gaulle | 15. Ingrid Bergman |
| 3. Playboy | 10. Bewitched | 16. Roald Dahl |
| 4. My little angel | 11. Charlotte | 17. Origami |
| 5. Coconut Ice | 12. Pinkie | 18. Ballerina |
| 6. Mister Lincoln | 13. Charles Darwin | 19. Olivia Newton John |
| 7. Marmalade/Valencia | | 20. Firefighter |



COMING EVENTS

February meeting – 07.02.25

Newington Community Centre **7.30p.m.**

Topic – Photos from the National Championships in Melbourne and maybe Werribee Park

Raffle – Potted Miniature Rose

Floral Art – ‘Summer Holiday’
Roses only, any embellishments

State Council meeting – 09.02.25

CWA Hall 136 Cawdor St; Camden
@ 10.00 a.m.

Feb. Committee meeting – 13.02.25

Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.

March meeting – 07.03.2025

Newington Community Centre **7.30p.m.**

Topic – Miniflora and Miniature Roses

Raffle - Neutrog Product

Floral Art – ‘Welcoming Autumn’
Roses only, any embellishments

March Committee meeting – 13.03.25

Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.

*****e

Since I bought this toy for my dog...

no more salesmen,

break-ins, or friends popping in
unannounced.

Just peace & quiet.



ROSE CONSULTANTS

The following members of the Rose Society of NSW Inc. are rose growers of both exhibition (show) & garden roses who have kindly agreed to make available to all members their expertise. If you have problems or questions about rose growing, contact the person listed as living closest to your garden.

SYDNEY AREA

Jim Cunningham, Castle Hill 2154 0418 632 648
Robyn East, Merrylands, 2160 9897 5052
Mark McGuire, Neutral Bay, 2089 0418 463 595
Ted Morphett, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 3668
Braidan Swan, Alfords Point, 2234 0487 439 573

NEPEAN BLUE MTNS & HAWKESBURY

Doug Hayne, Emu Plains, 2750 4735 1730

UPPER NORTH COAST

Ray McDonald, Taree 2429 6550 2216

ILLAWARRA AREA

Colin Hollis, Jamberoo, 2533 4236 0456
Kristin Dawson, Kanahooka 2530 0422 157 353
Jill Millburn, Kiama, 2533 0409 849 534

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