

Sydney Regional Rose News

Inside this issue

- ✿ Bloom preparation workshop 16 May
- ✿ The hidden secrets of the world's most cherished flower
- ✿ Heritage of the rose. The Widows 3, the roses 12.
- ✿ You're invited to Open Day of the East Coast Trial Garden and Macarthur's 40th celebrations



'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, 3 April, 2026

GOOD FRIDAY – NO MEETING

Friday, 1 May 2026 @ **7.30 p.m.**
at the Newington Community Centre

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(Closing date for contributions is

Monthly Committee meeting)

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Please remember to pay the Regional \$10 fee which coincides with the calendar year not financial. Thank you if you have already forwarded money. In case you have mislaid the bank details they are BSB 012 branch 263 Account 008688516 in the name of Rose Society of NSW Sydney Regional.

The weather was inclement prior to the March meeting, cloudy and wet and somehow blooms were available for the workshop which was conducted by Ted Morphett. Thank you, Ted and Meryl for the workshop blooms. Quite a few questions were asked, and members were happy with all insightful answers. Some suggestions from members caused Ted to say it was 'cheating' and followed up with 'but judges know'.

There were some nice exhibits on the show bench. New exhibitors are reminded that you can ask for help with your entries prior to the start of the meeting, say from 7.15pm.

THERE IS NO APRIL MEETING owing to 3rd April being Good Friday, a Public Holiday. There are three, two-day Rose sessions at the Easter Show which starts on 2nd April. These sessions are Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th, Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th April, Sunday 12th & Monday 13th April. Good luck to all exhibitors at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Hawkesbury and District show is after the Royal Easter Show from 24th to 26th April, Racecourse Rd. Clarendon.

May 1st is the next meeting night and the topic will be a continuation of explaining what is expected when your roses are ready to be judged. You have prepared blooms, put them into a bikini vase and the next steps are?

June 6th is the change to Saturday morning meetings starting at 11am. We have invited David Fripp a well regarded speaker for the Saturday meeting, so please keep this date free to come along to the Newington Community Centre for 11am. David is a horticulturist and nursery owner.

Your Neutrog orders can be placed from now until the middle of August for delivery late September.

Sydney Regional is planning a visit to Queen Elizabeth II, Rose Garden at Baulkham Hills on Saturday 31st. October. A picnic lunch maybe, you can buy a coffee or drink at the nearby Waves Swimming Centre then sit on a blanket on the grass in the shade looking at all the new rose bushes and their blooms, some are Australian bred.

You are reminded society membership will become payable from 1st July 2026. Cost single \$40 dual/double \$45. Payment can be made at a Regional meeting or by a direct deposit into the Regional account and your subscription will be forwarded to State.

The Australian Championships to be held at Camden Civic Centre is well underway. The show starts on Saturday 17th October and concludes Sunday 18th with a bus tour to the Southern Highlands from Camden on Monday 19th October. The guest speaker on the Saturday afternoon will be Kim Syrus. Please go to the Society webpage for more in-depth details on times and costings for Friday and Saturday evening dinner or the Sunday BBQ. There will be no cost to hear Kim Syrus speak after the official opening at 1.30pm.

Members are invited to help over the weekend doing many of the small tasks to make sure the event is friendly and memorable for all who attend

from interstate and NSW. You may have some time on the Friday when you can help set-up the various items that accompany the event. There will be stall holders on-site over the weekend and all will be indoors.

The cultural notes are just advance help notes so you can manage the obstacles and benefits sent by mother nature between meetings.



Exhibits at the March meeting

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

Jacqueline

FLORAL ART – MAY

‘Thank you Mum’

Any flowers, any embellishments

How about a Breakfast tray with a rose in a small vase accompanied by cup/saucer/plate. What about a Gerbera bloom. A small bowl arrangement of mixed flowers can be just the right thing to brighten up a person’s day. This will make it easy if going to a retirement home. A small bowl will sit easily on a small table or dresser. Maybe they are still in their home so have plenty of space to place a larger arrangement.

A mixed basket with fruit or chocolates is another thought. If using a basket the handle should be two thirds visible so it can be carried. Flowers can exceed the basket handle height while still allowing space for it to be carried and horticultural materials extended over the front rim of the basket. You could end up with an ‘L’ shaped design that allows some goodies to be placed in the open area if the basket is large enough.

To start your basket arrangement, you need to start behind the handle area at the rear of the basket. The floral foam should extend higher than the container. Using a shallow container will help you keep the bottom placements low on the basket surface. Your longest stems will go into the back area in the middle and then you move forward with shorter stems, so the handle is seen. By starting at the rear and moving forward you will find the basket is balanced and it will sit flat on any surface.

MONTHLY SHOW BENCH – 2025-2026

CUMULATIVE POINT SCORE 25-26			
	JULY 2024/JUNE 2025 Classes 1-11	NOVICE ONLY Class 12	EVA LOUISE TROPHY Class 13
Robyn East	96.50		5.5
Sharon Matthews	55.00		
Braidan Swan	94.50		
<p>Robyn gained the bonus 3 points with her entry in class 6 at the February meeting. Braidan gained the bonus 3 points at the March meeting with his entry in class 11.</p>			
<i>Floral art</i> – Robyn East –25.00			
<i>EXTRA CLASS (NOT NECESSARILY ROSES)</i>			
<u>Any potted plant in a pot up to 30cmSs (12”) diameter.</u>			
<p>Where is your competitive spirit? The above class of a potted plant operates all year round.</p>			
<i>BEGINNERS OR NOVICES TO SHOW THEIR BLOOMS</i>			
<p>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.</p>			

FLORAL ART –JUNE

‘Beginning of Winter’

Any flowers, any embellishments

BEGINNING OF WINTER? any flowers, any embellishments

Winter usually means flowers are less plentiful and deciduous trees have started to shed leaves. These leaves can be used very effectively to make your statement that Winter is here. Where you live it may still be warm, your garden may still have many blooms and the deciduous trees still in leaf. Evergreen foliage can be used with bare branches. More information in the next magazine.

CULTURAL NOTES

Autumn generally supplies us with the most beautiful roses of the year. The colours are much richer because the intensity of the sun is reduced therefore less bleaching of the bloom occurs. Blooms are usually larger due to the cooler nights.

Even after all the rain we have had the soil will dry out quickly so don't neglect to check the moisture content of the soil, especially those pots. As the temperature drops the bushes will not require as much water. Keep a watch out for white scale.

The recent rain may have flushed nutrients from the soil. Apply more fertilizer to support bushes through the autumn. As the temperature begins to cool, the bushes will begin to store food in their roots as they prepare for a period of dormancy. Fungal diseases such as blackspot and powdery mildew will be lurking so keep up the spraying routine. Powdery mildew likes warm days and cool nights and appears as a greyish or ash-like film on leaves. Better to keep spraying than let fungus take control as it will cause leaves to fall. Remember to leave foliage dry late in the day to stop fungus spores from growing.

If you have completed the summer trim, new growth will be breaking in preparation for blooms in a month or so. This is an invitation for aphids to attack the new foliage. Take appropriate action to reduce their number.

Wait for the garden soil to begin to dry before starting preparations for those new roses. Water laden soil will compact and be harder to manage later.

Soil preparation - don't wait for those new roses to arrive. Remove weeds from the garden, dig out those defunct bushes NOW. Dig the soil to a depth of 40cms and break up clumps with a pronged garden fork. Combine compost and organic manures into the top third of turned soil depth. You can add 1 handful of phosphorus (main source is from

superphosphate) per square metre which is beneficial for root growth. Fowl manure contains high proportions of phosphorus. When finished gather all those fallen leaves from around the garden (not diseased ones) and use as mulch. Leave for at least six weeks prior to planting roses. Follow the same preparation procedure if you are just moving a rose in the wrong spot. This new area should be turned over every couple of weeks.

If you are discarding a diseased rose and intending to use that spot again then it may be beneficial to remove a wheelbarrow load of soil from the area and replace with freshly prepared or purchased soil. The removed soil can be used in another part of the garden. It is better to remove all diseased roots prior to planting the new occupant.

A rose bush not doing so well may benefit with a move to a different part of your garden, maybe the backyard instead of the front or a second choice into a large pot.

Fertilizing should start to slow down early April. May, June, July and August are periods of dormancy or very little growth, so do not need fertilizer. Growth during these winter months will depend on where you live in NSW.

Mulch does not need to be replenished until after the cold winter months, but watering still needs to be done, only not so often.

Abundant rain encourages basal or water shoots to grow and these need to be treated carefully as they will form the foundation of your bush after pruning in late August or September. Do not cut or prune this new basal shoot as it needs to mature before top pruning in late August.

If you have a problem that has not been mentioned in this magazine, please contact one of the Consultant Rosarians listed at the back of this magazine.

OPEN DAY INVITATION

EAST COAST ROSE TRIAL GARDEN
WINBOURNE,
1315 MULGOA RD, MULGOA

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL
11.30AM TO 1.00PM

Morning and afternoon tea available.
Some Australian bred roses will be for sale.

For more details contact

eastcoastrosetrialgarden@gmail.com

MACARTHUR REGIONAL INVITATION 40TH CELEBRATION

Saturday MAY 30th at
2.00PM for a high tea
Cost is \$30.00 per person

For more details contact
[macarthurroseseecretary@
gmail.com](mailto:macarthurroseseecretary@gmail.com)

BLOOM PREPARATION WORKSHOP 16th MAY

This workshop will be held at the Southern Sydney meeting venue on Saturday 16th May. All members are invited to attend and find out the easy and correct way to prepare and display blooms for the Showbench. This workshop is in preparation for the Australian Championships in October. Address is Loftus Community Hall, 119-129 Loftus Ave, Loftus starting at 1.00pm. All members of the Rose Society are invited to attend this workshop.

THE HIDDEN SECRETS OF THE WORLD'S MOST CHERISHED FLOWER:

Scientists unravel genetic mysteries of roses

By Boyce Thompson Institute October 23, 2024

A new study has decoded the genetics of modern roses, uncovering the combined influence of Eastern and Western species. The research provides valuable insights for breeding more resilient roses while emphasizing the importance of preserving genetic diversity. Roses, cherished as one of the most beloved and widely cultivated ornamental plants, have captivated hearts and adorned gardens for centuries. Despite their long-standing popularity, much of the genetic origins and breeding history



Red tea rose. Credit: BTI

of modern roses has remained a mystery. However, a recent study has uncovered intriguing details about the evolution of modern roses from their ancestors, offering valuable insights for breeding more resilient and stunning varieties. For millennia, roses were cultivated separately in China and Europe, with each region nurturing unique variations. The 18th century marked a turning point when Chinese roses were introduced to Europe, setting the stage for a breakthrough in rose breeding.

Traditionally, the ‘Old Blush’ China rose has been credited as a major player in this transformation. However, the recent study highlights the significant and previously underappreciated role of another species: *Rosa odorata*. The fusion of these Eastern and Western roses led to the modern roses we adore today, known for their repeated flowering and diverse forms.

Decoding the Genetics of Modern Roses

The research project began by decoding the complex genetic makeup of ‘Samantha®,’ a modern rose variety renowned for its stunning red flowers and continuous blooming.

“‘Samantha®’ is a tetraploid, meaning it has four sets of chromosomes instead of the usual two, making its genetic structure more intricate and challenging to study,” said Zhangjun Fei, a professor at the Boyce Thompson Institute and one of the study’s lead authors. “By mapping its genome, we created a powerful resource for future comparative and evolutionary genomic studies and for advancing rose breeding efforts.”

The research team also sequenced the DNA of 233 other rose varieties, from wild types to modern cultivars. This allowed them to create a “genome variation map,” a reference for understanding how modern roses evolved from their ancestors.

With this resource, breeders can develop roses that are not only more beautiful but also hardier and better suited to various climates. Imagine roses that bloom longer, require less care, and are more resistant to pests and diseases.

The study, recently published in *Nature Plants*, found that human selection has significantly influenced the genetic diversity of modern roses. Over the years, traits such as continuous and recurrent flowering, double flowers, and disease resistance have been carefully cultivated. However, the researchers emphasize that preserving a wide range of genetic traits is essential for the health and adaptability of these stunning flowers. In an era of climate change and environmental challenges, genetic diversity is crucial for ensuring that roses can continue to thrive in changing conditions.

This research opens new avenues for understanding and improving one of the world's most cherished flowers. The story of the rose is a rich tapestry woven from threads of history, science, and human passion. Thanks to this study, that tapestry is more vivid and detailed than ever before.

Reference: "Haplotype-resolved genome assembly and resequencing provide insights into the origin and breeding of modern rose" by Zhao Zhang, Tuo Yang, Yang Liu, Shan Wu, Honghe Sun, Jie Wu, Yonghong Li, Yi Zheng, Haoran Ren, Yuyong Yang, Shaochuan Shi, Wenyan Wang, Qi Pan, Lijuan Lian, Shaowen Duan, Yingxiong Zhu, Youming Cai, Hougao Zhou, Hao Zhang, Kaixue Tang, Jiaopeng Cui, Dan Gao, Liyang Chen, Yunhe Jiang, Xiaoming Sun, Xiaofeng Zhou, Zhangjun Fei, Nan Ma and Junping Gao, 11 October

HERITAGE OF THE ROSE **THE WIDOWS THREE, THE ROSES TWELVE**

by contributing editor Darrell g.h. Schramm

Ack: American Rose Jan/Feb 2022

Once upon a time in the final quarter of the 19th century, there lived in Lyon, France, the city of silk and roses, three widows. Now each had married a rose-breeding husband, but alas, each lost her spouse. Yet each, for his sake and for the love of roses, was determined to carry on, and it happened in this wise.

The Widow Ducher had married Claude who died in his early 50s in 1874. He had produced about 80 different roses in 24 prolific years. In that same city lived the soon-to-be-famous Joseph Pernet. Smitten by

their daughter Marie, he wed her in 1881 and added her family name to his own. As Joseph Pernet-Ducher, he went on to breed the colour yellow into modern roses.

The Widow Rambaux had married a Joseph, a gardener at Parc de la Tete d'Or, who had bred a few roses. Among others, he had raised a new seedling, 'Perle d'Or', but was felled by the scythe of Death before he could propagate it, leaving the task to his widow. Their daughter, also a Marie, married Frances Dubreil, who introduced the rose to the market.

The Widow Schwartz, Marie-Louise, became the second wife of yet another Joseph after his first wife died. He himself died young at age 39 in 1885 – but not before he had bred with a magic touch such renowned roses as 'Reine Victoria' and 'Mme Alfred Carriere'. At the turn of the century, the Widow Schwartz retired, leaving the nursery to her son Andre.



'Mme Alfred Carriere'

and again in old fairy tales, so we should not be surprised that twelve roses remain in commerce today bred by the three widows.



'Reine Victoria'



'Jean Ducher'

Widow Ducher

accounts for four of these roses. 'Jean Ducher', a stout, strong tea bush growing to four feet high, puts forth fragrant roses of pale salmon-yellow with an equally pale peach-pink centre. Usually, the rose sold under that name is really the tea 'G. Nabbonard'. So, beware.

Not all things are what they seem. It was marketed the year of the husband's death, which, you recall, was 1874. More popular today is the golden yellow or amber noisette or tea-noisette

‘William Allen Richardson’. It was named for the man born in New Orleans in 1819 who later lived and died in Louisville, Kentucky where he and his wife Mary cultivated and propagated roses. Importing roses from the Widow Ducher, he began a correspondence with her and soon sent her a rose which she planted. When it sported in her garden, she successfully propagated the sport and named it after him. The rose is virtually without prickles. In hot weather, its colour changes rather swiftly until it becomes a cream tone, flowering recurrently until the winter months. A vigorous plant, it grows to 3.96m (13ft) by 2.13m (7ft) but withholds fragrance.



‘Mlle Cecile Brunner’

Of the widow’s 1880 ‘Mlle Cecile Brunner’ I need write little. This pale pink sweetheart rose, a polyantha, is too well known to most rose lovers for me to whittle words away into a waste bin. Do remember that the climbing form of this loveliness can cover much of a single storey house. It is the bush form,

however, that the widow produced.

The Widow Ducher’s fourth surviving rose is ‘Beauté Inconstante’. Incorrectly, the author of this tea rose is usually given as Joseph Pernet-Ducher, the widow’s son-in-law. However, the July 1897 issue of *Journal des Roses* informs us that she bred the rose in 1884. Fabien Ducher, a descendent, who now operates the nursery, has affirmed this fact. A 1900 E.



‘Beauté Inconstante’

Horton & Co. catalogue provides this description:

A wonderful rose, deriving its name of “Inconstant Beauty” from producing flowers of different shades on the same plant The colours vary from crimson to light pink through shades of tawny red, light yellow with orange and citron-red centre, pale flesh with pink centre, orange chrome and deep rose – all these colours being frequently seen on one

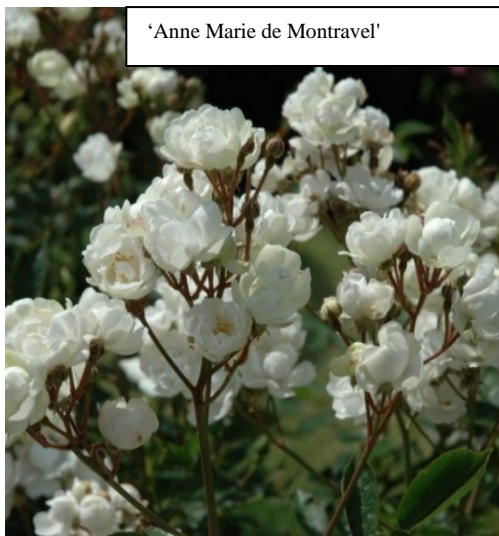
bush at the same time. True, most tea roses are fairly fickle in their coloured attire, but none so much as ‘Beauté Inconstante’.

The Widow Rambaux posthumously still offers two roses in commerce. One is ‘Anne Marie de Montravel’, a polyantha of 1879.

Rather like ‘Mlle Cecile Brunner’ with paler green foliage, this dense plant exhibits white blossoms, few prickles, and a lily-of-the-valley scent.

For whom the rose was named is a riddle which no knight on a white charger has chosen to unravel.

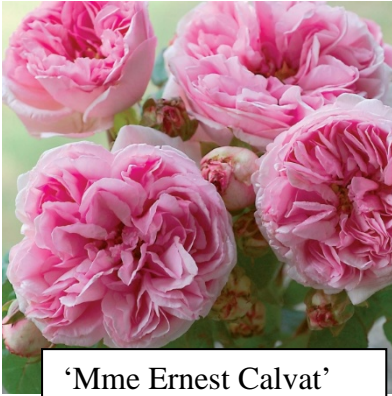
But it might be named for a woman of the famed Montravel family known for making white wine in southwest France.



The other rose, as mentioned, is ‘Perle d’Or’ of 1883, which as a seedling the widow propagated after her husband’s sudden death.

Erroneously called “Yellow Cecile Brunner,” this moderately recurrent and scented rose will bloom until November.

Though sometimes attributed to her son-in-law who introduced it, it was the widow who had done the work. Credit to whom credit is due. In 1896 it produced a climbing sport.



'Mme Ernest Calvat'

The Widow Schwartz accounts for half of the 12 surviving roses addressed here. She discovered the pink bourbon sport 'Mme Ernest Calvat' growing on the fragrant 'Mme Isaac Pereire'. It too exudes a fragrance, hinting – like the bourbon 'Zepherine Drouhin' – of raspberries. It tends to climb. The leaves are somewhat purple.

The rose was named for the wife of a glove manufacturer who as an amateur horticulturist, was fond of chrysanthemums. Perhaps the widow bought her gloves from Mr Calvat or sipped tea with the Calvats while politely admiring their chrysanthemums.

The widow entered the rose into commerce in 1888.

Her deep red hybrid perpetual of 1890, 'Roger Lambelin' is believed a sport of 'Fisher Holmes' by several rosarians, though Graham Thomas and Charles Quest-Ritson maintain it a sport of 'Prince Camille de Rohan'.



'Roger Lambelin'

Regardless, it is a dramatic, quite fragrant rose whose flowers differ in the white deckled-edge of its petals. That white edging on dark velvety red, is reminiscent of the rose 'Baron Girod de l'Ain' but it is sometimes smudged and the overall shape of the bloom somewhat bizarre or exciting, depending on the observer's taste.

It is a curiosity. Lambelin, the man, was a French royalist, that is a supporter of "the divine right of kings" belief. This rose, having concealed its own divinity, has outlasted both him and that elitist persuasion.

The next year the Widow Schwartz introduced another hybrid perpetual, sometimes also a curiosity: ‘Monsieur de Morand’, a lovely, large blossom of pinkish cerise shaded with lilac or the palest purple. As a seedling of the red ‘General Jacqueminot’, the colour seems unexpected. Very fragrant, it sometimes produces six sepals instead of five, one much larger than the others, sometimes, even as a full-blown leaf. Quite erect, the plant grows to about 1.22m (4ft.) Like many a hybrid perpetual, it could do with more foliage. The namesake, Morand, was an amateur horticulturist, often exhibiting his various kinds of flowers at the same shows where the Widow Schwartz exhibited her roses. No doubt they were friends.



The following year, 1892, she introduced yet another hybrid perpetual, ‘Mme Henri Perrin’. Its large flowers wear a lilac pink, the outer rim of petals more silvery, inner petals sometimes a twisted scarf of white. Only one nursery – in France – carries that rose today. Apparently Madame Henri Perrin may have been the wife of a minor painter or of the Henri Perrin on the board or staff of *Le Nord-Est*, a Republican newspaper published from 1871 to 1884 in the Ardennes department of northern France.

The widow’s tea rose ‘Dr. Rouges’ arrived in 1893. This is a plant dipped in cranberry juice. The double or triple pinwheel-like blossoms show off a raspberry red with a touch of vermillion, the canes, until older – a rosé wine red, the new leaves a maroon red – another curious rose. Falcate prickles decorate the slender canes, and the stipules suggest some *Rosa Multiflora* influence. Though virtually without scent, it’s a lovely decorative rose inclined to climb. It grows in the Sacramento Historic Cemetery Rose Garden.



In 1900 or 1901, Widow Schwartz brought a hybrid tea into the market, 'La Tosca'. A delicate pink tinted blush white, the fragrant flowers open loosely and solitary on strong stems of a tall, bushy plant. As of 2022, it is still being sold by a lone nursery, Rouge Alley Roses in Oregon. The rose was named for Victorien Sardou's drama "La Tosca", a tragic play of violence, betrayal and passion. No doubt the widow had seen and/or read the play. Puccini based his opera on Sardou's drama; the opera's first performance occurred on January 14, 1900 in Rome.

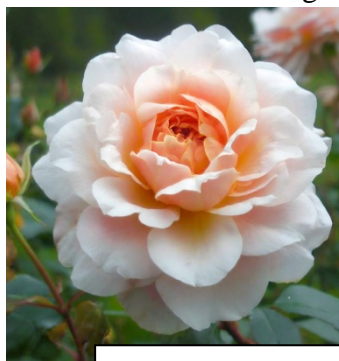
The year 1900 also marks the year the Widow handed her nursery and gardens to her son but continued to advise him for many years. She died, age 86 at her estate in Sainte-Foy-les-Lyon in 1938.



'William Allen Richardson'

Now, the widows three have long since departed, but these 12 roses remain despite bearing on their floral shoulders many long years, between 120 and 146 in fact. And their robes are not ragged – true, a bit thin for at least half of them. But 'William Allen Richardson', 'Mlle Cecille Bruner', 'Perle d'Or', 'Mme Ernest Calvat' and 'Roger

Lambelin' wear their mantles well. My favourite of the 12 and the only one of them I grow, is 'Monsieur de Morand', abandoned by America like Snow White by the Queen or Cinderella by her step-family. But it is still appreciated and sold in the Netherlands, Germany and France. It's up to us, lovers of old roses, to allow them all to live happily ever after.



'Perle d'Or'

OSMOSIS: How Plants Get Their Food

by Richard Nipe *Ack: April 2001 American Rose*

Roses have few demands (at least that is what one book said!) Water and minerals are drawn from the soil and are added to carbon (CO₂) from the atmosphere. In the presence of light, photosynthesis, the single most important process on earth, is set in motion.

Osmosis is the rose plant's water pump. It works when the water follows a path from the soil into the roses' roots, stem and finally the leaves. Water pushes across from the dirt into the surface cells of the root. During osmosis, water molecules attempt to equalize their concentration on both sides of cell membranes. It is possible for water to move into or out of living plants.

In most soils, small quantities of salts are dissolved in large volumes of water. Conversely, the protoplasm of epidermal cells contains lesser amounts of water in which salts, sugars and other substances are concentrated. So, when water moves or diffuses from the soil, where it is most abundant, it seeks to dilute the cells' solutions. The system of equalization should also apply to salts that try to diffuse from the root's cells to the soil. However, cell membranes are selective in their permeability, permitting free inward and outward movement of water, but denying passage outward to most dissolved substances. It is this preferential diffusion of water across the root's membrane that really makes osmosis work.

Cell turgor gives firmness to water filled tissues. The difference between crisp and wilted lettuce leaves or a wilted flower illustrates the nature of turgid and non-turgid (flaccid) cells. Most plant species wilt in soils where significant quantities of salts have accumulated, even when adequate water is present. Such saline soils have a lower water content than root cells so the roots lose water as the direction of osmotic, flow is reversed. Prolonged reverse flow results in cell death.

Leaf cells with high concentrations of photosynthesized sugars use osmosis to draw water from the inside of the stem. The water is later discharged from the full cells when the heat of the sun turns it to vapor saturating the leaves' internal spaces and ultimately escaping from open stomata by a process called transpiration.

Vaporized water lost from the leaves is replaced by liquid water pulled from the veins by the leaf cells, And, since water molecules move in unbroken chains through the connected xylem of roots, stems and leaves, the drawing force of transpiration, called transpirational pull, is felt throughout the length of the plant.

To appreciate the combined effects of root pressure and transpirational pull, imagine a vertical tube in which water is both pumped under pressure at its base, and pulled in by suction from above. The water would move at a considerable speed, but for the flow to continue, water must also be removed from the top of the system. In most plant species, about 98 percent of the water entering the roots is lost through the leaves in the form of transpired water vapour.

The amount of water moved by transpiration is impressive. An average size tomato plant transpires about 113.5L (30 gallons) during its growing season; a corn plant, 208.2L (55 gallons). Such quantities represent the plants' basic needs, to be supplied, from the soil, by rain and irrigation. One can readily perceive the outpouring of transpiration when, on a hot, dry day, the air beneath a shady tree both feels cooler and is more comfortable because of its higher moisture content.

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.

COMING EVENTS

**APRIL – 03.04.2026
NO MEETING
PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

April Committee meeting – 09.04.26
Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m.

May meeting – 01.05.2026
Newington Community Centre **7.30 p.m.**

**Topic – What now – with your
prepared exhibit**

Raffle : Potted miniature rose
Floral Art – ‘Thank you Mum’ any
flowers, any embellishments

State Council Meeting 03.05.26
CWA Hall 136 Cawdor St, Camden
@ 10.00 a.m.

May Committee meeting – 07.05.26
Castle Hill Vet Hospital 7.00 p.m

**June meeting – SATURDAY
06.06.2026**
Newington Community Centre **11 a.m.**

Guest speaker – David Fripp

Topic – Horticulture

Raffle – Winter Warmer

Floral Art – ‘Beginning of Winter’
Any flowers, any embellishments

June Committee meeting
Newington Community Centre

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
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