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## Roses

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# Roses

Basic Rose Care

# Credits

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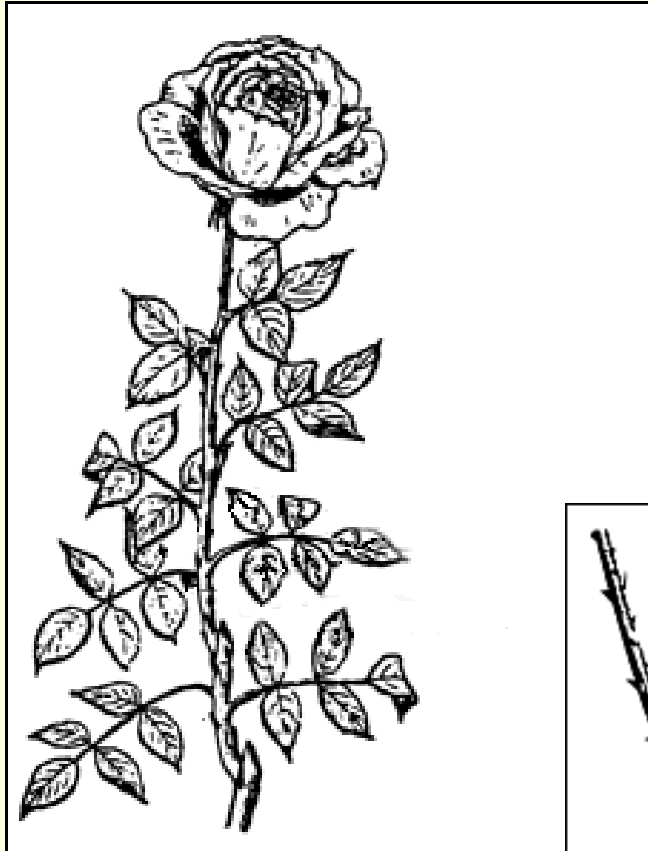
- Most information and pictures in this presentation were derived from the University of Illinois extension website:  
“Our Rose Garden”  
<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/roses/>
- Disease pictures were obtained from the University of Minnesota extension website:  
<http://www.extension.umn.edu/>
- Pictures of roses used by permission of Mossey Country Gardens:  
<http://www.mooseyscountrygarden.com/>

# Topics

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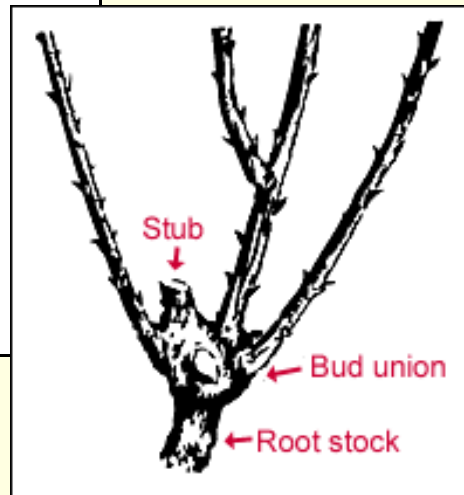
- The Rose Plant
- Selecting
- Planting
- Care

# The Rose Plant



Figures: U of IL Extension

- Canes
- Leaves
- Flowers
- Hips
- Budded versus Own-root



# Selecting – Kinds

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- **Species Roses** – grow naturally, bloom once; hardy, disease resistant, and easy to care for.
- **Old European Garden Roses** – fragrant, cold hardy, heat intolerant.
- **Hardy Repeat-blooming Old Roses** – extreme winter-hardiness, excellent tolerance to disease, exquisite blooms, and outstanding fragrance.
- **Modern Roses** – most popular roses include hybrid tea, floribunda, and grandiflora.
- **David Austen English Roses** – fragrant, simple flowers that rebloom through the summer.
- **Shrub Roses** – "catch all" for roses that do not fit well in other classes.

# Roses for Utah

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- Utah Rose Society website:  
<http://utah-rose.com/UtahVarieties/UtahVarieties.html>
- Some varieties selected from the society's site:
  - Frederick Mistral – pink fragrant hybrid tea
  - Double Delight – red hybrid tea
  - Playboy – orange floribunda
  - Peace – yellow blend hybrid tea
  - Don Juan – dark red climbing rose
  - Iceberg – white floribunda
- Dave's Garden has good pictures  
<http://davesgarden.com/pf>

# Graham Thomas – Shrub Rose

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Photo © Mosey's Country Garden



# Iceberg – Flouribunda Rose

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Photos © Mosey's Country Garden

# Abraham Darby – David Austin Shrub Rose

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Photo © Mosey's Country Garden

# New Dawn – Climbing Rose

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Photo © Mosey's Country Garden

# Reine des Violettes – Hybrid Perpetual Rose

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Photo © Mosey's Country Garden

# Selecting – Grades

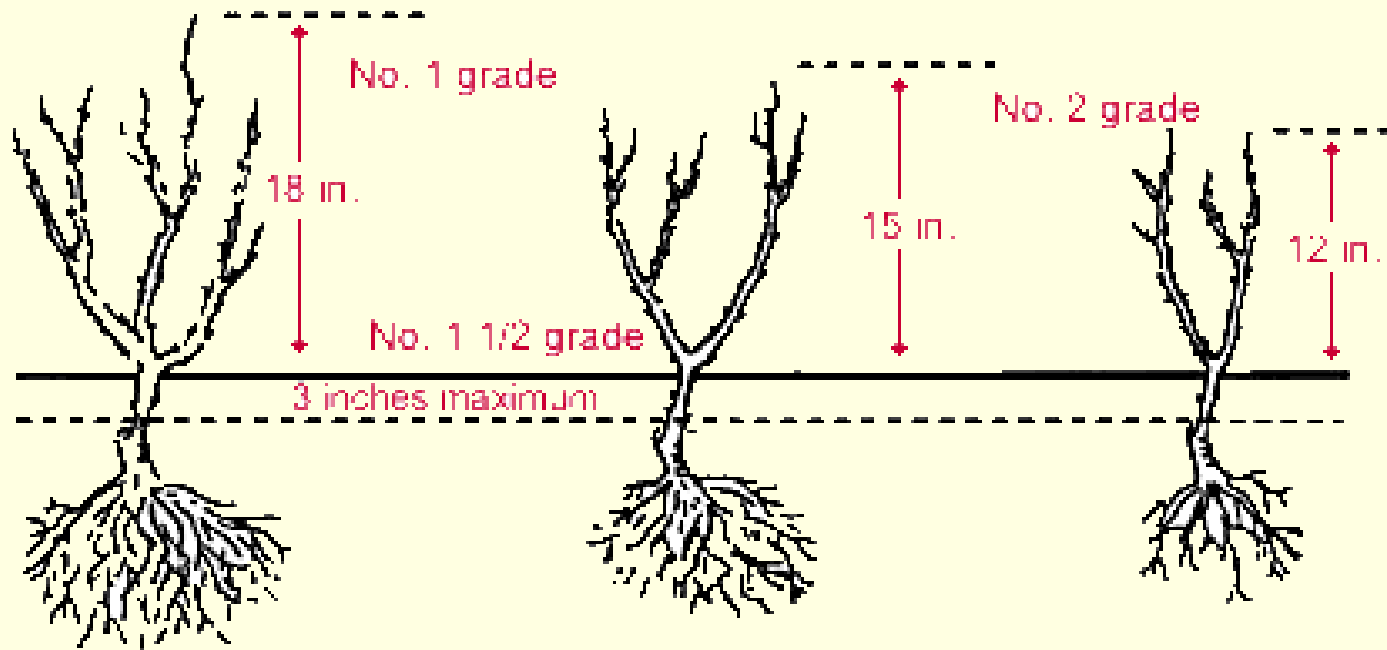


Figure: U of IL Extension

# Grades

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- All grades have no more than 3 inches between the graft union and the roots.
- Grade 1
  - 18 inch canes,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter
  - 3 or more canes
- Grade 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  -- will catch up with grade 1 in one or two growing seasons
  - 15 inch canes
  - 2 or more canes
- Grade 2 – not recommended
  - Small, short (12 inch) canes

# Selecting – Use

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- Ground cover
- Cut flowers
- Fragrance
- Garden structure
  - Hedges
  - Trellises

# Selecting – Hardiness

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- Old garden roses are extremely tolerant of cold temperatures.
- Hybrid teas are very susceptible to cold damage. Some are hardier than others.
- Budded roses stand a greater chance of injury or death due to severe cold than do own-root roses.
- Select cultivars hardy to USDA zone five.



# Selecting – Form

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- Locally sold roses are either bare-root or potted.
- Mail order plants are almost always sold bare-root.
- When ordered or bought from a reputable dealer, bare root and established potted plants are equal; the choice is only a matter of preference.
- Many older roses are only available bare root through specialty mail order nurseries.

# Selecting – Disease Resistance

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- Because of Utah's dry climate, disease is not a big problem in roses.
- Powdery mildew and black spot sometimes infect rose plants in Utah.
- Roses that are resistant to these two diseases are the best choices in Utah.
- Many roses are infect with virus. Select certified virus free plants.

# Selecting – Sources

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- Garden centers
- Local retail stores
- Catalog
  - Greater selection
  - More varieties
  - Older varieties
- Internet

# Planting – Location

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- Six hours of sun – when not possible, morning sun is preferable to afternoon sun.
- Air circulation.
- Good drainage – an 18 inch hole filled with water should drain in less than 6 hours.
- Avoid trees and large shrubs that will compete with the rose roots.
- Avoid previous rose beds to avoid pest buildup.

# Planting – Soil Requirements

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- Roses are tolerant of most soil types.
- Roses prefer:
  - Well drained
  - High in organic material
  - pH 6.0 to 7.0.

# Planting – Soil Preparation

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- Apply 2-4 inches of organic matter over the entire planting bed.
- For each bushel of organic matter, add 1/2 pound of super phosphate to the soil.
- Adjust nutrients and pH. Conduct a soil test to identify issues.
- Till to improve the tilth of the soil.
- Dig a planting hole deep and wide enough to hold the root of the rose plant and cover the bud union with 1–2 inches of soil.

# Planting – Prepare Bare-root

- Soak bare-root roses in a bucket of water for 8-12 hours.
- After soaking, trim off any damaged or diseased roots.
- Maintain 3-5 canes per plant.
- Prune each cane back to 3-5 buds per cane.
- Remove any cane thinner than a pencil.
- Prune roots to fit the planting hole if necessary; digging a larger hole is preferable.

Photos: U of IL Extension



# Planting – Bare-root

- Make a cone-shaped mound of soil in the center of the hole to support the plant.
- Spread the roots of the plant over the cone.
- Fill the hole about 2/3 full of soil and add water. Make a slurry of soil and spread it between the roots.
- After the water has drained, add more soil until the bud union is 1–2 inches below soil level.
- Do not tamp the soil.
- Cover canes with soil to keep them moist until new growth appears.

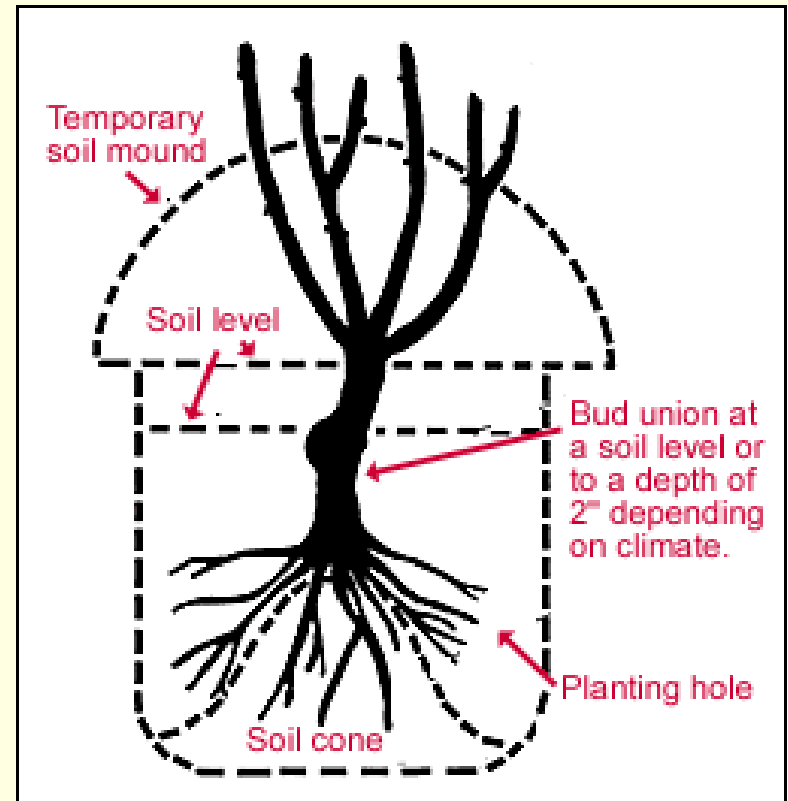
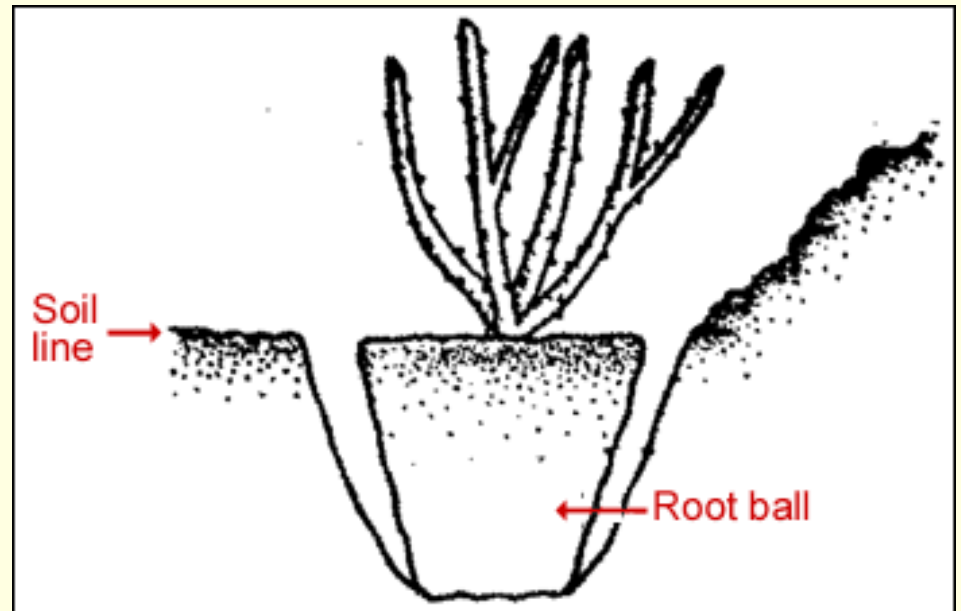


Figure: U of IL Extension



# Planting – Potted

- Water the pot thoroughly overnight.
- Tip the pot on its side and tap the root ball out. If the root ball doesn't come out easily, use a pair of tin snips, shears, or a knife to cut the container off.
- Check for roots circling the root ball and loosen them.
- Set the root ball into the prepared hole so the bud union is 2 inches below the soil line.
- Refill the hole with soil and water.



Figures: U of IL Extension

# Planting – Potted (non-established)

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- Use this procedure if the rose plant is not well established in the pot.
- Cut the bottom of the pot off with a sharp knife.
- Cut two slits up the sides of the pot to within 2-3 inches of the top.
- Hold the loose bottom on the pot and set it in the hole so the bud union is about 2 inches below the surrounding soil level.
- Slide the bottom of the pot out and backfill the hole with soil until half full.
- Cut the last 2–3 inches of the side slits and remove the pot.
- Finish by filling the hole with soil and watering.

# Planting – Boxed

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- Do not try to plant in the box (despite what the box might say).
- In the spring, if the rose plant is still dormant, take it out of the box and treat it like a bare-root rose.
- If the plant has broken dormancy (growing), cut the bottom off the box and set the rose in the hole at the proper depth.
- Cut through the sides of the box and carefully peel the box away.
- Refill the hole with soil and water.

# Care – Spring Pruning

- Use clean, sharp equipment.
- Cut at a 45-degree angle about 1/4 inch above outward-facing bud. The cut should slant away from the bud.
- Remove all dead or dying canes (shriveled, dark brown, black).
- Seal the ends of the cuts with white glue (not school glue) or clear nail polish to prevent carpenter bee damage
- Remove all canes that are smaller than a pencil in diameter.
- Remove sucker growth where it emerges from the root.

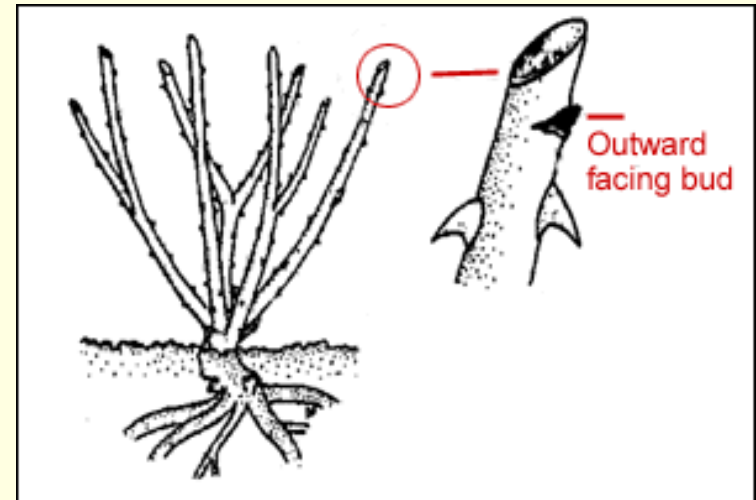


Figure: U of IL Extension

# Care -- Deadheading

- For recurrent-blooming roses, remove faded flowers before they can develop seed.
- Cut the flower stem back to an outward-facing bud above a five-leaflet leaf.
- If rose hips are a part of the display, clean the spent blooms away with your hand, leaving the hips.
- Stop deadheading September 1 to allow the plant to begin hardening off for the winter.

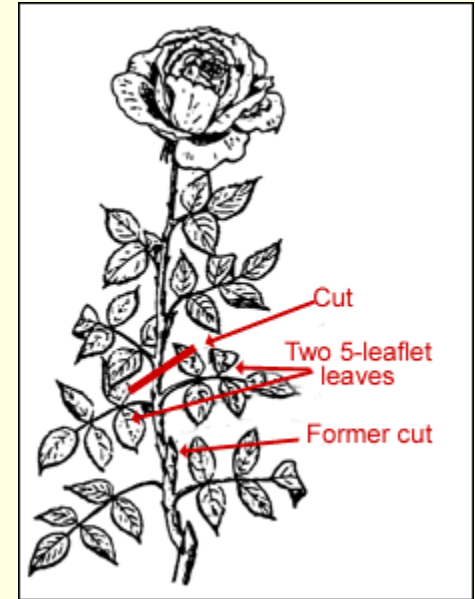


Figure: U of IL Extension

# Care – Removing Suckers

- Suckers grow off the root stock in grafted varieties.
- They will not produce the expected variety and will eventually take over the plant.
- To remove suckers:
  - Gently remove soil to expose the point where the sucker grows from the root.
  - Completely remove the sucker to discourage regrowth.
  - Replace soil.

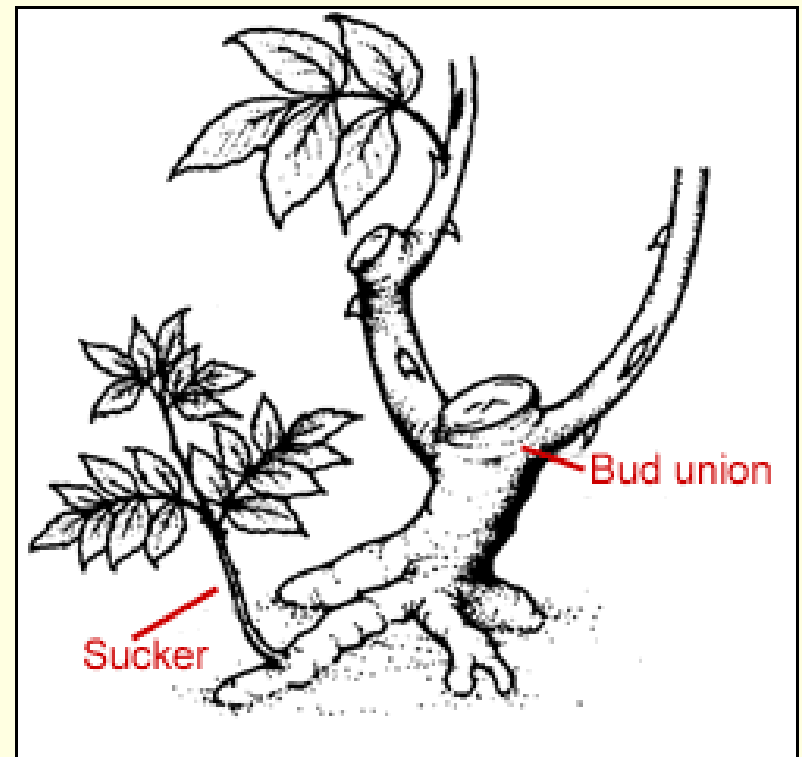


Figure: U of IL Extension

# Care – Water, Mulch, Fertilizer

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## ■ Water

- In the morning so plants they can dry during the day.
- Irrigate rather than overhead sprinkling.
- Frequency and amount depend on soil type.

## ■ Mulch

- Conserve moisture.
- Prevent weeds (roses do not like root competition).
- Minimize hoeing to protect roots.

## ■ Fertilizer

- Rose fertilizer – blends made specifically for roses. Some include systemic insecticides.
- First application in mid April.
- Additional feedings six weeks.
- No fertilizer after August 15.

# Care – Winter Protection

- Plant cold hardy varieties.
- Protect against 10°F:
  - Mound soil over the center of the plant.
- Protect against (-15°F):
  - Mound insulating material over entire plant.
  - Bury plant under 5 inches soil.
- Protect from snow loads:
  - Trim canes by 1/3<sup>rd</sup> and tie together.

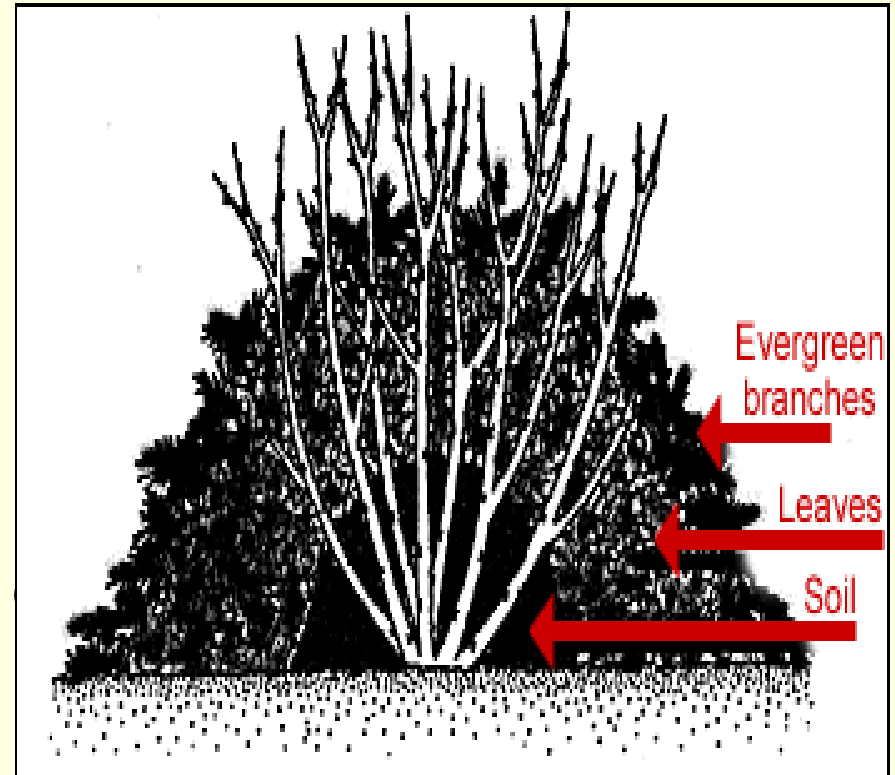
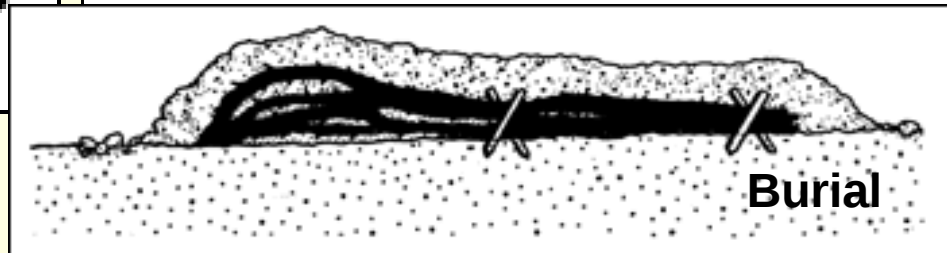
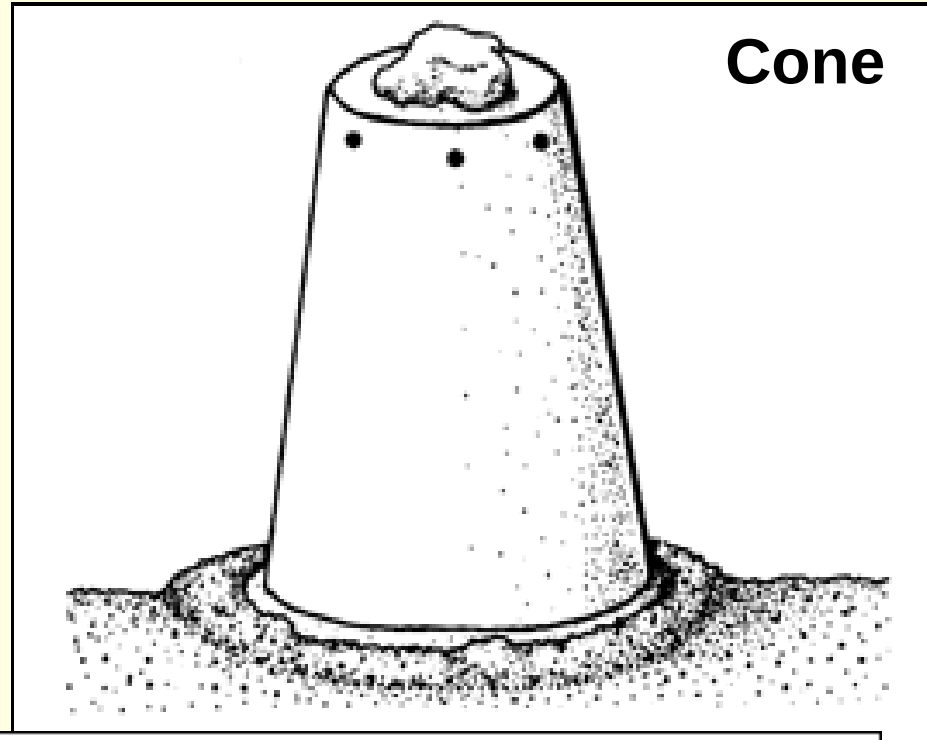
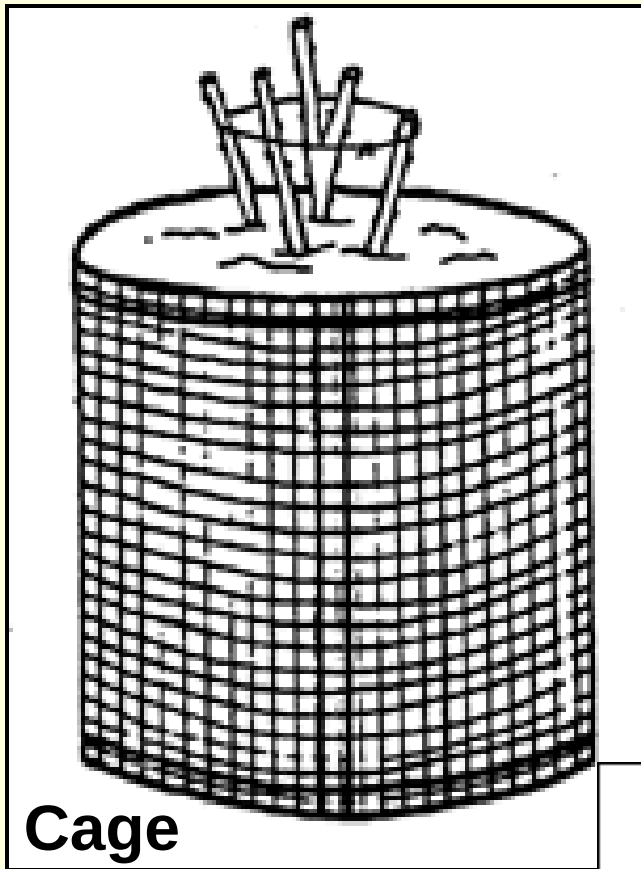


Figure: U of IL Extension



# Winter Protection Methods



Figures: U of IL Extension

# Care – Pests

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- The most common pests on Utah roses are:
  - Aphids
  - thrips
  - Spider mites
  - Carpenter bees

# Aphids



- Aphids feed on young succulent shoots, causing distortion.
- Control:
  - Natural predators
  - Insecticidal soap
  - Strong streams of water to knock them off the plant (in early morning).
  - Systemic insecticides

# thrips

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- thrips are extremely small, brown insects usually living and feeding inside of the blooms.
- A deformed flower with flecked or scratched petals is usually a sign of a thrips problem. The rasping mouths of thrips cause this injury when they scratch the petal surface to feed.
- Thrips are especially attracted to yellow or light-colored roses.
- thrips are difficult to control, use:
  - Horticultural oil
  - Systemic insecticides

# Spider Mites

- Mites flourish in crowded, stagnant gardens, reproduce rapidly, resulting in high populations in a short time.
- Mites pierce the underside of rose leaves and suck sap, causing the leaf to turn gray or bronze.
- Control:
  - Wash the underside of the leaves with high-pressure from a garden hose every 2-3 days to interrupt their life cycle.
  - Apply miticides in heavy infestations.
  - Use insecticidal soaps.



Photo: U of IL Extension

# Carpenter Bees

- Carpenter bees bore into cut canes and deposit larva.
- Usually not a threat to the life of the the rose plant bit it will kill the cane.
- Control:
  - Seal pruning cuts with white glue (not school glue) or clear nail polish.



# Care – Diseases

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- Diseases most common in Utah:
  - Powdery mildew
  - Black spot
- Other rose diseases seldom seen in Utah:
  - Stem cankers
  - Botrytis blight
  - Mosaic virus
  - Crown gall

# Powdery Mildew

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Photo: U of MN Extension



# Black Spot

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Photo: U of MN Extension

# Disease Control

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- Select resistant varieties.
- Plant in:
  - Sunny location with good air circulation.
  - Properly prepared soil.
  - Well drained soil.
- Remove debris where mold spores can winter over.
- Avoid overhead watering.
- Water in the morning so plant surfaces can dry during the day.

# USU Resources

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- Utah State University Extension Office  
Davis County Courthouse, Room 200  
28 East State Street, Farmington
  - Gardening Hotline: 451-3204
  - Diagnostic Clinics: May – September,  
Tuesdays, 1– 4pm
  - Speakers Bureau
- “Backyard Basics” – public gardening classes  
Utah House, Thursday evenings, 7–8pm
- Books – use the library or buy your own favorites.

# Websites

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- University of Illinois extension website
  - Selected references:  
<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/roses/references.html>
  - Societies and organizations:  
<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/roses/societies.html>
  - Mail order sources (most are on the internet):  
<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/roses/mailorder.html>
- Utah Rose Society:  
<http://utah-rose.com/index.html>
- Pictures at Dave's Garden:  
<http://davesgarden.com/pf>