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TO SUCCEED WITH ROSES, A RICH, POROUS, WELL-DRAINED SOIL IS NEEDED

Plant in Clumps and Beds—A List of Desirable Varieties By Colors

Every home should have a few rose bushes. It matters not how humble the home may be or how expensive it may be, this one plant that all unite on as a general favorite. It is comparatively easily grown and yet to succeed with it, there are certain conditions that must be met.

Some of the lower growing varieties may be used for foundation plantings. In this case they should be set not closer than two or three feet from the foundation wall. This is a rule that should be adhered to in planting any kind of shrubbery as a foundation planting. Also, as a general rule, shrubbery should be set from 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 feet apart, depending on the size which the plant grows. Roses should be set 3 to 6 feet apart, depending on the varieties grown and space available. They are not as a rule, very desirable for planting around the foundation of the house as they are not very attractive when without bloom or with sparse foliage. Better results may be obtained and more attractive effect secured by planting in beds away from the house where they will be seen and admired when blooming, but will be inconspicuous when not in bloom. Dwarf Baby Rambler roses are useful for planting in the borders of shrub beds where they will bloom practically all summer, and give life and color to Evergreen backgrounds. These dwarf plants rarely exceed a height of two feet.

The climbing varieties are often used as foundation plantings, but even with these they should be set fully two feet out from the wall. Of course the climbers should not be used except where one desires a screen or to cut off the view. This would naturally mean that climbers should be planted only to one side of the porch or house, as it is never desirable to cut off the view from the front windows and doors, except in very rare cases where unusual conditions exist.

Location of Beds Important.

Roses, like other shrubbery, should be planted in masses or groups, rather than singly, or as individual plants. A rose bed when properly planted, and cared for, is a thing of beauty, but to plant a few bushes poorly and to put them in the wrong location, will detract from, rather than add to the appearance of the grounds. Therefore, the matter of location is one of importance. Like any other shrubbery, they may be planted in groups or clumps provided the grounds are large, but in this case they should be planted only in the angles or walks, corners, or other places where clumps of shrubbery naturally fit in. Either plant them as clumps of shrubbery in the angles of the walks and corners, or put them in beds to one side or to the rear of the house. As a general rule it is preferable to place them to the rear of the house, making a regular bed out of them.

While the rose grows on almost any type of soil, yet there are some soils where the plants succeed but indifferently. The extremely heavy clay or sandy soils do not fit well. Therefore, where one has a very heavy clay soil the rose bed should be lightened up by the addition of considerable sand or organic matter. In other words, add enough of these materials to loosen up the soil and make it more porous.

In case of a very sandy soil, it will be found desirable to add considerable clay and a lot of organic matter in the form of stable manure and other rotted material. If one will add sufficiently large quantities of these, the light sandy soils may be made sufficiently heavy for growing good roses.

Kind of Soil Needed.

Whatever the type of soil, keep in mind that to succeed best with roses, the soil must contain a liberal amount of organic matter. If this is not already present in the soil, add it in the form of stable manure, woods mould or other rotted material. Also roses will not stand wet feet and should be planted only on ground that is rich and sufficiently well drained. The soil should be very thoroughly

prepared, the deeper the better. A good plan is to fork up with a spading fork going down at least 12 or 15 inches deep, and even deeper than this is desirable. After it is spaded add the manure and spade up again, so as to thoroughly incorporate it with the soil. Keep working the soil until it is entirely free of lumps, trash, rocks, or other matter of this kind.

In planting roses in this well prepared soil, dig the hole deep enough so the roots may be spread out in their natural position. Never cram them but allow them to spread out just as they grow in the nursery row. Even though the ground is fairly rich and has considerable manure incorporated with it when it was broken, it is desirable to put some manure in the hole at the time the rose is set. It is highly important, however, that this manure be not allowed to come in contact with the roots. Put the plant in the hole in the proper position and cover the roots with top soil, packing it tightly around the roots. Use only the top soil or rich soil to come in contact with the roots, as the raw soil that may have been thrown out from the bottom of the hole should not be put around the roots, but put up near the surface. After the hole is about half full of soil and all roots are covered, put in a shovelful or two of well rotted stable manure. Use only the well rotted material. Horse stable manure is second best to the cow, but only well rotted manure should be used. Where no stable manure is available, put a few handfuls of either bone meal or cottonseed meal in the hole when planting. Be sure to keep it from coming in contact with the roots.

List of Desirable Varieties.

There are literally hundreds of varieties of roses. Most of them are good, but the following is a small list of the varieties of different colors that will succeed fairly well in almost any section of the South.

White Roses—White Maman Cochet; Kaiserin Augusta Victoria; and Snow Queen, which is known as Frau Karl Druschki.

Pink Roses—Pink Maman Cochet; Pink Radiance; Paul Neyron; Pink Killarney, President Taft, Mrs. Chas. Mock, Helen Gould, Bonnie Brown, Ophelia, William R. Smith.

Yellow Roses—Alexander Hill Gray; Etoile de Lyon; and Sunburst.

Red Roses—Red Radiance; General Jacqueminot; Red Maman Cochet; Rhea Reid, Meteor, Etoile de France, Grussan Tepletz, Chas. K. Douglas.

Among the best climbing roses with persistent foliage that does not blight or mildew, making them useful for screens, and while blooming but once

each season, producing at that time a wealth of flowers, the following are the most popular and satisfactory:

American Pillar—large clusters of single cherry red flowers with yellow centers.

Dr. Van Fleet—beautiful glowing shell pink clusters.

Silver Moon—large, single, pure white, yellow center.

Pink Cherokee—large, single, rosy pink, yellow center.

Paul's Scarlet Climber—deep scarlet flowers borne in clusters.

Among the monthly blooming climbing varieties, the following will give splendid results:

Climbing Mad. Caroline Testout—large flowers, deep rosy pink.

Marechal Neil—exquisitely fragrant, deep yellow flowers; probably the most popular climbing rose in the South.

Climbing Meteor—deep scarlet crimson.

Climbing White Cochet—pure white tinged with pink, very vigorous.

Among other good monthly climbers are Climbing Lady Astor, pink; Climbing Etoile de France, red; Climbing Grussan Tepletz, red; Climbing Helen Gould, dark pink; Climbing Ophelia, light pink; Climbing Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, white; William Allen Richardson, yellow; Reine Marie Henriette, red.

Roses may be set any time during late fall, winter or early spring. They should not be transplanted after (23-13t-p)

growth has started in the spring. The most section of the South this means that they may be planted in March and up to the early part of April.

One will not go wrong by planting some or all of these varieties.

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