

## Insect Control

### Aphids:

- These are always noticeable on Spring new growth. Can be green, orange, red or black the significance being the various lifecycle stages called nymphs.
- Have a natural predator in the common ladybird but the population of Aphids must be significant enough to attract the ladybirds.
- Will cause bloom and foliage damage.
- Normally controlled with proprietary rose sprays.

### Thrips:

- Thrips are more destructive and are usually found amongst the buds and blooms of roses in Spring.
- Can be pale green, brown or black dependant on the life cycle stage.
- Will cause premature aging of flowers especially white and yellow blooms and foliage burning.
- Normally controlled with proprietary rose sprays, Confidor, Mavrik.

### Fullers Rose Weevil:

- A small grey/brown weevil that burrows it's way into flower buds. Occurs in Spring through to Autumn.
- Not considered an important pest.
- Normally controlled with proprietary rose sprays.

### Two Spotted Mite:

- This is a significant pest of roses and other ornamental plants, found on the underside of the leaves.
- Often mistakenly called Red Spider as the life cycle of the mite produces individuals red in colour as the population ages. Normally the individuals are white or even translucent.
- Not considered an insect and is controlled using a Pestoil, Natrasoap or Eco Oil.
- Damage can be severe from general mottling of foliage to serious 'burning' once the damage ages.

## A Report on Swane's Gro Cubes®

Most people who have visited Swane's rose gardens will have noticed that we mulch all our roses with a compressed cube of lucerne. Swane's have believed that these Gro Cubes® have contributed much to the health of our gardens' soils and thus to the health and vigour of our display roses. Lucerne (or Alfalfa) from which the cubes are made has been proven to add essential nutrient, microbial activity and structure to soil. The nutrient balance in Swane's Gro Cubes® is close to ideal for roses and has been recommended by Simon Leake from Sydney Environmental and Soil laboratories. The nitrogen in Swane's Gro Cubes® is in a nontoxic slow release form that will not damage plants. Gro Cubes® stimulate root growth due to natural hormones in the Lucerne from which it is made and at the same time suppresses root disease. Gro Cubes® suppress weeds and conserve moisture aiding in water conservation and disease control. Gro Cubes® when applied after each winter and summer pruning keep soils warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Gro Cubes® stimulate worm activity as it breaks down encouraging aeration and soil structure that will benefit plant growth. Gro Cubes® supplement the natural ability of the soil to store and make available nutrient to plants.

Nutrient	% in Gro Cubes®	% recommended for Roses
Nitrogen	3.5 - 5.0	3.0 - 4.0
Phosphorous	0.3 - 0.6	0.2 - 0.4
Potassium	2.0 - 4.0	2.0 - 3.0
Sulphur	0.2 - 0.4	0.2 - 0.5
Calcium	1.0 - 2.0	1.0 - 1.5
Magnesium	0.3 - 0.5	0.3 - 0.4



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Rose Production Nursery Mitchell Hwy Narromine 2821



## Rose Growing and Care Guide

[www.swanes.com](http://www.swanes.com)

## Planting Instructions

**Tools required:** Spade, secateurs, bucket, watering can, Swane's Planting Mixture, Swane's Gro Cubes®.

- Plant your packaged Roses as soon as possible after purchase.
- Prepare to plant by digging an area 750mm wide, to a depth of 450mm. Remove and dispose of all packaging including soil. Stand roots in a bucket of water to wash free of packaging material, for 1 hour.
- Dig the hole deep enough to allow the bud union (a knot on the stem) to be 5cm to 7.5cm high in the centre of the hole. Sit the central core of roots spread over a mixture of Swane's Premium Rose Planting and Potting Mix and the site soil. Cover with Swane's Premium Rose Planting and Potting Mix and site soil then press down gently by hand.

Water thoroughly - let it drain away. Use Swane's Premium Rose Planting and Potting Mix to continue to backfill the hole or blend the mix with the garden soil to improve its consistency. Fill to top of hole leaving a saucer shaped depression in the centre so water will drain to the rose. Firm and water once more. Mulch immediately with Swane's Gro Cubes®.

DO NOT use fertilisers at planting time, in the hole or on top of the ground, as these may "burn" newly forming feeding roots.

Water roses every 2nd day, gently filling the saucer-shaped depression and letting the water drain through.

- **FERTILISING:** At monthly or six weekly intervals thereafter using Organic Life or Organix Rose Fertiliser as per manufactures directions.

DO NOT use FRESH MANURES or GRASS CLIPPINGS.

Plant Standard, Tree and Weeping roses using the same methods ensuring that any stakes and supports are in place before the plant is placed in the hole.

Plant potted roses as per the directions but without disturbing the root system.



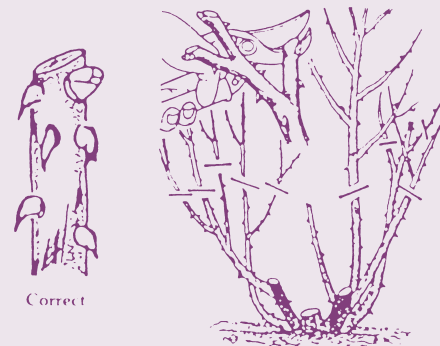
PACKAGED ROSE

BARE-ROOT ROSE

## Swane's 75% Winter Pruning Method for July and August

**Tools Required:** Leather gloves, secateurs - sharpened, pruning saw, rake, Swane's Gro Cubes®, Organic Life Fertiliser.

- Cut off 75% of the top of the bush. Cut anywhere at any angle to clear away foliage. Take a good look at the bush and cut out all weak, soft or small growths and all old or dead wood.
- The freshest looking limbs are this past year's growth, dark limbs are the previous year's and old barked limbs are three or more years old. Use your saw to remove the limbs that are three or more years old. Saw these out as close to the ground as possible. Each saw cut should have a slanting cut to make sure that water runs off the wound.
- Cut back each limb to achieve an open centre in the bush. This can be aided by cutting to an outward facing bud so that growth develops to the outside of the bush allowing sun and air to penetrate the bushes interior.
- Immediately after pruning rake up all fallen leaves, feed with Organic Life or Organix Rose Food then mulch with Swane's Gro Cubes®.
- After winter pruning spray the pruned bush and surrounding soil surface with Lime Sulphur as per directions on the package.



Correct

### Tip

Do not use blunt implements as jagged cuts are entry points for diseases such as die back.

Spray developing leaves with Harvest and Triforine to develop strong disease resistance.

## Pruning Climbing Roses



- For the first two years all canes arising from the base of the plant should be tied to its support.
- The only regular pruning should be the removal of unwanted canes. Prune off the last 45cm of each cane in late winter or very early spring. This causes side growth (laterals) from which flowers will emerge.
- Subsequent pruning requires flower stems to be cut off 2 to 3 buds above their junction with the laterals. Remember that picking the flowers will achieve this.
- When a cane is worn out, cut it out at the base. A new basal cane will arise and can be trained as outlined earlier.
- There are few or no blooms on climbers in their first year after planting.



## Pruning Weeping Roses

- Prune in late summer by removing 30% - 50% of the length of the pendulous canes.

## The Black Spot Story

Black spot is the most significant pest or disease of roses, and for that reason understanding its cycle is most important in ensuring effective control. Black spot is a fungal pathogen that is spread easily in periods of warm humid weather. Its control depends on good hygiene, correct pruning, adequate but not excessive watering, mulching and spraying. Using Gro Cubes® will suppress the incidence of black spot.

### Prevention:

- Make sure that the rose gets a minimum of 5 hours uninterrupted sun per day.
- Make sure the area of planting drains freely and does not waterlog at any time.
- Space bushes to ensure air passes between each freely.
- Water in the mornings and never allow the foliage

to be wet overnight. Mulching reduces water use and therefore the humidity around the plant which encourages disease.

- Prune bushes in winter and also again in summer as described in this leaflet.

### Spray Program:

Swane's Production and Garden roses

are sprayed each 10 days with a fungicide to control diseases.

- July/August after pruning - Lime Sulphur as per directions. Bushes need to be 'leafless'.

• August - use proprietary rose sprays containing 'Triforine' and 'Harvest' as the active constituent. Spray at minimum 14 - 21 day cycles. Other chemicals such as Mancozeb can be used as alternate sprays each second or third spray.

- All leaves should be well covered by spray mist for best results.

• December/May - is the most prevalent period for disease problems. Make sure of the summer prune in February. Spray at minimum 10 - 14 day cycles.

Always follow the directions on the packages.

## Other Diseases

### Powdery Mildew:

Has an effect of a fine white powder on new growth and flower buds. Causes burning and distortion. Prevalent in Spring until December.

### Downy Mildew:

Purple to brown angular patches on leaves and stems. Defoliates plant, retards new growth. Use Fungus Fighter or Copper Oxychloride.

## Tip

Try Swane's Low Toxicity Control recipe in addition to the mainstream chemicals: mix 3 teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda to a paste consistency with a little water. Add that mixture to 2.5 tablespoons of Pestoil. This is then blended with 4.5 litres of water. Keep it agitated while spraying new foliage to the point of runoff. This needs to be kept to a weekly cycle for best results. This programme has great benefit when used in conjunction with proprietary rose sprays and good cultural conditions.

