ROSES

You can grow them in North Dakota

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NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
ROSES... You Can Grow Them In North Dakota

Roses in North Dakota have to contend with rather short summers and long, cold winters. Rainfall is usually less than roses need to do well. Some years there isn't enough snow to protect the plants from the low temperatures. Roses need to be both hardy and drought-resistant to thrive in North Dakota yards and gardens without protection.

INSECTS

Many pests bother roses. The main one is the rose curculio. This insect makes small holes in the base of the rose bud. Buds damaged by this insect turn brown and fail to open. The best control is to pick the insects from the plant and destroy them. Dusting or spraying with D.D.T. also gives effective control.

The rose curculio multiplies on native wild roses. Native roses are found everywhere in North Dakota. This means if you raise roses here it will be in spite of the curculios. Some varieties of roses seem less subject to curculio injury. In some of the larger cities roses sometimes escape curculio damage because they are a considerable distance from wild roses.

DISEASES

Hybrid tea and floribunda roses suffer from black spot and mildew. Each of these diseases is caused by fungus. Fungus diseases are best controlled by fungicides such as found in all-purpose rose dusts. Most of these all-purpose rose dusts contain one or more insecticides, also.

Hybrid tea and floribunda roses should be dusted once every week from June 1 until frost. If a rain occurs between dustings, dust your roses again as soon as the foliage has dried.

SOIL AND LOCATION

You can grow roses in any soil that will grow good vegetables. Space them 15 to 24 inches apart. You can plant them almost anywhere there is sun and good drainage. Roses won’t stand wet soil.

WHEN TO PLANT

Plant roses in the early spring in North Dakota. Fall planting is not recommended at all. Follow planting instructions that come with the roses.
PRUNING

Most rose growers prefer to do their pruning in the spring. In the case of hardy roses, remove all weak or diseased shoots. Also remove any very old shoots and permit new shoots to replace them. Some years there will be little need for pruning hardy roses.

Hybrid tea and floribunda roses are much less winter hardy than the so-called “hardy” roses. Most winters hybrid tea and floribunda roses will kill back considerably. Dead wood should be removed in the spring. All shoots on hybrid tea’s and floribundas should be cut back to 8 to 10 inches above the ground as soon as the plants are unmounded.

WINTER CARE

Mound hybrid tea and floribunda roses with earth in late autumn to a height of 8 to 10 inches. For additional protection, lay vines or small branches on top of the earth mounds to help hold snow. Unmound in spring as soon as soil is workable.

A hybrid tea rose set the proper depth and properly trimmed.

Take climbing roses from the trellis in late autumn. Remove old and surplus canes. Tie the remaining canes in a bundle, lay down, and cover with 6 inches of soil. Uncover climbers early in the spring.

Hardy roses require little, or no, winter care.

HARDY ROSES

So-called hardy roses have been tested by the North Dakota Agricultural College Experiment Station. Hardy roses are of value chiefly as a yard, or landscape, subject. Stems of hardy roses are too short for cutting. Clean cultivation and removal of old and failing canes is about all the care that hardy roses require. Some of these roses kill back somewhat each winter but usually recover and give considerable bloom.
HARDY ROSE VARIETIES


HANSA: An old popular variety. Fragrant, double, reddish roses from June until autumn. Widely planted and persists because of its general hardiness. Grows 4 to 6 feet.

YELLOW PERSIAN AND HARRISON'S YELLOW: These two yellow roses are different varieties but quite similar. Same names used for each. Double yellow flowers in June. Worthwhile and real hardy. Height about 5 feet.

BELLE POITEVINE: Blooms all summer. Bears large, pink, double flowers. Rather low growing, to about 3-1/2 feet.

BETTY BLAND: A fine hardy rose. Rather upright in habit. Old bushes grow to 6 feet. Valuable for its abundant bloom of double pink flowers in June and its showy red bark on the young growth in winter. This rose should be in every yard. It is not only hardy but there is some evidence that it escapes the curculio or rose beetle.

SIR THOMAS LIPTON: A white Rugosa hybrid worthy of trial. Grows 2 to 3 feet in height with double flowers most of the summer.

F. J. GROOTENDORST: Dark green foliage. Small bright red, carnation-like flowers grown in clusters that from a distance appear to be one large bloom. Three feet when mature. Season June to autumn.

AMELIE GRAVEREAUX: Slightly tender. Bright red, very double flowers. Foliage, dark green and leathery; bush medium sized. Blooms from June throughout the season.

AGNES: Fragrant golden yellow double flowers in late May and June. Color fades in full sun but holds well if buds are opened indoors. Bush grows to 4 to 5 feet.

FLORIBUNDA ROSES

Home gardeners like these little free-blooming roses. Floribundas display large clusters of flowers from mid-June until killed by frost. They are easy to grow but must be mounded for winter protection. Floribundas are good in mass plantings or in the border. Recommended for trial, if you want to go beyond the very hardy varieties.

PINOCCHIO: Double salmon pink flowers, blooms 1-1/2 inches across; bush grows to maximum height of 2 feet.
GOLDILOCKS: True golden yellow double. Fades some in full sun. Holds its color well if opened indoors. Very free blooming. Flowers over 3 inches across, bush 2 to 3 feet tall.

WORLD'S FAIR: Very dark red velvety. Quality of petals excellent. Semi-double flowers to 4 inches in diameter, bush 2 to 3 feet tall. This is a very good rose.

DONALD PRIOR: Semi-double red. Persistent bloomer. One of the most dependable floribundas. Bush about 3 feet tall.

BETTY PRIOR: Single pink. One of the tallest floribundas, often reaching 4 feet. Young twigs attractive red color.

WHITE PINOCCHIO: One of the best white floribundas. Flowers quite double. Grows to about 2 feet.

RED PINOCCHIO: A very fine dark red floribunda. Flowers to 3-1/2 inches across. Holds its color well.

VALENTINE: One of the most floriferous of all floribundas. A very bright red. A low bush, seldom over 18 inches. Striking in group plantings.

FASHION: Coral in color, overlaid with apricot. Grows to 2 feet, usually, in the North. Semi-double flowers to 3 inches across.

VOGUE: Cherry-color flowers are slow opening. Flowers large for a floribunda variety. To 3 feet.

HYBRID TEAS

Many varieties of hybrid tea roses can be purchased from nurseries. These generally will produce a large number of blooms the first season and in some cases can be brought through the winter if properly mounded and mulched. Hybrid tea roses grow on long stems and are suitable for cutting.

PEACE. Very large golden yellow blooms with pink flush. Fades almost to white. Perhaps the most vigorous hybrid tea rose. Should be a part of every hybrid tea rose planting.

CRIMSON GLORY: Deep velvety red blooms carrying considerable fragrance. One of the best hybrid teas; certainly one of the very best reds.


HELEN TRAUBEL: Long pointed pink buds are outstanding in this variety. A new and beautiful variety in the pink hybrid teas. Stems are a bit weak in the neck causing the large full blooms to hang their heads when heavy with dew or rain.
REX ANDERSON: Good white hybrid teas are hard to come by. Rex Anderson is one of the very best. Buds are slow opening, a desirable feature in a hybrid tea rose.

CHARLOTTE ARMSTRONG: Buds of dark red open into full cerise blooms. Buds have desirable long pointed shape. A well behaved variety.

CHRYSLER IMPERIAL: A very double deep red. A vigorous grower with strong necked stems. Larger, but fewer, blooms than Crimson Glory.

FORTY-NINER: For folks who like the novelty of a bi-color rose, Forty-niner is a good one to include in their rose planting. Inside of the petals are chinese red, the outside is straw yellow. This color combination produces a striking effect when well grown.

SUTTER’S GOLD: Long bright yellow buds are shaded with orange and red. Opens into large yellow blooms. Blooms open a bit on the quick side in warm weather. One of the few good yellows.


There are many other excellent hybrid tea rose varieties.

CLIMBING ROSES

The amateur rose grower had best leave climbing roses for more temperate climates. They are for the most part tender and require more care than any of the other sorts. Growers wishing to try their luck with climbers, however, should begin with the following varieties; New Dawn, Blaze, Dr. J. H. Nicolas, and Crimson Glory.

Do not forget climbers should be taken from the trellis in the fall, tied in a long bundle, and covered with inches of soil. Otherwise, they will kill to the ground level.

For additional information on roses, the U.S.D.A. Bulletin No. 25, "Roses For The Home," is available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C.