

Magic Garden Roses

Hello everybody,

We thought we should send out a quick Newsletter to let you all know that it is time to start spraying your roses. People in Queensland should have started spraying some time ago.



It is so welcoming to see all those shoots coming back again! There is so much growth everywhere, you can measure 2-3 cm growth per day. The season has started early in many areas and now is the time to throw down some fertiliser and start a spraying program.

When fungal spores are active in the warmer months, spraying is essential if your roses are to remain stress free and healthy. Healthy foliage means healthy roses, the foliage is after all the "lungs" of the plant.

Triforine is a spray which can give you total control over blackspot, powdery mildew and rust. The way in which the Triforine works is very simple. It is a systemic spray which once sprayed is absorbed into the plant through the younger and sappy growth. The uptake is very good at this time of year because of the number of new soft shoots everywhere. So take advantage of this opportunity and get a good head start.

Remember, that this is a preventative spray, it is not a cure!

Spray while the roses are looking good and then stay in control by maintaining a spraying program all the way through their flowering period.

Spray Program:

Every 7 - 10 days September through December

Every 10 - 14 days after December

Every 7 - 10 days after mid March till dormant.

You mix Triforine at a rate of 15ml Triforine per 1litre of clean water and always use a bottle that has never had any weed killer in it. We cannot stress enough how important this is! Every year we get people saying how they cleaned the container with hot soapy water but they still get damage.

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So be aware and if you suspect a spray bottle may have ever had weed killer in it - replace it with a new one.

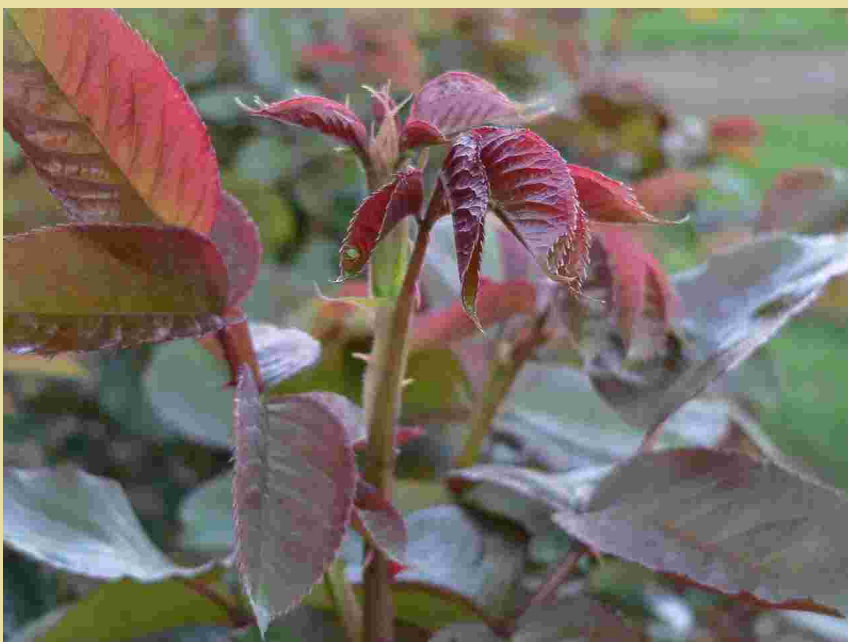


It is ideal to add a wetting agent in with the Triforine. A wetting agent helps stop run off and will help the Triforine stick to the plant a lot better. This provides better absorption of the spray into the rose plant. A cheaper way to get a similar (but not as good) effect is to add 2 ml of dishwashing liquid per litre but the proper wetting agent like the Kenwet 1000 or Agral is by far the best way to stop runoff.

When buying Triforine, we suggest you look for the "Kendon" Triforine. We have tested it ourselves against other brands and were amazed at the results. It was hard to believe there was actually so much difference. It has also been tested by Choice magazine and found to be a superior product.

Aphids can be eradicated by adding in some Pyrethrum but make sure you don't mix the Triforine and Pyrethrum together as a raw ingredient. Half fill the bottle with water and then add the two separately otherwise they will deactivate each other and it will be no better than spraying pure water. An important tip!

We have been promoting the "Terra Firma Organic Life" for a very long time but we have recently noticed a bit of a supply problem.



The product is also only available in 35kg bags which not everybody can use! We have recently been approached by "Amgro" who have a similar product with sulphate of potash added. We have been extremely happy with the quality and availability of this product Australia wide. We have now put our official stamp of approval on this fabulous fertiliser. Magic Garden Roses is now fully stocked with Amgro Organix Extra but for those that cannot make the trip up to our

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nursery, it should be available from most Home hardware stores and Mitre 10 outlets. It is available in 5kg, 8kg, 16kg and 35kg too.

We simply cannot recommend a better fertiliser for your roses. Feed now, then again in December and finally in February. You will not need to use any other fertiliser as it has chicken manure, fish meal, seaweed extract and blood and bone all mix in the one pellet. Just sprinkle a generous handful 3 times a year and watch your roses bloom like you have never seen before.... if this all sounds a bit like a commercial, sorry but it's all about being able to help you get the best results from your roses and that is what we are all after!

We hope this helps you get started and enjoy great results over the season. Please feel free to contact us if you do not understand certain points of the information or have any other questions or issues with your roses.



For those who have planted bare rooted roses over the past months, remember not to over water. Keep them damp but don't drown them. Most people give extra water when they see their bare rooted roses going backwards or wilting even slightly. This is the worst thing you can do, resist the temptation to add more and more water.

They can only take up so much and over watering will produce a shallow disease prone root system. Just keep them damp - not sopping wet. Keep mulch away from newly planted bare rooted roses. Apply mulch only when weather really starts to warm up and water loss is a problem.

Thank you all so much for your praise of our past newsletters, if you can make the trip to our nursery, we look forward to giving you a personal tour. Our gardens should look at their peak from last week in October. Earlier this year we signed on with David Austin roses who are based in England. In January we will be opening a new part of the show gardens featuring 60 new varieties of the David Austin range. Some magnificent varieties will be on show and we are really looking forward with a lot excitement to making some of those varieties available to our customers over the coming years.

All the best and happy gardening from Pete and Trish Boerlage and the staff at Magic Garden Roses.

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