Roses

(Rosa spp. and cultivars)

Family: Rosaceae

Rose Basics:

Major Groups:

- **Species Roses**—grown wild for thousands of years.

- **Old Garden Roses** (OGR) - introduced before the 1st Hybrid Tea 'La France' was in 1867. Includes subdivisions Bourbon, Damask, Hybrid Gallica, Moss, Tea and others.

- **Modern Roses**—after 1867 subdivided into:
  - **Hybrid Tea** - 1 per long stem; for cutting; flushes every 6 weeks; tender.
  - **Floribunda** - lg. flowers in clusters; nearly continuous bloom; may be hardier.
  - **Grandiflora** - 1 or a cluster per stem on tall plants; tender.
  - **Polyantha** - sm. flowers in lg. clusters on compact, free-flowering plants; may be hardy.
  - **Shrub** - lg. group with classes: R. kordesii, hybrid musk, hybrid rugosa, & shrub including English or (David) Austin.

- Hardy to zone 4
- Repeat bloomers
- Often double flowers
- Disease resistance

- **Miniatures & Mini-floras** - flowers, leaves and plants are small versions.

- **Climbers** - have long arching canes and need support; can be hybrid tea, floribunda, grandiflora, lg.flowered climbers, mini's.

Grafted - desired rose on a rootstock of:

- 'Dr. Huey' - tolerates average to dry, alkaline soil; lg.flowered climber; pointed maroon buds open dark red, semi-double.
- 'Fortuniana' - for hot climates.
- Rosa multiflora - an invasive species! Buds from below the graft union will be of rootstock not desired rose but plants produced faster by growers.

Own Rooted - propagated from cuttings; slower for grower; buds from roots will be the desired rose.

Rose Culture:

**Hardiness** - modern shrub roses and species roses are the hardiest; others need winter protection; rose cones - in late fall mound soil at base, place mouse poison, cutback plant to fit without touching sides, vent in late winter/early spring, uncover when danger of frost is passed; cages - in late fall same as cones but surround with chicken wire, tie-up stems with soft cloth, stuff with dry leaves or straw, gradually uncover as new growth forms, cut-back dead tissue.

**Planting** - grafted roses should be planted with union 2” below ground; own rooted at ground level; amend soil with peat moss.

**Mulching** - a 2-4” layer at all times.

**Fertilizing** - once flowering begins, every 6 weeks until late summer; shrub roses need little.

**Pruning** - remove largest canes each year in spring then remove any dead growth back to an outward facing bud.

**Cutting flowers** - down to a leaf with 5 leaflets.

**Diseases** - Shrub roses resistant; black spot; powdery mildew; rust; mosaic virus and others. Avoid overhead watering & crowding.

**Insects** - Japanese beetles, rose slug sawfly, aphids, leafcutter bees (not damaging).
The Knock-Out Rose Family
(Rosa x 'Knock-out' (shrub))
All-America Rose Selection Winner: 2000
A breakthrough in rose breeding selected for winter hardiness, disease resistance and continuous bloom making it an extremely low-maintenance, high performance rose. Bred by Bill Radler, former director of Boerner B.G.
Forms a 3 - 4' compact mound. Cherry red single flowers.
Other ‘Knock-Out’ Roses:
- Double KO - twice the petals
- Pink KO - powerful pink
- Pink Double KO - double, hot pink
- Blushing KO - pale pink
- Sunny KO - yellow aging to cream; more upright; 4 - 4 1/2 ‘.
- Rainbow - 2007 AARS Winner; coral pink with yellow bases; more compact and floriferous.
Other Radler Roses:
- Carefree Sunshine - clear yellow, semi-double, non-fading in heat, spring to fall; med. Tall, rounded and bushy. Also as a climber.
- Ramblin’ Red - climber.

Other Hardy Hybrid Shrub Roses:
X ‘Bonica’ 2 - 4’; small, double, pink opening to white.
X ‘Carefree Beauty’ 3 - 4’ loose, open plant; semi-double, pink, fragrant.
X ‘Carefree Delight’ 2 - 4’ mounded; single, pink; free-flowering.
X ‘Carefree Wonder’ 3 - 5’ dense, compact plant; semi-double pink-red.
“MAYBE THE FINEST OF THE HYBRID SHRUB ROSES!”
X ‘Champlain’ 3 - 4’; floribunda type with clusters of bright red, double flowers; dies to the ground in cold winters.
X ‘Nearly Wild’ 2 - 3’ compact plant; single, pink, profuse flowering.
X ‘Seafoam’ - 2 - 3’ low growing; white, double in clusters.
X ‘The Fairy’ 2– 3’ plant with tiny glossy leaves; small, pink flowers; tolerates some shade.

Hardy Climbing Roses:
R. kordesii ‘William Baffin’ (Canadian Explorer Series) 4 - 6’ or more with support; stout canes; deep pink, semi-double repeat bloomer; floribunda type; the only really fully hardy climbing rose for northern climates.
Species Roses:

**Meadow Rose (R. blanda)** native; adaptable, tolerates wet sites, full sun; 4—5' arching, mounded, suckering; single, light pink, and fragrant, the 1 3/4 - 2 1/2" showy flowers are borne solitary or in clusters of 3-7 from late May into June; excellent bright red 1/3" hips are very effective from late July into winter; thornless stems are red to purplish red and showy in winter.

**Prairie Rose (R. setigera)** native; aggressive grower with long arching canes up to 12' long; pink flowers in early July are followed by marble sized red hips and orange-red to maroon fall color; usable as a fully hardy informal climber or allowed to sprawl over structures (rock walls, fences, etc.) or natural areas.

**Virginia Rose (R. virginiana)** native; 4- - 6'; pink flowers in June are followed by red fruits which persist into winter on red canes. The glossy green foliage turns maroon to red-orange in fall. Not for the small-scale landscape due to its suckering habit, but is lovely when used in naturalizing or to cover slopes.

**Rugose Rose (R. rugosa)** - Full sun, tolerates some shade. Requires a neutral to acid soil, otherwise very adaptable. Withstands salt and dry sterile soils. Durable and versatile with a magnificent flower, fruit and foliage combination. The fragrant flowers begin in June with repeat flushes throughout summer into fall, and range in color from purple to white depending on the cultivar. The hips (fruit) are large (up to 1"), bright red and present late summer into winter. Glossy dark green rugose (deep veined, thick and puckered) summer foliage turns yellow to red-orange in fall. Regular pruning is important to maintain an attractive plant, but difficult as the sturdy canes are densely covered with prickles. Unfortunately, the flowers and foliage of this species are a favorite food of the Japanese beetle. Sensitive to pesticide sprays and overfertilization.

Hybrid Rugosas:

- **X ‘Albo-plena’** 3 - 4'; double white; fragrant; no hips.
- **X ‘Belle Poitevine’** 3 - 4'; double pink; poor hips; leaves less rugose.
- **X ‘Blanc Double de Coubert’** 5 - 6'; double white, fragrant; rarely forms hips; leaves very rugose & glossy.
- **X ‘F.J. Grootendorst’** 4 - 5'; small red flowers in clusters; leaf diseases in wet years.
- **X ‘Fru Dagmar Hastrup’** 2 - 4'; single, satin pink; large red hips.
- **X ‘Hansa’** 5 - 6'; semi-double, crimson, fragrant; red-orange hips.
- **X ‘Therese Bugnet’** 5—6'; vigorous; double, pink, in a June flush; foliage less attractive; hips go from red to black.