

Rosemania

Rosemania Recommends

Successful Spray Programs



by: Logan Shillinglaw

Our goal is to make growing beautiful roses as easy as possible. Last month, Robbie did a great job talking about the basics needed to get your roses off to a good start. Choosing a successful spray program can keep a good thing going.

With any good spray program, the key is "Prevention". Once your roses become infected, left untreated you can generally count on losing most of the leaves. No leaves means no photosynthesis and that equates to NO ROSES! While you can spray to eliminate such problems, the best strategy is to prevent them from happening in the first place.

When you do your spring pruning, immediately start your preventative spray program. Spray the canes and bed with a blackspot contact killer such as *Mancozeb* or *Pentathlon*. This will eliminate any blackspot spores that "wintered" over. One week later, start your preventative program and continue until your roses go dormant from cold weather (late fall or early winter). Rosarians in Florida and California need to continue their spray program year round.

We have a lot of people asking what spray program we recommend as a "proven performer". A practical program would be *Banner Maxx* sprayed every 14 days. I also mix *Mancozeb* or *Pentathlon DF* with the *Banner Maxx* (both at full strength) every other time I spray. *Banner Maxx* is very economical when you take into consideration that one teaspoon will make three gal-

lons of spray solution. This means a one pint bottle will make almost 300 gallons. The shelf life of a bottle of *Banner Maxx* is 5 years from the time it is first opened if stored properly. We have *Banner Maxx* in a generic formulation (*Honor Guard*) at a reduced price. Be sure to ask for it when you call or read about it on our website.

spray solution and the rose leaves. This causes the water to "bead up" on the leaf like water does on a waxed table. Unless this surface tension is broken, the spray will not evenly cover - and protect - your plants.

| <u>Fungicides</u> | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Eagle 20EW (pint)</i> | \$69.99 |
| <i>Banner Maxx (pint)</i> | \$69.99 |
| <i>Honor Guard (pint; generic B. Maxx)</i> | \$57.99 |
| <i>Heritage (4oz)</i> | \$149.99 |
| <i>Compass (1 pound)</i> | \$469.00 |
| <i>Mancozeb (pint)</i> | \$24.99 |
| <i>Pentathlon DF (6 lb)</i> | \$47.99 |
| <i>Pentathlon LF (2.5 Gallons)</i> | \$124.99 |
| <i>Daconil Ultrex (5 lb)</i> | \$89.95 |
| <i>Clearys 3336F (quart)</i> | \$72.99 |
| <i>Stature SC (for Downey Mildew)</i> | \$199.99 |
| <i>Aliette WDG (5lb)</i> | \$154.95 |

Choose a spray day that generally is good for you. For me, that is usually Sunday. If it rains on Sunday, I spray on Monday but keep my regular day (Sunday) in two weeks when it is time to spray again. If it rains after you have sprayed, the plants are protected IF the spray had dried before the rain.

For those who want the best preventative spray program available, consider alternating *Compass* or *Heritage* with *Banner Maxx* every 14 days to prevent the fungus spores from building up a resistance to the use of only one systemic fungicide.

I spray early in the morning or late in the afternoon when it is cool. It is best to spray

| <u>Insecticides</u> | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Conserve SC (Great for thrips!)</i> | \$156.00 |
| <i>Merit (2 oz) (for aphids and J. Beetles)</i> | \$59.99 |
| <i>Orthene 97 WP (.773 lb)</i> | \$31.99 |
| <i>Mavrik (quart)</i> | \$145.00 |
| <i>Talstar Professional (quart)</i> | \$79.99 |
| <i>Immunox Plus (quart)</i> | \$23.00 |

after the dew has evaporated in mornings or before it gets dark in afternoons. Be sure to use a spreader/sticker in your spray mix. The natural oil in rose leaves will cause some high surface tension between the

Indicate 5



\$22.99 (quart)
\$51.99 (gallon)

Indicate 5 has been the spreader/sticker of choice for many years and I can't recommend it enough. A quart goes a long way. Simply mix your chemicals in your sprayer and add the *Indicate 5* last. Only add enough to turn the water pink. Once it stays pink, you are ready to start spraying.

Conserve SC
\$156.00 (quart)



Recent studies on thrip control have revealed the effectiveness of *Conserve*, a spinosad insecticide. Spinosad is derived from a soil dwelling bacteria. Studies at Ohio State University found that *Conserve* was significantly better than *Orthene* at controlling thrips while retaining high numbers of beneficial insects. *Conserve* also works great for control of bud worms, bag worms, fall webworms, gypsy moth, and spruce budworms. Usage is 1/3 (one third) teaspoon per gallon.

Like most rosarians, I don't use insecticides unless I have an insect problem. The trouble with insecticides is that they don't just kill the aphids, white flies and other chewing insects. They also kill ladybugs, green lacewings and other beneficial insects that

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eat aphids and spider mites. Overuse of insecticides will cause you more problems than solutions, so use them only when they are needed. I can highly recommend *Orthene*, *Talstar* and *Merit* for control of most chewing and sucking insects. *Conserve SC* works great on thrips!

It is important to wear proper safety equipment when spraying your roses. You want to protect your lungs, your eyes and your skin. No pesticide, not even home-made remedies are good for your lungs so be sure to wear a *pesticide respirator* any time you are spraying. Remember, if you can smell it, you are breathing it! A paper mask WILL NOT protect your lungs from pesticide vapors. For eye protection, wear *goggles* (these will fit over your glasses) or safety glasses with side shields. To protect your skin you should at a minimum wear long pants and a long sleeve shirt. *Tyvek* coveralls are fantastic for this purpose. They can be used many times before simply throwing them away. This also prevents the need to wash pesticide coated clothing in your washing machine. For hand protection, there is no better product available than *Nitril Disposable Gloves*. Each box comes with 100 gloves. Use once and throw away.

A last few points. Always follow the directions on the manufacturer's label. More



Dual Cartridge Respirator

If you can smell it, you are breathing it!

Safety Equipment

| | |
|--|---------|
| <i>Dual Cartridge Respirator</i> | \$35.99 |
| <i>Respirator Replacement Cartridges</i> | \$18.99 |
| <i>Nitril Disposable Gloves</i> | |
| 100/box (sizes S,M,L,XL) | \$21.99 |
| <i>Goat Skin Gloves (S,M,L,XL)</i> | \$15.99 |
| <i>West County Gloves</i> | \$32.95 |
| <i>Mud Gloves (XS/S/M/L)</i> | \$8.99 |
| <i>Goggles</i> | \$19.99 |
| <i>Tyvek Coveralls (sizes: S,M,L,XL,XXL)</i> | |
| 1 pair \$9.95; 5 - 9 pairs; price each | \$7.95 |

is not better so don't over mix or over apply. Spray your roses to lightly cover the leaves. Be sure to safely dispose of all spray material when you are finished. The mixture will lose its strength and storage is not a safe practice.

Just getting started with roses? Be sure to check out the "For Beginners" section of our website for a wide selection of seasonal

Don't miss your last chance to order bare root roses. All our bare roots are #1 grade from Weeks Roses.

We also have a wonderful selection of miniature and miniflora roses grown in our own greenhouses in Thompsons Station, TN

Complete Selection at:

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articles designed to make it easy to grow beautiful roses. Also, check out our new "For Beginners" page on our Products website. There you can see a variety of products intended for the new rosarian.

Be safe and have a great time in your garden!

