

# Rosemania

## Rosemania Recommends



*Preparing for Those  
Hot Summer Months*  
by: Logan Shillinglaw

The first months of summer heat are here for many areas of the country. As the temperature rises, it's not as much fun to be out in the middle of the day. It quickly becomes a priority to make the most of your time in the garden. The most important thing you can give your roses this summer is plenty of water. Roses need water for feeding and protection.

As we all know, a well hydrated rose can more easily fend off disease. A common mistake is to water every day but to only give the roses a small amount. I would prefer to see you water less frequently, but make sure the ground is deeply watered. Deep watering will ensure deep roots. Frequent but light watering will cause your plants to grow a large number of surface roots and not the deep roots rose bushes need. I recommend at least 3 gallons of water per bush when watering. If you are using a drip-type or soaker hose, find out how many gallons per hour your system emits per bush and adjust your time accordingly. If you have well prepared soil, it is almost impossible to over-water your roses during the summer months.

For the past two years, many areas of the country faced drought conditions. A lot of

### Soil Moist Water Crystals



8 oz \$9.00  
1 lb \$16.00  
3 lb \$29.99

us were put on water restrictions that became worse as the summer progressed. Fortunately for many of my container plants, I had mixed into my soil a great product that cuts down on the need for watering. One way to reduce the amount of water you need is to add **Soil Moist Water Crystals** to your planting medium. These tiny crystals absorb a great deal of water and swell to 200 times their dry size. Not only does this product help reduce watering, it also encourages deep root penetration, reduces soil compaction, minimizes transplant shock and lasts several seasons. **Soil Moist Water Crystals** can be added to established plants but are much easier to mix into the soil when you are planting new roses.

It's easy to prepare for mixing in your soil. Simply add 8 oz (1 cup) of crystals to three gallons of water and allow them to hydrate over night. The next day you can mix 2 cups of hydrated crystals in the soil you use for each potted plant and up to 3 cups of hydrated crystals for plants in the ground. It is a great product for all of your plants.

If your roses are well hydrated, giving them the food they need to flourish is the next important component of a beautiful garden. There are two products that are "a must" in my feeding program - **Mills Magic Rose Mix and Mills Easy Feed**. Several years ago, rosarian extraordinaire, Ted Mills was looking for the ideal organic mix for his roses. Since organics are nature's way of feeding, he worked to develop a mixture that would add a beneficial combination to the soil. With the help of Clayton Beaty and his staff, **Mills Magic Rose Mix** became available to rose growers across the country. This blend of alfalfa meal, fish meal, steamed bone meal, activated sludge and an organic compost activator provides a long term feeding to your soil and the plant. The organics break down slowly for a longer

## Mills Products

<b>Magic Mix (9 lb.)</b>	<b>\$14.99</b>
<b>Magic Mix (20 lb.)</b>	<b>\$25.99</b>
<b>Magic Mix (40lb pail)</b>	<b>\$58.99</b>
<b>EasyFeed (3 lb.)</b>	<b>\$16.99</b>
<b>EasyFeed (9 lb.)</b>	<b>\$39.99</b>
<b>Liquid EasyFeed (pint)</b>	<b>\$9.99</b>
<b>Liq. EasyFeed (1/2 gallon)</b>	<b>\$23.99</b>
<b>Liq. EasyFeed (1 gallon)</b>	<b>\$39.99</b>
<b>Liq. EasyFeed (5 gallon)</b>	<b>\$174.99</b>
<b>Bloomkote (15 lbs.)</b>	<b>\$39.99</b>
<b>Bloomkote (40 lbs.)</b>	<b>\$89.99</b>



lasting effect than liquid fertilizers. An added benefit is that the earthworms in your soil feed on these organics providing worm castings (more organic fertilizer).

You will want to add 2-3 cups of **Mills Magic Rose Mix** to your soil 2-3 times per growing season. I put down my first application when I am uncovering and planting my roses in the spring and then again in mid summer. For best results, work the mix into the soil around the drip line of the plant. Because this is a dry mix, it is very important that you water your garden well after applying. This helps get the process started. Now that you have fed your soil, it is im-

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**FREE SHIPPING to the lower 48 States on all orders over \$15. (excludes roses)**

**Rosemania 4020 Trail Ridge Drive Franklin TN 37067**

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portant to feed the plant. This is where liquid fertilizers come into the picture. While organics provide the longer term feeding, liquids provide the more immediate effect. They pass through the soil and are quickly absorbed by the roots which in turn pass the nutrients to the rest of the plant. When it comes to a well formulated liquid fertilizer I stick with *Mills EasyFeed*. This complete fertilizer containing fish, seaweed, chelated iron and Epsom salts as well as the right balance of NPK gives my roses the mix of nutrients they need to produce larger blooms with vibrant colors. *Liquid EasyFeed* is mixed at a rate of one tablespoon per gallon of water. If you have a few roses, this is easy to do in a watering can or bucket. If your garden is larger and you water by hand, you might want to consider using a *siphon mixer* and a bucket of concentrated solution. Mix the fertilizer at a rate of 16 tablespoons per gallon of water in a bucket to create the concentrate. Simply connect the *siphon mixer* to your hose (no more than 50 feet from the dispensing end), slip the tube from the mixer into the concentrate, turn on the water and start fertilizing. The mixer accurately combines the concentrate with water. I give each plant one gallon every 4 weeks. Apply it to the soil directly. Foliar feeding is not recommended with EasyFeed.

If you want to make the task of mixing easier while reducing the risk of spillage, the *EZ Flo Automatic Fertilizing System* is the product you need. The  $\frac{3}{4}$  gallon model will hold enough fertilizer to treat 80 plants without recharging. Just add one tablespoon of water soluble fertilizer to the tank for each bush you intend to treat. Top off the tank with water, put on the lid, attach to your faucet and start fertilizing – it's really that easy.

After hearing about how easy it is to have a complete feeding program through the use of *Mills Magic Rose Mix* and *EasyFeed*, the natural question is "How much do I need for my garden?" Here's a quick guide:

*Magic Mix 20# bag Feeds 25 to 30 roses*  
*Liquid EasyFeed 1 Gallon Concentrate –*  
*Makes 256 gallons of fertilizer*

## *EZ-Flo Automatic Fertilizing System*



*EZ-Flo*  
**0.75 gallon**  
**\$55.00**  
*EZ-Flo*  
**3 gallon**

The number of roses and the number of applications will determine how much you need for the year.

Now don't think that the Mills products are the only ones out there that do a good job. *Monty's Joy Juice, Response, Liquid Karma* and *Superthrive* are all products that can be added to your regular feeding program. (see our website for more information and for pricing.) A well balanced program of fertilizers and supplements will enhance your plants' growth and performance as well as giving you more vibrant colors. The added bonus with all of the products noted here is that they can be used to feed the rest of your garden.

Having a good root structure is critical to the absorption of the nutrients you add to your soil. We recommend adding mycorrhizae, a natural fungus, to your soil. This fungus will work with your root system to establish a lifetime bond allowing your roses' roots to dramatically expand. Mycorrhizae are fundamental to plant establishment, supplying the water and nutrients needed for survival and, in exchange, receiving essential sugars and other compounds supplied by the plant. These mycorrhizal fungi increase the surface absorbing area of roots 10 to 1,000 times, thereby greatly improving the ability of the plant to use the soil resource. *Plant Success* is a line of mycorrhizae products which make it easy to improve your soil. The *granular version* can be mixed with new planting. The *soluble* is easily mixed and applied as a soil drench. You can read more about the benefits of mycorrhizae by visiting the Products page of our website.

Safety cannot be over emphasized. In addition to your protection when using chemicals (*pesticide respirator, goggles, Tyvek coveralls and Nitril Disposable Gloves*), protection while working in the soil or pruning canes is equally important. The first step is to make certain your tetanus shot is current. Typically this shot should be re-administered every ten years. Check with your medical professional for your particular situation.

Always wear the right kind of hand protection. When pruning roses, you want to make sure you eliminate any chance to scratch your arms or puncture your hands and fingers with thorns. I like to use the *West County Rose Gloves*. This high-tech glove features durable, puncture-resistant synthetic suede, padded palms and reinforced finger pads to protect against sharp thorns, prickly stems or abrasive logs. The extended elbow-length gauntlet shields forearms and protects against snagged sleeves.

## *Plant Success*

### *Benefits of mycorrhizae:*

*Improved nutrient and water uptake ;*  
*Improved root growth ; Improved plant*  
*growth and yield ; Reduced transplant*  
*shock ; Reduced drought stress.*

**Granular - \$25.00**

*Recommended for new plantings.*

*Treats 50 2-gallon bushes*

**Soluble - \$24.00**

*Recommended for existing plants.*

*Treats 50 plants.*



**(Continued on next page)**

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## Partial Listing of Fungicides, Insecticides, & Miticides.

Eagle 20EW (pint)	\$72.99
Banner Maxx (pint)	\$72.99
Honor Guard (pint; generic B. Maxx)	\$57.99
Compass (8oz)	\$249.00
Compass (2oz)	\$72.99
Mancozeb (pint)	\$24.99
Pentathlon DF (6 lb)	\$47.99
Pentathlon LF (2.5 Gallons)	\$111.00
Daconil Ultrex (5 lb)	\$89.95
Clearys 3336F (quart)	\$75.99
Stature SC (for Downey Mildew)	\$199.99
Conserve SC (Great for thrips!)	\$149.99
Merit (2 oz) (for aphids and J. Beetles)	\$59.99
Orthene 97 WP (.773 lb)	\$32.99
Talstar (pint)	\$45.00
Avid (8oz)	\$109.00
Floramite SC (quart)	\$289.99
Forbid (8oz)	\$279.99
Hexygon (6oz)	\$195.00

Visit our website for complete list

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

## Hudson

### Never-Pump Sprayer

This 4 gallon backpack sprayer comes complete with battery charger and several wand attachments. **The battery life lasts up to 10 hours on a single charge!** Great for small gardens. Can also be put on a dolly for those with bad backs. Call our toll free number to find out how.

1 year warranty backed by Hudson.

**\$134.95**

*shipping included*



Gauntlet openings are large, making for better air circulation, less perspiration build-up and a more comfortable fit. Tops of hand and forearms stay cool and are flexible, too. Better yet – they are machine washable!

**Bionic Garden Gloves** are great for folks with arthritis and stiff hands. Constant gripping and pinching can leave hands fatigued, worn and callused. These gloves are the first to incorporate the anatomical nature of the hand – providing natural dexterity, enhanced comfort and feel and improved grip strength. The Bionic Glove places extra

### Safety Equipment

Bionic Gloves	\$39.95
Nitril Disp. Gloves;100/box (S,M,L,XL)	\$19.99
Goat Skin Gloves (S,M,L,XL)	\$15.99
Dual Cartridge Respirator	\$34.50
Respirator Replacement Cartridges (2)	\$17.99
Splash-Proof Goggles	\$18.25
Tyvek Coveralls (M,L,XL,XXL - 1 pair)	\$9.25
Tyvek Coveralls (5 - 9 pairs; price each)	\$7.50



**West County Rose Gloves \$32.95 pr.**

padding in the natural peak of the palm. Relief padding is also placed in strategic locations to even out the hand surface, protecting against friction and improving grip strength. Extremely thorn resistant!!

Our **goatskin gloves** are an economical yet, durable and thorn resistant protection option. The soft goatskin is the only leather that is highly resistant to thorn punctures. Soft, but extremely tough. For working in the soil, we recommend the **Rosemania Mud Gloves**. Designed for durability and comfort while digging and working in dirt and mud, the mud glove has no seams in fingertips to wear out. A 100% cotton knit glove is dipped in thick rubber with fingers pre-curved for flexibility. The rubber is then texturized for better grip so it is easy to grab roots or rocks. Knit cuff keeps dirt out so fingers and nails stay clean. Machine washable and dryable.

All of these are simple steps with big pay-offs. As the summer progresses, your plants will continue to flourish and give you the pleasure we all enjoy from our garden!



High performance (85psi) Shurflo Pump designed for heavy-duty spraying applications. This pump has Viton valves and a Santoprene diaphragm compatible with most present day horticultural chemicals.

7 gallon high density tank with graduation marks by the gallon; Extra tanks available and easily interchangeable; Sealed 12-volt lead-acid type rechargeable battery complete with battery Charger included; Spot-shot's polypropylene spray gun with lockable trigger; The standard version comes with a 30 foot hose and 24 inch wand. The **Special Rosemania Version** comes with an longer 30" wand and 50 feet of hose! An



adjustable nozzle and a tee-jet flat spray nozzle are included in both models. Industrial-type 8" wheels with tires mounted on "no rust" high impact polypropylene wheels.

**Standard Version \$399.95**

**Special Rosemania Version  
\$439.95**

**Free shipping to the  
Lower 48 States!**