Shenandoah Rose Society

A Society of the Colonial District
Chartered by the American Rose Society
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Serving the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and beyond
On the web www.shenandoahrosesociety.org

June Meeting

The June meeting of Shenandoah Rose Society will be held Sunday, June 13, 2 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church. The program will be a general discussion of roses and rose problems. Our CRs will be on hand to answer your questions.

From the President

Many things are happening not only in the ARS but also in Shenandoah Rose Society. Our Society, along with the ARS is in a pioneer stage of introducing our youth to roses.

Shenandoah Rose Society now offers a KIDz membership for $6.00 per year. If you have any youth in your family or maybe your neighbors, try to get them interested in roses and get them to join.

KIDz-N-Roses is an idea which seems to have started on the west coast and has spread to South Carolina with much success. Getting youth interested in roses is the future of the rose society from a local level on up to the ARS. I will be coming up with "Kid Size" rose articles which will appear in a "KIDz Corner" in the newsletter. If we can get the youth involved the parents will follow.

For the adult members, Shenandoah is now offering a trial membership. Trial memberships are $4.00 for 4 months. Trial members may attend meetings and local seminars and will receive 4 monthly newsletters. If you have any friends or neighbors who might be interested in roses try to get them to take a trial membership. The trial membership program has been successful for the ARS and I am sure it will be good for us.

KIDz-N-Roses

By: Pam Hiers

Roses rock, don't we all agree? Wouldn't it be wonderful to introduce our younger generation to this great hobby, or addiction, of ours? Jay and I have been trying to come up with a way of doing this for a few years now. At the ARS Fall National Convention in Palm Springs, CA in November, Jay and I were having lunch with Marilyn Wellan and Pat Shanley. We were discussing ways of increasing membership. I told them that Jay and I had been trying to develop ways of getting children involved in growing roses and using this program to get the parents involved. Marilyn and Pat shared with us that they had heard of such a program being presented on the West Coast. They suggested we contact Lee Stevens for the information. When we returned to South Carolina, Jay e-mailed Lee Stevens, President of the Riverside Rose Society in Riverside, CA. Jay and Lee communicated with us via e-mail and sent us the information about this wonderful program. Roses Rock. is a program where the growing of roses is introduced to children through the use of art, math and science. The students are shown a PowerPoint presentation about a fifteen year old girl named Ivy Keen. Ivy hybridizes roses and in search of the elusive blue rose, taking the students through the hybridizing process. The students are then given a rose bush to plant and are given instructions on how to care for it. This is one of ARS's educational programs used to introduce children to growing and caring for roses.

Jay emailed Lee and told her how great we thought the program was and that we would be interested in using it where we live. I told her about the low income students I taught and how I thought this program would benefit them. Lee told me about a school in California where this program was presented. A rose garden was planted in the area by the students and they take care of the roses. This garden is now used for graduation ceremonies at the school. Lee asked if Jay and I would be in charge of starting this program on the East Coast. We said we would love to. She also asked us to serve on the Kidz-N-Roses committee.

On Friday, April 22, 2010, Roses Rock made its debut on the East Coast. Jay and I chose

Barnwell Elementary School, in Barnwell, SC to be the first school on the east coast to participate in the program. I teach 4th grade math and science at B. E. S. Two hundred eager 4th grade students enjoyed the program and they will be planting a rose garden at the school.

I feel the program was a great success. I saw students who never work together teaming up to get a chore done. Children who have not been interested in anything couldn't wait to help. Ten lucky students won roses of their own to take home and plant. These students couldn't wait to find me on Monday morning to tell me how they, with their parents, planted the rose. Now they can't wait to tell me about their rose.

The Roses Rock program was sponsored by the City of Orangeburg's Parks and Recreation, Roses Unlimited, Witherspoon Rose Culture and Mr. & Mrs. Jay Hiers. We thank all of them for their donations and support. The city of Orangeburg, which owns Edisto Memorial Rose Garden, has already added Roses Rock to their program offerings. Jay will work with them to create a youth rose garden and youth rose society.

If you are interested in having this program presented to a group of students or children, please contact Jay and Pam Hiers at 803- 267- 6611 or at cutflowers@dishmail.net.

GreenCure Fungicide
Ken Horst
Cornell University

GreenCure Fungicide was developed through 10 years of research in my program at Cornell University which was supported by grants provided by Church & Dwight Co., Inc. Potassium, sodium and ammonium bicarbonates were tested for efficacy in disease control. Potassium bicarbonate was the most efficacious of the bicarbonates in disease control in trials which were done on 12 different cultivars of roses used in this research. This research also included surfactants that would be effective in spreading and sticking characteristics and that would also be safe to use in the bicarbonate formulation. More than 300 surfactant components were evaluated in a year of research, looking for surfactant components that were effective as well as environmentally safe. The potassium bicarbonate formulation was named GreenCure and resulted in a fungicide which was a better and more sensible way to safely prevent and cure plant diseases.

GreenCure's active ingredient, potassium bicarbonate, is commonly used in food production. The patented GreenCure formula includes spreader-sticker ingredients that enhance the fungicidal properties of potassium bicarbonate, making it a safe alternative to more toxic fungicides currently on the market. Proven effective in over 200 university trials, the GreenCure formula has now been proven effective against a wide variety of plant diseases. GreenCure is now known to control 25 types of plant diseases and is recommended for use on over 150 different flowers, trees, fruits, vegetables, and turf.

GreenCure is comparable to, or better than, other fungicides with a significant advantage--it is far more environmentally friendly than harsh chemical fungicides. It can be used in organic vegetable production and even in house environments. It is safe to use around children and pets. GreenCure has been successfully used for more than 10 years in commercial organic growing applications. The commercial name of the formulation is MilStop. It is used in some of the finest orchards, vineyards, and greenhouses.

GreenCure advantages.

- It kills powdery mildew and other plant diseases on contact with up to 2 weeks of residual protection
- It is odorless; there is no foul smells or doers
- Fruits and vegetables can be harvested as soon as 1 hour after spraying; it has an EPA one hour re-entry interval after spray application
- It is easy to use--mix with water and spray
- It dissolves completely in water
- It sprays evenly and sticks to plant surfaces
- It does not restrict plant growth
- For Organic Production--GreenCure meets the requirements for use in organic gardening approved by the National Organic Program

In spite of the advantages provided by GreenCure, its acceptance has been slow to develop. It is possible that something so environmentally safe is difficult to accept as being effective in control of "nasty diseases and pests". GreenCure is distributed by GreenCure Solutions, 805 Valley Plaza, Johnson City, NY 13790; Tel. 607.797.0668; info@greencure.net.

GreenCure is now known, through my research program, to control insects such as aphids, mites, and thrips. In published research by researchers at other universities, GreenCure/ MilStop has been found to control the following insects.

Western Flower Thrips (Dr. Ken Sorenson, North Carolina StateUniversity)

Silver Leaf Whitefly (Dr. Lance Osborne, University of Florida)

Citrus Mealybugs (Dr. Raymond Cloyd, University of Illinois)

Stinkbug and Tarnish Plant Bug (Dr. Ric Bessin, University of Kentucky)

The Rambling Rosarian

By Charles Shaner

If I could only get my roses to grow as well as my weed,s I would be happy. My roses are doing fairly well but the weeds are driving me crazy. With the hot weather and plenty of rain, it is hard to keep up. With the trend going to organics, I prefer to old fashioned weed control method--grab a hold on it and pull! It is inexpensive and gets the job done. The best part is you don't have to wait several days to see if the weed is going to die.

I have been using mainly organics for several years and it is starting to pay off. The natural controls are taking over. I have not sprayed my roses at all so far this year and have not had an insect or fungal problem. When you switch to organics it takes three to four years for the natural controls to take over.

When our ancestors came to this country, they did not have chemicals to spray their crops nor did they have chemical fertilizers. They learned from the Indians how to naturally care for their crops. Somewhere along the line, calling ourselves Americans, we discovered chemicals and thought that was a better idea. We used chemical fertilizers for our crops and chemicals to control insects and fungus.

Sometime about the 1950s or 1960s, we started to realize the health problems the chemicals were causing (such as DDT, which is no long in use). We now know the chemicals are causing far more than just health problems. Chemical sprays are killing the beneficial insects. I once used Sevin dust to control Japanese beetles and for several years couldn't control aphids because it killed all of the ladybugs. I quit using the Sevin and purchased a bag of ladybugs. I no longer have a problem with aphids.

Chemical fertilizers are fast acting but they don't last very long and need to be replaced frequently. They are loaded with salt and will give a salt buildup in the soil after a period of time. They also kill the organisms in the soil and reduce the earthworm activity.

Organic fertilizers take a little longer to react but they last much longer and don't need to be replaced as often. They encourage organisms in the soil and attract earthworms. Organics help to build up the soil and break down clay. You can apply organics anytime--summer or winter.

Organics can save you time, money and add beauty to your garden. To control Japanese beetles, plant red geraniums. They are poison to the beetle and the beetles love them. Milky Spore sounds expensive but considering you only need to apply it once every 12 years, that offsets the cost. Neem oil is a good organic spray. It takes care of both insects and fungus.

GreenCure is available at Ace Hardware in Stuarts Draft, Shenandoah Farm Market in Mt. Jackson, Snows Knows, Inc. in Charlottesville, and Southern States Cooperative in Charlottesville. Eight ounces will make 16 gallons of spray.

Consider the switch to organics. They are safe for you, your pets and children, and they are environmentally friendly.

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