

Proper Summer Care Of Roses

Once their roses have been planted and pruned, many amateur gardeners are inclined to think that this is all they have to do. They think they can sit back for a while and then spend the summer cutting high quality blooms. This is a fallacy; summer care of roses is just as important as the selection and planting of the bushes. Here are instructions based on our procedures in the rose garden at the Plant Research Institute.

FEEDING

The first thing to consider right now is a summer fertilizer program. Although roses are not as heavy feeders as we have been led to believe, occurrence of abundant good-quality blooms demand regular applications of the right kind of fertilizer. The best way for the average gardener to fertilize is to use one of the mixed rose feeds. If you want a specific formula I would suggest 5-10-5, which is the one recommended by most rosarians. Apply one heaping teaspoonful of this fertilizer per plant to the soil surface around the base of the bush and about six to eight inches from the stem. Make the fertilizer in lightly. Follow with a thorough watering so that the fertilizer will soak into the soil.

Make your first application when the shoots are four inches long, a second when the first flowers appear, and a third in mid-July or later when the first big blooming period is passing.

WATERING

Roses are thirsty plants. Adequate moisture is necessary to ensure even and steady growth. This is especially true during the hot summer months. Water every 10 days if the rainfall is not sufficient to soak the soil to a depth of 10 inches. A good method of watering is to remove the nozzle from the hose and place the end on a shingle or piece of board so as to allow the stream of water to flow gently into the soil until it becomes thoroughly soaked. The special soil-soaker hoses act on this principle and are ideal for watering roses. Standard lawn sprinklers are not recommended for they wet the foliage and so encourage disease.

MULCHING

The addition of a mulch is desirable in early summer. This not only conserves soil moisture during hot, dry periods, but helps prevent water from splashing on the leaves. A mulch also helps keep the roots cool and the soil temperature down. Use any kind that can be obtained locally such as buckwheat hulls, cocoa shells, shredded bark, decayed leaves or corn cobs. Peat moss is excellent. It is attractive and it improves the soil when it is worked in later. Soak peat moss well before using it; if applied dry it will absorb water from the soil and prevent moisture from reaching the plants. Later, when it disintegrates into the soil, a further light application will be necessary. When using shredded bark, decayed leaves or peat moss, it is well to add a dressing of high nitrogen fertilizer first in order to decompose this material. Otherwise, the bacteria that do the job would need to use nitrogen from the soil. This loss of nitrogen would result in smaller and fewer flowers.

SPRAYING AND DUSTING

This should become a routine matter for protection to the best insurance against disease and insects. Once you develop a regular pattern, the work involved in protecting your roses will give results that are highly gratifying. Use a commercially prepared all-purpose rose spray or dust a the spring when the first leaf buds form. Continue every week until the heat of the summer, and then reduce the application to 10-day intervals and after every rain. Spray or dust both sides of the leaves.

Chrysler Plans Changeover 10 Days Early

DETROIT (AP) — Chrysler Corp. announced the production schedules call for U.S. assembly plants to build 67,000 units in July before beginning a phase out of 1966 model production.

"The annual changeover will be made approximately 10 days earlier than last year when plants began these operations in the July 27 to 30 period," a Chrysler spokesman said.

No reason was given for the earlier changeover dates.

The firm said the changeover to 1967 production will begin July 8 one Hamtramck, Mich. plant, stopping work for 20 days. The second line will shut down July 15 for 15 working days.

The Detroit Jefferson Ave. and Newark, Del. plants will end 1966 production on July 15 and resume work on Aug. 2.

The Detroit Lynch Road, Belvidere, Ill., and St. Louis plants will end 1966 production July 22 and will begin producing 1967 models Aug. 2. The Los Angeles plant will end 1966 production at the same time and will begin 1967 model output Aug. 15, the firm said.

In addition, Chrysler said assembly activity at the Detroit Lynch Rd., St. Louis and Los Angeles plants will be suspending for four days beginning July 5 with production resuming July 11.

noon or evening, but never during the hottest part of the day.

SUCKER SHOOTS

Keeps a good look out at all times for sucker shoots that come from under the bud union which is usually buried at the base of the plant. If Rosa multiflora stock has been used, the suckers can be defined as those having light-green, dull, rough foliage. The leaflets are large and narrow. The old idea that leaves with seven leaflets indicate suckers is of no significance. All modern hybrid tea roses produce leaves of seven leaflets as well as five if they are growing vigorously. Watch for shoots from below ground level. Some of the good flowering shoots will arise just at ground level. To locate suckers follow the shoot right down to the stem; if it is below the point of union with the stock, it is a sucker, which, if not removed promptly will overgrow and eventually kill the original rose.

CUTTING THE FLOWERS

At all times make sure the old flowers are cut off and the petals carried away. Nothing spreads disease more than an untidy rose garden.

To cut fresh flowers use a sharp clipper or knife and make the cut diagonal. Cut stems about a quarter of an inch above a leaf, leaving at least two well developed leaves on the branch between the cut and the point where the branch joins the cane. To prolong the life of cut roses place them in water of bath temperature immediately after cutting.

Blood Plasma Substitute Questioned

OTTAWA (CP) — A federal health official has denied that stockpiled supplies of dextran, a blood plasma substitute, have become unusable and dangerous.

Dr. W. S. Hacon, chief of the emergency health service division, said supplies of dextran purchased in 1952 and 1953 and stockpiled for emergency use have stood up well.

"I don't agree at all," said Lewis Brand (PC-Saskatoon) during a parliamentary committee's study of health and welfare spending estimates.

Dr. Brand said the division sent St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon a supply of dextran which pharmacologists there felt was "unusable and dangerous."

Repeated complaints to Ottawa brought only "a long line of platitudes" denying the complaints.

Dr. Hacon replied that dextran bought about 13 years ago is still safe according to food and drug directorate studies.

There had been color changes which might have made the blood substitute "socially unacceptable."

Where this had happened, the dextran was being withdrawn and replenished with a fairly large fresh stock.

"I'm talking about deposits—solids—that are considered 'hazardous,'" Dr. Brand said. "I'll hazard a guess you wouldn't like to use it on yourself."

LONG-HAIRS MUST USE CAPS

TORONTO (CP) — Boys with long hair will have to wear bathing caps if they want to swim in suburban Scarborough or Etobicoke parks department pools this summer.

"If they want to look like girls, they're going to be treated like girls," says Scarborough Parks Commissioner Jack Keay.

"These long-haired types cause the same sanitation problems as girls with long hair; so they've got to wear girls' bathing caps. If they don't have swim caps, they don't get in."

Mr. Keay said that hair floating on the water surface clogs the filtration system and hair lotions cause a greasy film around the sides of pools.

"Fortunately we have not had to turn too many away. These long-haired aren't usually interested in doing anything athletic—they're too busy drinking coffee and reading bad poetry."

Etobicoke's swimming pools manager, John Finch, distributes swimming caps to boys with long hair. He said a few have gone home with their dander up.

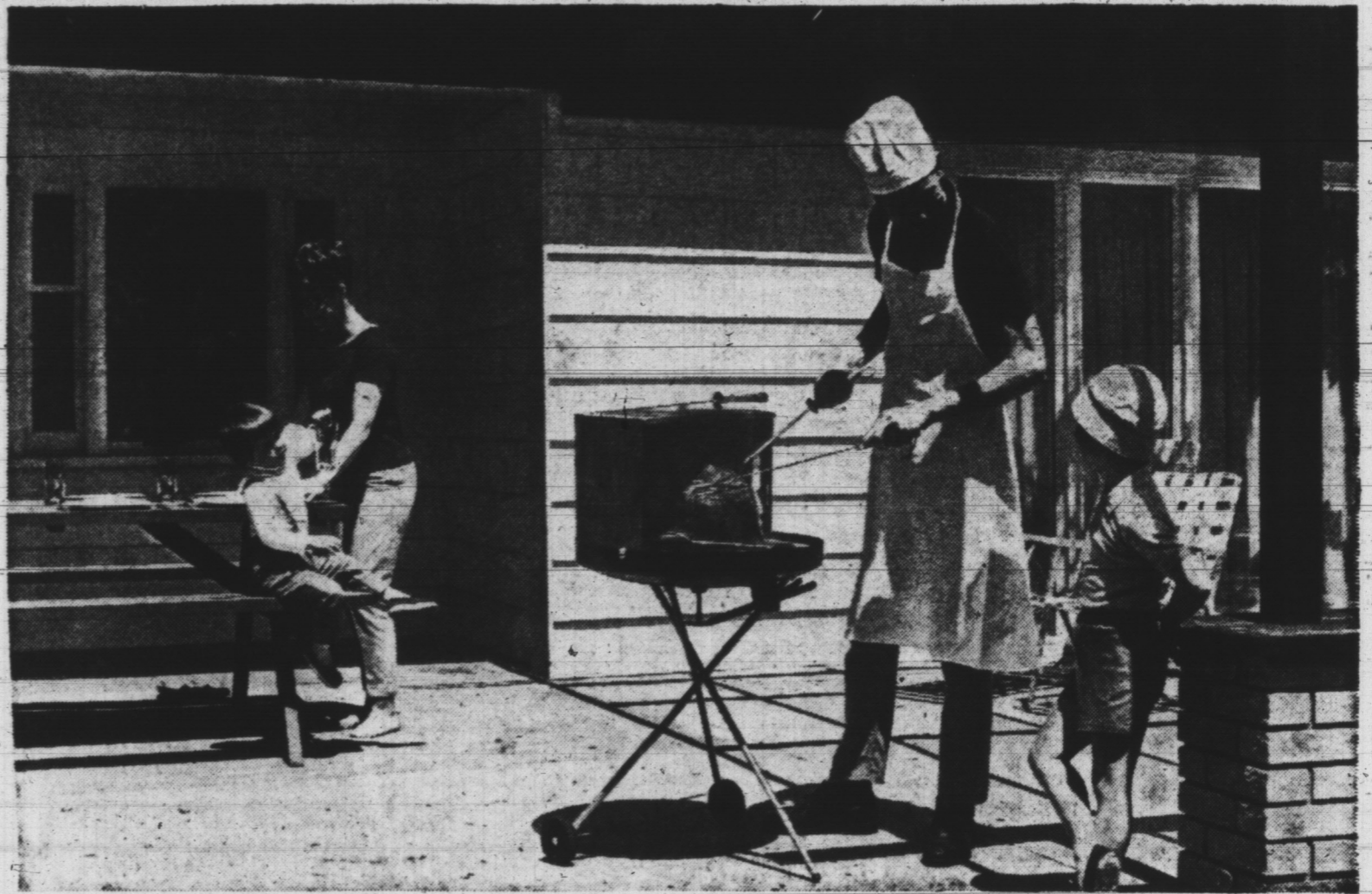
MEAT PACKERS BENEFIT

KITCHENER (CP) — The 1,360 employees of the J. M. Schenck Ltd. meat packing plant here will get a 40 cent-an-hour increase, and a reduction of the work week under terms of a new, two-year agreement signed during the weekend. The work week is being cut from 43 to 41½ hours, and to 40 hours next year.

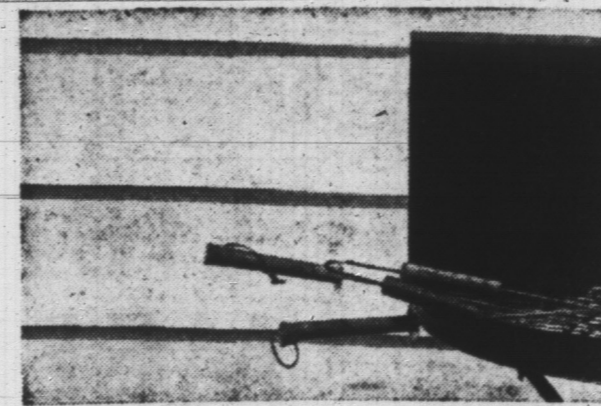
SEES MALAISE IN CHURCH

MILTON, Ont. (CP) — A Roman Catholic priest says those who support the theory that God is dead are "theological beatniks." Rev. J. P. Lardie of Hamilton, preaching the first sermon in the new Holy Rosary Catholic Church here, said Sunday the "sickness of the world is beginning to creep into God's church."

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