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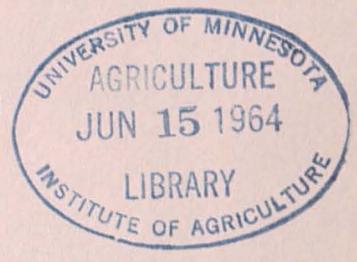
Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101



C. GUSTAV HARD ORRIN C. TURNQUIST
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ST. PAUL, MINN. 55101

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SUMMER CARE OF ROSES

Roses came through the winter well and are in their first flush of bloom earlier than usual.

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Watering roses at least once a week is one of the essentials to success. Turn a soil-soaker hose on the rose bed and let the water run for at least an hour until the ground is well soaked. An overhead sprinkler might be used in the morning, but its use should be avoided in the evening, since the leaves will not have a chance to dry before night and thus will be susceptible to mildew and blackspot.

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Spraying or dusting roses is a must. Many different diseases and insects attack roses. You can control them if you apply an all-purpose spray or dust once a week and keep your rose garden cleaned of weeds, fallen rose leaves and diseased or insect-infested canes. Even though you may have done your once-a-week spraying or dusting, you will always need to spray or dust after a rain.

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A mulch will help to control weeds, conserve moisture and keep the ground cool. Grass clippings, well rotted manure and peat are good mulch materials. Apply the mulch to a depth of several inches following a rain or after watering.

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After roses are through their first flush of bloom, apply a complete fertilizer according to directions on the package.

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Here's some advice on cutting roses: Always take as little stem and as few leaves as possible. Roses need the leaves to manufacture food for the plant. Never cut roses from plants that are weak or during the first season of bloom. However, remove flowers carefully when their petals begin to fall. Cut them with a knife or with sharp shears.

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