



REFERENCE: Rose Rosette Disease

While Rose Rosette Disease has been documented for more than fifty years, and general awareness and steps to increase prevention have helped, it can still occur here in north Texas. Caused by a virus, there are actually multiple symptoms, and they may vary in their number and with the rose variety.

EARLIER SYMPTOMS:

- elongated, thinner stems
- distorted leaf shapes
- thorn proliferation
- thickened; swollen shoots; distorted; dying

LATER SYMPTOMS:

- distorted leaf colors
- pronounced reddening; severe yellowing; mosaic patterns
- distorted buds
- multiple flowers in 1 bud
- abnormal flower color
- stunted plants
- witches' brooms- mites have probably already spread to other plant

We now know that a tiny *Eriophyid* mite definitely causes the spread of a virus that produces the symptoms. A rose must have *more than one symptom* to be considered infected. Note that many roses naturally have new red growth, and sometimes what may appear to be symptoms may actually be something else, such as herbicide or other damage from other diseases. **In 2014, the USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative program granted funding to research this disease with the goal of developing roses resistant to RRD. In 2022, the Sustainable Roses project was initiated with a long-term goal to develop sustainable rose landscapes based on cultivars resistant to Rose Rosette and rose black spot diseases.**

NHG recommends the following to help us all stop

the SPREAD of this disease:

- **Carefully observe your roses at least once weekly.** Early detection is key since rose rosette spreads and can affect other nearby roses quickly. *This is the most important step you can take to help stop the spread of the disease to other gardens.* Quarantine and monitor any new plants to help prevent further infection.
- For help with diagnosis, **you may bring in photos for help.** Email them to feedback@nhg.com, or seek help from the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Agency. *Please do NOT bring in samples to NHG.*
- **Remove infected roses immediately.** On a windless day, bag the plant *first*, and then *remove the plant, roots and all.* Be sure to remove the *entirety* of the root system along with any leaf and stem debris, and dispose of it without composting in the bag. Do not use leaf blowers to remove any debris.
- **You *can* replant** with another rose in the same location, *if* the area has been cleared *and* you wait at least 1 -2 months before replanting roses. For help with rose alternatives, see one of our Garden Advisors.
- When planting roses, **mix varieties with other kinds of plants.** Diversity is key to gardening success.
- **You may wish to treat any other roses with a miticide** to help kill the mite or spray dormant or all-season oils during cooler weather to reduce their numbers. Maintaining overall health can be good prevention.

FOR UPDATED INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE WWW.ROSEROSETTE.ORG.

Speak to a Garden Advisor for further diagnosis help and rose culture tips.

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