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SOME LOVELY ROSES

These Should Thrive Well in the Average Garden

By C. C. HILLARY



"WOULD you publish a list of the most attractive roses some time?" is the request of a reader of the "Journal" and lover of the Queen of Flowers. If I did prepare such a list I feel sure the editor, generous man though he is, would tell me that I was taking up far too much valuable space. I would find it so difficult to leave many lovely roses out of any "most attractive" list I might prepare, that it would be much too lengthy for convenient publication.

Then again, if I think in terms of attractiveness only, I might be tempted to include some roses which I consider beautiful beyond compare but which possess weak constitutions or other failings. Perhaps, then, if I mention the names of some roses, that can be expected to grow well and flower freely with average attention in the average garden, it will be of more assistance than any long list of the most attractive varieties. Needless to say, they will all be beautiful.

First and foremost, I place that very beautiful Spanish rose, Signora P. Puricelli. If I could grow but one rose in my garden, it would be the lovely Signora with her brilliant orange-scarlet colourings. The plants grow remarkably well and are rarely troubled by disease. The blooms are nicely shaped in the young stage, and even when full-blown they provide the most delightful decorations. The flowers are carried on long stems and the plants are almost continuously in bloom for nine months of the year.

Then I should never like to be without a few bushes of Comtesse Vandal, a charming creation with the loveliest of long buds in shades of salmon and copper. The plants grow very well indeed, flower profusely, and carry plenty of attractive mid-green foliage. The only fault, and one easily controlled, is a slight tendency to mildew.

That lovely newcomer, Peace, is another rose which must be accorded a high place in any list of good garden roses. Magnificently shaped, the lovely creamy-yellow flowers with pink-tipped petals are produced with great freedom on stout stems almost devoid of thorns. The plants are exceptionally vigorous, with attractive light green foliage which is highly resistant to both black spot and mildew.



Fig. 1.—PINOCCHIO

A most attractive hybrid polyantha in creamy-yellow flushed with pale pink. The flowers are borne in large trusses and the growth is vigorous

An older variety still capable of holding its own with any of the latter-day creations, is the pink rose named Editor McFarland. The blooms are always well-shaped and withstand extremes of weather exceptionally well. The plants are vigorous, little troubled by disease, and as generous with their flowers as almost any other rose with which I am acquainted.

Of the crimson varieties, Ena Harkness must be accorded a high position, since it produces as many lovely flowers throughout the year as any other rose of this colour. Although the flowers blow quickly in summer, they are good in spring, superb in the autumn and magnificent at the beginning of winter. I know of no rose of any colour which stands up to wet weather quite so well. The plants are vigorous and flower freely, but like all crimson varieties there is a tendency to mildew.

Another comparatively new variety which should find a place in every garden is Rubaiyat, a pink to cerise rose with a delicious old rose perfume. The flowers are mostly well shaped, very freely produced and carried on long stems with few thorns. The plants have a vigorous habit of growth and carry an abundance of light green foliage right down to the ground.



Fig. 2.—DE RUITER'S HERALD

A hybrid polyantha rose of great vigor. The single flowers in brilliant scarlet with orange shadings are borne in immense clusters

Most yellow roses fade rather badly in strong sunlight and McGredy's Yellow is no exception to the general rule. In every other respect it is an excellent garden rose and produces as many flowers in a season as any other variety in commerce. The plants grow very well indeed and carry plenty of foliage in an attractive shade of mid-green. In cool weather the flowers are much deeper in colour and very well shaped.

Charles Gregory is the name of a rich scarlet rose which no one should be without. The medium-sized blooms are exceptionally well shaped and an orange tinge at the base of the scarlet petals adds much to their charm. The plants are of branching habit, grow well and are little troubled by disease. The dark green foliage is not over plentiful, but sufficient, and there are plenty of thorns.

Cathrine Kordes is just as lovely now as when she first made her bow to an admiring populace some 20 years ago. I never tire of her graces. High-centred blooms of exquisite shape in charming shades of cerise and red have endeared her to everyone. Good growth and freedom of flowering are other qualities which

should please everyone. A slight tendency to mildew should be overlooked in such a superb rose.

A latter-day variety which everyone should grow is the American rose, Charlotte Armstrong. Deep pink with just a hint of orange are the colours favoured by this delightful charmer. Of branching habit, the plants grow very well and produce a liberal share of well-shaped flowers throughout the season.

A rose of great refinement from the land of silks and champagne which appeals to every visitor to my garden, is Michelle Meilland. A chaste rose if ever there was one, Michelle favours only the softest shades and is never seen wearing anything but the palest pink with occasional flushes of copper. Exquisite shape, the lasting qualities of the flowers, good growth and freedom from disease are additional qualities which should endear this French creation to everyone.

A deep cream rose which should please those who like paler shades, is the new variety Narzisse. It is particularly well-shaped and the petals reflex in pleasing fashion. Good growth, long stems, disease-resistant foliage are other admirable qualities of a very charming rose.

Two red roses of recent introduction which are likely to remain with us for a long time are Charles Mallerin and Karl Herbst. The former is probably the darkest crimson rose now grown. At times the petals are almost black; they also have a rich, velvety sheen which adds much to their charm. The large blooms are not always well shaped, but they are very richly perfumed and always attractive. The bush grows as vigorously as any tree. Karl Herbst is much lighter in colour. It has not the perfume of Charles Mallerin, but the blooms are always perfectly formed and have lasting qualities well above the average. The growth is vigorous and disease resistant to a marked degree.

A new multi-coloured rose of great beauty is Madame Kriloff. Shades of orange, gold, copper, pink and red are all included in the complexion of this splendid young artist, who captured the hearts of everyone when she first made her debut at Lyons in Southern France a year or two ago. The growth is good, with few thorns, and the foliage ample.

The last of my hybrid tea recommendations is the new rose Verschuren's Pink. This is an exquisitely shaped rose in a deep shade of pink. The bushes grow well, are always in flower, and the foliage is rarely troubled with mildew. No one will ever regret planting half-a-dozen bushes of Verschuren's Pink in a prominent place in the garden.

Some of the newer Floribunda or cluster roses should also be mentioned. These roses are already popular and there is every indication that their popularity will become even greater in the near future. This is not surprising in view of the prolific way in which they bloom and the lasting qualities of the flowers. To be

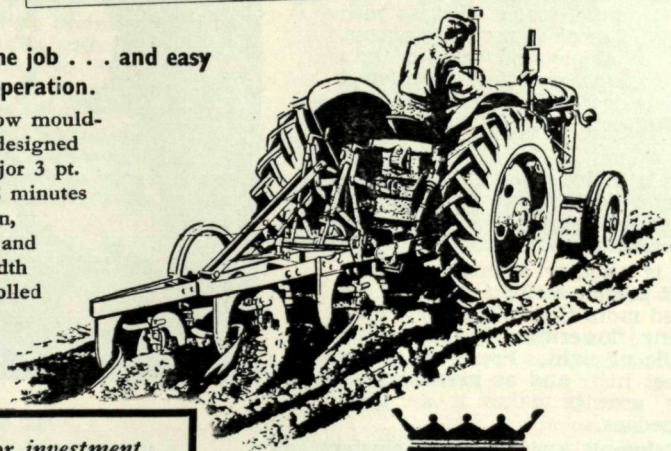
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able to enjoy these modern cluster roses at their best, however, they should be planted in groups of from six to a dozen or more plants, and each group or bed should be confined to one variety only.

One of the loveliest of the new sorts is Fashion. The plants grow about three feet high and carry their flowers in clusters which may contain anything from four to 24 buds and blooms. The colour, in a most beautiful shade of coral salmon, is admired and enjoyed by everyone. There is no other rose colour quite like it. Another very beautiful variety is Fashion's full sister, Vogue. Both come from the same seed pod, but while the habit and growth are similar, the colour of Vogue's flowers is very much deeper and quite distinct from that of Fashion.

Another fine variety is de Ruiter's Herald, which carries extremely large clusters of attractive, scarlet flowers with paler centres and most attractive stamens. The flowers are single and smaller than those of the two varieties mentioned above, but their decorative value is equally great. De Ruiter's Herald grows about four feet high.

Then there is Alain, a magnificent crimson with large, double, sweetly-perfumed blooms carried in great clusters of 40 to 50 flowers.

Frensham is another splendid crimson variety. Last season a single plant in my garden carried more than 500 flowers during the spring flowering. It formed a really magnificent sight. Frensham grows about five feet high and as much across. Its vigorous growth makes it an ideal variety for hedges.

Orange Triumph, with large clusters of rosette-type flowers in a light shade of red, is a very suitable kind for forming low hedges. So is Pacific Triumph, which is similar to Orange Triumph in every way except colour. Salmon pink is the colour of the latter and the flowers are equally as valuable for all kinds of floral work.

Then there is Pinkie, that lovely baby rose with the tiniest of pink buds and flowers. For edgings, low borders and window box purposes, no other rose of any kind is quite as suitable. Pinkie grows about 18 inches high and as much across. It is almost continuously in flower.

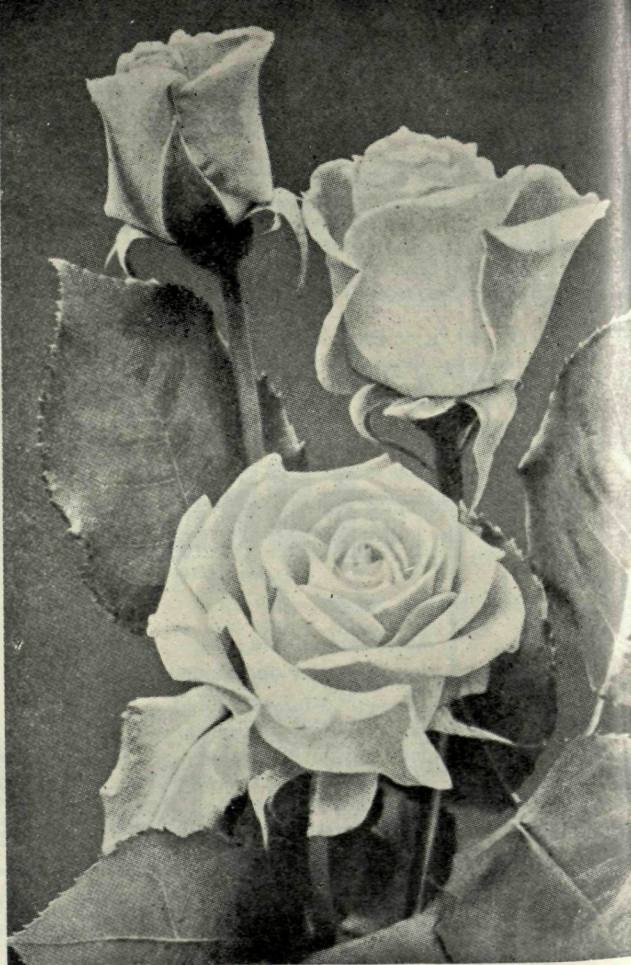


Fig. 3.—CHAS. GREGORY

A splendid garden rose in rich scarlet. An orange flush at the base of the petals adds much to the charm of the flowers

Some other very choice varieties which I can recommend are Pinocchio, apricot-salmon; Red Pinocchio, velvety red; Kordes Sondermeldung, scarlet; and Poulsen's Pearl, a delicate pale shade of pink with the most delightful golden stamens.

All of the kinds I have mentioned will give you pleasure, but only when you have roses in your heart will your plants respond and yield up to you their richest treasures.

WHITE WAX SCALE.

First Recording at Harvey

During May, 1953, an outbreak of white wax scale was recorded in one orchard at Harvey, specimens being submitted by the local Fruit Fly Inspector (Mr. I. Rennie). This is the first time that white wax scale has been found at Harvey.

Although the white wax scale was recorded in the Kalamunda district in 1911 and soon spread to Roleystone and Parkerville, it did not reach the Chittering area until the early 1940's and that district is still only lightly infested.