



A Rose Border in the Garden of Mr. Wm. Coats, Goderich, Ont.

time to drink it. In the morning the sun gets up early, and dries the moisture before the plants have had time to take in all that they require. Then again, you have in the early morning more light to see to do your weeding than you possibly can in the dim light of the evening, especially in the early part of the autumn. Then the earth is softer and more easily worked after a night's watering, than it would be after a hot baking sun.

I cannot say this often enough: Keep the earth loose. Run the trowel through it, around the plants. In other words, keep stirring the earth and you will keep down the weeds, for there is one thing you can depend upon to grow without care if you have good rich garden soil, and that is weeds.

An uncared for garden is an eye-sore to anyone who loves flowers. A little care, every morning and evening, will net you results that will surprise you, so give it to the garden. All flowers like to be loved, petted and cared for.

If you have paths in your garden keep them clean and well swept, as a well kept path shows the garden off to much better advantage. I know that a garden to look well means work, which takes up time and strength. Give it that, give it a little thought, give it a little attention, give it a little care, give it a little love, give it a little of your time, such as an hour each morning before breakfast, and an hour each evening after supper, and the result will not be little but will be large.

Rose Culture

By an Amateur

SO much has been written on this subject that one cannot expect to say anything new; the most one can hope to do is to point out the chief causes of failure on the part of beginners, to accentuate the few essentials to success, and incidentally remove the impression that to succeed with roses requires extraordinary skill and entails a vast amount of labor.

The chief causes of failure are the choice of the wrong sort of plants and improper planting. As long as people will persist in buying roses which are sold at the rate of fifteen or twenty for a dollar, so long will the percentage of failures be high. These plants suffer a three-fold shock, the shock which every growing plant suffers when it is transplanted, the additional shock which it receives in having all the soil washed off

its roots in order to lessen postal charges, and the further shock in being transferred from greenhouse temperature to that of the open ground. Only a small proportion survive this treatment, whereas if only two years old dormant budded plants are used and these properly planted, very few will fail to grow, because they are in the very best possible condition for transplanting.

The proper method of planting is to dig a hole sufficiently large to accommodate the roots, spread out in their natural manner of growth, which is horizontally. In shipping, they are usually compressed until they appear to be in a straight line with the branches, but this is not their natural form. They should be set so that the junction of the bud with the stock is from two to three inches below the level of the ground.

This prevents to a large extent the growth of suckers from the stock. If any such appear they must be at once removed, as they will otherwise very quickly crowd out the valuable rose. Fortunately these suckers are readily recognized, by their lighter green color, and by their having seven leaflets on each petiole, whereas the greater part of the valuable roses have only five.

In planting, it is necessary to see that every part of the root comes in contact with the moist earth so that they should be set as firmly as a post. If the earth is very dry some water should be used when the hole is partly filled and allowed to drain off before the filling in is completed. Immediately after planting, the bush should be pruned and about two-thirds of the wood removed, leaving the plants about eight inches high. This is absolutely necessary, because in removing the plant, no matter how carefully it has been done, the most of the small fibrous roots have been broken and no growth will be made until these have formed again, and until then there is nothing to support the growth of the top. The removal of the top forces into growth the strongest buds, which are nearest the base of the plant.

After pruning, rake over the surface



The O. A. C. Rose Garden

A partial view of the Rose Garden at the Guelph Agricultural College, is here shown. Mr. Wm. Hunt, the well-known contributor to The Canadian Horticulturist, may be seen in the foreground.

soil to form a dust mulch, which conserves the moisture. Frequent stirring of the soil, especially after rains, will provide all the moisture necessary, except in a particularly dry season. The essentials to success are first a genuine love for the flower itself, and secondly, a suitable location for the rose bed.

Roses require and must have full sunshine for the greater part of the day; if somewhat shaded from the hot afternoon sun the blooms will remain in good condition longer than if fully exposed. If shaded from the morning sun you will have a better opportunity for seeing your roses at their best, which is when covered with dew in the early morning.