The Klassy Way of Propagating Roses (and other plants) by Cuttings

> By Diana Klassy, Master Consulting Rosarian, SD Master Gardener

No Fancy Equipment Necessary

No Greenhouse
No Grow Lights
No Heating Mats
No Automatic Misters









Ethics of Propagating

- Many plant varieties are patented, so asexual propagating of these varieties is illegal.
- Out of respect of the hybridizer's hard work, everyone should willingly comply to this law.
- Even if the plant variety is not patented, if you know the hybridizer or discoverer (as in sports), ask for permission, as a courtesy.
- Plant patents last for 20 years, so there are plenty of great plants for propagating by cuttings

Taking Rose Cuttings

- Get best success from early fall cuttings
- Moderate success from summer cuttings due to hotter and dryer weather
- Cut fresh cane with newly spent bloom
- Need 5- 6 leaves of 3 or more leaflets
- All classes of roses: ORGs, Shrubs, Mini/Minfl, FL, Climbers, etc







Supplies needed

- Plastic half gallon milk jug
- Plastic 2 liter soda
 bottle with cap
- Sharp knife and/or scissors , pruners
- Rooting compound
- Moist professional potting soil with perlite





Procedure

- Cut off top of milk jug, below handle
- Cut off bottom of soda bottle
- Make drainage holes in bottom of jug

Fill milk jug with moistened soil Make hole in soil to receive cutting







- Cut rose cane from parent plant
- Remove bottom three leaves
- Remove spent
 bloom just above
 leaf with 3 leaflets



- Cut stem at 45
 degree angle on
 opposite side of
 lowest bud eye
- Score cane with sharp knife on back side of lowest bud eye
- Remove prickles from lower half of cutting (optional)

- Coat bottom end of stem with rooting compound (optional)
- Place prepared stem into hole in soil and firm soil around it
- Slide soda
 bottle into top
 of milk jug



- Label with variety (if known) & date
- Place in protected area
- Keep soil moist
 - Space around edges will allow rain into container
 - Remove cap and spray mist every few days
 - Water the mini 'green houses' with the hose



Placement of Rooting Container

- Needs filtered light (under a bench, bush, etc.)
- Near structure (east side of house with morning sun)
- Accessible to rain or other watering

Success?!

- Drops leaves in 2 weeks or less: start over
- Drops leaves in 2-6 weeks: maybe
- Leaves on cane after 6 weeks : good chance
- See growth from bud eyes: good sign
- See roots though bottom of milk jug: CELEBRATE!!!





The Next Step

- Keep in "mini green house" over the winter
- Place in a window (east is best) or under grow lights
- In spring, after danger of frost has passed
 - <u>Cut milk jug</u> to remove rooted rose plant
 - Plant into larger pot
 - Harden off before placing in full sun
 - Remember to water often during the hardening off process

Rooting cuttings in water

- African violets
- Geraniums
- Most Herbs
- Many House plantsOthers







Questions?











Winter Gardening

□ This is how I winter garden







Winter stratification

Some seeds need to be cold stratified which can be done with gallon milk jugs outside, during the winter, instead of in your refrigerator

