



### **Michael's Cocktail for Roses**

- 2 Cups - Epsom salts
- 4 Quarts - \*Alfalfa tea
- 5 Tablespoons - Miracle Grow for Roses
- 3 Tablespoons - Fish / Seaweed Emulsion

Prepare fertilizer solution in a 5-gallon bucket.  
Add water to top of bucket.

### **\*Alfalfa Tea recipe:**

2 Cups Alfalfa Meal in a 5-gallon bucket; fill bucket with water

Allow solution to stand for four days before use.  
Water can be replenished three to four times before concentration is depleted.

### **Michael's Yearly Care for Roses:**

- Start spring pruning within a week of the forsythia bloom.
- Prune shrub roses, then floribundas, then hybrid teas.
- Old garden roses are only pruned lightly in spring as they bloom on old wood; they are generally pruned after their blooming period ends in spring/summer.
- Apply a spring feeding: 16/24/12 Granular Fertilizer, Bone Meal, and Greensand, within two weeks after spring pruning. Sprinkle a handful at base of each plant.
- Four weeks after pruning and application of spring feeding, apply liquid cocktail onto the base of each plant.

- To apply cocktail, pour a quart of solution onto each plant.
- After spring first flush is complete, provide the roses with another feeding of Granular Fertilizer and cocktail. Liquid cocktail to be applied every 2-3 weeks from first application until latter part of July.
- Beginning in August, the liquid cocktail should continue to be applied but without Epsom salts. Eliminate salts from the cocktail for 2-3 weeks until the end of August. No additional cocktail or feeding is required beyond this point.

All items can be purchased at Agway or a well-stocked nursery.

Michael Strauss and Dorothy Hom would like to thank the following for helping to create and maintain their Rose Garden:

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**Michael's Top Three Roses:**

1. Elina Peadouce - Hybrid Tea
  2. Beverly - Hybrid Tea
  3. Hot Cocoa – Floribunda
- and since it's hard to stop at three*
4. Ingrid Bergman - Hybrid Tea
  5. Plum Perfect – Floribunda

Questions may be sent to Dorothy Hom and Michael Strauss at: [dorothyhomwriter@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyhomwriter@gmail.com)

*Happy Rose Gardening!*