

**All Gardens  
Great & Small**  
by  
York Co.  
Horticultural Agent  
**Tom Becker**



**Plant Potted Roses Now**

Roses are always a favorite addition to any home landscape. It is not too late to plant potted roses. To assure good blooming of your roses the summer after planting, select a sunny spot with amended, high organic matter soil. Space hybrid teas, grandifloras, and floribundas approximately two to two and one-half feet apart

Prepare the soil by digging individual planting holes large enough to spread out the roots. Avoid disturbing the root ball. Make the holes 12 inches deep and at least 18 inches in diameter. Remove the pot. Plant, and fill the hole. If you are planting a large number of roses in a continuous area, prepare beds by spading the soil to a depth of about 12 inches

If your soil is very heavy, or if it's light and low in fertility, improve it by adding organic

matter such as peat, leafmold or manure. Use one part of peat or leafmold to three parts of soil – or one part of manure to four parts of soil.

Spread a layer of organic matter 2 to 4 inches deep over the spaded area and work it into the soil to spade depth. Be careful not to work the soil when the soil is wet. You'll do more harm than good by working soil wet.

Always set roses carefully in the planting holes. One planting system for roses uses a small, cone-shaped pile of soil in the center of each planting hole. Set the plant on the peak of the cone and spread the roots down the slope. Set the plants at the same soil level as in the pot or where the union is just at – or slightly below – ground level. Water newly-planted roses to settle the soil around the roots

Knowing the pH and soil fertility conditions for roses is

worth the effort. Roses grow best in soil that is medium to slightly acid - pH 6 to 6.5. Take a Penn State soil test kit. The results of the soil test will tell you whether or not the pH needs to be adjusted and how to do it

The soil test also gives recommendations for adjusting nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, and calcium levels. Often, phosphorus may be needed. Fertilizers containing phosphorus can be added before and after planting. Phosphorus is important in determining the number of size of blooms you will get this first summer.

If you don't have a soil test – apply a complete fertilizer with a 1-2-1 ratio such as 5-10-5 grade this spring. Apply the fertilizer when the spring growth is well established but before bloom. Three pounds of fertilizer per 100-square feet or 1 to 2 heaping tablespoons per plant is sufficient. Spread the fertilizer evenly around the plants, scratch it into the soil surface, then water. One additional application of fertilizer may be helpful during late June if the roses show signs of mineral deficiency. Avoid fertilizing your roses after August 1.

Give your roses generous amounts of water this summer. Soak the soil thoroughly to a depth of 8 to 10 inches. Direct a small, slow-moving stream of water from a garden hose

around the base of each plant. Any questions regarding the above article can be addressed to

Tom Becker, Penn State Cooperative Extension at (717) 840-7408

**Cook's Question**

(Continued from Page B8)

**Ice Cream Puddle Sundae**

- 3 ounces chocolate or fudge sauce
- 3 scoops different-flavored ice cream
- 1 ounce pineapple topping
- 1 ounce raspberry topping
- 1 ounce peanut butter topping
- Whipped cream
- Colored sprinkles
- 3 mini umbrellas

Pour chocolate sauce to cover the bottom of a plate. Place 3 scoops ice cream on plate. Indent each with a spoon to form a hollowed out hole. Spoon in toppings to form "puddles." Place whipped cream around ice cream and garnish with sprinkles and min umbrellas.

**Jonathan Lipnicki's Choco-Nana Pops**

- 1 cup fat free or lowfat milk
- 1 ripe banana, peeled, broken in half
- ¼ cup chocolate syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 8-ounce paper drinking cups
- 2 popsicle sticks

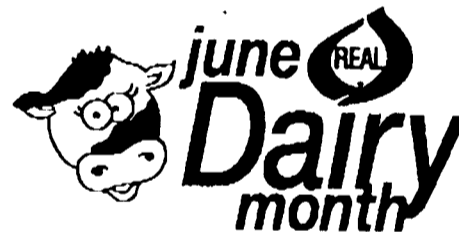
Combine all ingredients in blender container. Cover with lid and blend at high speed one minute or until thickened.

Pour into cups. Cover each cup with aluminum foil. Insert a popsicle stick through foil into milk mixture. Freeze until firm. To serve, dip cup into warm water, slide out pop.

**Taco Munch**

- 6 cups popped, unsalted popcorn
- 3 cups toasted corn cereal squares
- 1 cup mini pretzels
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 2 to 3 teaspoons dry taco seasoning
- 2 tablespoons grated parmesan cheese
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, cut into ½ -inch cubes

In large bowl, combine popcorn, cereal, and pretzels. Combine butter and taco seasoning; drizzle over popcorn mixture. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese; toss to coat. Cool completely. Store in airtight container. Toss with cheddar cheese just before serving. Approximately 10 cups.



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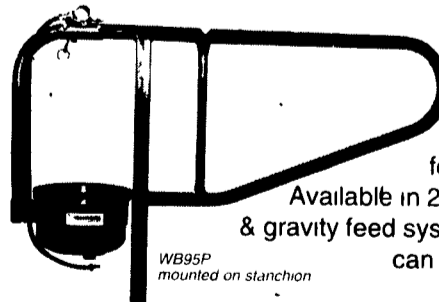
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