

EarthKind™ Landscape Roses

High Elevation/Drought Tolerance
Trial Overview
Tamla Blunt

EarthKind™ Roses

- Goals of the trial:
 - Reduce pesticides
 - Reduce water use
 - Evaluate rose cultivars for the northern climes
- Cooperators:
 - Started at Texas A&M (Dr. Steve George)
 - U. of Minnesota (Dr. David Zlesak)
 - CSU
 - KSU
 - Iowa State
 - Louisiana State



Alexander Mackenzie

EarthKind™ Northern Brigade

- Alexander Mackenzie
- Carefree Beauty
- Frontenac
- George Vancouver
- John Cabot
- John Davis
- Morden Blush
- Polar Joy
- Prairie Joy
- Sunrise Sunset



Frontenac

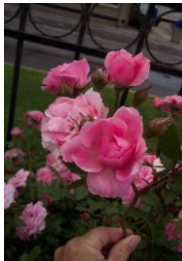
EarthKind™ Northern Brigade

- Quadra
- Ramblin Red
- Seafoam
- William Baffin
- Brite Eyes
- Summerwind
- Yellow Submarine
- Sven
- Lena
- Ole



John Cabot

EarthKind™ Northern Brigade



John Davis



George Vancouver

EarthKind™ Northern Brigade



Carefree Beauty



Quadra

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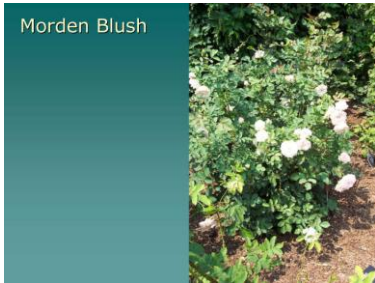
George Vancouver

EarthKind™ Northern Brigade



William Baffin

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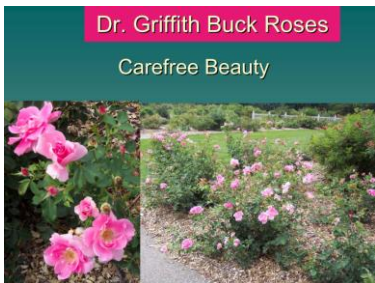
Morden Blush

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Prairie Joy

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Dr. Griffith Buck Roses

Carefree Beauty

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Summerwind

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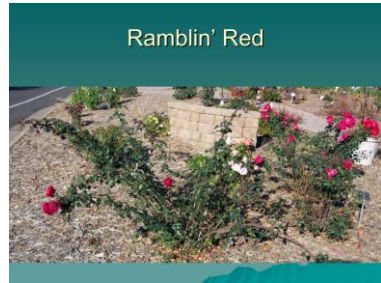
EarthKind™ Northern Brigade



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Colorado Trials 1st Year

- Located in Red Feather Lakes, CO
- About 1 hour NW of Fort Collins
- 8600 ft. elevation
- Soil amended with aged horse manure
- Planted on June 2, 2008
- Snowed on June 3rd



Amended soil before planting

Colorado Trials 1st Year

- Plot design
 - Randomized complete block
 - 4 replications of 20 cultivars
 - 6 ft. centers
 - Total sq ft ~3500



Mulched plot

- Mulched with beechwood mulch
- For the first year, some did better than others
- By the end of the first year, 69% survival

4	13	7	12	20	17	18	4	13	1
16	1	8	14	17	14	15	7	5	20
15	19	3	11	10	2	9	11	6	8
5	9	6	18	2	10	12	3	19	16
3	7	17	11	18	9	19	11	5	2
1	12	20	8	13	20	6	17	12	18
2	4	10	15	9	7	13	16	8	14
5	6	16	19	14	3	15	1	4	10

Plot Plan; numbers correspond to rose varieties

Colorado Trials 1st Year

- Probably won't have to worry about too many diseases or insects
 - Possibly aphids
- Voles, rabbits, ground squirrels and of course, deer are the main concerns
- Winter damage/kill
- Dry winter to start; moisture didn't come in until later in the winter



My "Deer" friends



Ice storm on 10.10.08

Colorado Trials 2nd Year

- Started evaluations of surviving roses
- Evaluation criteria:
 - Landscape rating (0-10; 0=dead)
 - Overall # of open flowers
 - Flower diameter to nearest ¼ inch
 - Overall % of plant covered with flowers



Colorado Trials 2nd Year

- First evaluations on 7.26.09
- 28 live roses; 35% survival rate
- Roses that did the best:
 - 'William Baffin'-4
 - 'Summerwind'-4
 - 'Quadra'-3
 - 'George Vancouver'-3
 - 'John Cabot'-3
 - 'John Davis'-3
 - 'A. Mackenzie' and 'Polar Joy'-2
 - 'Carefree Beauty', 'Brite Eyes', 'Morden Blush' and 'Sunrise Sunset'-1



Colorado Trials 2nd Year

- Second evaluations on 8.24.09
- 24 live roses; 30% survival
- Lost:
 - 'Summerwind'-2
 - 'Polar Joy'-1
 - 'Alexander Mackenzie'-1



Colorado Trials 2nd Year

- Set poles to put up electric fence
- Second winter snow cover was early and has been pretty consistent on the plot
- Hopefully, the roses that survived the second year will survive into the third year



Colorado Trials 3rd Year

- One evaluation on 9.06.10
- Late spring; snow on June 13th
- 18 roses survived from year 2 (22.5% survival rate)
- Lost:
 - 'Summerwind' (4)
 - 'Polar Joy' (2)
 - 'Brite Eyes'
 - 'Sunrise, Sunset'
- 'William Baffin'-4
- 'Quadra'-3
- 'John Davis'-3
- 'George Vancouver'-3
- 'John Cabot'-2 (lost 1)
- 'Morden Blush'-1
- 'Carefree Beauty'-1
- 'Alexander Mackenzie'-1 (lost 1)

Colorado Trials 3rd Year

- Notes on third year:
 - Surviving roses did well; good growth
 - Not a lot of flowers (due to late spring snow?)
 - Weeds and weeding
 - Did not get electric fence installed yet (as herbivore deterrent)
 - Started a blog: www.mtngardener.wordpress.com



What Would I Do Differently?

- Make sure the roses do not arrive before June 1st; really can't plant until then
 - Or if they do arrive, pot them up in the greenhouse
- Not do a randomized complete design; keep rose varieties together
- Have plenty of mulch on hand
- Not plant so far apart; at our elevation, it is not necessary to plant on 6' spacing—they don't get as large as the description
 - Also would be easier to weed and evaluate
- Possible companion plantings, i.e. plant perennials that are deer resistant among the roses

New Roses Being Planted This Year

- Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham, TX
- Visited in Oct 2010
- Offered five roses to trial at high elevation
- Not subject to same constraints as original EK roses
- 'Thomas Affleck'
- 'Stephen F. Austin'
- 'Star of Republic'
- 'Sweet Pea'
- 'Lady Pamela-Carol'

New Roses Being Planted This Year

- 'Thomas Affleck'
 - Fragrant and thornless
 - Pioneer Rose
 - Experimental crosses between some of Dr. Robert Basye's selections & David Austin's English roses, hybrid perpetuals, hybrid teas and other large flowering shrubs
 - Zone 5-9
 - Semi-double bloom, cerise pink
 - Excellent for mixed planting



New Roses Being Planted This Year

- 'Stephen F. Austin'
 - Cross between 'Carefree Beauty' and 'Graham Thomas'
 - Pioneer Rose
 - Zone 5-9
 - Semi-double flower that fades to cream color



New Roses Being Planted This Year

- 'Star of Republic'
 - Pioneer rose
 - Zone 5-9
 - Quartered blooms of peachy apricot color
 - Fragrant
 - Blooms spring and fall



New Roses Being Planted This Year

- 'Sweet Pea'
 - Pioneer rose
 - Lavender & mauve blooms about 1" diameter
 - Zone 6-9
 - Ideal for low border or small hedge



New Roses Being Planted This Year

- 'Lady Pamela-Carol'
 - Named for two ladies of the Heritage Rose Foundation
 - Pioneer rose
 - Zone 5-9
 - 3" yellow flowers
 - Blooms freely throughout season
 - Has 'Carefree Beauty' genetics



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