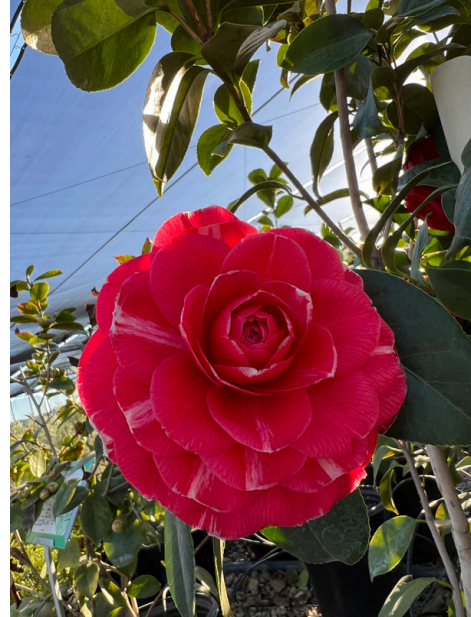




# LOUIE'S MENIFEE NOW

Welcome to the Louie's Nursery Menifee newsletter! It's the season of love, and we know the best gift for your Valentine is a bouquet of roses. However, a dozen roses is a little outdated for our taste, so we prefer spoiling our honey with their very own rose bush to show our love. It's the gift that keeps on giving long after a dozen cut roses have wilted and met their doom! In that spirit, this edition of our monthly newsletter will be focused on rose bush care throughout the whole year.

We highly recommend our high quality rose bushes here at Louie's, and hope you'll check out our complete selection of dazzling varieties to find the one that fits your boo. Happy planting!



## PLANTING AND CARING FOR ROSE BUSHES YEAR-ROUND

Roses are often thought of as high-maintenance plants, but with the right soil, nutrition, and seasonal care, they are surprisingly resilient and rewarding. Understanding how to care for rose bushes throughout the year, and using quality products like FoxFarm® soil and fertilizers, can result in healthier plants, stronger growth, and abundant blooms.

### Choosing the Right Location

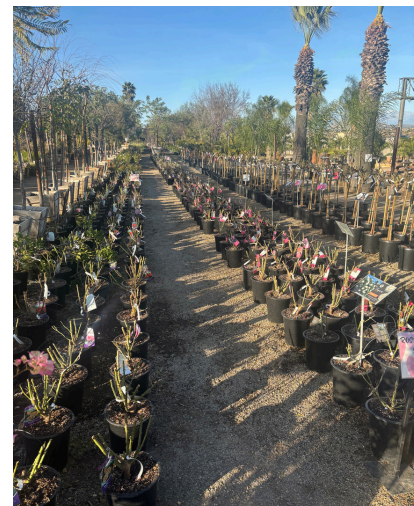
Roses thrive in full sun, requiring at least 6 to 8 hours of direct sunlight daily. Good air circulation is essential to reduce disease pressure, but avoid areas with constant strong wind. Roses also need well-draining soil; standing water around roots is one of the fastest ways to lose a rose bush.

### Soil Preparation: The Foundation of Healthy Roses

Healthy roses start below ground.

FoxFarm® soils are well suited for roses because they are:

- Rich in organic matter
- Well-aerated
- Designed to retain moisture without becoming waterlogged





Recommended options include:

- FoxFarm Ocean Forest® Potting Soil: Ideal for planting roses in the ground or containers. It contains compost, earthworm castings, bat guano, and forest humus for strong root development.
- FoxFarm Happy Frog® Potting Soil: A lighter blend that supports beneficial microbes and improves nutrient uptake.

For in-ground planting, mix FoxFarm soil with native soil at a 50/50 ratio to improve drainage and fertility while helping roots transition naturally into the surrounding soil.

Planting Roses

- Dig a hole twice as wide and just as deep as the root ball.
- Loosen the soil at the bottom of the hole to encourage deep rooting.
- Place the rose so the crown sits slightly above soil level (or just below in colder climates).
- Backfill with amended soil and water thoroughly.
- Apply mulch to regulate soil temperature and retain moisture.

Fertilizing Roses with FoxFarm®

Roses are heavy feeders, and consistent nutrition is key to continuous blooms.

FoxFarm Fertilizer Options

FoxFarm offers several excellent fertilizers suitable for roses:

- FoxFarm Grow Big® (Liquid)
- Encourages strong leaf and stem growth early in the season.
- FoxFarm Tiger Bloom®
- High in phosphorus to promote large, vibrant blooms.
- FoxFarm Big Bloom®
- An organic fertilizer that improves soil health and supports beneficial microbes.

Fertilizing Schedule

- Early Spring: Begin feeding when new growth appears using Grow Big or Big Bloom.
- Late Spring to Summer: Alternate between Tiger Bloom and Big Bloom every 2 to 3 weeks.
- Late Summer: Reduce feeding to allow plants to slow down naturally.
- Fall & Winter: Stop fertilizing to prevent tender growth before dormancy.

Always water roses before and after fertilizing to prevent root burn.

Seasonal Rose Care

Spring

- Prune dead or damaged canes.
- Feed regularly as growth begins.
- Watch for aphids and fungal diseases.

Summer

- Water deeply 1 to 2 times per week.
- Deadhead spent blooms to encourage continuous flowering.
- Mulch to keep roots cool.

Fall

- Reduce feeding.
- Allow some blooms to fade naturally to signal dormancy.
- Clean up fallen leaves to prevent disease.

Winter

- If freezing temperatures are expected, mound soil or mulch around the base for protection.
- Avoid pruning heavily until spring.
- Container roses should be protected from freezing temperatures if they are anticipated.
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Watering Tips

Roses prefer deep, infrequent watering rather than shallow daily watering. Aim to soak the root zone and allow the soil to partially dry between waterings. Drip irrigation or soaker hoses help keep foliage dry, reducing disease risk.

Roses flourish when given good soil, proper nutrition, and seasonal attention. Using FoxFarm® soil and fertilizers provides a strong foundation for root health, nutrient uptake, and vigorous blooms. With consistent care throughout the year, rose bushes can reward gardeners with beauty, fragrance, and long-lasting performance in the landscape.

