

Jennifer Olson¹, Mike Schnelle², Kevin Ong³, Ellen Roundey⁴, David H. Byrne⁴

¹Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory, Dept. of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK; ²Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK; ³Texas Plant Diagnostic Lab, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, College Station, TX; ⁴Dept. of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX

Roses are highly valued in nurseries and landscape plantings for their fragrance and attractive flowers. Rose rosette is a serious disease of roses and early identification of the disease is critical for successful management. This poster was developed to show the range of symptoms associated with rose rosette disease. Depending on the cultivar, the symptoms vary, but may include witches' broom (rosette), proliferation of prickles (thorns), stunting, cane dieback, leaf distortion or discoloration, and blossom blight. This poster was prepared for display in county extension offices, garden centers, and nurseries to educate clients on rose rosette disease symptoms. Small images that are found in extension fact sheets are less useful since the images are small in size and image quality may be low. Therefore, this poster has high quality, full-color, large images that can be used to assist in rose rosette disease diagnosis.

Preparation of the Pictorial Guide

Roses in Oklahoma and Texas landscapes were examined, photographed and sampled (Fig 1). These roses were naturally infected in the landscape by eriophyid mites and/or plant propagation. More than 2500 images were collected of 200+ unique rose cultivars. Samples were submitted to the Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory at Oklahoma State University to confirm eriophyid mites were present and/or for molecular detection of the rose rosette virus.



Figure 1. More than 2,500 images were collected to document symptoms on 200+ cultivars of roses in Oklahoma and Texas landscapes.

Images selected for the poster were representative of the damage caused by rose rosette disease on most rose cultivars (Fig 2). It was important to include a few images of healthy roses for reference since normal growth, particularly the red color of new growth, can sometimes be confused with rose rosette disease. These images will guide consumers and producers to recognize the symptoms for timely management of the disease.



Figure 2. Specialists selected images that represented consistent symptoms of rose rosette disease across rose cultivars.

Outreach and Distribution

The purpose of the poster is educate producers and consumers to recognize rose rosette disease symptoms. This poster will be distributed to nurseries, garden centers, landscapers, extension offices, and other stakeholders. The poster is available in small (8 ½ by 11 inches), medium (11 x 17 inches) and large (24 x 36 inches) sizes. Printed posters will be distributed as supply allows, and the poster can be downloaded for free online at <http://osufacts.okstate.edu>.



Figure 3. Visual diagnoses were confirmed by laboratory testing to confirm presence of the eriophyid mites vectors and/or molecular detection of the rose rosette virus.

This project is funded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Specialty Crop Research Initiative project, "Combating Rose Rosette Disease: Short Term and Long Term Approaches" (2014-51181-22644/SCRI).

Combating Rose Rosette Disease: Pictorial Guide to Rose Rosette Disease Symptoms

UNUSUAL RED COLOR	NORMAL ROSE, NEW GROWTH	LEAF DISTORTION OR DISCOLORATION	ONE SECTION SYMPTOMATIC
WITCHES' BROOM OR ROSETTE	THORN PROLIFERATION	NORMAL ROSE STEM	SUCCULENT STEM
BLOSSOM BLIGHT	SHOOT ELONGATION	STUNTING	DIEBACK AND DECLINE

For more information, please review fact sheet EPP-7329
Rose Rosette Disease at: <http://osufacts.okstate.edu>

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