

Hey Wyoming, welcome to the Lawn and Garden podcast with the University Extension specialists, Jeff Edwards and his co-host Jerry Erschabek. Originally aired on KGOS and KERM in Torrington, join Jeff, Jerry, and all of their special guests as they talk all things Wyoming Garden. From plant variants to weather events to pesticides, and pollinators. Our Lawn and Garden podcast helps you improve your home garden and every small acreage. Good day and happy gardening.

[MUSIC]

Good morning, everybody. This is Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabek for the KERM Lawn and Garden program. Good morning, Jerry.

Good morning, Jeff How are you doing?

I'm well. How are you today?

Good.

Good to see you.

Hey, nice to be seen.

Nice to be back on the radio.

Absolutely.

All right. And our guest today is Roberta Luke. Good morning, Roberta.

Good morning.

Lean in and speak up. [LAUGHTER].

Good morning.

It's good to have you here as well.

Thank you.

And before we get started, let's take a few moments and listen to our sponsors.

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Good morning, everybody. This is Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabek for the KERM Lawn and Garden program. And our guest today is Roberta Luke. We are very happy to have her along with us today. We never know exactly what we are going to talk about, but we'll see where it goes. But I know Roberta wants to talk about roses because she is a fan of growing roses. Lucky you.

I love to grow them and it's been a struggle this year and the frost didn't help.

So- so is that the only reason it's been a struggle? Why is growing roses a struggle this year?

Well, because of the- we're in a drought, and where I live in hot springs, we haven't had any moisture. So it's been a struggle that way too just keeping ahead of the watering, yeah.

So they had a dry winter. They've not recovered like they normally do. Do you mulch your roses?

Yes. I mulch and I actually had them all covered. And when it turned really nice, I uncovered them and so they did get, uh, frosted pretty good. So they are all behind. Don't even- haven't even seen any blooms.

Bummer.

I've noticed- I've noticed a little bit of iron deficiency too, sort of, a little bit. I got to get that on there.

Do you fertilize with a particular product?

I do do Rose- Bill's Rose.

Bill's Rose Food?

Yeah.

Or rose mix or whatever that is? Yeah.

And that is, you know.

It's formulated for our-

Area.

- our soil, it works really well on [OVERLAPPING]

And I really do need the sulfur in mind because that's what I seem to be lacking.

When do you start trimming your roses? When you- when you first start seeing green come up or do you wait for a while? When do you start trimming your roses, trimming the dead off.

Yeah. I always start before that, before there is just barely a bud. And you can definitely tell that all the- all the dead. So you cut back to the first little leaf bud above it and so cut off your- the dead and trim all- trim it. I don't trim clear to the ground, I trim, you know, as 12 inches above.

Conservatively as possible.

Right.

Yeah. Okay. Kind of like an apple tree?

Yes. Yeah. Yeah.

You kind of take off what you don't want or don't need?

Yeah.

Yeah.

And I tried to do that like February, March, but depending if there has been so many days of wind, you know. [LAUGHTER] And then if I did, then I have to recover it because I usually don't uncover them until April.

So when you say cover them, what do you covering your roses with?

With the Styrofoam covers and sometimes just a good insulated pot. Sometimes just a mineral- [OVERLAPPING]

Tub? Lick tub?

Yeah.

Okay.

Yeah. Lick tub. I have a bunch of lick tubs by the way. [LAUGHTER]

Jerry is still trying to get rid of those lick tubs. [LAUGHTER] So really when you are covering them, are you trying to prevent them from drying out from the wind?

Yes.

Okay. So it's an anti desiccation. You are not really trying to protect them from the cold?

Yeah. And I do put mulch and I put it over the crown and- but I have watered them. Because it was such a dry winter that I did. When it got 60, I watered them. I'd probably three or four times, well, and my trees too.

Okay, so do you have a headcount of the number of roses that you have in your landscape?

I think I think I have about 35. So yeah.

That keeps you busy.

Yes.

So, is that- is that the primary flower that you have in your landscape?

Well, sort of, yeah.

Okay.

Pretty much. Pretty much.

And all varieties, all sorts of different things?

Yeah, most- mostly no- no hybrid teas because there is to- too finicky. So I pretty much bush in flora bundles and yeah.

Now the Flora bun, isn't that the one that comes up with a real tight bud, and it's kinda long?

Yeah. And they're about three feet tall and yeah.

I have one rose when it gets to going, it'll usually spike up one giant limb. And- and it's always annoying.

Trim that one off. [LAUGHTER]

Yes. It could be a climber- it could be climber.

It's not.

It's just annoying.

It just one, just takes off like crazy. It's like four or five feet long.

Yeah.

I'm, you know, okay. I have to admit roses are- are beautiful. Uh, but when I'm trying to clean up stuff in our flower beds. They're the first thing I'm gonna be cutting.

Yeah.

Er, because of those wild limbs that grow out and- [OVERLAPPING].

Reach out and grab you.

- grab you every opportunity that they get. So I- I'm- I'm constantly trying to encourage Diane to have fewer and fewer roses. [LAUGHTER]

There- but they are- they're wonderful plants and they get- keep giving and giving year after year if you take care of them even a little bit.

Right.

Do you have any heirloom type, old varieties-

Yes.

- that really have a lot of scent?

Yes. I have the yellow ones, which is a Harrison rose. The yellow ones that you see around town.

Oh.

And then I have, um, the wild ones that are up in the canyon. I don't know. But they are- they are the ones that have just a little five petal leaflet and they smell the best, they really smell really, um, [NOISE] trying to think. That's pretty much but most of them are bush- bush.

Okay. Alright. Do you- do you care for the different types differently?

[NOISE] No, not really. I- well, some of them are too big to put under pots. So yeah, those ones I just really mound up, um, on the crown and make sure that, you know, they're watered during the winter.

And what do you use for mulch?

[NOISE] I just use a wood. [OVERLAPPING]

Wood chips?

Yeah. Wood chips.

Okay.

The ones that- the ones that are interlocking and they don't fly away.

Yeah.

Yeah.

Don't blow away.

Yes.

People get upset when their mulch blows away. [LAUGHTER]

Not- not the little bark ones. The ones that are like- [OVERLAPPING]

Shredded.

- shredded. Yes.

Yeah.

Yeah.

Yeah. Exactly.

Yeah.

Well, it takes some time and it takes some effort and it takes some bending over to get that mulch in and yeah- [OVERLAPPING]

Yes.

- you hate to see it just blow away.

Well, and you definitely, this year you definitely want to have some mulch because of the drought. And if the more you mulch, the better off your plant is. And I would even say that for your garden too, I mulch a lot with my garden in just grass mulch and- [OVERLAPPING]

From your lawn?

- yeah, yeah. [NOISE] And so as far as the garden, you know, I tried to mulch around everything and I think everybody needs to definitely do that since it's a very-

When you're watering in the- during the season, are you sprinkler watering or are you drip irrigating or a combination or?

Well, I do a combination but mostly drip and mostly soaker hoses and drip around the garden- even in the garden I tried too. It- it has been- we set up a [NOISE] nice little- where you can put all the soaker hoses in and stuff. My husband finally got it around to doing it and so yeah, it's been wonderful. Just turn on the spicket and- [OVERLAPPING]

So like a manifold-

Yes.

- type of thing?

Yes.

Okay. All right.

Yeah.

Yeah. And that's Jerry seen my setup. That's how irrigate. [OVERLAPPING].

So I've often heard, Dick, you should not sprinkle your roses in the evening. Don't- don't let the- their leaves go to bed wet.

Well, and that's mostly for, you know, humid areas like Nebraska, Eastern Nebraska.

You know, 11 miles from here. [LAUGHTER]

I mean you're not supposed to. And- and especially if you have salty water, you don't want to- that's why it's best to do it on the ground and do a soaker. But, um [OVERLAPPING].

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

- you can, but around here it's too- so dry that.

Yeah. One of the nice things about growing roses in our neighborhood is that it is dry. We don't have to really deal with a lot of the fungal diseases that roses are susceptible to. And whereas if you go to Nebraska, [LAUGHTER].

Wait, Eastern.

Eastern.

Central or Eastern.

Yes.

Anywhere from North Platte East, where it is more humid, they are more prone to having a lot of fungal type issues. So yeah, we are- it's easy to grow- relatively easy to grow roses here?

Yes.

Because of those lack of problems.

I think if anything, it's the wind that gets some.

Yeah.

The winds, sort of beats them up it unless you're- they're protected pretty good.

Micro habitats.

For Mana's birthday this year I bought her a ketchup and mustard-

Yes.

- rose. Aren't those pretty? Have you seen them?

Yes.

They're yellow. They- they first come out with a red, just a real gorgeous red. And then there's little hints of yellow on the end. And then when they open up, there's yellow on the inside, red on the outside. They're really pretty.

It's a bush too, is it?

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

As they age, do they change colors? Do they become more yellow?

They pretty much true.

Okay.

Now, we're talking with your wife Diane and she thought that her iris went back to an original color. And so do you find that?

What do you think about that? Is she not- is she just thinking maybe?

I think it's true. I think that's really I think the older they get, they revert back to- [OVERLAPPING]

Yellow?

- yeah. Usually. [LAUGHTER].

Honest to God those are my favorite one though.

Yeah.

The old- well, okay.

Okay. So I can have them forever yellow? Yeah. For real.

Everything you ever have will always be yellow eventually. [LAUGHTER]

You could say that, all my t-shirt seemed to be yellow, when I'm in cowboy shirts.

There is nothing wrong with that. Er, Okay, so, um, since we're on the roses topic, one of the pests that we could potentially have that we do not want are Japanese beetles. They're in Scott's bluff. They have been seen in Scott's bluff. They eat everything. They particularly like roses in bloom. So it's one of those things that you really have to be aware of [OVERLAPPING].

Now is that the emerald Japanese beetle?

No, no, no, That's the emerald ash borer, [OVERLAPPING] which is a different host, but the Japanese beetle has, I don't know, I think it has 300 plants that it prefers.

That it likes.

That it will consume. But they basically eat anything.

And what are we to do about those?

[NOISE] Well, right now.

We have a healthy plan.

Yeah, right- right now they're not here, but as adults, if you really want to control them, you'll have to use insecticides.

Yeah.

They make pheromone traps for them. But I tell people in the- some of the programs that I do, if you want to trap for them, you want to put the trap in your neighbor's yard so that it lures them away from your yard. [LAUGHTER] When we lived in any Indiana, we could fill the so traps. They have a pheromone top and, um, the container was about the size of a court. We could fill a court container in a day.

Yeah.

Er, just that there were that many of them.

Isn't that the, kind of, the same thing with those fly traps? I mean, if you want to have a picnic or something, you put them-

Oh, yeah.

Away far away, right. Yes.

On the ends.

They smell so bad. [LAUGHTER]

They smell terrible.

They smell so nice. Yeah.

Yeah, you must have rolled something real good. [LAUGHTER].

You're very attractive. Um, so that's something that's kind of under horizon. We don't have to worry about them yet. The other bad thing about them is that their larva live in turf. They're immature stages, so white grubs that we talked about, the June beetles having microbes. These things are like June beetles on steroids. So turf- we would have tough problems or more tough problems than we normally do. But they're close, that's the problem. [LAUGHTER]

Yeah.

Be on the lookout. Yeah. They're really pretty beetles but they're really nasty.

Yeah. Have either of you seen any June bugs?

No, but [OVERLAPPING].

I haven't yet.

Was it you that mentioned that you were having [OVERLAPPING].

We have a June Bug? We were sitting in the garage and here comes this thing [NOISE] [LAUGHTER].

[LAUGHTER] And it seemed to be headed straight for earth [LAUGHTER] So she screamed, and, kind of did one of these [OVERLAPPING]

[OVERLAPPING] Quick, get the shotgun.

Things, you know. Uh, it's the same action as a wasp or a bee.

Yes, exactly

It's a- it's a hand-waving motion.

Flailing of arms.

Yeah, and uh the June bugs, succumb to a good swat, and- and so yea- on- I have those flies strips, they're round in a- like a little tube.

Yes.

So I generally try to get one or two and stick it to that.

As bait?

Well, as- as go, hey, did you catch that? [LAUGHTER] I said, yeah.

That's a really sticky stuff.

Oh, man. Uh, if you lean back on it, you carry it with you for a while. [LAUGHTER].

It doesn't just hang up?

[OVERLAPPING] It doesn't wash off just exactly yeah, It's just hanging on the wall.

Oh, yeah.

And if you lean back on it, you- I've had two people carry them off [LAUGHTER] Oh, what's this?

Yeah. June bugs are, uh- I- it's amazing they do not fly well, um, but again, their- their larva are the white grubs that inhabit turf, and we've- we've talked about this in the past. If you have white grubs or think that you do, the best time to treat them is in the fall. August, September.

Yeah. So in once more, the voles, V-O-L-E-S, voles with a v, they're vegetarians, right? They like to get vegetables and vegetable roots.

Sure.

Moles- moles- [OVERLAPPING]

With an m, yes.

Like to eat meat. So moles are the ones going after those grubs- the grubs, the earthworms.

You know, that's a really good way to remember that, Jerry.

Yeah [LAUGHTER]. Meat eaters, moles.

Yeah.

Yeah.

Voles-

Voles are vegetarian.

Veg, nice.

We got to have a phone call.

You guys have a phone call.

We have a phone call? Oh, yeah. Hey.

Put your headphones over, and turn them up loud.

And I haven't even talked about the- the phone number yet. Push that?

Push that button.

Okay.

Go ahead.

Good morning, you're on the air.

Yes. I bought a yellow bush rose at the- at the garden sale with the Garden Club had earlier this year. Um, how far apart away from the building do I want to plant it?

Well, that- we're going to refer that to Roberta.

Well, um, is it- is it one of those- the heirloom ones, the Harrison's rose?

Aha, yeah. It's- it's the ones you see all over town, the big bushy ones.

Say, um, at least five feet because-

Okay.

And you want it on the east side of your house because they like afternoon shade, so, um, that's the best place to put them.

Is it five feet? [OVERLAPPING] Oh, I'm sorry. Is it five-

Well, I haven't- cause I haven't planted it yet, no. Um, but I'm going to plant it on the northeast corner of our new garage.

Yeah, that would work. Yeah, that would work.

Okay. Okay. And what do I amend the soil with when I plant it?

Well, I just amend with compost, and your regular soil that you have there unless you really need to add, um, manure.

[OVERLAPPING] It's sandy.

Okay. All right. Um [OVERLAPPING].

Because I wondered if I could use peat moss, and mix it with the- the dirt.

Can you use peat moss?

Um, not as much.

Okay.

[LAUGHTER] You can put them on.

Um the- the peat moss really dries out your soil. Er, it's too- too light, I think, so you need more compost.

Okay. I can do that then. Thank you.

You're welcome. Thank you for your call. Okay. Uh, oh, we're good, we're back on. Uh, before we move on, let's take a few minutes and listen to our sponsors.

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Now back to the Lawn and Garden Podcast [MUSIC].

[BACKGROUND] Alright everybody, good morning again. This is Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabek for the K-E-R-M lawn and garden program. Good to be back. We were having a side conversation during our break, that I think that we probably ought to revisit, and it had to do with our caller asking about compost and peat moss. So let's revisit that, Roberta, how do you want to launch into that?

Well, I just think, um, that the peat moss is um too light, and it- it dries out so fast that you really want to mix it either with your heavy- you know, heavy clay, or- um, just I- I don't use it a lot. I honestly don't.

So- so, um, I- I think that, uh, compost if it's not finished, and things like peat moss we- we're told that compost is a moisture retainer, uh, and it- it helps the soil profile. But if it's not finished, which peat moss is not compost, to me, it actually repels the water, or it doesn't allow the water to soak in, or- uh, so you're- you're actually losing moisture unless you're watering it every single day, or multiple times a day [LAUGHTER].

Well, yeah, multiple times a day, cause I would say anything- um, anything, just like I was telling them that anytime you get a plant from Walmart or something like that, that theirs are probably a 100 percent moss. You want to take that out and add- if you want to keep it in that pot, take it out, and add some potting soil with it. Otherwise, you'll be watering four times a day at least. It dries out so fast, especially in our dry climate.

We- we like to grow geraniums on our west side of our deck, where it's just scalding hot.

Yes.

And so I redid all my pots this year, and I- ashamed to say, I used peat moss [LAUGHTER]. But I- I took all the- the existing soil, and I mixed about equal amounts of peat moss. And well, Myrna waters every day, so, uh, and this will be a good experiment to see what it does to those geraniums. I mean, geraniums, gee they're hardy plants. If they can survive that heat, um, they can survive a little drought as well. So we'll see. We'll revisit

[OVERLAPPING] Yeah, because they'll- especially if they're in direct sun, you're going to have to be watering, you know, two- two or three times a day.

Yeah.

So this is going to be way off tangent, but have either of you ever used the polyacrylamide crystals?

Yes.

Oh yes, definitely- definitely use them.

Okay. So, uh, in- in your pots and plants, and those types of things?

Now, again, this is way off track [LAUGHTER], but rabbit hole, some people will actually use a diaper. Uh, take some of the-.

[OVERLAPPING] It's the same stuff.

It is the same stuff. And so they'll take off the- the little plastic snappy in, and just put a diaper at either at the bottom, or halfway through, or on one side, uh [OVERLAPPING].

That's one way to use a diaper.

Yes, that's another way [LAUGHTER]

[LAUGHTER] So, uh, you know, we ca- we can use all that kind of stuff in different-different forms and- and styles and sometimes they really help.

An- so- and so the- for folks that don't know, the polyacrylamide material absorb the water and supposedly releases it slowly. So if it's mixed in with your soil or those types of things, that plant will, uh, be able to survive a little longer.

And you don't need a whole lot of it.

No.

Just like a little handful in- in a medium-sized pot will- will do it well.

I think they say about two tablespoons. Is what they say. And you can even add it now, if you've already done your pot. You can just like put little pencil holes and just, um, put them down the pencil holes and that'll-

Yeah.

Yeah, you can do it now- you can do it- [LAUGHTER] you can test it out.

So I've always thought- I've had this one area that always browns up fast in my lawn. And I- and I- it may have been a driveway at one point. But I've always thought that if you had enough money 'cause it might be a little expensive-

Could be.

- doing this. Uh, area your lawn with a- with a core extractor and then sprinkle those water-loving crystals into the holes.

Fill up each one of those holes.

Well, maybe not. [LAUGHTER] I'd rather just go ahead and sprinkle.

That's a lot of diapers. [LAUGHTER]

Yeah, it would be. It would be.

Yeah. [OVERLAPPING].

Yeah.

But you can-

Probably cheaper just to, you know, put in better- better grass seed. I don't-

You- you can purchase that stuff in like £50 bags.

Yeah. Can you?

Yeah. Yeah.

Yeah. I know I have a friend that sows neck coolers and, you know, you soak them in water and they- they swell way up and-

That's funny. I would wear it on the back side, not on the front side.

Really?

On the back side of your neck? [LAUGHTER]

Back side of your neck? [LAUGHTER].

Yes.

Yeah.

That's- that's where you're supposed to. [LAUGHTER]

I mean, that- [LAUGHTER] and what did I say?

Well, the way- the way that you were describing it was that-

They can't see me describing it. [LAUGHTER] So you put it on, you know, around your back, around your neck and you tie it in the front.

It is radio.

Yeah. It is radio. [LAUGHTER] They can't see me kind of waving my hands.
[LAUGHTER]

[NOISE] Jerry does talk with his hands a lot and that's not that we don't care, that is a big thing [LAUGHTER].

Yeah. Except when I smack the test. [LAUGHTER]

Just- just warning our guests, yeah. [LAUGHTER] Um, Roberta, have you been seeing grasshoppers in your neck of the woods?

Yes. So I, uh, I- I think I've seen, uh, well, quite a few that are about a fourth of an inch long.

Okay.

And- and really in the tall grass. But I know that if I don't get to them pretty soon here, then, I mean, I know that's the best time to get them. I do, um-

You bait them?

I do have some bait. Um, but that's something you have to do every- ev- after eve- every time it rains or-

Oh.

Yeah.

But if you-

But it hasn't been raining. [LAUGHTER]

It hasn't been raining [LAUGHTER] so I can- I'm probably safe. But, um, and that's a constant thing you have to do it almost every day or every other day. But I usually just spray for them.

Yeah. Now, um, we've- we've discussed using that and I've- I brought this subject up before, we have cats that like to play with grasshoppers.

Yes.

And so we feel like the grasshoppers can eat anything they want so long as our cats are okay. So they play with the- they play with the grasshoppers. They're- they're a great toy.

And may eat them. [OVERLAPPING]

No. Not munch them up and-

Yeah.

Yeah, sometimes eat half of them or so.

So the amount of product it takes to mess up a grasshopper is significantly less than what it would be to mess up a cat?

Yeah. [OVERLAPPING] I'm sure.

So- so, um, there- there are studies out there that talk about, uh, transference of that type of material from prey to predator. And they usually can't- the predators usually can't eat enough of them for them to be intoxicated.

Yeah.

Or- if they have toxic effects.

I know this is a different drug, but, you know, the bald eagles back in the '80s?

Yep.

Cyanide wasn't that?

No.

That they would use to bait.

That was in the '70s and it was DDT.

Okay. And- and [NOISE] we found a lot of eagles, uh, being decimated because of baiting coyotes or baiting-

Yeah, but they were-

- baiting-

- used in a lot of that stuff.

A lot of that.[LAUGHTER] Oh, yeah. A little is good.

Yeah.

A pound must be better?

Yeah. Yes. And that was actually bio accumulating. So, um-

Okay.

- a lot of- there are products that will actually, uh, increase in concentration as it goes up the food chain. They've got-

Grasshopper Beta is not one of them.

They've gotten rid of all of those products. [LAUGHTER] [OVERLAPPING] So- but be aware that it could- it can happen. So-

Yeah. So, uh, you know, the avocados from down south then-

Yes.

They're not quite as regulated as the United States, correct?

Things aren't really- well, yeah. Correct.

Correct.

Yes. And your point?

Buyer beware, right?

Um, sure.

Sure.

That's why they started the country of origin [OVERLAPPING].

I like that.

Yeah.

I like that.

It's a good idea. Now we have way- moved way off the lawn and garden topic. [LAUGHTER]

All right. Well let's talk about peony then.

Okay.

So peony to me is a lot like iris. The bloom doesn't last very long. Uh, their- their showy for about a week, a week-and-a-half, and then they're gone. But [inaudible 00:31:04] they are so pretty. I like iris and I like peony. And I found that you can transfer and dig up peony and move them. But it- it stung some a little bit.

Yeah, it does send them back. And you can have- you can't bury them deeply or they will not perform [OVERLAPPING].

Right, only an inch-

Yeah.

- about an inch abou- um, below the surface.

Do you have peonies nursery?

I ha- I've had them. They've sort of died out and they just don't like my salty water.

Oh, yeah.

I just struggled with them. That's-

That's why she grows roses?

Yeah. The must like-

Roses don't- don't mind?

Yeah.

Your trees do well?

Yeah. Well, yeah, they do pretty well. I've started, um, fertilizing- I've fertilized every year when they're like six- 4-6 feet and-

More softer for then to combat the salt?

Yes. Yeah.

The trees?

The trees. Yeah.

What do you fertilize them with?

With the Gordon Tree and Shrub.

Oh.

That is what I found. And it does have sulfur and iron in there, so-

Okay.

- I've- ever since I've- they've just seemed to shoot up ever since I, uh, started fertilizing.

Started putting a little iron and sulfur in.

Yes.

Well, in our country, iron and sulfur is- [OVERLAPPING] you- you can't- you can't hurt anything, it's higher than sulfur. [LAUGHTER]

Right. Yeah, yeah. [LAUGHTER]

Yeah.

And I would say just on the back- going back to the roses, I do have some regrowth of roses and they are very, very iron deficient. And so I- and I have found out through trial and error that you don't want to, um, spray the leaf, you don't want to put a folier spray on.

Right.

You want to put it in the ground and dig it in because it just burns the leaves and, um- eh, yeah. So that's just-.

Incorporated?

Yes. Yeah.

Interesting.

So do you bring roses into the house as- as a clipping?

As pets?

Yeah, yeah. I do [LAUGHTER] Yeah, yeah. They only last a couple of days but yeah, it's worth it- it's worth it.

Have you ever found that you could root a rose stem?

I have tried. I haven't been successful, but I have tried to do that.

I've tried- I've tried just in- in water. And then so I was drinking a soda and my water and my cup was low, so I put a little soda in it and, I mean, you know, I'm just trying. But I've seen, of course, on the internet and you know if its on the internet, It's true. But they'll put it either in an apple or in a banana.

Oh, I have not seen that. I've just-

It's the internet.

Yes.

It's the internet. And so, you know, right now I'm- I'm trying to, eh, make my grape, I- I received five grape vines and I'm trying to make them root. So I stuck them in a bucket of water and I'm not having any success at all. So my next thought is to bury-bury them and-.

Just put them in the ground.

Put- put a little slow. Well, lay them flat.

Oh, yeah.

Laying flat and try to- try to see if the root can come up.

Do you have a green growing?

Yes.

Yeah.

And- and it's budding and flowering.

Okay.

I mean, they're sucking up water but they're just not rooting. So-.

Why not?

I don't know.

Give it a try.

Yeah.

I know you can do that with cottonwoods. [LAUGHTER].

Yeah. Oh yeah. Cottonwoods, I have-[LAUGHTER] I have gotten cottonwoods too.

And I've also heard that if you have a grapevine and you want a starter, lay the- lay the branch down onto the ground and put a pile of dirt on it.

It's called canning?

Canning?

Yeah. Yeah. And you can do that with raspberries. There's a whole list of shrubs that you could do it with. So-

I got to try that with the rose as well.

They actually, eh, are climbing rose. They say, well, during the winter you're supposed to lay them over and they can, um, root through that. So-

Oh, yeah. [OVERLAPPING].

Yeah. I've never had- I don't usually have climbing ones but, um-

And our winters aren't that- quite that severe. I mean, I've seen in the rose books, they'll put, ah, burlap around the rose.

Yes.

I mean, they cut them down. You know, if it's a climber?

Yeah

It's real tall and they put about two foot on the top and then the burlap it and put the leaves in the middle and- and then- [OVERLAPPING].

That's just-

- do some kinda cage and or else lay him down and hilum in.

Yes.

Hilum in.

Yeah.

And that's actually putting soil on top of the- on top of the rose cane.

Right. Right. Yeah. I've never done it, but I've seen that.

To me it seems like you're- you're- you're stretching the roots.

Mm-hmm.

If you lay it all the way down.

Well, it's routing from- from a leaf node. So that's where, I mean, maybe, I mean.

You mean- you mean you're just, ah, stretching the cane.

No stretching them.

The roots that are already there? Yeah.

Yeah.

Yeah.

Yeah. So the roots that are already there one half- [OVERLAPPING]

They don't- Jerry, they don't stretch much.

Okay.

No break. [LAUGHTER]

So, ah, I mentioned I think last week or week before, there was a tree that got blown down on by big a burst of air.

Microburst.

And they had it for like ten years laying on its side and they finally took it away.

Here?

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

Yeah.

Yeah. And it was two weeks- two blocks south of my old office on 20- on-.

You haven't been retired that long ago, have you? [LAUGHTER]

Bee Streets?

Yeah.

Yeah. [LAUGHTER]. I guess I am.

I don't need to remember that. Let's purge it.

There- there is speaking of that. There's a lot of thing get purged out if you don't use them all the time.

Oh, yeah.

And you have to go, oh, I used to know that.

Math. [LAUGHTER].

How tall is that tree? Well, there's an easy way to do it. We won't go into it now.

So Jerry, two weeks ago you planted your melons?

Yes, [inaudible 00:37:20].

And last week you said, hey, they're not up, what's the deal?

They're up. They're up but they're just really tiny.

Yeah. So I meant what did I say ten days, two weeks, right?

Ten days, two weeks. We have a phone call.

We have a phone call. Alright. Okay. Here we go. Good morning. You're on the air.

Hi. Good morning, this is Maryanne Jeff, um, out here south of town where I live, you kind of know where it is, lot of bentonite and clay and I tried planting roses and, um, a friend gave me John Paul II. And then I put a blink in next to him thinking that would work. But I think what killed it was when I planted Dolly Parton. [LAUGHTER]. So I don't know for sure. [LAUGHTER]

You're mixing up your people. [LAUGHTER]

But what I wanted to know is, I did it on the east side, there's a garage, ah, to the East. There's the house and in between I put it there in between and I'll get maybe a year or two out of roses and- and then they die. I just can't figure out what the problem is here. I've got two knockouts down over the septic which is exposed to everything. And one guide one does good and they'd been there about ten years. So is there any chance here for, ah, keeping a rose to life, I mean, a certain side of the house? I don't know. I heard you say that east side and that's where I planted this and didn't work so thank you.

I would say that maybe the east side is good, the get afternoon shade, but some want full sun. Some do. Um, some, ah, would like- and maybe you need to- you- if you have clay, I would suggest putting either peat moss or straw in your- in your dirt and in your soil [LAUGHTER] and you mix it up really well. And do you cover, um, during the winter?

Ah, well, I tried that. I- I tried covering it one winter with, um, a bucket. I tried covering them with, ah, you know, burlap, something like that. Nothing seems to

work. So what could I cover it with that would work in your opinion?

Well, if they do make- they do make, um, these Styrofoam covers, you know, like at menarche and stuff.

So just by a cooler?

Yeah, just by a cooler, [LAUGHTER] just by a cooler. And-.

Whatever is [inaudible 00:39:45] You know, it was a white plastic bucket and that didn't work. And it- it seems like they'll make it maybe through one winter or- and then the next summer they're- they're kind of lackluster, and I do put gypsum and sulfur and everything in that, and I do, ah, plant them in peat moss. And then of course, you know, we, ah, have organic material from our chickens and all that. So that goes in there too.

So, can I make a suggestion?

Yeah.

Take a soil sample, send it to Colorado State University and tell him you're trying to grow roses. And they will tell you what you need or don't need. And, ah, maybe they might even tell you that's not a good place to grow roses. [LAUGHTER]. I don't know. But that'd be the- that would be the best place to start, Maryann.

Okay.

And I think you should, um, definitely cover them in the winter and try to water them. If it gets 50,60, I would water them, um, as many times and maybe they're just drying out over the winter. And, um, some- I mean, some roses don't last as long. And that's why I do use shrub roses and floribundas because some of the other-.

Fancy name.

Fancy named ones don't [OVERLAPPING] [inaudible 00:40:58] wind too.

The T rose don't do it. Yeah, I noticed that with the- the knockout. The knockouts it done. You know, I've got the one but I'm scared to plan in more for fear that they will all die anyway, so.

Yeah, The knockouts work really well, but I mean, and it- and it's our wind too. Our wind gets them all the time.

Yeah.

Okay Maryann.

Okay.

Thank you for your call.

Thanks guys. Appreciate your show. Love it. Bye-bye.

Okay. Yeah. Thanks. We'll talk to you later.

Okay. [NOISE]

Yeah. There. Hello. You're on the air.

All right. How are you?

We're good. How are you?

Terrible. Ah, [LAUGHTER].

Sorry, I can't help you.

[LAUGHTER] Rooting powder for your stocks. I told you wipe the body to prevent rooting powder on your great stocks and stick from breaking the ground.

Yeah. So rooting hormone, he's suggesting rooting hormone to be used on your grapes, Jerry.

Okay.

And then stick them right in the ground.

And then water it.

And then water it and keep watering it.

Yeah. So the moisture is right there and it should should take hold.

Okay. All right. Thank you for the information.

You're welcome.

Jerry's gonna give it a try. Thanks for the call.

Yeah.

Okay.

All righty. We're in and we're back [LAUGHTER].

And we were never gone. [LAUGHTER]

Very good.

But yeah, some- some- some places are really tough to grow those roses.

It's true?

Yeah.

It's true, you just- I know, um, you just have to- I guess if it doesn't work there, you just try another spot and- but I definitely, like I said before, um, shrub floor abundance and Flores.

Yeah, and have transplanted those yellow Harrison-

I have.

Roses before?

Yeah.

I tried transplanting them to my brothers and it was in the summer and it- it didn't work.

Okay. So what I suggest is once you- I know I have- have tans- transplanted them several times, they usually die back, so then you cut it off like six inches and let it come back from the root next year.

So when do you transplant roses?

Um, well.

Anytime?

You can anytime [LAUGHTER] if you've got, you know, lots of water, but, I- you know, the best is April- May-April when- when they're just budding out, that's when the best time is.

Okay.

To get a good, you know.

Get a good start.

Yeah.

Huh, and I found that I had rust on mind right on the bottom.

Really?

Yeah.

Oh, nobody likes a rusty bottom, Jerry [LAUGHTER].

Nobody likes a rusty bottom [LAUGHTER]. Especially that bucket.

So what did you do.

There- they're just dying out and I don't think they came back this year.

The yellow ones?

Yeah, the yellow ones and they're the wild yellow roses.

Yes. Yeah- yeah. No. Okay. So- so-

We have a big pink one as well, a wild pink rose, but the yellows I think are going-

Well, I think you need to get in there and cut all the dead, um, cut all the dead canes out and, um, I had, um, I've told this story several times. My daughter was graduating, I was waiting for my big yellow rose to just be perfect outside, it didn't do anything because it was too- too many dead canes in there and so then my mom and I were out there chopping it all down next year.

It was beautiful.

It was beautiful.

We'll give that a whirl, we'll give that a try.

You know maintenance is a thing that we have to do, right? We plant this stuff and you just can't- you can't let it go.

Yeah.

But that's what you want to do is plant and walk away.

The Ron Pope peel method of gardening? [LAUGHTER]

Even perennials- even perennials in one of those things, you still have to do a few things with, but not nearly as often or as much.

Um, shrubs, you know, uh, perennial shrubs, you think, okay, I'll plant it, I don't have to do anything to it, but if you do trim on it regularly, they seem to be so much better.

It's the- it's the I've got to live, so if you cut it back, they think, oh, you're trying to kill me so they'll come back from the roots and rose- those yellow roses come back from the roots really well.

You have to be mean to roses.

Yes, sometimes you do.

Yeah, sometimes.

Shock brother. My brother was- he has a down spout right next to where his rose was in and so he has a little rubber hose that will unroll and stuff. He says dang, he says if- and for what little rain that we all get, he said that my rose wasn't doing good at all, so he says- he says, heck with it, I'm just- I need to stopped fertilizing it. Now he says, that rose is doing the best than it has been doing them since I planted it.

And if you do have the yellow rose, if it has buds on it, wait till after it's bloomed.

It's bloomed.

And then if you can get in there, because the yellow roses have the worst thorns ever. They have so many.

Wear your welding gloves?

Yes- yes, and a protective coding, a code or something-

We have some of those rose gloves and they go all the way up to your elbow. It's just whenever we start working with them we go guess we should have got those rose gloves.

Well, the best is when, you know, you do it in February, March.

Yeah.

And you can definitely see the dead on there.

Sure.

Because they'll be a different color, right?

Yes, you- they are like gray.

Yeah.

The ones that are dead.

Gray brown.

They're gray, yeah. Definitely get in there and cut them off.

And the other ones are kind of going up green, they'll be specific green.

Yeah. Very good. Okay. So you've seen my- changing gears a little bit, my lilacs this year, have you not?

Oh yeah- yeah- yeah.

So being the bug guy that I am supposed to be, Diane kept harassing me, you know, there's something wrong with our lilacs. They just never really- never really did anything, so I started really trimming the heck out of them. The last two years, um, I've- I've trimmed them down to several main stems and then all the new growth that comes up I've been trimming that off and I've been fortunate to put energy into the old growth. This year was the first year that they actually blossomed on time, produced blossoms throughout the season. [LAUGHTER]

And then frosted?

Well, you know, they- they survived.

Oh, they did?

That- that hard frost that wiped out our oak trees didn't even touch them- touch the lilacs this year. So, ah, I don't know if I'm doing anything right, but what I am doing, it seems to be working. [LAUGHTER]

Well, that's good. Yeah, and I would say the same with them, you got to- you've got to prune them. The lilacs.

Yeah.

They are not as easy growing as people say.

Yeah.

I seem to have powdery mildew on mine. I have no- I live out in the country. I have no idea, but I've been putting a copper fungus-

Copper Sulfate?

Yeah. Got it for a couple of years and it- it helped last year.

Yeah. Fort- fortunately for most plant diseases in our area, Copper Sulfate will take care of it.

Have you been plagued with aphids with your roses?

Not too much, no. Not too bad.

I've not seen.

Grasshoppers more than anything.

Yeah- yeah.

And the- the leaf cutter. What do they call, the the leaf cutter bee, that'll cut a nice round half-moon circle or- or even a full circle out of it and I was alarmed at first until I learned that it was a good bee.

A mason bee yes, very good.

So here's an entomological fact that you may or may not want to know. They will cut different shaped portions depending on what they're doing, whether they're- whether they're building a- the nesting chamber or whether they're sealing the nesting chamber.

Oh, yeah.

So if they're building it, it'll be kind of an oblong pill shaped cut and if it's circular, that's the in cap.

And it really doesn't happen till about August, September.

Right, yeah.

Yeah.

Later season.

But they're so amazing. The- the- if you've ever seen a diagram of it, the Mason bee will go into the hole and produce an egg and then will pack that egg and then the last egg that is-

They'll add pollen and-

Add pollen and something to eat on, but the last one that is placed in the hole will come out first.

Will be the first one.

First one, yeah.

Do you have any bee houses?

I do.

Oh, good.

I do have one. And [BACKGROUND] one minute. And I've had- and I've had some success in that.

Yeah.

Yeah, I love them.

Me too- me too. I have a couple of them.

Okay. We've gotten the one minute warning, so wow, that hour went really fast. Thank you Roberta for being here with us today. We appreciate you.

Thank you for hav- for having me.

Jerry, anything going on in the county that people need to know about?

Water there- water your beans and your beats and your carrots and your cantaloupe and your rose [OVERLAPPING] and ketchup and mustard roses and mulch.

And it's okay to probably plant anything at this point in time.

Anything, you know, uh, that last freeze caught everybody unawares and typically, you know we missed it by about a week, you know, uh, so it's just one of those deals gardeners be aware?

That's right. Yeah, it's a canvas, start over.

Yep.

Hey, thank you all for listening to us and, uh, oh, guest.

And we have our next guest next week is Donna Hoffman from Casper.

Okay. Very good. Thank you, Jerry, thank you, Roberta, for being here and we'll see you next week.

[MUSIC] You've been listening to Lawn and Garden with the University of Wyoming Extension specialist, Jeff Edwards and co-host Jerry Erschabek, presented by KGOS and KERM Radio in Torrington and by the University of Wyoming Extension, where we are growing people, knowledge and communities by extending the land-grant mission across the state of Wyoming. Good day and happy gardening.