

# Best of the Best

Outstanding Roses - 2010



Spellbound - May 2010

*from the Beall Family Rose Garden  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

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 **AgResearch**

# Selecting the Best



The Beall Family Rose Garden was gorgeous in 2010, beginning with a stunning show in May and concluding with outstanding roses throughout the fall season.

The roses were collectively outstanding, making it difficult to select the “Best of the Best.” Several beautiful roses were left off the list but the goal was to pick the best six roses in the Spray (roses that require spraying weekly) and No-Spray (proven resistance to black spot) categories and Queens (the absolute best) that performed consistently all season.

I also highlighted the best miniature as well as a rose that received many comments and lots of attention. Enjoy!

# No-Spray Roses

These roses have proven themselves in Tennessee AgResearch trials through many years of observation and do not have to be sprayed for good performance, even under high black spot pressure.



**Carefree Sunshine:** Outstanding bloom all season long and held its yellow color when other yellows faded in the heat of summer. If not pruned, this rose will become at least 8 feet tall and 10 feet across in two years.



**Double Knock Out:** Required little pruning, but stayed in heavy flower throughout the season; the most consistent rose in the garden.



**Double Pink Knock Out:** A show (garden) stopper. The heavy petal count matched with prolific blooming made this rose's "WOW Factor" hard to beat. **The QUEEN of the No-Sprays!**

# No-Sprays (continued)



**Hansa:** Only bloomed heavily from May through middle June, but during that time, was a 'show stealer' due to its heavy fragrance. Hansa may be the most fragrant rose in the entire garden.



**My Girl:** Started a bit slow, but came into its own in late May/ Early June. Once it began to bloom, it never quit. Rose buds have typical hybrid tea shape and red color is a 'crowd pleaser.'



**Pink Knock Out:** Consistent bloomer throughout the entire season with cascading pink blooms.

# Spray Roses

This group forms the backbone of the garden and consists of hybrid tea, floribunda and grandiflora roses. They come in almost infinite colors, sizes and shapes and some are extremely fragrant.

They have to be sprayed once a week to keep the foliage free of black spot. The tight center (vase shape) of the blooms is what many people think of when they think of how a rose bloom is supposed to look.



**Chris Everett:** A wow at the beginning of the season, a wow at the end of the season. This champion floribunda never quit.



**Double Delight:** It's not the biggest rose in the garden, but it combines heavy bloom (even during summer heat), fragrance and staying power all season long. For these reasons, it has been chosen as the **QUEEN of the GARDEN!**



**Elle:** Gave Double Delight a run for the money for Queen and came in second by a "width of a petal." An outstanding 2010 performer and a crowd pleaser. Oh, if it only had more than a whiff of fragrance.

# Sprays (continued)



**Firefighter:** Deep red blooms, vigorous bush, but no fragrance. People were pointing out this rose all summer long.



**Legends:** If size counts, then this rose is a champion. It had the biggest blooms all season long.



**Spellbound:** A rose that truly lived up to its name. Its blooms were long on 'form' and held its color as long as any rose in the garden.

# Best of the Miniatures

Several minis did well, but no Queen was selected because many were in shade for half the season (thanks to the UT Garden staff that is no longer a problem).



**Bridal Blaze:** It may be small in stature, but it had the heart of a lion when comparing it to any other rose for bloom number or staying power. A quality miniature for sure!

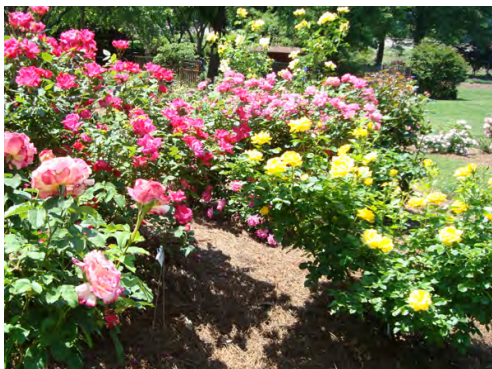
# Most Unique



**Enchanted Evening:** Alan Heilman, retired UT botanist and world renowned botanical photographer, told me that the Beall Rose Garden taught him something he didn't know (I was surprised that was possible concerning plants). He had no idea a rose could come in the color displayed by Enchanted Evening. He was not alone. People "ooooed" and "ahhhhhed" about this rose all season long. It's not the Queen or even in the top grouping, but it will stop you in your tracks when you see it!

# Concluding 2010

In its second year, the Beall Family Rose Garden dazzled and impressed. We trimmed or removed some of the surrounding trees in order to provide more sunlight for the roses. This maintenance, along with the attention of our Beall Rose Interns, allowed the rose bushes to thrive beyond belief. Many visitors, including longtime rosarians, could not believe the roses were only in their second year.



Visitors to the UT Gardens witness which roses will thrive in this region using nothing more than general supplies available at any gardening retailer. There were a few roses that did not perform to expectations and visitors got to see what would not work in this region, as well.

## Looking Ahead

The 2010 interns have moved on having their educations enriched by their experiences in the gardens. We have selected one intern for 2011 and James Newburn is holding interviews for the second position as this is being written. Being a Beall Rose Intern means the student has been through a competitive and highly selective process.



The roses that did not live up to expectations will be replaced with 2011 introductions from Weeks and Star Roses (Jackson Perkins is no more) and national champions for fragrance. Climbing roses, selected for all season blooming, strong fragrance, and outstanding color, will be planted so they will grow on the columns above the water feature. Some new miniature roses are being added where we have duplication of cultivars.

We will continue to host visitors and plan seminars (including a full track of programming devoted to roses at BloomsDays), encouraging new rosarians and inspiring those who have shared the love of roses for years. This fall, members of the TENARKY District of the American Rose Society (rosarians from Tennessee, Arkansas, and Kentucky) will be touring the garden. We also have a large number of couples getting married in the garden including my son!



Many thanks to Sue Hamilton, the Director of the UT Gardens, and her entire staff for everything they do to inspire public horticulture. I'm especially proud of our 2009 - 2010 Beall Interns, for the work they contributed, the experience they gained, and the good times we had. Most importantly, my thanks is extended to Sam and Mary Anne Beall without whom none of this would be possible.

*The Beall Family Rose Garden is a part of the University of Tennessee Gardens located in Knoxville, TN. For more information about the Gardens and ways you can help support our research, contact Mark Clark at [mclark4@utk.edu](mailto:mclark4@utk.edu) or 865-974-5315.*