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# Roses Without Chemicals: 150 Disease-Free Varieties That Will Change The Way You Grow Roses



## **Synopsis**

Spray no more!Â  Roses have a reputation for being finicky garden plants that require chemicals and fertilizers to stay healthy and disease free. Fortunately, recent breeding efforts have produced disease-resistant varieties that perform beautifully in all kinds of conditions. Peter E. Kukielski, former curator of the award-winning rose garden at the New York Botanical Garden, highlights 150 of these tough, new varieties, rating them for disease resistance, flowering, and fragrance.Â  He also tells which perform best in each region and teaches simple cultivation techniques that will result in gorgeous, easy-care gardens filled with healthy roses.Â

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I've waited years for a book like this! As a professional (and organically-inclined) garden designer in Maine, I gave up using all but a few trusted and easy roses ('New Dawn' and 'Knockout') long ago. This book is organized intuitively and the writing is entertaining while delivering all the needed information. The photos are fabulous. I was quickly able to pinpoint 13 roses I want to try (must be fragrant!). I've heard Peter speak and he knows his roses backwards and forwards. The experience

he brings to the topic is impeccable. Great book!!! The only "extra" I would ask for is clear USDA zone indication in the "Rose Directory" section - which is otherwise a delicious catalog of vital information.

The only thing I can say is that I hate that this book did not come out a lot earlier. Even the little I have read so far has helped me enormously to pick some roses based on where I live (Kaohsiung, Taiwan). For 20 years now I bought very beautiful and attractive, sometimes even very fragrant roses sold by local flower shops and growers. Only to see them wither and die during the wet, humid and hot summer raining season mostly destroyed by mold. I have now bought roses based on the advice given in this book. I looked at the places where people were growing roses and general conditions in which this happened. As I have had an interest in roses for a long time but being unable to grow them successfully I never the less kept an eye open for them. In this way I remembered seeing roses in certain places, the same plants for years. Some roses, even the ones described above, I have seen at my favourite teashop for more than 20 years. The micro climate at that spot seems ideal for them. At other place they find it hard to thrive. The park service replaces most of the same roses every year because most of them do well enough from November to April but once the rains come to perish. However others, called mini roses over here, do well in pots both in the full sun or in more shady places. Though they have no fragrance I know several bushes that have been growing for years and flower abundantly. They come in red, pink and pink panache and yellow. They are ideal for where I am and are thriving. Again very happy with this book. Will try to find some to the varieties in the book to try out.

Awesome book packed with great information on growing roses successfully without the use of chemicals. Lists 150 mostly modern roses, rating them on disease resistance, repeat flowering characteristics and fragrance, adding up all three attribute scores to the final score of 100 or less. Because the roses attributes are individually rated one can choose the most important characteristic be it disease resistance, flowering capabilities or fragrance. Mr. Kukielski also includes a comprehensive list of damaging insects and how to control them and a list of beneficial insects and how to recognize them as well as comprehensive care guides, including, but not limited to pruning, fertilizing and winter protecting. Accompanied by exquisite photos of each rose, the book is not only a valuable aid to choosing and successfully growing healthy roses but also a visual delight.

Very helpful book - clear with a ton of actionable information. I'm a novice but having just finished

reading the book, I'm ready to hit the garden with confidence. I really liked the emphasis on rose varieties that don't require pesticides or chemical fertilizers - information you might not get from nurseries and garden centers. Great lists of specific varieties and where they will work best. Makes it all so easy!

This is one of the best rose books that I have and I have many. It shows modern as well as old roses. It has lists of roses that do well in various regions. The roses are sorted by alphabet, color, size and class. It shows basic info for care, diseases and pests. It even has metric conversions. It has become my new favorite that I pull out again and again.

I found this to be informative on rose I never thought I would consider. I've been growing organic for about 30 years so that info wasn't new to me. But Peter discusses how he grows them which is a little different. Good reading!

This is a great book. I'm really happy that I got the chance to read it before I bought most of my roses for my new rose garden. It really features wonderful resistant roses and it was fun to read. The only thing is that the book touched base on insects, but didn't delve into details on how to control them effectively while staying chemical free. Diseases like black spot and rust are important, but insects are also a challenge and I hope the next edition gives more details in that regard.

"Roses without chemicals: 150 disease-free varieties that will change the way you grow roses" by Peter E. Kukielski launched my first timid foray beyond Knock Out and Drift roses to find disease-resistant roses that are also fragrant. A rose expert first told me about Kordes roses, which have been bred in Germany for disease resistance. Then I read Mr. Kukielski's excellent book. Kukielski trialed the roses featured in his book as curator of the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden at the New York Botanical Garden from 2006 to 2013. He is now the executive director of the new American Rose Trials for Sustainability (A.R.T.S), launched in 2014. In this book, each rose is given a full page, with a large photograph of the bloom and an informative description. The roses are scored on disease resistance (0-60), flowering (0-30), and fragrance (0-10), with a maximum total of 100. Here are some examples (\* = Kordes):

Cultivar	Type	Color	Dis. Resist.	Flowering	Fragrance
'Beverly'	Hyb.	Tea Pink	54	21	10
'Dark Desire'	Hyb.	Tea Red/Purple	55	28	10
'First Crush'	Floribunda	Creamy Pink	50	25	10
'Maris-Luise Marjan'	Hyb.	Tea Creamy White	54	25	9
'Poseidon'	Floribunda	Lavender	57	26	9
'Savannah'	Hyb.	Tea Apricot-Pink	60	25	9

94'Summer Romance''\* Floribunda Dark Pink 52 28 10 90'Wedding Bells''\* Hyb. Tea Pink Blend 60 28 6 94The introductory chapters of the book contains succinct and well written descriptions and examples of rose classes (e.g., Gallica, Damask, Alba, Floribundas, Hybrid Tea, etc), suggestions for companion plants for roses (including plants that attract beneficial insects and plants that repel Japanese beetles), suggested roses for specific regions of the U.S., and guidance for growing roses sustainably.

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Lifestyle The Bee Safety Book: How To Control Bees, Wasps, Hornets, and Yellow Jackets Without Any Pesticides or Toxic Chemicals (Natural Pest Control Book 8) Complete Guide to Pest Control with and without chemicals

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