

Compost Tea Trial ~ 2006



Tropicana



Olympiad



Peace

What's Happening?

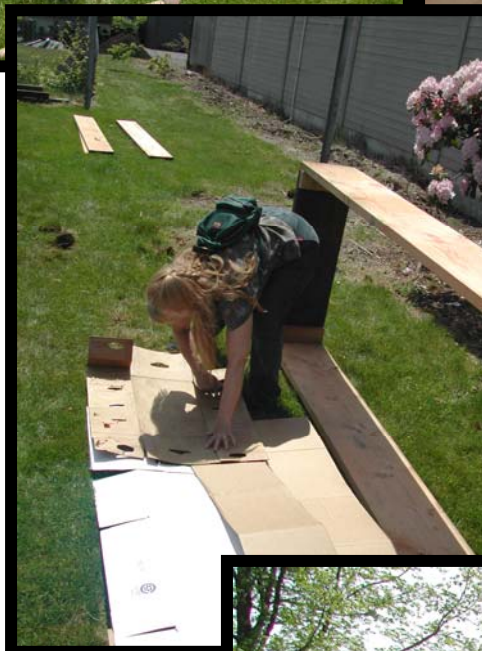
Beginning in May of 2006, Compost Specialist volunteers at the OSU/Lane County Extension Service in Eugene, Oregon will be conducting a three-year experimental trial using aerated compost tea on roses. The purpose of the trial is to see if aerated compost tea reduces the incidence of disease on roses. Three varieties of roses have been selected for the trial, Olympiad, Tropicana and Peace. Roses are planted at five locations, three private gardens and two public locations. Each location has a control rose group and an experimental rose group.

Raised beds were built and the same soil used in all locations to fill the beds. Each bed has been planted with one set of T-O-P (Tropicana-Olympiad-Peace.) The soil is a blended mix of commercially produced garden compost, loam and sand. Prior to planting, an all-purpose organic fertilizer was added to the soil. Each rose was then mulched with alfalfa pellets and watered in well.

Beginning the first week of June 2006, the trial roses will be sprayed with a foliar application of compost tea at two-week intervals. Compost Specialists will be making their own aerated compost tea using a tea brewer of their own design. The same tea will be applied at all locations. All of the trial locations will follow the same schedule of cultural care of the roses.

We will be posting information each month to this web page as the trial progresses. Check back with us and learn more about this new and emerging area of interest in horticulture. An informational flyer, "A Beginners Guide to Compost Tea" can be found at the OSU/Lane County Extension Service website under 'horticulture.'

Creating the trial garden at OSU/Lane County Extension Service 950 W 13th Ave. Eugene, OR 97402



Tired and dirty
but the garden is
ready!



