

MEMBER
PROFILE

PLANT OF
THE MONTH

SCHOLARSHIP
WINNERS

the SCOOP

A.R.T.S. WINNERS

ALSO INSIDE:
IS MY TREE SAFE?

PLUS:
STATISTICALLY
SIGNIFICANT? YOUR
OPINION COUNTS!



January 2022 ■ v45 n1

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MINNESOTA NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

2022

A.R.T.S.[®]

REGIONAL WINNING ROSES

David C. Zlesak and Randy Nelson





The 2022 winning roses for our region (Köppen climate region Dfb; Minnesota, the eastern Dakotas, and most of Wisconsin) have been announced by the American Rose Trials for Sustainability®. These roses were trialed in 2019 and 2020 at our two regional sites hosted by the University of Minnesota Extension – Clay County (Moorhead, MN), and the Green Bay Botanical Garden (Green Bay, WI). To win a regional award (aka A.R.T.S.® Local Artist award), trial



roses need to score equal to or greater than the average of the two industry standard cultivars planted with them (Double Knock Out® and Sunrise Sunset™) and have the majority of plants surviving at the end of the trial.

A.R.T.S.® is a national, scientifically focused nonprofit coordinated by volunteers with expertise in roses and plant evaluation. Volunteers include university scientists and extension educators, public garden professionals, and American Rose Society members. Plants are grown under low input conditions and are evaluated monthly during the growing season for traits associated with plant health, plant form, and flowering. For plant care, beds are mulched, moderately irrigated, no pesticides are sprayed on the roses, there is no deadheading, and no additional insulation is provided for winter protection. Winter-killed canes are removed in spring. There is a minimum spacing of 4' between plants in order to better observe plant form. Plants of each cultivar are not planted adjacently but are dispersed throughout the planting beds using a randomized design. Each plant

of each cultivar is rated monthly in order to obtain the maximum amount of data and have a more complete understanding of plant performance. To calculate the final cultivar score, year two ratings are weighted twice that of year one to better capture the magnifying impact of regional pest and climatic conditions over time. The result of these trials is that as consumers give their regional winning roses basic plant care, there is a high likelihood of success.

To learn more about the A.R.T.S.® program and past winning roses for our Dfb region, please visit www.trustedroses.org.

The 2022 A.R.T.S.® Local Artist award winners for the Dfb region are:

🕒 **At Last™ ('HORcogjill') - Spring Meadow Nursery:** This healthy, compact floribunda bears clusters of sweetly fragrant double apricot blooms throughout the growing season.

🕒 **Easy on the Eyes™ ('WEKswechey') - Weeks Roses:** Abundant clusters of creamy-white, semi-double blooms open revealing rich purple centers. This healthy shrub rose has a pleasant fragrance.

NEWS & NOTES

Revising the WOTUS Definition

On November 18, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army announced a proposed rule to re-establish the pre-2015 definition of “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) which

had been in place for decades, updated to reflect consideration of Supreme Court decisions. This action advances the agencies’ goal of establishing a durable definition of WOTUS that protects public health, the environment, and downstream communities while

supporting economic opportunity, agriculture, and other industries that depend on clean water. This proposed rule would support a stable implementation of “waters of the United States” while the agencies continue to consult with states, Tribes, local

governments, and a broad array of stakeholders in both the implementation of WOTUS and future regulatory actions. The public comment period is now open and will close on February 7, 2022. “In recent years, the only constant with WOTUS has been change,

creating a whiplash in how to best protect our waters in communities across America,” said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. “Through our engagement with stakeholders across the country, we’ve heard overwhelming calls for a durable definition of WOTUS



⬅️ **Golden Dragon™ ('ALDragon')** - **Altman Plants:** Bright yellow, high-centered blooms stand out against the dark green foliage of this healthy floribunda rose.

⬇️ **Head Over Heels™ ('BAleels')** - **Bailey Nurseries:** Large clusters of double light lavender to pink blooms cover this compact healthy shrub rose throughout the season. The blooms have a sweet fragrance.



⬆️ **Pink Freedom™ ('WEKpumpahor')** - **Weeks Roses:** Fragrant, double-pink blooms open flat to reveal yellow stamens. Bloom clusters are elevated and displayed nicely above this healthy, vigorous shrub rose.



that protects the environment and that is grounded in the experience of those who steward our waters." "The Army recognizes the importance of our nation's water resources and the role water plays in our communities across the nation," said Acting Assistant

Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jaime A. Pinkham. "We remain committed to working with EPA to develop a rule that is informed by our experience and expertise, as well as that of our co-regulators, is mindful of implementation practices, and is shaped by the lived

experience of local communities and stakeholders." The proposed rule would maintain the long-standing exclusions of the pre-2015 regulations as well as the exemptions and exclusions in the Clean Water Act on which the agricultural community has come to rely. For

more information on submitting written comment on the proposal or to register for the virtual public hearings on the proposed rule, see www.epa.gov/wotus.

Correction

In the November 2021 issue we incorrectly identified Jim Shimon

and Katy Geffre as the winners of the Shootout Grouse Skeet contest. While Jim and Katy did win the Long Shot contest, it was actually Peter Tiede who won the Grouse Skeet contest. Congratulations, Peter, Jim, and Katy!



⬆️ **Pinkerbelle™ ('MElvanae') - Star® Roses and Plants:** Flushes of fragrant, double multi-toned pink to soft lavender flowers with subtle darker stipples are produced throughout the season on this healthy hybrid tea.



⬆️ **The Champion™ Sunblush Rose ('MEItitka') - Greenleaf Nursery Company:** This colorful, healthy shrub rose bears loads of single yellow blooms that transition to pink as they age. The mixture of newly opened yellow and older pink blooms is dramatic.



Table 1. Maximum points allocated to each of the contributing traits in the A.R.T.S.® standard monthly evaluation rating.

Overall category	Character trait	Maximum point value
Flowers	Bloom coverage	2.00
	Bloom shape	0.50
	Fragrance	1.00
	Shedding of spent blooms	0.50
	Hip formation	0.25
Foliage	Foliage retention	1.50
	Lack of chlorosis	1.00
	Lack of disease	1.00
	Lack of insect and mite damage	1.00
Plant form	Growth habit	1.00
	Lack of dead canes	0.25
	Maximum point total	10.00



⬆️ **The Grand Champion™ Red Rose ('MElmacota') - Greenleaf Nursery Company:** Healthy, glossy, dark green foliage provides a good backdrop for the double, full red blooms of this robust shrub rose.

⬆️ **True Bloom™ True Love™ ('ALTCaptain') - Altman Plants:** Clusters of bright red, very double blooms cover this dense, low growing, healthy floribunda.



» DR. DAVID C. ZLESAK is a Professor of Horticulture at the University of WI-River Falls and on the MNLA Foundation Board of Trustees. RANDY NELSON is an Extension Educator for the University of Minnesota Clay County Extension. Both serve on the board of directors of A.R.T.S.®