

Ask The Plant Groom™ by Dale Groom, The Plant Groom™

QA1064

I saw a beautiful pink rose bush last week while on a trip that was covered with blooms. It was growing at one of our friend's home in the Dallas area. Our friend said it was called Belinda's dream.

I know some roses do better in one location or area than others. What we would like to know is will this rose do well in our area? Thank you. - F. E.

If your friends do indeed have a 'Belinda's Dream' rose they have one of thirteen roses designated as Earth Kind Roses™. These beauties perform well statewide. They are truly roses for all of Texas. More information on Earth Kind Roses™ is available on-line at <http://dallas-tx.tamu.edu> then click on Horticulture and cruise the available horticultural information including Earth Kind Roses™.

Planting demonstrations of Earth Kind Roses™ in Dallas County include but are not limited to (a) Water Wise and Earth Kind™ Landscape Demonstration garden, 2311 Joe Field Rd., Dallas, 75229, (b) the State Fair of Texas grounds directly across from the Exposition building and (c) the City of Addison's public park in the 8900 block of Beltway. All of these public plantings are in association with Texas Cooperative Extension collaborative partners including; Dallas County Commissioners Court, Dist. 1, State Fair of Texas, Inc., City of Addison Parks Dept. and Dallas County Master Gardeners Assn.

Earth Kind Roses™ are also planted at the City of Tyler Rose Garden.

The following is the complete list of roses that have earned the designation of Earth Kind Roses™ and a very brief description of each:

Variety name, color, type, heights x widths in feet and fragrant or not

- 'Belinda's Dream', soft pink, shrub, 3-6 x 3-4, yes
- 'Caldwell Pink', lilac pink, polyantha, 3-4 x 4, no
- 'Climbing Pinkie', rose pink, climber, 8-12 x 6, yes
- 'Duchesse de Brabant', rose pink, shrub, 4-6 x 4, very
- 'Else Poulsen', bright pink, floribunda, 3-5 x 3-4, slight
- 'Katy Road Pink' also known as 'Carefree Beauty', medium pink, shrub, 4-5 x 4-5, yes
- 'Knock out'®, cherry red, shrub, 3-4 x 3-4, some
- 'Marie Daly', medium pink, polyantha, 3-4 x 3-4, very

- ‘Mutabilis’, yellow/red/orange (all three bloom colors appear on the same plant), China, 4-10 x 6’, some
- ‘Perle d’Or’, golden yellow and pink blend, polyantha, 3-6 x 3, very
- ‘Sea Foam’, creamy white, shrub, 2-8 x 4, some
- ‘Spice’, blush pink, China, 3-5 x 3-4, yes
- ‘The Fairy’, light pink, polyantha, 2-4 x 4’, some

These roses need; full sun locations with good air movement and well drained soil. Once established, Earth Kind Roses™:

1. Are not sprayed with or for anything
2. Do not require pruning or deadheading
3. No fertilizer of any kind is needed
4. And, minimum irrigation is utilized

In clay soils of any color to create an Earth Kind™ growing condition in the native soils blend 3” of expanded shale and 3” of plant derived finished compost with the soil 1” per pass with a tiller. After the amendments are blended with the soil crown the bed 6 – 9” in the center and taper to the bed edges. You are now ready to plant.

Note: In sandy soils don’t use expanded shale, do increase the compost from 3” to 6” and complete bed development as described for clay soils.

Install selected plants with the root ball top level or slightly above the bed grade and water thoroughly. Drip irrigation is highly recommended as the water delivery system and if utilized now is the time to install. After the drip irrigation system is installed mulch the entire bed (covering the irrigation system) 3 – 4” deep with organic mulch. Shredded tree trimmings, hardwood or pine will all work for this application.

Set up properly by following the above information Earth Kind Roses™ are minimal maintenance.

These Texas tough beauties may be installed now from containers. They may also be installed in the fall.

I encourage you to plant ‘Belinda’s Dream’ if this is one of the (13) Earth Kind Roses™ you like. Please take a look at other varieties too. Please let me hear back from you because I’d like to know how well your plantings work in the landscape.

Dale Groom, Extension Horticulturist -Dallas County, Texas Cooperative Extension, Native Texan, Columnist, Author, Radio/TV Host is also known as The Plant Groom™ state wide. You may send your lawn, garden and landscape questions to dale at [dalegroom@mycvc.net](mailto:dalegroom@mycvc.net).

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