



What's Bugging Your Roses?

When roses are happy with how they're being cared for, they show it. Conversely, when they're unhappy, they'll be sure to let you know.

Symptom	Cause	Solution
Small, green, soft insects sucking on buds and new growth. Paper-like skins on leaves below	Aphids	Hose off mildly infested areas with water. Prune out heavy infestations and use an insecticide with soap or Imidacloprid
Leaves have speckled appearance, and fade to tan. Undersides have a grainy look and fine webbing, which increases with time	Spider mites invade plants that are stressed out from hot conditions and poor ventilation and watering practices	Alternate treatments of neem oil, a miticide, or soapy water to prevent resistance. Severe cases should be pruned, stripped of leaves, and then treated
Buds have holes causing yellowing, bent neck, or premature death. Opening blooms have chewed or shot-holed look	Rose Weevil (aka Rose Circulio) is a small, red beetle with a blackish snout	Hand pick or prune out damage. Apply a systemic insecticide. Proper watering will yield positive results
Flecked petals and deformed blooms. Tiny, silver-like insects hide in the base and folds of blooms	Thrip , very small, light tan, and elliptical in shape	Prune off blooms, apply a systemic once a month during growing season
Leaves marked with cream-colored stippling on the surface	Rose Leafhopper ; found on undersides of leaves. Small, green, and wedge-shaped	Prune out areas most infested, if possible. Apply a systemic insecticide
Hole bored in the center of a pruned cane. Tunneled out canes usually result in stem dieback, but not always	Stem-Boring Sawfly is a pest that bores into canes to lay eggs. Larva eat through canes	Prune hollowed canes back to solid cane. Seal with white liquid glue
Semicircular cutouts of leaf material along margins	Leaf-Cutter Bee	No cure; it is not actually eating the leaves. Not harmful to the plant, but can be visually disturbing
Leaf surface eaten from the undersides creating a window pane or skeletonized effect	Roseslugs are small, globular, sawfly larva; look like bird droppings	Treat with horticultural oil. Apply product on the undersides of the leaves



White, powder-like fuzz on leaves, stems and buds distorting growth. Warm days with cool, humid nights can promote this disease

Powdery Mildew

Apply a systemic fungicide for short term solution. Decrease frequency of watering.

Circular black spots with fuzzy margins on leaves or canes. Frequent watering and humidity worsens the condition; very contagious

Black Spot

Water early in the morning to allow leaves to dry during the day. Treat infestation with neem oil. Remove all affected leaf material

Orange dots on leaf surface. Undersides have powdery, orange-colored spores. Very contagious

Rust

See: Black Spot solution

Callused, rounded swellings on stems. When cut open, reveal tiny larva inside

Rose Galls form when wasp-like insects bore into cane, lay eggs and they hatch

No insecticide remedy. Prune out and dispose of infected areas

Yellowing or paling of leaves. Located at the bottom of the plant or throughout

Under/Over watering

When watering, do so thoroughly, not frequently. Let soil dry slightly between watering. This is the root cause of most of the problems on this list

Yellowing or dying leaves; stunted growth, and/or severe dieback

Caring/Bored Gardeners

Implement one or two hobbies unrelated to watering the garden

