

Horizon Roses

By Carolyn Hayward, CR

ARS Judge

Each year a book of commentary on new exhibition roses is published. It's called *Horizon Roses* and is available for \$8 (\$10 appreciated) from Johnny Premeaux 700 Westbury, Orange, Texas 77630.

This year, I am looking at this publication with special interest because I am buying a house. At first, the house hunting didn't go too well because trying to find a decent house in my price range with out too many trees was a challenge. However, I eventually found a new house in Denton that I could build. So I am able to look with the hope of actually buying a few roses, and I see plenty to like.

First in the book is a list of honor roll hybrid tea roses. These roses have received high ratings and are thus considered good for beginners. The ones I am interested in are 'St. Patrick'. It is a yellow that I used to grow. I really like 'St. Patrick' because of its dependable form. I like 'Gemini' because it's beautiful, 'Veteran's Honor' because it is the best red in my opinion, and 'Hot Princess' because of its outstanding color, a deep pink.

For new hybrid teas I want 'Cajun Moon' because **Eddie Garcia** says it's outstanding. A number of commentators in *Horizon Roses* say it's better than 'Moonstone'. One thing I do is pay attention to the writings of Mr. Garcia of Texas and **Troy Garrett** of Oklahoma. They know best what grows in our area. Mr. Garcia also likes 'Cajun Sunrise'.

I like mauves because of their color and because they're usually fragrant, so I tend to select them even if they don't have queen potential. The first of these is 'Della Reese'. It's supposed to be the color of Welch's Grape juice.

The next rose I want is the grandiflora 'Fragrant Plum'. The name says it all. Then there's 'Melodie Parfumee'. It's another grandiflora which sprays. And finally, I want 'Wild Blue Yonder' an AARS winner for 2006. For red hybrid teas there is 'Let Freedom Ring', which the **Upton's** won Queen at the **(Dallas Rose Society's) Spring Show** though Mr. Garcia doesn't think has enough petals to win queen.

'Marilyn Monroe' has been out for a while, but I love apricot blends therefore I am going to try it. It's supposed to love the heat, and I just love that. Another apricot blend that has beautiful flowers is 'Nancy Reagan' though it sounds like it might be better for cutting than for exhibition. 'Mavrik' is a pink blend. I may try as it's supposed to be good in the south though it's a mildew magnet. 'Radiant Perfume' is another fragrant hybrid tea that

Finally, two yellow blends that are new ones to try are 'Solar Flair' and 'Summer Night'. 'Solar Flair' is available from Nor'East and is slow to start. 'Summer Night' is similar to 'Conundrum'.

If you are planning on ordering new roses this year, I highly recommend this booklet. It's informative and entertaining.