

Mycorrhiza and Roses

Mycorrhiza has existed for about 450 million years and occurs naturally in forests, on woody and herbaceous plants. As roses belong to the woody plants, the topic is of interest to us rose lovers.

The term „mycorrhiza“, describes the symbiosis between mycorrhizal fungi and the root system of the plant. Symbiosis means here that the fungi and the plant develop naturally together and strengthen each other without harming each other.

The underground coexistence of plant and fungus is beneficial for both: the fungus supplies the plant with water and nutrients from the soil, while the plant provides to the fungus the sugar produced in the leaves. In doing so the fungus acts like an extension of the fine roots of the plant.

A plant that through mycorrhiza has improved access to nutrients and water is in better condition. It grows better and is more resistant to diseases. In addition, the rose has increased tolerance to drought, salinization, soil compaction and other stress factors.

If the soil is disturbed by human activity (as in our gardens or at new plantings), the number of mycorrhizas decreases dramatically. Their quantity will be insufficient to have a significant effect on the growth and health of the plants. Thus it is important to supply additional mycorrhizas.

To maximise the effect of the introduced mycorrhizast should be added

as close to the roots as possible.

To stimulate the mycorrhiza as a whole the feeding of the soil with organic material is important. Therefore fertilisation with compost or organic fertiliser is recommended.



Add mycorrhiza when planting close to the roots.



The mycorrhiza fungi germinate in the soil and spread to the roots.



The roots are then colonised by the fungi, and the mycorrhizas become established.



The fine structures, created by

the mycorrhizas, support the root system.