

religiously sprayed with Funginex for weeks prior to the shows. Two or three days before a show, I inspected the blooms and carefully disbudded the potential hybrid teas which had more than one bloom on a stem. We entered three of the four shows on one weekend and nearly wiped out all the blooms we had, not to mention ourselves (thank heavens for my Dad, who came from Victoria to baby sit Alexander on that crazy weekend!). For the second year in a row, we again won the most points in London, but luckily had enough to go around for the other three shows as well. To our astonishment, in total we won over 120 ribbons and nine trophies, including TWO "Best Rose in Show"! My dream had come true, thanks to two of our hybrid teas, 'Jadis' and 'Liebeszauber' in Lambeth and London respectively.

What of the future? We have set increasingly high standards for ourselves, and hopefully not unrealistic expectations to the organizers of the various shows! We've made many new friends in the cities we've shown in, from Toronto to Lambeth. And lately, I was quite honoured to have my name put forward for nomination to the CRS Board of Directors this year!

And what have we learned? To plant our roses deeply enough; not to participate in three shows on one weekend; that we have new favourite roses every year; that there is always something new to learn about roses; and that if we can be successful at it, anyone can.

Most of all, we've learned that a rose by any name — is always a sheer delight. Now, if only Alexander can catch our enthusiasm..!

*Gloria Lauris Elkholy
Mississauga, Ontario*



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