

# Earth Kind Roses:

## Spice:

Earth Kind is an important designation given to select roses by the Texas A&M University Agriculture program. Earth Kind Roses have been through rigorous state-wide testing and evaluation by a team of horticultural experts and found to possess the high level of landscape performance and outstanding disease and insect tolerance/resistance required to for this special designation.



Earth Kind Roses are among the most thoroughly tested and environmentally responsible plants for the use in Texas landscapes. These roses do very well in almost any soil type, from the well-drained acid sands of East Texas to the poorly aerated, highly alkaline clays of central and Southwest Texas. Earth Kind roses are certainly not immune to pest problems. However, their tolerance to pests is so great that they rarely require the use of chemical pesticides.

Spice is classified as a Bermuda Mystery rose due to its unknown parentage. But there's no mystery about its performance. Spice produces wave after wave of blush pink, double blossoms that have a tea-like fragrance. In fact, many knowledgeable rosearians believe that Spice is the true 'Hume's Tea Scented China,' (1809) and along with Parks Yellow tea-scented China (1824) parented a long list of modern cultivars including Hybrid Teas.



Earth Kind uses research-proven techniques to provide maximum gardening and landscape enjoyment while preserving and protecting our environment.

The objective of Earth Kind is to combine the best of organic and traditional gardening and landscaping principles to create a new horticultural system based on real-world effectiveness and environmental responsibility.

The principal goals of Earth Kind include:

- Water conservation
- The safe use and handling of fertilizers & pesticides
- Reduction of yard wastes entering urban landfills

As your interest and knowledge in these areas grows you will have an increased awareness of the many programs, practices and activities that are Earth Kind. Working together we can make a difference in conserving and protecting our valuable natural resources.

*For more information see our Web site:*

**EarthKind.tamu.edu**



Cultivar Name: **Spice**



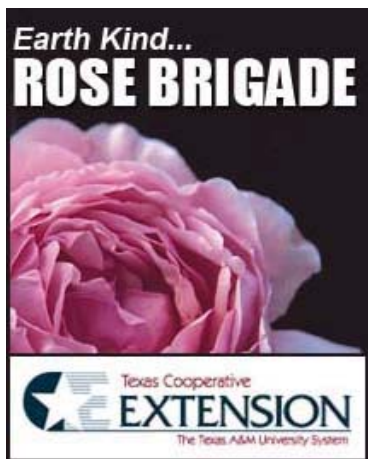
Blossom Color	Blush Pink
Blossom & Fragrance	Double - Very Fragrant
Blooming Period	April - November
Mature Height	3 - 5 feet
Mature Width	3 - 4 feet
Rose Category	China
Growth Habit	Medium Shrub

Spice makes a thick bush which reaches a mature size of 5 feet high by 4 feet wide. They should be planted a minimum of 6 feet apart for optimum performance. The flowers are good for cutting and are frequently used in vases and floral arrangements.

**Landscape Uses:**

Spice makes an excellent landscape plant, producing light pink flowers throughout spring, summer and fall. This plant has some limitations in cold tolerance and may experience winter damage in northern climates. Like most "old roses," Spice is at its best in an informal landscape setting.

The Earth Kind designation also ensures that Sea Foam is extremely resource efficient with outstanding landscape performance characteristics.



## Join the Earth Kind Rose Brigade:

We invite you to become a member of the "Earth Kind Rose Brigade," a group of dedicated amateurs helping to conduct advanced field testing of experimental rose selections. Your participation will be educational as well as valuable in providing information to the Earth Kind Team of Extension specialists and research scientists at Texas A&M University.

To participate, simply purchase and plant one or more of the Brigade roses then, at one, two, three, and four years after transplanting, provide the benefit of your growing experience.

These cultivars should be planted where they will receive at least 8 hours of direct sun each day with good air movement over the foliage. The use of compost and organic mulches is encouraged.

To become a Brigade member, however, you must follow the strict evaluation protocol which includes:

- NEVER APPLY COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER (i.e. no commercial synthetic, no commercial organic) and
- NEVER APPLY PESTICIDES to these plants (i.e. no fungicides, no insecticides, no miticides, no neem oil, etc.).

If fertilizers or pesticides are applied to test plants, there is no need to enter your findings in to the on-line database.

*For more information on how you can part of this educational activity please see our Web site at:*

**[EarthKind.tamu.edu/EKRoseBrigade.html](http://EarthKind.tamu.edu/EKRoseBrigade.html)**