

Young Plant Development Studies on Pink Delight
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To determine the effect of early pinching or cutting on the development of Pink Delight rose plants, three benches were planted with budded plants on January 7, 1950.

Each bench was divided into eight plots with two rows across each end of the benches set off as buffer rows. The treatments were systematically arranged in each bench to eliminate, in so far as possible, the effect of position on over all results.

The various pinching and cutting treatments were as follows:

1. Soft pinch twice and cut up.

2. Soft pinch twice and cut first flower to the knuckle.
3. Soft pinch three times and cut the first flower under the knuckle.
4. Soft pinch once and take a short flower.
5. Soft pinch once and cut the first flower to the knuckle.
6. Hard pinch, soft pinch and cut up.
7. Hard pinch and take a short flower.
8. Cut first flower short.

In July all wood except the "permanent" canes were removed from the base of the plants. On August 2, counts were made on "permanent" bottom canes and producing top canes. The caliper of bottom canes was measured in 1/32 inches. These records are presented in the accompanying table. Figures presented in the table are the average for three replications of each treatment. Each plot or replication contained 16 plants.

The Effect of Various Treatments on the Number and Size of Permanent Canes and the Number of Producing Top Canes

Treatment	Number of Permanent Canes	Total Caliper 1/32 inches	Number of Producing Top Canes
1. Soft Pinch twice cut up	38.3	411.8	89.0
2. Soft Pinch twice - cut first flower to knuckle	35.3	363.5	81.3
3. Soft Pinch three times cut 1st flower under knuckle	38.3	389.0	88.7
4. Soft Pinch once - take a short flower	38.0	404.0	84.7
5. Soft Pinch once - cut 1st flower to knuckle	32.0	355.0	69.7
6. Hard Pinch - soft pinch and cut up	36.3	383.8	87.0
7. Hard Pinch and take a short flower	40.3	403.2	87.0
8. Cut first flower short - no pinching	38.7	409.5	84.0

Conclusions:

1. In plant appearance, size and number of canes and current production (August) there was no significant difference between plants in treatments 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8.
2. Cutting to the knuckle on small canes such as was practiced in Treatments 2 and 5 is detrimental to plant development.
3. Cutting the first flower short and continuing to cut up on Pink Delight is not detrimental to this variety in this climate.
4. Although records of flowers were not kept there was a gain in flower production during the first six months in favor of Treatments 8, 4 and 7 in that order. The least number of flowers produced for this period would be for Treatment 3.