

SHARED BY GROWERS

## Feeding PRO rootstocks

A rose on a PRO rootstock produces more — more stems, more foliage, a faster cycle. A bigger crop is a hungrier crop, so it feeds a little more. PRO grows on your farm exactly as it is — the same houses, the same feeding lines; there is nothing to re-engineer. The one thing worth watching is simple: **keep it well fed.**

**We breed and prove rootstocks — we are not agronomists, and this is not a feeding recipe.** Every farm is different: your water, your soil or substrate, even your chemical suppliers each have their own make-up — so no single recipe can fit all. What follows is simply what growers on PRO rootstocks have shared with us: observations from real farms, to use as background for the regime that fits your own house.

### Where growers adjust

**EC** — around 1.8 is a common starting point.

**Water** — give a little more; the extra foliage transpires more.

**Chlorosis** — magnesium sulphate ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ); the better grades come with some manganese added, which helps too. Low boron can also be the cause.

**Micro-elements** — a full micro-element mix pays back well; the roses take to it.

**Nitrogen** — usually none extra. Too much makes the crop soft.

### What the leaf shows

PROTATU TAKES UP MORE

K • P • Cu • Mo

AND LESS

Mg • Cl • Na

PRO rootstocks also tolerate a higher pH, and can take — sometimes want — more boron than Natal Briar. Worth knowing when you read your own leaf analyses.

### A well-fed crop is a healthy crop

One grower's crop, hit by powdery mildew, came right within two weeks on **30% more water and 15% more fertiliser** — it was simply underfed for what it was carrying. The pattern growers repeat: a productive rose that goes hungry is the one that runs into trouble.