

NOMINATION AND CITATION – AUSTRALIAN ROSE AWARD

THOMAS PROLL

The Rose Society of South Australia nominates Thomas Proll for the Australian Rose Award 2022

As stated in The National Rose Society of Australia's Constitution, the Australian Rose Award can be presented to any person whom the Society deems to have given outstanding service in anyway whatsoever to the Rose. In particular, any service, which promotes knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of the rose by the public, shall be regarded as highly meritorious.

Thomas Proll was born in Barmstedt, Germany, not far from the premises of W. Kordes' Söhne that would, in time, become his employer. He completed his studies at the University of Hanover, where he qualified in Horticultural Sciences, producing his thesis on Resistance and Susceptibility of Rosa Species and Hybrids to Powdery Mildew.

Thomas has worked with Kordes Roses for the past 25 years. Established in 1887, the family-owned business has spanned five generations and produced some of the world's greatest roses.

Thomas is a well-known and highly respected Rose Breeder known internationally. As head of the breeding department at W. Kordes' Söhne, he has been responsible for the development of new garden cultivars and pot roses since 1998 and now concentrates on the breeding of garden roses which are sent all over the world.

For over 20 years, Thomas and his team at Kordes have focused on producing highly disease tolerant roses and have had many successes at rose trials in Australia and around the world. His focus on disease tolerant cultivars certainly meets today's demand for environmentally friendly horticulture and his positive influences on rose breeding trends are acknowledged and appreciated.

In fact, over the years the new roses bred by Thomas Proll and introduced into Australia have become some of the most successful roses in Australia. Some of Thomas' roses have taken out top honours at the National Rose Trial Garden of Australia, including 'Heaven on Earth', 'Black Forest Rose' and 'Perfume Passion'. Many Kordes varieties have thrived under Australian conditions, providing rose lovers with modern shrub roses, mini-flora, groundcover roses, climbers, floribundas and hybrid teas for all landscaping situations. Numerous Kordes varieties are listed as Recommended Roses in the Australian Rose Annual.

Thomas has made several visits to Australia over the years, attended as a guest speaker and shown keen interest in the requirements of the Australian rose market. He has definitely broadened the knowledge and enjoyment of rose growing in Australia and around the world.

This award is presented to a person deemed to have given outstanding service to the Rose. As one of the world's most successful Rose Breeders, Thomas Proll would be a worthy recipient of the Australian Rose Award.

19 May 2022