

THE T. A. STEWART MEMORIAL AWARD FOR 1959

Mr. Francis L. Riethmuller, who receives this coveted award for 1959, has devoted much time and energy to roses since his retirement, fifteen years ago. He has done much hybridising and has distributed some very worthy varieties, including Titian, Spring Song, Esmeralda, Honey Flow, Snow Spray, Gay Vista and Plaisante, as well as lesser-known varieties such as Galah, Florrie Joyce, Rubens, Helios, Gayness, Lady Woodward, Alma and Ngarla. He has experimented with several understocks and is at present testing a new type that is said to be virus-free and Dr. Huey (Shafter) stock, which is used so successfully in the United States.

Mr. Riethmuller studied Botany and several European languages at the University of Sydney in relatively recent years. The added knowledge enabled him to enjoy his roses more fully, and to correspond in their own languages with many oversea rose people, including Wilhelm Kordes, Matthias Tantau, Pedro Dot and Domenico Aicardi, as well as others in English-speaking communities.

He has been an active member of the National Rose Society of New South Wales for twenty-three years and he subscribes also to the National Rose Society (England) and the American, French and German Rose Societies.