

# SUMMER-FLOWERING BULBS: *Color in your garden all summer long.*

It's time to get reacquainted with dahlias, begonias, lilies and even glads. Summer bulbs are back! Although not all types are cold-hardy, those tubers or corms that are not hardy can be saved indoors and replanted year after year.

As a general rule, plant bulbs at a depth two times the greatest diameter of the bulb. Place the bulb in the hole with the pointed end up. Which way is up is not always apparent, so before you leave the store, ask one of our professionals for advice. Mix *Espoma Bulb-tone* fertilizer with the soil, cover the bulb and water well. Bulbs can be used in nearly any garden or patio setting giving you flowers, fragrance and brilliant color with just a little effort.

## **Lilies, Stylish & Decorative**

Lilies distinguish themselves by their dazzling colors and shapes. An important addition to any garden, these hardy bulbs prefer full sun to partial shade and well-drained soil. Lilies reach heights of 2-5 feet and produce magnificent blooms in mid to late summer. Many Oriental varieties such as "Casa Blanca", "Stargazer" and "Mona Lisa" are very fragrant! Lilies can be planted as early as possible in spring. At Primex, we carry different types of Oriental lilies, Asiatic varieties, trumpet types and the familiar tiger lily.



## **Gladiolus, Every Color Under the Sun**

Superb as cut flowers and effective in the border, gladiolus offer a spectrum of colors varying from the familiar red, white and yellow to intermediate shades and multicolored varieties. Blooms start to open from the bottom of the spike upwards and a full two weeks of continuous color can be obtained from one plant alone. Plant gladiolus in sunny locations at two week intervals for season-long color as soon as tree

leaves unfold. Dig corms in the fall and store for winter.

## **Begonias, An Asset to Borders & Containers**

Begonias, in their many shapes and colors, are best known as plants for containers and pots. But, there are many other ways to use begonias as well. Beautiful hanging begonias like "Champagne" are an asset to any balcony. Single and double flowering varieties make an ideal ground cover in borders. These "non-stop" begonias are well-named as they flower constantly through summer and well into fall.

Start begonias indoors in a lightweight potting mix, then move outdoors to a partial shade location after the last frost. Move plants indoors before the first frost or store tubers over winter and replant year after year.

## **Dahlias, An Endless Array of Color**

Since dahlias continuously produce new flowers, you can enjoy their rich display of color right up to the first frost. They come in many different varieties and colors, ranging in height from 2-4 feet with flowers as small as 1 inch across to the large-blooming "dinnerplate" types with 12 inch blooms. Two elegant variations are the quill-petalled "cactuses" and the elongated "spiders". Dahlias require rich soil with extra potassium and phosphorus and full sun to partial shade. Remember to move tubers indoors for the winter after a killing frost.

## **Also For Spring Planting...**

We carry a wide selection of other interesting summer flowering bulbs including: hardy cyclamen, calla lilies in different colors, both dwarf and standard size cannas, acidanthera, elephant ears, assorted varieties of caladium, hardy gloxinia, agapanthus, anemone in four colors and many other selections!