

Valley K Lily Ranch

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OUR PRODUCT

We ship the largest bulbs available. Average size for asiatics & LA's 12/16 cm. (These measurements indicate the circumference of the bulb.) Many bulbs are naturally smaller, like species or short varieties, and some are naturally larger like OT's. Tetraploid varieties typically have a much smaller bulb than we would assume given the stem size above ground. Each bulb is labeled, indicating the basic information including height, bloom time and color. Bulbs are packed in vermiculite, sawdust or peat moss, which can be mixed with the soil at planting time.

OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee all lily bulbs to be true to name and blooming size when shipped. Mistakes can happen, mix-ups occur and if your bulb blooms other than as named, **please contact us and we will gladly replace it** with the correct variety, a selection of your choice, or issue a credit. We also guarantee the bulbs will arrive in prime planting condition. Occasionally a bulb can spoil during transit, particularly under warm shipping temperatures. We are happy to replace spoiled bulbs upon their immediate return. We replace spoiled bulbs upon their return to us, **within 14 days of your receiving them. We do not replace bulbs for failure to grow, as growing & planting conditions vary widely and are beyond our control.** It is your responsibility to inspect all bulbs upon arrival and to notify us immediately of any problems. Please call or notify us if you intend to return items, so we may discuss and arrange the return and replacement in the most timely and efficient manner.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Your lilies arrive ready to plant into their permanent homes. If you are unable to plant immediately upon their arrival, store them in a cool, dry place. A cold room or unheated garage works well, a refrigerator is ideal, however, you should never store flower bulbs of any kind in the same place as fruits & veggies. Fruits & veggies give off an ethylene gas, which can be detrimental to the health & vigour of your bulbs. Be sure to poke a hole in each bag if you intend to store them longer than 3-5 days, this allows gases & moisture to escape.

1. Lilies prefer light, well-drained soil, a little bit on the acidic side. Mixing peat moss in the hole at planting time, and top-dressing around the lilies with peat moss will add acidity, as will used coffee grounds. They will be quite happy without peat, providing the soil is not too heavy. Be sure to mix the peat and/or coffee grounds well with native soil before placing the bulb.
2. The rule of thumb for depth is 3 times the height of the bulb, this is how deep it should be. Heavy soils require bulbs to be shallower, sandy soils go deeper. You can add bonemeal or a bulb fertilizer to the planting hole, be sure to mix it in well with the soil and place a layer of soil over the fertilizer before placing the bulb to ensure it doesn't burn roots or growth.
3. Place the bulb with roots **down** in the hole, and backfill completely. Water well, and then **MARK THE SPOT** so you don't accidentally dig them up or chop them in half next time you are out working in the garden! Use a marker that stands up to the weather.

AFTER PLANTING CARE:

Your lilies should be top-dressed with compost, well-rotted manure or bulb fertilizers such as bonemeal each year, early in the spring. They will reward you with healthy green foliage, bigger blooms, and more of them. You may also choose to add bonemeal just before or shortly after flowering. Lilies benefit from keeping the bulbs cool in summer, provide a mulch or plant groundcover annuals at the base for this purpose. Most lilies will need splitting and dividing every few years as they multiply under ground. We split and divide on average every 3 years. As a rule, you should split them when the clumps are getting fairly tight, the flowers are getting smaller, and you notice they are not as vigorous as usual.

Your lilies should bloom beautifully for you the first year planted, and really knock your socks off the second year, provided that cultural conditions are good. Plant your lilies and take good care of them, they will reward you for many

years with vigor, beauty and accomplishment at growing these royal flowers. They will even produce babies for you to share with your friends, in time!

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF LILIES

ASIATICS & LA HYBRIDS: Plant in full sun only. L.A. Hybrids will require dividing and splitting sooner as they multiply prolifically! Zone 2 gardeners might want to mulch L.A. hybrids before winter if they have not grown them previously.

AURELIAN X ASIATIC (AA or Asiapet): Crosses between hardy Asiatics and the Aurelian trumpets, resulting in hardy bulbs with magnificent, huge, fragrant blooms. Mulch in zones 1 & 2 is recommended, be sure these are in full sun.

ORIENPETS & EASTERPETS (OT): Plant in full sun, mulching heavily, planting deeply. We find it takes them 4-5 years to really establish themselves in our zone 3, then they begin to thrive and multiply readily. Visit our web site to read more about our experiences and trials with these fragrant beauties - they are well worth the extra planning and cost!

ORIENTAL X ASIATIC (OA): Treat exactly as Asiatics, keep in mind they are lightly fragrant and you may want them planted close to your deck or home so you can enjoy the scent. We have had no problems with hardiness of these types in Zone 3. Zone 1-2 may want to mulch the first year to ensure survival over winter.

MARTAGON HYBRIDS: Martagons are known to 'pout' and may not grow or sprout at all the first year in the ground. They do great in heavy soils with afternoon shade or the ground mulched to keep it cool. This type can be left in the ground without disturbing the clump for many, many years. They will grow in shaded locations.

SPECIES: All species lilies we sell are grown under the same conditions provided for asiatics, using the instructions on the reverse. Any exceptions or extra tips you will find below OR on a separate planting sheet in your order with details on that particular variety.

I. nepalense: Stoloniferous reproduction means the stems will often come up away from where the original bulb was planted so give it lots of room to wander! Because this variety is NOT AT ALL HARDY on the Prairies, we suggest only experienced growers and collectors try it as a **potted plant** in Zones 1-7.

I. leichtlinii: Dislikes wet soil, plant in well drained, humus rich soil for sure success. This one has 'pouted' on us occasionally, this means it may not come up the first year at all but should sprout the next year.

I. pumilum: Plant same as asiatics, but be sure to collect the seed it produces each year and you will have a never ending supply to increase in your garden or share. It is often reported these are not long-lived bulbs, replanting seed each year will ensure their return again.

I. superbum: It prefers full or partial sun, rich loamy soil, and moist conditions. An established plant, however, can withstand some drought.

Please contact us if you have any suggestions, questions or problems.....we want you to succeed and experience the joy of growing lilies, and get your friends and family growing them too! If you have internet access please visit our web site at plantlilies.com for more growing information including how to grow lilies in containers, fertilizing tips, pests of lilies and more.