

Planting fall bulbs for spring color.



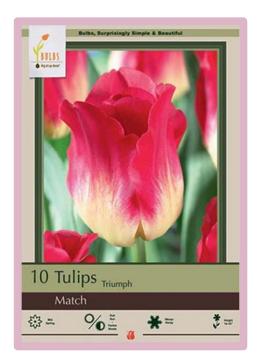


Tulips



Tulipa clusiana

- *Tulipa* species offer early, mid and late blooming varieties
- Rainbow of colors, differing heights, perennial vs. annual.
- Naturalizing types (greigii, bakeri, clusiana, humilis) vs. showy large blooms (Darwin, Triumph, Double)
- Appreciates full sun and good drainage.
- Tulips are a favorite of squirrels. Plant deeply to combat them. Also consider chicken wire on top of bulbs when planting.



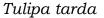




Tulipa 'Banja luka'



Tulipa 'Scarlet Baby'



Daffodils

- *Narcissus* flowers are a cheery introduction to spring.
- Daffodils are usually not bothered by animals.
- They tend to naturalize once planted and are long lived
- Many types (Double, Fragrant, Jonquilla, Large Cupped)



Daffodil poeticus



Daffodil Double Mix



Daffodil 'Intrigue'



Daffodil 'Jetfire'



Daffodil 'Butterfly Mix'



Daffodil 'Mount Hood'

Ornamental Onion

- The *Allium* family has a large assortment of colors, heights and sizes for the garden.
- Highly attractive to pollinators
- No yellowing leaves to contend with
- Will rot in poorly drained soil



Allium caeruleum



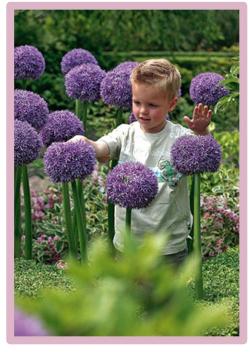
Allium schubertii



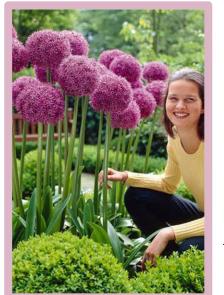
Allium moly



Drumstick Allium



Allium 'Gladiator'



Allium 'Globemaster'



Allium 'Summer Beauty'



Hyacinths

- Very fragrant, comes in many colors as well as double forms
- Great cut flower
- Member of lily family
- Vertical grower
- Bulb can cause skin irritation so take care handling



Hyacinth 'Spring Beauty'



Hyacinth 'Delft Blue'



Hyacinth 'Splendid Cornelia'



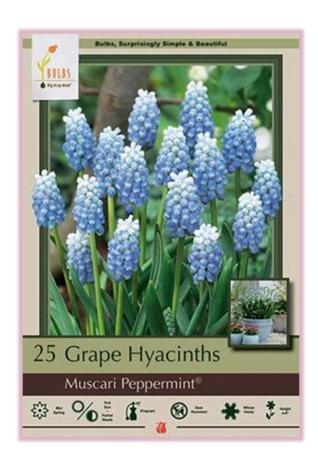
Hyacinth 'Yellowstone'



Grape Hyacinth

- Muscari armeniacum leaves appear in fall
- Only 6"-8" tall
- Perfect to pair with tulips or daffodils
- Beautiful as a mass planting







Grape Hyacinths



Snowdrops

- *Galanthus* flowers are part of the *Amaryllis* family
- They are the very first bulb to bloom in very late winter, often peeking out from under the snow
- Prefers cooler climates
- Plant in groups of at least 25
- Will naturalize
- Appreciates partial shade







Galanthus woronowii



Crocus

- Early spring blooming
- *Crocus sativus* is the plant that the spice Saffron comes from
- Squirrel interference can be a problem
- Crocus do not like clay soil or to have wet feet
- Beautiful when mass planted



Crocus sativus



Crocus 'Yellow Mammoth'



Crocus species 'Tricolor'



English Bluebells

- Hyacinthoides non-scripta originate from southwest Europe
- April/May bloom
- Does not like clay soil
- Tolerates shady conditions
- Plant goes dormant in summer
- Great in woodland settings



Hyacinthoides amongst emerging hostas



Hyacinthoides



Siberian Squill

- *Scilla siberica* has tiny blue flowers that form a carpet of blossoms
- in many Oak Park lawns
- Midspring bloomer
- Tough, little plant whose foliage will disappear by summer
- Naturalizes well
- Wildlife does not seen to care for these bulbs



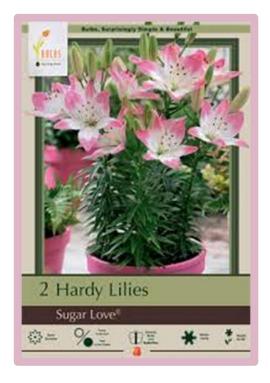


Scilla



Lilies

- Lilium are mid to late summer blooming plants
- They prefer 'sunny tops and shady bottoms'
- Very showy flowers, some quite fragrant
- Plant at least 3 bulbs in a grouping
- Even moisture is appreciated
- A lily for every person (Asiatic, longiflorum, trumpet, oriental, species, etc)
- Plants may require staking





Asiatic 'Stargazer'



Species Martagon



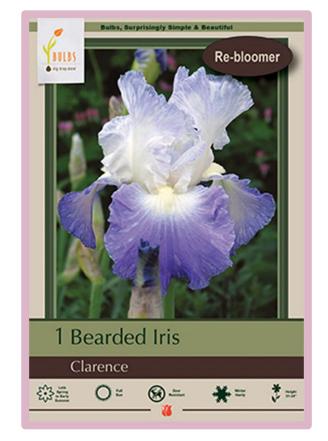
Species Turk's Cap

Bearded Iris

- *Iris germanica* is not a bulb but a rhizome, blooms in late spring
- this plant requires full sun and good drainage to keep healthy
- When planting, barely cover rhizomes with soil
- Divide plants every few years to keep happy and healthy
- Fragrant. Many of the newer cultivars will re-bloom later in summer.
- commonly found in stores in fall among bulbs to plant for spring bloom









Iris 'Innocent Star'

Other lesser know fall 'bulbs'...



Frittilaria meleagris



Eranthis Winter Aconite



Iris hollandica





Chiondoxa Glory of the Snow



Anemone Windflower



Camassia



A quick word about ephemerals



Trillium grandiflorum



Claytonia virginica



Mertensia virginica



Arisaema triphyllum



Sanguinaria canadensis

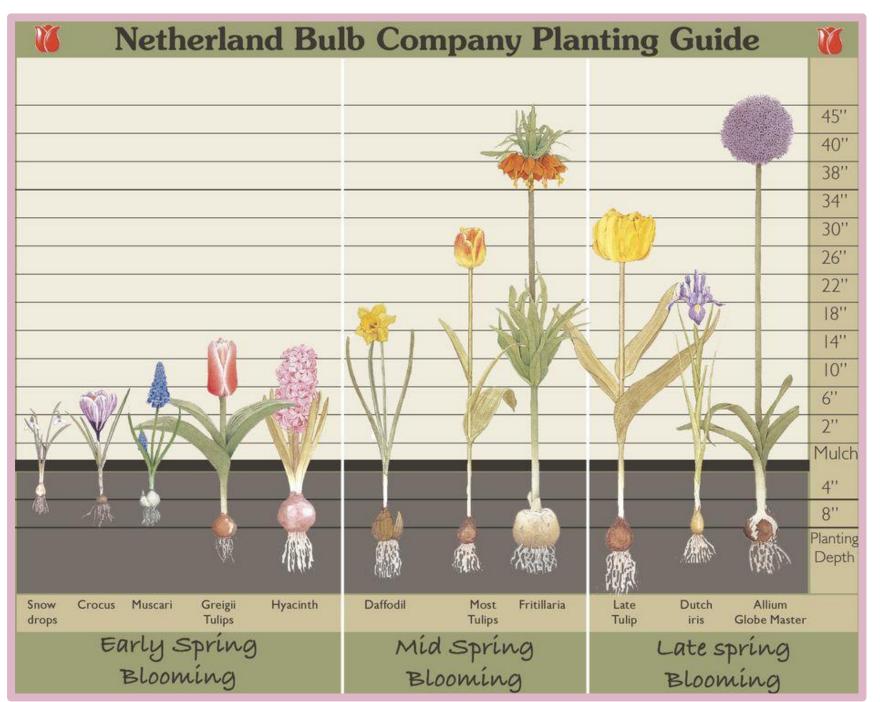


Typically plant bulbs at a depth of 3x the height of the bulb.

Pointed end up, look for small root hairs at the base, this confirms the bottom of the bulb.

Water in well after planting.

Let foliage naturally die back after bloom and discard when yellow and fallen. Plant is actively storing energy while leaves are green.





Planting bulbs





















Resources

- Brent and Becky's Bulbs brentandbeckysbulbs.com
- McClure and Zimmerman mzbulb.com
- Scheepers johnscheepers.com
- Pacific Bulb Society pacificbulbsociety.org
- Oak Park Conservatory Fall Mum and Bulb Sale
- Chicago Botanic Garden's Fall Bulb Festival October 9-11, 10-4pm over 200 varieties

