

## MRLS Mandate

- To promote interest in growing lilies in Manitoba home gardens
- To provide information needed to successfully grow lilies in Manitoba via society publications, an extensive lending library and access to the society website ([www.manitobalilies.ca](http://www.manitobalilies.ca))
- To encourage lily hybridizing and recognize achievements in this area
- To fund scientific research projects related to growing lilies, on the provincial, national and international fronts
- To develop gardens in public areas and maintain existing display gardens and plantings (I.e. Brandon University and Assiniboine Park)
- To preserve heritage bulbs

## Benefits of MRLS Membership

- annual spring seminar where guest speakers discuss many topics related to lilies and lily culture
- annual show(s) featuring lilies
- fall bulb sales at various locations throughout the province where lily bulbs can be purchased at reasonable cost and members receive 10% off all purchases

## What We Sell

The most predominant bulbs available at the fall sales are the asiatic hybrids. These are available in 3 orientations; up-facing, out-facing and down-facing (1a, 1b and 1c), in a variety of sizes and colors. The hardiest of lilies, Asiatics require no winter protection on the prairies. Most bloom in midseason (mid-July) but you can choose those that will bloom early (late June) to very late (early August).

Other types available include the LA hybrids that have up-facing, strong substance blooms on sturdy stems. Many colors are available but mostly the fragrance of *L. longiflorum* was not inherited by the hybrids. Trumpets, orienpets or asiapets bloom about two weeks later and are very fragrant.

Martagons are available and are extremely winter hardy. They can grow and thrive in partial shade conditions and can withstand several degrees of frost in spring. Peak bloom is usually early to mid-July. They may take a year or two to settle in and may or may not come up or bloom the first year. The out to down facing blooms are numerous on tall stems of usually 4 to 5 feet.

Oriental lilies are the most fragrant but least hardy lilies grown on the prairies. They should be planted early in the spring for late summer bloom. We do not generally encourage people to grow them unless as potted plants or in containers.

## Planting Instructions

Asiatics, LA hybrids, trumpets, orienpets and martagon lilies are best planted in the fall, as soon as you get them home. If you are unable to do so, they may be stored in the vegetable crisper of the refrigerator for a few days up to a few weeks. They can be planted up until the ground is frozen.

Plant your lilies between 4 and 6 inches deep (depending on the size of the bulb) in well-drained garden soil. The location should be one where they will get a minimum of 6 hours of sun each day. Generally speaking, more sun is better but dark red lilies may hold their color better if given some shade relief from the hot afternoon sun. Martagons are the exception and fare better when planted in a partially shaded location.

Trumpet lilies should be mulched heavily to give them a better chance at surviving a prairie winter. Suitable materials for mulching include chopped leaves or straw or spruce boughs placed over them once the ground has frozen. This may help protect the bulbs. Even with protection, they may lose their vigor and eventually die out.



## Lilium

The genus Lilium are the true lily plants. They are placed in the family Liliaceae.

Native to the northern temperate regions, their range extends across Europe, the north Mediterranean, most of Asia to Japan, south to India and the Philippines. In the west they extend throughout Canada and the United States.

The majority of species form nakes or tunicless bulbs. In some North American species the base of the bulb develops into rhizomes on which small bulbs are found. Some species develop stolons.

The blooms are six-petalled, come in many colors and may have other markings.

Lilies are summer flowering, and require a winter resting period. Flowers are formed at the top of a single erect stem, with leaves being borne at intervals up the stem.

Liliums are propagated in four ways;

- by division of the bulbs,
- by growing on bulbils which form on the stem,
- by scaling, detaching the scale from the bulb and planting to form a new bulb,
- by seed, but most new plants will not be identical to the parent plant.

The term Lily is also applied to a large number of other plants, which may resemble it to a greater or lesser degree. Most of them are unrelated to the true lilies.

## Interested in joining the Manitoba Regional Lily Society?

Please fill out this form and send it along with a cheque for \$10.00 for one year or three years for \$25.00 to:

Manitoba Regional Lily Society  
99 Macalester Bay  
Winnipeg MB R3T 2X6

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City/Town and Province)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Postal Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(E-Mail Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone Number)

Check (✓) here if you would prefer to receive the MRLS Newsletter via Email in Adobe PDF format:

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Revised 2011)

# Welcome to the Manitoba Regional Lily Society



**An affiliate of the  
North American Lily Society**