



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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Affiliated with the North American Lily Society

March 2014

President's Message

Brrrrrr! It has been cold and it is still Cold! But, all the little bundles of joy and expectation, we planted in fall, are safe and sound, under a thick warm blanket of snow. As we hope and pray for the cold to end, Spring is approaching. With Spring, visions of seeds, both annual and perennial, are entering our minds. What to plant? Mmmmmm... (Maybe some lily seeds – Asiatic and Martagon?)

Our thoughts are also turning to our Annual Spring Seminar. This passed winter, our Board of Directors have been busy planning the Society's upcoming events for the year; the Spring Seminar in April, our attendance at the Mothers' Day Plant Sale, the Winnipeg Annual Lily Show in July, the Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin Annual Fall Bulb Sales in September and October, and even the Fall Get Together Pot Luck Supper.

This Spring, our seminar will be in the other important Manitoba lily hybridizing city of Portage la Prairie. Our out of town/province guest speaker will be Terry Willoughby, of Spruce Grove, Alberta. Terry was our guest speaker a number of years ago. If you missed him at that time, come, see and listen, as he shares his knowledge, his pictures and his experience with Martagon lilies and the

wonderful Asiatic lily hybrids of Fred Fellner. There will also be some information about lily species we can grow in Manitoba. See this newsletter for more detailed information about the Spring Seminar.

See you at the Spring Seminar and at all the other great lily events this year.

Keep warm,

Ted Sobkowich
President (2013-2015)

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A Short Note about Species Asiatic Section Part 2

By: Ted Sobkowich

This second part begins with *Lilium Lancifolium*. It is from Japan and Korea. The Turk's cap flowers are orange (vermillion red) and have many dark spots. It can grow 3 to 7 feet and have 12 to 6 flowers. The stems have dark purple/black bulbils. It grows in various soils. There are a few varieties: *L. l. var splendens* is larger and 3N, *L. l. var flaviflorum* is yellow and 2N, *L. l. var flore pleno* is the double flowered, and *L. l. var fortunei* is salmon orange and covered with woolly hairs. *Lilium lancifolium* is one of the lilies, that our mothers and grandmothers had in their gardens.

L. lankongense is another lily that should be grown in all our garden. This lily comes from China. The flowers are pink/rose red and white, with many darker pink spots. It has a wandering underground stem and will reach 3-5 feet. It can have 15 flowers. Soil should be a loose friable, with humus. It is Lime tolerant!

Lilium leichtlinii comes from Japan. It grows in neutral to acidic soils and dislikes lime soils. The flowers are spotted and yellow, the petals recurve. It grows to 4 feet tall. The yellow form is rare. The spotted orange form is the most common – *L. leichtlinii var maximowiczii*. This form grows in humus rich soils, 2 to 7 feet tall and can have a dozen flowers.

Lilium pumilium is found in Korea, Mongolia and China. It is as short as 18" or as tall as 4 feet, with a few to as many as 30 Turk's cap flowers of bright scarlet, rarely spotted. It is Lime tolerant, but likes a well drained soil. There are a few forms; a yellow and a white-*L. p var flore albo*.

There are 2 others that might be grown in Manitoba: *Lilium Taliense* and *Lilium wardii*. *L. taliense* comes from China and grows at an elevation of 8,000 to almost 11,000 feet. And it grows on well-drained limestone soils. It has recurved pendant white flowers, which have dark purple nectaries. Some flowers are spotted. The stems may reach 10 feet (doubtful in our short growing season). The other is *Lilium wardii*. It is from southeastern Tibet and grows at an elevation of 6,600 to almost 10,000 feet, in soils that are very well drained. The stems can reach 5 feet, with recurved flowers, which are deep pink and darkly spotted.

For more lily species, which can be grown in Manitoba, come to this year's Spring Seminar. You've read the notes, see the pictures.

MRLA SPRING SEMINAR AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

This years Spring Seminar and Annual General Meeting is being held at the Canad Inns Destination Centre Portage La Prairie on April 5th 2014 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Come and share lily talk with friends old and new.

There will be many new offerings of bulbs from the Lily Nook, as well as door prizes and a pick-a-prize draw to tempt you. Our library of classic and new lily books, articles and other media will also be on hand for you to browse. Who knows what gems you may find?

Also on hand for purchase will be the book "Martagon Lilies" by Eugene Fox.

Our speakers this year include Terry and Shauna Willoughby from Edmonton, Alberta. They will present on Martagons and also on Fred Felner's seedlings. Both presentations promise to be informative and entertaining.

Sandra and Ted will give us all some insights into growing species here in our zone 2/3 gardens.

To facilitate an accurate count of those attending, please R.S.V.P. by March 24th to Marlene Puls at the address on the form below or email her at mmp99m@mymts.net. To R.S.V.P. by phone, call Marlene at (204) - 269-3499. Tickets can be paid for when you register at the door or payment can be sent to Marlene prior to the event at the address below. Registration is \$35.00 per person and family registration is \$30.00 per person.

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Seminar Registration Form

Please pre-register by March 24th 2014

Registration - \$35.00 ea. - Includes coffee breaks, noon meal, door prizes and more.

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ **Province:** _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Number Attending: _____ **Amount Enclosed:\$** _____

Send To: MRLS c/o Marlene Puls - 99 Macalester Bay, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2X6

Terry Willoughby

Terry Willoughby grows and hybridizes lilies in central Alberta, He is a founding member of the Alberta Regional Lily Society, and has hybridized many lilies including martagons and asiatics. Terry is a very particular breeder and refuses to consider a lily for registration unless it has grown it for at least 10 years in his garden. He is also very generous, distributing his breeding efforts amongst other growers and friends for evaluation under diverse growing conditions. His lilies frequently win awards locally in Alberta and at the International NALS Lily Shows. Terry's first love in lilies is Martagons, and he has an astounding amount of seedlings bred to date! I am sure we will see many during his presentation on martagons at the 2014 Spring Seminar. Although his first love is Martagons, he also breeds some stunning asiatic hybrids like Diamond Willough. Terry often uses Fred Fellners' lilies in his breeding program and those and much more will also be featured in his second presentation.

Speakers Corner

The MRLS is compiling a list of members who do speaking engagements and presentations on all things connected with lilies. Be it talks on the lily beetle or presentations on the basic culture of lilies. If you are available or already do these types of presentations please contact Valerie Denesiuk at val-lie@mymts.net with your contact information and the topics you are willing to present on.

Q & A

If you have questions about any aspect of lily culture or are looking for a specific cultivar for your garden feel free to ask the MRLS experts and membership by contacting Deborah Petrie at petrie@mymts.net . Don't forget to look for the answers to your questions in future newsletters!



Waiting patiently for spring—NOT !!!

A Question for the MRLS Members A Fasciating Martagon Lily

Asked by Mary Jane Kurtz



In the fall of 2009 I purchased my first martagon lilies from the Lily Nook, Skinner's 'Blush' and Skinner's 'Black Prince'. I planted them as directed in October of 2009 and in the spring of 2010 both came up. Blush came up with a small spike and actually bloomed, and correctly to my thinking now. Black Prince came up for a brief time, turned yellow and died back, never ever to be seen again. I have actually dug carefully where Black Prince had been planted and there was no bulb to be found. I have since replaced Black Prince and have it established now about 3-4 feet from where Blush is planted.



Now, Blush has come up and bloomed every year, including 2010 the year after it was planted. Since 2010 it has come up each year and fasciated each year. In 2011 it had one spike fasciated, 2012 two spikes, both fasciated and in 2013 four spikes with all four being fasciated. It was only on its first bloom in 2010 where the flowers were spaced correctly and the spike not fasciated.



My question is why? Why every year, why every spike, just why? My understanding is that there is a bulb down there for each spike (and please correct me if I am wrong), so as the original bulb splits/divides I get more spikes and every one of those bulb's spikes are fasciating. My understanding is that if the bulb is very strong, etc. it will or can fasciate, but how can this be EVERY year on EVERY spike. Is there a genetic component to fasciating and could this bulb carry a modified genetic code that causes it to fasciate every time it blooms. This past year, 2013, I let every seed pod develop on the spikes in the hope of weakening the bulbs and see if that stops it as I would like to at least once see it bloom normally.

Now my soil is very good as I have spent years slowly developing my flower beds and they are inches if not close to feet deep of rich organic soil that I have built up with bought bags or yards of compost. All of the flower beds are raised above the level of the grass so they drain well, and the backyard which, holds everything dear to me, is virtually rodent proof. Black Prince just next to Blush has never fasciated and neither have any of the other lilies and flowers planted by and around Blush.

One last question. Would it be worth it to remove one of the bulbs and plant it somewhere else and see if it fasciates there, and if it did, then to my way of thinking it is a genetic problem and I would need to replace the bulbs. If it doesn't fasciate, or start fascinating in the future then it would tell me it is environmental.

Any and all thoughts would be greatly appreciated. Please email them to me at mjkurtz@mymts.net and I will put them in the next newsletter.

Regards
Mary Jane Kurtz

REMINDER TO ALL IT IS RENEWAL TIME!

Is your membership due? Check your address label on this newsletter for your membership expiry date. If it reads 2014 it is time for you to renew. See membership form in this newsletter for information on how to update your membership.

MRLS Membership Renewal Form
Single: \$10.00 per year or 3 years for \$25.00

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/TOWN: _____ **PROVINCE:** _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

Check box (☐) for e-mail delivery ☑E-MAIL Adress: _____

Mail completed form to: Marlene Puls, 99 Macalester Bay, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2X6



Hands-On Workshop for Plant Propagation

Plant Tissue Culture for the Home and Classroom

For hobbyists, teachers, students, Master Gardeners, nurserymen and anyone who loves/collects plants



City, State	Fargo, ND
Date/Time	June 14, 2014 – Saturday - 9am to 3pm
Place	TBA – Near NDSU campus
Instructor	Carol M. Stiff, Plant Tissue Culture Specialist

- Have a favorite plant that you would like to mass produce? Year round?
- Love to watch plants grow? Are you a collector? A plant scavenger?
- Need something interesting to do for science fair or a school project?

Plant tissue culture is a method of plant propagation that involves growing plant parts in a sterile environment and inducing them to produce hundreds of small "plantlets". These can be developed to maturity by kitchen growers and professionals. This inexpensive "kitchen culture" approach has also proven to be useful for science fair projects, teaching plant growth concepts, and providing a laboratory experience for homeschoolers.

*You will take home sample cultures that you create in class plus a handout with basic instructions and FREE samples to use at home. **All media and materials for the workshop will be provided.** No prior knowledge required – only an interest in plants!*

Registration is **\$99**. Contact Carol Stiff at carolstiff@kitchenculturekit.com for further information and/or be put on a waiting list to receive updated information.

2014 Manitoba Regional Lily Society Events

Check your upcoming newsletters for further information on all events

**MRLS Spring Seminar and AGM
Saturday, April 5th 2014
Canad Inns Destination Centre
2401 Saskatchewan Avenue West
Portage La Prairie, MB**

**MRLS Bulb Sale at the Gardens Manitoba Mother's Day Plant Sale
Location - Canadian Mennonite University - North Campus Gym
When - 11 May 2014, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**North American Lily Society Show and Convention
"ALL STAR LILIES"
Bloomington, Minnesota
July 9 to 13th 2014**

**MRLS Annual Lily Show
Saturday, July 19th 2014
Kildonan Place
1555, Regent Avenue West
Winnipeg, MB**

**Neepawa Lily Festival Show
Friday and Saturday, July 25th and 26th 2014
Neepawa, MB**

**Fall Bulb Sales
Winnipeg
Saturday, September 27th 2014
Assiniboine Park Conservatory**

**Brandon
Saturday, October 4th 2014
Central Community Centre**

**Dauphin
Saturday, October 11th 2014
Market Place Mall**

**MRLS Awards & Windup Pot Luck
Saturday, October 18th 2014
Bourkevale Community Centre
100 Ferry Rd, Winnipeg, MB**

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