



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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President's Message

Another Lily Season has come and gone. Another season of spring shoots, summer blossoms and fall seedpods, of new lilies planted the fall before and old friends returned year after year.

Now that winter has arrived with a windy blast, we can rest, remember and review how our favorite garden perennial performed this passed year. From the first martagons, the early Asiatic species and hybrids to the late oriental lilies. Even with that little "European" invader, the Lily Beetle, otherwise known as *Lilioceris Lili*, I have greatly enjoyed the lily season this year. It was wonderful to see all my favorite lilies blooming, seeing all the lily people at the Society events and, in fall, purchasing 'some' new lilies for my garden!

Although the growing season has ended for this year, the MRLS Board of Directors is busy planning the lily events for next year; the Spring Seminar, the Lily Show, the Fall Bulb Sale and the Fall Wind-up Pot-Luck Get-together. Hope to see you at every event.

I've heard a bit of good news! The lily beetle parasitic wasp was released in Alberta, this year. Hooray! Hopefully with in a couple of years, we will have the wasp here in Manitoba.

I look forward to seeing all of you next year, in the Lily garden.
Keep warm and safe.
Happy Holidays!

Ted Sobkowich
President (2013-2015)

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Inside:

♦	A Short Note About Species	2
♦	NALS Judging School	3
♦	2014 Bulb Sale Report	3
♦	Windup Report	4
♦	2015 Events	4
♦	Notices and Reminder	5
♦	Q & A	5
♦	Officers and Directors	6

A Short Note About Species

Section Trumpet

By Ted Sobkowich

Of the species we should be able to grow, the Trumpet Section gives: *L. leucanthum*, *L. regale*, and perhaps *L. sargentiae*, *L. henryi* and its close relative, *L. rosthornii*. Trumpet lilies have a wonderful fragrance.

L. leucanthum comes from southern China, but apparently the species is gone from cultivation. There is the variety *L. l. var. centifolium*, which is also from China. Its flowers are out to down facing, large, trumpet shaped and white with primrose-yellow throats. The bud colour is flushed with maroon and green. It grows to a height of 6 to 7ft. A well-drained rich soil is preferred in a sunny site. Although the species is not supposed to be winter hardy, the variety may be. The parents of White Henryi are *L. l. v. centifolium* and *L. henryi*.

Lilium regale is hardy. It also come from China (SW), where it gets hot summers and very cold winters. The flowers are white trumpets with a yellow throat. The bud colour is considered to be rose-purple or purple or pinky-brown. Fragrant flowers of 1 to 8 are in an umbel. Height ranges around 2.5 to 4 ft. and grows in very well-drained soils, but can be grown in humus-rich soils. *L. r. var. album* has pure white flowers, with green tinted buds. I've seen *L. regale* growing in the garden of Diann Putland of Churchbridge, SK, z 2b-3a.

L. sargentiae grows in China, at an elevation of 3,600 to 4,900 ft, with long cold winters and very hot summers. Its flowers are pure white, a yellow throat and trumpet shaped. The buds are purple-rose or brown and green or a reddish-brown. It grows to 4 or 5 ft. and has bulbils. Plant in a humus-rich soil. Excellent drainage is required. Like *L. l. v. centifolium*, it has been crossed with *L. henryi*, giving *L. x aurelianense* (the ancestor of the Aurelian hybrids).

L. henryi is a lily from the mountains of central China. The recurved petals, pendant flowers number 1 to 3 in the wild, but up to 30 in cultivation. Flowers are orange and have papillae. Stems reach 5 to 8 ft., but arch. *L. henryi* goes well in lime soils, but dislike very acid soils. *L. h. v. citrinum* has pale yellow flowers, with chocolate-coloured spots. *L. h. v. 'Henryi Improved'* has straighter stems. *L. h. v. erectum* has stiffer, more erect stems. *L. henryi* crossed with *L. sulphureum* produced T.A. Havemeyer. *L. henryi* crossed with *L. speciosum* produced Black Beauty.

L. rosthornii, a close relative of *L. henryi*, also from China. It has longer leaves, long seed capsules, is shorter, and the flowers have heavier, redder spots than *L. henryi*.



MRLS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

MAKE IT YOUR PREFERRED METHOD OF DELIVERY

Save a tree! Change your newsletter delivery method to email and help the MRLS go "GREEN". Some of the benefits to you are:

- * Bonus pictures pages not included in the printed newsletter.
- * Less mess, less clutter, less fuss. No more trying to figure out where to put all those paper copies .
- * Faster delivery to your inbox! Get all the information faster and more efficiently. No more waiting for the Mail-Order bulb list to come to your door. No more waiting to find out when and where MRLS events are going to be. E-mail Marlene Puls at mmp99m@mymts.net to change to e-mail today!

NALS Lily Judging Course

The South Saskatchewan Lily Society is inviting you to attend a Judges School in early spring.

Why you should consider attending a judges' school:

- ◆ To become an accredited NALS Lily Judge. Those who wish to become NALS judges are required to hold an NALS Membership.
- ◆ It is an opportunity for accredited judges to upgrade their knowledge and competence by auditing the classes.
- ◆ Members and fellow horticulturalist are welcome to audit these classes to learn more about lilies and show procedure.

Members of other lily societies and anyone interested in learning more about lilies are welcome. If you are interested or require more information please call Pat Sargent at 306-584-1259 or e-mail annsar10@gmail.com.

2014 Bulb Sale Report

Brandon/Winnipeg

Deborah Petrie

Lilies, lilies and more lilies! There was a great selection of all types on hand for the 2014 bulb sales. Sales were brisk on the Species lilies that we do not usually see. Asiatics, the mainstays of the sales, were once again the best sellers. From LA's to OT's and martagons, we had them all. A dedicated group of repeat volunteers and a few newcomers were on hand to assist with both the Winnipeg and Brandon sales and we thank them all. Members from both areas continue to donate bulbs to the sale. If you would like to donate to future sales, just let the bulb sale committee chairperson know. Contact Deborah Petrie, Bulb Sale Chair at petrie@mymts.net with what you have and how many. A little or a lot, the MRLS is always grateful to our members for their bulb donations.

The committee has continued with the reduction in total number of bulbs purchased for the sales in 2014. In Winnipeg and surrounding areas specifically, the lily beetle has had an impact on sales. Significant street construction and access issues to the Brandon Sale venue also affected sales there. As a result, there will be more potted lilies than usual available at the Gardening Saturday event in March 2015.

At a recent committee meeting many ideas were discussed including spring sales and partnering with other gardening group events and plant sales, increasing the bulb sale advertising and adding new sale locations. Maybe it is time for a change? Discussions will continue and the committee is optimistic for 2015. If you have any ideas we haven't thought of yet, we would like to hear them.

Dauphin

BJ Jackson

Once again the Thanksgiving weekend bulb sale was a success. The support we receive from the people of Dauphin and area continues. With the help of volunteer coordinator extraordinaire Louise Fiel, there was help when it was needed and a lot of lily talk throughout the day. We couldn't do what we do without the support and assistance of the Dauphin Horticulture Society! Next year we will celebrate our 15th anniversary and it is very hard to believe it has been that long. In honour of the occasion there will be some very special offerings, so it is something to look forward to. Any requests for specific varieties for the bulb sale committee to look for and try to bring in for the Dauphin sale should be forwarded to me at jacksonb@mts.net. Thanks once again to everyone involved in making it such a great day!

Windup and Awards Pot Luck Dinner

(Deborah Petrie)

This year's event was held on October 18th at the Bourkevale Community Centre. Those present had plenty of time to catch up with each other and enjoy an evening with old friends.

The awards, presented by MRLS president Ted Sobkowich, were a selection of outdoor and indoor plant containers that were well received by the awards winners. They were accompanied by a certificate detailing the particulars of each award.

There was a great selection of bulbs left over from the bulb sales offered at the usual 50% off and those on hand went home with some excellent last minute deals for their gardens. The library was also available for browsing.

With attendance low this year the BOD would like to know what our membership would like to see for the next Windup/Awards event for 2015. Send your program suggestions to Deborah Petrie at petrie@mymts.net.

2015 Events

Gardening Saturday

Date: March 28, 2015

New Location: Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave.
Winnipeg, MB.

MRLS Spring Seminar and AGM

Date: April 11th 2015

Location: CanadInns Polo Park
Winnipeg, MB

NALS Show and Convention

Date: July 15th to the 19th

Location: Sheraton Cavalier Hotel
Calgary, Alberta

MRLS Lily Show

Date and Venue to be announced

MRLS Lily Festival Show

Dates: July 24th to July 26th
Neepawa, MB

Fall Bulb Sales

Winnipeg, September 26th

Brandon, October 3rd

Dauphin, October 10th

MRLS Awards Windup

Venue and Date TBA

Come home for the holidays at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory!

November 21, 2014 — January 4, 2015

The Conservatory is dressed up for the holiday season with spectacular horticultural displays inspired by the classic children's novel *"Around the World in 80 Days"* by Jules Verne. Start a new tradition and make some wonderful memories! Bring your family, bring your friends and make this magical event part of your holiday celebrations! Enjoy the astounding beauty of our horticultural displays, holiday music, crafts, activities, movies and more!

Admission

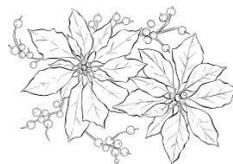
Adults (18 - 60) - \$9.95 + GST

Seniors (60+) - \$7.95 + GST

Youth (13 - 17) - \$7.95 + GST

Children (3 - 12) - \$7.95 + GST

Under 3 FREE



- Tickets include a 50% off voucher for admission to the Assiniboine Park Zoo valid until March 15, 2015.
- Tickets purchased online are valid for one-time use any time between the date of purchase and January 4, 2015. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.
- Members save 10%.

Proceeds support the care and maintenance of Assiniboine Park's beautiful gardens and horticultural displays at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory offered free of charge year-round to Park visitors.

It's That Time Again!

MRLS Membership Renewals Are Now Due

If you receive a renewal notice with this edition of the newsletter, either by post or by email, your membership will expire at the end of December 2014.



Q&A

Lily Beetle Question

Q - Is there anything happening in lily beetle research in Western Canada?

A - Members of the MRLS Research Committee are in touch with Carleton University's Lily Beetle research team with the intent to work toward having the parasitic wasp released here in Manitoba as soon as can be arranged.

The wasp has already been released in Ontario, and Quebec with good results and this past season a group of organizations released the wasp in Alberta. It is hoped it will overwinter in the zone 3b area it was released to and if it does this bodes well for Manitoba lily growers.

For detailed lily beetle control information go to - <http://www.manitobalilies.ca/Lily%20Beetle.htm>.

