

Fall Bulb Planting Time

Written by Laura Lee Rose

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Now is the time to get out the catalogs and make plans for adding color and interest to flower gardens. The axiom is that spring blooming bulbs are planted in the fall.

Fall is also a great time to plant woody shrubs and trees so that roots can better establish when the temperatures are cooler and leaves are not losing as much water to transpiration. Gardening involves a certain amount of math, especially multiplication and division. When certain plants outgrow their space in the border or bed (multiplication and addition) it is time to dig up the clump and divide. One of the great rewards of gardening is having more than you need and friends to share plants or parts of plants. There are many sources for purchasing your bulbs, tubers and rhizomes – all of which are underground reproductive structures but different in morphology. Although botanists classify bulbs, tubers and rhizomes as modified stems and not roots, they all consist of stored carbohydrates and they have the ability to reproduce a plant which is genetically similar to the mother. Where it gets tricky is eventually flowers are produced with male and/or female parts, pollination or cross-pollination occurs, and seeds are set – another multiplication strategy for more plants.

Planting is pretty easy. Site and location will vary with species but most bulbs will enjoy soil

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<http://www.bulbs.com/bulbs-for-sale/Spider-Lily/Pineapple-Lilies/Boy-Bulbs/>