

Asiatic Lilies (*Lilium*)



- Plant Lily Bulbs in Autumn
- Plant in full sun
- Prefer acidic to neutral soil that drains well
- Enrich soil with organic matter
- Mulch well in Winter

Easy to grow, Asiatic Lilies grow from bulbs made of fleshy, overlapping scales with no protective covering (non-tunicate). Stems are stiff and the leaves are narrow, strap like leaves from top to bottom. Flowers develop at the top of each stem. Asiatic Lilies come in a variety of colors. The lilies we are propagating today are the ones shown in the photos—most likely the cultivar “Connecticut King”. They are very hardy, need no staking, and are not particularly fussy about soil as long as it drains well. Plant in full sun in well drained soil. Before winter, mulch over newly planted bulbs with four to six inches of loose, weed-free compost, leaves or wood chips.



Propagating Asiatic Lilies

- Divide & replant large clusters of bulbs every three years or so
- Dig bulbs six to eight weeks after flowering or after the first light frost. Replant bulbs immediately after digging. Do not allow bulbs to dry out.
- Dig and loosen soil several inches below where you will plant bulbs. This helps with root growth. Amend soil if needed.
- Plant small bulbs 2 to 4 inches deep.
- Plant larger bulbs 4 to 6 inches deep.
- Set the bulb pointy side up.
- Space bulbs at a distance of 3 times the bulb’s diameter. Plant bulbs in groups of 3 to 5 bulbs.
- Before winter, mulch over newly planted bulbs with 4 to 6

WARNING

Deer and rabbits LOVE Asiatic Lilies. So do slugs and aphids. Plant in well lit areas close to your house to avoid damage from deer and rabbits. Use your hose to spray aphids off. And the slugs... consider a duck?



Enjoy your Asiatic Lilies in Late May | Early June!

REFERENCES:

- *Propagation of Plants from Specialized Structures*, by G.N.M. Kumar, W.E. Guse, F.E. Larsen, Washington State University, 2010, PNW164
- *Selecting lilies for your garden*, by Anne M. Hanchek and Jane E. Bolla, University of Minnesota Extension, 2016, <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/flowers/selecting-lilies-for-your-garden/>

