



On behalf of Dutch Mill Bulbs and the group you are supporting with your bulb purchases, thanks very much! The bulbs and plants we provide are obtained from reputable growers in Holland and the United States of America. By following these few easy steps, you can't go wrong!

### **Care Upon Arrival**

It's advisable to plant soon as possible. The timing of your shipment is based on the proper planting time for your area. If you find the weather is unseasonably cold, delay planting for a day or two. Open the bags and store in a cool, dry, adequately ventilated location until weather conditions are suitable.

### **Soil Preparation**

Loosen soil to a depth of approximately 10." If possible, blend in compost or other organic matter. This will add essential nutrients and improve water retention/drainage. This simple step will enhance plant performance.

### **Planting**

Remember, pointed end up. Even rounded bulbs have tapered (up) and flat (down) sides. When in doubt (irregular-shaped bulbs), plant bulbs sideways. Follow the depth, placement (i.e. sun, shade, etc.), and spacing instructions found printed on each package.

### **Watering**

Water all items thoroughly after planting. Water twice weekly for the first two or three weeks, then once weekly thereafter. During extremely hot or dry spells, additional watering will reduce plant stress and promote growth.

### **Fertilizing**

To promote healthy foliage and long-lasting blooms, enrich the soil with any commercially available slow-release fertilizer. One application is normally sufficient.

### **Surface Protection**

A two-inch cover of mulch not only helps maintain moisture and even soil temperature, but also serves to suppress weeds.

### **Potting Up Bulbs**

It's as easy to grow bulbs in containers as it is to grow them in the garden. Containers should have drainage holes to avoid root rot. For pots without holes, add several inches of drainage material before filling with soil mixture. Use a "light" potting mix consisting of potting soil, peat, and vermiculite. Do not over-water, but be careful not to let the container "dry up." Treat twice a month with liquid fertilizer.

### **Hardy" vs. "Not Hardy"**

Bulbs labeled as hardy survive if left in the ground over winter. Non-hardy bulbs must be dug and stored until spring. Prior to the first frost, dig the plants or bulbs, remove excess soil, and allow them to dry. Storage technique varies for each plant or bulb.

**Dutch Mill Bulbs, Inc.**

PO Box 407

Hershey, PA 17033-0407

Toll Free: (800) 533-8824 | Fax: (800) 556-0539



**Anemone DeCaen (8" to 12" tall)**

The versatile vibrant colored anemone is perfect for borders, groundcover, and cut flowers. Soaking the bulbs in lukewarm water overnight prior to planting will help stimulate growth. Plant these in full to partial sun, 3" deep and 3" to 4" apart. Place these irregular shaped bulbs sideways in the ground. Cover with a 2" layer of mulch prior to winter



**Astilbe (18" – 24" tall)**

Beautiful and easy to grow. Plumes of delicate feathery flowers are adorned by lush, attractive foliage. When planting, slightly fan the roots and place the "eyes" (growing points) about 1" below soil level. Space these 12" apart and be sure to water periodically.



**Blazing Stars (20" to 30" tall)**

These make great perennial borders, indoor bouquets and dried flowers. Plant these in full sun to partial shade, 5" deep and 6" apart. Hardy.



**Bleeding Heart (24" tall)**

Ideal for any partially shaded area. Plant 5" deep and 12" apart in well-drained soil. Hardy.



**Daylily Stella D' Oro (18" tall)**

Because they are easy to grow and provide an appearance of continuous bloom, the Stella D'Oro's popularity continues to surge. Cover the crown with 1" of soil and plant 12" apart in full sun. Hardy.



**Elf Lilies (10" to 14" tall)**

Perfect to plant in pots and for border applications. Plant all bulbs 4" deep and 6" apart. Hardy.



**Four O'Clock (36" to 48" tall)**

Vivid, trumpet shaped blooms with a subtle vanilla fragrance that both hummingbirds and butterflies find appealing. Plant vertically (straight up and down) so that the top of the tuber is approx. 1" below ground level (the top is the more rounded end – the root is generally more pointed). If unsure, dig a trench and plant horizontally with the highest part of the tuber approx. 2" below ground



**Gladiolus (48" to 60" tall)**

The "King of the Cut Flowers," gladiolus can be planted in two-week successions up until early July to guarantee a long-lasting display of summer beauty. Select a sunny location and plant (pointed side up) 4" deep and 5" apart. In warmer climates, cover with 2" of mulch for winter protection. In colder areas, dig the bulbs once the foliage begins to yellow. After drying for a few days, detach the stalks and any old roots. Store in a cool, dry place. Paper bags and discarded nylon stockings are the perfect storage medium. Replant in spring after danger of frost.



**Hanging Shamrock Garden (10" to 12" tall)**

Plant bulbs approximately 1" deep. Do not be concerned about planting upside down or which end is up, as they will grow from any position. Full sun is preferred. Can tolerate partial shade, although colors may not be as vibrant. Keep moist but do not over water. Growth should occur in 2 weeks, full foliage in 8-10 weeks.



**Hanging Strawberry Plants (10" tall)**

Plant these upon arrival or store in the vegetable bin of your refrigerator. If plants have a wilted or dry appearance, soak in water prior to planting. Plant approximately 2' apart with crown even with surface and the roots spread. Firm the soil by pressing down around plants. Water regularly, especially if potted. Hardy



**Hosta (18" to 36" tall)**

The plant's lush foliage and versatility make this a landscaper's favorite. Showy early spring through fall, hosta can be planted in sun or shade. Plant 3" deep and 6" apart. Hardy.



**Jaguar Flowers (18" to 24" tall)**

Perfect for flower beds, patio pots and borders. Plant 4" deep and 4"-5" apart in full sun.



## Spring Planting Guide

P.O. Box 407, Hershey, PA 17033 • 1-800-533-8824



### **New Tiger Lilies (3' to 4' tall)**

Vigorous growth of 15 to 20 flowers on each stem. Plant these upon arrival in full sun to partial shade, 4" deep and 6" apart. Hardy.



### **Peacock Orchids (24" to 36" tall)**

Elegant, creamy-white 4" flowers accented with prominent purple centers atop sturdy stems. Plant 4" deep and 6" apart in full sun.



### **Spring Allium Mix (10" to 16" tall)**

Plant 4" deep in well drained soil, 4" to 6" apart.



### **Stargazer (25" to 30" tall)**

Plant these upon arrival in full sun to partial shade, 4" deep and 6" apart. Hardy growth, excellent cut flowers!

*Now you can grow flowers like a master gardener...*

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