Chosing your Lily....

- Choose a plant with a few open blooms, but still plenty of unopened blooms—this will lengthen the bloom time in your home.

  When a mature flower starts to wither after its prime, cut it off to make the plant more attractive while you still enjoy the fresher, newly-opened blooms.

Chosing your Lily....

- Look for a well-proportioned plant, one about two times as high as the pot.
- Foliage should be dense, rich green in color, and extend all the way down to the soil line. This is a good indication of a healthy root system.
- You also should check the flowers, foliage and buds for signs of insects and disease.

Chosing your Lily....

- Remove any plastic sleeves around the plant—they hold in too much moisture.
- Pot covers are fine, but remove any standing water after watering to prevent root rot.

Easter Lilly pollen

- the strong color of lily pollen can affect the color of honey
- Removing the pollen producing anthers will lengthen the life of individual flowers.

A lily's pollen sits on the outside of pollen sacs, called anthers.
Easter Lilly pollen

The pollen can stain the flower petals and clothing

Easter Lilly pollen

- remove pollen/anthers by pinching the stalk as soon as the flower opens
- leave the pistil (female part)

If the pollen gets on your tablecloth...

- Do not brush pollen off of material with your hands. This action may rub pollen into the fabric and oil from your hands set the stain.
- Instead, gently shake or vacuum the fabric to remove as much pollen as possible; then use sticky tape to lift off remaining loose particles.
- Pretreat with a prewash stain remover and launder in the hottest water safe for the fabric.
- If the stain remains, launder again using chlorine bleach, if safe for the fabric.

To keep them in bloom as long as possible...

- Keep the plants relatively cool, at 60 to 65 degrees during the day, cooler at night
- Avoid hot or cold drafts.
- Avoid drying heat sources (heat ducts).
- Keep the plant moist, not wet. The soil should feel dry to the touch. Do not overwater!
- Keep in indirect bright light.

Move it outside in May....

- Easter lilies may be saved and planted out in the garden after the danger of frost has passed.
- Make sure the planting site is well-drained—this is essential.
- The bulbs should be planted six inches below soil surface.
- Lilies like their “heads in the sun and feet in the shade”. Select a sunny site and mulch well to conserve moisture.

Move it outside in May....

- The original plant will die back, and new growth should resume as summer progresses.
- Remove any dead foliage in the fall and mulch well for winter protection.
- Fertilize with a balanced fertilizer as new growth appears in the spring.
- Flowering will occur naturally in June or July, ideally for years to come.
Random facts

- New lily bulblets are grown, lifted, and replanted once a year for four years before they are large enough to be shipped to commercial greenhouses and grown as a flowering plant to be sold for Easter.
- Lilies need about a thousand hours of cool, moist conditions to initiate blooming.

Final Note for Cat owners....

- All parts of the Easter lily are highly poisonous to cats; a single leaf can cause vomiting up to 48 hours later.
- Can cause kidney failure and even death if untreated; if your cat eats any amount of your Easter lily, see your veterinarian immediately.

Some Spring Bulbs... because I'm tired of winter blah

Final Note for Cat owners....

- Many of the common members of the lily family including daylilies (Hemerocallis sp.), tiger lily (Lilium lancifolium) and the Asiatic and Oriental hybrid lilies are all poisonous to cats.
- Dogs are not affected by Easter lilies or other lilies

Why we love spring flowers...

Allium sp. (flowering onions)

- Alliums are easy to grow
- Flowers can be cut fresh or dried
- Children love them
**Allium aflatunense**
- Easiest to grow.
- Zone 4-8
- flowers around May
- Stalks up to 3’ tall
- Use among tall, late perennials (shown here interplanted with hostas)

**Allium caeruleum (azureum)**
- Zones 2-7
- varieties between 8” and 32” tall
- likes it hot and dry; rock gardens
- use among low perennials; potentilla
- NOT easy to grow
- flowers May into June

**Allium christophii (albopilosum)**
- Star of Persia
- Zones 4-8
- varieties 6” to 20” tall
- plant with daylilly, bearded iris, or other companion
- flowers May into June

**Allium giganteum**
- Globemaster
- Stems 3’-6’ tall
- flowers June; long season of blooms
- Zones 4-8
- plant is temperamental and expensive

**Allium karataviense**
- 4” to 10” tall
- flowers May into June
- Zone 4-9
- wide, long lasting foliage
- likes rock gardens

**Anemone sp.**
- Many varieties, many colors
- stems around 6” tall
- flowers close at night
- bloom March to April
- Zones 4-8
Narcissus sp. (daffodils)

- One of the most vigorous and colorful spring flowers.
- Need good drainage, but thrive in moist soils.
- **Narcissus** is the botanical name, since 1753.
- England called them **daffodils**, and brought the term with them to their colonies.
- **Jonquils** are a specific division of narcissus.

Narcissus sp. (daffodils)

- Division are based on the distinctive forms of the flower.
- There are 12 main divisions.

Narcissus sp. (daffodils)

Division 1: trumpet narcissi, trumpet as long (or longer) than the length of the petals.

Narcissus sp. (daffodils)

Division 1: trumpet narcissi, trumpet as long (or longer) than the length of the petals.

Division 2: large cupped narcissi, cup more than 1/3 but less than full length of the petals.

Narcissus sp. (daffodils)

Division 3: small cupped narcissi, cup less than 1/3 the length of the petals

Division 4: double narcissi, flowers with many petals

Narcissus sp. (daffodils)

Division 5: triandrus narcissi hybrids; usually cluster, flowering with white, somewhat pointed, slightly reflexed petals

Division 6: cyclamineus narcissi hybrids; generally reflexed petals
**Narcissus sp. (daffodils)**

Division 7: jonquilla narcissi hybrids; usually yellow, fragrant, and cluster flowering. Reedlike leaves.

**Narcissus sp. (daffodils)**

Division 8: tazetta narcissi hybrids; bunch flowering with flowers of small to medium size.

**Narcissus sp. (daffodils)**

Division 9: poeticus narcissi hybrids; generally white petals with a red-rimmed "eye"; sweetly scented

**Narcissus sp. (daffodils)**

Division 10: bulbocodium narcissi small flowers resemble a hoop petticoat in form

**Narcissus sp. (daffodils)**

Division 11: split corona narcissi varieties in which the trumpet or corona has various degrees of splitting.

**Tulipa sp.**

**Contact Information**

Extension Horticulture Educator
Cynthia Bergman
901 Whiting Drive
Yankton, SD 57078-3121
phone (605) 665-3387
Cynthia.bergman@sdsstate.edu
Yanktonhorticulture.webs.com