

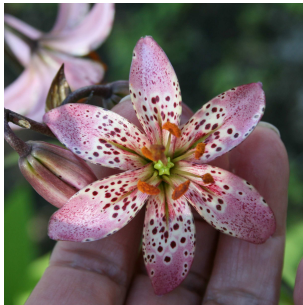


# The BULBLET

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Supposed to be Pink Attraction but  
looks identical to my Towering Delight  
Photo by Laurie Hepper

### Save the date 2017

Winter Mingle Feb 12, 2017 2-5 pm Crestwood Community Hall

2016 Show awards will be given out

AGM 2017 April 29, 2017 10 am - 4 pm Woodvale Hall. Speaker  
TBD

### ARLS Affiliates

Alberta Horticultural Association

[icangarden.com/clubs/aha](http://icangarden.com/clubs/aha)

Calgary Horticultural Society [calhort.org](http://calhort.org)

Edmonton Horticultural Society [edmontonhort.com](http://edmontonhort.com)

North American Lily Society [lilies.org](http://lilies.org)

RHS Lily Group [www.rhslilygroup.org/](http://www.rhslilygroup.org/)

### Spring bulb sales

April 22 Bonnyville Gardener's Day  
bulb sale

April 29 & 30 Calgary Hort. Spring  
Garden Show, Spruce Meadows  
Calgary

May 20 St Paul's bulb sale

## Welcome to St Louis, Missouri for the North American Lily Society 70th Annual International Lily Show & Symposium!

**Convention Dates June 28 –July 2, 2017**

Outstanding lodging and fabulous Lily Show at the  
Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel St. Louis  
Garden Tours at the

Missouri Botanical Garden and Bellefontaine Cemetery

Check our website at <http://nals2017.lilies.org/> for more details

To lend your time and support to this convention, please  
contact Lynn Slackman at [lslackman@tenbytech.com](mailto:lslackman@tenbytech.com)

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## President's Lily pad

Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter

Hello most of you have had a long fall to clean up your gardens and it looks like we may have an early spring. I was lucky enough to get peat moss on all my tender plants this year thinking they may need the extra blanket so they may survive an early spring with frosts. I got a large box of seeds off to the RHS seed exchange this fall thank you to those members who donated seeds. I now have a seed list to peruse and am going to enjoy putting in my order early for members to select from. Our January Casino was cancelled as we have too much money and not enough volunteers to take on projects to spend the casino funds. Our current projects are: To replace some stem holders and donate the old ones to the Devonian Gardens show supplies; To organize a badly needed new website; And we have donated some funds to have a pergola constructed at the St Albert Botanic Park lily beds. When those are completed we have some other projects on the list, but we can only do a good job on a few projects at a time so we are scheduling what we can accomplish with the resources we have. *Good growing Laurie*

**Newsletter Editor** Any spelling and grammatical errors are all my own. If you see a data omission, please inform [pres@arls-lilies.org](mailto:pres@arls-lilies.org) with the correction.

**LILY VIGNETTE** *This fall we had a call from C.F. Paterson's granddaughter looking for a new home for her grandfathers lily collection. ARLS was not able to help, but the City of Lethbridge has taken some of the collection. Anyone travelling to Lethbridge. In the future keep a lookout or inquire about these lilies and go see them in their new home.*

Dr. Patterson's research was not limited to the fruit. He was also deeply interested in expanding Prairie gardens and developing varieties which would withstand the harsh Saskatchewan winters. He succeeded, with his name becoming synonymous with a collection of lily varieties in pink, white, rose and other colours, the result of a dedicated and patient cross breeding and selection program which spanned over 20 years. Among his breeds, "Edith Cecilia" (named after his eldest daughter who died at age 13), "White Princess", "Jasper", and "Apricot Glow" are the most popular today. All are sturdy plants, seldom needing support even on the windy prairies. *Excerpted from Wikipedia*

<https://plantlilies.com/lily-breeders/patterson.html> gives a list of his registered lilies

I like to hear the stories behind the lily. A picture and approx. 25 words is all it takes. Submit to [pres@arls-lilies.org](mailto:pres@arls-lilies.org)

## MEMBER BENEFITS

Members receive discounts at the following businesses:

- \* **ALL SEASONS GARDEN CENTRE**. 10027-81 Ave. Edmonton 10% discount. Membership card must be presented and discount may not apply to all products.
- \* **APACHE SEEDS LTD**. 10136 149 ST., EDMONTON 10% discount. Membership card must be presented and discount may not apply to all products.
- \* **CANNOR NURSERIES LTD**. TWP RD 514 WOODBEND RD, SPRUCE GROVE (west of Devonian Gardens)

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**THE ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY**

NEWSLETTER THE BULBLET VOLUME 31, NUMBER 4 winter 2016

10% discount. Membership card must be presented and discount may not apply to all products.

\* **ELLERSLIE GIFT & GARDEN** 10330 Ellerslie Rd SW, Edmonton Membership card must be presented prior to purchase and discount may not apply to all products.

\* **VALLEY K LILY RANCH** aka [plantlilies.com](http://plantlilies.com)

15% discount on all bulb orders, excluding shipping. Contact Valley K by email at [webmaster@plantlilies.com](mailto:webmaster@plantlilies.com) to request the discount code BEFORE ordering. Follow Valley K on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/plantlilies>

**22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MARTAGON SHOW JUNE 24 & 25** Public viewing Sat 1-5 pm Sun 10am- 5 pm  
Devonian Botanic Gardens IF Spring is late show will move to July 8 & 9 check Facebook for updates- garden admission applies

**32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL LILY SHOW July 22 & 23** Greenland Garden Centre Public viewing Sat 1- 5 pm  
Sun 10 am - 3:30 pm. Show is free but feel free to shop or stop at the bistro.

### Lily Sources

**Valley K Lily Ranch** Lynnette Westfall; asiatics, OTs, some martagons & species  
RR1 Edberg TOB 1J0 <http://plantlilies.com> great resource and lily gallery. mail order only  
[bulbs@plantlilies.com](mailto:bulbs@plantlilies.com)

**Parkland Perennials** Bob Yaremko ; martagons & species and peonies  
Box 560 Bruderheim TOB 0S0 <http://www.parkland-perennials.com> 780 796 2382 [parklandperennials@gmail.com](mailto:parklandperennials@gmail.com)

**Parkland Lilies - Fred Fellner seedlings** RR1 Vermillion 1-780-853-2355 final last years of hybridizing

**Rundlewood Gardens** Specialty Nursery; martagons 1643 Altadore Ave SW. Calgary (corner of 16th Street and 46th Ave SW) <http://www.rundlewoodgardens.ab.ca/> [info@rundlewoodgardens.ab.ca](mailto:info@rundlewoodgardens.ab.ca) location shopping only- no mail order shipping. Stop by when in Calgary- check website for hours.

**Lily Nook** Nigel & Joyce Strohman; all things lily  
Box 846 Neepawa Man. R0J 1H0 <http://www.lilynook.mb.ca> 1 204 476 3225 [info@lilynook.mb.ca](mailto:info@lilynook.mb.ca)

**Skinner Nursery** Hugh Skinner; martagons, species, asiatics  
Box 220 Roblin Man. R0L 1P0 1-204- 564-2236. [ski\\_hugh@mts.net](mailto:ski_hugh@mts.net)

**SW-Gardens** Sandra-Pat Willis; lilies from various divisions  
22507 Kenesserie RD Thamesville ONT. N0P 2K0 <http://www.s-wgardens.com/> 1-519-692-5580  
[swgardens@yahoo.ca](mailto:swgardens@yahoo.ca)

**LilyCrest Gardens** Brian Bergman; Bergman seedlings, [OTs, asiatics, orientals & trumpets from active hybridizing]

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## THE ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER **THE BULBLET** VOLUME 31, NUMBER 4 winter 201651 Woodcrest Dr. Toronto ONT. M9A 4J3 [Facebook.com/LilyCrestGardens](https://www.facebook.com/LilyCrestGardens) 1-416-614-6394[bfberg@rogers.com](mailto:bfberg@rogers.com)**Jeffries Nurseries Ltd.** P.O. Box 402, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, R1N 3B729053 Trans Canada Highway #1 35 miles west of Winnipeg near Portage la Prairie [www.jeffriesnurseries.com/](http://www.jeffriesnurseries.com/)204-857-5288 [jeffnurs@mts.net](mailto:jeffnurs@mts.net)**ARLS DIRECTORS****PRESIDENT** Laurie Hepper (to 2017) Edmonton Phone 780.916.0922 [pres@arls-lilies.org](mailto:pres@arls-lilies.org)**VICE PRESIDENT** Vacant**PAST PRESIDENT** Vacant**SECRETARY** Lorne Kaban (to 2017) Bonnyville Phone 780.812.3533 [sec@arls-lilies.org](mailto:sec@arls-lilies.org)**TREASURER** Britta Johnson (to 2017) Edmonton Phone 780.433.7869 [treasurer@arls-lilies.org](mailto:treasurer@arls-lilies.org)**DIRECTORS**

|                           |              |                    |  |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--|
| Cecilia Bertram (to 2018) | Edmonton     | Phone 780.469.1085 | <a href="mailto:bertramc@telus.net">bertramc@telus.net</a>                             |
| Mike Danchak (to 2018)    | Edmonton     | Phone 780.462.0615 | <a href="mailto:mikedanchak@yahoo.com">mikedanchak@yahoo.com</a>                       |
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| Bill Mackay (to 2017)     | Innisfail    | Phone 403.227.3563 | <a href="mailto:bmackay@telusplanet.net">bmackay@telusplanet.net</a>                   |
| Ada Socholotuik (to 2017) | Morinville   | Phone 780.939.6935 | <a href="mailto:thegoodnessofchocolate@gmail.com">thegoodnessofchocolate@gmail.com</a> |

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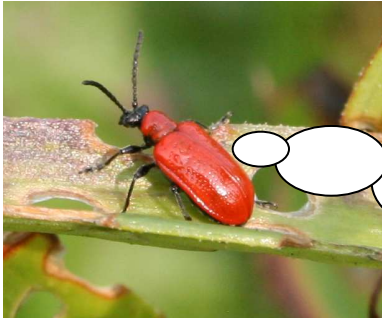
Annual Show Committee 2017

Britta, Cecilia, Laurie, Shauna, Suzanne, Lorne

**Newsletter deadlines**– Feb- May- Aug- Nov 15Feb 15 for Mar 1 Bulblet Get your information in to [pres@arls-lilies.org](mailto:pres@arls-lilies.org) Please put subject: 'newsletter submittal' in email so I can find it in my inbox when I need it.**Name tags**

Call Shauna to get an update.





(photo L. Hepper)

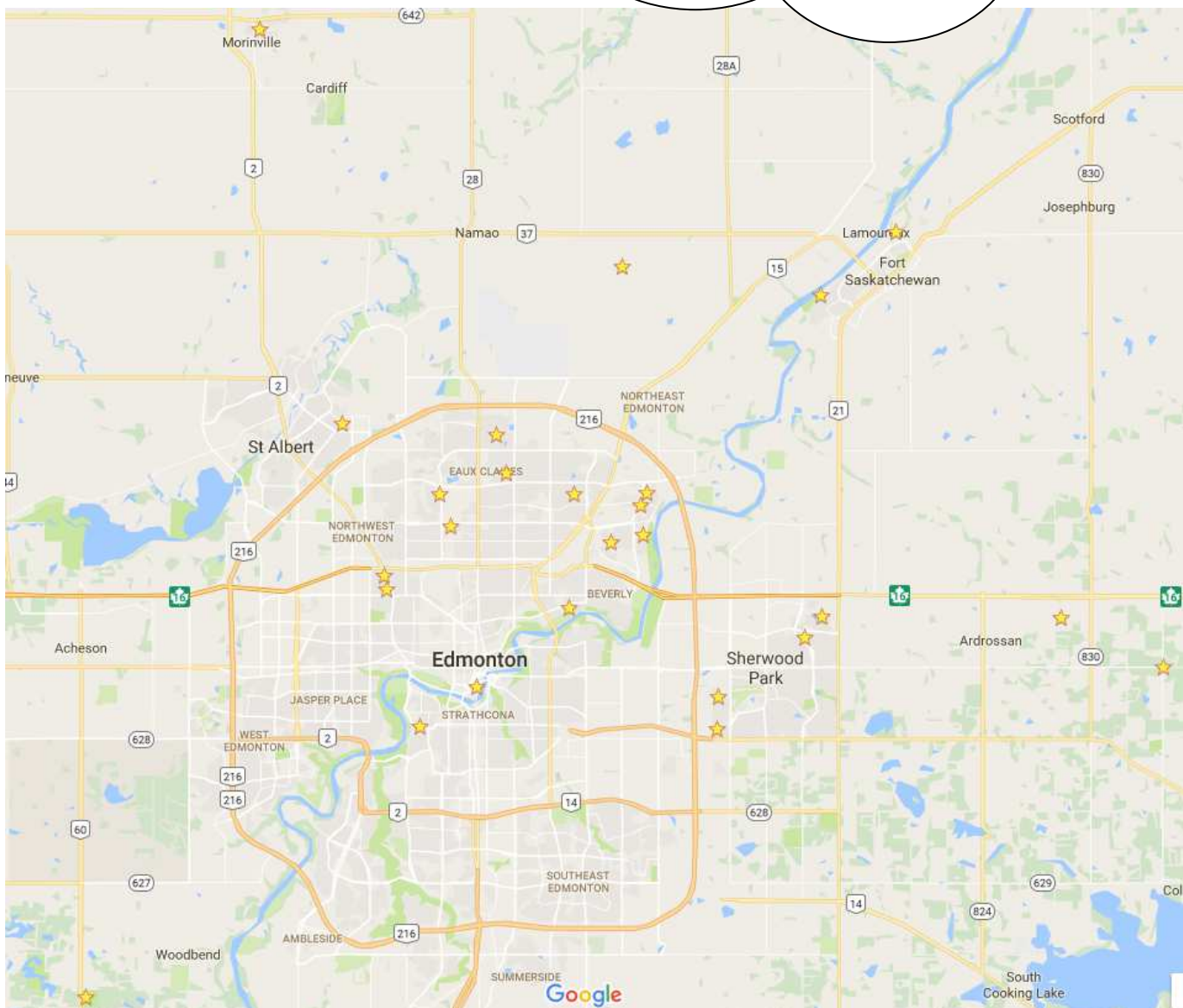
## Beetle Musings [lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org](mailto:lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org)

Report your invasion. To Carlton University [lilybeetletracker@weebly.com](mailto:lilybeetletracker@weebly.com)

**There is also a resource page on the website**

If you are in need of a beetle brochure to give to a friend or neighbour. Contact [pres@arls-lilies.org](mailto:pres@arls-lilies.org)

## Maps of 2016 beetle reports



2016 Edmonton area sightings reported

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## 2016 Calgary area sightings reported

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Nominations for the NALS Regional Medal  
are being solicited please submit to Shauna Willoughby.



### Lilies

The Garden's collections of Martagon and Asiatic lilies (*Lilium*) feature many cultivars developed by local breeders, and provide a colorful, fragrant summer display.

### Devonian Botanic Garden news

If you visit and have a concern about the lily beds call Arnold Semeniuk, DBG liaison. 780-987-4763

The Lily Beds at the DBG will soon be laid out and hopefully planting of the Asiatics will be underway this spring. The last of the lilies are being accessioned this winter and the full data base finalized.

Events at the garden: check out the website for all events. [www.Devonian.ualberta.ca](http://www.Devonian.ualberta.ca)

Twitter @DevonianGarden; Facebook  
DevonianBotanicGarden

Picture from [Devonian.ualberta.ca/collections](http://Devonian.ualberta.ca/collections)

### GARDENING NEWS

Kushi Maya – A Wow Lily by Britta Johnson

Picture by Britta Johnson



Kushi Maya is a cross of *lilium nepalense* x oriental that I purchased from Lily Nook in the spring of 2015. The one bulb was planted in a container with potting soil and a bit of compost and spent the summer on our sunny patio growing well with regular watering and the occasional dose of water soluble fertilizer. One stem grew and it had several large pendant blooms that were a soft lime cream colour with deep burgundy spreading throughout the throat. In the fall the container was moved into the heated garage that is kept at 4C and watered once or twice during the

winter. The bulb started growing in April and three strong stems were already 12-18" tall when the container was moved outside.

Through the summer the stems grew to 3-3.5 ft. tall and the show of flowers was incredible with one stem sporting 5 blooms, one stem with 4 blooms and the smallest stem had 3 blooms. The flowers were side to down facing, about 8" long with a bloom width of 4-6" and an incredible scent with each bloom lasting a week or more. The flowers were at their peak about July 15 this year which would have them blooming at least 2-3 weeks later in most years.

This fall I dumped the pot and found three good sized bulbs with another 4 smaller bulbs which had all grown from the original one bulb. I planted the smaller ones in one pot and the three larger bulbs into a larger container and placed them back into the garage. Next fall I plan on trying a couple of bulbs in the garden with a layer of mulch and see if they will survive. Meanwhile, I'm looking forward to a wonderful show of blooms next summer.

## LILY BASICS Part 1

### Taxonomy

There are a few plants that every prairie garden should include – peonies, clematis, lilacs, roses – and lilies. Lilies are one of the true garden stars offering tremendous value with little effort. Lilies are hardy in our climate (with a few exceptions) and easy to grow. They take up a small amount of real-estate in the garden, but provide fabulous colour and create a strong impact.

Lilies offer incredible diversity of flowers with variation in bloom size, shape, arrangement, number and colour. Gardeners can choose from a wide range of bloom times and plant heights. The versatility and variety that lilies bring to the garden, means there is a lily for virtually any situation. And with a bit of basic knowledge, anyone can be successful growing them.

### Taxonomy

The term 'lily' is used very loosely in gardening circles. You may be familiar with plants such as lily of the valley, day lilies, or calla lilies, and you would be forgiven for thinking that these were the same as or similar to true lilies (which are the focus of this series of articles). But in fact, although they share some common features, they are all very different plants. This is a great example of the confusion that can arise when relying on common plant names rather than delving into what can often seem the confusing world of scientific (Latin) plant names.

Common plant names can vary from country to country, even from one region to another. Different cultures may use different common names for the same plant. This can make it difficult to be confident that two people are talking about the same plant. To make matters more confusing, one plant may have several common names. For example, the Alberta native plant *Geum triflorum* has several common names: old man's whiskers, prairie smoke, three-flowered avens, and purple avens. If you search on the internet for old man's whiskers, you may find information on *Tillandsia usneoides*, also known by the common name of Spanish moss.

For our purposes when we use the term 'lily' we are shining the spotlight on true lilies which are found in the genus *Lilium* in the Lily Family (Liliaceae). Other genera in this family include *Tulipa* (tulips), *Erythronium* (fawnlily), and *Fritillaria* (mission bells, fritillary) to name just a few. By contrast, lily of the valley is in the *Convallaria* genus in the Asparagus Family (Asparagaceae) and day lilies are in the *Hemerocallis* genus in the Aloe Family (Xanthorrhoeaceae).

Lilies are considered herbaceous perennial plants because their life cycle continues for more than one year, and all their above-ground growth dies back at the end of each season and re-emerges each spring.

Flowering plants are divided into two main categories – Monocots and Dicots. Lilies are Monocots, characterized by parallel leaf veins, flower parts (petals, sepals, pistils etc.) in groups of 3's, fibrous

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root systems, and a single seed leaf emerging after germination. Other familiar Monocots are grasses, onions, tulips and many others. Dicots by contrast have flower parts in groups of 4's and 5's, taproot systems, netted leaf veins and two seed leaves. Dicots include many familiar garden plants such as geraniums, delphiniums, as well as trees and shrubs.

The next installment is learning more about the anatomy of a lily.

*Written by Jane Reksten, Manager, Botanic Gardens and Greenhouses at Olds College, ([www.oldscollege.ca](http://www.oldscollege.ca)) and the Alberta Regional Lily Society ([www.arls-lilies.org](http://www.arls-lilies.org))*

## LILY BASICS (part 2) Morphology

### Morphology (plant parts)

Lilies have 6 petals (technically 3 are sepals). Bloom colours range from white, cream and yellow to orange, pink, red – all colours but blues and purples – and from pale to intense shades. Some lily blooms showcase pure clear colours, while others have contrasting coloured throats, spots, freckles or brushmarks. Markings down the middle leading to the center of the flower are thought to assist insects in their search for nectar. Raised spots called papillae are also commonly found.

Flower sizes range from small and delicate to large and robust, and can be found singly on a stem or as multiple blooms (up to 50) arranged in a variety of ways. Flower orientation varies as well, with some lifting their faces to the sky, some facing to the side and others gracefully drooping downwards. Flower shapes can resemble trumpets, bowls, or goblets depending on the degree to which the petals curve out and back from the center of the plant. In the most extreme case, the petals curve back towards the base of the flower, creating a turk's cap shape.

Lily leaves are secondary to the showy flowers, but still offer an interesting texture in the garden. They can vary in size, number and distribution along the stem - some are scattered while others are in whorls, emerging from a single point along the stem and circling around it. Lily plants also range in size from short, petite plants of 15 to 20 cm to taller varieties up to 1.5 to 2 meters in height, plus every height in between.

With all this variety in mind, it's easy to see that there is the right lily for the right place in any garden.

True lilies are lumped into a group of plants loosely identified as 'bulbs', more technically known as geophytes – 'geo' meaning earth', and phyte meaning plant. These plants survive at least a portion of the year below ground in a dormant state. Lilies are true bulbs along with snowdrops and hyacinths but geophytes include other types of structures including corms (crocus), rhizomes (iris), tubers (potatoes), tuberous stem (cyclamen), tuberous roots (dahlias).

The lily bulb essentially contains all the plant parts, remaining dormant until the right conditions exist. These fleshy, underground structures have a basal plate (the modified stem of the plant) at the base, from which roots emerge. These roots anchor the lily plant into the ground, preventing it from blowing over in the wind, and to a small degree also help with accessing water and nutrients from the soil.

The layered scales above the basal plate are actually fleshy leaves, and these store food and thus the energy for plant growth (until the roots and above-ground leaves take over). At the top of the bulb

is the new growing tip, from which the flower stem will emerge. This flower stem also forms roots (called 'stem roots'), between the top of the bulb and the soil surface. These are crucial in enabling the plant to absorb enough nutrients – they are the main feeder roots. This is why it's important to plant lily bulbs deep enough that these roots can develop.

Lily bulbs must be handled and stored carefully. Avoid knocking or damaging the growing tip. Lily bulbs lack the protective papery skin (or tunic) found on other true bulb such as tulips or daffodils. They are known as imbricate (or non-tunicate) bulbs. This leads them to be even more susceptible to drying, so care must be taken to keep the bulbs cool and moist. If you want to store lily bulbs clean them carefully and place in a plastic bag with some peat moss, wood shavings, vermiculite or something similar, and keep cool and moist.

Watch for the next article, focusing on planting and culture.

**Written by Jane Reksten**, Manager, Botanic Gardens and Greenhouses at Olds College, ([www.oldscollege.ca](http://www.oldscollege.ca)) and the Alberta Regional Lily Society ([www.arls-lilies.org](http://www.arls-lilies.org))



Willoughby Martagon seedling (Creamsicle)



*I. michiganense*



Cranberry Dancer ( Fox Martagon)

Photos by Laurie Hepper

Time to pot up martagon seeds. Check out the NALS seed page  
<http://www.lilies.org/culture/growing-from-seed/>  
picture from *Let's Grow Lilies*

Also time to check the bulbs you have stored in the fridge for mold and rot.



Promoting genus *lilium* as an excellent garden plant