

ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY

OLDS COLLEGE

SUMMARY FOR 2017

The work Olds College does in collaboration with the ARLS has several areas of focus.

The lily trials in the Plots area are used for the collection of data on lily performance. This area of the college grounds is used for research and education programming and is not open to the general public. This data collection is performed weekly during the growing season, results are recorded and are then added to the main database, allowing for comparison within a single year or to compare with historical information of the same plant from previous years.

The collection of species lilies and Alberta hybridized lilies are in beds within the Botanic Gardens proper and are available to the public for viewing. Activity in this area is aimed at maintaining and broadening the collection of lily cultivars and *Lilium* species. We aim to keep these collections (Fred Fellner, AB Bred Lilies, and Species Lilies) labeled and maps available on the Olds College Botanic Gardens website so the public can access the information in a variety of ways.

In addition we continue to gather data on the lily leaf beetle and its control in both the trial plots and the collections plots. We are also investigating the efficacy of the parasitoid wasp in controlling the lily leaf beetle.

A fourth dimension of our collaboration is the promotion of the genus *Lilium* as a desirable garden plant. This is done as part of our public outreach program.

ACTIVITY DETAILS FOR 2017

- **Lily Plots**
 - Collected data on 60+ different lily cultivars
 - Summary of results are attached
 - Lily beetle infestation was severe this year but kept in check through diligent hand picking. Particular attention was paid to the collections within the Botanic Gardens. Certain sections of the Plots were treated with a lighter hand to allow for beetle and larva populations needed for Dr. Fry's research
 - The Plots area was generally edited with an eye to better organization. Ideally the area would have several main subsections:
 - Lilies being trialed and data collected (generally in 3 year cycles)
 - Centennial Lilies being propagated for retail
 - Lily library – holding area for lilies in the Botanic Gardens; ideally one each of the collection lilies
 - Research projects – currently we are looking at the ability of lilies to adjust to different planting depths
 - Lilies that have finished trials were removed
 - 10-15 of each bulb were kept and sold at the Greenhouse Sales

- Rows were cleaned and prepped for new planting but will be left for one year to ensure no rogue lilies remain
- New lilies were added (3 bulbs of each cultivar):

TYPE	NAME
Asiatic	Apricot Fudge
Asiatic	Corsage
Asiatic	Evina
Asiatic	Navona
Interdivisional Hybrid	Easter Morn
Interdivisional Hybrid	Fusion
LA	Corleone
LA	Honesty
LA	Purple Diamond
Martagon	Early Bird
Martagon	Terrace City
OT	Big Brother
Trumpet	Orange Planet
Trumpet (Aurelians)	Lady Alice

- **Lily Beetle Research Update – Dr. Ken Fry** (full report is attached)
 - Our student entered all records of lily beetle occurrence in Alberta into the Alberta database managed by Dr. Ken Fry and into the national database managed by Dr. Naomi Cappucino. They also monitored lily beetle populations in the lily plots and assisted in rearing larvae for parasitoid monitoring.
- **Botanical Garden Lily Collection - recording, revitalization and culture**
 - Last year the Fred Fellner bed was renovated with lilies being replanted. The progress of these new lilies is good so far, we will continue to monitor
 - The collection around the Gazebo was relocated to the west end of the roses
 - Species lilies, Martagon's and non-AB bred lilies were kept; others were removed (duplicates already existed in the gardens)
- **Public Outreach**
 - The summary of this year's growth trials will be made available on the Olds College Botanic Gardens website as soon as the results have been approved for publication by the ARLS
 - Our series of articles has been well-received and there are more that can be published
 - The final two in our series of Lily Basics were published in 2017
 - Calgary Horticultural Society Newsletter
 - Edmonton Horticultural Society Newsletter
 - New topics that could be developed in early 2018 include a summary of the 'best' lilies grown in the college plots, fasciation in lilies, lily mottle virus