



# The Bulblet



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### President's Lily Pad

*Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter*

*If you haven't checked out the updated website: [www.arls-lilies.org](http://www.arls-lilies.org).*

I am writing what will be one of my last President's messages for ARLS, normally this would be my final address but with COVID the Board has decided to defer our AGM until the Fall in hopes that we will actually be able to come together as a group (fingers crossed) as I truly miss seeing so many of you!

Today is Valentine's Day and my hope for all of you is that your Valentine gave you an IOU for a lily bulb at the ARLS Spring bulb sale (read on for more details on that!). Also, today, if you can believe the weather forecast, marks the end of the terrible cold spell that has consumed us! We've seen -40C temperatures half of the last 10 days, it made us forget what a great winter we'd had up until that point, so much for Global warming!

I mentioned the deferral of the AGM and want to give you more detail about that, we were scheduled to meet on April 18<sup>th</sup> but due to the ongoing restrictions from COVID we are going to reschedule to Oct 16<sup>th</sup> at Woodvale Hall. Hopefully by then we will be able to get together for a meeting, if not we will look at another Zoom event!

I also referred to the ARLS Spring Bulb Sale; yes, we are going ahead with a few dates for sales so you can add a few new bulbs to your garden! We are going to get things kicked off at Britta's garage like we did in the Fall, so members get the first pick of the selection. Mark your calendar, that sale will be Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. We will follow that with two Saturday sales at the Bountiful Farmers Market (3696 97 Street, Edmonton, AB), May 01<sup>st</sup> and May 08<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. I'm looking forward to seeing you at one of those sales! Just a reminder we as members get 10% off our bulb purchase. And I heard that we may have some Martagons in pots for sale, so don't miss out!

I'm not done with the good news! We know that you are all going stir crazy from being stuck at home for the last year and not being able to hear or talk too much about lilies. So in lieu of our Winter Mingle we are going to have a Zoom Spring Fling Mingle March 27 and we are going to have the author of the international renowned, Canadian Lily Hybridizers and Their Lilies, Leanne Dowd. She is going to share her story: *\*\* Lilies, for Leanne Dowd, gained new importance with a serendipitous gift of a large collection of lilies in 2006 and a chance meeting of a MRLS board member in 2016. What has transpired since 2016 has been a whirlwind of discovery and learning that led to writing a book about Canadian lily hybridizers in 2020. It has been a dizzying journey so far and one which she is excited to share with you. \*\** Watch your e-mail for more details on how you will be able to sign up for that event!



Last few thoughts from me, I hope that a many of you have some seedlings germinating because it is the only way to unlock the potential of new beautiful lilies for the future and really it is quite easy to do. If not, then maybe you have some scales that need to be tucked in the fridge for vernalisation before they can be planted out in the Spring. Or maybe you have a few bulbs in the fridge already that didn't make it into the ground last Fall, now is a good time to check them for rot and moisture. And if you have none of those fun lily things to do then maybe you want to get your hands on one of the Canadian Lily Hybridizers and Their Lilies book to read before Leanne's talk, ARLS has some available, get in touch with Britta if you want a copy.

Otherwise, please stay safe and healthy my lily friends! I can't wait to see you all again!

Lorne

### **ARLS AFFILIATES**

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

Calgary Horticultural Society [calhort.org](http://calhort.org) [@YCAGardening](https://www.facebook.com/YCAGardening)

<https://www.facebook.com/calhort/>

Edmonton Horticultural Society [edmontonhort.com](http://edmontonhort.com) [@YEGgardening](https://www.facebook.com/YEGgardening)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/14571255402/>

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

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthAmericanLilySociety/>

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



### **AGM 2021 NOTICE FOR OCTOBER.**

**AGM Meeting and elections are now scheduled for October 16 Saturday, conditions permitting, we will have it at Woodvale Hall.** We have postponed it to Fall in hopes of being able to meet in person and catch up with all our lily friends.

**10 am to 12 noon meeting to receive reports, cover new business, Elections**

are the outgoing Directors

Lunch, silent auction, library

1 pm – 3:30 pm silent auction, networking and Speaker (if we can get one)

### **BULB SALES 2021**

Contact Britta to volunteer for a bulb sale shift or packing party.

You get 10% off plus you get first pick of the bulbs. Book your time and reserve your bulbs.

The bulb sale list may not have all sale bulbs listed. It is a listing of what ARLS has ordered or been offered in time for publication.

**SPRING:** Britta's garage like we did in the Fall, so members get the first pick of the selection. Mark your calendar, that sale will be Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Bountiful Farmers Market (3696 97 Street, Edmonton, AB), May 01<sup>st</sup> and May 08<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Members get 10% off our bulb purchase.

**FALL: working on it**

**I'm on a mission to collect as many Canadian - hybridized lilies as possible with the intention of providing a safe haven and ultimately preventing the loss of these important lilies. I would like to put a call out to members of the ARLS to see if anyone has any of the more obscure varieties that aren't typically available commercially. I would pay for them of course. Leanne Dowd**

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**ARLS SHOWS MAY BE POSTPONED FOR ANOTHER YEAR**  
please continue to check our Website and Facebook page

**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Martagon Show** POSTPONED UNTIL 2021?  
**NALS Show Ontario** POSTPONED UNTIL 2022-  
**NALS virtual show 2021** -register to show your stems and attend the symposium.  
<http://nals2021.lilies.org/index.html>



**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Lily Show** POSTPONED UNTIL 2021?

**Our SPRING FLING MINGLE is March 27, 2 pm**

Zoom meeting. Link will be on the Facebook page and Website as well as emailed out to members.  
Leanne Dowd is our special guest and she will be talking about Lilies and her Lily Book.



**Lil Mclean, one of our founding members passed away peacefully** early morning Sept 15 2020 in her sleep. She always told you how it was, sometimes bluntly. She was always ready to share a laugh, though. Lil was very active with ARLS and before ARLS was founded participated in the lily shows and the support of starting the society. She became an ARLS director in 1993. Worked on the EDMONTON NALS Show committee in 1995 and again in 2007 as Show Chair. She was ARLS President for many years, and contributed endless energy and commitment to the Society. Lil attended many NALS shows made many lily friends and was an active lily judge for NALS as well as ARLS for many years. She helped at all the bulbs

sales and recruited help from the membership to help on committees on the board and with events. She is pictured here at a 2007 Muttart Bulb sale [middle] with Sherry, her granddaughter and Sharon, her sister. May your lily garden where you now reside eclipse your earthly one.



**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 \(west of Devonian Gardens\)](#)

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.



**LILY SOURCES**

**Bertha Lardner: Martagon Lilies** NE Edmonton 780-478-7929 [lardnerbm@gmail.com](mailto:lardnerbm@gmail.com)

**Dr. Ieuan Evans Lilies** Martagon & Asiatic lilies. Spruce Grove. Feel free to peruse my new website where they are featured in "Shop" at <https://drieuanevans.com>

**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)

**Jeffries Nurseries Ltd.** P.O. Box 402, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, R1N 3B7

29053 Trans Canada Highway #1 35 miles west of Winnipeg near Portage la Prairie Man. [www.jeffriesnurseries.com/](http://www.jeffriesnurseries.com/) 204-857-5288 [jeffnurs@mts.net](mailto:jeffnurs@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]**

51 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)





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Publishing Committee Chair: Shauna Willoughby

Venue Coordinator: Laurie Hepper

Membership Chair: Britta Johnson

[members@arls-lilies.org](mailto:members@arls-lilies.org)

Web Committee Chair: **VACANT CHAIR;** Laurie, Britta & Shauna members

Speakers Committee: Lorne Kaban, Bill MacKay, Terry Willoughby

OLDS College Committee Chair: Bill MacKay

U of Alberta Botanic Gardens Committee Chair: Britta Johnson

AGLC-GAIN Funding Chair: Laurie Hepper

Casino 2022 Chair: Ieuan Evans

NALS Liaison: Shauna Willoughby

25th Martagon Show Chair 2021? Lorne Kaban

35th Lily Show Committee 2021? Suzanne, Dianne, Lorne, Britta, Laurie

Lily beetle [lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org](mailto:lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org)



(photos L. Hepper)

- **Lily beetle report** [lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org](mailto:lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org)
- also if you have questions, I will try to answer them.
- **Report** your beetles. With a picture, To Carlton University [lilybeetletracker@weebly.com](mailto:lilybeetletracker@weebly.com)
- **There is also a resource page on the website**
- **Report** your beetles – with a picture to Olds College
- [Kfry@oldscollege.ca](mailto:Kfry@oldscollege.ca)- **all information submitted is also shared with Carlton University**
- If you are in need of beetle brochures to give to a friend or neighbour. Contact [lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org](mailto:lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org)

### LILY BEETLE MUSINGS Laurie Hepper

Sorry for the bad poetry last issue. With the little red devils hunkered down for the winter, I had to remind myself it is only a short vacation before we are all back to vigilantly protecting our prized garden blooms. And some of us have more than one pest to patrol for. I pray to the garden gods that all our efforts will not go unnoticed and someday soon we can again relax and enjoy our gardens without battle against plant destroyers.

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE NALS REGIONAL MEDAL** are being solicited please submit to Shauna Willoughby.

**VOLUNTEERING WITH ARLS** we now have a procedure to follow and track volunteer hours. When a volunteer reaches the required hours, they are eligible for a lily bulb. Please make sure you confirm your hours volunteered with your volunteer coordinator.

### **REQUESTING NOMINATIONS**

ARLS is now awarding the **CATHY & ARNOLD SEMENIUK VOLUNTEER AWARD** for an outstanding volunteer who goes above and beyond in supporting our Society in its endeavours and events.

Please forward your nominations with a supporting letter to [arls@arls-lilies.org](mailto:arls@arls-lilies.org)

### **UNIVERSITY of ALBERTA BOTANIC GARDEN NEWS**

#### **The garden is open by reservation admission only**

Check out the website <http://botanicgarden.ualberta.ca/>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/UABotanicGarden>;

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/UABotanicGarden>

### **MUTTART is closed until January 2021- PROBABLY LONGER due to LRT construction**

You can still go down and enjoy the gardens, and pick a few lily beetles next year.

## THE ELEPHANT IN THE LILY PATCH

You will check the attached video (<https://youtu.be/IS6k4HZSpus>). You can see the beetle's larvae clearly.

Correction to this link is actually <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS6k4HZSpus> Lily Invaders



Also for your viewing pleasure. If you have any other links to recommend to our members please share.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbtA5StiCDY> Martagons Galore

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z3c3XZrenDs> Martagon Propagation

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qiVD\\_16-jH4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qiVD_16-jH4) Winning at the lily show ARLS VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pgy99gkXm1w> How to Create lily hybrids

### “FORGOTTEN LILY BOOKS

I have lots of books on lilies that I have accumulated over the years. Some old, some new and some very interesting. While I was recently checking out my lily book collection, I came across three very strange lily books in the corner of one of the bookcase shelves. When I opened the covers, I could see that they were from Sandy Carter, a long-time member of the Alberta Lily Society. When I called her up, Sandy said that she had given them to me some 15 years ago at a horticultural meeting at Stony Plain, a town just west of Edmonton, Alberta. Sandy said that her husband was a collector of old books and she was just downsizing the collection.

The oldest book, “Notes on Lilies”, a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (1878) written by Dr. Alexander Wallace (1829 – 1899) who lived in the south of England. The book is over 200 pages, along with 10 more back pages devoted to many commercial advertisements including silkworm culture.

The second book, “Garden Cinderellas” has no mention of lilies on the cover or the bookend but its all about lilies. This book published in 1928 was originally owned by the “Lake Placid Club” and kept at the Forest Library in Essex County, NY. The book written by Helen M. Fox (no relation to Gene Fox) has some 300 pages of excellent and easy reading about lilies. Helen Fox states that “this book is for the amateur, and is not a profound and learned tome where the reader must stumble and skip over the technical botanical terms”.

In reading about martagons from pages 196 to 198 in this book Helen Fox describes martagons as the most common lilies in Europe in hilly districts, the borders of woods amongst long high grass and up to 7,000 feet (2,200 metres). She describes what she called martagon Imperiale as blackish or brownish spots on a delayed purple colour and having a very pleasant scent. Another muddy purple colour is described as having an unpleasant scent. *Lilium martagon album* is described as charming and only very slightly scented.

I have to admit that in the past that I paid little attention in checking martagons for the diversity of scents. In fact, I thought that most were of similar scents. Adam Yakabuski and Terry Willoughby, both avid martagon breeders in Alberta, have both enlightened me about the diversity or range of martagon scents. Starting this year, I will do a lot of martagon sniffing, particularly in our long cool Alberta evenings. Its certainly another marker that I can use to characterise old and new martagons.

The third lily book, “The complete Book of Lilies” is written by F. F. Rockwell, Esther C. Grayson and Jan de Graaf published in 1961. Many of you may be well aware of this text which is just over 350 pages. There are some excellent photographs in this book as well as numerous classic line drawings and detailed descriptions.

Since I have way too many things on my plate right now, such as full employment and lily breeding as a side line, I have decided to donate the books to a couple of other lily enthusiasts.

I am forwarding all three books (insured) to Leanne Dowd, who wrote the recent book “Canadian Lily Hybridizers and Their Lilies”. I have told Leanne that she can keep two of the texts but after reading “Notes on Lilies” by Alexander Wallace that she forward this copy to an avid historian in Dundee, Scotland, Chris Hind. Wallace is a common Scottish name but it means “from Wales”.

I am sure Leanne could supply our lily aficionados with excerpts and interesting historic information from these three books.

Dr. Ieuan R. Evans

January 15, 2021



## ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY OLDS COLLEGE SUMMARY FOR 2020

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### IMPACT FROM COVID 19

Olds College was greatly impacted by the effects of the pandemic. Specifically, for this project, the results were seen in the level of staffing available. The Manager of the Botanic Gardens was required to redirect their time and efforts into the operations side which resulted in the delay of completion on the second video, and the lack of new article production. With respect to the Lily Student Researcher, this position was not filled until the end of June with data collection starting at the beginning of July. Luckily, Alexa Bricker returned for her third season in this position, so work began immediately with no delay for training.

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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 performance of various lily cultivars. This area of the college grounds is used for research and education programming and is not open to the general public. 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. Asiatic cultivars are trialed for three years and cultivars of other crosses for up to five years.

The collection of species lilies and Alberta hybridized lilies are in beds within the Botanic Gardens proper and are available for public viewing. Our work in this area is focused on maintaining and broadening the collection of lily cultivars and *Lilium* species. We aim to keep these collections labeled and have 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 work with Dr. Ken Fry to gather data on the lily leaf beetle and its control in both the trial plots and the collections. We are also investigating the efficacy of the parasitoid wasp, *Tetrastichus setifer* in controlling the lily leaf beetle.

Another 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. New for this year was the completion of the first of two videos. The focus of this first video was on the harvesting and processing of bulbs. The link is here...

For 2021, work will be completed on the second video which will provide an overview of the genus – range of flower types, colours, plant size etc.

### ACTIVITY DETAILS FOR 2020

- Lily Plots





- Collected data on 60+ different lily cultivars
  - Summary of results are attached
- Lily beetles were controlled to a high degree in the collections in the Botanic Gardens to preserve their appearance and performance for the public’s viewing. This is accomplished through diligent hand-picking. In the Plots, certain blocks of lilies have been identified as those that can be ‘sacrificed’ to the lily beetle to allow for research on the biological control of the lily leaf beetle to continue.
- The Plots area is being edited and re-organized on an ongoing basis as time allows. Ideally the area will 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 at least one of each of the cultivars in the Botanic Garden collection of lilies
  - Research projects – since the Depth Trial was completed in 2019, this space is available for other projects
- Lilies that have finished trials are typically removed from the Plots, but this year all bulbs were left in place
- New lilies were added (3 bulbs of each cultivar):

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
Arabian Night	Martagon
Aspen Gold	Martagon
Avalon Sunset	AO Hybrid
Beijing Moon	Trumpet
Conca d’Or	Orienpet
Funny Girl	LA Hybrid
Grace	Martagon
Labrador	Orienpet
Mister Pistache	Orienpet
November Rain	AO Hybrid
Orange Marmalade	Martagon
Purple Marble	LO Hybrid
Red Morning	Orienpet
Redford	Orienpet
Rising Moon	Trumpet
Sunset Boulevard	AO Hybrid
White Amber	Aurelian Hybrids
White Aurelian	Aurelian Hybrids
Zelmira	Orienpet

- **Lily Beetle Research Update – Dr. Ken Fry** (full report is attached)
  - Our student Alexa Bricker monitored lily beetle populations in the lily plots and assisted in rearing larvae for parasitoid monitoring.

- **Botanical Garden Lily Collection - recording, revitalization and culture**
  - The Lily collection around the Gazebo now focusses on species lilies, some non-AB bred Asiatics, a few Martagons and a few other lily types. The desire is to continue to edit this bed to focus on species lilies.
  - A new, small collection of Martagons has been established along the east side of the James Murray Building. Five new martagons were planted there in 2018 year, but little to no growth has been seen. This area is now slated to be impacted by renovations to the building. Attempts were made to re-plant the bulbs, but likely a Martagon collection will need to be started elsewhere.
  
- **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
  - Video
    - The idea was presented to create a video based on the Lily Basics brochure
    - A proposal and budget was approved
    - Filming was done over the growing season of 2019
    - The intent is to develop two videos – one focusing on lilies in general, and one focusing on the harvesting and processing of lily bulbs
      - The second video on harvesting was completed late in 2019
      - The first will be completed in 2021
    - Videos will be available on YouTube, and could also be included in presentations etc.



## 2020 Lily Beetle Research Update Dr. Ken Fry, Olds College

### Lily Beetle Larvae Collections:

Due to COVID restriction on hiring the beginning of lily plot sampling was delayed until July and reduced in scope. All lilies on the campus were surveyed for larvae in July. Five (5) lily beetle larvae, down from 128 in 2019, were collected from the lily plots in 2020 The larvae were fed on excised lily leaves and allowed to pupate in plastic containers filled with vermiculite wetted with tap water. Zero (0) adult lily beetles emerged from the pupae, an emergence rate of 0%. No pupal cells resulted from the rearing attempt.

### Lily Beetle Parasitism:

There was an insufficient number of larvae collected to allow for dissections to determine the level of parasitism at Olds College.

The staff at the Reader Rock Garden in Calgary were enlisted to assist in the project in 2017. An initial release of the parasitoid was conducted in 2017 with a follow-up release of 50 wasps in 2018. Larvae were collected on a weekly basis and dissected to determine parasitism rate. In 2020, collections of late-instar larvae were requested from the garden. A total of 6 larvae were collected. Fifty (50) per cent of the larvae were parasitized with a mean of 2.7 parasitoid larvae per beetle larva.

The staff at Reader Rock Garden commented anecdotally that the number of lily beetle larvae feeding on lilies in the garden was substantially lower than in previous years, mirroring the consensus from 2019. The area to be collected from in 2021 will be expanded in the hopes of detecting more larvae.



A separate lily plot was established in 2019 containing eighty-six (86) plants. This plot was not treated with any pesticides and all lily beetle larvae were left to develop, with the exception of 6 plants that were randomly selected for weekly monitoring. It is hoped that the lily beetle population on this plot will increase sufficiently to allow for a collection of parasitised larvae in the future. Apparently, the population of lily beetles in the plots has been reduced substantially by the parasitoid. We are not hopeful that the population of lily beetles will rebound sufficiently to allow for collections resulting in parasitoids to be released in other locales.

To address the low numbers of beetles at Olds College, we have enlisted the support of the City of Calgary Parks Department to collect larvae from parks in the vicinity of Reader Rock Garden. There were reports of declining densities of lily beetles in parks in the area. This may be an indication of the spread of the parasitoid from Reader Rock Garden. Collections will be made by parks staff, with larvae transported to Olds College for rearing and detection of parasitism.

### **Training:**

A summer student was employed to enter 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. The student monitored lily beetle populations in the lily plots at Olds College and assisted in rearing larvae for parasitoid monitoring and dissections of lily beetle pupae.

### **Extension:**

Invited Presentations with Lily Beetle Research Results content:

- Red Deer Advocate article
- <https://www.reddeeradvocate.com/community/gardening-lily-beetle-must-be-controlled-or-destroyed-in-alberta/>
- CBC TV Calgary News August 18 interview
- Sustainable Flowers Podcast (see attached advertisement)

### **Conclusions:**

The lily beetle population in the Olds College lily plots and the Botanic Garden has dropped from a peak in 2017 with population densities being approximately equal in 2018 and 2019 and a drastic drop in 2020. Long term population densities as affected by the parasitoid and weather conditions will need to be monitored over several more years to determine whether the parasitoid has achieved a lasting suppressive force on the lily beetle.

The detection of parasitized larvae at Reader Rock Garden is significant as it indicates successful overwintering of the wasp at that locality. Anecdotal reports of lily beetle declines in parks in close proximity to Reader Rock Garden indicate the parasitoid is dispersing from its release points. Monitoring of the larvae and parasitism rates will continue to determine if the parasitoid has become firmly established and is now dispersing.

Rearing methods are still under development to maximise productivity for releases of the parasitoid in localities around the province.



**Thank you for the Alberta Regional Lily Society Award.**

Your award at a time like this is more appreciated than ever. With the province shut down and the semester coming to an end, I have lots of spare time to think about my future business endeavors for 2021. In the past two months I have been experiencing issues with my laptop (currently a chromebook which is already limiting in its functions). I would like to use a portion of this award to purchase a reliable computer system that can assist me in school and my future business plans (such as building a website, easier planning of budgets/new product ranges for spring). I currently have many ideas that I would like to bring to fruition to assist me in my end goal of eventually developing an urban farming program in Calgary.

My entry into the Olds Horticulture Program was decided by experiences I had after highschool. I didn't know what I wanted to do; I knew I loved the environment and nature fascinated me, but I wasn't sure how to apply this into one career. I knew I wanted to go to school, but I wanted it to be the right fit. I took time to do some travelling, and I ended up spending time volunteering in Costa Rica at a 'Treehouse Resort' called Finca Bellavista. The aim in this property was to educate its visitors on rainforest biodiversity and sustainable travel. Here I found myself in the garden alot, helping bring food for meals and planting seeds. My interest in horticulture sparked without even knowing what it was yet.

When I came home from a couple years of 'soul searching', I started exploring school programs. I came across the Horticulture Program at Olds through online searches and applied immediately when I saw it. Initially, I was enrolled with the intent of greenhouse management, this still rings true but as I learned more about the

productivity of hydroponics in relation to the world food crisis, my interest and career goals in the matter expanded greatly. One thing I feared school would do is dim my interest in the subject, but the instructors in this program are amazing at keeping spirits high while remaining realistic about the career goals of their students in the industry. The greenhouse production course in year 2 was also an amazing learning experience in terms of hydroponic greenhouse education, although it did get cut short in the midst of the pandemic.

I spoke a little about my career goals in my application letter, but to reiterate I would love to eventually develop some sort of urban farming hydroponic program to educate children about food production and waste in our urban environment. As of now I am taking steps to open a shop selling dried florals and other botanically inspired goods such as teas and candles of the Alberta area. I aim to involve urban farming into this once it is established. Until I can dedicate full time hours to this, I hope to receive a position with the City of Calgary for the next portion of my career. Last summer I earned a position, but it was revoked due to the pandemic shut down. It is still uncertain if it will be in the budget this year, but I will pursue a similar route if the City does not open applications to newcomers.

**Once again, I am highly appreciative to be a recipient of this award. I feel immensely thankful for this allocation and can promise it will be used with good intentions in mind.**

**Merry Christmas!**

Gabrielle Gazdewich



It is really nice to hear from our bursary recipients.

One of the many ways our Casino funds help others.

Our Sept 2020 casino was successful in raising approximately \$78,000.00; and thank you to all the volunteers who were able to help work this event to give us the needed funds to continue to support Olds College research on lily culture and the lily beetle, Olds College bursary, and our education efforts to raise awareness on lilies and everything that encompasses.

Please check our media regularly. Covid has created scheduling updates and we want to make sure you have up-to-date information.

Face book  
Twitter  
Website