



The Bulblet



Contents

PRESIDENT'S LILY PAD P1
ARLS EVENTS & SALES 2021 P2
LILY SOURCES P3
DIRECTORS LIST P4

LILY BEETLE MUSINGS P5
CHARLIE KROELL'S YELLOW PLAGUE P6
THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM P6

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.

Here we are nearing the end of 2020 and we have just had more stringent Provincial guidelines put in place to try and stave off the ongoing spread of this prolific virus. I hope that all of you continue to be safe and healthy in these trying times. I have to admit all this extra time at home has afforded me a little more time to play with lilies which I will not complain about!

It was great to see a number of you at the Bulb Sales in September that seems so very long ago. I hope that you were able to get all those bulbs that you purchased into the ground. I must confess, with the additional demands of work, I have a few bulbs in my lily fridge in the garage. I am also planning to add some of my scale bulblets to that group in the next few weeks. I want to extend my thanks to all of you and most of all to Britta Johnson for making our fall bulb sales such a success. We were the only Lily Society in Canada to hold fall sale and we did as well as or maybe even a little better than we've done in the last couple of years. Britta was amazing supplying her garage for packing, one day of sales, then organizing the Bountiful Farmers Market venue and lastly shipping mail orders across Alberta and Canada (she even made a delivery to Rosedale, AB!). Thank you, Britta,!

On the heels of the Bulb Sales, ARLS was given a Casino to make up for the one that was cancelled earlier in the year. We have not received confirmation of how much we earned yet but we are fortunate for whatever amount it will be as many Societies are struggling because of the loss of casino funds. Thanks to Laurie, Britta, Bill, Ieuan, Terry, Suzanne, Dianne, Glenn and Jane for volunteering at the Casino!

We held our AGM in October, thanks to all that were able to attend. It was our first foray into Zoom and it went fairly well, we'll see what April brings as we may need to use it again. I would like to start by extending my heartfelt thanks to Cecilia Bertram for many years of service to ARLS as a Board Member; she graciously encouraged me to see if someone else was interested. So with that I would also like to extend a warm lily welcome to Lindsay Andreasen our newest Board Member, we are really excited to have you join the team. In addition, thanks to Ieuan Evans and Mike Danchak for continuing to serve as Board Members. We discussed our 2021 roster of activities but in reality, we will have to wait to see where things go with this pandemic.

If you are looking for a gift idea for a fellow lily lover, we still have some copies of "Canadian Hybridizers and Their Lilies", written by fellow ARLS member from Manitoba, Leanne Dowd. I am also really excited to announce that Leanne is going to be our speaker for the Winter Mingle in February. This will be a Zoom get together this year, watch for information so you can join and hear about Leanne's journey in writing the book and seek Canadian bred lilies. Contact Britta if you would like a copy of the book for Christmas.





www.arls-lilies.org

THE ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
THE BULBLET VOLUME 35, NUMBER 4 WINTER 2020

 FACEBOOK [Albertaregionallilysociety](https://www.facebook.com/Albertaregionallilysociety)
 TWITTER @ [ALBERTA_lilies](https://twitter.com/ALBERTA_lilies)

With that I will close and extend warm holiday wishes from my family to yours! We may not be able to come together this holiday season but we can still extend the love of the season to each, stay safe and healthy!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (it's gotta be better than 2020)
Lorne

ARLS AFFILIATES

Alberta Horticultural Association icangarden.com/clubs/aha

Calgary Horticultural Society calhort.org @YYCGardening <https://www.facebook.com/calhort/>

Edmonton Horticultural Society edmontonhort.com @YEGgardening
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/14571255402/>

North American Lily Society lilies.org <https://www.facebook.com/NorthAmericanLilySociety/>

RHS Lily Group www.rhslilygroup.org/

AGM 2021 NOTICE FOR APRIL.

AGM Meeting and elections are now scheduled for APRIL 18 Sunday, conditions permitting we will have it at Woodvale Hall.

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: Working on various venues

FALL:

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

ARLS SHOWS MAY BE POSTPONED FOR ANOTHER YEAR

please continue to check our Website and Facebook page

25th Annual Martagon Show POSTPONED UNTIL 2021?

NALS Show Ontario POSTPONED UNTIL 2022

35th Annual Lily Show POSTPONED UNTIL 2021?



MEMBERS RECEIVE DISCOUNTS AT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES:

* **ALL SEASONS GARDEN CENTRE.** [10027-81 Ave. Edmonton](https://www.allseasonsgarden.com) 10% discount.

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

* **APACHE SEEDS LTD.** [10136 149 ST., EDMONTON](https://www.apacheseeds.com) 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 \(west of Devonian Gardens\)](https://www.cannornurseries.com)

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

* **ELLERSLIE GIFT & GARDEN** [10330 Ellerslie Rd SW, Edmonton](https://www.ellersliegift.com) 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

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 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

Skinner Nursery Hugh Skinner; martagons, species, asiatics

Box 220 Roblin Man. R0L 1P0 1-204- 564-2236. 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/ 204-857-5288 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

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





PRESIDENT Lorne Kaban Bonnyville Phone 780.812.3533
VICE PRESIDENT VACANT
PAST PRESIDENT VACANT
SECRETARY Laurie Hepper Edmonton Phone 780.916.0922
TREASURER Britta Johnson Edmonton Phone 780.433.7869

arls@arls-lilies.org

sec@arls-lilies.org
finance@arls-lilies.org

DIRECTORS 2020-2022

Lindsay Andreasen Calgary Phone 403.
Mike Danchak Edmonton Phone 780.462.0615
Ieuan Evans Spruce Grove Phone 780.987.4398
Dianne Skimming Edson Phone 403.274.4747

Imandreasen@hotmail.com
mikedanchak@yahoo.com
Dr.IREvans@gmail.com
diskimming@gmail.com

DIRECTORS 2019-2021

Suzanne Stack Gibbons Phone 780.710.0775
Bill Mackay Innisfail Phone 403.227.3563
Suzanna Durand Spruce Grove Phone 780.743.5128
Leo Krupka Edmonton Phone 780.484.8714

sueingabs@gmail.com
bmackay@telusplanet.net
dominaterra@gmail.com
oma.opa2@shaw.ca

LIBRARIAN (Board Appointed-to 2020)

Terry Willoughby Spruce Grove Phone 780.968.1818

library@arls-lilies.org

WEB EDITOR (Board Appointed-to 2020)

Shauna Willoughby Spruce Grove Phone 780.968.1818

webeditor@arls-lilies.org

NEWSLETTER EDITOR VACANT

fill in blackmartagon@gmail.com news@arls-lilies.org

ARLS COMMITTEES

Bulb Sale Chair: info@arls-lilies.org

Advertising & Public Relations: Suzanne Stack

Publishing Committee Chair: Shauna Willoughby

Venue Coordinator: Laurie Hepper

Membership Chair: Britta Johnson 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

LOGO committee: Britta, Laurie, Suzanne

AGLC-GAIN Funding Chair: Laurie Hepper

Casino 2022 Chair: Ieuan Evans

NALS Liaison: Shauna Willoughby

25th Martagon Show Chair 2021: Lorne Kaban

35th Annual Show Committee 2021: Suzanne, Dianne, Lorne, Britta, Laurie

Lily beetle lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org



(photos L. Hepper)

LILY BEETLE MUSINGS Laurie Hepper

The red bugs are in bed with visions of lily buds dancing in their heads.
With my brain I desire an end to them all and a bed of full colour.
The first thaw of spring I will be out in my beds turning the earth to kill any bugs dead.
I saw them this fall as I tilled a few beds; they were hunkering down beneath the stem of OT's.
I will be spraying first thing; I pray for the bees.
I'll spread the cutting earth so their bodies shred and patrol like crazy so I stay ahead.
Those red bugs, I say, are not going to win.
I will get them all within my yard, keeping them out will be hard.
Next year I hope to bag and tag less.
Still, I will report on how well I do.
Those bugs will not chomp on my lilies next year.
They can hide but not for long.
I will get them, I swear.

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

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>

- **Lily beetle report** 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
- **There is also a resource page on the website**
- **Report** your beetles – with a picture to Olds College
- Kfry@oldscollge.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



MUTTART is closed until January 2021- PROBABLY LONGER

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

CHARLIE KROELL'S YELLOW PLAGUE

A Possible Answer

About 8 or more years ago Terry Willoughby, a fellow Alberta lily breeder showed me a number of yellowish topped Asiatic lilies in his newly renovated and fertilized lily garden. I hypothesized that it could be manganese deficiency. In high pH dry soils (in Southern Alberta pH 7.5 to 8.5) manganese deficiency causes yellowing in barley and other cereal crop seedlings.

A few years later I was doing some consultation for a client in Delaware in the spring of 2015. His problem was that all three of his cropland fields, seeded to different corn cultivar (varieties) were emerging in great numbers with white or yellow seedling leaves. He could not figure out the problem, particularly as it affected different corn varieties.

I discussed this problem with an older friend of mine, a Dr. Jim Beaton, lead author of a series of text books on Soil Fertility (Soil Fertility and Fertilizers). Jim recalled seeing this problem in wheat and other field crops when farmers fertilize wheat and other crops with high to excessive phosphate fertilizer. Jim Beaton also stated that the control and uptake of phosphate fertilizer in crop plants is governed by zinc. He said that if the zinc levels are low in the cropland (less than 1 -2 parts per million – 2 – 4 lbs an acre) then this zinc deficiency in the crop does not allow plants to slow down or regulate the uptake of phosphate. The consequence he says is that crop plants or horticultural plants turn a pale yellow and may or may not recover. It seems that the excessive phosphate, partially or totally inhibits chlorophyll formation. It turned out that the Delaware corn grower had fertilized each acre with 90 lbs of phosphate per acre and a previous soil test on the croplands revealed that it was very low in zinc. Ninety pounds of phosphate is very high and coupled with the soil zinc deficiency the seedling corn plants became chlorotic to white. A good memory by Jim Beaton that put two and two together solved the problem of chlorotic corn seedlings.

In my greenhouse I grew a very large range of potted plants that included cherries, strawberries, peaches and apples. I used a fertilizer that I bought at a nursery sale, several large bags that were labelled 10-50-10, very high in phosphate. Sometimes I forget and over fertilize or perhaps accidentally repeat a fertilizer application. Over the last few years many of my strawberries, cherries and peach seedlings developed yellow chlorotic leaves or even pure white leaves. The cause was traced to my use of excessive phosphate. The peach seedlings hung in with yellow leaves and the white leaved cherry seedlings died. The white and yellow leaved strawberries put out new green shoots after repotting. I mentioned this to a friend of mine and he stated that he used another brand of high phosphate fertilizer somewhat excessively on his raspberries. The new growth turned white but late in the season the new canes grew up clean and green.

High phosphate problems can result from excessive amounts of products like poultry manure that can have as much as 4% phosphate by weight, as well as nitrogen and potash. This might have been the cause of Terry Willoughby's instance, where his lilies turned chlorotic after an addition of poultry manure.

I cannot say that I have solved Charlie Kroell's or Terry Willoughby's lily plant's chlorosis, but it is at least a possible explanation.

Dr. leuan Evans October 3, 2020

THE ELEPHANT IN THE LILY PATCH

I have grown lilies for some 50 years, martagons for the last 25 years. Asiatics, LA hybrids and several lily species do very well in this cold climate. I often lost Trumpet, Orientpet and other less cold tolerant types and species. In the move to my present acreage in 1996 I finally got into serious martagon growing and hybridization.

In the first 10 – 15 years my martagons did very well under all kinds of growing conditions from very sandy soil to heavy peat soils and from virtually full shade to full sun. In recent years the martagons that I grew in full sun started to decline in vigour and even disappear. Martagons that I currently grow in rows under heavy tree shade, in mixed borders with perennials or randomly in woodlot shade either planted or as volunteers do remarkably well. It did not make sense. I



applied plant nutrients, macro and micronutrients to the martagons growing in neat weed free rows in full sun, but the martagons kept failing, yet any vegetable that I planted amongst the martagons did very well. I planted beets, cabbage, parsnips and onions in the gaps in the martagon rows. I got huge cabbage, 1 – 2 lb onions, big beets and 2 – 3 lb parsnips.

There was no obvious problem with soil fertility that I could identify. So, why were the martagons and even the Asiatic types in the full sun doing so badly, growing erratically with poor undersized stems and few blooms?

I finally decided to dig up some of the martagon and Asiatic lilies that were doing poorly in mid- to full- bloom in late June of this year (2020).

I was astounded! Virtually every lily or so that I dug up had at least one and occasionally two big fat finger sized June beetle larvae at or close to the lily bulbs. The bulb themselves were smaller than normal with no roots present on the bulbs or as expected on the stems.

Since I kept the rows in the full sun part of the garden free of weeds these beetles that take three years to mature had only lily roots or bulbs to feed upon.

You will check the attached video (<https://youtu.be/IS6k4HZSpus>). You can see the beetle's larvae clearly. Since the dig occurred in June perhaps many beetle larvae would have pupated and left the garden soil as adult beetles. One consoling factor was the fact that I found very few small first year June beetle larvae. Perhaps the June beetle plague is past in my lily garden.

How do I control June beetle infestations?

Apparently, June beetle larvae, which take three years to mature seem to avoid shaded areas whether under moderate tree cover or on the east or west side of woodlots or buildings. June beetle damage is also absent or not apparent in lilies growing in mixed perennial flower beds. Perhaps the other perennial plant roots are either food sources for the beetles or they may actively repel or poison the beetle larvae. For example, a row of some 12-orange marmalade martagons planted in the lily garden 3 years ago is down to 3 or 4 straggly plants. A couple of orange marmalade planted at the same time in a mixed flower bed in full sun with phlox, delphiniums, French marigolds and poppies became a very vigorous lily clump with some 16 stems in full bloom this year.

June or May beetles exist in many types and forms and are in the genus Phyllophaga and take 3 years to mature. Similar root damaging larvae of the European chafer and Japanese beetle both imported into North America take only one year to complete their life cycles from egg to adult.

Control of June Beetles

June beetle larvae can be controlled with *Bacillus thuringiensis*, a naturally occurring bacterium. There are insecticide controls but these are only available to commercial growers.

Another obvious control based perhaps on my experience is to either plant your martagons in shade or plant them amongst other annuals and perennials. Under my woodlot trees the martagons compete very well with fireweed and wild raspberries but ferns and *Liguria* have to be cut back periodically. Perhaps the extensive tree roots and along with the expected mycorrhiza, flora, fungi and fauna may well eliminate or suppress the June beetle larvae.

A third control program, which was reported to succeed came from the former Parkside Nursery in Saskatchewan.

June beetles in the sandy soil of this nursery some 25 years ago were playing havoc with the rows of lilies, both martagon and Asiatic. The lady in charge of the lily gardens sowed winter wheat between the rows of lilies in early August and let the wheat grow on into June of the following year up to the time when the winter wheat was heading out.

Apparently, I have no absolute proof, but the June beetles migrated to and fed on the winter wheat roots, allowing the martagons to grow on unmolested or damaged. I am trying this method with four long rows of my martagons to see if this winter wheat seeding (seeded in Early September 2020) will actually work in my martagon rows.

While I know that June beetles are major problems in my garden, fungal and bacterial disease can also cause lily bulb damage, as well as genetic factors that limit lily vigour. Surprisingly, I have had Scarlet Lily Beetles (*Lilioceris lili*) for at least 4 years in my garden and to date they have yet to become more than an incidental problem. Why they have not built up in numbers is somewhat of a mystery.

Dr. Ieuan R. Evans October 3, 2020



This is a shorter newsletter but to give you something to do I figure you can colour a bit, or sprinkle glitter, or find a few pieces of cloth and glue them on to make your life more colourful this winter.

