Flowers

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Care and Preparation

When caring for your flower garden you want to feed your plants properly, control pests and weeds. Good soil is a must to successful gardening, landscaping, and healthy flowers. You have to balance the soil structure with nutrients and regulate the pH to cover your plants' needs. And above all, remember that many flower gardens fail because they just don't get enough of your attention.

Table 1: Flowers

Flower	Type	Soil
Chrysanthemum	perennial	well drained
Gardenia	perennial	acidic
Gerbera	annual	sandy,well-drained

Pruning

Pruning is the process of removing certain above-ground elements from a plant;in landscaping this process usually involves removal of diseased, non- productive, or otherwise unwanted portions from a plant. In nature, certain meteorological conditions such as wind, snow or seawater mist can conduct a when for natural pruning process. The purpose of anthropomorphic pruning is to shape the plant by controlling or directing plant growth, to maintain the health of the plant, or to increase the yield or quality of flowers and fruits. In general the smaller the wound the less harm to the tree.

Follow these simple steps:

1. Begin by cutting out all the dead branches.
2. Remove all tangled or crossed over branches.
   This allows air to circulate and reduces bug and fungi infestation.
3. Take your time!
   Work comfortably and do not make shortcuts when cutting stems. Use good quality, sharp tools.
4. Clean up the area. Burn all pest infested branches.

Garden Preparation

An lisappreciation of the conditions under which bulbs grow in nature is of considerable help in understanding their needs in cultivation, but is by no means all-sufficient. When plants are grown away from their native homesand perhaps are accommodated in pots indoors-they may respond to quite different soils, temperatures, moisture conditions, etc., than those to which they are subjected in the wild.

1. Handle bulbs carefully. Any scarred or punctured bulb is more susceptible to decay or infestation.
2. Make sure that the **soil** is the proper one. This might be hard to achieve, but generally an earth midway between sand and clay and containing a generous measure of organic matter is what most plants want.
3. All plants need **watering**, but you should also provide good drainage. An overabundance of water around bulbs during the dormant period is particularly harmful.
4. Plants respond to fertile soil, but **fertilizers** must not be used carelessly. Improper dosage can do more harm than good.
5. When dealing with **insects** and **diseases**, proper diagnosis of the trouble is of primary importance.

Flowers by Season

The various climatic changes that occur in cyclic pattern are termed as 'Seasons'. There are four general seasons occurring on Earth - Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Flowers and seasons are intimately bound to each other. When Most of the flowers are season-specific. However, some flowers are found throughout the year, not particularly affected by changing seasons.

Spring Flowers

Spring Time, the time of growth and renewal of new plant and animal life. Spring comes at different times in the North and South Hemispheres. Spring time in the Northern hemisphere is between March - May, and between September - November in the Southern hemisphere. Most flowering plants bloom during spring time. Therefore, flowers that bloom only during spring, Spring Flowers, bloom at different times in the two hemispheres.

Some of the flowers blooming in Spring are: Agapanthus, Amaryllis, Anemone, Apple blossom, Bird of Paradise, Brodea, Calla lily, Cherry Blossom, Corn flower, Cosmose, Dahlia, Delphinium, Delwood, Forsythia, Freesia, Gardenia, Heather, Helleborus, Hollyhock, Hyacinth, Larkspur, Casa Blanca Lily, Gloriosa Lily, Stargazer, Liatrus, Lilac, Lisianthus, Narcissus, Orchid, Peach blossom, Peony, Phlox, Poppy, Protea, Pussy willow, Ranunculus, Rose, Seeded Eucalyptus, Solidago, Statice, Stephanotis, Stock, Sweet Pea, Tulip, Viburnum, Wax flower, Zinnia.

Iris

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Iris is a *genus* of between 200-300 species of flowering plants with showy flowers. It takes its name from the Greek word for a rainbow, referring to the wide variety of flower colors found among the many species. As well as being the scientific name, iris is also very widely used as a common name; for one thing, it refers to all Iris species, but some plants called thus belong to closely related genera. In North America, a common name for irises is flags, while the subgenus Scorpiris is widely known as junos, particularly in horticulture

The *Genus* on page 6genus is widely distributed throughout the north temperate zone. Their habitats are considerably varied, ranging from cold and mountain regions to the grassy slopes, meadowlands and riverbanks of Europe, the Middle East and northern Africa, Asia and across North America.

The inflorescences are fan-shaped and contain one or more symmetrical six-lobed flowers. These grow on a pedicel or lack a footstalk. The three sepals, which are spreading or droop downwards, are referred to as "falls". They expand from their narrow base, which in some of the rhizomatous irises has a "beard" (a tuft of short upright extensions

growing in its midline), into a broader expanded portion ("limb"), often adorned with veining, lines or dots. The three, sometimes reduced, petals stand upright, partly behind the sepal bases. They are called "standards". Some smaller iris species have all six lobes pointing straight outwards, but generally, limb and standards differ markedly in appearance. They are united at their base into a floral tube that lies above the ovary. The styles divide towards the apex into petaloid branches; this is significant in *pollination* .

The iris flower is of special interest as an example of the relation between flowering plants and pollinating insects. The shape of the flower and the position of the pollen-receiving and stigmatic surfaces on the outer petals form a landing-stage for a flying insect, which in probing the perianth for nectar, will first come in contact of perianth, then | Flowers by Season | 7 with the stigmatic stamens in one whorled surface which is borne on an ovary formed of three carpels. The shelf-like transverse projection on the inner whorled underside of the stamens is beneath the over-arching style arm below the stigma, so that the insect comes in contact with its pollen-covered surface only after passing the stigma; in backing out of the flower it will come in contact only with the non-receptive lower face of the stigma. Thus, an insect bearing pollen from one flower will, in entering a second, deposit the pollen on the stigma; in backing out of a flower, the pollen which it bears will not be rubbed off on the stigma of the same flower.

Use

Irises are extensively grown as ornamental plants in home and botanical gardens. Presby Memorial Iris Gardens in New Jersey, for example, is a living iris museum with over 10,000 plants, while in Europe the most famous iris garden is arguably the Giardino dell'Iris in Florence (Italy) which every year hosts one of the most famous iris breeders' competitions in the world.

Some rhizomes are traded as orris root and are used in perfume and medicine, though more common in ancient times than today. Today Iris essential oil (absolute) from flowers are sometimes used in aromatherapy as sedative medicines. The dried rhizomes are also given whole to babies to help in teething. Some gin brands use orris root and sometimes iris flowers for flavor and color.

Glossary

Concept definition.

Genus

A low-level taxonomic rank used in the classification of living and fossil organisms. Other well-known taxonomic ranks are domain, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, and species, with genus fitting between family and species. The scientific name of a genus may be called the generic name: it is alway capitalized.

Concept title

Pollination is the process by which pollen is transferred in plants, thereby enabling fertilisation and sexual reproduction. Pollination is a necessary step in the reproduction of flowering plants, resulting in the production of offsprings that are genetically diverse.