
ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Environmental Horticulture #EH413



LILY

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER CARE

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INTRODUCTION

- Common name: Lily
- Scientific name: *Lilium sp.*
- Native to much of Europe, Asia, and North America
- Various species and cultivars grow between 2-5' in height
- Narrow, dark green leaves line up singly along the sides of tall stems
- Each stem bears several funnel shaped flowers with six petals each
- Flowers bloom in June and July in a wide range of colors

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Prefers full sun and light, well-drained media

- Should receive one inch of water per week
- Fertilize in spring, just as new shoots emerge, and in early fall, after foliage dies back
- Spread a 1-2'' layer of mulch in the area surrounding the plant
- Bulbs should be divided every 5-6 years

PROPAGATION

- Readily propagated by division of bulbs
- Dig up clumps after foliage turns brown late in summer
- Carefully pry apart clumps and replant sections 12 inches apart

- Many varieties grow easily from seed, but will not flower for 2-4 years

DISORDERS

- Aphids
 - Suck plant sap from newly formed shoots and leaves
 - Dislodge with a hard spray of water
 - Handpick and remove heavily infested stems
- *Botrytis elliptica*
 - White spots appear on leaves
 - In severe cases the entire plant will decay and collapse
 - Remove infected foliage
 - Clear and destroy plant debris after dieback in fall
- Root rot (*Rhizoctonia sp.*, *Phytophthora sp.*)
 - Leaves turn yellow
 - Provide good soil aeration and drainage
 - Remove infected plants
- Soft rot (*Erwinia sp.*)
 - Stems become soft at the soil line and plants topple over
 - Remove and destroy infected plants
- Foliar nematode infection
 - Lesions bounded by major veins appear on leaves
 - Leaves turn brown and die
 - Remove and destroy infected plants
- Lily virus
 - Spread by aphids

- Yellow spotty discolorations appear on leaves
- Plant eventually dies
- Infected bulbs must be removed
- Buy only virus free bulbs

CONSUMER CARE

- Best planted in groups in perennial gardens
- Excellent for display as cut flowers
- Easily grown in containers at least 10'' deep

CULTIVARS AND SPECIES

- *Lilium*
 - 'Butter pixie': yellow flowers
 - 'Crimson pixie': crimson flowers
 - 'Orange pixie': orange flowers
- *Lilium orientalis*
 - 'Stargazer': fragrant pink flowers with white edges
- *Lilium tigrinum*
 - 'Orange Tiger': orange flowers with black spots

References

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lily>
<http://www.yardener.com/Lily.html>
<http://www.thelilygarden.com/>

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