

Every Blooming Thing



Summer2022



Images courtesy of Abbott-Ipco

Specialty Bearded Irises Arrive in August

Our specialty bearded iris collection presents an opportunity for experienced collectors and new gardeners alike. If you currently grow bearded iris, you probably love them for their evergreen, drought-tolerant foliage, luxurious spring blooms and easy-care attitude. If you don't have any in your garden, consider one (or more!) of the following to add some 'wow' factor to any sunny garden location with good drainage.

Standing over 30 inches tall, 'My Friend

Jonathan' is a reliable re-blooming iris that boasts exquisite form, a lovely fragrance, and gorgeous coloring: both standards (upward facing petals) and falls (downward facing petals) are infused with a rich blend of scarlet and mahogany with chocolate tracings. The golden interior makes them appear to glow from within!

'Invitation' is another tall bearded iris with pristine white standards and peach-apricot falls. Once established, it has a strong tendency to

re-bloom in fall. For those seeking something smaller, 'Concertina' is an intermediate variety that reaches just 27" in bloom and offers a peachy, rose-pink bloom with striking blue-lavender beards.

See these and many more varieties arriving at NHG in early August. Iris rhizomes are easy to plant, easy to care for, and provide decades of luxurious bloom with minimal input.

Planting is easy and an excellent long-term landscape investment! Follow these simple steps to enjoy years of garden beauty:

SITE: Bearded irises bloom best in full sun (minimum of 6 direct hours) although they will grow in part shade as well (with fewer blooms). Tall bearded irises can reach 36" or more in bloom, so they're ideal for planting in the middle of perennial borders and beds as a backdrop for shorter blooming perennials and annuals.



PREP: Dig the soil to a depth of 10" and add compost and expanded shale to break up heavy clay, improve drainage and add organic matter. It is not necessary to add fertilizer at this time.

PLANT: Space rhizomes 8"-12" apart. Ideally, plant groups of 3 of the same variety in a triangle pattern for greater color impact. Plant rhizomes very shallow—about 1" deep, where the top of the rhizome is just covered with soil and any foliage is above soil level. If the rhizome has roots attached, spread these out while planting.

MAINTAIN: Water rhizomes well after planting with a solution of root stimulator to encourage establishment. Apply a balanced granular fertilizer around rhizomes in early spring before bloom and again about a month after bloom.

***Soil Level:** Note that rhizome is *just under* the surface of the soil. **Planting too deeply can cause rot.**

Your Summer Checklist



Tomato Transplants

should be planted by early July for an abundant fall harvest.



Bird Feeders

and birdbaths should be kept clean and filled to support these visitors in the heat.



Roses need fertilizing & pruning in mid-August to encourage a fall flush of blooms.



Wildflowers can be seeded

in August! Plan and prep your space. See the article within for step-by-step instructions.



Irrigation Systems

should be audited before the heat of summer sets in.



Bearded Iris Rhizomes

can be planted from our new collection in mid-August.



June

Late June - Mid-July:
Tomato transplants (O)

July

Through July 25:
Cantaloupe by seed (O)
Watermelon by seed (O)
Eggplant by seed (IN)/(O)
Pepper transplants (O)

Winter Squash by seed (O)

July 1 - August 15:
Black Eyed Peas by seed (O)
Southern Peas by seed (O)

July 15 - August 15:
Okra by seed (IN)/(O)
Pumpkin by seed (O)



August

August 1 - 25:

Broccoli by seed (IN)
Brussels Sprouts by seed (IN)
Cabbage by seed (IN)
Cauliflower by seed (IN)
Corn by seed (O)
Cucumbers by seed (O)
Kohlrabi by seed (IN)
Mustard Greens by seed (IN)
Snap Pole Beans by seed (O)
Spinach by seed (IN)
Summer Squash by seed (O)
Sweet Corn by seed (O)
Swiss Chard by seed (IN)
Zucchini Squash by seed (O)



Seed outdoors (O), Seed indoors (IN)

Summer Tomatoes for Fall Harvest



Did you know we have two tomato seasons in the Dallas/Fort Worth area? Proper timing is essential to a good harvest.

No one can resist warm, homegrown tomatoes right off the vine! To extend your harvest, it's best to plant your fall tomato plants in the ground by the week of July 4th. From mid-June through our annual 4th of July sale, we will have several varieties of tomato transplants in stock that are perfect for summer planting and fall harvest.

If you grew spring tomatoes, you're probably nearing the peak of your harvest by now. It's always best to add fresh organic matter to your beds before you plant new crops. Vital Earth Organic Compost and Soil Menders Garden Soil Mender are great amendments for all vegetable gardens. Sprinkle in some worm castings or Espoma Bio-tone before you plant your new summer transplants. Be sure to purchase some shade cloth to protect your new transplants for the first couple of weeks, as shading them at planting time can help better acclimate plants to the summer sun. Also, add your tomato cages over your new plants at planting time—don't wait until plants are too big! It's also good to mulch plants well at planting time to help conserve moisture and maintain cooler soil temperature.

Keep plants consistently moist through the growing season. Soaker hoses and drip lines are a great way to keep tomato plants properly watered and healthy, especially in summer. Once you see small fruits developing on the plants, you can begin to fertilize again.

Your fall tomatoes are typically ready to harvest starting late-October through November. You may still have some green fruits on the vine that won't ripen in November. Be sure to harvest these fruits and bring indoors before temperatures drop below 40 F.

JUNE

Growing Fall Tomatoes

With NHG's Steven Holliday
Saturday, June 18th
9:30am-11am
Free



Gardening in the Shade

With NHG's Rusty E. Allen
Saturday, June 18th
1:00pm-2:30pm
Free



Ikebana Exhibition

With Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Dallas Branch
Saturday, June 25th
9am-4pm, with live demos
at 10am and 2pm
Free



JULY

Fourth Off for the Fourth Sale!

Friday, July 1st through
Sunday, July 10th
Celebrate Independence Day
with 25% Off All Plants!



The Texas Tried & True: Proven Perennials for Summer

With NHG's Rusty E. Allen
Saturday, July 9th
9:30am-11am
Free



Ecuagenera Pop-Up Store in the Tropical Greenhouse

With Ecuagenera USA
Saturday, July 16th
9am-6pm
Free to attend



AUGUST

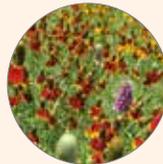
Growing Fall Vegetables by Seed

With NHG's Brieux Turner
Saturday, August 13th
9:30am-11am
Free



Native Texas Wildflowers

With NHG's Rusty E. Allen
Saturday, August 13th
1pm-2pm
Free



Growing Bearded Irises

With NHG's Rusty E. Allen
Saturday, August 27th
9:30am-11am
Free



ECUAGENERA USA

Summer Pop-Up Store

Find rare aroids, orchids and more!



Saturday, July 16th
9am-6pm
Free to attend



Planting for Pollinators

Native Texas wildflowers support butterflies and other important pollinating insects. The best time to plant their seed is in August, so here are some tips for starting your own patch:



1 Choose a spot that has full sun, with at least six hours of direct sunlight.

2 Prepare your site by removing any existing grass or vegetation and raking the soil clean (it's not necessary to amend the soil, the key is seed-to-soil contact).

3 Lightly scatter seeds over the soil by hand. If the seeds are very small, mixing them with a lightweight carrier like coarse sand can help distribute them evenly.

4 Gently push the seeds into contact with the soil—there's no need to bury them. You can also turn a light leaf rake over and carefully draw it across the area.

5 Keep the soil surface from drying out while seeds are sprouting; once they're about 1" high you can gradually reduce watering.



Wildflowers require minimal maintenance. Be on the lookout for invasive weeds and grasses, such as Bermuda, that can smother your planting. Remember to allow the flowers to go to seed and let the seeds ripen and dry before you mow or remove any spent plants. This way, your wildflowers will spread and return each year on their own.

For butterflies, it's important to consider both larval host plants (LHPs) and nectar plants. The larval host plant is the plant a species prefers to lay their eggs on, which will be the food source for the caterpillars that

emerge when the eggs hatch. Nectar plants will provide a food source for visiting butterflies. Nearly all species of butterflies prefer native plants on which to lay their eggs. Try Passionvine, *Passiflora incarnata*, for Fritillaries (*Euptoieta sp.*, *Agraulis sp.*), Julias (*Dryas sp.*), and Zebra Longwings (*Heliconius sp.*). Milkweed species (*Asclepias sp.*) are the most famous LHPs for the Monarch butterfly, *Danaus plexipus*. Tip: our 'Sustain the Migration Mix' from Native American Seed is a great way to get a start on helping this much-loved species survive.

Many plants that attract butterflies also attract hummingbirds, another important pollinator. Flame Acanthus, Butterfly Weed and Turk's Cap will attract both of these beauties to your garden. In addition, try perennial favorites like Obedient Plant, Autumn Sage, Coral Honeysuckle, Red Yucca, and Yellow Bells (*Esperanza*). As an additional incentive, select a hummingbird feeder to add to your garden—fill it with a 1:4 solution of sugar and water (not honey), keep it clean and fresh, and watch the hummingbirds flock to your garden!



4th Off for the 4th Sale!



Friday, July 1st through Sunday, July 10th

Celebrate Independence Day with

25% Off All Plants: annuals, perennials, tropical houseplants, shrubs & trees!

In-stock plant material only.

Get here early
& grab your favorites!

7700 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX 75230 • 214-363-5316 • nhg.com



\$5 Off Your Purchase of \$20 or more

Please only one coupon per customer. No cash value. Not to be used with other offers.

Expires 08/31/22

Cashiers use code 900152



Our Favorite Summer Harvests



Cody Hoya,

General Manager:

I love harvesting my grape & cherry tomatoes. I slice them in half, drizzle them with olive oil &



kosher salt, then slow-roast them on cookie sheets on the grill. The result is similar to sun-dried tomatoes, & they store well in seasoned olive oil or balsamic vinegar in the fridge for use in pasta & salads.



Steven Holliday, Garden Advisor:

My wife and I love Cuban oregano. We use it in place of regular oregano in



any recipe for its bright, citrusy flavor. And it's easy to grow!



Sandi Holmes,

TMCNP, Senior Buyer:

Onions & garlic are the easiest staple crops to grow. I use them in my kitchen daily to season



everything from roasted vegetables to homemade pasta sauce.



Maria Fuentes,

Boutique Manager:

Flowers! I have a mixed perennial border that provides a variety of colorful flowers to enjoy all summer,



my favorites include roses and different kinds of salvias. I also love picking fresh spearmint to add to desserts and cups of tea.



Rusty E. Allen,

Education & Outreach Coordinator:

Easy to grow, evergreen thymes are always in my garden, &



one of my favorites is lemon thyme, easily harvested all summer long. Its lemony flavor is most refreshing on bruschetta.



Dana Wilson,

Administrative Assistant:

Supersweet 100 tomatoes are my favorite! They're amazingly fast-growing and



abundant. I enjoy eating them right off the vine while I'm working in my garden.