

THE ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER THE BULBLET VOLUME 36, NUMBER 4 WINTER 2021





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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.

Dianne Skimming is President. Please welcome her to the position and help us support her as President. We are looking for new Directors to join the board and a new Secretary will have to be elected/appointed when Laurie moves to B.C.

ARLS AFFILIATES

Alberta Horticultural Association icangarden.com/clubs/aha

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

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/ https://www.facebook.com/groups/2617608858556096

EVENTS 2022

<u>WINTER MINGLE</u>- We are working on a speaker; the date depends on their availability keep an eye on our social media and we will also email out a reminder.

AGM 2022 NOTICE FOR APRIL.

AGM Meeting and elections are now scheduled for APRIL 24 Saturday, conditions permitting, we will have it at Woodvale Hall. We have great hopes of being able to meet in person and catch up with all our lily friends.

IN VIEW OF THE NEW EDMONTON BYLAWS on mask wearing in effect until December 31 2021 and the new variants coming into the region, let Britta, Laurie, or Dianne know if you want a Zoom meeting again or if you are comfortable with an in-person meeting. We ask this due to our older membership who may be concerned with group meetings. Email or phone# is in contacts.

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

Lindsay and Mike are the outgoing directors with two vacancies. If you are interested in having a voice on our board, please reach out to one of the current board to talk about your interests and concerns.

Lunch, silent auction, library

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



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BULB SALES 2022

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: Spring sales are going ahead.

ARLS SHOWS WERE POSTPONED UNTIL 2022 please continue to check our Website and Facebook page

25th Annual Martagon Show POSTPONED UNTIL 2022 Keep an eye on the social media for updates we are working on it but covid keeps interfering with acceptable grouping allowances for a show. ARLS will get a notice into the social media for next year.

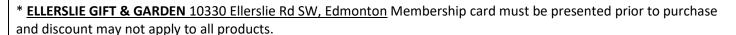
NALS Show Ontario POSTPONED UNTIL 2022- until then NALS is virtual.

35th Annual Lily Show POSTPONED UNTIL 2022

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. 26515A Township Road 514 [WOODBEND RD], SPRUCE GROVE (west of Devonian Gardens)

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





Bertha Lardner: Martagon Lilies NE Edmonton 780-478-7929 lardnerbm@gmail.com

Dr. leuan 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. ROJ 1H0 http://www.lilynook.mb.ca 1 204 476 3225 info@lilynook.mb.ca





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Skinner Nursery Hugh Skinner; martagons, species, asiatics

Box 220 Roblin Man. ROL 1PO 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. NOP 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 1-416-614-6394 bfberg@rogers.com

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** leannekiss.lk@gmail.com

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 due to LRT construction

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

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





THE ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER THE BULBLET VOLUME 36, NUMBER 4 WINTER 2021



Dianne Skimming Edson Phone 403.274.4747 **PRESIDENT 2021**

VICE PRESIDENT 2021 leuan Evans PAST PRESIDENT 2019-2021 **VACANT**

SECRETARY 2019-2021 Laurie Hepper Edmonton Phone 780.916.0922 TREASURER 2019-2021 Britta Johnson Edmonton Phone 780.433.7869

diskimming@gmail.com arls@arls-lilies.org Dr.IREvans@gmail.com

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

DIRECTORS 2020-2022

Lindsay Andreasen Phone 403.860.6227 Calgary Imandreasen@hotmail.com Mike Danchak Edmonton Phone 780.462.0615 mikedanchak@yahoo.com

Spruce Grove Phone 780.987.4398

vacant vacant

DIRECTORS 2019-2021

Phone 780.710.0775 Suzanne Stack Gibbons sueingabs@gmail.com Innisfail Phone 403.227.3563 bmackay@telusplanet.net Bill Mackay Spruce Grove Phone 780.743.5128 dominaterra@gmail.com Suzanna Durand Lorne Kaban ldkaban@hotmail.com Bonnyville/Edmonton Phone 780.573.4249

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

vacant

Speakers Committee:

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 2022 vacant

35th Lily Show Committee 2022 Suzanne, Dianne, Britta, Laurie Lily beetle lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org

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.

My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece-Claude Monet

Snip of Monet Garden from YouTube video

The Alberta Regional Lily Society Bonnie Doon STN PO Box 68138 Edmonton, AB T6C 4G0

Promoting genus lilium as an excellent garden plant

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2021 BULB SALES Britta Johnson

This year was a challenging and rewarding one. The major challenge was finding venues for the bulb sales and so several changes and adaptations were made. We circulated the bulb lists to the members 1-2 weeks prior to the public sales and allowed them to pre-order. We were able to purchase limited quantities from Valley K's final sale as well as many Canadian varieties from Red Lily Farm. As a result, many of the rarer varieties sold out quickly.

Our bulb suppliers for spring were Valley K, Lily Nook, Bertha Lardner, Terry Willoughby, Dani Dooley and Ieuan Evans. Sale consisted of pre-orders, Britta's garage for members only and picking up orders, Bountiful Market and mail orders. We had about 110 bulbs left from 2020 and started the sale with 520 bulbs in total. We sold out by discounting the last 20 bulbs and the popular bulb auction yielded \$567.00. Total sales for spring were \$4454.00 and expenses totaled \$1918.00 for a net profit of \$2536 plus auction proceeds.

Bulb suppliers for the fall were Lily Nook, Red Lily Farm, Bertha Lardner, Hugh Skinner and Ieuan Evans while Laurie Hepper and Adam Yakabuskie donated more bulbs. Members were allowed to pre-order and over 20% of the 535 bulbs were sold within a week. Britta's garage provided a member only venue and we were very fortunate to be at Greenland on a Saturday. The rose house provided enough space for spacing out tables and Greenland's radio and website promotion, Facebook and ARLS new signs ensured a steady stream of customers. There are only 67 bulbs left, 36 of which are martagons. The auction netted a whopping \$845.00, sales were \$4253.00 with expenses for \$2290.00 for a net of \$1963.00 plus auction proceeds.

I feel that ARLS had a successful year for bulb sales despite Covid and we have learned new ways of providing our members and the public with quality bulbs. Mail orders went to B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Minnesota this year. By using a kitchen scale to help determine shipping charges and using e-transfers for payment, shipping has become faster and easier.

I especially want to thank the volunteers that labelled and packaged bulbs and pulled orders as well as those that helped at sales venues. Bulb sales would not be possible without your support. Special thanks to Darm Crook for donating species bulbs that were highly contested at the fall auction and all others who donated bulbs.



colorful flowers in field under beautiful clouds By Tithi Luadthona landscape painting



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- Lily beetle report <u>lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org</u>
- 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@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 <u>lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org</u>



(photos L. Hepper)

LILY BEETLE MUSINGS Laurie Hepper

<u>lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org</u>. My fall was very absent of red this year. After my August spray I kept on the lookout as I have had the little red munchers up until frost in past

years. I sprayed my whole garden and my neighbours, just to make sure nothing was going to eat and sleep near me. The lilies stayed munch free after that and my September and October were relaxing. I did spray the green leaves of the OTs after Thanksgiving just to be safe. Last year I dug up a hibernating beetle in my OTs so was trying to head that off. My spring is going to be busy digging up all my bulbs that I did not get to in the fall. My new digs are going to be very interesting. The top 5-6 inches are very fertile cedar tree mulch and tree roots on top of very dry gravel. It was a chore to dig the holes for the 10 pots of hostas I brought down. I packed the lily bulbs and daffodils back to Edmonton for storage. I think my gardening is going to be pots, containers, raised beds as anything in the current garden needs a hole auger.

I did drench and spray every pot before I moved it to B.C. so hopefully the treatment cut down on hitchhikers. I think I have enough new critters to look forward to there.

I used a combination of garden spade, trowel, old axe, and garden claw to dig the holes. What a work out! By the end I had the time down to about 15 minutes to excavate and plant per pot. And the 30-degree slope was fun too, forget having any balance while trying to dig with the trowel and no flat ground to land on. My deck I looking more and more like a haven from both deer and sprained ankles.

POUT PREVENTION IN MARTAGONS

Dr. Ieuan R. Evans November 13, 2021

You buy your rather expensive martagon lily bulbs in September or October and the following year many of the bulbs fail to flower or emerge very poorly and typically die back by mid-June. The following year up come these new martagons and they flower normally and prolifically. What happened? Think logically, like a martagon.

Martagons in North America flower from May to July. May in southern Minnesota, mid to late June in Alberta. If they fail to set seed or if the dead flower heads are cut off the martagon foliage dies back in August. By late September if you dig up your martagon bulbs you will see that the bulbs that flowered in May or June will have developed a distinct nose.



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This nose may grow an inch or so by late October and the bulb itself will have put out new roots. This procedure happens in warm moist soil. Your martagon bulb is now waiting for the winter chill of 3 - 4 months before emerging above ground in early spring fully ready to flower.

When you buy martagon bulbs in late September or October the bulbs have been high and dry for perhaps 3 – 6 weeks.

How do I get martagons to flower the first year after purchase or if I want to move them in the garden?

- 1. If you have martagons in your garden that need transplanting or moving do so in late August. If you intend moving these martagons then remove all flower heads right after blooming to prevent bulb nutrients from moving into the seed heads and encourage dormancy. Cut off the stems just above the bulb tip since pulling at this time might damage the bulb. Plant immediately at 4 5 inches (10 13 cms) deep measured from the bulb tip. Water well so that the soil has lots of moisture. With few exceptions all these martagons will have time to produce new roots and noses.
- 2. If you live in prairie Canada buy your martagons in early September and plant them immediately in your chosen garden site. Water very well for a week or so. If its mid to late September water the planted martagon bulbs with warm body temperature water. Repeat this warm water treatment a few times.
- 3. If you live in the US from Maine to Iowa plant your martagons early if possible but if its mid to late October water well with warm water. Ensure that your martagons are planted into warm moist soil.

Following this treatment allows the martagon bulbs to make up for lost time producing new roots and noses and most, if not all, will flower in the spring. Plant your martagons late and into cold dry soil and they will need the following year to recover before producing new roots and flower shoots.

If I have left over martagon bulbs in late October I will plant them in 5-inch (13 cm) pots, into moist potting soil. I put the pots into the greenhouse where the temperature is warm into December. This is followed by 3 months of chilling on the greenhouse bottom shelves, sometimes the pots freeze. In early April virtually every late planted martagon shows up and flowers in late April.

The potted martagons are cut back and planted out into the garden in late June. They all flower again in the next year.

THINK – when you scale martagon bulb and place the scales into barely moist peat in bags or containers they are kept at room temperature, i.e., $70 - 80^{\circ}$ f ($20 - 25^{\circ}$ C) for up to 3 months – October to January 1^{st} . at these high temperatures the scale readily produces roots and bulblets. Now in order for these scales and bulblets to develop into plants they must be kept at around 32° F (0° C) for up to 3 months (January to March). If the scales that produce the roots and bulblets are kept warm, above 50° F (15° C) they stay put for up to a year until you have them chilled for 2-3 months.

CONCLUSION

If you want first year flowering from your martagon bulbs plant them as early as possible in the fall into warm, moist soil. remember, martagons must have that head start if they are to flower the year following purchase. Asiatic lilies need chilling, but fortunately they do not need that head start. Asiatic lilies bought in the spring have been pre-chilled so that they flower in the year of planting.



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Driving the Lily Circle

Britta Johnson

This past summer, my husband and I combined our love of travel and camping with my "interest" in lilies and embarked on a tour of prairie lily growers. Leaving Edmonton in early July, we headed to Neepawa, Manitoba, home of the Lily Nook. I must admit that we arrived too early in the season as all the potted lilies for sale were still in bud. The dozens of varieties of lilies are potted so that they bloom for the annual festival called Lily Daze later in July. They were working on redoing the display garden to include more lilies and allow easier access. Though Nigel, one of the owners, wasn't there at the time, we were given permission to visit the lily fields where some of the early asiatics were in bloom and we were able to talk to one of the gardeners. These fields were watered so the drought didn't have an extreme effect and the widely spaced rows allow the cultivators to work between them to help control some of the weeds. There are numerous varieties of saskatoons planted in rows separating the various sections and these were ripe and ready to eat. Yummy!

Next stop was to see Leanne Dowd at her new property on the edge of Neepawa that she calls Alice's Garden. She and her husband were in the process of moving themselves and truckloads of lilies to this location. A small portion of the acreage has been cleared and there were several rows of newly planted martagon lilies being heavily watered. There were dozens more pots of lilies sitting in the shade and awaiting their turn in the garden. A small display area at the front of the yard had some sunlight and asiatics were blooming there. This property belonged to an avid gardener and hybridizer but had been badly neglected and overgrown for years. Leanne has been working her way through the undergrowth and trees and has uncovered dozens of peony seedlings, various clematis, roses, lilies and numerous other perennials. The former owner did a lot of hybridizing but never registered any varieties so identification is almost impossible but Leanne is trying to document as many species and varieties as she can. This garden will take a couple of years to become settled and really flourish and I am looking forward to seeing it then.

Hugh Skinner grows a field or two of lilies near Roblin where his father, Frank Skinner, hybridized a wide variety of shrubs and perennials. There is an arboretum there that has a large selection of trees that were grown from seeds from many northern climes. We have visited Hugh in the past but didn't stop there on this trip.

After a few days in Manitoba we headed to Kelvington, Saskatchewan and Dianne Sloan's Red Lily Farm where the drought had been severe. In spite of the challenges, Dianne grows a huge vegetable garden for her own use and to sell at farmer's markets as well as hundreds of lilies that were blooming. There were so many varieties that I had never heard of (I admit my knowledge is limited) and many of them are from Canadian hybridizers. ARLS has been very fortunate to be able to purchase some of these varieties for our bulb sales over the last year and hope to do so again in the future. There are three different areas of lilies and they all have at least 6 rows that are over 100 feet long. Dianne takes care of this extensive garden almost completely by herself while living with her elderly mother. She has lily tours and sells bouquets of lilies during the summer and has bulb sales in the spring and fall. This is an amazing garden and it makes me tired just watching and listening to Dianne.

The last stop on the lily tour was Honeywood Heritage Nursery near Parkside, a bit south of Prince Albert. This nursery had its origins as a market garden during the Depression when Bert Porter was selling nursey stock and planted some of the extra plants on his farm. He originally sold small fruits such as raspberries, currants and sand cherries in the



FACEBOOK Albertaregionallilysociety TWITTER @ ALBERTA lilies

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late 1930's and early 1940's. Bert's interest in lilies started to bloom after receiving seed and bulbs from Percy Wright in 1948. Honeywood Lilies operated for 65 years developing and introducing a total of 65 varieties of lilies. In 1999 Honeywood Lilies was purchased by a group of local individuals dedicated to preserving the life work of Dr. A.J. Porter. Today the nursery consists of lily fields, display beds containing Porter lilies and fruit introductions, a specie lily garden, a perennial display garden and a log house housing the gift shop. There are potted lilies for sale and events such as Artists in Bloom in June, Lilies in Bloom the 3rd Sunday of July and A Touch of Autumn in the fall. The drought hit the lily fields very hard so there were many gaps in the rows and stunted growth but the display beds had been watered and were putting on a good show.

It was an interesting tour and well worth the time, but check with the Lily Nook as to blooming times to catch the gardens in their full glory. Closer to home, Dr. Ieuan Evans and Terry Willoughby are lily growers and hybridizers in the Spruce Grove area and have amazing lilies in their gardens. The Lily Nook and Honeywood Nursery are commercial enterprises and have regular hours but the rest of the growers have other commitments so please make sure to arrange for a visit at their convenience.

Article and pictures by Britta Johnson



Lilynook



Diane Sloan and her garden

Leanne Dowd's new garden inductees waiting to be planted



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Magnifique

Porter's Pink

BEETLE MITIGATION MEASURES

This brochure of information is currently sent out to reports to <u>lilybeetle@arls-lilies.org</u>. I am sharing as I want to find out what our members find works and also to ask you to share your best control methods to be published in the updated brochure. If you do not use a control method, think about using one of these and report back.

ABOUT THE SCARLET LILY BEETLE:

- They fly; you will have a problem controlling them if someone else is not.
- Beetles do not like to fly when it is wet, the spread slows in wet weather. They like hot dry conditions to travel.
- They overwinter in mulch or compost, not necessarily in your yard. Beetles don't recognize property lines.
- Beetles start to emerge the same time as lilies and fritillaria. Emerging beetles are fertile.
- They eat genus *lilium* and **only lay eggs on** *lilium* **plants**, so if it is not a true lily or it's cousins it is usually safe in your garden from this pest. The Beetle has been found eating lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*), Solomon's seal (*Polygonatum*), potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), flowering tobacco (*Nicotiana*), hollyhock (*Alcea*) and hosta. Not everything that is called a lily is a *lilium*. Daylilies are *hemerocallis* not *lilium*. If you have damage to other plants in your garden look to slugs or other insects as the first cause unless you see the beetle munching on it.
- Eggs hatch in 2 weeks. Many sets of eggs can be laid throughout the summer.
- The beetle is active from April to late October in Edmonton.
- The beetle does not think *l. henryi* is tasty and will avoid any hybrid with this parentage. There are other lilies that the beetle will leave unscathed.
- Break the cycle of 'SPRING-beetle- eggs- larvae- pupae- beetle- WINTER' between any of the stages and your
 population will decrease for next year. The best place is to reduce the beetle as the larvae are disgusting,
 voracious and destructive. The beetle is the easiest to see AND KILL. Note this will not decrease incoming
 populations from other sources.
- All Beetles emit pheromones, a smell that other beetles of that species home in on. There is currently no lily beetle trap available. Lily Beetles also home in on lily scent.
- Beetles do not transport with bare bulb lilies unless packed in soil. They can transport in the soil of potted lilies.
- Winter cold does not kill. The beetle has been found as far north as Hay River NWT.
- The scarlet lily beetle has a natural control of a parasitic wasp, currently only available to educational facilities for distribution.
- Five types of parasitic wasp are native to Europe. At present only two have been approved for North America distribution and one is released in select areas.
- The wasp distribution in Alberta is in five locations in the Calgary area, in Olds, and the St Albert Botanic Gardens. The wasp- beetle population is being closely monitored at all sites.



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MANUAL & ORGANIC CONTROLS:

Pick manually. SQUISH. DROWN. KILL [Bag and tag in ziplocs if you want to track your quantities and dates]. Do your beetle patrols at dawn and dusk when you will find them a bit more active. Twice a day will keep the population down and you will get the added benefit of becoming more limber with beetle yoga.

BEETLE YOGA: Best pose bend over with legs spread and grab one ankle, turn your head so you can see the underside of the leaves, scan until you are sure there are no beetles. Move to the other ankle and do the scan again. Then change your position in the garden and repeat. Interrupt your position to catch and destroy the beetle. The amount of time for this yoga is dependant on how many lilies in how many beds you have.

Use a pail with soapy water and enough oil skim on top to keep them in the pail until dead.

Use a pail with dish soap, vinegar or ammonia and water hold it under the stem and lightly disturb it so the beetles will fall into the pail.

Spread **diatomaceous earth** around your lilies especially in early spring if you are not sure if the beetles are winterizing in your garden. This will actually cut the insect and cause it to dry out & thus die. Reapply after it gets wet.

Neem oil is a vegetable oil that is extracted from the fruits, bark, and seeds of the Asian Neem tree. Spray once a week. Apparently, you have to make sure you get the strength that will kill the beetle.

What has been found to have the best effectiveness is a combo of neem oil spray, diatomaceous earth and picking. You can try a decoction of **rhubarb leaves** sprayed on the lily leaves, as rhubarb leaves are poisonous. Use a dedicated pot and strainer and try to boil it outside, strain the liquid from the leaves into a spray bottle and label it. Spray once a week. Or after a rain.

Of some concern are folks brewing up their own sprays of cigarettes or rhubarb leaves. Both produce highly toxic, broad-spectrum pesticides that will kill just about everything, and neither should be used in home gardens. Seriously, folks, you might as well use Round-Up as either of these home-brewed poisons!"

The phytochemicals in tobacco, rhubarb, dog-strangling vine, etc., have evolved as broad-spectrum insecticides, and are indeed toxic to all but a few insects that have evolved the ability to metabolize the toxins. So even though these are "natural" compounds, you need to use them with caution. Be especially careful to avoid spraying flowers, so as not to poison pollinators. These compounds are toxic to mammals as well, so avoid spraying any vegetation that pets are likely to chew on.

pyrethrin, a botanical insecticide derived from chrysanthemums and is reported to work. Again, if you make your own use dedicated utensils, pots and sprayer.

Fill a spray bottle with water, add 2 tsp of Dawn dishwashing detergent, 1 tsp. Olive or vegetable oil. spray the bugs every night. They disappeared after a week or so.

It is recommended that you use **crushed egg shells** around the lilies and spread **coffee grounds**. The egg shells act like diatomaceous earth and the coffee grounds are supposed to mask the lily scent and keep the beetles from finding your lilies. Use fresh used coffee grounds often, haunt your local Starbucks.

Try using **sticky sheets** for fungus gnats under the plant when you pick so when they drop they will stick to the sheet, or make your own with cardboard and spray glue. Or just use a white sheet or paper so you can see the beetles.

I bought baby powder as well to try. Any **powder** should work as it will block the breathing tubes of the beetle. It is keeping the powder on the beetle until it dies that is tricky. Rose dust, potato and flea beetle dust and cattle dust all are reported to work; I think it is the pesticide in it that makes it fast working. I tried flour to suffocate the beetles. It took over 24 hours to be effective so they would probably crawl away if they were not bagged. It would not be great if it rained as it would turn to glue in your garden.

Have had good reports of pouring **boiling water** on the soil in the fall around the stems of lilies to kill the overwintering beetles in the soil or late pupae. Helps to reduce population of spring emerging beetles. Also heard about tiger torch burning of soil in late fall. This also has a benefit of killing weeds and weed seeds. (could probably use a propane torch too). This step is good for those of us that think or know they missed a few beetles. The beetles and pupae are only 1-2 inches below the soil surface. Darm also uses a torch in the fall and it kills the botrytis spores. A two for one benefit yay!



THE ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER THE BULBLET VOLUME 36, NUMBER 4 WINTER 2021



<u>COMPANION PLANTING:</u> are there any plants lily beetles avoid- concerned gardeners what to know? Cleome

CHEMICAL CONTROLS:

AMBUSH permethrin, Do not apply near water ponds, creeks etc.

Controls Douglas Fir Tussock Moth, White-Marked Tussock Moth, Spruce Budworm, Yellow-Headed Spruce Sawfly, Coneworm and Open Feeding Sawflies, Gypsy Moth, Eastern Tent Caterpillar, Forest Tent Caterpillar, Fall Webworm, Euonymus Webworm and Open Feeding Aphids, Winter Moth, Eastern Tent Caterpillar, Eye-Spotted Bud Moth, Plum Curculio, White Apple Leafhopper, Tentiform Leafminer, Green Fruitworm, Apple Maggot, Leafrollers, Tarnished Plant Bug, Mullein Bug, Lesser Appleworm, Codling Moth, Oriental Fruit Moth, Plum Curculio, Grape Berry Moth, Imported Cabbage Worm, Cabbage Looper, Diamondback Moth Larvae and Crucifer Flea Beetle, European Corn Borer, Corn Earworm and Sap Beetle, European Corn Borer, Colorado Potato Beetle, Potato Flea Beetle, Potato Leafhopper, Tarnished Plant Bug and White Flies.

MALATHION organophosphate insecticide which acts as an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor. Malathion is <u>highly toxic to bees</u> and other beneficial insects, some fish, and other aquatic life. Malathion is moderately toxic to other fish and birds, and is considered low in toxicity to mammals. Do not use near pets or children or water. Kills insects by firing nerve endings until they overload and die.



Doktor Doom Long Lasting Surface Residual Insect Killer 450 Grams

DR DOOM permethrin, the artificial form of pyrethrin. Commercial residual spray.

Controls ants and bedbugs, **beetles**, sowbugs, silverfish, cockroaches, moths, earwigs, spiders, flies.

Spray in still evening air to prevent leaf scorch and overspray and after bees have gone to bed.

Also do not spray blooms to avoid killing pollinators. Will spray upside down so you get leaf undersides. Added benefit is that ants will not crawl all over your lilies either. Kills both beetle and larvae when they munch on leaves. Spray application can last up to 3 weeks. Great for those that can't perform the daily dawn & dusk beetle patrol. Some spray applications last as long as 6 weeks.

SCOTTS' GRUB BE GONE is available in Canada.

DIAZINON- removed from market. thiophosphoric acid ester. It is a non-systemic organophosphate insecticide. Control pests like cockroaches, silverfish, ants, fleas, moths, borers, mites, aphids and scale.

WILSON ROSE DUST- removed from market. Contains Carbaryl

Controls many common rose pests such as aphids, caterpillars, mites, powdery mildew, blight, black spot, **beetles**, leafhoppers, leafrollers, rose aphid, rose chafer, rose slug.

SEVIN-liquid removed from market. Contains Carbaryl Controls ants, toxic to bees

SEVIN Ready-to-Use 5% **DUST** removed from market. Contains Carbaryl

Control is designed to kill over 65 types of insects, including Japanese beetles, Armyworms, Leafhoppers, Webworms, Fleas, Spiders, and Earwigs

BAYER'S GRUB KILLER spread around all lily stems. If you manage not to kill the beetles or eggs and leave the larvae to voraciously eat your stems and when they crawl down to pupate in the soil the grub killer will get them. **Available in UK**

BAYER'S PROVADO ULTIMATE BUG KILLER and SCOTTS' BUG CLEAR ULTRA GUN will control lily beetle. Available in UK.

Insecticides containing **imidacloprid** [toxic to bees] or **spinosad** also can be effective in reducing lily leaf beetle populations. Probably only available for agricultural purposes in Canada.

neonicotinoids derived from tobacco and other nicotine producing plants are harmful to bees