



'Top' Flowering Bulb

From Pat Curran
CCE Tompkins County

Relatively long-lived and drought-resistant, don't need frequent division, disease/pest resistant, staking not essential, winter-hardy, not fussy about soil if well-drained.

Bulbs for Sun

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allium 'Globemaster' • Allium moly, golden onion • Allium sphaerocephalon, drumstick chives • Hyacinthus orientalis, common hyacinth • Lilium 'Black Beauty' | <p><u>Comments</u></p> <p>expensive but long-blooming
spreads rapidly, goes dormant after blooming
spreads rapidly
wide color range; may naturalize
vigorous hybrid; August bloom</p> |
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Bulbs for Sun (shade OK after deciduous trees leaf out)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anemone blanda, Grecian windflower • Chionodoxa, glory-of-the-snow • Colchicum (autumn 'crocus', not a true crocus) • Corydalis solida 'George Baker', fumewort • Muscari armeniacum 'Valerie Finnis', grape hyacinth • Narcissus 'Hawera', daffodils • Puschkinia scilloides, striped squill • Scilla siberica, Siberian squill | <p><u>Comments</u></p> <p>soak tubers briefly before planting
self-sows nicely and goes dormant quickly
foliage unsightly in mid-June
rosy-red, nice but temporary foliage
closest to true blue flowers
fragrant; narrow inconspicuous foliage
self-sows nicely and goes dormant quickly
self-sows nicely and goes dormant quickly</p> |
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Bulbs for Sun or Light Shade

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camassia quamash 'Blue Melody' • Eranthis hyemalis, winter aconite • Galanthus species, snowdrops • Hyacinthoides hispanica, Spanish bluebell • Leucojum, snowflake | <p><u>Comments</u></p> <p>Northwest native; adapts to wetter sites
get plants or seeds as tubers dry out in stores
self-sows nicely and goes dormant quickly
multiplies in partial shade sites
long-blooming and adaptable to wetter sites</p> |
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Reference:

Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Third Edition, by Allan M. Armitage
Perennials for American Gardens by Ruth Rogers Clausen and Nicolas H. Ekstrom
The Well-Tended Perennial Garden: Planting & Pruning Techniques, by Tracy DiSabato-Aust

Learn more:

Cornell Bluegrass Lane perennial research:
http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/ornamentals/cornell_herbaceous/
Missouri Botanic Garden Plant Finder (over 6800 plants):
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>
Garden Guidance
www.gardening.cornell.edu

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