

**FORGOTTEN SURPRISES
NATURALIZED BULBS OF TEXAS**



Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

PUMPKIN π



WE BELIEVE

- Fact based, research supported horticulture
- Water is our most precious resource
- Leave things better than we found them
- **GARDENING MATTERS!**



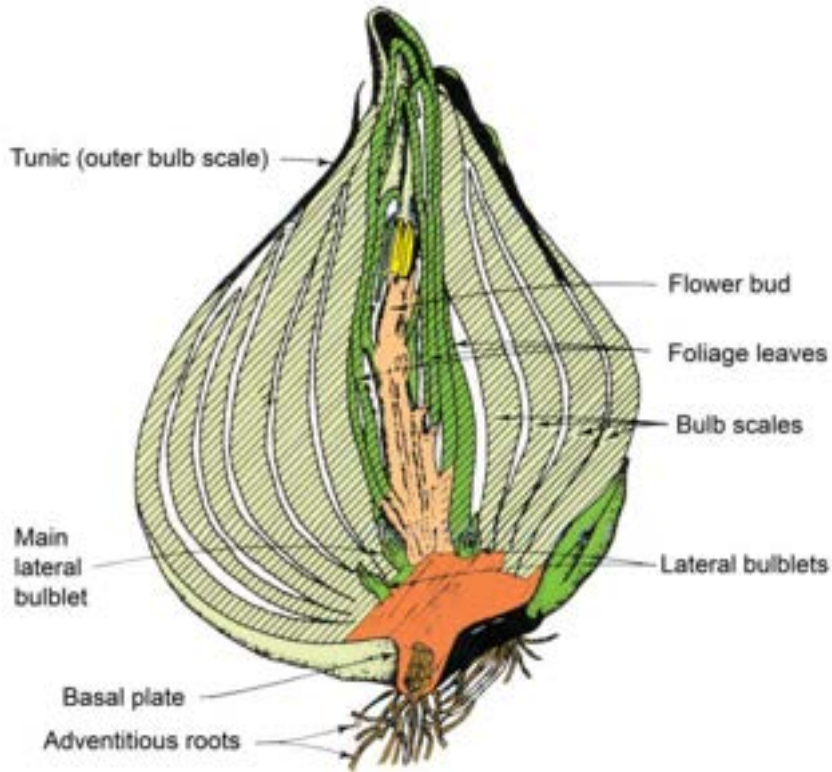
Southern Bulb Company



- Chris Wiesinger –
The Bulb Hunter
- Heirloom bulbs

<https://www.southernbulbs.com/>

What is a bulb?



A modified stem that is a resting stage for certain perennial monocotyledons consisting of relatively large, usually globe shaped, underground bud with membranous overlapping fleshy leaves arising from a short stem

-www.Britannica.com

Why Use Bulbs

- They want to live!
- Adapted to Climate, Soils and Temperature Extremes
- Reduced Pests and Diseases
- Reduced Water Requirements



Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Fewer Herbicides & Pesticides

- Most bulbs have very few pests
- Most are toxic
- Even deer avoid



Native Bulbs of Texas



- *Hymenocallis* – Texas White Spider lily
- *Cooperia pedunculata* – Rain lilies
- *Allium canadense* – Wild Garlic, Wild Onion
- *Herbertia lahue* – Praire Nymph, Wild Iris

Annual Bulbs for Texas



- Tulips
- Hyacinth
- Crocus
- Most Daffodils

Great Perennial Bulbs for Texas



- Iris (Corm)
- Cannas
- Philippine Lily
- Rain Lily
- Easter and Tiger Lily

Forgotten Surprises of Fall



Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Rhodophiala



- **Rhodophiala bifida – Oxblood Lily, School House Lily, Hurricane Lily**
- **Introduced by Peter Oberwetter in 1850s**
- **True “pass along” plant**
- **Occasionally pink**

Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Lycoris



- **Lycoris radiata – Spider Lily**
- **Lycoris aurea – Yellow Spider Lily**
- **Lycoris squamigira – Pink Spider Lily**
- **Lycoris sp – easily bred so many lovely unique colors and patterns**
- **Higanbana**

Forgotten Surprises of Spring



Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Narcissus



- Daffodils have a single flower per stalk, narcissus flowers in clusters
- N. tazetta can be yellow, white, or white with yellow cups
 - Paperwhites are N. tazetta
 - Grand Primo earliest bloomer for me
 - Winston Churchill latest blooming
- N. jonquilla likes acid
 - Campernelle is a favorite

Leucojum



- Summer Snowflakes
- Only *L.aestivum* survives here
- Not showy but divides well

Amaryllis



- Best here is Amaryllis Johnsonii – The Hardy Red Amaryllis, circa 1812
- South African genetics
- More cold hardy than most hippeastrums
- True Southern “pass along” plant
- Most Christmas “Amaryllis” are hippeastrums

Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Byzantine Gladiolus



- IMHO most beautiful gladiolus available
- True Southern “pass along”
- Does not set seed but divides readily

Texas Gardener's Favorite Bulbs (The Runners Up)



Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Crinum



- Amaryllis family
- Very hardy
- *C. bulbispermum* (Ditch lily) is mother plant for MANY crosses
- Some of my favorites are:
 - Ellen Bosanquet
 - Mrs. James Hendry

Hymenocallis



- **Texas Spider Lily**
 - **Native is H. lirisome**
 - **Garden favorite is “Tropical Giant”**
 - **Large, upright, glossy foliage makes great hedge**

Photo courtesy of The Southern Bulb Company

Alliums



- **Ornamental Alliums do not do well here**
 - Use “Elephant Garlic” instead (*A. ampeloprasum*)
 - Actually a bulbing leek

TEXAS GARDENER

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