

Growing Lisianthus with Farmer Bailey – Question Report

Question	Answer
will deer eat this plant? blooms?	live answered
is this flower a good nectar source for honeybee?	live answered
When ordering plugs, what age should I assume those plugs are? And does that change depending on the # of plugs per tray?	Hi Christina, Felicia from Farmer Bailey here. Lisianthus plugs are about 11-12 weeks old when you receive them. Both trays are the same age when shipped, give or take a few days if necessary.
Can you provide links to the previous presentations please?	Yes those links will be put into the chat as well as an email after the fact
When you bump up the seedlings to larger plugs, which growing mix do you use? I grow in Miami. Can the new heat tolerant lisi varieties be planted out at warmer temperatures? Also, Three years ago my crop got wiped out by fusarium.. I Can you suggest an antifungal?	live answered
I'd love to hear a bit about sweet peas, too! I'm in Southeastern Ontario!	Hi Joanne, this is Felicia from Farmer Bailey. We aren't going to have time to cover sweet peas today, but Bailey always suggests just one book to learn about growing them. It's Sweet Peas: An Essential Guide by Roger Parsons. He is the foremost authority and Bailey's mentor.
Advice for succession/extending peak bloom (first flush) besides the natural time of July/August? Particularly curious about methods besides selecting varieties from all the groups. Thanks!	live answered
Thank you! Should I try to overwinter them this year? North Fla 8B	live answered
Have you ever seen anyone overwinter Lisis in Kentucky?	live answered
I'm in Alberta, Canada, in zone 3a. Last frost June 7. First frost September 15. Snow usually goes off mid-April. When would you aim to get the first succession into the ground for earliest blooms?	Hi Ruthanne! This is Felicia from Farmer Bailey. If you are planting the field, you can plant 2-4 weeks before your last outdoor frost. In a tunnel, 4-6 weeks before your last outdoor frost. Lisis need a cool start to life.
So when you get them, are you getting a bigger plug size when ordering a tray of 50 vs 100?	We sell Lisianthus in 125 and 210 cell trays. The 125s are a little bit bigger plants. We don't offer Lisis in 50 trays at this time - some other annuals and perennials are offered in 50s.
I have planted groups 1, 2, and 3 all on the same day. The group type hasn't seemed to	live answered

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matter. This year the group 3 bloomed before group 1. What gives?	
hi from Claremont NH. Tried growing lisis from seed - not cost effective for a small cut flower farm	Don't be too hard on yourself, Kate. It's super difficult to start lisis from seed - that's why most cut flower farmers use plugs. Good on you for trying it out!
Nebraska Zone 5. Is there any advantage to starting seeds in December vs January in home environment with southern exposure window and supplemental lighting?	You should aim to have plants ready to go in 6ish weeks before last frost. Start your seed as early as necessary to get them at least up to 216 plug size by your date. You can always bump them up if they're ready early.
What is your growing medium?	live answered
Remember you need 3 trays per box	live answered
Where is Gro n Sell located?	Chalfont, PA
10B here, no frost, can never figure out when to plant my plugs out.	For planting in the field, 2-4 weeks before your last outdoor frost. For planting in a tunnel, 6-8 weeks before your last outdoor frost.
For when to transplant, would the 6-8 week guideline apply to low tunnels with agribon, or just tunnels with plastic?	Agribon typically isn't increasing the temps by much but aids in protecting against frost so I'd only say it would give you a week difference. Than non covered field planting
do you have to harden off upon receiving if planting 8 weeks before last frost?	You should harden off unless there are some specific conditional exceptions. Hardened-off plugs do much better in general.
Is it ok to plant in fall? in hoophouse.	live answered
Can zone 6b overwinter lisi in field?	live answered
Can you summer plant in hot climate (Philly) by cool-treating plug tray for 2-3 weeks?	live answered
If I'm planting in Charleston I would probably plant in the fall and over winter, what group would I plant? And if I'm not planting in a tunnel what variety would do the best?	live answered
I live in zone 5 NY which group would work best. Thanks love your plugs	live answered
No frost, so when to plant?	live answered
Should I drench soil now on beds I just pulled Lisis ?	You want to apply the bio fungicides to the plugs and the plants you're growing not an empty bed
how do you deal with botrytis spotting on tunnel-grown lisianthus?	You need to reduce humidity. Try fans or opening sides for more ventilation
What about solarizing soil in field with clear plastic and hot temps?	This can work if you can get a good seal of the plastic on the soil and consistently over 100F for a couple weeks.
Do you think lisianthus plugs would do ok being transplanted into and grown on in crates vs in the ground? Thinking about trying this for the doublini and rosanne series. Thoughts?	If you can supply enough water at the right time most things can be crate grown. Remember potting mix does not hold water as long as field soil typically.

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what were the recommended fungicides?	RootShield, Actinovate and ProFence
Is there a white variety that has a dark center (not yellow/green)?	live answered
What if you ordered Lisianthus plugs for the wrong week? I ordered it with my spring order?	So will they be coming too late or too early for your zone?
That lower bloom?	live answered
How far do you space the netting in the two layers? 18" and 36"? Or closer?	You can raise the top layer as needed for spacing but typically closer to 18" between netting
I'll be getting them in late May in WNY.	You may need to provide shade to keep them cool while establishing.
Will your powerpoint presentation be available? I am trying to keep up with my notetaking, but would like a backup.	The powerpoint itself will not be distributed, but the entire video with presentation will be available as a recording on YouTube.
zone 5a nh - feeding?	live answered
Does tunnel growing result in longer stems? Why?	live answered
In VT using a non heated hoophouse, is that ok for spring planting?	Absolutely, that is how Bailey grew them in Vermont!
Never grown Lissies before. What variety is easiest or most forgiving?	They are all about the same, Heather. The simpler-petaled types like Arosa or Viviana may be less prone to spotting from rain, if you are growing in the field.
for growers in zones such as 6a/6b where summers can be hot and dry, do you have any tricks/techniques to recommend to stagger the bloom period?	live answered
Holding temperatures post harvest	live answered
How do you grow them as hardy annuals through winter	live answered
Can anyone buy from you?	Yes, you just have to create a free account to view the product pages.
Will you have more of the special Roses series Hellebores for sale next fall? If supply will still be limited, do you have a date we can put on our calendar for the start of Hellebores sales?	We will have a larger inventory of vernalized Ice 'N Roses Hellebores in the fall. They will go on sale with everything else on October 1, 2023.
Should you plant plugs immediately because of the tap root? If I can't plant for a week, will they hold okay in the 210 trays or should I step them up?	Definitely step them up, Wendy. We bump up to 50 cell trays if we can't transplant right away.
how about growing in the arid climate of the prairie/front range area of Colorado	live answered
why are some stems strong and erect and others weak and bendy? what can we do to ensure they are all strong?	live answered

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What type of landscape fabric did you have for your bed? And when will they breed lisianthus for frost tolerant so that we can over winter these babies!!	live answered
Does pinching delay flowers for any of the groups?	live answered
Is there a certain variety that is better pinched?	live answered
Can I plant in fabric? 5b zone	live answered
will they keep producing if given the right resources indoors?	live answered
I'm in 5 b in Ohio. Tried for the past two years to get flowers in September. Which group should I plant or cut back the ones that flower?	live answered
Tips for getting a 2nd flush? How many weeks typically before a 2nd flush after first cutting?	live answered
Do you apply fertiliser, what do you give them and how often	live answered
Can you talk about the specifics of growing in a warmer climate without frosts	live answered
Any thoughts on cool flower technique ?...I am trying it this year, zone 8..greetings from the Netherlands	live answered
Can you repeat again what your succession planting timing would be in NY/Vermont/MI?	We will have a video recorded!
Any tips to keep track of which stems had the 1st bud/flower pinched?	live answered
what do you think about growing them in bulb	live answered
Weed control question-- what do you recommend?	live answered
crates?	live answered
Any advice on some of the more heat tolerant varieties for those of us who struggle with the cool spring and sudden heat? Are they worth trying or is silver mulch and shade cloth better?	live answered
We grow in MA zone 5 in black plastic and they do well. Would you recommend white plastic to keep soil cooler through summer? Or as long as it's cool at transplant that's all they need. ..	live answered
My lisianthus are still blooming in California out in the field. If I covered with straw, will they rebloom next year?	live answered

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Tell me about watering seedlings! I always seem to overdo it...	live answered
I planted 4000 in field for overwintering in Australia with a wet winter. All had root rot	live answered
How many stems can you expect if you don't pinch	live answered
How many stems if you don't know inch should you expect from each plant	live answered
Does tunnel growing result in longer stems? Why?	live answered
What is Bailey's favorite variety?	live answered
Can you propagate cuttings in water in the fall?	live answered
When do we pull the plants? If I don't pinch and get 1 long cut should I leave it to branch or pull it?	live answered
When would you order plugs to arrive for zone 7 - if they are kept under low tunnels?	You can plant in a tunnel 4-8 weeks before your last outdoor frost. You want your plugs to arrive when you are ready to plant them out.
Or with Leca?	live answered
Can you provide a link for that silver plastic mulch?	live answered
Which growing mix do you use when you bump them up to bigger plugs?	Sterile media. ProMix // peat based is fine.
I ordered Croma - ideal soil temp for transplanting	Pretty much same for all of the varieties, just plant while your soil is still cool. Under 55F.
I saw there is a new "Sky blue" variety available (can't remember which one exactly) do you think there will be a actual *blue* variety? (all blues tend to really be purple)	The new Blue Chateau is quite sky/gray blue
And pests in particular to watch out for?	Fusarium and botrytis are the usual problems.
Do you use horse manure or cow manure?	live answered
When doing crop rotation, how many years should you wait to plant in that space again?	live answered
woo hoo! that's what I have seeds of! Celeb!	
Hello, will a recording of this be available for later viewing?	Yes! KY Hort will send out an email with all of the links.
What was the name of the association again?	Ascfg. See chat!
I have deer and they do NOT eat the lisianthus!	live answered
Yes my deer love them.	live answered
any tips on selling lisianthus? best market?	Florists love them, and our customers report that they sell well at Farmers Market. Bouquet and bucket CSAs as well.

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deer don't bother my lisianthus in Green Bay, WI	live answered
Deer don't bother	live answered
My deer eat lisianthus :)	live answered
Off topic - Why did you sell your Vermont farm?	live answered
I was trying to track down the Macherie variety but couldn't find them in the US due to lack of interest I was told...do you see them coming into fashion? Or are they lame?	live answered
Should I drench with actinovate now on old bed	On live plants not beds sans plants
how do you install your support netting?	live answered
*lack of interest in single blooms	live answered
Can you dry pack for longer holding like peonies?	Bailey always holds them in water in the cooler. They have an incredibly long vase life and can take way more abuse than most flowers of their caliber.
ascfg is the assoc.	live answered
What is the photoperiod for each Group. Daylight length requirements to bloom.	live answered
what is the most important thing we can do to make sure stems are strong?	live answered
I see your recording this presentation. Can I access this? My husband is currently at work and I would really like him to watch, thank you.	Yes we will send out the link via email
have you ever saved seeds of the lisi	live answered
Do you notice color change once in cooler	live answered
what pricing per stem were your florists willing to pay - realize this is area specific but just a starting point for what you can expect people to pay	Premium big flowers like Corelli and Voyage go for \$3-4
What's going on with the sell of your farm?	live answered
I'm sorry, I can't find Kentucky Cut Flower Group group pn FB, Similar names but does not look like a university site.	We will send a link in the follow up email!
Tell us about your move to Portugal	live answered
Where is the ASCFG discount code on Facebook? thank you	live answered
Would it be too warm to use row cover immediately after transplanting in North Fla?	live answered