

Bulbs



These colourful non-native plants brighten up gardens and parks in winter and early spring. Only single flowered varieties are of benefit to pollinators. Whilst not as valuable as native species, they can still supplement the food provided by native plants but should be kept to gardens and parks.

When to plant:

Plant spring-flowering bulbs in autumn, and summer and autumn-flowering bulbs in spring. The planting depth recommended is usually 1.5 to 2.5 times the size of the bulb. Take care to follow instructions on the packet and plant bulbs the correct way up. Look for a flat root plate or dried roots, and you'll know this is the bottom. The top of a bulb is also usually narrower than the bottom.

How to manage:

These are all perennial and will grow year after year. Once planted they require little maintenance. If you want to extend your bulb area you can divide and plant the smaller bulbs and corms that form after flowering. Always allow foliage to die back naturally as it provides the bulb with food for the next flowering season. If you remove foliage too early, the flowers will become smaller in subsequent years.

Grape Hyacinth
Muscari spp.



Wood Anemone
Anemone nemerosa



Snake's Head Fritillary
Fritillaria meleagris



Camassia
Camassia leichtlinii and cultivars



Star of Bethlehem
Ornithogalum umbellatum



Ornamental Allium
Allium spp. and cultivars



Autumn Crocus
Colchicum spp.



Snowdrop
Galanthus spp.



Winter Aconite
Eranthis hyemalis



Crocus
Crocus spp.



Flowering time:

Spring Summer Autumn Winter

Note: Wood Anemone occurs as a native plant but is also commonly purchased as a spring flowering bulb from garden centres or nurseries. Purchased plants should never be added to the wider landscape.