

## Easter Lily

Genus: Liliaceae

Species: *Lilium longiflorum*

Flowering Period: forced for Easter, normally VI/VII

The Easter Lily is a native to the Ryukyu Island in Japan. Prior to 1941 all of our Lilies were imported from Japan. Due to World War II the production was moved to California and Oregon. The USA produces now about 10 million bulbs every year. The Lily grows an herbaceous plant from a bulb. The stem on the lily plant can be 17 to 39 inches tall and one stem could develop up to 7-9 trumpet like white blooms that open consecutively. After blooming on Easter you can plant your lily in the yard. Plant your bulb about 4 to 5 inches deep in a sunny location. Cut out the dead blooms and the bulb might rebloom in June/ July. Cut the stem back once it has turned brown and all the nutrients returned into the bulb. Mulch for winter and the lily will rebloom the following year.

*Lilium longiflorum* is so popular due to the lovely fragrance of the blooms and their pure white color. The white lily is associated with the Virgin Mary and is often called the “white robed apostle of hope”.



