

Friends of Old Bulbs Gazette

[Old House Gardens](#), Ann Arbor, Michigan, 734-995-1486

“July is not only a season of the year; it is a season of the mind and memory. Hot days and sultry nights and crashing thunderstorms are a part of July, and to the drone of bees in the clover fields will soon be added the high-pitched sibilance of the cicada. The tang of ripe cherries and the sweetness of sunning hay.”

—Hal Borland, 1900-1978, American author, journalist and naturalist

**Last Call! Deadline for Summer-Shipped Iris and Daylily
Orders extended to July 26.**



We're almost finished with summer shipping – if you missed out on getting a variety you've wanted, or just want to see the choices, you'll find our current [iris offerings here](#) and [daylilies here](#). Because we'll be moving our growing fields, we'll be digging up more varieties than we can do for spring shipping, so this is a great opportunity to get some varieties that we might not normally offer for a couple of years. All our varieties have been loved and treasured for generations now, and - as our Michigan spring and summer has reminded us - are quite drought-tolerant in addition to being beautiful! Can't decide? Our samplers will give you a charming collection while being less expensive than the varieties purchased separately. Order by noon (Eastern Time) Wednesday July 26th.

Daylilies in Bouquets? Definitely!



You might not expect it, but daylilies make fine cut-flowers – or at least our graceful [heirloom varieties](#) do. Although an individual flower lasts just one day, buds will continue to develop and open for up to a week indoors.

Way back in 1954, two University of Illinois professors wrote in a USDA booklet that “daylilies have become very popular for home flower arrangements.” They recommended cutting stalks with “several perfect full-blown flowers and a number of well-developed buds,” ideally in the morning when they’re “still fresh and undamaged by wind, sun, or insects.”

“With a little practice, almost anyone can display them to advantage,” the professors continued. “They may be used alone or in combination with other garden

flowers and a wide variety of green and dried materials. Delphiniums, gaillardias, gladioli, Japanese iris, Shasta daisies, snapdragons, and zinnias are only a few of the many annuals and perennials that work up nicely with daylilies. Endless combinations can be devised that will brighten up the mantle, party table, or altar. Leaves of caladium, canna, hosta, iris, and peony can be used effectively in place of the natural foliage, as can also the graceful branches of various shrubs and evergreens such as huckleberry, magnolia, rhododendron, and yew, [or] the silvery leaves of artemisia.”

For a little extra inspiration, check out our [daylily bouquet](#) with flowers from our fields and home gardens. And to learn more about using other bulbs in bouquets – from snowdrops to dahlias – visit oldhousegardens.com/BulbsAsCutFlowers.

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