

Bell County Master Gardeners

Tip of the Week

By Myra Crenshaw

“Lilium x ‘Triumphator’/Triumphator Lily”

While living in Houston, I read an article about the Triumphator Lily and saw a nursery that had some. I eagerly went to this nursery and they were going quick. Everyone seemed to want some! I got two of the last ones, and thought they were rather expensive, but the flower was so beautiful.

I planted them at home and was thrilled that they came up the next year. They are perennials and will come back every year while multiplying in the ground. When we moved to Temple, I planted them into a pot, so as not to lose them. They traveled that way in their pot, getting very leggy, and looking not so healthy. But I had hope that they would do fine when I finally got them into their new home. I had to wait until I had a garden to put them in, which was probably about a year later, and then planted them into a new bed.

I was surprised at how many bulbs I broke apart and separated from the pot; now this year I have several beautiful, glossy, green leaves on shoots coming up in their new home. These lilies get to about 2 to 5 feet tall and will bloom in the summer. The lilies add great fragrance, color, and beauty to the garden bed and also may be used in containers or mass plantings. Since they produce a large cluster of flowers on a stem, they are also a great cut flower and will add to any arrangement. I am anticipating a sea of pink and white heads blowing in the wind, because they seem happy “transplanted” to Temple! If you want ease in growing, low maintenance, and increasing beauty and colors, try your hand at growing lilies. The color selections are endless and the varieties of Lilium make one drool! You won't be disappointed at all.

Try to get to the Bell County Master Gardener Plant sale Saturday the 26th of March 7:30 AM to 1 PM. at the extension office in Belton. Come early for a great selection of plants

Have any questions about gardening in Central Texas? Contact ask.bcmga@gmail.com

