

Crinum Scabrum Lily Planting Instructions

Milk and Wine Lily



This old fashioned crinum lily is a low maintenance plant that produces lovely pink and white striped blooms about the size of an Easter Lily that have the most wonderful fragrance! The tall bloom stalk stands about 18 - 24 inches above the abundant foliage and hold 5+ blooms at a time! These lilies are cold hardy to USDA zone 7a (0° F) and grow very well to zone 11 in full sun or partial shade. These can be kept in containers in colder zones and brought into a garage or other cool, but not extremely

cold, area for winter. These will produce several flower stalks during the warmer months with the majority of blooms coming in the spring and fall. These lilies will multiply by producing bulbs underground as well as from the seeds that form after the blooms.

Planting and Growing Instructions:

- **FOR BLOOMING SIZE OR EXTRA LARGE BULBS:**

These bulbs are planted quite deep – plant your bulb so that the soil line is even with the **ribbon tied at the top of the long stalk**. (remove ribbon after planting) This marks the original soil line. Water in well; you may want to put water in the bottom of the hole before placing the bulb in. After they are established, they don't require much water, but when first planting a good soaking will help them get over the shock of being transplanted. Plant in sandy, well draining, fairly dry soil in full sun or partial shade. I have never fertilized mine; but if you feel the need to do so, I would use a very light, natural fertilizer (like milorganite or black-cow) or compost. Do not water down into the stem of the plant, water around it. Water standing in the stem can rot it. Foliage may turn yellow or brown on the tips from being cut, but will recover as the plant gets re-established and starts growing new leaves.

- **FOR SMALL BULBS:**

For fastest growth, I suggest planting your bulb in a partly shady location that can be kept fairly damp (but not soggy). Although the large plants can grow in full sun and quite dry conditions, the smaller plants, that naturally grow UNDER the foliage of the large ones, need a little TLC to really get a good start. Plant in well draining (sandy) soil so the soil doesn't remain soggy around the bulb and rot them, but watering about 3 times a week (or anytime the top 1" of soil around them is dry) will give your plants a good start. Don't plant too deep, just covering the bulb with soil, but not the leaves or the green/white/brown leaf stalk. Your bulbs MAY have a ribbon tied around the stalk, if so, this is the original soil line – plant according to that mark. (Be sure to REMOVE THE RIBBON when you plant it). When your bulbs are larger, you can transplant them to a sunnier and/or dryer location or reduce supplemental waterings. I suggest doing this move in early spring, after last frost, when they are just coming out of dormancy, before their leaves get very long, but it can be done at any time.

General Growing Info:

The foliage will die back with a frost, but will return in the spring. Water sparingly during winter dormancy.

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Seeds forming on a Milk and Wine Crinum Lily flower stalk

These bloom mostly in the spring and fall, with some blooms during the hotter summer months. In order to get more plants in your garden, **do not** cut the old stalks that held the flowers. After the flowers fade, seeds will form at the top of these stalks. Allow the stalk to 'lay down' on the foliage, so the top of the stalk is near the ground. When the seeds are mature, they will fall out of the seed pod to the ground.

You may allow nature to plant them for you, or you may plant them yourself. They should NOT be covered with soil, just pressed into the soil so you can still see the top of the seed. Germination of seeds takes about 30 days. The seeds can be planted in pots and set out

after germination or planted directly in the garden. In nature, these usually fall under the leaves of the mother plant, where the soil is kept somewhat moist by the shade of the larger plant. Keeping the soil moist where the seeds are planted will aid in germination. There are usually about 5 or more seeds per stalk.