

# *Bulb Cultivation*

Bulbs are among the easiest flowers to grow, and produce vibrant colors that span the rainbow. Flowering bulbs do not require much space to grow, and can be planted in both annual and perennial gardens. Most bulbs also do well under trees or near bushes and shrubs. Because of wide range of bulbs and bloom times, you can enjoy flowering bulbs for the majority of the year.

## BUYING BULBS

The quality of a bulb foreshadows the quality of plant it will produce. To ensure a healthy plant, purchase bulbs from reputable companies, be it local businesses or mail order catalogs. For the best bulbs, order and purchase bulbs as soon as they go on sale. Bulbs should be large, healthy, and firm. Stay away from purchasing bulbs that are bruised,



**Above:** Single Early tulips

**Opposite Page: 1.** Bulbs planted together make visually appealing flower clusters.

2. Snowdrop bulbs are the earliest to bloom
3. Tulip bulbs may be stored before planting