

# Hemerocallis spp., H. hybrids

**Common Name(s):** Daylily

**Category:** Perennials

**Comment:** Old-fashioned orange and yellow daylilies have been hybridized to produce modern daylilies in a rainbow of colors and with flowering times from Spring through Summer. Deer frequently damage these plants.

**Season:** Spring, Summer

**Height:** 24-36 in.

**Flower Color:** Yellow, Orange, Pink, and Burgundy

**Hardiness:** USDA Hardiness Zone 3-9

**Propagation:** Division in Fall or Spring Season

**Site:** Full sun to partial shade; well-drained soils high in organic matter

**Regions:** Mountains, Piedmont, Coastal Plain

**Origin:** Asia, hybrid origin

**Tags:** Perennial

**Be sure to visit the Daylily Garden portion of the Kaleidoscope Demonstration Garden to view varieties that grow well and that were hybridized in region.**



Hemerocallis spp., H. hybrids



Hemerocalis fulva  
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## **Currituck Master Gardeners Plant of the Month – June 2017**

Daylilies are rugged, adaptable, vigorous perennials that endure in a garden for many years with little or no care. Daylilies adapt to a wide range of soil and light conditions. They establish quickly, grow vigorously, and survive winters with little or no injury.

Daylilies belong to the genus *Hemerocallis* and are not true lilies. This Greek word is made up of two parts: *hemera* meaning day and *kallos* meaning beauty. This name is appropriate, since each flower lasts only one day. Some of the newer varieties have flowers that open in the evening and remain open until the evening of the following day. Many of these night blooming plants are delightfully fragrant.

Each daylily plant produces an abundance of flower buds that open separately over a period of time. There are many varieties, a wide range of flower colors, and the flowers continue during the heat of the summer. Daylilies are useful as a perennial flower border, planted in large masses, or as a ground cover on slopes, where they form a dense root mat in just a few years.

### **Site and Soil**

Daylilies grow best in full sun, but will tolerate light shade. Daylilies flower best when exposed to a minimum of six hours of direct sun. However, a small amount of light shade during the hottest part of the day helps to keep the flowers fresh. Daylilies should not be planted near trees and shrubs that are likely to compete for moisture and nutrients. Although daylilies are adaptable to most soils, they do best in a slightly acidic, moist soil that is high in organic matter and well drained.

### **Planting and Dividing**

Daylilies can be planted almost any time the soil can be deeply worked. Work in manure or compost to increase organic matter levels prior to planting. Apply fertilizer at levels as indicated based on a soil test. Contact your local Extension office for soil test information. Finally dig a hole large enough for the roots without bending or crowding them.

The best time to transplant or divide plants is early spring or immediately after the plant is finished flowering. Plants divided in the spring may not bloom the same summer. Divisions should have two to three stems or “fans” of leaves with all roots attached. Make divisions by digging up the entire plant and gently pulling the fans apart. Cut the foliage back, leaving only five or six inches. Place the plant in the soil so the crown (the portion where the stem and root meets) is one inch below the ground line. Water thoroughly. A winter covering of mulch, straw, or shredded leaves helps ensure against winter injury. Daylilies are vigorous growers and can be divided every three to four years.

Source – <https://extension.umn.edu>