

Ednie Flower Bulbs presents...



TULIPS

for Cut Flower Production

Tulips originally came from a colder climate and therefore need a cold period prior to flowering whether or not they are growing naturally (outside) or being "forced" into bloom in indoor facilities.

What is "forcing into flower"?

All flower bulbs have a natural blooming time based on their original habitat. "Forcing into flower" is making the bulbs bloom (much) earlier or later than their natural flowering time. Each type of flower bulb requires unique programming to accomplish this.

Programmed Tulips can be grown year-round. North-American growers primarily focus on the growing period from January to June. *Ice-Tulips** or *Southern Hemisphere Tulips*** fill the gap between the winter-spring growing cycle.

(For "specialists" earlier forcing is possible, but since it is not common in North America, we are not listing it here. Contact GrowerSupport if the need arises).

** Ice-Tulips are planted in crates and watered well in late fall. Once the Tulips are well rooted, the storage temperature is lowered to about 28°F. (-2°C.) and stored until about 2 weeks before desired flowering date.*

*** Southern Hemisphere Tulips are similar to Southern Hemisphere Lilies. Instead of planting long-stored bulbs, fresh bulbs are used in off-season plant times.*

Growing Programs



Growers can choose from several forcing programs, explained in detail on the following pages:

5°C. program Tulip bulbs have received complete cooling and can be planted immediately, either in crates or ground beds. The earliest plant date is starting the 1st week of December.

9°C. program Tulip bulbs have received 6 weeks of cooling and must be planted immediately and finish cooling in cold storage. Earliest plant date is 3rd week of October.

Regular program Tulip bulbs have received no cooling and should be planted soon upon arrival to get the complete cooling either in cold storage or outside. Earliest plant date is late September.

In order to determine what works best for each individual grower, several factors need to be established:

- 1. Target date of finished product*
- 2. Area where the product will be grown*
- 3. Growing media which will be used: soil or water*

*Happy
Growing*

Tulips for Cut

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TULIPS for Cut Flower Production

9°C. Program

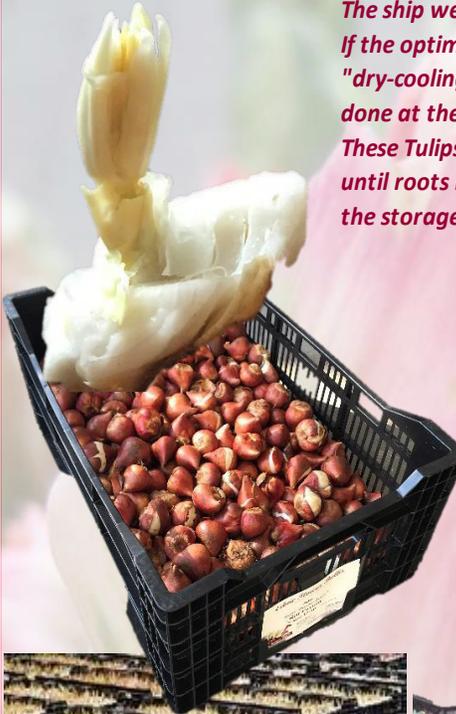
Ednie Flower Bulbs

These Tulips have received approximately 6 weeks of 9 °C. cooling prior to shipping. The ship week varies from year to year depending on when "Stage G" is reached. If the optimum number of weeks for a certain variety is 15, then these 6 weeks of "dry-cooling" can be subtracted, leaving an additional 9 weeks of cooling to be done at the grower's facility. These Tulips should be planted immediately, watered in and stored at 9°C. (48°F.) until roots have formed. Once the root system is well established (usually 2-3 weeks) the storage temperature can be lowered to 5°C. (40°F.).



If the sprouts start to stretch in the cooler, the temperature can be lowered gradually to prevent the sprouts from stretching too much.

It is important that the sprout is ready before taking bulbs out of the cooling facility and placing them in the greenhouse. One rule-of-thumb is to feel the sprouts. The buds can be felt inside the sprout. If the crates with Tulips are taken out of cooling too soon, the forcing period in the greenhouse may well be (unnecessarily) extended. When Tulips are forced too "hard" (by raising temperatures) the quality will suffer tremendously, increasing the chance of drying up the buds.



The schedule on the right should be self-explanatory. Week 2 (January 10th) the first bulbs should be ready to come out of the cooler and another group can come out each week, thus spreading the production.

Forcing Program 9°C. Tulips January - Valentine

Week #	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total Weeks
Date	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	Cooling
	September						October					November				December			January			February						
Cooler Temps:	48°F. / 9°C.						48°F. / 9°C.					40°F. / 5°C.				38°F. / 3°C.			35°F. / 2°C.									



		9°C. Programmed TULIPS																											
Earlier Tulips	size BULB	Warm Cooler to reach Stage G	COOLER in Holland	Ocean	Plant & water	CUSTOMER'S COOLER	Greenhouse Temperature 55 - 63°F. 13 - 17°C.																						
	12-Up																												
	11-12																												
								1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
Later Tulips	size BULB	Warm Cooler to reach Stage G	COOLER in Holland	Ocean	COOLE R in US	Plant & water	CUSTOMER'S COOLER	Greenhouse Temperature 55 - 63°F. 13 - 17°C.																					
	12-Up																												
	11-12																												
								1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17

Planting Tulips in Southern States (warmer climate):

As with the 5°C. Tulips, 9°C. Tulips can also be used in areas where the cold period is not long enough for the Tulips to complete the total number of cold weeks. A shaded area with plenty of water will work best to keep the plants as cool as possible.

