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**Summer flowering?**  
-some are grown for foliage!

cannas, caladium, elephant ears, dahlias, 4 'o clocks, gladiolus, tuberous begonias, shamrock

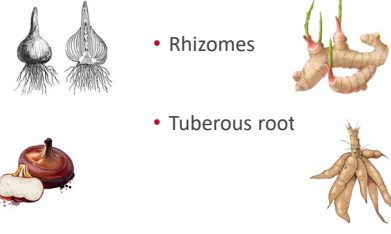
Poll & enter into chat what you have grown

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**Botanically speaking, almost none are bulbs!**

- Bulbs
- Corms
- Rhizomes
- Tuberous root




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**Summer flowering "bulbs"**

What they have in common and why I like them:

- Not hardy
- Heat-loving
- Prefer rich, moist soil with plenty of organic matter
- Many are easy to grow!
- Bold accents!
- Some (not all) take up lots of space (I have a lot to fill!)
- Appeal to my "gardening on the cheap" mentality!



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**Summer flowering "bulbs"**

Purchasing bulbs

- I prefer to pick my own bulbs from the individually sold bulbs
- When purchasing packages, peek inside and make sure healthy!





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**Summer flowering "bulbs"**

How to start them

- Gladiolus – plant directly in garden  
I usually plant in rows for a cutting garden  
Can plant sequentially for longer cutting period  
Need sun, plenty of moisture
- Rest – start inside because they take a while to produce a decent sized plant




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### Summer flowering "bulbs"

Starting inside – March - April

- Use heating mat  
Without heat, can take forever to sprout, or may rot
- Water well
- Cover with plastic to "sweat" bulbs
- Don't need light for rooting period





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### Summer flowering "bulbs"

Starting inside

- Pots fill with roots first

Canna rhizome


- Need light once shoots emerge, with elephant ear can be more than a month

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### Summer flowering "bulbs"

Plant outside in Late May - June



Size of corm → size of plant

Sun or shade?

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### How to dig up and store in Fall





- Dig the smaller, tender bulbs before frosts e.g., caladium, tuberous begonia
- Gladiolas are semi-hardy
- Elephant ears, can wait until frost nips tops, but don't have to wait
- Lots of advice on the internet about what to store them in, etc.!

Poll & enter into chat what success/failure you have had with overwintering these

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### Harvest

cut

dig

clump

Next clean this up

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### Store dry, warm





Can store in peat moss, vermiculite, paper bags, also, in the pot  
Some losses expected through winter, some are more fussy than others  
Don't need to discard corm if there is a little rot

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Sometimes even fleshy stems can be stored over winter and planted the next season!



- These geraniums look scrawny when they first leaf out, but almost always produce very nice plants!

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## Notes –

- All need plentiful moisture and drainage
- Most do best in pots for me, with some exceptions
- Elephant Ears – shade, rugged & easy to grow in soil, pest-free generally, can get mites with too much sun.
- Caladium – shade, tender. Not hard to grow but easily damaged
- Canna – sun, rugged & easy to grow, short and tall varieties, attract hummingbirds

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## Notes - continued

- Gladiolus – sun, easy to grow in soil, staking needed. Very nice cut flower – grow in rows at close spacing, could plant sequentially
- 4 'o clocks – grow from seed, save tubers each year. easy. Part-sun/part-shade.
- Dahlia – sun, more fussy, more potential pests. To divide, must leave portion of the stem with each piece.
- Tuberous begonias – morning sun, more tender & fussy, more diseases, pests. Maybe you want to just buy a finished hanging basket!

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## Ohioline Factsheet – out of print

HYG – 1244-92 Summer Flowering Bulbs

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Questions and discussion?

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## Appendix

### BULBS VS CORMUS VS TUBERS VS RHIZOMES

BULBS	CORMUS	TUBERS	RHIZOMES
Developing plant with short leaves or leaf bases that form the growing point of a shoot. They are usually small and round.	Developing plant with short leaves or leaf bases that form the growing point of a shoot. They are usually small and round.	Developing plant with short leaves or leaf bases that form the growing point of a shoot. They are usually small and round.	Developing plant with short leaves or leaf bases that form the growing point of a shoot. They are usually small and round.
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