

## Native Here Nursery: Bulb Instructions

- All bulbs are planted in orange pots.
- Most bulbs should not be divided or planted out until dormant. Keep them in their pots until all foliage has completely died back.
- Water sparingly, once a week is generally sufficient. Stop watering when they start blooming or the leaves are starting to die back.
- Sift/dig up/separate bulbs when completely dormant. Store in cool, dry, well ventilated place and re-plant before rains start, around Sept. /October.
- Very small bulbs can be re-planted in the same pot to let them grow up for another year. Top with a pinch of **bulb** fertilizer.
- **Exceptions:** *Toxicoscordion* and *Chlorogalum* have more robust root systems and can be carefully divided any time.
- All our bulbs are Summer dormant and should **not** receive **any** Summer water.
- Bulbs planted in the ground do not need supplemental water unless there is severe drought, or any additional fertilizer.  
*Calochortus sp.* are especially susceptible to rot.
- Bulbs may need protection from gophers (underground wire cages), mice, squirrels, other rodents and some birds (above ground cages), snails and slugs (copper strips, oyster shells, Sluggo™ type bait)
- *Toxicoscordion* bulbs are toxic to most critters, but snails and slugs **love** the foliage.
- Bulbs require good drainage - amend soil (perlite, expanded shale etc), plant on slope or raised bed/mound
- For easier protection from pests, good drainage and water control it may be best to grow bulbs in containers. Containers should be at least 10 - 12" deep. Commercial **potting** mix (not soil) works well as growing medium, preferably without added fertilizer (too much nitrogen). A small amount of bulb fertilizer (generous pinch) should be added once a year to each gal pot.
- Our homemade bulb mix:  
2 parts perlite, 2 parts vermiculite, 1 part peat (cocoa peat or coir is OK), 1 part sand. Add a pinch (~1/4 tsp) of bulb fertilizer per 1 gal pot.