



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



LILY



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1. FERTILIZER CYCLE (STAGE-WISE)

BULB PLANTING STAGE (OCT–NOV OR FEB–MARCH IN INDIA)

SOIL MIX: 40% GARDEN SOIL + 30% COMPOST + 20% SAND + 10% COCOPEAT.
AT PLANTING → ADD BONE MEAL (20–30 G PER BULB) OR SLOW-RELEASE BULB FERTILIZER.
COVER BULBS 4–6 INCHES DEEP.

GROWTH STAGE (SHOOTS EMERGING – 3–5 WEEKS AFTER PLANTING)

EVERY 15–20 DAYS → APPLY LIQUID NPK 19:19:19 (2 G/LITRE WATER).
ADD VERMICOMPOST (200–300 G PER POT) MONTHLY.

BUDDING & FLOWERING STAGE (PEAK SEASON: APRIL–JULY)

EVERY 10–12 DAYS → USE PHOSPHORUS & POTASSIUM-RICH FERTILIZER (NPK 10:26:26 OR 0:52:34).
ADD BANANA PEEL FERTILIZER OR WOOD ASH FOR STRONGER BLOOMS.

POST-FLOWERING STAGE (AFTER BLOOMS FADE)

DO NOT CUT GREEN LEAVES IMMEDIATELY; LET THEM YELLOW NATURALLY → THEY RECHARGE THE BULB.
FERTILIZE LIGHTLY WITH COMPOST OR LIQUID FEED ONCE AFTER FLOWERING.
AFTER LEAVES DIE BACK → REDUCE WATERING, LET BULBS REST IN SOIL OR STORE DRY FOR NEXT SEASON.



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2. CARING TIPS

- ✓ SUNLIGHT – 4–6 HOURS OF MORNING/EVENING SUNLIGHT (AVOID HARSH AFTERNOON SUN).
- ✓ WATERING – KEEP SOIL MOIST BUT WELL-DRAINED; AVOID WATERLOGGING (BULBS ROT EASILY).
- ✓ SOIL – SLIGHTLY ACIDIC, FERTILE, AND WELL-DRAINED LOAMY SOIL.
- ✓ SPACING – PLANT BULBS 6–8 INCHES APART FOR PROPER AIR CIRCULATION.
- ✓ PRUNING – DEADHEAD SPENT FLOWERS, BUT KEEP LEAVES UNTIL YELLOWING.
- ✓ PESTS/DISEASES – SPRAY NEEM OIL WEEKLY AGAINST APHIDS, RED LILY BEETLES, AND FUNGAL LEAF SPOTS.

3. PRO HACKS 🌿

- 🌿 BANANA PEEL HACK → NATURAL POTASSIUM SOURCE → LARGER, LONG-LASTING FLOWERS.
- 🌿 EPSOM SALT SPRAY → 1 TSP/LITRE WATER MONTHLY → GREENER LEAVES & MORE BLOOMS.
- 🌿 MULCHING TRICK → USE DRY LEAVES/COCOPEAT AROUND BASE → KEEPS BULBS COOL.
- 🌿 COMPANION PLANTING HACK → GROW LILIES WITH MARIGOLDS → REPELS PESTS NATURALLY.
- 🌿 DEADHEADING TIP → CUT FLOWER STALK ABOVE A LEAF NODE, BUT KEEP GREEN LEAVES UNTIL NATURAL YELLOWING.
- 🌿 STORAGE HACK → IN HOT REGIONS, LIFT BULBS AFTER LEAVES DIE, DRY THEM, AND STORE IN A COOL DARK PLACE UNTIL NEXT SEASON.

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