



As the weather warms up the summer season kicks off we see a greater variety of flowers coming through. It's always exciting to see the new season's blooms again, like the lisianthus and sunflowers. Other 'year round' varieties like oriental lilies experience a greater supply and are good buying now.

Summer Favourites

Lisianthus season has begun and offers us a softer option for a more "romantic" look. The choices at this time of year are growing brighter and more interesting by the day with sunflowers and gerberas coming into their own seasons.



LISIANTHUS

Lisianthus or "Eustoma" to use its latin name, is a delicate looking flower but with a hidden inner strength derived from its origins in the Texan and Mexican praries. The soft looking blooms have been likened to an open rose, and come in both single and double form. Colours range from beautiful pastel pinks, apricot, cream and green, to shades of mauve and deep purple, variegated and pure white. It is a hardy flower and will last despite hot summer conditions although it may be sensitive to a draft. Keep the water clean and re-cut the stems regularly.

Vase Life: 7-10 days (average)



WHITE ORIENTAL LILLIES

There are a number of different varieties of White Oriental lily. The "Casablanca" and "Siberia" are the most common commercial varieties available in New Zealand. All have a strong musky fragrance. We recommend removing the anthers (which are the pollen containing part attached to the stamens), as they can leave stains on clothes, carpet and furnishings, or stain the petals of the other blooms if not removed. Always use a dry brush to clean up pollen (as adding water creates a dye) before treating with recommended stain removers. Vase life: 10 - 14 days.



SUNFLOWERS

Luckily we can now enjoy sunflowers almost 365 days per year as growers supply them year round to the market. This ever popular and cheerful flower is a favourite for many people and lasts well in most conditions. Sunflowers are usually sold slightly closed with petals turning in, but will open out quite quickly. They have hard stems and should be re-cut and given lots of water regularly as they drink a lot! Sunflowers, like roses, can also be hot water treated if there is any sign of wilting. Vase life 10 - 14 days.

Don't forget, for more info you can always give us a call or have a look on the website.