

DAHLIA ADVICE FOR THE SPRING SEASON 2025

- * Now is the time to bring stored D into a warm sheltered area, with lids off boxes, to promote shooting.
- * Only keep tubers that are firm and healthy. Discard any that are rotting, shrivelled, diseased or broken.
- * Use smaller tubers with eyes, shoots and last year's stem or part there of. Any large ones that are sprouting can be trimmed.
- * Tubers left in the ground can have their mulch pulled away once they have started to sprout.
- * If wanting to divide these in-ground tubers, lift, and divide the ones with shoots, eyes and an old stem attached and plant immediately. Stake the tall growing D at same time.
- * Dig a hole about 15cm deep, add a little fertiliser including blood and bone. Fertiliser recommended by Gerard Oldfield of Highland Dahlias, is Rooster Booster, Dynamic L, Sudden Impact.
- * Watch out for munching insects as they love tender new shoots.
- * Wait until shoots have 4 pairs of leaves then pinch out the leader to promote lower growth and more flowers.

Golden Rule: handle one type of D at a time and label.