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Bulb Forcing Procedure

1. Partially fill the container (pot) with potting mix.
2. Place the bulb in the pot so that the tip of each bulb is even or slightly below the rim of the container.
3. Add additional potting mix and firm it around the bulbs. Allow the nose (top) of the bulb to stick above or slightly below the soil surface. The soil level should be 1/2 to 1 inch below the rim of the container.
4. Water each container thoroughly.
5. Place the bulbs in cold storage for a period of 12 to 16 weeks at a temperature of 40 to 45 degrees F. A refrigerator, cold frame, or root cellar are possible storage sites. The bulbs should be kept in complete darkness during the cold treatment. Periodically check the need for watering the bulbs during cold storage. Water them when dry, but do not keep them wet, causing them to rot.
6. Once the cold requirement has been met, the containers can be removed from cold storage. Place the bulbs in a cool (55 to 60 degrees F), semi-dark location. Keep the potting soil evenly moist throughout the forcing period. Move the pots to a slightly warmer area which receives direct sunlight when the shoots turn green. As the plants grow, turn the pots periodically to prevent the plants from leaning.
7. Flowering should occur in 3 to 4 weeks.