

Winter growing of western species under lights

Timing:

Western species: sow in March. Keep at 60-65F for at least 6 weeks, then place in fridge at 40F until late September. Then place under lights for the winter.

Delayed hypogeal species: sow in March. Keep them at 68-75F for 3-4 months (until little bulbs form), then place in fridge at 40F for 4 months. Then place under lights.

KEEP THEM COOL. Grow in Fall-Winter-Spring in a cool basement or enclosed porch. Tops of plants should be 4-6" below bottoms of fluorescent tubes. I water from the top, but let the mix dry down to the bulb level before watering again. Let some annuals or weeds grow as indicator plants in the pots with the lilies. If they look vigorous, you've got the right amount of fertilizer and water. The lilies will not show malnutrition and drought stress nearly as well as the annuals. Keep trimming the foliage off the annuals so they don't shade the lilies.



Lilium dauricum, 2 months after germination



Lilium neilgherrense, four months after germination

Lilium ocellatum, two months after germination.

