



Celebrating 22 Years!

ask the landscape professional

Linda K. Lillie of Sprigs & Twigs

Welcome to my weekly series!

Feel free to send me questions you'd like to have me answer and I will do my best to address the ones of most general interest.

EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS
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QUESTION THIS WEEK:

Dear Linda,

I planted Happy Returns Daylilies in front of my stone wall and I had the understanding that they would blossom all summer and into the fall. However, I have noticed that they stop producing blossoms well before fall. This year by mid-July all the blossoms were gone and there have been no new ones since. The leaves are very thick and some are turning yellow & brown. What aren't my daylilies blooming?Nancy

Linda's Answer:

Hi Nancy,

The Happy Returns Daylily is a re-blooming daylily from end of May through September. In order for the daylily to continue blooming, however, it needs to be deadheaded, i.e., removal of the spent flower. If deadheading is not done, the plant puts its energy towards making seeds and not more flowers. Deadheading is very important to continue to produce more flowers.

Another reason the daylilies may not be producing flowers is the hot weather. High temperatures, humidity and dry soil are all things that stress the plants. If the plant is stressed, it will not produce flowers since it takes a lot of energy on the part of the plant to produce flowers. Once the cooler weather returns, the daylilies will begin blooming again. If we are not receiving adequate natural rainfall, you will have to water deeply at least once a week since watering also supports flowering.

If the daylilies were being deadheaded on a regular basis and had proper moisture in the soil and never produced flowers, that's when it would be time to divide them.

Thank you for your question.



Happy Returns Daylily

Linda K. Lillie has been President of Sprigs & Twigs, Inc. for the last 22 years. She is a graduate of Connecticut College in Botany, an accredited NOFA Organic Land Care Professional, a Connecticut Master Gardener and a national award winning landscape designer for her design and installation projects.

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