

ASK THE LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL

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 to:

info@sprigsandtwigs.net or Linda Lillie,
Sprigs & Twigs Inc, PO Box 245, Gales
Ferry, CT 06335



Question this Week:

Dear Linda:

For over 50 years I have grown daffodils with great success. This year none of the daffodils in my small garden have come up yet. Could all of the rain we had last year have rotted the bulbs? I look forward to your help and expertise. Thank you.... Suzanne



Linda's Answer:

Dear Suzanne - There are several reasons that could explain why your daffodils have not returned.

1. The very wet fall we had in 2018 could have created a very wet soil environment and your bulbs rotted.
2. This past winter was cold with little snow cover to insulate the ground. Your bulbs may have been frozen and killed off. Sometimes the cold winters also delay the blooming of daffodils.

- 3. Not fertilizing bulbs will eventually affect their blooms. Daffodils should be fertilized with bone meal or the appropriate bulb fertilizer as the leaf tips emerge in spring and when the leaves begin to turn yellow after the flowers fade.**
- 4. If you have not previously divided the bulbs, the bulbs will become crowded, cease blooming and eventually will disappear.**
- 5. The use of chemical weed killer on the lawn surrounding your small garden could suppress bulb growth and eventually kill the bulb.**

The most likely reason the daffodils have disappeared is #1 and/or #2. Thank you for your question.