



# Hydrangea Bleu

Floral & Gift Ideas as Fresh as our Flowers!

HYDRANGEABLEU.COM

APRIL 2010

Welcome:

*What's more enticing than smelling a flower before you see it? April's bounty offers this gift. And no month graces us with fragrance more than April. Hyacinth, lilac, boronia, peonies, lily of the valley, sweet peas join the year round flowers bearing scent. When I was little my favorite flower was the carnation because of it's scent. Alas, the scent has been bred out of the carnation, but I still have the memory of it's gentle sweetness. While we see the beauty of a flower first, I think it's the memory of the scent that stays with us. I love watching small children as they encounter a flower and instinctively plunge their nose into the center of it seeking it's perfume. In April it's easy to create a lasting memory, because if you love scent, this is your month!*

Anne

## Flower of the Month: *Lily of the Valley!*



On May 1, 1561 King Charles IX of France received a small bouquet of lily of the valley as a symbol of good luck. Delighted by the gesture, he ordered bouquets be given to the ladies of the court and so began the charming French tradition of giving lily of the valley every May 1st in celebration of May Day.

These days, for us here in the United States, our use of lily of the valley has been mostly reserved for weddings.

This sweet scented flower, although available year round, is generally in season in April. When in season lily of the valley is expensive and when purchased out of season it's, well, really expensive and may be hard to source.

In a woodland garden, they make a lovely carpet of 8 to 10 inch high plants with elliptic foliage and bell-shaped blooms.

**Know someone who is getting married? Have them check out our Wedding Gallery;** [www.hydrangeableu.com/wedding](http://www.hydrangeableu.com/wedding)

## Book Review: *"Garden to Vase - Growing and Using Your Own Cut Flowers"*



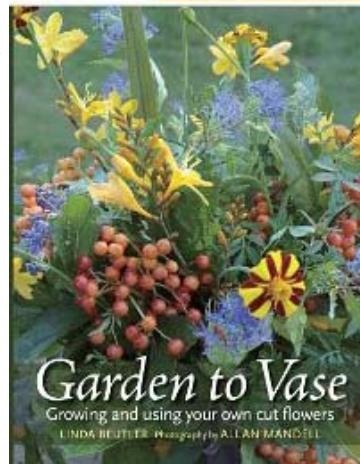
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While happily wandering Barnes & Nobles the other day, I came across a book that, being both a book lover and a flower lover, I had to have. To my delight, I have not regretted my purchase of "Garden to Vase - Growing and Using Your Own Cut Flowers" by Linda Beutler. As a floral designer and a horticulture instructor, Beutler brings a unique perspective to growing plants & flowers that are suitable for cutting. Approxi-



mately half the book is devoted to a guide of plants appropriate for a cutting garden. Beutler also covers practical techniques for arranging flowers and explores with a bit more detail a group of more classic flowers like roses & tulips. I found her tone humorous and friendly and her suggestions practical. A wonderful find and one I'll keep in my library as a reference. Happy reading, gardening, and arranging!



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### “Whispers From the Flower Fields”



"Flowers leave some of their fragrance in the hand that bestows them."

Chinese proverb

Thanks a bunch for picking Hydrangea Bleu!!

### TIPS & TRICKS FOR LILY OF THE VALLEY



1. Vase life 2 to 6 days.
2. Ethylene sensitive.
3. Plant is poisonous to both humans and pets.

If you know someone who would enjoy our newsletter, please forward this e-mail to them. Thanks!  
[www.hydrangeableu.com](http://www.hydrangeableu.com) E-mail: [order@hydrangeableu.com](mailto:order@hydrangeableu.com)

### Eco: “Enrico Wood Root Vase!”

Hydrangea Bleu Fine Flowers (949) 454-9041



Features: Hand-carved root urn is uniquely beautiful and stands alone as a natural work of art - Vase is carved from a species of Chinese fir called Shan Mu - Decorative accessory piece is

great for parties or meals at home with family - Easy care food-safe lacquer finish - Gorgeous wood grain and colors make these great for a wide variety of serving and decorative uses .

Dimensions: 9.5 inches long x 9.5 inches wide x 14 inches high.

Root work raw materials come from stumps left by logging operations, the removal of which allows faster re-growth of newly planted seedlings. Each gnarled stump is then transformed by skilled artisans into the gorgeous pieces.

The handcrafted nature of this product will produce minor differences in design and sizing. Subtle variations will occur from piece to piece, adding to its unique qualities. [Google: Enrico Wood Root Vase for more information.](#)