



Hydrangea Bleu

Floral & Gift Ideas as fresh as our Flowers!

HYDRANGEABLEU.COM

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER, 2009

Welcome:

When I was younger, I always looked forward to the start of the school year: freshly sharpened pencils, new PeeChee folders (remember those?), crisp loose leaf paper. The start of school was a time to begin again. But this time of year is also about transition with summer dragging it's feet well into fall despite the calendar's mandate. Our flower this month, the dahlia, is the perfect mascot for this season - the bold reds, yellows, and oranges that enliven the sunny days push their way into fall where they eventually succumb to the richness and temperance of autumn colors. I hope that you enjoy this transitional season, looking forward to the start of something new while easing out of what had been. May your season be filled with beautiful blooms,

Anne



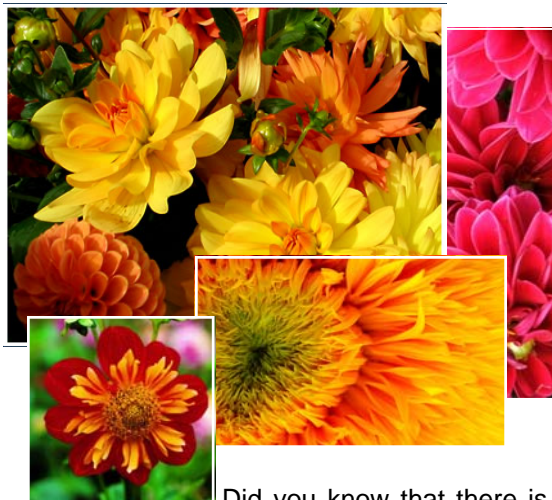
Subscribe to our monthly newsletter!

Learn More At -

HYDRANGEABLEU.COM

949.454.9041

Flower of the Month: "DAHLIAS"



Did you know that there is a dahlia variety with blooms the size of a dinner plate? Did you know there's a variety about the size of a half-dollar? Dahlias come not only in a versatile range of sizes (from 2" in diameter to over 10" in diameter), but can also be found in a glorious array of colors (including bi-colors & variegated) and 18 classifications of shapes. These showy flowers make great focal points in arrangements from tropical to romantic.

Dahlias are native to the subtropical regions of Central and South America. Mexico claims the dahlia as their national flower. Dahlias were important as a root crop and as a medicinal plant among the pre-Columbian Indians. Dahlia imperialis, "the tree dahlia", had hollow stems up to twenty feet long which were used for hauling water; the Aztec name was acocotli, or "water-cane". Spanish invaders catalogued several kinds of dahlias and sent plants back to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Madrid. The species was named after Swedish botanist Andreas Dahl.



Photo: Stephanie Klein Davis

Know someone who is getting married? Have them check out our Wedding Gallery;

How To: Questions from our Readers!

Q: How do I grow dahlias in my garden?

A: Now is the time to start planning which dahlias to plant next spring. Tubers are planted in April & May to yield flowers beginning in July.



One of the most charming is www.dahliadivas.com, where you can view varieties by color, size, type, height, and name.

If you want to grow dahlias to enjoy as a cut flower, the American Dahlia Society (www.dahlia.org) suggests any of the "Karma" varieties, particularly Karma Bon Bini, Karma Lagoon, and Karma Amanda. Also on their list: Ferncliff Copper and Arabian Night.



## Hydrangea Bleu

Floral & Gift Ideas as  
fresh as our Flowers!

### Whispers From The Flower Fields!



"Still - in a way -nobody sees a flower-  
really - it is so small  
we haven't the time and to see takes time,  
like to have a friend takes time"  
Georgia O'Keeffe

Thanks a bunch for picking Hydrangea Bleu!!



### TIPS & TRICKS FOR DAHLIAS!

1. Dahlias should look good for 4 to 5 days (be sure to use flower food)
2. Greatest availability is July-October
3. Be sure to use a clean vase - bacteria present in a dirty vase will affect vase life

Hydrangea Bleu Fine Flowers (949) 454-9041

## Eco: "Grown your own Reishi Mushroom Patch"



This very unusual mushroom is a work of art. Asian cultures have made this species a focus of their art for thousands of years not only because of its beauty, but because of the many beneficial health properties it possesses as well. Called Reishi by the Japanese and Ling Chi by the Chinese, but you can just call it delicious.!

### Features and Benefits

- Mushroom can be dried and made into a tea
- Many people are fond of the strong and distinctive flavor
- Certified organic by the Washington State Department of Agriculture

### Specifications

- **Size Dimensions:** 8 3/4" x 8" x 10 1/4"
- **Weight:** 7 lbs.
- **Materials:** Mushroom mycelium mixed in natural substrate
- **Key Features:** Fun and easy to grow, great for kitchen windows

To see the different varies of mushrooms available or for more information: on eco-gardening go to :  
[www.eco-gardening.com/mushrooms](http://www.eco-gardening.com/mushrooms)

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)

Join us on Hydrangea Bleu Twitter