

## Sandersonia - Plant



Christmas bells, Chinese Lily Sandersonia is a rhizomatous plant genus native to South Africa (the Cape Provinces, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Northern Provinces) and Swaziland, part of the family Colchicaceae. It has only one species, Sandersonia auratic. It is also called Christmas bells, golden lily of the valley or Chinese lantern lily or Chinese lantern bulb S. auratic is a perennial plant and a climber that can reach 30 inches in height. The flowers are yellow or orange

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Sales price R 592

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Description

### Description for Sandersonia

Sandersonia, otherwise know as Chinese Lily Lantern or Christmas Bells is a climbing bulb which produces masses of gold, bell-shaped flowers in Summer. It prefers well-drained soil in full sun to part shade.

Common name	Flower colours	Bloom time	Height	Difficulty
Christmas bells	Yellow or orange.	Late spring to early summer.	20"-28"	Easy to grow

### Planting and care

Sandersonia loves a sunny spot with well-drained loamy soil enriched with complete fertilizer. They only require water during the growing period until the flowers have finished, we then find it to be more drought tolerant than we expected. However, they do not like to be too wet over winter.

Sunlight	Soil	Water	Temperature	Fertilizer
Full sun	Well drained soil	Water plant once in a week	9.5-28°C	Apply any organic fertilizer

### Caring for Sandersonia

- The tube has two fleshy prongs emerging from the central bulb
- These prongs should be planted down and covered with 2 inches (5 cm) of topsoil with about 3.1 inches (8 cm) between each tuber.
- When shoots emerge they need to be protected from snails and slugs as they find them most desirable.
- They will do well in a pot or container so long as there is good drainage.
- They increase by making a new tuber each from the growing prong and often a small bulb on the other prong.
- They can also be grown from seed which is usually ready to harvest at the end of April.
- Seed should be planted early winter, sown thinly in trays or pots using a very well drained potting medium and covered with 0.4 inches

(1 cm) of a mixture.

## Typical uses of Sandersonia

**Special features:** It has an excellent shelf life of between 10-20 days, with the blooms continuing to mature up the stem over this period.

**Ornamental use:** The plant is used for ornamental purpose

## References

<http://www.easytogrowbulbs.com/p-1299-sandersonia.aspx> <http://worldoffloweringplants.com/grow-care-sandersonia/>  
<https://whitehousenursery.com.au/planting-guides/select-and-planting-sandersonia>