

*Let's make the tulip a bedding plant**

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Low energy requiring crops should not be forgotten. We do not know how long the low fuel prices will prevail, but this author has not forgotten the 73-74 Oil Embargo results.

Tulips as bedding plants will provide a new approach to an old crop plus relatively low costs for production.

The following is excerpted from Dr. Carlson's article: "We can plant the bulbs in our regular flat with 18 bulbs (one per cell) per flat. Purchase the bulbs in the fall and plant them between November 10 and 15 and place them at 48°F until December 1-5, then at 41°F until January 1-5 and then at 32°F to 35°F until they can be sold between March 16 and 28. The customers can then plant the started bulbs directly into their yard. The bulbs will flower between April 4 and 17. For growers in the northern areas a later flowering period is needed. Again purchase nonprecooled bulbs in the fall and plant around November 10-15 and place planted bulbs at 48°F until December 1-5, then at 41°F until January 1-5, then at 32°F to 35°F until April 1 for flowering by consumers in late April. They can be kept at 32°F to 35°F until as late as April 22 for flowering in early May.

For early flowering between April 4 and 17, the following varieties can be grown:

<u>Red</u>	<u>Pink or Rose</u>	<u>Orange</u>
Albury	Angelique	Orange Monarch
Arma	Christmas Marvel	Princess Irene
Couleur Cardinal	Palestrina	
Danton	Peerless Pink	
La Suisse		
Robinea		
	<u>Bi-Color</u>	<u>Bi-Color</u>
<u>Yellow</u>	<u>(red and white)</u>	<u>(red and yellow or cream)</u>
Makassar	Edith Eddy	Abra
Yellow Present	Invasion	Golden Eddy
Yokohama		Paris

* Adapted from: Carlson, W. 1981. Let's make the Tulip a bedding plant. American Vegetable Grower. 29(4):30.