



Southtown Dahlia Club

February 26, 2026

Board Member Reports

- John - Treasurer (Financials, Insurance)
- John - Membership (SDC & ADS)
- Jenny - Social Media
- Sue – Website & Dahlia Outreach



Today's Topic - Dahlia Garden Planning

- Soil Testing
 - Whitetail Institute (\$16) - Amazon





WHITETAIL
INSTITUTE
Soil Testing Services



Client : ** Copy To ** Keith Hill 10951 62nd St LaGrange Highlands, IL 60525	Grower : Whitetail Institute Hope Hull AL 36043 Date Received : 06/26/2025	Report No: 25-177-0773 Cust No: 15600 * Date Printed: 06/28/2025 Page : 6 of 6 Lab Number : 65084
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Sample Id : Farm

Table 2 N P K Fertilizer to Apply when using Bagged Fertilizer					
Please select only ONE fertilizer group from the list for the forage you are growing.					
Flowers					
Fertilizers available in your area.	Pounds to apply per acre.	Pounds to apply per 1000 sq ft			
34-0-0 and 0-46-0	385 48	8.85 1.10			

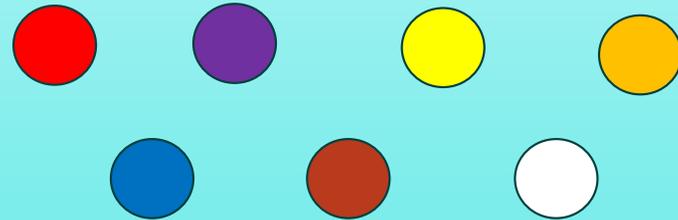
Today's Topic - Dahlia Garden Planning

- Soil Testing
 - National Show (Keith Berven)
 - Central States Website
 - MSUsoiltest.com (\$26)
 - Optimum Dahlia pH 6.4-6.8
 - 6.5-7.5 works well
 - Lime increases, Sulphur decreases
 - Who tests their soil?



Today's Topic - Dahlia Garden Planning

- Location
 - Min 6-8hrs of direct sun
 - Not under trees w/shallow roots
 - Well drained soil
 - Other hints???
- Space
 - Zig-Zag Pattern
 - A-AA: 24"
 - Remaining: 16"-18"



Today's Topic - Dahlia Garden Planning

- Pot Planting
 - Above Ground
 - Sink Pots
 - Who grows in pots?
 - How does maintenance differ from inground?
- Wildlife
 - Chicken wire large areas or individually



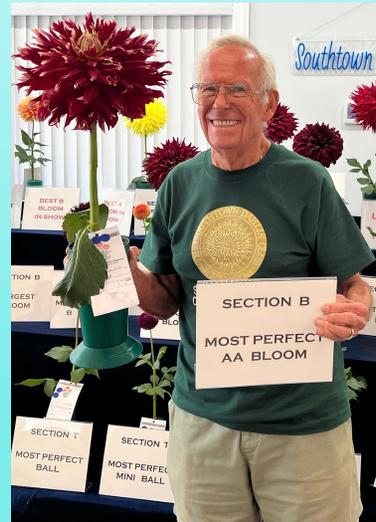
Today's Topic – Waking up Your Tubers

- Usually takes between 3-4 wks
 - Cuttings:
 - Feb 25-28,
 - Cuttings by end of March
 - Transfer to another medium to grow
 - Six weeks to get a healthy plant
 - Direct Planting:
 - Bring indoors 3-4 wks before Mother's Day (5/10)
 - Ground Temp at least 50 degrees



Reminders

- 2026 Show – Labor Day
 - President's Choice – Islander (Dahlia Addict – 32)
 - Heinz Memorial (Keith & Robin) – Nick Sr.
- Club T-shirts (\$17) & Aprons (\$10)
- Membership Dues





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