

## Dutch Iris



Another excellent iris for this area is the Dutch Iris. This plant is actually a hybrid of three native plants from Portugal, Spain and North Africa. What we call Dutch Iris was hybridized in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by a Dutch bulb firm. The flowers come in a range of colors from white to yellow to shades of blue. The photograph accompanying this page is a variety called Discovery which seems to do well here. Plant bulbs in the fall and cover the bulb well. This plant grows a tall upright cluster of thin leaves on a bulb from 12 to 18 inches tall. It blooms in the spring and goes dormant in the winter. In our climate, everything appreciates a little afternoon shade but Dutch Iris can tolerate full sun if watered properly. But don't water too much because you will get your best blossoms next spring if your bulbs are in a moderately dry location in the summer. While Dutch Iris tolerate a range of soil pH, they need well drained soil.