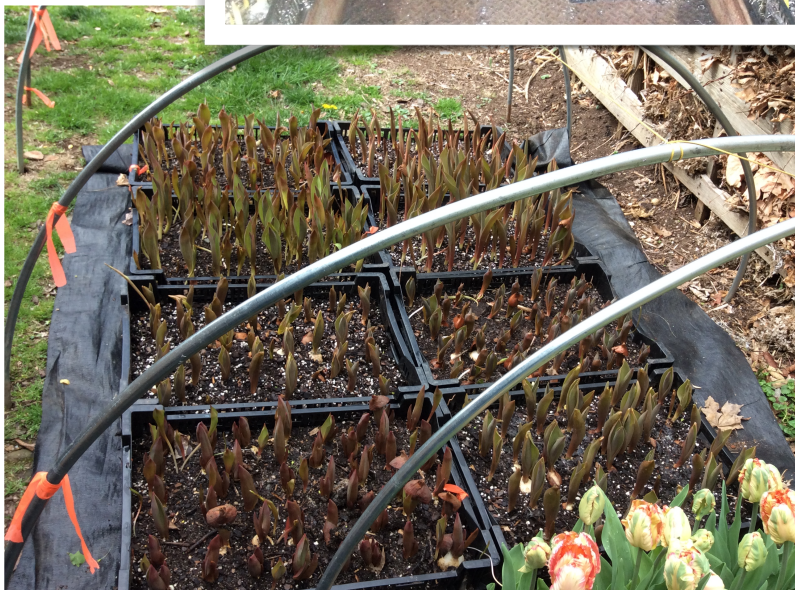


Quick photo guide to tulips growing in crates: Shady Grove Gardens

The shallow crates are filled with compost and tulips are barely covered (not shown)



- **What are the advantages?**
- Control over temperature
- Control over animals
- Ability to time the blooms
- Flexibility on growing space
- Deer protection
- No digging
- Ability to stagger blooms
- **2nd photo our cooler late spring:**
-
- To avoid sprouting keep near freezing starting at warmer temps.
- Watch for rodents or at grit to surface
- Initially the crates can be stacked to save space
- Make sure to label each crate name and date going into the cooler
- Each variety has a slightly different cool **chill requirement 13-17 weeks**
- You can start bringing them out after that chill is met.
-
- We delay because we want blooms in May. They will start to sprout after a certain point. Keep them cold.
- **3rd photo** shown them right out of the cooler, they green up in 1-2 days
- Now that we have a Colbot we have more control over temperature and less sprouting too early.
- Note tulips in bloom at the bottom
- **Hoops** provide support for row cover or bird netting
- Important if you have deer.
-
- Hoops can be used for shade cloth or in our case window screen support.
- We have May hail storms.
- Row cover in the next photo

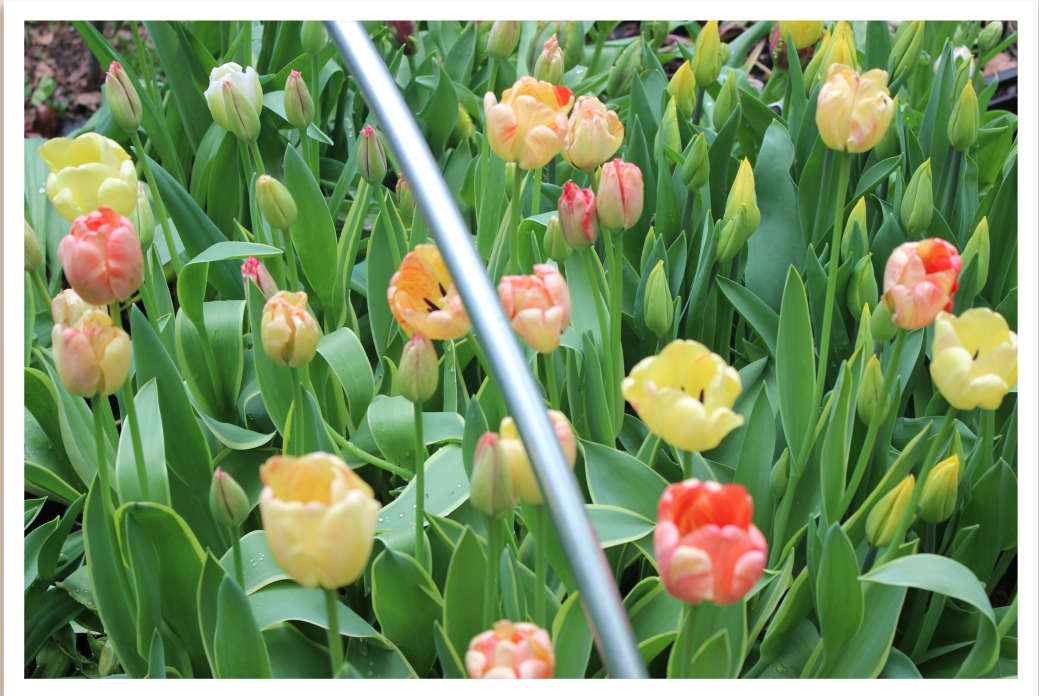
Quick photo guide to tulips growing in crates: Shady Grove Gardens



- Double hoops hold down the row cover
- <This photo shows the different ages of the tulip blooms
- You can also see screen to shade the south end.
- We sit the crates on weed barrier next to our house, giving them frost and late day sun protection
- Crates may need water daily
- Don't water the blooms, water the crates
- Next photos show some of the harvest
- We sell mostly retail, we start by pulling the entire bulb and store upright in the cooler
- We rarely have blooms too short, it is primarily a heat issue.
- You can always add shade
- We grow ~2000 tulips this way
- Our market is slow in spring
- We aim for May weddings, even June.



Quick photo guide to tulips growing in crates: Shady Grove Gardens



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Screens are for shade on hot May days.
The leaves on the trees are not out yet.

I hope this is of some help.

Please follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shadygrovegardens>
Instagram /sggarden

If you received this pdf link you are now on our mailing list for dahlia tubers and other exciting happenings at the farm including workshops and short courses.

Thanks

Susan Wright

Shady Grove Gardens