

To all members of WSDS.

Due to the COVID 19 spreading throughout Washington, the Wenatchee National Dahlia Show has been cancelled. They have so much preparation and things to be schedules, they opted to cancel the show as it is unknown when things will be opened back up. And when they are, the Social Distancing measures that will probably remain in place, making it impossible to have the show.

This being said, sadly, we are probably looking at a year without ANY Dahlia Shows. PLEASE don't be discouraged though, and give up on grooming your beautiful blooms. Ya never know, things might open up. Use this year as a learning year. If you have questions, I know that someone in the club can answer them! Direct them to either Marilyn or myself. (I will be sure to pass them on to a person with greater knowledge than mine to answer them)

This being said, I'm sure everyone is itching to get their dahlias into the ground and start growing. I know we are.

Soil amenities? I know there are many different thing growers add to their soil at planting time. Things such as:

Bone Meal

Blood Meal

Kelp Meal

Osmicote, or another form of time release fertilizer or

Vegetable Fertilizer

Green Sand

Alfalfa Meal

These are mixed together and applied to the ground when planting.

BEFORE PLANTING we apply

Super Sweet Lime (I don't lime my ground in the fall. And you can plant right away when using this. We are surrounded by cedar trees that shed into our dahlia beds all winter)

Many growers use similar mixtures. BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL At least in my garden after I plant is SLUG BAIT!!!! Those big slimy bug-gers are already out in full force!!!!

If you have any questions or suggestions that you would like shared with others in the club, please email me. Whether it be about planting, or what to do next, there are no bad questions.

DON'T BE DISCOURAGED this will pass and we will be stronger than ever. Hang in there, everyone is being affected in a million different way by this. Be grateful you are able to go outside and start your beautiful dahlias on their growing journey. Bringing joy and smiles to everyone who sees them!