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## Family, Home & Garden Education Center Info Line

### Question of the Week

**Q: I planted bulbs in early October and placed them in my basement. They've started to sprout. What do I do now?**

**A:** A good rule of thumb: when you see the shoots 2 to 3 inches above the soil and fine, white roots emerging from the drainage holes, it's time to bring the pots out of cold storage. Move the bulbs to a cool location, such as an unheated entryway or unheated bedroom, where the temperatures are in the '50s. Place bulbs in indirect light and don't allow them to dry out. Feed weekly with a half-strength solution of houseplant fertilizer. Turning the pots every day or so will keep the flower stems straight and strong. In a week or two, the stems will elongate and the buds will become plump. When the foliage and buds are well developed, move the pots to a bright, sunny window in a room where temperatures are near 65°F. Once the flowers begin to open, take the plants out of direct sunlight to prolong the bloom. Enjoy!

**Got questions? UNH Cooperative Extension's Family, Home & Garden Education Center Info Line offers practical help finding answers for your lawn and garden questions. Call toll free at 1-877-398-4769, M-F, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., or e-mail us at [fhgc@ceunh.unh.edu](mailto:fhgc@ceunh.unh.edu)**