

# Plant Identification Series

## Plant Families: Comparing Iridaceae and Liliaceae

	Iridaceae	Liliaceae
Flowers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Perfect</li><li>*Usually very showy</li><li>*Symmetrical to slightly irregular shape</li><li>*6 petal-like tepals in 2 whorls (often connected at the base)</li><li>*3 stamens, opposite outer tepals</li><li>*1 pistil with 3-chambered ovary</li><li>* 1 style may be branched or petaloid</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Perfect</li><li>*Usually very showy</li><li>*Mostly symmetrical shape</li><li>*6 petal-like tepals in 2 whorls (not connected at the base)</li><li>*6 stamens</li><li>*1 pistil with - chambered ovary</li><li>* 1 style with three-lobed stigma</li></ul>
Inflorescence type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Varies by genus.</li><li>*May be an inflorescence or a solitary flower</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Varies by genus.</li><li>*May be an inflorescence or a solitary flower</li></ul>
Fruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*3 valved capsule</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*3 valved capsule</li></ul>
Vegetative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*leaves basal, straplike, folded lengthwise</li><li>*parallel veins</li><li>*rhizomes, tubers or corms</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*leaves basal, cauline or some of both</li><li>*parallel veins</li><li>*rhizomes or bulbs</li></ul>