

Plant Identification Series

Plant Families: Comparing Iridaceae and Liliaceae

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