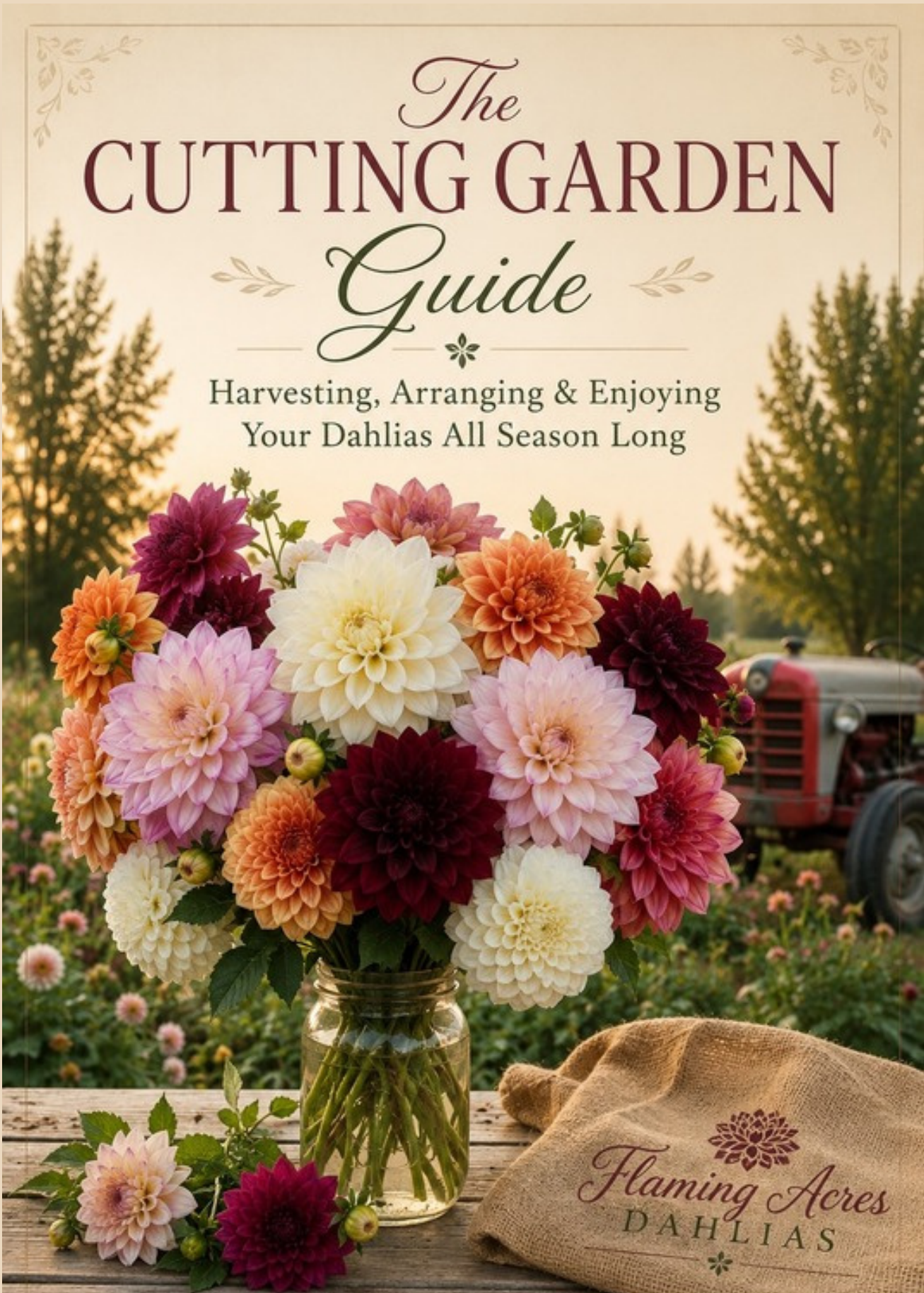




The CUTTING GARDEN *Guide*

Harvesting, Arranging & Enjoying
Your Dahlias All Season Long


Flaming Acres
DAHLIAS

FAITH • FAMILY • FLOWERS



From Our Garden to Yours



One of the greatest rewards of growing dahlias isn't simply watching them bloom—it's bringing them indoors to enjoy. Every bouquet is a reminder of the months spent preparing the soil, planting tubers, watering through summer heat, and patiently waiting for the first flowers.

Whether you're filling a favorite mason jar for your kitchen table or creating bouquets to share with friends and neighbors, I hope this guide helps you enjoy every bloom to its fullest.

Happy cutting,

Debra Flaming

Dion & Debra Flaming



From Our Garden

We cut in the cool of the morning when the flowers are hydrated and the air is gentle. It's our favorite time of day on the farm—quiet, beautiful, and full of promise.



KNOWING *When to Cut*

- ✓ Never cut buds that haven't begun to open.
- ✓ Cut blooms that are fully open but still fresh.
- ✓ Dahlia centers should feel firm—not soft.
- ✓ Morning and evening are the best harvest times.
- ✓ Avoid cutting during the heat of the day.

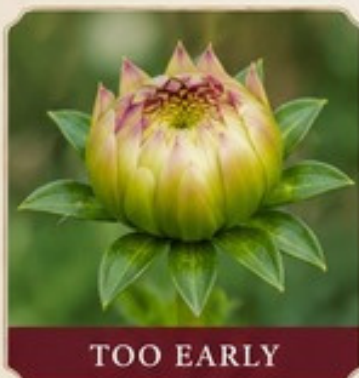
Cutting at the right stage encourages more blooms and gives you the longest vase life. Take a moment to look, feel, and choose only the best flowers for your bouquets.



From Our Garden

We harvest in the cool of the morning or evening when the stems are crisp and the flowers are at their best.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT STAGE



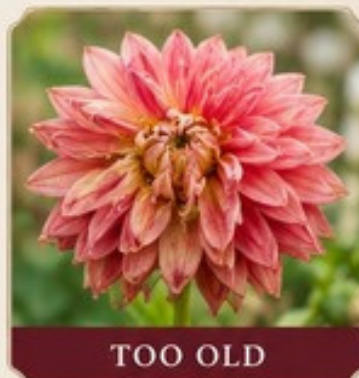
TOO EARLY

Petals are tight and the bloom has not started to open. It will not continue to open well in a vase.



JUST RIGHT

Fully open with fresh, firm petals and a strong center. This is the ideal stage for longest vase life.



TOO OLD

Petals may be fading, curling, or the center feels soft. The vase life will be much shorter.

HARVESTING

for More Flowers

Cutting your dahlias is one of the best things you can do for your plants.

When you harvest or deadhead regularly, you encourage your dahlias to produce more blooms with stronger stems all season long.

- ✿ Long stems are okay. Cutting longer stems encourages deeper, stronger tuber production.
- ✿ Cut just above a leaf node. Look for a set of leaves on the stem and cut about ¼ inch above it.
- ✿ New branches develop below the cut. This stimulates side shoots and more buds—meaning more flowers for you!
- ✿ Deadheading works the same way. Remove spent blooms by cutting just above a leaf node to keep your plants blooming.



From Our Garden

We harvest daily in the cool of the morning to encourage new growth and enjoy the freshest blooms indoors.

THE CUT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

1



Identify a healthy stem with leaves. Cut just above a leaf node.

2



The cut is made just above the leaf node.

3



New branches and buds develop below the cut, bringing more flowers.

4



More blooms for you all season long!

The more you cut, the more your dahlias will bloom!

CONDITIONING

Fresh-Cut Dahlias

Conditioning is the secret to longer-lasting bouquets and vibrant, hydrated blooms.

A few simple steps right after cutting make all the difference!

- 

1 Place stems into clean water.
As soon as possible, place your dahlias into clean, cool water to prevent wilting.
- 

2 Remove lower leaves.
Strip leaves that will fall below the water line to keep the water clean and reduce bacteria.
- 

3 Allow flowers to hydrate several hours.
Give your stems at least 2–4 hours (or overnight) to drink deeply before arranging.
- 

4 Keep buckets in a cool location.
Cool temperatures help your dahlias stay firm and fresh while they hydrate.



From Our Garden

We harvest in the cool of the morning or evening and place our dahlias in buckets of clean, cool water right away. This extra step makes a world of difference in how long our bouquets last!



1. Into clean water right away.



2. Remove leaves below the water line.



3. Let stems hydrate for several hours.



4. Keep in a cool, shaded location.

Why Conditioning Makes Such a Difference

When dahlias are cut, tiny air bubbles can form in the stems and block water uptake. Conditioning allows the stems to refill with water, strengthening the blooms and extending vase life.

Well-conditioned dahlias stand tall, open beautifully, and stay fresh for days.



KEEPING BOUQUETS *Fresh*

A few simple care tips will keep your dahlias looking beautiful for days!



- 1 Fresh water daily.**
Change the water every day to keep flowers hydrated and happy.



- 2 Wash vase.**
Keep your vase clean to prevent bacteria and extend bouquet life.



- 3 Re-cut stems.**
Trim stems at a 45° angle before placing in fresh water to help them absorb more water.



- 4 Keep away from direct sun.**
Place bouquets in a cool spot out of direct sunlight to keep blooms fresh longer.



- 5 Avoid ripening fruit.**
Keep bouquets away from fruit and produce, which can release ethylene gas and cause flowers to fade more quickly.



Why It Matters

Dahlias are generous flowers, and with a little care they will reward you with beautiful blooms for many days. Proper conditioning and daily care help your bouquets stay fresh, vibrant and full of life.

SIMPLE STEPS FOR LONGER-LASTING BOUQUETS



Change water every day.



Wash vase thoroughly.



Re-cut stems at a 45° angle.



Keep in a cool spot, out of direct sun.



Keep away from ripening fruit.

With a little extra care, your dahlias will bless your home for days to come.

EASY Bouquet Recipes

Dahlias are naturally beautiful on their own, but combining colors and textures creates bouquets that are even more stunning. Use these simple color recipes as inspiration for your next arrangement!



SUMMER SUNSET

Warm, cheerful tones that glow like golden hour.



Orange



Peach



Coral



Cream



COTTAGE GARDEN

Soft, sweet, and timeless—just like a summer garden.



Pink



White



Lavender



Soft Lilac



BOLD & DRAMATIC

Rich, moody hues that make a striking statement.



Deep Burgundy



Plum



Dark Red



Wine



SOFT ROMANCE

Light, delicate, and full of elegant charm.



Blush



Cream



Dusty Rose



Soft Pink



Mix, match, and make each bouquet your own.
There are no rules—only what makes you smile.

SHARING *the Harvest*

Dahlias bring so much joy to our own homes—and they bring joy to others, too.

A simple bouquet can brighten a day, lift a heart, and remind someone they are loved.

Ways to Share Your Blooms



NEIGHBOR

A little surprise on the porch goes a long way.



CHURCH

Share with your church office, teachers, or volunteers.



TEACHER

Teachers work hard—flowers say “thank you.”



NURSING HOME

Brighten someone's day with beauty and kindness.



FRIEND HAVING A DIFFICULT WEEK

Let them know you're thinking of them.



HOSPITAL VISIT

Bring a bit of comfort and encouragement.



DINNER INVITATION

A small bouquet makes every meal feel special.



*Flowers have a wonderful way
of saying things words
sometimes cannot.*

From Our Garden

We believe flowers are meant to be shared. When we give bouquets away, we don't just share blooms—we share the joy of growing, the beauty of the season, and the love that God brings through simple things.



LOOKING TOWARD *Late Summer*

Summer never lasts forever, but every bouquet reminds us to enjoy the beauty of today.

Before long, we'll begin thinking about dividing tubers, storing them safely, and preparing for another growing season.

➤ *Until then...* ➤



Keep cutting.



Keep sharing.



Keep growing.



➤ FROM OUR GARDEN ➤

We are already soaking in the long days, the golden light, and the joy of harvest. We hope this guide helps you make the most of every bloom and share a little beauty wherever you go.



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