

## Summer Snowflake

**Leucojum aestivum**, commonly called summer snowflake or Loddon lily (see River Loddon ), is a plant species widely cultivated as an ornamental. It is native to most of Europe from Spain and Ireland to Ukraine, with the exception of Scandinavia, Russia, Belarus and the Baltic Republics. It is also considered native to Turkey, Iran and the Caucasus.

This plant is a bulbous perennial that grows up to 24" tall. Despite the common name of Summer Snowflake, the plant's drooping, white, green-tipped flowers bloom mid-spring or late winter rather than summer. Compared to *G. nivalis*, this plant has tepals of equivalent size. This plant spreads readily and is often planted in lawns as well as rock gardens, under deciduous trees, in shrub borders, as ground cover, in woodland gardens, and in flower beds. It does best when it is planted in mass. This plant is tolerant of heavy deciduous shade, tolerates drought during dormancy, and needs moisture during its growth period. This plant is also tolerant of wet and clay soils. This plant is seldom damaged by deer. Plant in autumn, bury bulbs 2-4" deep and space 6" apart.

