

Bouquets

FROM PAGE 4

Wildflowers such as dahlia's and purple perennial butterfly aster, as well as white and pink peonies are also in demand.

The Flower Station imports roses from South America, as the Ecuadorian and Columbian roses carry bulbs of up to two-and-a-

half inches in diameter. "We suggest coming in three to four months ahead for a consultation," Edgington said.

Scent in the bouquets can also be kicked up by stargazer and mountain lilies as well as stock.

"We've got a couple of spring weddings planned already," Edgington said. "People are watching their pennies and the economy

absolutely has an impact on us. Our business is up but our bottom line is shrinking."

Connie Misico of Elk Lake Floral in Elk Rapids sees multi colored pastels as the trend to watch this year.

"Orchids and lilies in lighter pink, lilacs in light yellow and peach are in," Misico said. "I think the weather plays a big part in the trends. We are using a

lot more scented flowers and fragrance."

Roses in lavender and peach sell just as well as the more traditional red and white.

"Most of our flowers are locally available," Misico said. "I have a feeling that things are going to be very moderate

this year as many people are on a tough financial road."

Of course, presentation determines the life span of any floral arrangement. Bouquets will only live a matter of days, where as flowers kept in moisture can be expected to live from one to two weeks.

Mike Couling is a local freelance writer.

Record-Eagle/Lara Neel

Boutonnieres for men in a wedding are just as important as bouquets.



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