

WHY HYDRANGEAS FAIL TO BLOOM...

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When a late spring freeze arrives it can ruin the developing bloom buds of the Blue Hydrangeas. The freeze may be light and even go unnoticed until one realizes that the blooms are not forming. The cold may kill all the emerging leaves, too. As a result, most of the new growth comes from the roots. When this occurs, you know you have a problem.

Most flower buds develop on the old stems. Once these stems are damaged in late freeze, new flowers will not appear until the following year or possibly late in the season. This is the rule for the vast majority of mopheads (macrophyllas) but there are exceptional hydrangeas that will bloom despite this damage. Reblooming cultivars are becoming the most popular types offered for sale in local nurseries. Endless Summer, Penny Mac, and Dooley are examples of reblooming Blue Hydrangeas.

Also keep in mind that **improper pruning** may be the culprit. If you have pruned your hydrangea this year, you may want to leave them alone in the future. Pruning the larger canes removes the source of flower buds.

For more information, visit www.hydrangeashydrangeas.com/wont_bloom.html.

