

# *The Daffodil Journal*

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AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

# The Daffodil Journal

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Articles and photographs (glossy finish for black and white, transparency for color) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society. Manuscripts should be typewritten double-spaced, and all material should be addressed to the Editor.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS JULY 5, 1992

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## SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Individual.....	per year	\$20.00
	for three years	\$50.00
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## ADVERTISING RATES

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### COVER

*N. assoanus* at Sierra San Juan de la Pena, 1500M. (Andersen photo)

## 1992 COLUMBUS CONVENTION

**KATHRYN S. ANDERSEN**, *Wilmington, Delaware*

In spite of dire reports of ravaging weather, the daffodils which greeted us in Columbus, Ohio, April 21 to 25, were breathtaking and in great abundance. Almost all of the major ADS awards which are only offered at a National Show were presented, with a healthy proportion going to the local exhibitors (who in advance of the show were reported to be devastated). One notable exception was the Lavender Ribbon which Delia Bankhead (Hillsboro, VA) won in a field of fourteen entries. Brian

Duncan (Northern Ireland) and Mary Lou Gripshover (Milford, OH) captured the Challenge Trophies with choice blooms which Convention visitors admired and longed to grow in their own gardens.

Much daffodil information was available at the two topical breakfast meetings. At the hybridizers' breakfast, several experienced growers stressed the importance of starting with smooth flowers and trying to breed *in* good characteristics not starting with rough ones and trying to breed *out* undesirable characteristics. Three gems gleaned from the judges refresher breakfast are:

1. Don't eliminate a double just because it has a little bit of green on the reverse.
2. Honorable Mention Ribbons are definitely not 4th place! They should only be given if a 1st, 2nd and 3rd have been awarded.
3. Do not consider subdividing a class unless there will be worthy blooms in both sections.

The Convention featured three dinner meetings. At the first one on Thursday evening, Show Awards were presented and the annual auction was held. With Steve Vinisky (Sherwood, OR) as auctioneer, the bidding was lively and sometimes heated. Peggy White, a white long cup, hybridized by Bill Pannill and named for the President of the Georgia Federation of Garden Clubs attracted much interest. Spud Brogden, Graham Phillips and Peter Ramsey provided bulbs from New Zealand which the lucky bidders took home to be planted immediately.

The ADS Silver and Gold Medals were presented at the Annual Meeting Friday night. Loyce Mackenzie (Madison, MS) received the ADS Silver Medal for service to the Society as evidenced by her 13 year stint as Show Reporter and other responsible duties such as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Kate Reade (Broughshane, Northern Ireland) was honored with the Gold Medal for her contribution to the Genus. Her many fine introductions from Carncairn Daffodils which we all know and love (especially Foundling) have done much to advance the daffodil. Following the Annual Meeting, Don Barnes, Secretary of the Daffodil Society (England) spoke on "The Pleasures of Daffodils". He entertained and amused us with his dry sense of humor and related tales of growing and showing daffodils. The perfect after-dinner speaker, he is England's answer to Bill Pannill.

If Don Barnes is England's answer to Bill Pannill, Peter Ramsey is New Zealand's answer. At dinner on Saturday night, Peter had us rolling off our chairs with his stories of his cat that crept under the fumigating cover and other amusing adventures with daffodils over the years. He told us that he would not have carried out his hybridizing program as he did if he were to start anew. He would use only smooth flowers

with good characteristics. Peter had some grand slides of New Zealand bulbs that whetted our appetites for the upcoming World Convention there in September, 1996.

Naomi Liggett, Convention Chairman and graphics perfectionist, produced *all* printed materials for the Convention on her computer. The schedule was neon pink, an Ameriflora map wild purple, and the schedule of daily events brilliant turquoise. Until we climbed out of the bus at the entrance to Ameriflora, I had no idea what influenced her to select such a shocking array of colors. These were the Ameriflora colors, cold fire colors that make one sit up and take notice. Even the pavement at the entrance was neon pink. The other colors were all nearby and could be seen in different places throughout the 88 acres of Franklin Park where the event took place.

During our time in Columbus, the temperature seemed to drop about 10° per day. By Friday when we reached Ameriflora, the chill had really set in along with intermittent drizzles. We boarded a tram for the Grand International Indoor Horticultural Exhibition and Competition so that we could view it at leisure before crowds gathered. A series of gardens created by various International Groups, Nursery Groups and Seed Companies had been judged for overall, artistic and technical presentation as well as for 327 different awards. Sometimes six or so ribbons hung on an exhibit. The big overall winner, staged by Optimara U.S.A. (Nashville, TN), was an exhibit of African Violets set out as an undulating American flag to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the discovery of the African Violet. Pots of flat flowers can be extremely difficult to manipulate, but this group used much imagination in creating a spectacular design all in Ameriflora colors.

During our stay at Ameriflora, everyone visited and greatly admired the Central Ohio Daffodil Society's grand exhibit of daffodils. The large rectangular bed was ablaze with flowers *all at peak bloom*. Bulbs had been supplied by several individual and commercial growers with the great majority a gift from Wim Lemmers (Holland). (All were dug in mid-May by a handful of CODs members and donated to the Columbus Zoo.) Visits to the conservatory, Disney World topiaries, victory garden and numerous other exhibits made for a very pleasant day.

Saturday morning, we boarded buses for Whetstone Park to be followed by Handy Hatfield's garden. Much work had been done by CODs members in setting up the neat beds at Whetstone. Clear and attractive signage identified the blooms. We were all given maps to help orient ourselves. Severe winter freezes had damaged a number of cultivars. It was interesting to observe those which remained unscathed. Differences in cold weather tolerance were impressive. Some cultivars such as Golden Amber appeared almost dead under rotting foliage.

Others, such as Spindletop were unscathed. At Hatfield's in Stoutsville, we observed the latest cultivars beautifully landscaped into Handy's elegant gardens. The immaculate beds around the house displayed to best advantage collections of many different types of plants: exciting perennials including hostas, magnolias, hemerocallis, many different pulmonaries and a fern-leafed peony, ornamental grasses, dwarf and weeping evergreens, and much more. This garden is a super spot, even in the rain. Across the street, we had an opportunity to view Sid DuBose's new flowers which Handy is introducing. As is always true on these bus trips, there was not enough time to savor all of the beauty in Handy's plantings.

Those of us who attended the Columbus Convention will long remember this wonderful weekend, the perfect organization which we have come to expect of our Central Ohio Daffodil Society hosts, the beautiful flowers we know that we will see there and the wonderful sharing of daffodil experiences with other growers. Naomi, we thank you and your Committee for your super efforts.

## MAYBE I PRAYED TOO HARD

PEGGY MACNEALE, *Cincinnati, Ohio*

As February '92 grew warmer with each passing day, I cringed every time a neighbor said: "Isn't this weather *wonderful!*" "No!" I'd reply, "It's way too hot!" The early crocus came and went, along with the aconites, and the daffodils were flying up out of the beds. There are some little old bicolors along my back fence that always come out early — buds were in evidence in January this year, and I was picking them on February 21. The weatherman kept promising rain and cooler, but the real drop in temperature never materialized, and the soil became so dry that we pulled the hoses out and started watering. It was the third of March and almost 80 degrees.

Within a few days all the February Golds were full out, plus Ice Follies, Limelight, Moonmist, Titmouse, Ceylon, and others — even mid-season varieties had buds far too advanced. I figured they were a good three weeks early. At this rate the garden would be bloomed out before our show — certainly before the convention in Columbus. So, prayers were in order. "Oh Lord, can't you cool it down?" The pleas were fervent — and answered with a vengeance!

On March 11 the bottom dropped out of the thermometer, and now I am looking at the worst disaster my garden has ever had. Back Chat,

Glenfarclas, Golden Rapture, and almost all the Lochs are flat on the ground and the slugs are having a field day. Every bud over 3" tall is also laid low, with stems like white string and necks broken. This includes Rio Rouge, Daydream, Pop's Legacy, Golden Amber, Dimity. Evidently the three nights in the teens caused the same damage over a wide area. The only flowers that I *think* may bloom safely are the Div. 3's and some new plantings where buds are still down deep in the leaves — perhaps a quarter of my total possibility.

The foliage of most all the daffs is burned white. What will next year's bloom be like with so little greenery available for photosynthesis? I fear recovery of bulbs will be slow. We in the midwest are all grieving over this death of our dreams.

## THAT MARVELOUS MEETING IN '64

JANE BIRCHFIELD, Abingdon, Virginia

A recent letter started, "Dear Jane — thank you again for a lovely day. All of us enjoyed the delicious luncheon, the company of good friends, those fascinating exhibits, the *darling* place cards, the *heavenly* camellias — even the snow!"

In my experience it is truly remarkable to get a letter like this — almost unheard of in this case, i.e. almost thirty years after the event! The amazing thing is that over and over again, through the years, I have received similar letters, about this same meeting. There was something magical about that day — not to be forgotten by anyone who was there.

At the time I was president of the Washington Daffodil Society. Originally I wanted this spring meeting to be special and when we learned that Nell Richardson would be our honored guest — all the more reason to make the effort to put on a big bash.

The members of the board agreed it would be nice to have the meeting at the old Laurel Brigade Inn, in Leesburg. A perfect setting, for the beautiful old house built of the native Catocin greenstone is a gem of Colonial architecture, and historically it is fascinating for it was where the Marquis de Lafayette stayed when he made his first triumphal visit to the states, and, later, it was the official headquarters of the Laurel Brigade of the Confederate Army.

From a practical standpoint it made sense too; the roads were good, at that time traffic was no problem, and there was ample parking just across the street. Add on the fact that the food served by this inn is famous — it just didn't seem possible that anything could go wrong to keep this from being a memorable day. Well, everything did go right — except the weather!

The dining room had two charming glassed-in alcoves, overlooking the walled garden in back. One was to be filled with a "show" of fresh daffodils, the other would provide space for tables laden with glasses, silver, and cheerful bottles of various vintages.

The first hitch came when it became apparent there would be no display of fresh daffodils. Just days before the meeting we had a flower count of one stem of *N. asturiensis* and two *N. cyclamineus*. Some Show! This presented the problem of a daffodil meeting with no daffodils, save for the teeny-tiny plastic miniature daffodils I had tracked down to use on our place cards.

How could we fill that alcove? After cogitating on the problem for a spell, I thought, "why not make a display of everything anyone had, with a daffodil design?" So, the S.O.S. went out, *bring anything that used the daffodil theme as part of its design*. As it turned out this proved to be a good idea and thus we were the first group to present the great-grand-daddy of our present Daffodil Boutiques.

Next I asked Joan Holden to see if she could persuade Myrtle (her devoted Ma-in-Law) to give us a camellia bloom or two, so we could at least have a *buttoniere* for the guest of honor.

Then I sent out a distress signal to our southernmost members, the Dardens and the Seney's; "Ya'll come and please, *por favor* bring daffodils, if possible."

From here on we just had to have faith that things would work out and somehow we would be saved from a total disaster. Then came the morning of the meeting and it looked as though we couldn't even have a meeting — successful or otherwise. The snow was snowing all around and it didn't look like stopping any time soon.

I was the first one to arrive at the Inn (i.e. after the cook). To make the place look more cheerful I started a roaring log fire and lit lots of candles. By the time I had done this other members started rolling in, to begin to set up tables, bring forth the glasses and bottles and arrange the place cards.

Then Joan arrived, bringing four huge trays of fresh, lovely camellias — enough for arrangements for each table and single posies for all of our special guests in addition to our pretty, young "helpers."

By this time, the place began to look mighty pretty and then the members started arriving, bringing a wonderful assortment of *objects avec narcisses!* What an array: pins, earrings, ties and clips; cards and note paper; stamps, porcelaine, pottery — all sorts of little god-wotteries; ash trays and vases; needlepoint handbags, tote bags, posters, paintings — and even a perky parasol of clear plastic, covered with painted daffodils.

By the time Kitty Bloomer rolled in, bringing Nell Richardson, the place looked very festive — even if we lacked fresh daffodils.

I had just decided that this was *it* — we couldn't possibly expect the Dardens and Seneys to get there in this weather. Then I heard the front door of the Inn blow open, feet stamping snow, excited voices and laughter — and in came Betty and Richard Darden and Frank Seney carrying buckets and bottles of daffodils, and Irveen bearing the most handsome mass arrangement of fresh daffodils — made of (what else) Ice Follies!

Thanks to everyone we had the best meeting anyone could remember. And, to top it all off, Jim took Nell Richardson up to see the nearby village of Waterford, Virginia — and then went for a short tour of the beautiful stone dairy barns in the area.

Later Nell wrote that from cows to camellias it was the most delightful meeting she had ever attended. (Even those who weren't particularly interested in the cows agreed.)

It was so nice to have this letter "surface" for it brought so many happy memories of times past. And, to make it even nicer, I also found the negatives of the pictures Jim took that day. He made prints so I could send the Darden children pictures of Betty and Richard, and to a few other hardy souls who are still with us.

And, there is a nice picture of three of our daffodil "greats" including Betty Darden showing the exhibit of Daffodil Stationery to Maxine Lawler and Nell Richardson. Bless them all. These, indeed were "the days, my friend."

Finally, even that weather contributed to the magic of that day. For we all agreed that being in that warm, friendly, lovely room — sparkling with candlelight and firelight — looking beyond the windows, to the whirling snowflakes outside, we all felt as though we were in the tiny world of one of those "snowstorm" paper weights!

## **DAFFODILS AND DAYLILIES . . . A GREAT TEAM**

**JEANETTE LOWE**, *Doylestown, Pennsylvania*

Masses of cheerful blooms to welcome spring! Lovely, fragrant lily-like flowers starting in June and lasting into August! A dependable, carefree colorama, returning year after year in increasing quantity and beauty! Does this floral bonanza sound too good to be true? It can easily be yours when you plant that great team, Daffodils and Daylilies, this fall. They are not only beautiful but easy to grow floral companions both for new gardeners and old pros.

## **Choose Dependable Daffodil Varieties**

Take your pick from the many top-notch daffodil varieties on the market. A few of the best for initial beauty and reliable increase spring after spring include:

Artic Gold and Kingscourt, giant trumpet yellows that shout "Spring is here."

Broughshane and Glacier, giant trumpet whites for a cool touch. Bravoure, a favorite bicolor with white petals in contrast to a yellow cup.

Ice Follies, a weather-resistant, long-lasting charmer with large, flat, frilled, primrose yellow cups maturing to white.

Accent and Coquille, showy Pink Daffodils.

Peeping Tom and Tete-à-Tete, spritely cyclamineus daffodils, golden yellow treasures that bloom very early.

Ceylon, a long cupped daffodil with yellow petals and a contrasting orange "sunproof" cup.

Plus many more.

## **Select Daylilies for Long-Season Bloom**

With spring flowers assured by your selection of daffodils, it's time to turn to the other half of the team, daylilies, for summer bloom. You'll want to choose early to late flowering varieties, as well as some of the repeat bloomers, to provide color in your garden from June into August:

Stella D'Oro, a repeat bloomer all summer with golden flowers on two foot stems.

Hearts Afire, deep red blooms with golden centers in early midseason, on compact 18 inch stems.

Hyperion, a long time, tried and true favorite, with big, very fragrant, lemon yellow flowers in midseason on tall, 40 inch stems.

Pink Charm, radiant pink flowers with orange throats in midseason. Height 36 inches.

Pompian Rose, rose blooms with golden throats in midseason. Height 36 inches.

Other varieties of daylilies will tempt you further, especially the extremely hardy, vigorous and showy Tetraploids including Mary Todd (deep gold) and Chicago Weathermaster (plum petals with a cream central stripe).

## **How to Plant the Daffodil-Daylily Team**

Daffodils and daylilies can be planted anytime this fall until the ground starts to freeze. It's better, however, to get the daffodil bulbs into the ground in early fall, and it's certainly more pleasant to put in the daylily roots while the weather is mellow. Both daffodils and daylilies thrive in average fertile, well-prepared and well-drained soil in sunny to slightly shady locations.

Complete cultural directions will accompany your purchases but in general daffodil bulbs are planted about six inches deep, and six to eight inches apart; daylillies, with root crowns (tops) about one inch deep and two feet apart

For the best team effect, plant generous clumps or drifts of daffodil bulbs toward the rear of your flower beds or borders. Position the daylillies in graceful sweeps around the front and sides of the daffodil groups. If you have a large property, plant masses of daffodils along your driveway, or at lawn edges. Surround the daffodils with daylillies. You'll enjoy the full spring bonanza of daffodil flowers before the daylillies grow very much.

After the daffodils finish blooming, and their foliage looks rather unsightly during the necessary six weeks or more it must mature to nourish bulbs for next spring's display, the daylily plants burst into action. Fountains of long tapering leaves quickly hide the declining daffodils. Soon the earliest blooming daylillies come into their full glory. Masses of magnificent lily-like flowers not only highlight your garden and yard, but also perfume the air, starting a summer-long colorama that continues the daffodil's promise of many months of beautiful bloom.

Lovely to see, easy to grow, foolproof, long-lasting and practically pest free . . . daffodils and daylilies are a great team you'll appreciate more year after year.

## WHERE CAN I GET . . . ?

Daffodils originated prior to 1900,  
for historic restorations.....Joseph G. Hamm  
Daffodils registered in 1938.....4815 Fauna Lane  
Indianapolis, IN 46234

Richardson cultivars named for  
outstanding steeplechasers.....John Kibler  
and racehorses.....Rt. 3, Box 168  
Warrenton, VA 22186

Honey Bells, 5 Y-Y.....Frank B. Galyon, M.D.  
1816 Tanager Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37919

Has anyone found Gallipoli for the Gallipoli Society of Great Britain?  
(See page 183 in the *March Journal*.)

## MEET YOUR NEW PRESIDENT

**PAULINE DICKENSON**, *Chambersburg, Pennsylvania*

I find it difficult to write about our new president, Richard Ezell, because there is far too much to compress into one short article.

Born on a goat farm in Arkansas, he worked his way through diverse occupations, and, after teaching English Literature in Temple University and Wilson College, he is now Director of the Conococheague Library System in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. In his "spare time" he is also a professional story teller, and those who have heard his many dialects are fortunate indeed. He and his wife, Johanna, also a librarian and an actress, have a daughter, Alison, a student at the Pennsylvania State University.

In the world of daffodils, Richard is an accredited judge and judging school instructor and has judged major shows in England, Ireland and the United States. He has won two Gold Quinn awards, served as Regional Vice-President for the North East Region, and as 1st Vice President in the A.D.S. He has also served as President of the Tuscarora Daffodil Group which he was instrumental in forming.

As a hybridizer, he has several important goals: to advance the concept of poeticus hybrids by breeding different colors, such as yellow perianths and pink or white coronas; to improve the health of white daffodils in warm and humid climates; to develop split coronas of good form; and to introduce camellia-form doubles.

Richard grew up in gardening, and daffodils are his favorite flower for their combination of beauty, grace, color and ease of growing. He feels that there's nothing more fun in gardening than growing daffodils, and when people come to understand that, daffodils may become the most popular flower in the world.

With the enthusiasm and optimism that Richard Ezell exudes, I know that the A.D.S. will grow and strengthen under his presidency.



**Richard Ezell**  
with Pure Joy.

GRIPSHOVER

## BULLETIN BOARD

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Nobody, but nobody, stages a better Convention and National Show than the Central Ohio Daffodil Society and their midwestern colleagues. Many thanks to Naomi Liggett and to all those who helped bring about such a wonderful experience for the rest of us.

At the Convention your Board of Directors adopted far-ranging proposals for fostering the growth of membership in the Society. When new Membership Committee Chairman, Delia Bankhead, asks for your help, please do all you can. The Board voted the Wister Award for an outstanding garden daffodil to the cultivar, Ice Follies. A bit of a surprise choice, its nomination produced the liveliest debate of the Convention. (It was good to hear such robust disagreement on the personalities of flowers, rather than on those of people, as has sometimes been the case.)

Julius Wadekamper and his Display Gardens/Wister Award Committee are hoping to secure some national publicity for Ice Follies and previous Wister Award winners, Stratosphere and Accent. Their efforts will be coordinated with those of the Membership Committee so that the ADS may well benefit, along with the award winners.

Nancy Gill, Ohio, has agreed to continue in her sensitive and important role as Chairman of the Committee on By-Laws. Please communicate directly to her any thoughts you might have on the subject, particularly in the area of nominations for national offices in the Society.

Dr. Tom Throckmorton has elected to leave the Board, and chairmanship of the Data Bank Committee. We will miss him, but can never forget the tremendous contribution he made to the daffodil world with the Color Code System of daffodil identification. This committee will be chaired by Bob Jerrill who has been working with Dr. Tom for several years.

Many of my daffodils are still in fine bloom as I write this, but as you read it we'll both be thinking about digging all those bulbs we meant to lift last year. Yet what a satisfying task digging can be, as long as the temperatures stay below the 90's and our bulbs come up fat and healthy. May all yours be so, and may no dreams of fly larvae nor fusarium trouble your summertime rest.

—RICHARD EZELL

## CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

The following cultivars were omitted or incorrectly listed in the March listings of classification changes. Please make note of them in your copy of *Daffodils to Show and Grow*.

	Change to:
Audubon	3 W-WWP
Occasionally	1 W-Y
Sacajawea	2 Y-YYO
Tranquil Morn	3 W-W
152557	

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Bailey, Benefactor, Columbus, Dalliance, Fireraiser, Forge Mill, Gin and Lime, Inniswood, Irish Linen, Menucha, Merlin's Castle, Pale Sunlight, Picasso, Rory's Glen, Timolin, Foundling . . . Kate Reade. Beautiful flowers, beautiful lady.

The ADS Gold Medal is awarded to Kate Reade, Mistress of Carncairn Lodge, Broughshane, Northern Ireland, in recognition of her pre-eminent creative work in the understanding and advancement of daffodils.

This award goes to Kate because of the beauty she has given to the world, and also because of the beautiful person she is: ever-friendly, courteous, and patient with expert and novice alike. Happily unpretentious, she takes daffodils seriously but not solemnly. She wears her knowledge and experience lightly, her infectious smile never long from her face.

In addition to her frequent attendance at ADS conventions, she has welcomed countless daffodil enthusiasts from all over the world to Carncairn Lodge, where her welcome is matched by that of her husband, Robin, an elegant host.

Kate's skills as a hybridizer and exhibitor are attested to by her many awards, from the Championship of Ireland to the Grant and Amy Mitsch Award at last year's ADS convention and, finally, by that most prestigious award of the Royal Horticulture Society: the Peter Barr Memorial Cup.

It is the hope and wish of the American Daffodil Society, in conferring upon her its highest honor, that the name Kate Reade may be remembered with appreciation and affection as long as her daffodils continue to brighten and enrich all the springs of our lives.



**Kate Reade with the  
Peter Bar Memorial Cup**

## SILVER MEDAL

The cliché has it that when you want to get something done, you ask a busy person. The Silver Medal in recognition of outstanding service to the American Daffodil Society is to be awarded to one of the busiest, and one who has performed truly amazing work for the ADS in increasing the understanding and appreciation of the daffodil.

She has developed and promoted shows in places where support was often hard to come by. She has chaired one of the Board of Directors' most important committees. While doing these things, she has held a full-time job and raised a family.

Others, you may be thinking, have done as much. Indeed they have, and the society deeply appreciates their efforts. But no one else, no one, has done so much to keep up the enthusiasm of the membership; for thirteen long years she has written the ADS *Journal's* entertaining, informative annual "Show Report."

Her name? Loyce McKenzie.

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- Fall Board Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland.....Sept. 11-12, 1992  
ADS Convention, Nashville, Tennessee.....April 1-3, 1993  
ADS Convention, Portland, Oregon.....Spring, 1994  
ADS Convention, Dallas, Texas.....Spring, 1995

### AT HOME WITH CROSFIELD CROSSES – TRUMPETS TO POETS

**MEG YERGER**, *Princess Anne, Maryland*

The daffodils in the garden at the Ernest M. Crosfield house in Lymm, Cheshire, England, thrived so handsomely Mrs. Crosfield thought they were worth exhibiting at the Midland Daffodil Society Show in nearby Birmingham. Her husband had been experimenting with raising daffodils from seed.

The Crosfield bulbs were top-of-the-line in their day having come from those bred by Leeds, William Backhouse, and the Dutch firm of de Graaff. They had multiplied to such an extent that lifting, dividing, and replanting was essential. With such a major project facing them it was easy for the Crosfields to convince themselves that they needed a larger place in which to garden. Since a desirable location could also be suitable for Mr. Crosfield's interest in shooting and fishing they were attracted to an area of rivers and streams with, in all probability, a high water table to provide ready moisture for the daffodils.

In 1902, the Crosfields transferred their bulbs from Western England across the River Dee to a new home in a village called Little Acton, near Wrexham, Wales. Mrs. Crosfield may have said, "E.M., dear, now that these are all sorted out and in such fine shape wouldn't you like to enter them in the show? Please do it, dear. Please do it." He did enter as a principal grower with his entry in a class for fifty varieties and came in fifth. One of the white trumpets in the collection was a seedling of his own named for his wife. The only poet included was Almira. The next year he won third place with essentially the same blooms but included the poets Cassandra, Chaucer and Ornatus in addition to Almira to add balance to the collection.

He was amazingly successful at raising seedlings, particularly tall, large, refined white trumpets such as those which were eventually named

Catrina, Countess of Stamford, Fiona, Frostbound, Indamora, Lola, Majestic, Maid Marian, Mrs. Ernest Crosfield and Noblesse. To a man for whom salmon fishing had been the ultimate in pleasure the length of time it took to raise a daffodil from seed was as nothing. To play a salmon while standing hip deep in a stream until the fish tired itself out was training in the patience needed to await blooms from crosses made perhaps four to seven years before. Mr. Crosfield's crosses proved to be so spectacular he became as hooked on daffodils as the fish he caught were hooked on his line.

Many of the best new seedlings were triandrus and the flowers Crosfield called his "cups and eyes". Present day classification would place them as long cups, short cups, and poets.

Outstanding varieties with long cups included Empire, 2 W-WYY, pre-1908, a giant flower with extraordinary substance, and Pedestal, 2 Y-Y also pre-1908, Gyrfalcon, 2 W-Y, with a green tinge in both perianth and cup, Loki, 2 Y-Y, and Premier, 2 Y-Y, all pre-1913.

There were a great many short cupped varieties. With beginner's luck he bred Challenger, 3 W-YYR, (pre 1890) which he considered the best shallow cupped flower he ever raised.

Challenger won an RHS Award of Merit for exhibition flower in 1910 as did Anchorite, 3 W-GYY, and Firetail, 3 W-O, with its flat, creamy white perianth, glowing cup and slightly pendulous pose.

Before 1908, he brought out Pixie, 3 W-YOR, with a cream colored perianth and widely expanded eye edged with red, and Radiant, 3 W-GYR. By 1913 several more shallow cups had been exhibited — Dell, 3 W-GYY, and Dick Turpin, 3 W-O, with an ivory white perianth and a perfectly flat deep red corona slighter paler in the center, Dulce, and Hela, 3 W-YYR, with creamy white perianth and deep yellow eye banded with madder-red. Ibex, 3, Orb, 3, and Tinsel a pretty flower with undulating perianth and cup neatly edged with red, Touchstone, 3 W-OOR, of large size and long stem with ivory white overlapping perianth and pale orange eye suffused with red deepening toward the edge, Winsome, 3 W-O, and Zouave with white perianth and flat pale yellow eye with wide edge of red.

Crosfield had several poets at hand to use as breeding stock — Almira, Barcarolle, Cassandra, Caesar, Chaucer, Garden of Allah, Herrick, Homer, Horace, Laureate, Nebula, and Ornatus had each appeared in his entries in poeticus classes in shows. Some of these may have played a part in the ancestry of the "cups" as might many others of the poets of Engleheart's raising.

Only eight of the poets bred by Crosfield were named. The first was Snow King, 9 W-YYR (pre-1909), referred to in the Reverend Joseph Jacob's 1910 book as raised by Crosfield. Coronation came along in 1913 as did Ringdove, 9 W-GRR, which was a poeticus of finest form

with perianth very round and flat of solid waxy texture and segments so overlapping as to form an almost perfect circle. The eye was heavily margined with deep red. Ypsilante, 9 W-YYO, (pre-1927) is listed in *Daffodil Yearbook* for 1913 as having been exhibited by Mr. Crosfield in the London Show. At that time Mr. Crosfield was a member of the Narcissus and Tulip Committee. His Ashgard, 9 W-YYR, was exhibited in both London and Birmingham in 1914. Crusoe, 9 W-YYR, was pre-1923, and Lochranza, 9 W-YYR, was listed as being pre-1927.

Having got the hang of exhibition techniques, and with his wife helping with the overall appearance of the staging, Crosfield won first place in the 1904 show with his collection of fifty. From then on his large collections regularly placed first.

The large size of the flowers in his exhibits attracted so much attention that good natured teasing resulted. At annual meetings, speakers joked that Crosfield's flowers not only grew upwards but grew so much broader that they tangled with shrubbery and ferns set out as background for competitive classes. One of the banquet speakers suggested they would have to get a separate display house for them. The Reverend Joseph Jacob, in his after dinner speech, complimented the grand white trumpets of Mr. Crosfield that attracted the judges, but wondered what was to become of the seedlings that didn't rate quite so high. He suggested that they might be planted on the railway banks on the line between London and Manchester to mark the route for aviators trying to find the way back to their home air base.

After such extravagant jesting, Mrs. Crosfield might have said to her husband, "E.M., they are absolutely right. We do need more space for your magnificent flowers. Perhaps we should move back into England where we could have a larger place on the river and near the bay where the timing of the bloom season would be early enough for more of your 'cups and eyes' to be entered in the shows."

In 1906, Mr. Crosfield became a vice-president of The Midland Daffodil Society and as usual received acclaim for exhibiting spectacular flowers. The society voted to give an award to his seedling Mrs. Ernest Crosfield, 1 W-W, which had first been exhibited in 1902. It had a clear majority of the two-thirds votes required. This was the last year to show flowers from the garden in Wales.

Mrs. Crosfield's wish for more space for the flowers and a place for her husband to fish was fulfilled when they found Cossington House, Bridgwater, Somerset, southeast England, on the Parrett River near Bridgwater Bay. Once again, at lifting and dividing time, the Crosfield bulbs were transplanted to a new home.

The daffodils continued to be homegrown in the gardens around the house. Ground had never been rented elsewhere and exposure to the sun wherever he lived was whatever was natural to the garden.

Fertilization was only a good dusting of bone meal and basic slag. Great care, however, was given to the readying of flowers for exhibition.

He said that knowledge of the needs of each individual variety is essential and the likes and dislikes of each must be considered. For instance, if he wished to exhibit five each of a couple of the varieties he grew, he would cut fifty of each in bud ten or twelve days before the show, put them in the coldest, dampest place available, and expect to find much larger and finer flowers by the date required than would be possible grown on the plant. He found that trumpets as a group did not grow much after being cut and he kept them growing longer on the plant with complete shelter and shade. The white trumpets came to their best form if allowed to make their full growth before being cut, and then being kept in a cool fifty to fifty-five degree moist, light room for four or five days. The poeticus and colored flowers should be cut when first opening and kept in a moist, dark place of fifty-five to sixty degrees. Probably the best poeticus exhibited were cut in the bud state two days before the show, and opened in a moist house well shaded from the sun.

Of equal importance to knowing the needs of the variety is the ability to assess the amount of substance in the flower. This varies according to the weather. Hot, sunny days and frosty nights will make the flowers like paper, and if cut will not keep half the time they would if they had developed in cloudy, damp weather with some rain. In spite of experiments with various means of keeping cut flowers fresh, experience showed that flowers cut and put into water and never again touched kept just as long as any others.

His personal relationship with every flower resulted in recognition by his peers for skill in breeding, selecting and establishing daffodils. They agreed that he was far ahead of all competitors as an exhibitor of home raised flowers. He reached his hey-day as a raiser in 1909 when the seedlings were even more outstanding than ever. P.D. Williams referred to him as second only to Engleheart as a seedling raiser. That year his entries in the Midland Show brought him two Challenge Cups — The Bourne Cup for twelve varieties raised by an exhibitor and The Cartwright Cup for twelve varieties not more than four years in commerce. To top that he also got the RHS Gold Medal.

Crosfield's flowers were again in the limelight in 1913 which, at Midland, was called "Crosfield's Year" because of his many Challenge Cups and Trophies. He again won the Bourne and Cartwright Cups plus the Walter Ware Challenge Cup for twelve obviously triandrus hybrids. This entry included Honeymaid and eleven seedlings under number. He also won the Herbert Chapman Trophy for six varieties of poeticus.

1913 was an important year for The Midland Daffodil Society because

the fifteenth Annual Show was held then. That year a Floral Committee had been formed to approve special awards. Mr. E.M. Crosfield was a member of that committee. That was also an important year for the RHS show in London because it was the first year the RHS had published a Daffodil Yearbook. As a member of the Narcissus and Tulip Committee serving on the Cassification Subcommittee, Mr. Crosfield worked on that yearbook.

At the London RHS Show for 1913 Mr. Crosfield won in the large collection of forty-eight varieties with three stems of each using at least thirty-two blooms of his own raising. His winning entry for twelve daffodils not in commerce included at least seven of his own and in the class for twelve hybrid triandrus daffodils they were all his own.

Mrs. Crosfield may have congratulated him by saying, "E.M., dear, you are top of the tree in my mind for continuing to win first place in spite of those losses from that horrible eelworm that has attacked the bulbs of many of our friends. And did you notice, too, that many of the varieties you have named appear in the exhibits of your contemporaries? That in itself is an important triumph."

In 1914 and 1915 the Bourne Cup, the Cartwright Cup, and the Herbert Chapman poeticus trophy again went to Mr. Crosfield. Poets included both years were Ashgard, Athenian, Glaucus, Iliad, Lovelace, Ringdove, Sarchedon, Socrates, Sonata. Mrs. Crosfield herself won the Walter Ware Challenge Cup whose requirement had increased from twelve to eighteen varieties of triandrus. Even those successes didn't keep Mr. Crosfield from being disconsolate over the devastation of his daffodil stocks by eelworm. His friend A.M. Wilson who was also wiped out said Crosfield gave up growing daffodils all together.

Mrs. Crosfield probably said, "E.M., dear we might as well leave this garden which saddens us to look at, bereft as it is of the trumpets and shallow cupped flowers you have raised. We could take the 'cups and eyes' and poets and the triandrus seedlings we have remaining and move to a smaller place from where you could continue to serve the Midland and RHS societies and have plenty of time for fishing."

So, in 1915 there was another home for the Crosfields. They moved to Brockweir House, Chepstow on the Monnow River, near the mouth of the Severn in Monmouth, England. He did continue as vice-president of the Midland Daffodil Society and continued his donations toward show expenses until he died in 1925. He was never forgotten as one of the daffodil 'greats' and was often referred to in later literature as "a Giant of the past".

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*The information in this article was compiled from excerpts and quotations from The Midland Daffodil Society Annual Reports and scattered references in The RHS Yearbook.*

## NOTES FOR THE NEWCOMER

### THE LONG, HOT SUMMER

**PEGGY MACNEALE**, Cincinnati, Ohio

All we have left now, of the spring display, is leaves, leaves, leaves, growing limper every day. Some "normal" gardeners are so dismayed by this that they vow to dig all bulbs from the garden — they can't deal with the aftermath of daffodil flowering. Of course they know, deep down, that sunlight on foliage is essential for next year's bloom, but they still hate it. The best way to handle the foliage problem is to ignore it until it starts to turn yellow. Then it is safe to remove it. In case that seems an interminably long time, count back the number of weeks since the flowers finished blooming. Six weeks from bloom ending are required for photosynthesis to restore strength (and a new flower) in the bulb. If you are dealing with late March/early April varieties, it is safe to remove the leaves by the end of May. For later flowering types, such as the poets (Div. 9), leave the leaves till mid-June. This applies to zones 5 and 6.

Meanwhile, you want to plant annuals in the flower beds and the grass needs mowing where the naturalized bulbs have bloomed. What to do? The clumps of leaves in the grass must be left alone, even though the lawn looks like a hayfield. When the required six weeks have passed and you plan to mow, cut the grass down to a height of *not less than* 4" at first, and then to the normal height of 2½" to 3" a few days later. The lawn will suffer less of a shock if it is thus mowed in two stages.

In the flower beds I have found that hardy annuals, such as poppies and larkspur will have sprouted as volunteers, and may even be pushing up between the daffodil leaves. If you have this kind of early summer flower bed, you can gradually give the seedlings room to grow by pushing the daff leaves away from specific plants, and as the foliage continues to ripen, you can remove a few yellowing leaves every day. Suddenly you realize you have cleaned up the beds, and the larkspur is ready to bloom.

If you want to sow annual seeds between the daff clumps, you may have to wait till mid June to find spaces to scatter the marigolds, etc. I think it is easier to get your annuals started in May in another spot in the yard. By the time the seeds have germinated and are ready to

transplant, it will be about time to remove the daff foliage so you can now set the seedlings in their summer home.

Now, how about watering those flower beds? You have heard that dormant daffodil bulbs may get basal rot if they spend the hot summer in moist soil? For some varieties of white, pink, and reverse bicolor daffs this seems to be true. Some of the prettiest bicolor trumpets are also suspected of being susceptible to basal rot. Thus, it is a good idea to avoid deep watering of any daffodil plantings in summer months. Aim instead, to use drought-tolerant annuals in those beds: vinca, verbena, cleome, gazania, portulacca, nicotiana, salvia, dusty miller, along with marigolds, and with perhaps some supporting perennials that are prairie-hardy: coneflower, baptisia, butterfly weed, and liatris. These plants need only natural rainfall, and can do without even that if it proves to be a dry summer. Thus, you can achieve a colorful all-season flower border that includes daffodils and demands little maintenance as far as watering — if you PLAN AHEAD.

## RANDOM RAMBLINGS

MARY LOU GRIPSHOVER, *Milford, Ohio*

If you were anywhere near the Midwest Region this past spring, you couldn't have missed the damage done to the daffodils. In early March, spring came much too early — almost summer-like — and we thought all the blooms would be gone before our shows. It was as if someone had turned too many pages on God's calendar. But after ten days of wonderfully warm weather, winter returned with a vengeance, with five nights of temperatures between 15 and 20 degrees. In the past, I have confidently said that the cold won't hurt the daffodils when spring frosts came along. I was wrong! Never have I seen such damaged foliage, and one Columbus member described it as "green spaghetti." It remained cold — well below freezing anyway — until early in April. All the early blooms were killed, as stems were damaged by the freezing at the place where the flowers had bent over. Foliage which wasn't turned to mush, is whitish. The only bright spot out of all this is that I had great bunches of flowers with three to four inch stems, and if you hung the necks over the top of a vase, you could pretend they were all right! The later blooming varieties seem to be coming along, so hopefully we'll still have the last half of the season to enjoy.

We've advised people to cut off the dead foliage down to the healthy part, and spray with a fungicide to avoid added problems from rotting foliage; and to fertilize *lightly* if they wish. It will be interesting to see

what happens next year. Isn't it great that there's always "next year"?

With all the devastation in the garden, it was interesting to note which varieties withstood the onslaught. Yimkin, a miniature from 'down under', wasn't bothered a bit; nor was Bagatelle. Olympic Gold was sort of half and half, apparently depending on where it was planted. Tristram's foliage is standing straight as if nothing happened. Cornet's foliage looks all right, although the bloom stems did bend over. But I guess I shouldn't complain too much. The iris and daylilies look MUCH worse!

Visiting a friend in Oak Ridge, I admired great clumps of Thalia — planted by the previous owner — growing along her back hillside. They made a lovely picture from the living room window.

Does anyone know a sure-fire way to keep deer out of the garden? Bambi was cute until he started eating plants in my garden! The deer don't eat the daffodils, but they are certainly breakfasting on my azaleas and wildflowers I'm trying to get established in my shaded areas. Why can't they just stay in the woods where they belong??

## THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

STAN BAIRD, *Blue Lake, California*

Nothing so consistently excites the interest of daffodil enthusiasts as news of "consistent" daffodil cultivars. Ah, that magic word in catalogue descriptions that makes our eyes light up and which hybridizers hope will aptly describe their creations. For nothing so endears a cultivar to "dyed-in-the-wool" exhibitors as consistent production of blue ribbon contenders. It seems a topic of which exhibitors never tire. So perhaps yet another article on favorite exhibition cultivars will not be amiss.

The varieties on my list are ones that I have grown in my garden long enough to evaluate not only bloom quality but also that treasured trait of consistency. I usually delay buying the more expensive new introductions until the price drops somewhat, so most of the cultivars I recommend will be moderately priced. My garden is located on the northern California coast some eighty miles south of the Oregon border. My maritime climate is both a blessing and a curse. It is well suited to snails, weeds, and daffodils — in that order! Spring storms roar in off the Pacific and pummel my daffodils with driving rain and hail. But at least there is adequate rainfall — some 40 inches of rain falling mainly during the winter and early spring. So the varieties that are consistent

exhibition varieties in my locale may or may not be so reliable in different climates.

Starting with Division I and the yellow trumpets, Akala (Jackson) goes right to the head of the class. It produces large, impeccably smooth blooms on ample stems with unflinching consistency. It does tend to hood slightly but requires only a few strokes of the brush to produce a perianth flat enough to satisfy the most demanding. Other top contenders in that class include Bloomer's Lancelot with segments so uniform in shape as to present a beautifully symmetrical profile; Jackson's Convel, in a lighter shade of yellow; Bell's David Bell, a large, smooth flower; and two stalwarts from the Richardson breeding line — Viking (Richardson, '56) and (almost as good) Royal Oak, (Richardson, '55). What a tribute to Richardson's perceptive selection process that his introductions are still contenders more than 35 years later!

The 1 Y-W class is hardly known for its consistency, but Mitsch's Young American seems to have completely outclassed his earlier introductions in that class. Kate Reade's Gin and Lime is a large imposing flower that surely ranks as one of her best introductions, although in common with many of its class, it takes longer to reverse than I would like.

The 1 W-Y class, once sadly lacking in consistent cultivars, now has two top contenders — Bender's Pop's Legacy, already attracting attention overseas, and boasting a clean, white perianth of top quality; and Richardson's Tudor Dance, almost as good with a well-rounded perianth that is not quite as white, but very round and smooth. Although not as broad and large but still very much worth growing is Evans' Ivy League, a very consistent flower in this difficult class.

In the 1 W-P's, good color is rarely combined with consistently good form. My vote would go for Patricia Reynolds, which has rather pale color but very good form. I have not yet grown some of the newer contenders in this class long enough to feel qualified to evaluate them, but as I have seen Havens' Pink Silk growing in Sid DuBose's field, it may well become the undisputed leader in its class.

In the white trumpets, I have some promising newcomers from overseas in my garden, but many highly praised introductions in this class have lacked the consistency and substance I would like. My list is short: Evans' Neahkahnne and White Satin, both smooth, broad, and consistent; Pannill's Northwest, treasured for its heavy substance in a class plagued with papery perianths; and an oldie from Wilson, Glenshesk ('50). While a little short and opening off-white, it soon fades to a respectable white and is far more consistent than some of its newer competitors.

In the 2 Y-Y's we have one of the strongest divisions. Bloomer's Golden Joy lives up to its sterling reputation by producing wonderfully

smooth, precise blooms. Again, a Richardson introduction still holds its own on the show bench — Golden Aura — which is on the small side and not quite as consistent as some, at its best is formidable. I wouldn't be without it! In the soft, luminous yellow class, there are three standouts: Mitch's Symphonette (a regular in my American-bred collections), Richardson's elegant Tristram, and Blanchard's glowing Hambleton.

The 2 W-Y class has been greatly improved in recent years. A much overlooked introduction, Noton's broad, consistent Cool Autumn is vying for top spot in my garden. Not quite as broad, but earlier and very consistent, is Evan's Chapeau, although I understand it is not as consistent in some other climates. Mitsch's Pure Joy, a later bloomer, is, in my opinion, one of Mitsch's best introductions, easily capable of winning best in show. Richardson's elegant My Love, with subtle shading of color in the corona, is one I would not be without. Another older variety that I rate highly is Brodie's Daviot ('50), a very distinctive and precise flower with its unusual cup color. Even older is Dunlop's Woodvale ('47), an exquisite rimmed flower difficult to find nowadays but easily capable of holding its own against newer cultivars. It is quite late, which perhaps explains why it has never gotten the attention it deserves. Last year it won the gold ribbon at a California show. How's that for longevity? Two newer cultivars that are proving themselves in my garden are Pannill's Revelation and Imprint.



**Viking**



**Falstaff**

KNIERIM

In the 2 Y-W class, I would, of course, include Mitsch's Daydream if I could find and keep stock free of the color-break virus. I also like Richardson's Pastiche, reminiscent of Daydream, and Roese's Rio Dell, very, very smooth although not quite as wide as I would like.

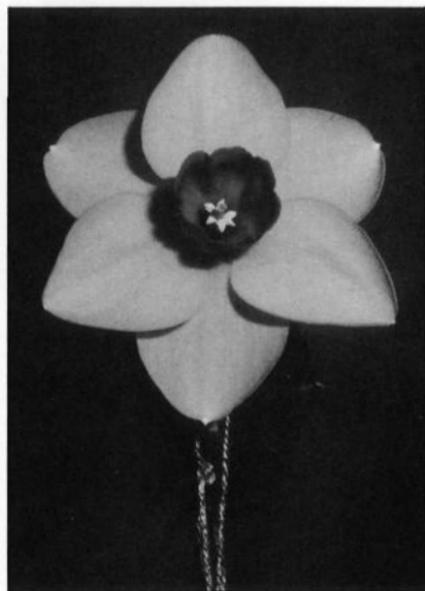
In the 2 Y-R, 2 Y-O class we have an embarrassment of riches. With so many outstanding introductions in this class, it is difficult to pick a single champion but certainly Lea's Loch Hope must rank near the top for year-in, year-out consistency, even though it lacks some of the color intensity of some of its competitors. Not far behind is Board's Shining Light, so consistent that it is often a good choice for a three-of-a-kind entry. Mitsch's Resplendent is probably his best in this class and able to compete with most of the overseas introductions. Duncan's Sportsman is very broad and smooth with beautiful form and balance. And from the same locale, Bloomer's Fly Half may have a strange name, but there is nothing strange about its vivid color and smooth perianth. Richardson's Falstaff, once the leader in its class, is still worth growing, although it is a bit small.

In the 2 W-W class, Pannill's Homestead delights with its broad, smooth perianth and gratifying consistency. Mitsch's Gull is of a similar form but somewhat larger. Duncan's Regal Bliss and Green Ice are two green-eyed beauties that I treasure.

And finally, my favorite color class, the pinks! What a long way they've come since the days of Mrs. Backhouse! Lea's Dailmanach is certainly



**Sportsman**



**Fly Half**

KNIERIM

one of the top contenders in this class. Despite having Inverpolly (which I can barely keep alive) as one of its parents, it increases with abandon, its large, smooth perianth a joy to behold. Blanchard's Melbury offers wonderful color, great stems, and reasonably consistent form. His earlier introduction, Shell Bay, has very clear but softer color set off by a very white perianth. Bloomer's Dorado Dawn impresses with rich, pure color in a corona that ultimately acquires a narrow white rim. It is consistent and vigorous. Of the older Mitsch pinks, Tangent is easily the most consistent and boasts a perianth far whiter than most of its contemporaries. Of the new Mitsch introductions, Credo has intense color and a good perianth, although I would like a little taller stem; Peripheral Pink combines a distinctive and brilliant color pattern with good form; and Monitor, although I have not had it long, appears to be reasonably consistent and boasts knock-out color with a thread of vivid rose-red against a white corona. Culmination has not been in my garden long enough to adequately evaluate, but a well-known specimen won its class against tough competition at the Albany, Oregon, show this spring, and it has looked quite consistent during several trips through the Havens' plantings. Pink Ice can be ribby but is producing a good percentage of show flowers. I still value two of the Richardson pinks — Rose Royale, rather star shaped but very smooth, and Rainbow, very consistent with color that, while not very pink, is nevertheless pleasing. Of the Evans introductions, the most consistent have been



GRIPSHOVER

**Shining Light**



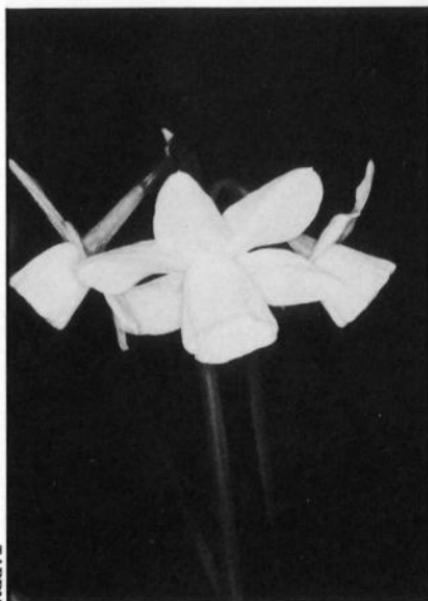
GRIPSHOVER

**Pure Joy**

Saucy (which should have its color code changed) with a soft pink rim and a smooth, reflexed perianth; Tyee, also with some reflexing; and Arctic Char, a rather slow increaser with intense color into the very throat of the corona. Bloomer's Algarve has an excellent perianth, but blooms too late for most of the shows where I exhibit. From Mrs. Abel Smith, Burgage Hill and Kirklington both have good, clear color and well formed perianths. The oldest flower in this list is Wilson's Blaris ('60), which somehow never got the attention it deserved, for it was far ahead of its time in whiteness of perianth, clear color, and consistency. Although narrower than more recent introductions, it is still too good to discard! (So what if I have to dig up some more lawn for next year's new bulbs!)

In the three's Blanchard's Verwood is my best 3 Y-Y with large, smooth blooms and excellent consistency. In the very competitive class of three's with white perianth and rimmed cup, Richardson's jewel-like Merlin is still very competitive and more resistant to burning than some of its newer, larger competitors. Mitsch's Olathe is a distinct and lovely flower with an entrancing olive green throat and a reflexing but consistently smooth perianth — a good bet for the American-bred collection. Blanchard's Purbeck deserves its enviable reputation with its more muted, orange-rimmed cup and form that often makes it a best-of-show contender.

In the 3 Y-R's and 3 Y-O's, Lea's Achduart exemplifies the silky smooth perianth typical of Lea introductions. In the rimmed cups,



TARRY

**Mission Bells**



BOURNE

**Regal Bliss**

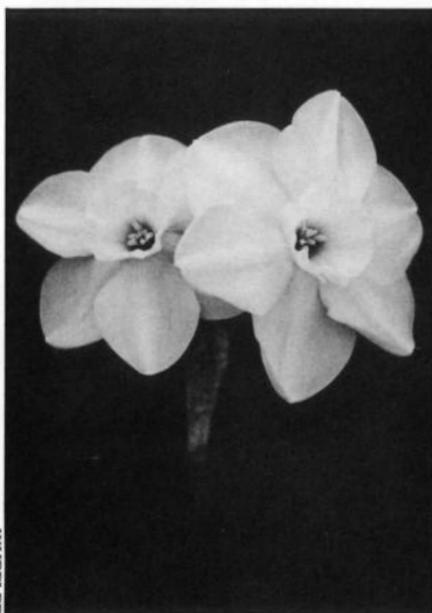
Mitsch's Molten Lava, one of my all-time favorites, produces blue-ribbon blooms in dazzling abundance. Throckmorton's Painted Desert, another rimmed flower with beautiful color, is somewhat less consistent but still a reliable show flower.

In the 3 W-WWY class, Mitsch's Silken Sails is usually too late for my shows; but its huge, smooth blooms are imposing on the show bench. Wilson's Carnmoon ('53) is a consistent flower that is still competitive. Several newer yellow-rimmed cups from Brian Duncan look extremely promising but have not been in my garden long enough to justify an evaluation.

In the sparsely populated 3 W-P class, Mitsch's Audubon is reasonably consistent though subject to some nicking. Its distinctive color pattern and smooth perianth make it a "must" in any collection. Mitsch's more recent Pink Evening is of quite a different character — like a small cupped Fragrant Rose. It's maiden bloom in my garden indicates it may well give Audubon some serious competition on the show bench.

I must confess that doubles are not my favorite division, so I do not feel qualified to comment on them. However, in the five's, Mitsch's Mission Bells, in pristine white is, for me, a more consistent performer than Arish Mell.

In the cyclamineus, I find Mitsch's Rapture an unfailing delight, elegant in form and gratifying in its consistency. I have mixed feelings about Reade's popular Foundling, for it sulked in my garden for several years.



Oryx



Jet Fire

However after modifying the soil several times, it finally seemed satisfied and now produces a high percentage of show flowers, lacking only a little more whiteness in the perianth. Mitsch's Jetfire was a major advance in the 6 Y-R's and still among the best. Williams' Beryl is another old-timer that hangs on tenaciously. Although modest in size and hue, it is very consistent and a good bet for a three-of-a-kind entry.

In the jonquils, my favorites are Mitsch's lofty but impeccably formed *Stratosphere*, and two very consistent reverse bi-colors, *Oryx*, which reflects its *Aircastle* ancestry, and *Chat* with different parents but similar color. Both of the latter two, however, are rather slow to reverse.

I do not have a large collection of tazettas, but I consider Mott's *Highfield Beauty* my best show flower. I rarely have an opportunity to exhibit the poet's and therefore, will not comment on them.

If all of the above suggests that you need not buy the most expensive cultivars to compete on the show bench, that is exactly what was intended. When I first began collecting daffodils over thirty years ago, I based many of my acquisitions on the recommendations of the late Harry Tuggle. I was rarely disappointed. And while I would not presume to consider my recommendations of comparable worth, perhaps they will be of some use to those just beginning their collections.

## HOT WATER TREATMENT

**LEWIS T. TURNER**, *Walkerville, Maryland*

Hot water treatment (HWT) has been used by many serious hobbyists and dealers to keep their stock of daffodils healthy. *The Handbook for Growing, Exhibiting and Judging Daffodils* gives a definition of it and describes the benefits. It does not, however, go into detail about the problems encountered, when to use HWT, or other factors related to it. Having used HWT on a very small scale, using supplies available in a pet store that sells tropical fish, it became apparent to me that there was more to be learned about HWT. Therefore, I decided to query people who were serious about using HWT, and bulb dealers active in the hobby trade. The query was made using a questionnaire.

This article is set up showing the questions on the questionnaire, and the responses received. From the answers received it is obvious that everyone who uses HWT, uses it in a different manner, but there are

also many similarities. Rather than make the subject complex, I want to stay with just the questionnaire for this article. Perhaps, another article can be written about how to set up a HWT system.

I am grateful to all who kindly took the time to respond to the questionnaire. The answers are very helpful in gaining an understanding of HWT. The letters 'a' through 'f' refer to the respondents, each representing a specific person, all of whom I elected to not name.

Questionnaire:

1. *What temperature do you use for HWT?*
  - a. 43° C, 109.4° F
  - b. 111° - 112° F. 109° is sufficient. If heavy infestations of mites are present, I think the higher temperatures necessary.
  - c. 110° - 112° F
  - d. 112° F
  - e. 112° F
  - f. 44.4° C (112° F)
  
2. *What amount of time do you use in the HWT treatment?*
  - a. Three hours
  - b. To protect our own stocks, 1 hour. Considerably more time, if problems are evident.
  - c. 1½ hours for normal use, and 4 hours for suspect bulbs, imports, etc.
  - d. 3 hours for average size bulbs,  
4 hours for very large bulbs,  
2 hours for small bulbs and poets.
  - e. 2 hours. Bulbs should be cold dipped to wet them before dipping in the hot tank.
  - f. 3 hours at 44.4° C for 3½ hours in tank, which includes ½ hour to reach correct temperature.
  
3. *Do you use any fungicide during HWT?*
  - a. ½% Formaldehyde.
  - b. Formaldehyde.
  - c. Formalin ½ gallon to 100 gallons.
  - d. ½% Formalin in 40%.
  - e. Formalin - 4 pints/100 gallons 0.8% (not more than 1%), Sportak 0.1%, Benlate 0.1 - 0.2% + non ionic wetter, Captan 0.25%
  - f. Formaldehyde at 0.5% Formalin 40%. Sometimes we add Tecto (Thiabendazole) at 250 ml per 100 liters.

4. *Have you experienced any problems such as sterility or reduced fertility in HWT stock the next year?*
- I have heard that this is true, so that I have tried to use only second year down cultivars. I plant half my stocks each year — half the stock is lifted the second year and replanted after HWT.
  - Yes, sometimes flowers do not produce good pollen after HWT
  - No.
  - None.
  - Yes, some varieties seem to be sterile, depends on time of HWT and resultant degree of damage to the flowers.
  - Yes, because we treat fairly late in the season (I never use pollen from the first year plantings.)
5. *When do you HWT your stock?*
- The Dutch time their HWT according to the development of the embryonic new flower in the bulb so that should depend on the cultivar, but when you do 100 - 200 cultivars, you cannot dissect one bulb of each to determine when to HWT. I HWT my bulbs three to four weeks after lifting.
  - Just before planting. We like to plant immediately after HWT.
  - Just before planting.
  - Mid-August — 6 weeks after lift.
  - Just before planting — or immediately after dispatch of sales requirements. Normally third or fourth week of September. This is later than ideal, but dispatch of late orders dictates.
  - As close as possible to PC stage, but I am usually a bit late due to work commitments.

**Note:** Bud development is very important in timing of HWT. The answers above give some guideline as to the better timing of HWT.

6. *Is HWT required by the agency that inspects your bulbs?*
- A PHIS Inspector lives in Carlisle, PA. I have told him I have had bulb and stem nematode. He has never inspected my operation. I have sent bulbs to N. Ireland, England, New Zealand, and Tasmania, labelled "gift".
  - No, but we feel it is very important to maintain health of the bulbs.
  - No.
  - Yes.
  - No — not as such, but obligatory roguing or withholding of Health (Phytosanitary) Certificates means that in fact we must give HWT to ensure health of stocks.
  - No.

7. *Do you use HWT prior to shipping bulbs to customers?*
- I ship bulbs only from two year down stock. HWT one year, plant with "Nemacur" and lift the second year for commerce.
  - No.
  - No.
  - Never except by request.
  - No — few customers would want this service. They usually want to see flowers at their best in the first season. HWT does have some deleterious effect on flowers.
  - No, we HWT bulbs every other year and look on it as an insurance policy, not to clean up a problem.
8. *Have you experienced some variations on the quality of blooms in HWT stock that corrects itself the next year?*
- Seldom, and not since I've updated my temperature controller.
  - Yes, very frequently, that is why we do not HWT before sending out bulbs.
  - Yes.
  - Different responses. Some cultivars split petals or have trumpet defects in first year down. Water spotting of leaves common in first year.
  - Bloom quality always back to normal in second year. We only lift stocks every two years.
  - Yes, we do not show one year down blooms.
9. *What type of equipment do you have?*
- I started with an Honeywell remote bulb temperature controller T675A 1540 but updated 1980 to a Digi-Sense temperature controller Model 2186-20 with a RTD rod sensor.
  - Ours is probably not very practical for the home garden. It is a 300 gallon tank with an agitator at the bottom — under a floor. It is run with a motor.
  - A 20 gallon aluminum tank with liner tank with holes. Bulbs are placed in bags in the liner tank. There are two immersion heaters in the tank on two separate plugs. One brings the temperature up quickly. The other immersion heater is controlled by a thermostat which keeps the temperature very accurate switching on and off. We also have a circulating pump so the temperature should be the same all over the tank.
  - Larger outer tank, smaller perforated inner tank to allow circulation of water to constant heat, which is vital to treatment.

- e. Galvanized 100 gallon rectangular tank with false notched bottom under which three immersion electric heaters and thermostat probes are inserted. Water is circulated by means of a domestic pump. Inlet of pump is a perforated pipe around the bottom of the tank which filters out the debris. Pump delivery is also by a perforated pipe around the tank six inches below top level. The whole tank is insulated with slabs of polystyrene.
  - f. Electrically heated 380 volt, six elements: four for heat boosting, and two thermostat controlled. Capacity, 750 liters — holds approximately 375 big bulbs. Tank has a false mesh floor over the element. Bulbs are placed in wire cages and lowered in and out of the tank with a chain block (top loading). I also recirculate water to even out temperature from top to bottom. Water is recirculated five times the capacity of the tank each hour.
10. *If your HWT system is a commercial type, who made it?*
- a. The Digi-Sense temperature controller is the “state-of-the-art” heart of the HWT available from Cole-Parmer Instrument Co., 7425 North Oak Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60648.
  - b. Our cooker is very old, and was custom-made. It is of such quality that it still functions very well.
  - c. Our tank was bought about 30 years ago as a commercial type especially for the job, but the circulating pump and extra heater and thermostat were added later by our plumber.
  - d. Company is now out of business.
  - e. The tank is a one-off designer model by Duncan and constructed by a good friend who does a lot of stainless steel fabrication for the dairy.
  - f. Tank made by a local engineer. Electricals — “off the shelf” elements, power board, and thermostat.
11. *Have you noticed a reduction of virus symptoms in HWT stock?*
- a. I have rogued fewer plant for virus in the past two or three years.
  - b. It would be difficult to say, in our amount of stocks.
  - c. We do dig out any virus infected bulbs every spring and so we do not have a serious virus problem. I do not think that HWT makes much difference to the viral diseases.
  - d. No. Treatment shows up virus symptoms in individual bulbs.
  - e. Foliage always looks mottled after suitable HWT treatment and is sometimes mistaken for virus! Thankfully we have very little but I have attributed this to our vigorous roguing regime.
  - f. No.

12. What diseases have you found controlled by the use of HWT?
  - a. Bulb and stem nematode, large fly (note: nemacur is used at planting.)
  - b. Narcissus bulb fly and bulb mites. We are told that with longer cooking, nematode control.
  - c. Large bulb fly, small bulb fly, scalemite, basal rot. Also for use as a prevention against daffodil eelworm.
  - d. Bulb mites, narcissus fly larvae, eelworm.
  - e. Nematodes, scale mites, flies. Fungicides are reputed to assist in control of all major fungal problems including basal rot. Spartak is added to help control neck rot — a wet climate problem.
  - f. Nematodes, bulb mite (Tarsenomid). Suppression of various fungi, especially fusarium.

The choice to use HWT belongs to the grower. It is quite obvious that if properly used, HWT can help keep your stock of daffodils healthy. Several users of HWT added that if you use HWT, you cannot leave the unit. Temperature must be monitored at all times. Also, if you use HWT and replant in soil that was used previously for daffodils, you may defeat the beneficial effects of HWT. Always replant in clean or sterilized soil. HWT is an excellent tool for control of diseases and pests, but it is not a cure.

For those who desire to learn more on this subject, I have provided a listing of some of the sources where information may be obtained on HWT.

<i>Daffodil Diseases and Pests</i> .....	T. Snazelle
Bulletin 709, Western Washington Research and Extension Center, Puyallup, WA	
<i>Daffodil Journal, September 1975</i> .....	The Royal Horticultural Society
	Vincent Square, London SW1P 2 PE
<i>Hot Water Treatment of Narcissus Bulbs</i> .....	Booklet 2289
	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, United Kingdom
<i>Daffodils for Home, Garden &amp; Show, 1987</i> .....	Don Barnes
<i>Narcissus Bulb Production</i> .....	British Ministry of Agriculture Booklet B2150

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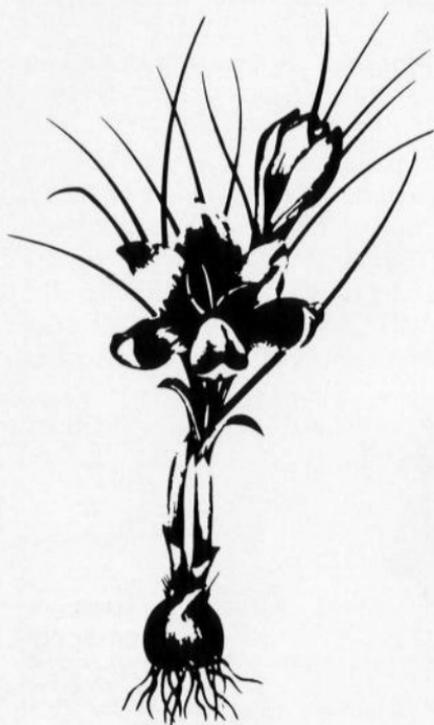
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## HERE AND THERE

Did you know it's the Year of the Daffodil? It is in Rye, New York, where the Little Garden Club has proclaimed it so! April activities included a Daffodil Walk at the New York Botanical Gardens, as well as a Daffodil Show at The Osborn, a local retirement home. Mary Quarles, of Greenwich, provided expertise on identification and grooming, reported Brookie McColloch of the Little Garden Club. There were no ADS awards, but isn't this a wonderful way to spread the joy of daffodils?

Spreading the joy of daffodils in a somewhat different way is new member Roxane Daniel of Camden, Arkansas. Mrs. Daniel has coordinated a group of volunteers who so far have planted 10,000 daffodils alongside the Arkansas 4 Bypass. Said Mrs. Daniel, "... we're going to plant them and let the tourists come. and it will also be a real pretty sight for us, too." She noted the volunteers also pick up litter as they work.

In Carbon Hill, Alabama, Weldon Childers held an exhibition of show-quality daffodils at the family center of his church. Mr. Childers writes, "I hope to fan the flames of interest and get some people started growing our favorite flower. I would like to form a local society and eventually stage a show here in Walker County." He's made a start, as we have one new three-year member, Imogene Key, who also asked for brochures for her garden club.

According to Sid Dubose, the Northern California Daffodil Society staged an exhibit at the Alameda County Home and Garden Show which was well received. Bill Welch supplied lots of tazetta blooms.

As Dave Karnstedt says, you've got to "sell it by zealot," and these people are surely doing that. Good for them! Now what are **you** doing?

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Through the family of Alice Wray Taylor, an award for outstanding gardening contributions has been announced by the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs. Fittingly, the first recipient of this award was Nancy Robinson, a dedicated gardener, member of the East Tennessee Daffodil Society, who has planted thousands of daffodil bulbs along the interstate between Knoxville and Merryville, Tennessee.

Word has reached us of the death last October of Marilyn Rankin, a long-time member from Frederick, Maryland. Mrs. Rankin was a devoted and committed gardener with more than 550 named varieties of daffodils. A brief note to remove Dr. W.L. Brown, of Iowa, from our roster seems to indicate that Dr. Brown has died. He joined ADS in 1962 and was a Life Member. Our sympathies to both their families.

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## **BEGINNING HYBRIDIZING or POLLEN DAUBING 101**

**STEPHEN J. VINISKY**, *Sherwood, Oregon*

***Some Random Thoughts About Bulbs:*** All of us constantly refer to bulbs. We speak of bulbs that “are good growers and of rapid increase”. Some of us are “bulb hybridizers”, and we are all “bulb growers”. In many respects bulbs are like the weather. We talk a lot about it, but don’t *do* anything about it.

The great P.D. Williams considered the bulb equally as important as the flower it produces. Many of us can benefit by evaluating our bulbs using the same A, B, C, or D classification that he used. Even the finest or most unusual flowers had to have an A or B rating to be considered for naming or introduction by the late Mr. Williams. Lower ratings were destroyed.

Mr. P.D. Williams is quoted in *The Daffodil Yearbook of 1934* (page 56) as saying "The sort of flower wanted had a stiff stem, short neck and a good constitution. The bulb must be clean and healthy with good skin and good form; he put great importance on the quality of the bulb because Daffodils were so susceptible to disease." Note that over half the quote (which was discussing *flower* selection) deals with the bulb.

Gardeners and florists worldwide still appreciate and enjoy his cultivars like Beryl, Carlton (still more than 2,000 acres are grown today,) Cragford, Peeping Tom and Scarlet Gem. Quite a tribute, after 55 years have passed, to this man's ability, perseverance, and rigorous, uncompromising selections. These cultivars have been surpassed by newer things on the show bench but in their day, were clearly the ones to beat. Many believe that P.D. Williams' focus on the bulb and the general health of his plants were key components to his success. Interesting food for thought while you are busy digging and dividing.

What are the desirable characteristics of a superior bulb? You should look for: a dense, hard, firm bulb with a relatively short neck. The neck length of the bulb varies considerably with the division. There should be no spongy feel or softness at the neck. The skin should be clean with a glossy or silky look.

A number of growers feel that the basal plate should be fairly symmetrical and not overly recessed. Many growers believe that soft necked bulbs or those that have deeply recessed basal plates are far more likely to succumb to basal rot.

The bulb should also be a strong and rapid increaser. Bill Roesse tells of planting 20 or so bulbs of "El Camino" and lifting 160 bulbs three years later. That is a strong and rapid increaser.

All of this adds up to concern for the future health and performance of a cultivar. Some highly-thought-of show flowers of recent introduction are wretchedly difficult to grow. Imagine the disappointment and dismay a new A.D.S. member would feel upon purchasing their first five to ten dollar bulb and having that bulb rot before it can bloom. It is not their fault that the bulb will only survive with a highly unnatural regime of spraying, fungicide drenches, annual lifting, bulb cooking, dipping in potent chemicals, etc.

Even then many bulbs will not increase, or as Bill Pannill so aptly put it, "it increases so slowly I don't even have it any more".

I do *not* mean to imply that today's hybridizers are not concerned about bulbs and plant health. All most certainly *do* care. Nor is it my intent to suggest doom and gloom. The opportunities for a beginning "Pollen Dauber" are as limitless as they were 55 years ago during P.D. Williams' time.

As a beginning "Pollen Dauber" you owe it to future gardeners to be as ruthless and precise in your selections as P.D. Williams would

have been. It all starts with the bulb. Not the flower. If you allow these priorities to become reversed your efforts at hybridizing will exist only as a line or two in the Daffodil Data Bank instead of possibly delighting and enchanting future gardeners around the world.

**One Year Old Seedlings:** Most growers will leave their seedlings in place for two or three years. After their second or third year of growth, the seedlings are dug and transplanted out at their "adult" bulb spacing. My original intention was to always transplant out after the second year of growth. My experience has been that about 5% of seed germinates in the second year. That means that there are a few very tiny one year olds mixed in with the larger second year bulbs. The decision you must make is, do I plant out at year three and possibly grow for the third year in very crowded spacing, or plant out at optimum spacing at two years and possibly sacrifice the very tiny one year bulbs?

I suppose the ideal would be to plant seed at two or three inch spacing in order to allow for three years (or possibly four) of growth without crowding. Those of us that plant out a large number of seed each year would quickly find the space requirements for seedbeds becoming unmanagable.

How do you handle transplanting seedlings? At what age do you plant out? What spacing do you use to plant out? Do you have any tricks for handling seedlings? Please drop me a note with your ideas and methods.

Thanks again to all those that have called and written to me. Please continue to contribute and this series of articles can really become an open forum for all those interested in hybridizing.

Stephen J. Vinisky, 21700 S.W. Chapman Road, Sherwood, Oregon 97140

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## KATHERINE LEADBEATER BLOOMER

Kitty Bloomer, 84, a charter member of ADS and the first Editor of the *Journal*, died in Alexandria, Virginia, on March 29. She was a native Alexandrian, descended from the founder of the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Shop established there in 1792.

She was a charter member of the Washington Daffodil Society, founded in 1950, and was active in the formation of the ADS four years later. She became Editor of the then *Daffodil Bulletin* in May, 1958, and transformed that 8-page quarterly into the *Daffodil Journal*, as we know it now, in September, 1964. Volume I, No. 1 had a color cover and 84 pages. She retired as Editor in 1968, and for the next fifteen years was Library Chairman. In this post, she worked to make the ADS Library the most complete in the world, and to conserve the many rare volumes in the Library.

Kate, as she preferred to be called in more recent years, was one of the first judges accredited, and was a formidable exhibitor. She had the added distinction of being the first American to enter flowers in the RHS Show in London, winning 12 of the 15 classes entered, in 1967. Earlier that year, she was awarded the ADS Silver Medal for distinctive service to the Society.

She grew her daffodils, including many of her beloved whites, in her beautiful garden on the banks of the Potomac River, just south of Mount Vernon. She was also an avid ham radio operator, and, appropriately, used the call name, 'River Queen.' One of Bill Pannill's finest white daffodils was named in tribute to a very great lady, who will be long remembered by all who knew her.

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- Alice Wray Taylor**.....East Tennessee Daffodil Society  
**Dorothy F. Wiley**.....William C. Coker Garden Club  
**Catherine Boozman**.....Mr. & Mrs. John Capen  
**Katharine Heath**.....Mr. & Mrs. John Capen

# THE SHOW, GARDEN, & HYBRIDIZING POTENTIAL OF INEXPENSIVE MINIATURE DAFFODILS

LEONE YARBOROUGH LOW, *Yellow Springs, Ohio*

**M**y first miniature daffodils were ordered nearly twenty-five years ago from the Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodil catalogue. The order consisted of six miniature cultivars, a dozen bulbs for five dollars. These were planted in a well-drained location next to the foundation on the south and rewarded my efforts when their gracefully tiny yellow blooms danced in the breezes of the following spring. Bobbysoxer and Small Talk survived the move to Yellow Springs a decade ago, but Mite, Marionette, Pixie, and Pixie's Sister have been replaced.

Miniatures are ideal for any garden, including the smallest, because they take up far less space for the same amount of exhibition potential. Warmer microclimates provided by shelter from evergreens, neighbor's homes, fences, etc., encourage more blooms.

## What is a Mini?

What is a miniature daffodil? The Royal Horticultural Society once suggested that a bloom no more than two inches in diameter and no more than twelve inches in height is a miniature daffodil. However, size depends very much on growing conditions. Segovia, 3 W-Y, is one that is particularly affected. In an attempt to clarify matters years ago, the ADS issued an *ADS Approved List of Miniatures* with very restrictive guidelines for additions. The list was helpful to judges but very discouraging to hybridizers who were attempting to add to the limited color, size and shape combinations available. (There have been some additions to the list, and study of the situation is continuing. The miniature list, at the very least, is useful for educating beginning growers.)

At the present time, then, a miniature daffodil should be small, graceful, all its parts should be in proportion to each other, and it may be on the list of approved miniatures (available from the ADS). Hybridizers can show seedlings under number, and as miniature candidates for a limited time, if named.

## Inexpensive Named Miniatures

A daffodil friend that I admire said "Grow miniatures for fun! They're all either too early or too late for our shows."

There's a lot of truth in this challenge. For garden color, the earliest should be grown in higher, sunnier 'early places', but for show, they will bloom a little later if grown north of evergreens, at the foot of a slope, etc. The opposite applies to later bloomers.

Inexpensive miniature hybrids are great subjects with which to experiment to determine the effect (if any) of different planting sites on bloom time. The trend to smaller yards and gardens may make the smaller cultivars the wave of the future for ADS. They don't take up much space in the refrigerator either.

Hybridizing miniatures is far more difficult than standards. However, accepting the challenge to fill the 'season gap' adds another to a list of goals which also includes more colors and color/shape/size combinations, as well as improved form. A few comments on inexpensive minis' hybridizing potential are included.

### **Early to Bloom**

The miniature list includes the early season study 1 Y-Y's Bagatelle, Little Gem and Wee Bee, probably all closely related to the species, *nanus* (minor), 10 Y-Y. Possibly a little more graceful because of its starry, but sometimes twisted perianth is 10 Y-Y (minor) *pumillus*. Little Beauty, 1 W-Y, also provides a bright dash of spring color. While some have described these as "big flowers on short stems," they are inexpensive, are available for very early shows, are seed and pollen fertile, and chase winter from the garden.

It is also possible to purchase early Tete-a-Tete, 12 Y-Y (formerly 6 Y-O, wish it were 12 Y-O), Jumble, 6 Y-O, and Minnow, 8 W-Y, by mail for under fifty cents each in lots of five, and for a little more at local garden centers. Although these lack snob appeal on the show table because of their ready availability, well-grown specimens still merit a blue ribbon and occasionally more. I have tried crossing many, many blooms of these, with almost no luck. In fact, the *ADS Daffodil Data Bank* has an S (seed parent) by Tete-a-tete, and it may deserve a P (pollen fertile).

### **Gracefully Late**

A group of inexpensive hybrid miniatures which has at least one parent from the large jonquil family tends to be later blooming. Crosses with *triandrus* include the 5 Y-Y's Hawera and April Tears (which is usually better). Baby Moon and Baby Star, both 7 Y-Y, have two parents from within the jonquil family and are fertile. Bobbysoxer, 7 Y-YYO, Sun Disc, 7 Y-Y, and Sun Dial 7 Y-Y are from Alec Gray's *rupicola* and *poeticus* crosses. So is Bebop, 7 W-Y, which is usually a little more expensive. Prices on these and others, such as Clare, may have a wide range for the same cultivar. The well-known Law of Supply and Demand helps to explain some of the price differentials.

### **Extra Care**

Culture and show techniques differ somewhat from standard daffodils. Begin miniature growing and exhibiting with some of the less expensive cultivars on the miniature list, and avoid *costly* mistakes.

Care in growing is needed. While there is no unique formula for success, failure will surely result if one forgets that many of the little ones have a constitution suited to a geographic region that doesn't have the temperature extremes of the continental US. Most of my tender Division X miniatures are grown in large pots in a cold frame as a precaution against an unusually severe winter.

Choose the planting site carefully since some shelter increases the amount of bloom. Standard daffodils must be grown in the open, but miniatures can be protected.

Jonquil hybrids and *bulbocodium* like a warm sunny spot that is dry in the summer. Cyclamineus and triandrus species and hybrids don't like to bake as much as the others, and appreciate some shade in the very hottest weather. Excellent drainage, weeding, heavy mulching in the fall, and removing excess mulch (also ants and slugs, if present) in the spring, are also conducive to long life, good blooms, and increase.

The larger miniature hybrids, such as Tete-a-Tete, Hawera and Sun Disc may not need much extra care after the first year.

The ADS library has quite a few things about miniature daffodils which give more information. I also recommend the easily read book by James Wells, *Modern Miniature Daffodils, Species and Hybrids*, (which can be purchased through ADS) because it has pictures and descriptions of almost all cultivars on the miniature list. The lovely photos are also helpful in determining if your supplier has sent you the wrong thing.

### **Species for All Seasons**

Species daffodils are the most ancient of daffodils. The miniature species are primarily from the Mediterranean area and occur naturally in the wild. Because collectors were making inroads into native populations, the U.S. is regulating the importations of wild daffodils in an effort to keep them from becoming extinct in their native habitat.

Most of the easily obtained field/garden grown miniature species daffodils, such as *asturiensis*, *bulbocodiums obeseus* and *conspicuus*, *cyclamineus*, *jonquilla*, *juncifolius*, various minors, *rupicola*, *scaberulus*, and *triandrus concolor*, all 10 Y-Y, *tazetta laticolor* (*Canaliculatus*), 10 W-Y, *triandrus pulchellus*, 10 Y-W, and *triandrus albus*, 10 W-W, were available for under a dollar each in lots of five or six in 1990.

### **Caveat Emptor**

Many sellers of miniature daffodils in the U.S. are supplied by Dutch growers. Mistakes have been made on one side of the Atlantic or the other. Formerly a common excuse for selling incorrectly labelled miniature species was, "These were gathered in the wild, and you can't be sure of what you are getting." Even more serious than misidentification is the possibility of extinction of some of the rare species in the wild. Most serious gardeners favor the ban on importation of bulbs that have been gathered from their native habitat.

This ban has made purchasing Division X miniatures at least temporarily more difficult. At the current time, all imported bulbs, including daffodil species, must be grown in soil that has been inspected for disease organisms. That is, they must be garden grown. ADS members who are growing some of the rare species have been encouraged to propagate them.

It is hoped that the elimination of importation of wild-collected bulbs will eventually encourage more reliable identification and availability and fewer disappointed customers.

Species comprise a fifth of the miniature list and are now even more attractive for show purposes, since the new ADS Handbook states that "SPECIES MAY BE DIVIDED BY THEIR CLASSIFICATION." Thus each species entry should be judged against specimens and the standard for its own species. The change is a good one. An excellent *asturiensis* normally would not take a blue ribbon from an average *rupicola* because most *rupicola* are so good. The *rupicola* will have a perfectly round cup and symmetrically spaced flat petals (possibly overlapping) which are relatively thick (good substance). The *asturiensis* may have a deeper yellow color and be smaller, but the cup lip may be irregular, the petals narrow and twisted, and the cup will give the effect of being too large for the stem, unless it is a truly outstanding specimen. Now the *asturiensis* should be judged as an *asturiensis* (minimum).

Formerly all 10 Y-Y's were judged in the same class unless there were three or more of each kind. **Note to show chairs:** Leave extra space for miniature 10 Y-Y's when setting up the show area, since there will be quite a few classes here.

The special miniature daffodils that have descended from large populations in the wild, are, under the right conditions, seed and pollen

# Bonnie Brae Gardens

## Quality Show Flowers

standard · intermediate · miniature

Jeanie (McKillop) Driver  
1105 S.E. Christensen Road  
Corbett, Oregon 97019  
(Telephone 503-695-5190)



fertile. This is useful for propagating the species, and hybridizing miniatures, as well as standard 5's, 6's and 7's. The species clone(s) may not be genetically predisposed to long life and vegetative reproduction that we expect from the larger daffodils, so consideration should be given to letting some flowers go to seed to supply replacements.

The species should be variable. For example, two dozen *cyclamineus*, 10 Y-Y, and eight dozen *triandrus albus*, 10 W-W, ordered for 1990 blooming showed 100% variation in size, differing perianth and/or cup shape, bloom season, and to a lesser extent, color. The variability in the wild sometimes leads to difficulty in identification and nomenclature. John Blanchard's encyclopedic book, *Narcissus, A Guide to Wild Daffodils* is useful for checking the shape and color of variability and growing conditions in their native habitat.

Ordering larger number of bulbs increases the chances of obtaining a nicer specimen for exhibition and getting more than one clone for seed propagation purposes. Some clones, i.e., bulbs which are divisions of a single bulb, are self-sterile.

### **How Can I Get Started?**

Sharing catalogues and combining orders with friends will help to fit purchases of daffodils on the miniature list into the budget. Garden centers carry a few in the fall, but these sell quickly, and may not be true to name. Friends are often willing to let you know about their past experiences in obtaining bulbs, so ask if there were problems with a dealer, and their resolution, such as refund or replacement, etc.

In my opinion, the best sources are those which grow their own stocks. This includes friends who may have extra bulbs that need a home. For example, Tenoir, 10 W-Y, Mite, 6 Y-Y and Tete-a-Tete, 12 Y-Y, increase well in the Ohio River Valley, and other regions.

The Havens' early list, Jeannie Driver, Mrs. Capen and Nancy Wilson regularly have a few inexpensive offerings, as well as more exotic varieties. Private individuals, such as Delia Bankhead, sometimes have a list of miniatures.

Daffodil Societies may sell surplus bulbs of members. CODS, in Columbus, Ohio, buys miniatures in large quantities and sells them in small lots to augment their treasury.

### **A Few Sources**

Nancy R. Wilson, Species and Miniature Narcissus, 6525 Briceland-Thorn Road, Garberville, California 95440

Bonnie Brae Gardens, 1105 SE Christensen Road, Corbett, OR 97019

Mrs. John P. Capen, Springdale, Boonton, NJ 07005

Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodils, PO Box 218, Hubbard OR 97032

McClure and Zimmerman, 108 W. Winnebago, PO Box 368, Friesland, WI 53935

Mary Mattison Van Schaik, Imported Dutch Bulbs, Cavendish VT 05142  
The Daffodil Mart, The Heaths, Rt. 3, Box 794. Gloucester VA 23061  
Bundles of Bulbs, 112 Greenspring Valley Rd., Owings Mills, MD  
21117  
Oakwood Daffodils, 2330 W. Bertrand Rd. Niles, Michigan 49120

## THE FATE OF A TRIANDRUS SPECIES

HELEN K. LINK, *Brooklyn, Indiana*

In 1968 I acquired a number of miniatures from Broadleigh Gardens. Among those purchased was *Triandrus var. loiseleurii*, 10W-W. All the bulbs purchased at the time were planted in various locations, either in the bed borders or along the side of the house. Unfortunately I planted the *triandrus* on the north side of the house where I had prepared the bed for the culture of native ferns. The bed was mostly decayed oak leaves and woods dirt. The bulbs flourished and bloomed well for several years. There were two or three white flowers to the scape nearly twice the size of *triandrus albus*. One summer we decided to enlarge the kitchen and the excavator for the foundation came when I was not at home, and the bulbs, much to my sorrow, ended up in a large pile of dirt. I have never been able to replace them because of lack of a source.

When delving into the history of this species, it seems the species has given both pleasure and trouble to botanists as well as gardeners. E.A. Bowles in *A Handbook of Narcissus*, 1934, discusses the history of the plant and gives some enlightenment as to its origin and naming. The plant was discovered by Bonnemaison of Quimper in the Iles des Glenans. In 1807 De Candolle in *Les Liliacees*, vol. iii, wrote that he had received the specimen from which Redoute's plate 177 was drawn and thought that the yellow coloring was because the specimen was dried or pressed. Plate 14 of Burbidge and Baker, *The Narcissus*, 1875,



*Triandrus var.*  
*loiseleurii*

shows three scapes, one a creamy white, and the other two a light yellow. The preface to the book states that some plants were from dried specimens from Kew Herbarium or from authentic drawings. Since *triandrus calathinus* was supposed to be white, it is thought that Linnaeus did not know the plant and that Redoute drew it from a dried or recently pressed flower.

Linnaeus described the plant as having the corona and petals of equal length and applied the name of *calathinus* to this new plant. In 1806 Sims pointed out that this was a form of *N. odorus*. In 1837 Herbert went into the matter and concluded that Linnaeus never had a specimen. In 1812 Salsbury replaced De Candolle's *N. clathrinus* with *Queltia capex* but gave no description. He said it grew in the Glenans Isles and that it had flowered at Walworth twenty years previously from a single bulb imported from Holland.

In the 1965 *RHS Daffodil and Tulip Year Book* Frank Whaley relates a trip through Spain and Portugal where he noticed a great variation in color of *N. triandrus* in central Portugal, size increased the nearer he got to the northwest corner of the Peninsula. The largest plants were found near the most probable starting point for *N. triandrus loiseleurii*. Seeds and bulbs could have been carried by the prevailing winds and sea currents.

Around Coruna where previously some large specimens had been seen he found both bulbs and flowers as big or bigger than those grown in England under the name of *N. triandrus loiseleurii*. A bulb and some pressed flowers were sent to Kew for identification. Mr. J.R. Sealy reported that he did not know what name should be used for the plants, but that they were no more than a form or variety of *N. triandrus* and that he did not think they could take the name of variety *loiseleurii* for that name was applied by Roury to the smaller flowered plants from Iles Glenans, which Loiseleur had as *N. reflexus*. Roury called it 'race' *loiseleurii*. Whaley said he did not know the difference between the small flowered plant from the Iles de Glenans and the medium (not the very large) form from north-west Spain and Portugal.

Bowles, after discussing the controversy over naming among various writers, decided the name *N. triandrus*, var. *calathinus* should be used. He said it should be grown in very sheltered gardens; that it can withstand severe frost if dry; it resents damp and cold together. He suggests it be grown in a frame or cool house for the sake of its exquisitely formed white flowers. It also has wonderfully potent pollen which gives whiteness to nearly all its seedlings along with smooth texture and pendant pose.

Blanchard, *Narcissus* 1990, uses the term *N. triandrus* L. var. *loiseleurii* (Roury) Fernandes (syn. *N. triandrus* L. ssp. *capex* (Salisb.) Webb). Regardless of what the plant is called, it is regretful that it is not available commercially at the present time.

## JOSEPHINE VANCE BENTLEY

It is with sadness I report the death of my dear friend Josephine Bentley. Jo, widow of T.E. Bentley, regularly attended ADS shows and conventions.

She had been fighting leukemia, and died suddenly April 2, 1992, in Hughes, Arkansas. She leaves three sons, Tom, Jimmy and John Bentley, a sister, and six grandchildren.

Jo was a member of the Arkansas Daffodil Society and the Mid-South (Memphis) Daffodil Society, having served as president and show chairman for each group. She was an accredited judge and had served ADS as a Director and Southwest Regional Vice President.

Jo was always willing to help others who wanted to know more about daffodils. All during the blooming season, she would take daffodils to the library of Hughes Junior High School, where she was Librarian. She found the students very interested in the various varieties.

We had registered for the Columbus Convention but it was not to be. I will miss my ADS traveling companion. Her smiling face and wonderful attitude will be missed by many of us.

Our sympathy to her family.

## VOICES FROM THE PAST

*(From time to time there will appear articles entitled "Voices From the Past". These letters and articles come from the ADS Library which received them many years ago from Matthew Zandbergen, and have been passed on to us by Mary Lou Gripshover.)*

## THE ENGLISHMAN OF THE NARCISSI

*El Correo Gallego, Deario de la Manana*

14 Dec 1888

Probably some of our readers may recollect having seen during the months of April and May last, whether in this capital or whether in some other part of the Province — travelling on foot and accompanied by a servant — a knight errant, whose strange attire attracted attention

even among us, accustomed as we are to the eccentricities of dress peculiar to foreign tourists.

Very baggy knee-breeches, leggings of yellow leather and black boots adorned with great nails, a jacket after the fashion of a blouse, collarless, wide, crossed with multifarious pockets in every direction, confined by a belt, the whole of a grey tone matching the beard and hair of the owner, and a handsome and fine fur cap of the shape formerly worn by waggoners and even now occasionally met with in the mountains during the winter, constituted the attire of our personage, who, to a fair stature and natural elegance, added the special attraction of a smiling countenance, and particularly that of the intelligent glances of his blue eyes, incessantly moving behind their gold rimmed spectacles. Field glasses and a multitude of pocket books, papers, and guides, peeping out of his innumerable pockets, completed his outward appearance.

Behind him respectfully marched his companion, a servant of as vulgar an aspect as can be found anywhere, carrying rolled up under his arm a map of the Asturias of the never to be forgotten Schuttz [?].

“Who are these two individuals?” asks the inquisitive reader.

The first is known in Asturias and Galicia as “the Englishman of the Narcissi;” the second is a Frenchman, a native of Gavarnie in the Pyrenees, a soi-disant interpreter, whose chief characteristic is his knowing English hardly at all, Spanish even less, and his own mother-tongue only so far as the bad patois of the Landes and Western Pyrenees. So much for the Squire, who by the bye, seemed a stupid lout, better pleased to travel as a gentleman and get his daily wages, than to remain at Gavarnie waiting to be employed as a guide by some one of the strangers who come to see the natural amphitheatre formed by its mountains and which has made the place famous.

The Englishman’s conversation justified the favourable opinion which — in spite of his dress — must surely have been formed by those who saw Mr. Peter Barr, for such is his name, and he inhabits No. 12 King Street, Covent Garden, in London.

Having once solved the only doubt which troubled him on beginning a conversation, namely, what language could his interlocutor understand, he began to talk to me in his own. Imagine to yourself an express train, and you will be able to form some slight idea of it. It was absolutely impossible to follow him, and yet this was the least intriguing part of the business. Having once explained the object he had in view, he began a torrent of questions, and a pulling out of note-books, and a jotting down in this place and in that, and requests for me to write down what he could not understand or what he could not spell in our language; and if by chance any matter, however out of the way, were touched upon, he instantly copied and made notes of

it — and all this did not prevent his returning at once to the subject of paramount importance to Mr. Barr at that period — namely — Narcissi!

“I leave London,” he said. “I travel about for some months. I collect information and botanical, geological and mineralogical specimens; I divide them among the friends who devote themselves to each of these specialties, and after awhile, I begin again.”

“And you do not take part in scientific review or publish some work?” asked I.

“I am thinking about it and will keep you informed,” replied he.

Probably I should have forgotten the naturalist had I not received a letter from him a few days since. Among other things he says, “Before leaving England I expected to find sulphur-coloured Narcissi from Bordeaux to the borders of Asturias and Galicia, and thenceforward, following the coast line, — pale yellow and white ones. My explorations from Oviedo to Oporto have confirmed this expectation, as those between the first-named place and the French frontier had already done. I observed that the sulphur-coloured present themselves invariably on chalky soils, disappearing on all others. On the other hand, on the Galician granite and hard rocks in general, only pale or white ones are to be seen. Climate cannot have produced this distinction; as to the soil on which they spontaneously grow, it was of the same character throughout, namely, the yellowish clay of the upland pastures; hence, not being able to account for the variety of colour in Narcissi by the nature of the soil, are we to attribute it to the sub-soil?

If in your mountain excursions you could make observations and send me specimens, together with the name of the place, the nature and geological formation of the ground, you would not only do a personal service to myself, but to science as well.”

Further on he adds, “At Busdongo the Narcissi are pale yellow, with sulphur and white or whitish petals on the hard rocks. At Villanin there are some of ‘Sarminoso’ colour.” (This word is quite unknown to me and I cannot find it in the dictionary; can it be a misprint for ‘carminoso’ — carmine tinted?) “After leaving Oviedo I took the high road along the coast, and at Tapia I saw the last sulphur specimens; at Vivero and Jubia I began to see the whitish kinds, and then they continued through Corunna, Vigo and Monforte as far as Oporto.”

I remember that about twelve years since, I stumbled in Oviedo upon another naturalist, a German, who came all the way from Berlin for the sole purpose of confirming or rectifying some doubtful botanical data concerning a plant described in Wilkomm’s Flora as occurring at Manjoza and near the fountain of Fozaneldi. **That** I could understand, for an important work was in question, and I knew that in Berlin there are practical men capable of undertaking commissions of the kind. In

Mr. Barr's work, however, I failed to see, — why deny the fact? — any scientific object whatsoever, and I looked upon it as a species of monomania. but now I suspect it to have a very real commercial importance, very much in keeping with the character of the sons of Albion; this idea is suggested to me by the recollection of something I have read recently, and by an article published by the said Mr. Barr in "The Pall-Mall Gazette" of the 23rd of last month, under the title, "The Price of Orchids."

If my memory does not play me false, Narcissi have recently been brought into fashion in England by politicians who employ them as emblems of a political group or party, and who wear in the coat buttonhole a Narcissus of a colour previously agreed upon.

Hence, beyond all doubt, the necessity for procuring these flowers, and it is evident that their high price in the market is quite a sufficient motive for the English to move heaven and earth and to try to acclimatise and reproduce them in their own country. It is true that the sale of flowers, bulbs, etc., which goes on in the capital of the United Kingdom is something enormous; Mr. Henry Stevens bears witness to the fact that millions of orchids have passed through his hands, obtaining for instance the collection of Mr. John Day of Tottenham for the sum of £10,000 (or a million reales!!). In order to procure these plants all the countries of the world are laid under contributions, especially India and S. America.

The Narcissi are to be found in a more circumscribed area, but since precisely those which are most esteemed are to be found growing wild in Asturias and Galicia, and since we have no lack of persons who are fond of cultivating and propogating flowers, we recommend the subject to them; they may find it to their advantage to communicate with Mr. Barr, and also to devote a few days in April and May to gathering these flowers, being firmly persuaded that their time would not be thrown away.

Thus is it that the ancient naturalists, those true martyrs to science, who, at the cost of infinite suffering, — many perishing in the quest — opened out new horizons to the Geographical botany of the world with no other stimulus than glory, — often in scant measure, — have come to be succeeded by these others more in harmony with our modern life. And while those enriched herbaries difficult to study and useful only to a limited number of persons, these, by encouraging the cultivation of plants, (which in every latitude constitute the best ornament of the earth,) in places where they may best be admired, realize rich profits, but we cannot doubt that they likewise render a service to humanity, by teaching it more and more to know and admire the works of the Creator.

## SPECIES ALERT!!

**KATHRYN S. ANDERSEN**, *Wilmington, Delaware*

May 12, 1992

Marilynn Howe, my son, Donald, and I have just returned from Spain where we were shocked to find utter devastation of the species in several areas.

**1)** *N. jacatanus*, sold commercially as 'Midget', has been almost totally eradicated from the large lawn area it occupied in front of an ancient monasterio not far from Jaca. Local poachers left the lawn on which we relaxed and ate lunch in May of 1991 looking like a practice area for artillery fire. Neat divots lay overturned. We are not familiar with other sites but feel they must also be in jeopardy. (Note: 'Midget' according to the *Daffodil Checklist*, was registered by G.J. Mooyman of Holland in 1984 a Division 10 — wild species — yet supplements to the RHS Yearbooks in 1984 and subsequent years fail to report it.) Our feeling is that remote areas of Northern Spain have become the blatant commercial source. Feel guilt pangs if you purchase these bulbs.

**2)** *N. rupicola* is fast disappearing from the Sierra de Guadarrama. In one location within a national park, we have seen incredible masses of yellow (1990) look ratty one year later (1991) and disappear entirely in 1992. This once beautiful area leading up into the woods seems to have been roto-tilled by some unknown giant (or dug up with many small shovels). *N. rupicola*, has long been readily available commercially under this name and is usually substituted for commercial listings of *N. juncifolius* as well. Poachers are most certainly supplying commercial sources with this species.

**3)** On high ridges overlooking the same ancient monestario, *N. assoanus*, (commercially offered as *N. juncifolius* or *N. requienii*) has been eradicated from the landscape. Those who come and help themselves take everything. Not a bulb remains. Being familiar with the area and its previous wealth of bloom, we were horrified to find the pock-marked landscape left behind by those who must have been paid by the bulb for all collected. Although often offered for sale, *N. rupicola* is usually the species supplied. Now commercial sources have hundred of thousands of the true species. Can they keep them alive until delivery?

**4)** The fourth victim which shocked us was *N. alpestris*. This species has literally disappeared from several high cirques just outside of and within Ordessa National Park high in the Pyrenees. We have come to know the aspect on which we can find this species, often growing with asphodels or amongst echinopartum. These westerly slopes were

shockingly disturbed save for the companion plants. Only in the middle of huge jungles of wild rose did clumps of *N. alpestris* survive. All literature indicates that *N. alpestris* is a very difficult garden plant. We feel that these bulbs have truly been given a death sentence by those who poached. How these will be marketed, if indeed they do survive that long, we do not know.

We can only assume that commercial sources have hired local individuals who are most familiar with the land to go out and dig bulbs. Assurances that bulbs are nursery-grown can mean for only one year after being snatched from their wild source. Before long, one of Spain's most precious national resources will have disappeared forever. Most of these species are difficult to grow demanding very special conditions and will not survive in individual gardens. It is indeed time for the ADS to take a very positive stand against such commercial exploitation of the species which form the basis for future generations of the hybrids we all love. Possible destruction of future gene pools and absolute rape of the land should not be tolerated. A strong conservation campaign is needed. Might it also be time to remove species from the show bench?

## **NO YEAR IS PERFECT SPANISH ADVENTURE - 1991**

**KATHRYN S. ANDERSEN**, *Wilmington, Delaware*

Spring came so early to the Delaware Valley that the local Daffodil Society reluctantly canceled its annual show at Longwood Gardens. Nevertheless, Betsey Ney, Show Coordinator at Longwood, was still willing to join Marilyn Howe and me for a foray into the North of Spain in search of species daffodils. Having rejoiced in single sightings of both *N. assoanus* (then referred to as *N. requienii*) and *N. alpestris* in 1989, we hoped to see significant populations of each on this trip. We were still trying to unravel the problems of *pseudonarcissus* and *bulbocodium* nomenclature and needed to observe more populations. Another goal was to undertake a more quantitative study of a large poet population, especially one skewed to smaller blooms. We planned to pursue the elusive *N. jacetanus* and seek out further natural hybrids in areas where populations of two different species bloomed in close proximity. The proposed itinerary was tailored to serve these objectives but we could not anticipate the weather.

Things did not auger well when we arrived in Madrid early on the morning of May 3 to find that Marilyn's bag which contained all

reference material had gone to Frankfort. We knew that we could not travel far from Madrid the first night since we would have to return the following afternoon to retrieve her lost luggage. The sleepy little inn in the Sierra Guadarrama about 40 miles from the airport seemed like the ideal place. As we stepped out of the terminal it became apparent that spring was not nearly so far advanced in Spain as at home. A down vest and long woolly sleeves felt good. We were dismayed to see so much snow in the Guadarrama especially at the L-9 stop near Canencia where *N. rupicola rupicola* had been waning on May 1 in 1990. Most of the area was under snow. Beneath this cover the blooms were just beginning to open. *Bulbocodium nivalis* which had been in seed in 1990 was just beginning to fade. Deep snow prevented our searching for other bulbocodiums or for *triandrus pallidulus*. The Puerto de la Morcuera (1790 M) area appeared to be emerging from the throes of winter. Dense mats of *b. nivalis* sprang up wherever the snow had melted, sometimes as clumps but more often singly. Below the pass, *b. graellsii* was just opening up, each pale perianth tube striped with green. In the rocky meadow, islands mottled with yellow rose above still frozen swamps. Both of these *bulbocodiums* grow in areas which are extremely wet. Above Lozoya in the Guadarrama we have seen *b. nivalis* growing in a stream which is not seasonally dependent. When we arrived at our sleepy inn to find it full, we knew definitely that we were not off to a smooth start.

After retrieving Marilyn's bag the next day, we set out for a parador in the small town of Santo Domingo de la Calzada northeast of Burgos. Unfortunately, the parador was undergoing restoration and boarded up tight. Again, we had to seek housing in unfamiliar terrain, but found a good hotel and spent the evening visiting the thirteenth century cathedral where a live rooster crows throughout the service and learning why this town reveres chickens. Next morning dawned cold and drizzly for our trip to several nearby puertos in search of *N. jacetanus*, *N. assoanus*, and various *bulbocodiums*. At Puerto Herrera (1110 M) it was snowing so hard, we feared that we might be snowbound if we tarried too long. In the picnic area, several tattered *bulbocodium* blooms could be seen in areas where the snow had blown away. Photography was out of the question, and no attempt was made at identification as we really wanted to leave. The Puerto de Urbasa (920 M) yielded *b. citrinus*, growing in stream beds, along streams and in erosion ditches on the hillside. In 1990, we were not aware that *B. citrinus* grew at this puerto and thought that seed pods we observed might be *N. jacetanus vasconicus*. Leaves and scapes of *N. macrolobus* had been closely cropped in areas where seed pods were sighted before. Mounds of sheep, grazing away at any lush green morsel, replaced the picturesque horses that had roamed freely in the beech woods and open

spaces. Snow cover at the Puerto Lizarraga (1031 M) made sightings impossible. Next day, in the Valle del Roncal and Valle de Anso part of the snow cover remained from winter but some was quite fresh, and we had hopes of finding blooms in protected spots under boxwood or pine or in areas swept clear by wind. By mid-afternoon, we tired of the snowy driving and closed puertos and so headed to lower elevations and left these prime locations for another time. On May 7, we did reach the French border at Puerto del Portale where we had crossed from France into Spain on May 20, 1989. On the French side, a towering wall of snow attested to the fact that no one had gone through since fall. On the Spanish side near the puerto, *N. bicolor* had begun to bloom amid the patches of last winter's snow. The few blooms that were open made the tedious trip to the puerto worthwhile.

*N. assoanus* was first seen quite by accident as we set out on May 6 on one of our forays up the long valleys leading into the Pyrenees. At Puerto Cuatro Caminos (848M), a quick reconnaissance of the area revealed a sprinkling of *N. assoanus* in a dense thicket of box, scrub oak, lavender, *ribes* and other thorny plants in between plantings of pine. The ground had clearly been disturbed some years before. These scapes bore one or two rather small circular blooms with reflexed perianth segments quite round and overlapping. Wind and driving rain sent us on our way with hopes of finding a similar population later in the trip when we might evaluate at leisure. Unfortunately we never saw another population resembling this one.

British photographers whom we met at a local inn suggested we set out the next morning (May 7) to visit the monasterios in the Sierra San



*N. bicolor*

Juan de la Pena and view the "narrow leaf" daffodil. *N. assoanus* greeted us in profusion in many areas around the new (14th century) monasterio at the top of the mountain. Sunshine and almost warm weather made picnicking in the midst of this sweet superabundance a delight. The east and west ridges above the monasterio (1500 M) yielded extremely uniform populations. They grew in association with oak, two-needle pine, *Ilex*, *Buxus*, *Hepatica*, *Arctostaphylos*, and *Echinospartum*. This area is underlain with limestone. Sturdy scapes carried one or two blooms. These blooms grew to about the same height and were of uniform size and form. The perianth segments were relatively flat, only slightly overlapped, if at all, and were definitely pointed at the tips. Before the trip ended, we saw several other significant populations. All grew in relatively dry situations and in association with limestone. *Echinospartum horridum* protected many of the scapes from intrusion by animals. At the side of a local mountain road near Huesca, large clumps of *N. assoanus* grew from seasonally damp crevices in an outcropping of limestone at 1300 M.

Paths and woodlands near both the old and new Monasterios at San Juan de la Pena were rich in *N. alpestris*. In 1989, we had hiked seven miles into the Circo de Soaso (and seven miles out!) to observe a few scapes of this species buried deep in *E. horridum* some distance from the trail. Here, *N. alpestris* was everywhere. We reveled in the beauty of these white daffodils which were exactly at their prime. On the east and west ridges above the new monasterio, the blooms were small and scapes short; however, in the woodland near the old monasterio (1200 M), the blooms, almost the size of standard daffodils, were borne on

Ditch full of  
*N. alpestris*



tall, sturdy scapes. Soils were deeper and richer here and the situation definitely more shaded. Had we seen the real *N. mochatus* or were these just very vigorous stems of *N. alpestris*?

Our most surprising find of *N. alpestris*, occurred along the road to the Valle de Aran. Below a puerto at 1470 M the road traverses gently rolling pasture land. To our great surprise, fields on both sides of the road were dotted with thousands of short blooms of *N. alpestris* in much the same way an ill-kempt lawn might be covered with dandelions in the spring. *N. alpestris* even grew in culverts on both sides of the road. In spite of heavy rain, we pulled to an abrupt stop, flew from the car and spent the next hour luxuriating in this astounding display. Variation was amazing. Some pale yellow forms were spotted. Trumpets varied from slightly expanded and fairly short to long and absolutely straight. All of these blooms were small with short scapes and short leaves. A few were even upright and not deflexed. Had the weather been more hospitable, we would have spent the day in a quantitative study, recording data and taking extensive pictures. A walk down a thicketed bank toward a stream not far from the road, revealed heavy stands of *N. alpestris* growing with *Pulmonaria* and *Primula* in dense underbrush. These were far larger than the blooms in the meadow above which had been shortly clipped, either by mowing or grazing, but smaller than those seen at the new monasterio. Observations made in the Circo in 1989 had led us to believe that *N. alpestris* required close association with underlying limestone and seasonal wetness. We also felt that some protection from the summer sun would be helpful. With this latest sighting and that at the monasterios, we began to wonder how stringent the growing requirements really were.

The Valle de Aran, where fragrant fields of *N. poeticus* astounded us on May 21, 1989, lay under a fresh dusting of snow when we emerged from the long tunnel leading into this part of Spain high in the Pyrenees. In the rain, a quick search of hillsides visited previously, revealed a single clump of monochrome bright yellow *N. absiccus* (referred to as *N. bicolor* in the March, 1990, *Journal*). The long straight clipped trumpet attested to its identification even though it did not have the characteristic bicolor appearance. We decided to turn in early and head to a lower elevation in the morning to evaluate poets. Some opened blooms had been identified below the snow, and we anticipated fields in bloom a few hundred meters lower. On May 9, we were greeted by eight inches of new snow and a blizzard in full progress. A drive to lower elevations towards France only took us into heavier snow falls.

Our only choice was to head back to the Guadarrama hitting a few promising areas along the way. On May 10, the elusive Monasterio Ntra. Sra. del Moncayo near Tarazona, high above the surrounding

countryside, proved to be another disappointment. Lower elevations yielded *bulbocodiums* but as we approached the monasterio the road petered out to two thin tire tracks in the snow. Admitting that we had once more attained a prime location prematurely, we slowly descended to the sunny plains and headed south. A trip out of Soria to Puerto Bigornia (1100 M) on May 11 brought us to massive road construction at the puerto and no daffodils. Numerous trips by foot into promising terrain yielded nothing, but a stork nesting in a Cardejon ruin assured us that spring was really here. Only numerous small stems of *triandrus pallidulus* growing in plowed ground between pines in a turpentine planting west of Hortezueta just south of the Duero River were seen that day. Most had one bloom and were not in any way distinguished. All were single stems in a scattered situation. As in 1990, we returned to the Guardarrama and our sleepy little inn, approaching Lozoya from the North. Shortly after coming through the puerto, *b. nivalis* was seen in its prime emerging from the snow. At lower aspects, *N. rupicola* and *triandrus pallidulus* were just coming into bloom.

Sunday, May 12 was the first warm sunny day of spring. We determined to enjoy ourselves outdoors and return to Puerto de la Morcuera and the L-9 location in search of wild hybrids. We (and everyone else from the general Madrid area) took a picnic lunch to the Puerto area and enjoyed the warmth. Here *bulbocodium graellsii* was in its prime. These blooms which had opened without a load of snow on top were large and mostly widely expanded. All had the distinguishing green stripes on the perianth tube. Colors varied from off-white to soft yellow. At the Puerto itself, picnickers with loud radios sat in lawn chairs atop brilliant clumps of *bulbocodium nivalis* completely oblivious to the beauty beneath them! A comprehensive search of roadsides between the Puerto and Miraflores revealed healthy strands of *triandrus pallidulus* (all with at least four blooms per scape) growing from pockets in the granite cliffs, and scattered sightings of *N. rupicola* at a lower altitude. These populations really did not overlap, and no hybrids between the two were discovered. A return to L-9 was as prolific as ever and so were the other species. Having found what we now assume to be *N. rupidulus* above Lozoya in 1990, we knew what to look for and where to look. By the end of the afternoon we had seen four different specimens in various areas where *N. rupicola* and *triandrus pallidulus* grew in close proximity.

Next day we headed for Madrid and back home wondering how much we might have observed had we scheduled our trip for a later date. An early trip brings snow and frustration, but a late one leaves much doubt in the identification of seed pods . . . if indeed these can be found at all.

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