

DAFFODIL CULTURE -- Please Read Complete Culture Sheet.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO CONSIDER FOR BULB CARE TO ACHIEVE SUCCESSFUL ESTABLISHED GROWTH AND PERFORMANCE:

1. Please open package and bulb sacks immediately. Store in cool place before planting.
2. Bulb Size - It is normal for given cultivars to produce large or small bulbs depending on their genetic background. Bulb size will vary as well from season to season depending upon the prevalent climatic conditions. Our greatest emphasis is placed on growing a healthy solid bulb. Our bulbs are graded personally and will be of blooming size for the given variety.
3. Flower Color - At the time of flowering, climatic conditions may affect the color intensity, as in other plants as well. As stated in our catalog, coloration is described as we view the flowers and it may be affected by soil, climatic conditions and adaptive success of the bulb to its new home. In most areas, pinks may open a yellow or greenish color. The intensity of the pink color develops with maturity of the bloom. Reverse bi-colors frequently open all yellow, the cup turning white with bloom maturity. Many red cups develop color and size with maturity. Sudden extreme high temperature during the bloom development stage can affect the maturing process and produce some possible variation in all color groups. For individual ordering pinks first time, an awareness of yellow or greenish opening is important to us.
4. Fertilizer - Use fertilizer with caution. Organic and commercial fertilizers high in nitrogen are totally discouraged. Both of the preceding encourage bulb decomposition. Also, avoid soils that have previously been used for spring planting and had the above fertilizers applied.
5. Planting Time - When weather cools, plant as soon as possible, generally mid-September through October (depending upon your geographic location), to establish a well developed root system before on coming adverse weather conditions. November planting is recommended for warm climates. Adherence to the preceding, will contribute toward the expected quality of bloom and the bulb's adaptation to your soil and climate. (Most all new plants require the adaptation process.)
6. Where to Plant -
 - a. Choose a well drained area.
 - b. Normally, growth is somewhat larger and taller on medium to heavy loams than on sandy soils.
 - c. Avoid a heavily shaded area to avert excessive competition.
 - d. If planted near a protected area from wind and sun, the chances for a longer brilliance of bloom are increased.
 - e. Show flowers should be grown in the open, away from competition of other plants.
7. How to Plant -
 - a. Soil should be deeply worked and well pulverized prior to planting.
 - b. Open a trench or hole to a depth of 6 to 8 inches, allowing for covering the bulbs with 4 to 6 inches of soil.
 - c. Plant six to eight inches apart, the latter figure preferable if bulbs are to be left down for several years.
 - d. Moisture is essential during the growing season, particularly preceding flowering. Cultivate frequently, or give a mulch to keep down weeds, retain moisture and prevent blooms from being spattered with dirt during rainy weather.
8. Pests - Daffodils like other flowers are not immune to pests. Among these is the narcissus bulb fly. At this point, we encourage the use of commercial bulb dust containing Sevin. We encourage its use at planting time, placing on bulbs before covering. In the following spring, after the foliage starts to die down, when narcissus bulb fly is active, apply bulb dust over neck of bulbs. The length of time Sevin is effective is limited and may require several scheduled applications as the bulb foliage is dying down. Chlordane dust, previously used to control narcissus bulb fly effectively over an extended time, is difficult or impossible to obtain. Sevin is generally available commercially in bulb dust form. As new remedies are being tried, it is suggested that one acquire recommendations from local seed stores or county agents.
For bulb rot control, bulb dust containing captan may be used; also avoid organic and commercial fertilizers high in nitrogen.
9. Potted plants - Many daffodils thrive in pots, but most do not take kindly to forcing. Bulbs should be potted in September and buried in sand or soil until well rooted. Bring into a room that is unheated except when temperatures are below freezing. It should be emphasized that most daffodils resent forcing and will give better blooms if grown cool. Grown thus, they provide flowers unmarred by weather damage. It is not recommended that daffodils be grown in window boxes or pots raised above ground except where winters are mild.