

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Southern Regional News Letter

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Dear Members:

Fall is upon us, which means the last of the bulb shipments will arrive any day now. How is it that our spring wants are so large, and our fall bulb beds so small? Now is the time to prepare the soil for planting. A quick check list will include:

1. A well-drained area, raising the bed if necessary, for better drainage.
2. Conditioning the soil by adding sand, peat (or possibly gypsum if the soil is particularly heavy). Working in fertilizer (2-12-12, 3-18-18, or 5-10-10)-now while the rototiller is turned on will help.
3. Assemble all equipment with the bulbs - sand for the bottom of the holes; Chlordane to dust the bulb after it is set in the hole; something, or someone to dig the holes; tags to mark the name, classification, and location of the bulb; and pencil and paper to make a permanent record of the garden. (Your neighbors' cows only walk on finished daffodil beds.) A good liniment will also be appreciated.
4. Mulch now because January is too cold to work outside, and the rain makes mud to spot your flowers - only the best ones, of course.

This is "old hat" for most of us, but it helps to hear it again, and it may be useful to the newer members.

Speaking of, and to, New Members - we have many of you in the Southern Region. Welcome to the ranks of devoted daffodil growers! Ask all the questions you can think of. Get ready for the spring shows. We hope to see you in Memphis at the National in 1980, and may most of your ribbons be blue.

This is the year to GET READY. The National will be in Memphis and so will all those beautiful national trophies. Let's see how many we can bring home to this region. We are fortunate to live in an area where all the daffodil varieties will grow well. Memphis should be a great show, if the rains rain right, the frosts do not come, the winds are calm, and the mid-winter thaw is not too warm, the sun doesn't get too hot too soon, and all those other things that we think up to explain the picks, nicks and whatever.

Two show dates have been requested so far.

Memphis, Tennessee - March 27-29, 1980 at the Hyatt Regency
Nashville, Tennessee - April 5-6, 1980 at Cheekwood

Please let your Regional Vice President know of other planned dates.

As of this writing, there are two Judging School III programs already approved. The first is March 22, 1980 in Dallas, Texas, and the other is April 20, 1980 in Brooklyn, Indiana. There will be a Judging School II at Richmond, Virginia on April 14, 1980. Watch the Journal for other announcements.

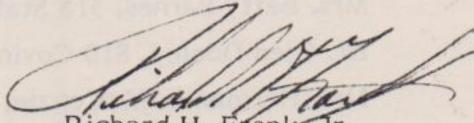
Some student judges may have difficulty in completing the required five shows. For some reason, three schools are easier to find than five shows. Therefore, if the Regional Vice President is informed of the need by a student judge, he will try to pass on that need to the show chairmen. Also, it will be a great help and service to this region if show chairmen and judges' chairmen will work out ahead of time how many student judges they will be able to utilize and help. Needless to say, all of us know that one student per panel is not unreasonable. Your help in this area will be greatly appreciated, and will also be a service to the Region and to the Society.

Did you know that:

- A good, lazy way to fertilize is to fill a flower pot (one center bottom hole) with dry fertilizer and dribble the stuff between the rows of daffodils, controlling the flow with the fingertip?
- Now is a good time to fertilize daffodils?
- The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group is preparing a slide program for ADS use? Check with Mrs. Harold Stanford, Route 2, Labanon, Tennessee 37078, for more information.
- The Federal Government calls daffodils "narcissi", and their importation comes under Tariff Item #125.5? The duty is \$2.10 per 1,000 bulbs. "Daffodils" are "other bulbs" and cost more.
- Daffodils can be forced using the same refrigerator used at show time? Set the noses of the bulbs at "ground level" in a shallow pot. Water. Refrigerate for about six weeks, or longer. Bring them out into a cool, dark room for a few days, then into a warm sunny room. Try February Gold, Peeping Tom, bubiodium, Tete-a-tete, Texas, Carlton, Cragford and Unsurpassable.
- Ted Snazelle says a ground temperature of 12° C. or 53.7° F is the best for planting bulbs. It discourages basal rot. See the Sept. Journal, p. 35.

Overheard at the International Daffodil Covention in London: "I can speak five languages - Australian, New Zealand, Irish, English and American." Do you think we can teach them Southern?

Good Luck with all your flowers.



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