
NARCISSUS/DAFFODILS

Never chill or buy chilled daffodil bulbs if you want repeat bloom! The following are recommended daffodils, with blooming season from November to April. An * indicates the bulb will probably bloom as far south as Gainesville, Florida, and two stars (**) indicates the bulb should bloom to Orlando.

Large Cup Size:

February: Carlton**, Ceylon*, Fortune*, Gigantic Star, Ice Follies*, Monal*, Saint Keverne

March: Barrett Browning, Duke of Windsor, Saint Patrick's Day, Juanita

Medium to Small Cup Size:

February: February Gold*, Itzim*, Sweetness*, Double Campernellii*

March: Bridal Crown, Dickcissel, Hawera*, Hillstar*, Kedron, Pipet, Pueblo, Quail, Tresamble, Trevithian*, Waterperry, Obvallaris, Thalia

Clusters of Small Flowers (Tazettas):

November-December: Chinese Sacred Lily**, Galilee*, Soliel d'Or**, Autumn Pearl, Autumn Colors

January-February: Cragford*, Abba, Erlicheer*, Nony*, Omri*, Yael, Double Chinese Sacred Lily**, Nat Williams, Grand Primo

March: Avalanche*, Golden Dawn**, Silver Chimes**, Tête à Tête*

April: Geranium, Baby Boomer

Species/Wild Hybrids:

January-February: *N. Italicus**, *N. x intermedius**, *N. x odorus* (Campernellii)*, *N. jonquilla* Early Louisiana*, *N. panizzianus*

March: *N. jonquilla**, *N. bulbocodium conspicuus*, *pseudonarcissus*, *Telemonius Plenus*

FLORIDA DAFFODIL SOCIETY

FDS is committed to a public education program which includes free literature, speakers program, and a web site. The preservation of species, wild hybrids, and historic daffodils and gardens is of upmost concern. In 1994, identification of perennial bulbs through test gardens was begun.

The Society still sponsors test gardens in Florida. Over 100 daffodils have been identified as successful perennials in North and Central Florida. So far, no daffodils have been identified that will perennialize in South Florida.

FDS provides bulbs for public gardens and sponsors bulb sales, including sales through organizations such as Master Gardeners and garden clubs. Since 1994, FDS has distributed over 300,000 bulbs in Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

Current projects include plantings in cemeteries, AIA highway beautification, and Goodwood Museum and Gardens.

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION

Annual Dues: \$5.00 individual, \$6.00 family per year (July 1 – June 30). Members receive a quarterly newsletter and pre-order bulb sale information. The only meeting is the Annual Meeting.

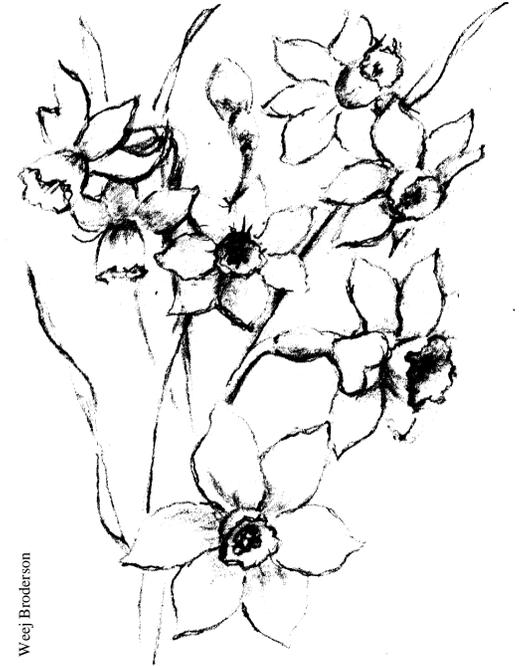
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City, State & Zip Code	
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FLORIDA DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Established 1994



Weej Broderson

www.FlaDaff.com

ENVIRONMENT

SUN

Daffodils will face the direction of predominant sunshine, usually south or southwest. Eastern exposure appears to result in warmer soil in North Florida daffodil beds, aiding early bloomers. December- February bloomers need full sun while later blooming daffodils do well on ½ day sun with afternoon shade. Summer shade from deciduous trees is always welcome.

SOIL

When initially preparing a bulb bed, dig deep (at least 10”, especially if planting tazettas). Clear soil of tree and shrub roots, cutting large roots well back of the bed borders.

Well-drained sandy loam is best. Clay soils should be amended with sharp (mason) sand and the bed raised. Most bulbs must be planted above clay, not in it. However, some tazettas appear to thrive in clay.

FERTILIZER

TEST YOUR SOIL. Most daffodils prefer a ph between 6.0 and 7.5 and, ideally, soil nutrient level for both phosphorus and potassium of 200 ppm (parts per million). If potassium less than 150 ppm, phosphorus is less than 60 ppm, daffodils will not thrive. Sprinkle superphosphate on the beds in the fall.

Most daffodils thrive on ½” topdressing of potash (wood ashes) after planting or in the fall, and right after blooming. Wood ashes can be a good source of potassium, lime and trace elements. If wood ashes are unavailable, lime can be used to get a neutral to sweet soil. Our daffodils are not heavy feeders, especially species and historic. *Thalia* and *pseudonarcissus* prefer slightly acidic soils. If you need to fertilize, a balanced fertilizer low in nitrogen, applied in early October and after blooming, is preferred. You can add trace minerals to your fertilizer. Today’s bonemeal is useless. **Never put fertilizer in the planting hole! Only the bulb goes in the hole.**

PLANTING

SPACING

The general rule for a “full” look is to space bulbs at about 3 times their width. That’s about 25 large hybrid bulbs per square yard. Tazettas (bunch flowered types) grow quite large, so should be about a hand span (8”) apart in each direction. Daffodils look best and grow better if they are planted in clumps rather than long, skinny rows. For a natural look, dribble bulbs away from a central cluster. Remember that crowded bulbs require more light and fertilizer. You can transplant bulbs anytime if you keep them watered the first two weeks.

DEPTH

Generally plant a clump (5 bulbs) in a hole 4 to 6 inches deep. Tazettas should be planted 8 inches deep and small or tiny bulbs close together at 2 or 3 times as deep as the bulb is tall. If they are a bit too shallow and the soil is not too heavy, most bulbs will pull themselves down into the soil. **Never leave your bulbs in the sun for more than a few minutes. Heat will kill the flower bud within the bulb.**

OVER PLANT

For the best year-round appearance, over-plant your daffodils. Over-planting will not only hide the foliage as it becomes scruffy at the end of the season, but will also reduce soil temperature. Shallow rooted perennials such as verbena, or annuals like zinnias, marigolds, cucumbers and squash will not damage your daffodils. If you fertilize your annuals, reduce the balanced fertilizer put in the bed in December for the daffodils.

MULCH

Mulch your bed(s) with 2-3 inches of lawnmower-chopped oak leaves or pine straw to keep the sun from cooking your bulbs. **Do not use wood chips or colored wood products.** Do not walk on bulb beds, and keep the mulch “airy”. Bulbs need oxygen!

CARE

WEEDING

Weeding by hand helps aerate the soil. Do not use any pre-emergent herbicides and don’t spray any weed control chemicals when any foliage is visible.

WATERING

If September rains don’t come, start watering: put down 2” of water biweekly until a good rain comes. Continue to monitor in October. **This is a must for early bloomers. Bulbs need to bake in summer, so do not irrigate them then unless you live on the coast.**

DIVIDING

Divide when blooming diminishes (3 to 5 years). Dig if there are 4 or 5 obvious sets of leaves when the foliage is visible but starting to die. Do not pull the bulbs apart. When it’s ready, a “slab” (baby bulb) will fall away from the “mother”.

STORAGE

Established daffodils should not be removed from the ground, except when being thinned or moved. Replant bulbs promptly after digging. Newly purchased bulbs, especially small bulbs, should be planted within a week of purchase. Try not to store bulbs at all, but if you have to, don’t put them in the refrigerator. Place them in a mesh (not solid plastic!) bag tied so air can circulate around them and keep in an air conditioned area. Check bulbs weekly for signs of rot or desiccation (drying out). Throw out suspicious looking bulbs.

CUTTING OR BRAIDING

Don’t! Foliage should dry naturally. If it must be cut, wait a full 6 weeks after blooming – otherwise flowering may be diminished next year. Do not pick stems of first year blooms as stems are needed for photosynthesis. Never pick leaves. Do deadhead the flowers.