

NARCISUS NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDWEST REGION

Fall, 2006

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Phyllis Hess 614-882-5720
3670 East Powell Road
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REGIONAL DIRECTORS

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2008 - Sara Kinne 812-332-5603
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2009 - Jill Griesse 740-887-3736
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Granville, OH 43023 pdgriesse@prodigy.net

ADS OFFICERS IN OUR REGION:

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Milford, Ohio 45150 - MGRIPSHOVER@cinci.rr.com

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Indianapolis, IN 46234 joehamm1@juno.com

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2148 Sycamore View Court
Miamisburg, Ohio 45342-5725
103710.3426@compuserve.com

New Student Judges

**We have 2 new Student Judges
in the Region.**

**Kay Cunningham from Indiana
Larry Wier from Michigan**

**Please include them in your plans when
getting Judges for your Spring Shows.**

Dear Daffodil Friends,

This has been a busy summer for me. I hope all of you have enjoyed your summer time as much as I have mine. Traveling was the focus this year; we returned to Oregon and took several other trips here and there. The latest was to Northern Minnesota, it was so beautiful and we had glorious weather.

The most exciting event of the summer has been the introduction of "Daffseek" the daffodil photo database developed by Ben Blake and Nancy Tackett. They have included thousands of photos, by going to the World Wide Web and typing, daffseek.org you can search for any daffodil. There are many ways to search. Now there is a method for finding the name for that variety you thought was lost!

I imagine most are thinking about planting and have added some new choice daffodils to your collection. Don't forget you can also add to that collection at the Fall Regional Meeting to be held on October 21 at Wegerzyn Gardens in Dayton. Coffee and donuts at 9:30 AM, meeting at 10 AM. There are directions located elsewhere in the newsletter.

We hope you bring lots of bulbs for the bulb exchange; we want our new members to be well supplied! You can also bring any other plant material you would like to share. Please label.

Also bring a covered dish to share for our potluck lunch. You will need to bring your own table service as well.

I would like to see you at the Midwest Regional meeting on October 21, 2006; I look forward to meeting you again, or for the first time.

Phyllis

DAFFODIL ABBREVIATIONS YOU SHOULD SEE IN
CATALOGUES
BY SANDRA STEWART FELLOW RVP

Let's face it...if you collect enough daffodils, you will get your share of disappointments. If the world was a perfect place, things would be different and you would be more informed with these descriptive abbreviations in the catalogues!

FIP = FAKE INVOICE PROVIDED -- for those who have a partner who thinks \$10.00 or more is too much for any daffodil.

ANAL = ABSOLUTELY NO ADJUSTMENTS LATER

TOXIC = just what it says - treated with every pesticide, germicide, herbicide, fungicide known to man. Recommend that you store these in a well ventilated area and plant on days when the wind is over 40 mph. Destroy all your clothing and garden tools when you are finished. Don't plant on the same property with food crops or children you want to keep. You can advise the crew at the Emergency Room that you know you are not infected with anything alive...you can immediately narrow your diagnosis down to chemical poisoning. These daffodils are also highly recommended for planting where live pests or weeds are a problem.

MBMFG - MAY BE MISTAKEN FOR GRASS - sorry, my cultivars are really small this year and prone to splitting off. Your best choice for naturalizing in the lawn as the foliage will blend right in. You won't be bothered with those unsightly spent blooms or seed heads. Mowing will increase this decorative effect year after year.

WNI = For those of you with limited space, this cultivar WILL NOT INCREASE regardless of how well you treat it. Ideal for container gardening!

POP = The color of this daffodil is the PRODUCT OF PHOTOPAINT. These colors do not exist in the real world of daffodils. I always blame the printer when people question why the color never looks like the catalog picture.

Thank you for not noticing that all the cultivars have the same foliage. I was afraid that would be a dead giveaway that these clumps were not really photographed in a garden but assembled on the computer. Offered this year are those wonderful purple daffodils introduced by John Pearson on April 1.

OOPSLTL = OOPS! LOST THE LABEL. I leave these daffodils in that special bed (all the labels were destroyed by fire) in hopes of replacing all the correct names someday. When the markers have been lost and I can no longer identify a daffodil, rather than destroy the clump, they are grown on in this bed and renamed with non-registered RHS names...and given as gift plants to Newbies who hopefully do not own a copy of Show and

Grow. They are all guaranteed to bloom true to the labeled division and color code (I can recognize that part by sight). Due to the beneficial minerals deposited here in the form of ashes, these are all very vigorous plants that bloom their heads off and multiply like rabbits. If you exhibit these at ADS shows but they are not judged because they are mislabeled, please contact me immediately with the name of the know-it-all judge who claims to know which daffodil it really is. That person can be reached here at my place for the rest of the daffodil season, as they will be enjoying free food and sleeping quarters (i.e., held hostage) until my label problem (and your exhibiting problem) is corrected. I am also offering to host any judging school ID tests here (Since no one will really be able to tell if you get the answers right, you can't fail).

SOCOK = SIBLING OF CULTIVAR OK?--Hey, I ran out of the seedlings I had planned to sell, so I substituted a look-alike but not quite as robust sibling.

SC = SPIN COLOR - Making the best presentation out of an unattractive daffodil - given to rather ugly daffodils that are not really yellow, pink or white but then no really attractive color either...so instead of "yellow that almost turns pink" I call it "Antique Rose", instead of "dirty white" I call it "Ivory", instead of "muddy yellow", I call it "Victorian Leather".

EYC = EAT YOUNG CHILDREN (and small animals)-this abbreviation will probably be used often in the near future as the result of genetic engineering and Southern Region hybridizers who grow daffodils too close to the beach or bayou (where sharks and crocodiles are common). Highly Recommended if your neighbors' children or dogs are allowed to wander into your daffodil beds and for gardens plagued by moles, voles and other varmints!

MR= MEDIUM RARE - typically used to identify red and orange cups that are unable to withstand more than 25 seconds of direct sun, since they resemble a good medium rare steak...brown on the edges but bright and fresh on the inside. (Sorry if you thought I was going to refer to older cultivars that are getting harder to find--- those are called \$20 each--but your invoice will say "gratis" for the sake of your better half)

NTG - NEVER TESTED FOR GROWTH or hardiness beyond the garden where it sprouted.

GIG- GROW IN GREENHOUSE if you ever expect to exhibit it at a show or keep it when real weather arrives.

PWI = PURPLE WITH IMAGINATION or BWI = BLUE WITH IMAGINATION

PWL = PROBABLY WILL LIVE - needs to survive first winter after planting in order to get blooms.

And last because it's most important ----
D AMQL = DON'T ASK ME QUESTIONS LATER.



On 15th April 1802, William and Dorothy Wordsworth passed the strip of land at Glencoyne Bay, Ullswater, on their way back to Grasmere after staying the previous night at Eusmere in Pooley Bridge. Dorothy wrote in her journal :

'When we were in the woods beyond Gowbarrow Park, we saw a few daffodils close to the water side. We fancied that the lake had floated the seed ashore and that the little colony had so sprung up. But as we went along there were more and more and at last under the boughs of the trees, we saw that there was a long belt of them along the shore, about the breadth of a country turnpike road.

I never saw daffodils so beautiful they grew among the mossy stones about and about them, some rested their heads upon these stones as on a pillow for weariness and the rest tossed and reeled and danced and seemed as if they verily laughed with the wind that blew upon them over the lake, they looked so gay ever dancing ever changing.

This wind blew directly over the lake to them. There was here and there a little knot and a few stragglers a few yards higher up but they were so few as not to disturb the simplicity and unity and life of that one busy highway. We rested again and again. The Bays were stormy, and we heard the waves at different distances and in the middle of the water like the sea'. *Dorothy Wordsworth, The Grasmere Journal - Thursday 15 April 1802.* Although it is not recorded, it is almost certain that this gave William the inspiration to write his most famous poem, "Daffodils" (now you know "the rest of the story")



MIDWEST FALL REGIONAL MEETING

The fall meeting will be held at Wegerzyn Gardens, 1301 E Siebenthaler Ave. Dayton, OH on October 21, 2006. There will be coffee and donuts available when you arrive, starting at 9:30 AM. We will have a short business meeting starting at 10:00 AM.

We will break for lunch after the slide presentation. After we take time to enjoy all those wonderful dishes you will bring, in the afternoon we'll have our bulb/plant exchange. I am hoping there will be lots of bulbs there for our new members to enjoy. Please include the color code on the bags; it would be nice to have the hybridizer as well. It has been suggested that we put our names on the bags so if something is mixed up we could contact the donor and maybe straighten it out. Photo in the Spring?? Then compare on "daffseek"!

Directions to Wegerzyn Gardens:

From the South: From Interstate 75 North, Take the Wagner Ford RD exit, Exit 57 B toward Siebenthaler Ave, go LEFT onto Wagner Ford Rd. Turn a slight right onto N Dixie Dr, Turn left onto E Siebenthaler Ave, turn right to stay on E Siebenthaler Ave, end at 1301 E Siebenthaler. Map Quest says it should take approximately 1 hour from Cincinnati.

From the North, Take I -71 South, Merge onto I 270 W via exit 119B toward Dayton, merge onto I 70 W via exit 8 toward Indianapolis, (59.4 miles) Merge onto I 75 S via exit 33A toward Dayton (4.3) miles, take the Neff Rd exit, Exit 57B toward Wagner Ford Rd/Siebenthaler Ave, take the ramp toward Wagner Ford Rd/Siebenthaler, take the N Dixie Dr North ramp toward Siebenthaler, turn right onto N Dixie Dr, turn left onto E Siebenthaler, turn right to stay on E Siebenthaler Ave, end at 1301 E Siebenthaler Ave. Map Quest says it should take approximately 1 and 1/2 hours from I 270 and I 71 to the Gardens.

From the West: Take I 70 E to Merge onto I 75 S via exit 33A toward Dayton (4.2) miles, take the Neff Rd exit, Exit 57B toward Wagner Ford Rd/Siebenthaler Ave, take the ramp toward Wagner Ford Rd/Siebenthaler, take the N Dixie Dr North ramp toward Siebenthaler, turn right onto N Dixie Dr, turn left onto E Siebenthaler, turn right to stay on E Siebenthaler Ave, end at 1301 E Siebenthaler Ave. Map Quest says it should take approximately 2 hours from Indianapolis to the Gardens.

From the East: I-70 W toward COLUMBUS/DAYTON/INDIANAPOLIS, Merge onto I 75 S via exit 33A toward Dayton (4.3) miles, take the Neff Rd exit, Exit 57B toward Wagner Ford Rd/Siebenthaler Ave, take the ramp toward Wagner Ford Rd/Siebenthaler, take the N Dixie Dr North ramp toward Siebenthaler, turn right onto N Dixie Dr, turn left onto E Siebenthaler, turn right to stay on E Siebenthaler Ave, end at 1301 E Siebenthaler Ave.

Following is a list of the Societies in our Region and their contact person: Do contact one of these folks, find out when meetings are held and join a Society!

Adena Daffodil Society, Mary Ellen Sheridan, 83E 4th Street, Chillicothe, OH 45601 Phone: (740) 775-7595 Dues: \$4 individual \$5 Family, bulb sale in the fall at Mary Ellen's. Spring Show at Trinity Methodist Church.

Central Ohio Daffodil Society: Phyllis Hess, 3670 E Powell Rd, Lewis Center, OH 43035 Phone: (614) 882-5720, e-mail: daffphyll@hotmail.com Dues: \$5 individual \$6 Family, Newsletter 2 times a year. Meetings are held at Franklin Park Conservatory in Columbus. Maintain daffodil garden at Whetstone Park. Columbus Area

Indiana Daffodil Growers South, Helen Trueblood, 3035 Bloomington Trail Road, Scottsburg, IN 47170-9529 Phone: (812) 752-2998 Dues: NONE Contact Helen just to meet her, a wonderful person and lots of fun. There will be a show in the barn in 2007.

Indiana Daffodil Society, Sara Kinne, 8899 Baby Creek Rd., Bloomington IN 47408-9600 Phone: (812) 332-5603 e-mail: skinne@kiva.net Dues: \$5. **Events**: daffodil show, bulb sale, bulb & plant exchange, newsletter, 4 meetings a year, **Community Service**: Planting & maintenance of daffodil beds at Holiday Park and Link Gardens, Yearly elementary school projects.

Kentucky Daffodil Society, Mrs. Pat Evans, 11103 Rothbury Court, Louisville, KY 40243, Phone: (502) 254-7860 e-mail: Hildadunaway@aol.com Dues \$ 5

Northeast Ohio Daffodil Society, Doug Fuhrmeyer, 7101 Schoepf Drive, Northfield, OH 44067 Dues: \$3 Individual, \$4 Family, e-mail: DougJoyFuhrmeyer@aol.com **Events:** daffodil show

Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society, includes Cincinnati, Dayton, and Northern Kentucky, as well as points in-between, Bill Lee, 4606 Honey Hill Lane, Batavia, OH 45103, Phone: 513-752-8104 BLEE811@aol.com Dues: \$5. E-mail: Daffodil show in the spring. Bulb sale event in the Fall.

Western Reserve Daffodil Society, Daniel Bellinger, 341 Akron Road, Wadsworth OH 44281, Phone (330) 336-6314, e-mail cuyahoga@neo.rr.com Dues: None, Daffodil Show
Now that you know where to find all the Societies, please contact the one nearest you and join in the fun!!

NEW MEMBERS: WE HAVE NEW MEMBERS, if you see them at a show please make them welcome.

New Junior Member:

Rachael Beery, 469 Happy Hollow Rd., Chillicothe OH 45601 Phone: 740-775-5664
daffodilmom@hotmail.com

New Adult Members:

Cara Fisher, 525 Grand Avenue, Grand Haven MI 49417 clbacot@yahoo.com
Judy Imhoff, 8534 St Ives Place, Cincinnati OH 45255 Phone: 513-474-3902 imhoff@msn.com
Sarah Connatser, 10458 Walking Fern Drive, Harrison OH 45030 Phone: 513-367-0303 sconnat@one.net
Irene Zumar, 3653 Norwood, Alliance OH 44601 Phone: 330-823-1949 catss99@aol.com

A big ADS Welcome to you all!!

One of the advantages we have had for many years is having the Executive Director in our Region, Naomi has retired from that position, we will miss her. The new ADS Executive Director is :

Jaydee Ager, PO Box 522, Hawkinsville, GA 31036-0522, Phone: 478-783-2153 jager@cstel.net

You may contact her for supplies, books and more, check the back cover of your Journal.

Jaydee is compiling an e-mail data base of members so more ADS business can be done by e-mail **Please send your e-mail address to her, or to me @ daffyphyll@hotmail.com.** Another new item available from the ADS are computer discs with the Historic Daffodils and another with the Miniature daffodils on them. These are also great reference tools and can be used for identification and study.

The ADS President was from our region as well, Mary Lou Gripshover has been replaced by Rod Armstrong of Plano, TX. Mary Lou might be gone as President but she will still be working hard for ADS, can't keep a good woman down!

Six shows were held in our Region this past spring. Congratulations are due to all winners and exhibitors. Our thanks go to all Show Chairs as well. Without all of you there would be no shows for us to enjoy! Next year there will be a show returning to the barn at Helen Trueblood's!

SHOW	GOLD RIBBON	WHITE RIBBON	MINI GOLD	MINI WHITE
ADENA	Emerald Light 3w-gyo	Chicago Hope 1y-gyy	Fairy Chimes 5y-y	Clare 7y-y
Exhibitor	Naomi Liggett	Donna Dietsch	Naomi Liggett	Naomi Liggett
CODS	Banker	LaPaloma 3w-gyr	Segovia 3 w-y	Segovia 3w-y
	Nancy Gill (from Quinn)	Nancy Gill	Naomi Liggett	Naomi Liggett
IDS	Crevenagh 2y-gyy	Torridon 2y-o	Seanee 2 w-y	Segovia 3w-y
	Suzy Wert	Libbey Frey	Suzy Wert	Helen Trueblood
NILES	John Reed Sdlg.	Grace Note 3w-ggy	Leone Low Sdlg	
	John Reed	Libby Frey	Leone Low	
SWODS	Lackawanna 2y-y	Magic Lantern 1y-o	Spring Charm	Tete-a-Tete
	Naomi Liggett	Delores (Tag) Bourne	Mary Lou Gripshover	Naomi Liggett
Fellows	Maya Dynasty 2y-y	Rapture 6y-y	Minnow 8w-y	Pacific Coast 8y-y
Riverside	Joan Altman	Lynn Hoffman	Hugh Ernhart	Keith Kaiser
Gardens				
NATIONAL	Ohura's Mayor 2y-o	Killearnan 3w-gyr	Flomay 7w-wwp	Weston 13
SHOW	Richard Ezell	Ginger Wallach	Fred Fettig	Yvonne Brownlee

Be sure to check your September Daffodil Journal for a complete list of winners in our area, and around the country. In 2007 I hope your name makes the list.

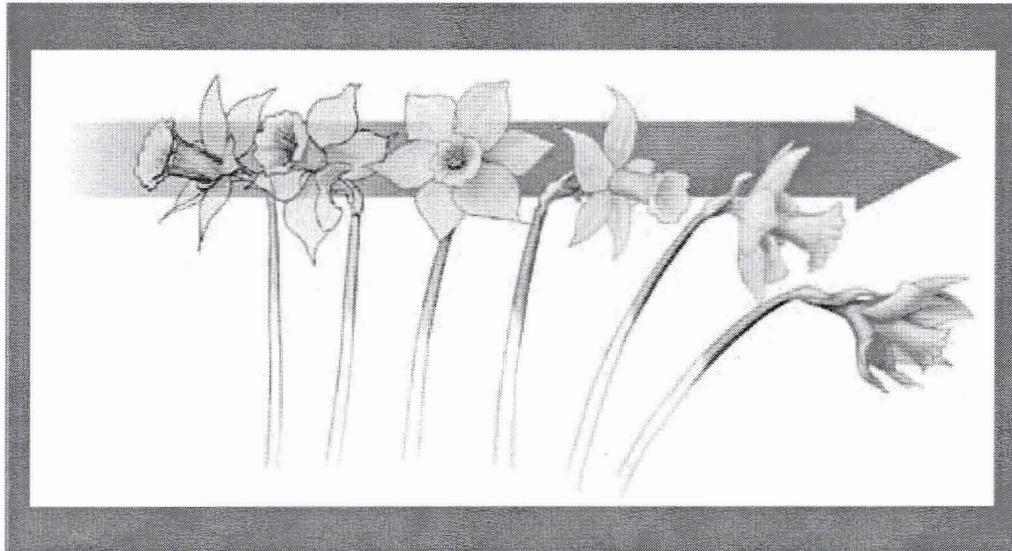
Ever wonder how a daffodil follows the sun and wind?

Twister!

Hit by a gusty spring breeze, the daffodil turns its back.

Story by Adam Summers ~ Illustrations by Sally J. Bensusen

Consider a field of daffodils: A carpet of gaudy yellow flowers dancing in the breeze, revealing in their movements the direction of each puff of wind. The contrast between the sunny petals and the vibrant green of the stems; the joyous waggle of each flower. This is the stuff of poetry and art.



Hidden away in the interplay between flower and stem, however, is also an elegant morsel of biomechanics that explains how this flower can act like a weather vane while others just sway back and forth. The petals of the daffodil, as well as those of many other plants in the genus *Narcissus*, do not point skyward (as do those of the tulip blossom, for instance) but droop to one side of the stem. This makes the flower appear to be gazing downward, giving it a charming air of contemplation. (The genus, of course, is named after the beautiful young man of Greek mythology who became so enamored of his reflection in a pool that, according to one version of the myth, he fell in and drowned.)

Not surprisingly, the reality is less romantic. Shelley Etnier, now at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and Steven Vogel, of Duke University, have studied the daffodil's nodding posture—which enables it to reorient in a breeze, essentially turning its back to the wind—and found that the explanation for this ability lies in the material properties and cross-sectional shape of the daffodil's stem.

Spider legs, bat wing bones, flower stems, and many other structures are subject to two different sorts of deformation: torsion (twisting along the long axis) and bending. A garden hose, for example, is not given to twisting but bends quite easily. (This can be frustrating to gardeners who use a long hose to water plants far from the faucet: pulling the hose often bends it, shutting off the flow of water and thus requiring the gardener to walk back along the hose to straighten out the kinks.) A flat plastic coffee stirrer, by contrast, resists bending but twists easily. A long, flat roadway suspended in a windy canyon above a river is not very good at resisting torsion either—as evidenced by the famous collapse of the Tacoma Narrows suspension bridge. On November 7, 1940, just one year after it was built, this bridge began twisting back and forth in the wind with such force that it broke apart and fell into the water below.

The main reason a garden hose doesn't twist much is that it has a circular cross section. Resistance to torsion is (sorry, math phobes) set by the fourth power of the distance of each bit of material in the cross section from the central axis, with all those fourth powers added together. For a given amount of material and for both hollow and solid structures, a circular cross section maximizes that number and thus gives the best resistance to twisting.

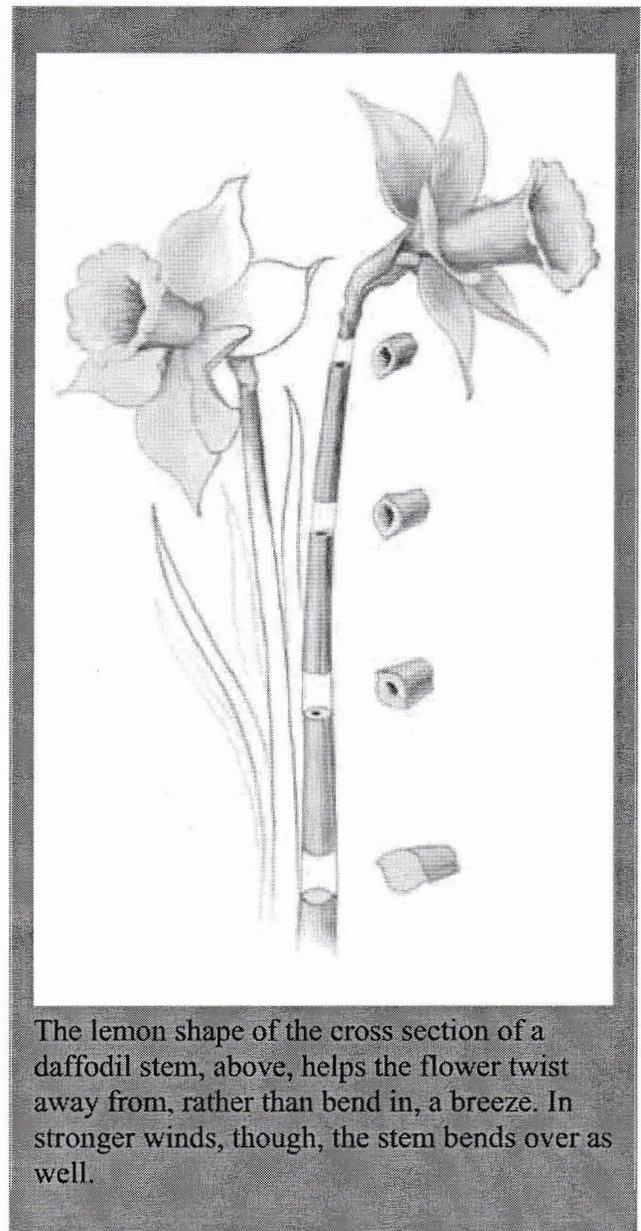
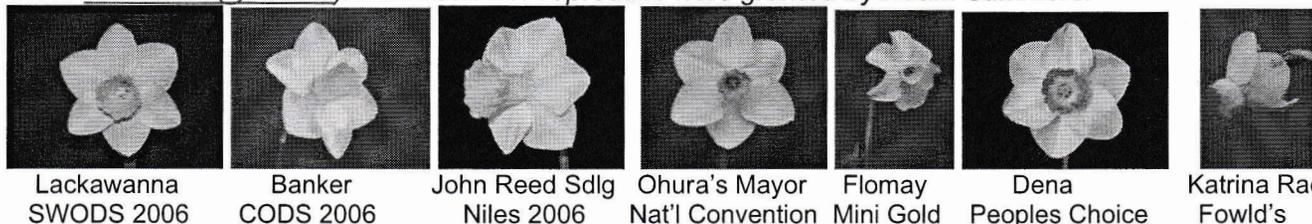
Slice across a tulip stem, and you will see that it, too, has a circular cross section. In contrast, a cross section of a daffodil stem looks more like a football, or a lemon, cut the long way. This lenticular shape is less able to resist torsion but does resist bending (flexing) quite well, as long as the force hits it on the narrow edge. (For example, a floor joist—often a two- by eight pine board—is always set with its narrow edge up, which gives it a tall and narrow cross section. If the joist were set the other way—with the wide edge up—the floor would bounce like a trampoline.)

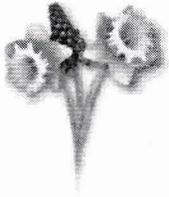
To measure torsional stiffness in daffodil and tulip stems, Etnier and Vogel used an ingenious device that holds one end of a stem still while twisting the other end with a known force. The stiffer the stem, the fewer degrees it rotated. The scientists also measured bending stiffness by propping the ends of the stem up on a couple of blocks and then hanging a weight from the center. The stiffer the stem, the less it drooped. These two measurements gave the ratio of twistiness to bendiness. Not surprisingly, the twistiness of the daffodil was much higher (fourteen times higher, in fact) than its bendiness, explaining why these plants are far more likely to turn in the wind than to bend over. This ratio was nearly twice that of the upward-gazing tulip.

Etnier and Vogel also conducted experiments to find out why daffodils don't merely twist in the wind but do so with their blossoms facing downwind. Placing cut flowers (on intact stems) in a wind tunnel, they showed that the force on the bloom is highest when it is facing into the wind and lowest when it has rotated 180°. Flowers started to twist in response to the wind when it hit speeds of about 12 miles per hour; by 22 mph, they had completely turned their faces away from the wind. As wind speed increased, the petals consolidated themselves into a tighter and tighter bundle. Even at nearly 35 mph, the flowers remained undamaged. Above 20 mph, however, the stem began to bend over in addition to twisting, bringing the flower closer to the ground, where wind speed is lower.

I would like to think that these observations might have a positive influence on the design of useful objects—umbrellas, for instance. Most of us know from soggy personal experience that umbrellas, like daffodils, have a tendency to reorient themselves according to wind direction and, subsequently, to assume a shape far less suited to keeping us dry. Perhaps there are enough differences between umbrellas and daffodils to stop me from rushing out to line up investors for the "antidaffobrella" (for one thing, umbrellas don't swivel along the length of their "stems"), but I wish someone would do something about this problem. The only other step I can envision, drawing on the daffodil's example, is to crawl on my belly during a rainstorm, hoping to keep my umbrella out of the worst of the wind.

Adam Summers is an assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California, Irvine asummers@uci.edu. Permission to reproduce here granted by Adam Summers.



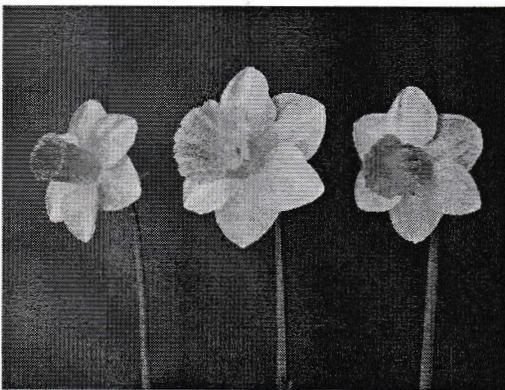


I can be reached via e-mail at: daffyphyll@hotmail.com.
 VISIT THE ADS WEBSITE AT: <http://www.daffodilusa.org> While there you can join
 "daffnet", an internet forum for daffodil lovers, find the best places to purchase bulbs,
 browse through photos and find many useful ideas. Don't forget <http://daffseek.org>.

You will find a self addressed ballot in this Newsletter to be returned to Naomi Liggett
 by October 1, 2006.

ADS Midwest Region
 Phyllis Hess, RVP
 3670 E. Powell Road
 Lewis Center, OH 43035

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Link Trophy Winner National Convention
 Brian Duncan Seedlings

Mary Lou Gripshover
 1686 Grey Fox Trails
 Milford, OH 45150-1521

