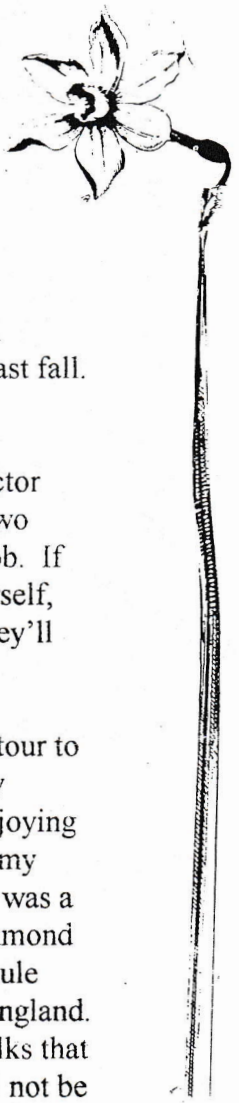
Narcissus Notes

Midwest Region | American Daffodil Society | February 1998



NOTES FROM THE RVP

January again, and once more, we have unseasonably warm weather. And this is the second time this month ! I've taken to walking around the yard every morning to see what's popped up. Indian Maid and Trevithian were the first things up, by far. Bloom season seems to bear no relationship to when foliage starts appearing. Cedar Hills is a gorgeous 3 from Elise Havens that I'm lucky if it blooms in time for Akron. But the foliage is up all ready.

The Down Under stuff that I'm trying to turn around is on it's way up. Nifter, a Barwick 7 Y-Y was up first, then Goforit, a Jackson 2 Y-O. In fact Goforit looks like quite a mat. The 6's have arrived, Glenbrook Mini-Cycla and Stymie. Which, of course, explains why I rushed to send in another order to Barwick These things grow!

In walking around and pulling a weed or two, I looked down at an old planting of Glowing Ember and there were bulbs on top of the ground. How DID I miss this last fall, that this needed digging desperately? We haven't had enough rain for them to have floated to the top. Must have been all that green mulch covering things up. I had some potting soil that wasn't being used and just threw it down over the bulbs. I'm hoping that will hold it til April and that all that white perlite in the potting soil will act as a good marker come June 1.

Mary Rutledge, one of your Regional Directors, ran a timely election this last fall. Betty Kealiher was elected your new Regional Vice-President, and Hilda Dunaway was elected Regional Director (term ending 2001). These are just two great gals who will do a wonderful job. If you don't know them, introduce yourself, and ask if you can do something. They'll put you to work !

I'm lucky enough to be going on the tour to Northern Ireland and I'm getting very excited. A few lucky souls will be enjoying the English Tour, also. (Convincing my non-gardening husband to do Ireland was a big enough challenge.) And the Richmond Convention is jammed into the schedule right at Easter and the week before England. It will be a bustling spring. A few folks that normally exhibit at lots of shows will not be available this year. The shows will need everyone and their blooms, so don't hold back. Pick anything that looks good and get yourself off to shows near and far. We're a friendly group, just looking to have fun and we need YOU!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your RVP these last three years. It has been very interesting and lots of fun. I hope to see you at a show this spring. Enjoy spring !

Linda Wallpe

MIDWEST REGIONAL SHOWS

April 4, 1998 Kentucky Daffodil Society - Regional Show
Bashford Manor Shopping Center
Louisville, Kentucky
Pat Evans, Chairman
11103 Rothberg Court
Louisville, Kentucky 40243
(502) 897-2209

April 15, 1998 Indiana South Daffodil Growers
Leota Barn
Scottsburg, Indiana
Helen Trueblood, Chairman
3035 Bloomington Trail Rd.
Scottsburg, Indiana 47170
(812) 752-2998

April 18-19, 1998 Southwestern Ohio Daffodil Society
Cox Arboretum
Harold McConnell, Chairman
4075 Danern Drive
Dayton, Ohio 45430
(937)- 426-9557

April 23-24, 1998 Indiana Daffodil Society
Meridian Street Methodist Chruch
Joe Hamm, Chairman
4815 Fauna Lane
Indianapolis, Ind. 46234-9531
((317) 293-3381

April 25-26, 1998 Central Ohio Daffodil Society
Franklin Park Conservatory
Cindy Hyde, Chairman
8870 St. Rt. 22, East
Stoutsville, Ohio 43154
(614) 474-7488

May 2-3. 1998 Northeast Ohio Daffodil Society
Rolling Acres Mall
Carol McKeeman, Chairman
2773 Boltz Road
Akron, Ohoi 44333
(330) 666-0722

Left, is the list of shows scheduled for this spring in the Midwest Region. If you have questions, don't hesitate, call the show chairman. So many judges are going to England and Ireland that those left behind will be working very hard. Be kind to them. Fill out those tags carefully. Offer to clerk. You may need them the next week.

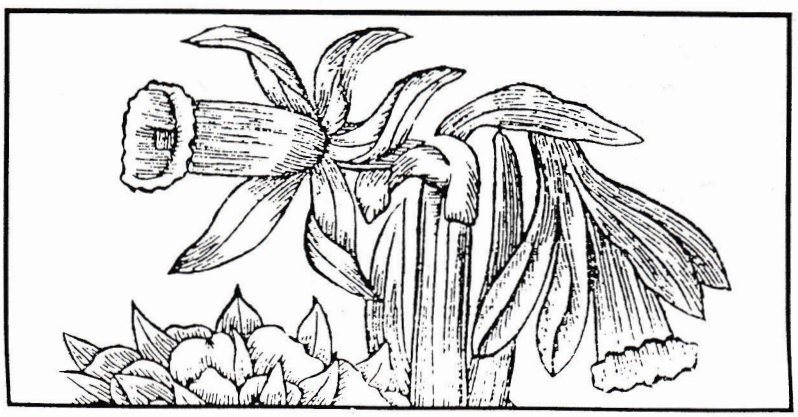
You'll notice that there is no show scheduled for Chillicothe this year. Too many members of the Adena Group will be in England and Ireland. But be sure to look for them next year.

After dithering for a little while over what to do, Helen Trueblood just couldn't let the year go by without continuing the tradition. Her show will be held in the Leota Barn. For the first time in a long time, I won't be able to make Helen's show, but she promised to see the first bluebird of spring for me. I'll miss being there.

At the Fall Regional Meeting, the schedule for future regional show dates was drawn up. Here is what was agreed upon:

ADENA	1994	2001
CODS	1995	2002
IDGS	1996	2003
IDS	1997	2004
KDS	1998	2005
NODS	1999	2006
SWODS	2000	2007

Local groups should keep a copy of this handy for the future. Note should be made that the dates were assigned to the various societies in alphabetical order



From *Paradisus Terrestris*
1629

Helen Trueblood & Naomi Liggett

Peggy Macneale,
Loyce MacKenzie,
& Rodney Armstrong

Helen Link

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daffnet

When I asked permission from Steve Vinisky to use some material that he had written on Daffnet, he suggested that it would be nice if I pushed for more members to join DaffNet. The first DaffNet letter is from Ted Snazelle and gives the precise steps to signing on to DaffNet. It is SO easy.

DaffNet is for everyone. There are experts like Dr. Harold Koopowitz of California and Elise Havens of Oregon. There are beginners like Pat Garrett of Cincinnati. Jaydee Ager 'our president' regularly lets us know what is happening in the ADS. There are contributors from Spain, England, N. Ireland, New Zealand, Australia and India. Some questions and answers are serious. But a lot of stuff is good humored, Bill Lee works at this and I try to help..

More and more people are plugging in to computers, so just consider this your invitation to join DaffNet.

Subject: Re: How to Subscribe toDaffnet
Date: Sat, 3 Jan 1998 13:54:17 -0600 (CST)

The address is listserv@mc.edu not listserve@mc.edu
Nothing is required in subject line.

In the message area, only the following should appear:
subscribe daffodil your name
Make sure nothing else follows the preceding.

Ted Snazelle, Moderator
Daffnet

>>>>

From: Naomi Liggett <NLiggett@compuserve.com>

I was sorry to learn this morning of the recent death of Bill Schrader, Sandusky, OH. He was a long time member of ADS and The Central Ohio Daffodil Society. In his area he was known as Daffodil Bill and did so much to promote one of his favorite flowers. He was in his 80's and when he paid his dues recently he paid for three years and mentioned he was being very optimistic for his age.

Naomi Liggett

From: "jager" <jager@gnat.net>
Subject: DEATH OF BILL SCHRADER

Naomi, thank you for letting us know about Bill Schrader's death. He was one of my favorite folks and was a very dear, sweet man. His wife had died just a few years ago (I think this was in 1994) and I had long talks and walks with him at subsequent ADS conventions as we talked of how you go on after the death of a spouse or child. He was brave to come to a Convention, just shortly after his wife's death. He said hisgrief counselor had urged him to come to the Convention and he said he wanted to heed good advice. I know that Bill was very involved with Daffodil Days with his local cancer society group. For those of you that may not be aware, the daffodil is the symbol of hope for The American Cancer Society and is a large part of their fund raising effort, especially across the middle and northern part of the US. The idea originated in Canada. Bill worked to support the Daffodil Days program. I hope those of you in Ohio will convey any Daffnet messages to his family and will let us know of a family address so that we may personally convey our sympathy. I know he had at least one daughter. I remember him telling me how worried his daughter(s?) were because he did not know how to cook and he had lost weight. At each convention after that he would cheerfully brag of his new kitchen abilities and all the tricks he had learned to cope without his beloved wife. We have lost another wonderful ADS member and I am very, very sad.

Jaydee Atkins Ager
"Daffodil Lane"
344 Bear Branch Road, Kathleen, GA 31047-9715

From: Macdaff@aol.com
Subject: re Bill Schrader
Date: Fri, 23 Jan 1998 08:38:19 -0600 (CST)

To those of you who didn't know Bill Schrader, this is to tell you that you missed out on a dear, sweet friend. While I didn't see Bill very often, I always looked for Bill and Flossie at ADS conventions and regional meetings. Flossie's death a few years back was a huge loss to him, but I know he found solace with his daffodil friends. He must also be greatly missed, too, by the cancer society friends up there in the Sandusky area, as well as the boys at the vocational school where he helped the kids with gardening, with an emphasis on daffodil plantings. I have a great slide of Bill and Flossie taken at a convention about ten years ago, and I will cherish this, along with some fun memories. God bless you, Bill.
Peggy Macneale

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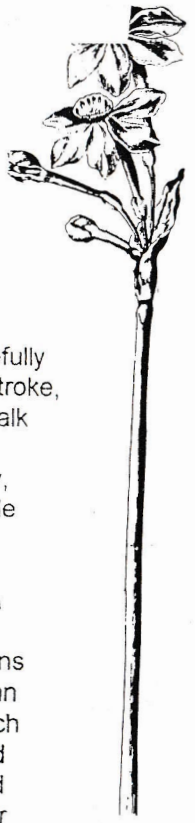

From: Stan Baird <stanj@humboldt1.com>
Date: Fri, 2 Jan 1998 16:25:41 -0600 (CST)

Dear daffodil friends,

It is my sad duty to report that Christine Kemp died peacefully yesterday, Jan. 1, apparently after suffering yet another stroke, this one fatal. She had been unable to speak, write, or walk for several months. She suffered her first stroke in early September with relatively minor impairment. Unfortunately, a series of additional strokes followed which left her unable to communicate or to get about.

Christine was a pillar of the Pacific Region of the ADS, an accomplished judge and exhibitor, an outstanding judging school instructor, and frequently attended ADS conventions as well as judging at the national shows. She was also an accredited judge of the American Rose Society, from which she received the Outstanding Judge award, an accredited judge of the American Fuchsia Society, and an accredited judge of the National Council of State Garden Clubs. Her list of horticultural accomplishments was so extensive few of us could ever hope to equal it. She had served as Treasurer of three local organizations until she suffered her first stroke. We will all miss her greatly.

Stan Baird

daffnet

From: Derrick Donnison-Morgan <106365.2672@compuserve.com>
Subject: Spanish News
Date: Mon, 29 Dec 1997 12:43:26 -0600 (CST)

Here is a short report on my recent trek around Andalucia in the search for daffodils.

We left at 06:30 on Friday 26. First stop nr. Mojacar, where Mike Salmon tells me that N. serotinus has been found. We searched the area in the hope of finding some last remnants of a seed head, but to no avail. On via Sorbas and the Sierra de los Filabres to Baza and the new Autovia that skirts Granada to Antequera.

A pretty town with lots to see and do. A comfortable Parador and a good vegetarian meal in a localpizzeria and after a good nights sleep, up early to continue the trek to Estepa. Coming via Gilena you pass a marble quarry and into a rocky but not steep limestone valley. There on both sides of the SE490 road were literally hundreds of Narcissus papyraceus in full flower. Many with flower heads still to come. Also in profusion Iris planifolia in varying shades of blue/violet and some of white. The ubiquitous Urgenia maritima was in leaf everywhere and Asphodelus aestivus was in some places just poking through.

The ground whilst in others it was nearly in flower. Across country to Lucena and south once again to Rute. Just outside Rute is a limestone outcrop amongst the Olives. Here we found various bulbous plants,unfortunately none in flower, although I am told by Mike Salmon that N. baeticus (N. assoanus var. praelongus ?) lives here.

Coming North again in a circle via Carcabuey we visited the Ermita de Virgen de la Sierra off the C336 between Majon Alto and Cabra. >From the top, one can see the snow capped Sierra Nevada far to the south. Here again we found many bulbous subjects not yet in flower. Although we believe some of these to be Narcissus. Another month or so and we will return to confirm our suspicions. Another Parador at Bailen north of Jaen was a welcoming sight after a long days searching.

On Sunday we quickly checked the area around Desfiladero de Despenaperros especially Santa Elena Estacion and Miranda del Rey. These areas may well be worth looking at again in the Spring months. South to Ubeda and East through the Sierra de Cazorla at the Puerto de Tiscar where we searched for anything remotely bulbous and found nothing. Back onto the Autovia at Baza and home just after 6 pm, 946 miles later.

The weather was cold and wet on Friday, but on Saturday and again on Sunday the sun came out to make the trip more pleasant. The highlight of the trip was seeing the rocky slopes filled with the white of Narcissus papyraceus intermingled with the blues of Iris planifolia. A wonderful sight that everyone should see at least once.

Our Bed & Breakfast is open all year and guided trips and tours could be accommodated.

Best wishes to you all for 1998 .....Derrick Donnison-Morgan
Aptd. de Correos 137 03820 Cocentaina Alicante, Spain
ALQUERIES DE BENIFLORET
FARMHOUSE OF FLOWERS

Mary McCabe, Betty Kealiher,
Irene Moseley, Betty Duncan
& Hilda Dunaway

From: Michael Berrigan <mrberrigan@mmm.com
To: Steve Vinisky

I was reading the Daffodils ant Tulips yearbook for this year published by the RHS. Have you done any breeding with Crown Gold that Mitsch daffodils registered in 1994? This one seems to ba a logical parent of an 1W- Orange Trumpet with one of the 1 W-Ys as another parent. I was going to order that one from the Havens' last year but the fun fund ran out. I was interested in your impression of it.

Michael

--------- Begin forwarded message ----------
From: "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>
Subject: Re: 'Crown Gold' & White/ Red Trumpet Breeding
Date: Thu, 11 Dec 1997 09:53:53 -0600 (CST)

Dear Michael,

Like you, I found the genealogy of 'Crown Gold' of INTENSE interest. I think you would be on the right track crossing it with a bicolor trumpet.

I really believe that the genius of Grant Mitsch & Elise Havens points out "the way" to white perianthed, red trumpets with this flower. Following this brilliant cross "reasoning", I have used 'Gold Crown' with Division 1Yellow/Reds, Bicolors, Pinks, Reverse Bicolors and Whites; both ways. My rationale was as follows: 'King of the North' (also one of 'Daydreams' illustrious parents) was a precursor to the reverse bicolors; in some years Guy Wilson wrote that the trumpet ended up paler than the perianth.This was crossed with an Engleheart white trumpet (possibly containing a mysterious Div. 5, which may account for the healthy growth) by the Brodieto produce 'Nevis' (I WISH we had a picture of 'Nevis' in the IDB!!!!).
Mitsch crossed 'Nevis' with one of the best growing Y-Os (at that time) 'Fortune' to get 'Gold Crown'. 'Gold Crown' is a bicolor Div. 2 with a decided orange cast to the cup. It is of trumpet character but clearly measures Div. 2.

Dick and Elise Havens clearly saw the potential and crossed 'Gold Crown' with a "better" Y-R ('Paracutin') to arrive at 'Crown Gold' which is a good 2W-O with a 3/4 length, "trumpet style", with a far more intense orange cup. The perianth is a milky white which one might expect given the amount of Y-Os and Y-Rs that are behind it. Not much else is listed with complete parentages in the W-O or W-R "trumpet" area.

'Crucial Points' parents are unknown as are the few 1W-Os that are listed. I would bet anything that if we can find out the parentages of the seedling numbers behind 'Lutana' (2W-O), which are listed as 42/81 & 48/76, we'd run into the same style of admixtures as 'Crown Gold'. Pretty much every single 2W-O and 2W-R listed is "like to like" out of Div. 3 W-Rs x Div. 3 W-Rs. An exception is Noel Burrs lovely 'Cinder Hill' which is a BICOLOR x a 3W-R (I told you I liked 'Cinder Hill' very much !) One of Crawford Radcliffs flowers from the 1940s may support the idea of similar admixtures to arrive at red trumpets. 'Tirranna', a 2W-R, is unknown to me but is one of the few genealogies available to us that leads to the Radcliffs 1W-Os.

'Tirrannas' parents are: 'Helles' 2W-O (which is 'Madame de Graff' a 1W-W x 'Gallipoli' a 2Y-O) x 'Blodwin' which is believed to be 'Warflame' (an Australian 2W-R) x 'Pink Un' a 2W-YYP. Presumably, the deeper color of the Radcliff 1W-Os may have to do with "pink" in the background. I sure see a "pattern" or "type" or "style" of crosses in these parentages and flower pictures that undoubtedly leads to red trumpets. I think you can begin to see just how invaluable the IDB is for doing this type of analysis and examining of "patterns" and genealogies. I would have never found 'Tirranna' by using a paper print out.

One last thought on W-R trumpet breeding. Dr. Koopowitz's orchid breeding partner, Dr. Norita, made an interesting and creative observation for paphiopedilum orchid breeding that I feel has validity and relevance in daffodils. Dr. Norita pointed out that it is far easier and quicker to CHANGE a color pigment as opposed to crossing "like to like" in an attempt to INTENSIFY two highly recessive traits. Harold and I acted on this idea during his visit here this past spring. We were discussing pink perianths and how to get them. Harold related Noritas idea and thought that crossing an orange perianth ('Sabine Hay' in this instance), which ALREADY has the color pigment, with the best pink perianth that exists ('Music' in our minds) might allow a rapid advance in the F2 generation via a backcross to the pink perianthed parent. In other words, CHANGING the pigment from orange to pink may be far easier than intercrossing very slightly pink perianths in an attempt to INTENSIFY the pink pigment. Following this line of reasoning in the W-R trumpet parentage discussion, bicolors, pinks, and reverses when used as parents, may work in much the same way as the pigment for coloration is already there. Interesting food for thought which opens up entire new lines of cross potentials in my mind!

With Best Regards,
Steve

daffnet
daffnet

From: Laurence Gorrie <gorrieje@pcug.org.au>

Subject: Re: pink perianths
Date: Fri, 12 Dec 1997 05:41:39 -0600 (CST)

Dear Steve,
The same approach to producing pink perianths can be argued from Jefferson-Brown's comments on the spreading of colour from the rim of the poet to the entire corona. He expresses a view somewhere that there must be some gene(s) which makes this possible. By a similar conjecture one can speculate that certain genes are required to spread colour into the perianth. These genes being present in the all-orange flowers it makes sense to cross these with pinks as a way towards all pink flowers. That said, the intensify approach may well be only a generation away (or less?) from some very notable success.
What are the best sun proof all orange flowers?

I have often wondered, given that the orange colour comes from poets, why 1Y-O seems to have become more common than 1W-O. Has it simply been a matter of breeders' interest- yellow flowers being more popular than white ones? Regarding admixtures I don't see the necessity for yellow perianths except perhaps for vigour. Have you noticed Radcliff's teasingly named Buffette 1W-W 1936 and also Altamont 1W-W 1948, Sava 1W-W 1940 and Riversdale 1W-P 1945? Crucial Point flowers as a 1W-OOY for me and I have wondered if a flower like Daviot isn't in its ancestry. In the same vein Tom Forster's Souvenier 2W-OOY bred from Artist's Model is a longish cupped plant (with a yellowish perianth.)
Regards,
Lawrence

Grace Baird & Tag Bourne

From: "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>
Subject: Re:White/ Red Trumpet Breeding
Date: Fri, 12 Dec 1997 09:08:47 -0600 (CST)

Dear Lawrence,

Two basic avenues seem clear. One can use Y-Rs and spend a few generations "cleaning up" the off white perianths. The other approach may well be using Div. 2 or 3, W-Rs and "cleaning up" the cup length. I suppose that one could also use the limited 1W-O material available and intercross them hoping for a breakthrough. Trumpet length and orange or red color both seem extremely difficult to combine and highly recessive traits. It is fairly easy to get color without the trumpet length or length without the deep color. Getting both of them together is a very, very difficult thing.

W. O. Backhouse discusses this very problem in his RHS Yearbook article on Y-R trumpet breeding. (" The Origin of the Red Trumpets"; RHS Yearbook 1963, page 47) To paraphrase, he states that only 2% to 15% of the F2 generations (not the 50% that he expected) had the characteristics and that "NONE of these had a coloured full trumpet". Remember too that he was a plant breeder by training introducing a variety of wheat bred by him that saved the wheat industry in Argentina. He clearly knew what it was all about and brought his scientific expertise and insight to bear on the problem of Y-R trumpets. I would still argue, that for color combined with length of the trumpet, (certainly not form) Backhouse's 'Brer Fox' is still the 1Y-R to beat.

I too have long wondered why there are so very few 1W-O's and NO 1W-Rs. It seems true that the difficulties facing Backhouse in 1Y-Rs are the same facing us in 1W-Rs. The building blocks clearly exist. It is odd to me and I really don't know why there are so few but I'll bet we will see a bunch of them appear from all parts of the world over the next decade or so.

With Best Regards,
Steve

From: Harold Koopowitz <hkoopowi@uci.edu>
Subject: Orange/red trumpets
Date: Mon, 29 Dec 1997 14:56:11 -0600 (CST)

Hi everyone:
I am back after a very interesting trip to Zimbabwe and South Africa. No daffodils though. In going through the 896 email entries that accumulated in my absence I came across the orange red trumpet discussions and want to add to it even if I am not very helpful.

First of all, Steve, my partner's full name is Dr. Norito Hasegawa and Nori has one of the best intuitive grasps of flower breeding of anyone I have ever met.

With regards breeding trumpets and color I think that Lawrence is correct in that there are genes for spreading color in both tepals and coronas and they may be two different sets of genes. That is behind Nori's assertion for using red perianths to make pink perianths.

Let me throw out a thought that may upset some. I don't think that what we "normally" call orange and red are actually different pigments but are merely caused by concentration and/or location of the same pigment. I think daffodils are usually light orange or deep orange and we fool ourselves by calling them red. The Havens' red-pinks are something different.

However, if you look at a freshly opened flower of poeticus recurvus youwill see that the rim is a distinctly different color, a purple-red. That color also appears in a very few hybrids such as Audubon. At some stage I need to look at that pigment because I suspect that it may not actually be a carotenoid but something else.

Harold

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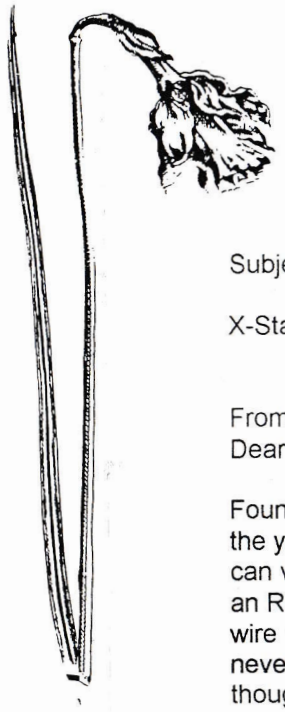
daffnet



Subject: "Kathy Andersen" <ksa@del.net>: Fw: sexual equality - Children of N. poeticus poeticus
X-Status: New

From: "Kathy Andersen" <ksa@del.net>
Dear Harold, Steve et al.,

Found Harold's piece of great interest. Have seen many wild poets over the years (millions +) and do think that the color of the red in the cup can vary. Will really study this next chance I have - maybe even take an RHS color fan along. The width of the red band can vary from tiny wire rim to all red (only saw this situation once). In the field, I never thought of the red as purplish at all. It certainly darkens as the flower ages (more than just burning).

Anyhow, there are many hybrid swarms to be seen in the Pyrenees, probably between N. abscissus - trumpet with whitish, (sometimes yellow in the Val d'Aran) perianth and yellow to chrome yellow corona - and N. poeticus poeticus. Cup color in the offspring can vary from pale yellow through deep chrome to partially orange to partially red (the other part being whitish). The shape and size of the corona also vary. In these hybrids, the perianth is usually just off-white and makes a good field sign as it is definitely not ever poeticus white, yet is generally paler than the perianth of N. abscissus. Very occasionally it is distinctly yellow.

In the sequence of bloom, at any given altitude, the trumpet will bloom first, but a trumpet at higher altitude may be in bloom at the same time as a poet in the valley. Since the hybrids generally appear with populations of N. abscissus rather than with the poets, I always assumed that the trumpet was the pod parent. Maybe not??

Kathy Andersen
ksa@del.net
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daffnet

From: Harold Koopowitz <hkoopowi@uci.edu>
Subject: sexual equality
Date: Monday, January 26, 1998 2:16 AM

Does it matter which way a cross is made?

Steve asked me to address this briefly and put it out for daffnet but some of the IBS folks might also be interested. So here goes.

In daffodils we are limited by the lack of anthocyanins. Dogma says that the orange-reds in daffs originally came from a plant, N. poeticus poetarum, where the red color (which is normally only in the rim of the carona in normal N. poeticus) was spread through the entire corona. This fabled plant does not seem to be in existence any more so it is difficult to know the exactly truth. We usually assume that the orange-red from poeticus poetarum is the same as the red in the rim of N. poeticus poeticus. The rim color in wild poets, however. is actually
a red-purple color and antique daffodil names talk of a purple rimmed pheasants eye narcissus. Is that purple-red color due to an undescribed anthocyanin or an unusual carotenoid? We don't know if N. poeticus poetarum actually had the same red-purple pigment but overlaid on yellow cartooned in the deeper tissues of the carona, to give the illusion of orange-red or was it a sport that made a new dark orange carotenoid on which the earlier hybridizers were able to capitalize.

Mixing yellow and red-purple makes for orange-red. That is why it is better to breed for true reds by concentrating pink without yellow and the Mitsch-Havens have achieved flowers like Culmination and Audubon that way. Not only did they have to breed for more concentrated pink color but they had to use pinks which had no yellow carotenoids. Getting clear pinks meant breeding for a lack of yellow. I suspect that the same genes that were useful in producing reverse bicolors, i.e. caused the breakdown of yellow carotenoids in the corona so that it became white were also needed to make clear pinks.

It might be profitable to look at the pigments in the old poets and some of the more modern pinks again. At any rate I hope this is useful to you and gives you something to think about.

Harold

--------- End forwarded message ----------

From: "Suzanne W. Bresee" <sbresee@ns.gemlink.com>
Subject: ADS Annual Convention

Dear All,

Happy New Year to all on the Daffodil Net. On this first day of the year take out your calendars and reserve the second week in April for the ADS Show and Convention in Richmond, Virginia. Show entries begin on the Wednesday, the eighth. An enticing range of activities have been planned including lectures by Bill Pannill and Peter Ramsey plus a special visit to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens and other Richmond gardens which promise fabulous daffodil displays. A full day in "Daffodil Country", Gloucester County, is planned plus a banquet at the Virginia Museum. Registration forms for both the convention and Hyatt Richmond are in the December Journal. Contact me if you need more details. And if you aren't an ADS member, now is the time to join. Look forward to seeing many of you in April.

Suzanne Bresee, Convention Chairman

Tom Stettner

From: Jaydee Ager <jager@gnat.net>

Subject: ENGLISH DAFFODIL SOCIETY CENTENARY
Message-ID: <34CF79F8.1342@gnat.net>
X-Status: Read

I just wanted to let all know, that the ADS will be honored to present a special medal celebrating the Centenary, to the winner of the American Bred Collection at THE SHOW! Reg Nicholl and I corresponded about this last spring, and he welcomed our award. I wanted to remind all our friends "over there" that the incoming ADS President, Bob Spotts, will be proudly bringing the medal. Bob will be presenting it to a deserving individual. The ADS is pleased to participate in this way. We hope there will be a huge class of American Bred Collections! The medal is lovely, so spread the word...

daffnet

From: lwallpe
Subject: Pinetags

What are Pine tags ?

From: DaffyBill
Subject: Pinetags

In Virginia we call pine needles, pinetag. It makes wonderful mulch and keeps my daffodil blooms clean.

Bill Pannill

Subject: Re: Pine Tags

On Maryland's Eastern Shore, they are called pine shats.

Joanna Tamplin

From: "John Van Beck" <0610343664@classic.msn.com>
Subject: RE: Pine Tags
Date: Mon, 12 Jan 1998 18:19:43 -0600 (CST)

That sounds dirty. Shame on you!

From: Macdaff@aol.com
To: lwallpe@juno.com

I must add my 2 bits on the pine tabs output. Since this part of Ohio has Red Cedar (Juniperus virginiana) as the only native evergreen, enough pine trees to provide an adequate amount of mulch can be scarce. I have four White Pines, and hoard the needles that fall on surrounding grass -- it is a pitiful amount. Therefore, I buy bales of it, but those are pitifully small bales, so I begin to examine the leaf piles of those neighbors who don't have a clue as to what they are putting out for the village clean-up crews to collect.
This fall while I was driving home one afternoon I spotted a huge pile of pine straw several blocks away at the edge of the street so I went right back with two great big bags and the home owner even helped me salvage them. Another time I took my rake up the street and helped the nice man clean up around his tree -- unfortunately I mentioned what a treasure he was giving me -- and from that time on he used them himself! Well, there is a new owner there now, and maybe he doesn't know about pine straw -- one hopes.
Cheers -- Peggy Macneale

From: "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>
Subject: Re: PINE STRAW

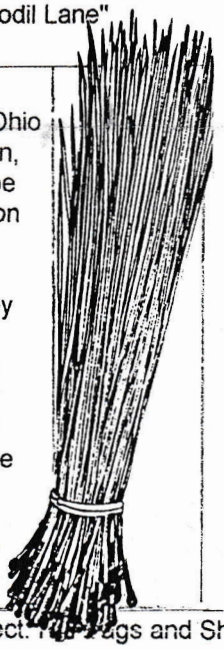
The entire Pacific Northwest is pretty much a mouldering mess of decomposing pine needles interspersed with active volcanos. The rumor is that daffodils do grow well here and to goodly size.
Each tour bus for the 2000 Convention will have a supply of garbage bags and garden rakes for the pine straw deprived. Double semi truck trailers, rail cars, and ocean going barges for transport may be arranged through the Convention Chair. If I'd have known it was such a rare commodity, I'd have sent you all plane tickets and an invite to a Garden Clean Up Party.....

---

daffnet

From: "jager" <jager@gnat.net>
Subject: PINE STRAW AND OTHER STORIES
Sorry I am late getting in on the Daffnet pine straw thread. But, wanted to say that I can really make some of you drool. Pine straw is so abundant where I am, that I even have a choice of which kind of pine straw I want! Of course, I go for the best: longleaf pine needles due to its golden brown color, longer needles, and its superior lasting capabilities as a mulch. I am also "growing my own" out in my front field. I got seedling longleaf pines from the Georgia Forestry Commission in 1990-1991 for something like $10 for a bundle of 100 trees. Many didn't make it but quite a few are now up about 15-20'. The early growing habit is so weird! It looks like a bushy topknot on the ground for a couple of years. Then the trunk kicks in and stand back. It benefits from controlled burning. Long leaf pine communities are a very unique and very important ecosystem in south Georgia. So for those of you now drooling for my longleaf pine straw, let me tell you that my daffodil growing is marginal at best. Just remember that nature seems to have a way of evening everything out: really good daffs, no pine straw. Great pine straw = puny daffs!

I also wanted to respond to those of you in areas that confessed you had coveted pine straw so much you had gone out and helped yourself to piles of it, raked it up, etc. Please remember these words: ADMIRE AND ACQUIRE. That is what we Southern ladies call it when you raid that lovely berried holly by the bank drive thru with pruning shears in the dead of night.
Jaydee Atkins Ager
"Daffodil Lane"



From: Pat Garrett <Garrp0@CHMCC.ORG>
Subject: re pine straw/tabs/needles -Reply

Dear Peggy,

Many years ago I took my 4 children to Winton Woods, located in Cincinnati, to rake up pine needles to mulch my garden. When we got home I received a call from one of the park rangers asking me if I had gathered pine needles in the park. I said "Yes, do you want them back?" He said "No, just be aware that this is not permitted, and don't gather anymore." I said "O.K.", and have not been guilty of "pine straw theivery" since--But, after all this glowing talk about the benefit of using pine needles as daffodil mulch, I may revert back to the criminal ways of my youth.

Can I call you if I need to be bailed out of jail?

Subject: Pine Tags and Shats

OK, you all ! I'm sorry I ever asked what pinetags were !

You've driven me to the dictionary. Neither tags or shats is shown to describe what drops off pine trees. Now the word tag does have listed as a definition, ' an attachment at one end of something as a mark or label' and stretching it, one could use tag to describe what holds those needles together. But, as for shats, I think Grandma was just voicing an expletive with an accent !

I like hearing regionalisms. So just in case you come to Cincinnati and have to go to a drive thru for a case of your favorite beverage, we call them pony kegs and our creme soda is red..

daffnet

Linda Wallpe
--------- End forwarded message ---------

From: "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>
Subject: A January Ramble in the Garden

In between the rain showers, I took a quick stroll through the garden this morning. There are a surprising number of things blooming for so early in the year.

The earliest standard (sort of as it's short) daffodil to bloom for me is 'Rjeinveld's Early Sensation' the buds have begun to crack open and are showing color. I use RES to underplant Hamemalis 'Primavera' which is also in bloom now. The combination of these two "yellows" together always signals to me that another daffodil season is about to begin. Hamamalis 'Jelena' with its coppery orange flowers is normally open first but this year it is just starting to show color. The newish Hamamelis 'Sunburst' also has a few early flowers showing. On warmish, sunny, DRY days (none are called for by the weatherman for over a week) the clean, subtle fragrance of the witch hazels floats around the garden on the slightest hint of a breeze.

The Galanthus are seriously starting in with many blooms of G. nivalis, G. elwesii, and G. byzantinus all beginning to flower. About a third of the seedlings of a cross of G. elwesii x G. reginae olagae (a Fall blooming snowdrop) show the silvery midrib of the pollen parent. I love the snowdrops for their austere, bright white flowers that come at a time little else is in bloom. A number have a soft, honey sweet scent that is very noticable when brought inside for an arrangement. Many, many seedlings of G. elwesii are intermixed and underplanted with the Helleborus, Pulmonaria, Ferns, Primrose and other shade lovers. The snowdrops do very well when planted on the sunny aspect of the Sun/Shade line under trees.

The Helleborus x hybridus have buds well up. Some early purple and a few of the deep yellow seedlings have opened. I have a slope facing east off of the front lawn area that drops about five foot. The Helleborus seem to love this eastern exposure. Many are planted in the area and they really thrive. H. argutifolius in this site is four foot across and three foot high! It is a pleasure to walk below them and look up into the blooms. One flower has been picked (So Far!) of the deepest yellow seedling and I hope to make good use of its pollen as others open. Helleborus sternii (H. lividus) has just turned its small, rounded greenish flowers up so a few flowers were picked to float in water in a shallow bowl.

daffnet

Narcissus Elegans
Photo: John Blanchard

the meadow sea, is awash with color
in waves of pink and white
a swell of tiny wild flower blooms
adrift the morning's tide

the newborn leaves atop the trees
whisper mystic chants
the bluebells ring out silently
the miracle at hand

a gentle kiss of weather, left
blue skys and soft warm sun
the whippoorwill arrived last night
a thousand verse were sung

now this - this mornings glory
sunlight trumpets - thru the trees
how gracious, this new day appears
to have included me

morning

jim henninger
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The daffodils in the field have about 25 percent of the tips through the soil. Some are up four or so inches. Buds are well up on many of the bulbocodium tribe. Rod Barwick's lovely 'Fyno' should be open in a three or four days. Quite a few of my early Miniature daffodil seedlings have buds up at or above ground level. Looking forward to spring with great excitement and anticipation!

With Best Regards,
Steve

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The pictures in this newsletter were taken by me at the 1997 Convention in Jackson, Mississippi. Linda Wallpe

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