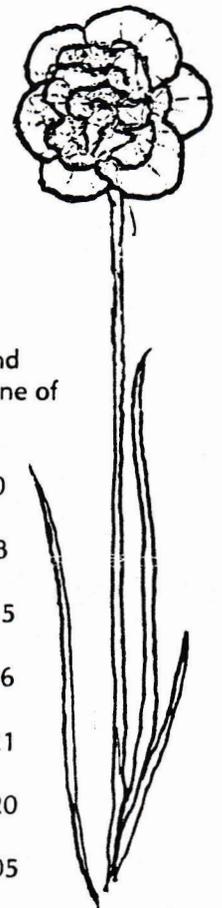


Narcissus Notes

American Daffodil Society

January 1997

Midwest Region



ADS OFFICERS FROM THE MIDWEST REGION

The Midwest Region has a number of members on the Board of Directors. Their names and pertinent data are printed below. If you have a question, problem or suggestion, contact one of them. They would be delighted to hear from you!

Executive Director	Mary Lou Gripshover	1686 Grey Fox Trails, Milford, Ohio 45150	513-248-9137	DAFFMLG@aol.com
Second Vice President	Peg Newill	10245 Virginia Lee Dr., Dayton, Ohio 45458	513-885-2971	103710.3426@compuserve.com
Secretary	Phyllis Hess	3670 E. Powell Rd., Lewis Center, Ohio 43035	614-882-5720	phyllish@midohio.net
Regional Vice President	Linda Lee Wallpe	1940 Gregory Lane, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206	513-221-4140	lwallpe@juno.com
Directors at Large	1997 Delores Bourne	1052 Shady Hill Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43221	614-457-4526	76675.1721@compuserve.com
	1999 Naomi Liggett	4126 Winfield Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43220	614-451-4747	103611.3435@compuserve.com
Regional Directors	1997 Margaret Baird	1220 Latchwood Dr., Dayton, Ohio 45405	513-277-9419	
	1998 Phyllis Vonnegut	8141 N. Illinois St, Indianapolis, Ind. 46260	317-255-9638	
	1999 Mary L. Rutledge	704 Ashley Drive Chillicothe, Ohio 45601	614-228-7551	
Journal Editor	Bill Lee	4606 Honey Hill Lane, Batavia, Ohio 45103	513-752-8104	BLEE811@aol.com
Publications Chairman	Hurst Sloniker	4606 Honey Hill Lane, Batavia, Ohio 45103	513-752-8104	
Intermediates	Helen Trueblood	3035 Bloomington Trail Road, Scottsburg, Ind. 47170	812-752-2998	
Research Endowment Fund	Nancy Gill	2454 W. Lane Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43221	614-488-8592	
Research, Health & Culture	Helen Link	P.O. Box 84 Brooklyn, Ind. 46111	317-831-3283	
Round Robins	Leone Low	387 N. Enon Road, Yellow Spings, Ohio 45387	513-767-2411	
Slide Programs/Photography	Tom Stettner	3818 Drakewood Dr., Cincinnati, O. 45209	513-351-4268	toasted2@ix.netcom.com

COLD WINTER GARDENS

The dead of winter is here and my feet have been cold for 2 weeks. It could be worse. My sister Nancy lives in Kansas and she says the wind blows there, 24 hours a day, straight out of the Canadian north!

I do a lot of reading this time of year and I notice that just the word 'daffodil' pops out at me. This week alone, I've seen it twice in The New York Times. The first was a reference to the words of the late garden writer Henry Mitchell, "What good would a whole orchard full of daffodils be, if our minds were preoccupied with palm trees?" The second was in an article about saving England's hedgerows. The article describes the hedges in spring 'snowy with white May blossom, honeysuckle, daffodils, orchids, and pale violets. February's not here yet, and I'm ready for spring to 'pop out' at me!

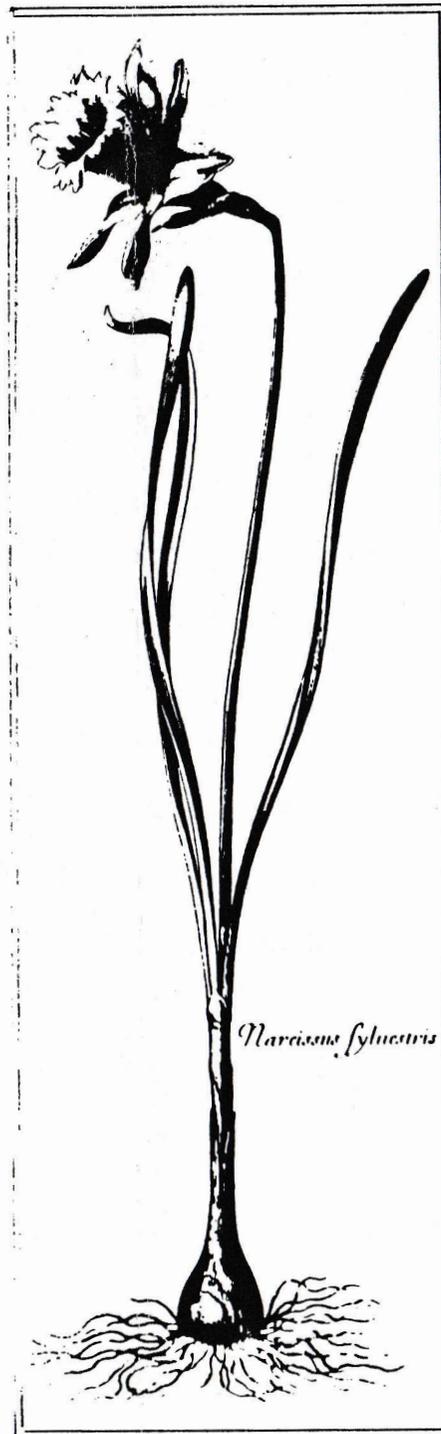
Helen Trueblood would like me to remind everyone to double check when you fill out your entry tags at the spring shows. Make sure they are complete and that individual blooms in collections are separately labeled. Also, that number 12 rubber bands are the most acceptable size for attaching tags to tubes. And finally, trim up the greens - we're not making bouquets here!

I hope everyone has potted up some bulbs to enter in the new section of the schedule. Watching them come along in the bottom of a frig is about as good as it gets in January!

I did attend the Fall Board Meeting in Albuquerque. This was a very busy meeting as I'm certain you could tell from the minutes in the December issue of the Journal. I would like to congratulate Bill Lee and Hurst Sloniker on their appointments. Publishing the Journal is a huge job. Volunteering to take on a job this size is valiant. I know they will do an admirable job.

Hope to see you in Jackson!

Linda Wallpe



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Thanks to all 35 of you who sent in your ballots to vote for next years officers. I am happy to report that you have elected Scott Kunst as the new regional director effective after the annual meeting in March.

For those of you who don't know Scott, he runs Old House Gardens in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He has a mail order catalogue for 'antique' bulbs and is dedicated to their preservation.

Phyllis Vonnegut, Chairman

JUDGING SCHOOL

Indiana Daffodil Growers South will be sponsoring a new Judging School beginning this year.

Class #1 will be held Saturday, February 22nd in Scottsburg. Class #2 is scheduled for Sunday, April 27*, also in Scottsburg.

Any judges needing a refresher course might consider Course 2. For more information:

contact Helen Trueblood at 812-752-2998

NEW ZEALAND COLLECTION CLASSES

Spud Brogden wants to encourage Americans to grow and exhibit New Zealand cultivars. Not just his. He will be donating some of his bulbs and will ask other New Zealand hybridizers to donate a bulb for the New Zealand collection class at the ADS convention show in Jackson. He also plans to donate a framed picture of a New Zealand bird or scene. EVERY entrant in this class will receive one bulb. The winner will receive several bulbs and the pictures to keep. Better than a silver trophy that needs polishing. If you have the blooms, consider entering. You're guaranteed of winning at least one bulb!

KIRBY FONG

1997 DAFFODIL SHOW SCHEDULE MIDWEST REGION

April 5 Louisville, Kentucky

Kentucky Daffodil Society
The Mall
Shelbyville Road
Info: Helen Trueblood
3035 Bloomington Trail Rd.
Scottsburg, Indiana 47170
812-752-2998

- please note the change in location. The
- show will not be at the Oxmoor Mall but
- at The Mall appx. 4 blocks away

April 12-13 Scottsburg, Indiana

Indiana Daffodil Growers South
Leota Barn
Info: Helen Trueblood
3035 Bloomington Trail Rd.
Scottsburg, Indiana 47170
812-752-2998

April 19-20 Cincinnati, Ohio

Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Society
Info: Don Caton
6771 Shawnee Run Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45243
513-561-9178

April 19-20 Columbus, Ohio

Central Ohio Daffodil Society
Franklin Park Conservatory &
Botanic Garden
1777 East Broad Street
Info: Betty Kealiher
9330 Weaver Road NE
St. Louisville, Ohio 43071-9705
614-745-3424

April 22-23 Chillicothe, Ohio

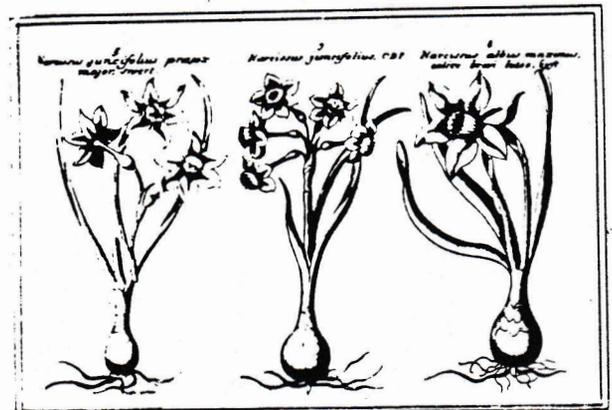
Adena Daffodil Society
Veteran's Medical Center
Info: Mary Rutledge
704 Ashley Drive
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
614-775-6663

April 23-24 Indianapolis, Indiana

Indiana Daffodil Society
Meridian Street Methodist Church
5500 N. Meridian Street
Info: Joe Hamm
4915 Fauna Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46234
317-293-3381

April 26 Akron, Ohio

Northeast Ohio Daffodil Society
Rolling Acres Mall
2400 Romig Road
Info: Carol McKeeman
2773 Boltz Road
Akron, Ohio 44333
330-666-0722

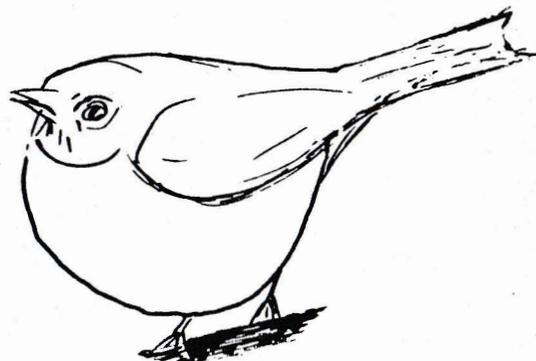


.....
Springtime is the land awakening. The March winds are the morning yawn.
-Lewis Grizzard

WHAT IS A ROUND ROBIN

?????

by Leone Y. Low



The American Daffodil Society members have 4 Round Robins through which members with like interests correspond. They normally receive their packet of letters once or twice a year. At the present time, there are robins for those interested in miniatures, divisions 5 through 9, hybridizing, and antique daffodils.

There is room for new people in some of these. If enough others express an interest in:

1. Those interested in growing daffodils (either exhibition beds or in the landscape) and / or
2. Those who would like to share ideas in a New Hybridizers robin

robins for them could be started.

The first round is simple: people describe their interest in daffodils, their climate, etc. and include their letter in the Robin packet and mail it to the next person on the list. On later rounds, participants remove their old letter, add their new one, and mail it away. Normally, they should not keep the Robin more than two weeks. Keeping it more than three weeks is considered an automatic resignation. It is OK to send a very short note if the Robin should arrive at an unusually busy period.

Someone in the Robin or the Chairman of Robins will occasionally write an article for the Journal describing some of the new and interesting insights generated in the correspondence.

Those who are interested, please contact your Regional Vice President or the Chairman of Robins:

Leone Y. Low
387 N. Enon Road
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

WHAT'S NEW IS OLD: ADS HISTORIC PRE-1940 CULTIVARS RIBBON AND SECTION DEBUT THIS SPRING

by Scott Kunst

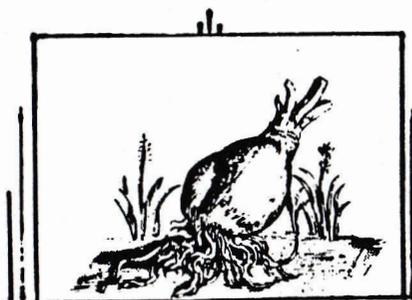
Irene Copeland and W.P. Milner have their hopes up. After years of competing head-to-head against the best new cultivars, these two old favorites - and hundreds of their peers - will now have a whole section and ribbon to themselves in daffodil shows across the country.

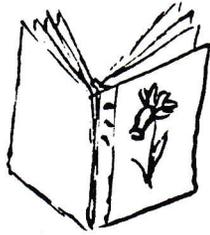
At least that's the course set by the ADS Board at the Baltimore convention last year when it overwhelmingly approved a proposal brought to it by the ADS Historic Daffodils Round Robin. The proposal was inspired, refined, and supported by many show chairs and board members from our Region, where classes for older daffodils have long been a part of several shows.

The Board is encouraging all shows to establish a SECTION for "Historic Pre-1940 Cultivars" and is offering a lilac ribbon for the "Best Historic Pre-1940 Cultivar in Show." The ribbon is being funded by the Historic Daffodils Round Robin. Though intended for shows that have a pre-1940 section, it will be available on a transitional basis for the first couple of years to shows that have at least a class devoted to some set of historic daffodils ("25 Years and Older," for example) if approved by Awards Chair Kirby Fong.

The first national ribbon will be awarded at the Jackson show this March, where the section will have classes for single stems and collections of five.

More detailed information on the section and ribbon will be coming to all 1998 show chairs this summer, or contact Scott Kunst at Old House Gardens, 536 Third St., Ann Arbor, MI 48103, 313-995-1486, ohg@arrownet.com.





DAFFODILS IN WINTER

by Leone Y. Low

When winter winds are howling, and spring's bloom far away,
How I long for cheery daffodils to chase the gloom far away.

It is then that I visit the library's garden section to find daffodil blooms on their shelves.

One of the few books that is devoted exclusively to daffodils is Brent and Becky Heath's 'Daffodils of American Gardens.' I particularly liked their short chapter on forcing daffodils, and their suggestion to grow the bulbs individually and to pot them when in bloom for the best display.

Malcolm Hillier's 'Container Gardening Through the Year' described and illustrated many lovely and interesting plant containers, some with daffodils and other bulbs.

For those persons who prefer their daffodils outdoors, Roy Lancaster's book, 'What Plant Where', includes a few daffodils and hundreds of other plants that might be good companions. He suggests plants for many growing situations, for example, 'asters for heavy clay soil, gives climate zones, sun preferences, size, etc. He has hundreds of lovely illustrations of perennials, shrubs, conifers, and trees. It might inspire you to rejuvenate that corner of the garden that isn't quite what it used to be.

'Bulbs for the Rock Garden' by Jack Elliott has a lot for indoor and outdoor gardeners. There are several short sections for Narcissophiles. He gives growing suggestions for difficult to bloom miniatures. A little of his species terminology is not up-to-date.

Elliott gives formulas for John Innes soil mixes, as well as his own preferred indoor and outdoor bulb growing mixes. He also tells how to grow bulbs from seed. Most of his own growing is in climate zone 7, so he has consulted with friends in other zones including zone 5. He mentions desirable scilla, muscari, crocus, and other companion bulbs. Some are quite rare, but many desirable ones are readily available from sources such as Daffodil Mart. This book was more technical than the previous ones, and I must confess that most of the section on fritillaria is still virgin territory.

These are all copyrighted in 1995 and may still be on your library's New Books shelf. Those who still have room on their own shelves may want to know the publishers. The Heath book is published by Elliott and Clark, the Elliott book by Timber Press, and Dorling Kindersley published the other two.

REGIONAL MEETING REPORT

The Regional meeting for held October 6, 1996 in Cincinnati at the Civic Garden Center. 50 people attended. It was particularly pleasant to see 11 members from Louisville!

Reports from the various groups were given by:

Hilda Dunaway	Kentucky
Helen Trueblood	Indiana South
Bill Lee	SWODS
Donna Deitsch	CODS
Mary Rutledge	Adena
Joe Hamm	Indiana

Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Columbus reported healthy bulb sales this last fall.

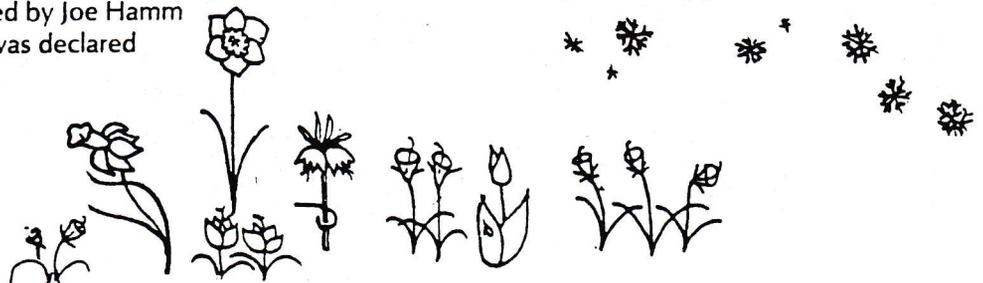
Suzy Wert gave a short program on the Junior Daffodil Growers. They had had an exciting meeting where proper planting was demonstrated. The group was broken up into four parts and each sent to a different corner of Suzy's yard. Each corner was staffed with an experienced grower that demonstrated some aspect of the planting process. They also began working on some on-going experiments. Suzy will keep us updated.

A number of slides were shown at this meeting. Those who shared were: Tom Stettner with the ADS program on doubles, Helen Link showed flowers from some of her crosses, Helen Trueblood brought slides of the Leota show and Linda Wallpe shared slides of the Columbus and Indianapolis 96 shows, Baltimore Convention Gardens, Dr. Wm. Bender's garden and Mary Koontz' Garden.

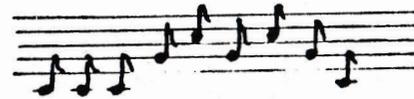
The Midwest Region would like to thank Doug and Jeanne Clark once again for the contribution of a lovely vase for a raffle. Their generosity if becoming legendary.

The Bulb Exchange was lively. It was hosted by Joe Hamm who was assisted by Mrs. Link's son. He was declared impartial.

The Pot Luck was yummy !!!



I'M GOING TO JACKSON, JACKSON, JACKSON



From: Ted Snazelle <Snazelle@mc.edu>

Daffniks:

I do hope that all of you are off to a happy and prosperous New Year and that all your daffodils will be blue ribbon winners. Speaking of daffodils, I know that some of you have already registered to attend the American Daffodil Society Convention in Jackson, Mississippi, March 13 - 15, 1997. For other Daffniks and "Daffodil Lurkers", as Convention Chairman, I would like to personally invite you to come to Jackson and to enjoy Southern Hospitality at its best! What's in it for you?

Well, on Thursday, March 13, 1997, there is the National Daffodil Show and the competition for the ADS Challenge Cup for twelve different cultivars entered by the originator and much more. Then there will be some of the great daffodil hybridizers of the U.S. and elsewhere attending the convention including Elsie Havens (Grant Mitsch Daffodils - Oregon), John Pearson (Hofflands Daffodils - England), Kate Reade (Carncairn Daffodils - Northern Ireland), Brian Duncan (Rathowen Daffodils - Northern Ireland), Bill and Diane Tribe (Oregon Trail Daffodils) and probably more as the convention date grows closer. Additionally, Jeannie Driver of Bonnie Brae Gardens - Oregon and Scott Kunst of historic daffodil fame will be present. Thursday's culmination will be the Awards Banquet at the University Club with show awards being presented by Kirby Fong.

On Friday, March 14, 1997, we will have four speakers lecturing throughout the day: USDA Research Scientist, Dr. Reiner Kloth, will lecture on the genetics of daffodils; Lynn Libous-Bailey will lecture on landscaping with daffodils; Kirby Fong will talk about photographing daffodils; and lastly Felder Rushing, co-author of the awarding winning book "Pass-a-long Plants", will talk about the same. Friday's day will end with another fabulous banquet at the University Club and the American Daffodil's Society Annual Business Meeting.

On Saturday, March 15, 1997, the tour day begins by heading west to Clinton to visit the Daffodil Garden at Hendrick House at Mississippi College and its daffodil hybridizers display. Next, will be a tour and luncheon at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum. Lastly we will head north to Madison for a visit to the home and garden of Loyce and Herman McKenzie. Then on Saturday night, we will have a banquet in the Ballroom of the convention hotel, The Edison Walthall Hotel, and a program given by the noted English daffodil hybridizer John Pearson.

If the preceding is not enough to whet your appetite, how about Thursday's optional tour (while judging of the national daffodil show is in progress) to the Vicksburg National Military Park and lunch on a river boat casino? Then there is Sunday's optional tour to Historic Natchez and finally a return to Jackson for a light dinner and a slide show of the 1997 ADS National Show winners.

What does all of this cost? For the registration fee of \$185.00, you get Thursday's national show and awards banquet; Friday's lectures and banquet; and Saturday's tour, luncheon, and banquet. If you want to

register, send a check for \$185.00, payable to "1997 ADS National Convention" to Mrs. Fred Roquemore, 309 Indian Mound Road, Clinton, MS 39056. If you want the optional tour to Vicksburg, include an additional \$30.00 in your check. If you want to go on the optional tour to Natchez include an additional payment of \$65.00. Or, if you want to do it all, a check of \$280 will cover all the preceding.

The 1997 ADS Convention Hotel is the Edison Walthall Hotel, 225 Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Telephone: 1-800-932-6161. FAX: 601-948-0088. Room rates are as follows:

Single - One person - King/Queen Bed - \$62.00
Double - Two Persons - King/Queen Bed - \$72.00
Double - Two Persons - Two Double Beds - \$72.00
Suites (call for rates)

Sales Tax - 8%, City room Tax \$0.75/room

Send reservation directly to the Edison Walthall Hotel with a deposit for the first night's lodging. After February 28, 1997, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. Or, you can call or FAX your hotel reservation to the telephone numbers listed above. The hotel offers complementary indoor parking and complementary van service to and from the Jackson International Airport.

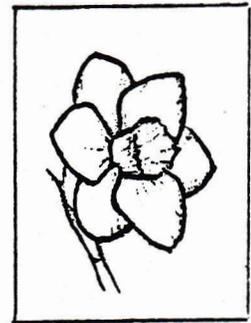
If you want to know more, call, e-mail, or FAX me at the following:
e-mail:snazelle@mc.edu
telephone:601.925.3339 (my office - voice mail after five rings)
FAX:601.925.3804.

Looking forward to seeing you in Jackson!

Ted Snazelle
1997 ADS Convention Chairman

DAFFODIL

From: DaffMLG@aol.com
Sender: daffodil@mc.edu
Subject: Must have daffodils



Hi Bob,

You recently asked about "must have" daffodils. I'm going to confine my list to American-bred daffodils.

When you talk about "must have" daffodils, I think you have to know for what purpose the flowers are intended. Hybridizers really ought to have Magician and/or Catalyst for the intense coloration in the cups. Yes, they're expensive, but if you're breeding pinks, you really "must have" them. Hillstar is another. And it's not expensive. But again, for breeding jonquil hybrids, you have to have it.

I think in your talk in New Zealand it would certainly be safe to say that anyone who wants some diversity and good flowers in Divisions 5, 6, 7, 11, and the 8/12s bred from Matador would be pleased with anything from the Mitsch catalog. Nowhere else can you find that wide an assortment of good flowers available commercially. You want specifics? In Div. 5, Akepa, the bell series--Mission Bells, Ringing Bells, Ice Chimes, Russian Chimes, etc and Bill Pannill's Jingle Bells. In Div. 6, you'll get true *N. cyclamineus* character from ALL the Mitsch sixes--early blooming, nicely reflexed perianth. Specifically: Cazique, Rapture, Emperor's Waltz, Warbler, Jetfire. In Div. 7, Stratosphere is great, and Bell Song, Circuit is a good collection flower since it usually has one largish bloom per stem and make it easier to obtain balance in the overall collection, Dainty Miss is a charmer, the reverse bicolors Chat, Dickcissel, and the new Regeneration & Perpetuation. And don't forget Bill Pannill's Intrigue and Rising Star.

Div. 8s (unless closer to the poet parent--Geranium is great, but not American) are not as spectacular here as they are in warmer climates, but Golden Dawn is reliable. I've seen Falconet and Hoopoe and they look good but I've not grown them. And hybridizers ought to have Matador, since it will set seed. There are some nice split coronas coming from Elise Havens (Mitsch catalog, for those new to the 'net): Mission Impossible and Trigonometry are two I grow which are lovely.

Now, in the other divisions where they will face strong competition from the New Zealand raisers, I think River Queen, Gull, Resplendent, Phoenician, Glissando, Elixir, Molten Lava, Pink Silk, Pacific Rim, Miss Prim, Guinevere La Paloma, Gallery, Homestead, Rim Ride, Trumpet Warrior, and Young American can hold their own anywhere.

And miniature buffs should certainly look for Pixie's Sister, Fairy Chimes Woodstar, and Junior Miss.

Mary Lou

DAFFNET

DAFFNET



From: Phyllis Hess <phyllish@midohio.net>

Dear Mary Lou and all,

One observation while digging bulbs this season, the largest bulbs, clumps etc. had dug down into the clay and were resting right on top of it, since clay holds water I can only imagine that is why they liked that location.

In another bed which I considered to have the best soil, drainage etc. I had the most losses. Another unusual occurrence this year, lost some yellow flowers, usually it is the whites and white/pinks we worry about. Losses were not great, but it was the yellow and yellow/reds that were gone. I know Bill Pannill waters, waters, waters, as well as Max Hamilton carrying water to his doubles, I do a lot of watering also.

Phyllis

From: TOM ROCHE <TROCHE@itt.state.ga.us>

Phyllis,

This is an interesting observation. I've often thought that while digging the individual holes or relatively small trenches, we are sometimes decreasing rather than increasing drainage.

If, for example, you dig an isolated hole 18 inches deep and thoroughly work and improve the soil, you are in effect created a drain for rain and other water to seck. The unworked area surrounding that hole has better drainage because water is draining into the hole you just finished digging!

This, of course, depends upon the slopes or lack thereof on your property. The above shouldn't apply when large areas are worked, but for those of us without the equipment for relatively large-scale digging, it is somewhat frustrating to know that we may be killing our bulbs as well as our backs.

From: Harold Koopowitz <hkoopowi@uci.edu>

Subject: Breeding miniatures

I have decided that I want to focus on breeding miniatures and am looking for sources of interesting bulbs. I have gotten a few things from the obvious commercial sources. I am growing everything in pots. and have planted about 100 6"squares. Using a commercial cactus mix and then topping it with crushed pumice. Noting how everyone wanted triandrus but could not get the bulbs I will try mass producing seed. But it would be easier to use tissue culture if I can get the correct recipes.

What I am looking for now are bulbs of Candlepower. Does anyone have or know of a source for that cultivar. Also I am looking for early forms of N. jonquilla and small flowered forms of N.cyclamineus.

Does anyone know if miniatures have been tissue cultured. Can anyone direct me to references on tissue in vitro multiplication of narcissus. I want to try that and need a medium. Also I noticed that Topolino only produced half formed seed last season. I am anxious to try "embryo rescue" to see if I can get them to survive. We embryo-rescued hybrids between two Ornithogalum species that normally do not cross and not only got good hybrids but an additional and exciting bonus. Normally Ornithogalum take 3-4 years before the bulbs are large enough to flower embryo-rescued plants flowered 9 months after making the cross. We did three generations of crosses in less than 4 years. Likewise with another bulb Eucomis we got flowers in 18 months rather than the usual 4 to 5 years. Would it not be nice if we could do this with daffs????

Has anyone ever put together a list of intermediates that breed. Bantam is one that comes to mind. Any others? What did Roberta Watrous use to get color into her miniatures? Seems to me that bright red or pink color is the most difficult thing to get with small size.

Harold Koopowitz
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of California
Irvine, CA 92717-2525

Phone: 714-824-8511 office
824-5324 laboratory

Fax: 714-824-8511

Email: HKOPOWI@E4E.OAC.UCI.EDU

Email: HKOPOWI@UCI.EDU



From: stevev@europa.com (Stephen J. Vinisky)
Subject: Breeding Miniatures - Rcply

Dear Harold,

No question that miniatures and species are sought after and have a high commercial potential. As I understand it, tissue culture has met with wildly variable results when applied to daffodils. There is no problem in initiating a 'cormel' and multiplying them. They have had average results getting the tissue to form a basal plate, storage and leaf areas. The real problem has been in the transition from sterile lab conditions to field conditions. Yields, I have been told, drop to low teens or even single digit percentages. Infections from both the basal plate and the necks run rampant. No control measures have worked (and they have tried just about everything) that I am aware of.

Wim Lemmers has told me that 'parting' (twin scaling via a machine that slices out roughly eight or sixteen segments, depending on basal plate size) is the best commercial method of increasing the species as it is far cheaper and much more sure. Wim's feeling is that 'parting' keeps the bulb tissue " young and fresh " and growing vigorously. Wim has 'parted': *N. asturiensis*, *N. bulbocodium conspicuus* and a few miniaturee. After the segments have healed, he plants them out in a standard 100 or 200 'plug' flat. Wim buries the entire flat with the top covered with about 1/2" of sand.

Embryo recovery works in as far as the embryo will grow but the problems going from the sterile environment to field conditions remain the same. If that could be overcome, my guess is that tremendous advances will follow as it has in the lily family. Washington State University and Briggs Nursery had modest attempts at tissue culture and embryo rescue within the last ten years. Johann von Schippen at the Blumenbollen Institute might also be worth contacting for recipe info. Along this line, I have heard that the amount of hormone needed to initiate the basal plate is at an unusually high level.

Best Regards,
Steve



From: "Naomi J. Liggett" <103611.3435@CompuServe.COM>

Harold

While in Tasmania last fall I spent a portion of a day with Rod Barwick. He uses the chipping method to speed up the propagation of some bulbs. He says standard bulbs can be usually chipped into 24 pieces and miniatures into 12. The cutting tool and bulb are dipped into formalin and benelate. The chips are then placed in a thin plastic bag with about a cup of vermiculite. This is then stored in a dark dry cupboard for 12 weeks at which time the bulblets will have formed. They are then potted. He uses this method on rare bulbs or those slow to increase.



From: ramsay@waikato.ac.nz (Peter Ramsay)

Will's mention of Lindsay Dettman brought some memories flooding back. As a Kiwi at least I knew what he meant by a "brown sandwich" which he asked for when he arrived at Springworld in Hamilton many years ago! No bread was involved.

My favourite story, though is about his close mate - Midnight the dog. Midnight accompanied Lindsay everywhere, and letters from Lindsay always closed with a paw print and regards from Midnight. Now, another close daffodil friend, a rather proper Englishman, went to Australia on a Daff trip and was down to visit Lindsay. Let's call the Englishman David (not his real name). Lindsay by arrangement picked up David at the airport and sure enough Midnight was in the back of the car. Midnight, by the way was a large black labrador. As they drove off, Midnight put his head on David's shoulder. Ever so carefully, David pushed the head away, but Midnight returned again and again. Finally Midnight opened his mouth and took a firm hold of David's shoulder. At which point David exclaimed: "Lindsay I think there's something wrong with your dog!"

To which Lindsay replied

"So there bloody should be mate, You're sitting in his flaming seat!"

Such is Australian humour. We miss Lindsay, one of the world's great characters.

Peter Ramsey

D A F F O D I L

From: "Clay E. Higgins" <dlpub@erols.com>
Subject: Hardening Flowers for Show

D A F F N E T

Dear Daffnet,

This spring was my first year showing daffies, after five or six years of growing them, and helping stage them for two years with my mother-in-law at the show location (I was not involved in the picking and readiness of the flower for the show).

I'm still uncomfortable with this concept that I keep hearing about, call hardening of the flower, after it is cut, but before it is put on the show bench.

What is the exact procedure? Do you use warm water?, Room temperature water? Cold water? How long does it take to harden the flower? And, last but of extreme importance is, when do you do this hardening?

Clay Higgins

From: stevev@europa.com (Stephen J. Vinisky)
Subject: Re: Hardening Flowers for Show

Dear Clay,

A properly hardened bloom will last longer and be more amenable to grooming for the show bench. I generally take a deep container filled with warm water into the fields, cut and immediately plunge the stems into the warm water. The buckets are then placed in a cool, dark place (in my case , our North facing garage) for four to eight hours allowing the water to cool. Very hot water (from the hot tap, not boiling hot) will help force open just cut flowers that are picked as the buds crack. Re-cutting the stems and changing the cool water for hot every few hours or so helps speed this process.

Division Three (small cups) and the Poets (Division 9) open at their best in a cool, dark or dimly lit area. Both divisions improve and grow smoother, larger and retain superb color when handled this way. I try to cut the above two divisions early, which can be as early as the stage when the perianth segments are separated enough to see the cup. All flowers will develop better on the plant given ideal weather. The "ideal weather" is the operative phrase. If the weather is scheduled to be cool, overcast (NO sun) and damp, (these three are a good bet in an average Oregon spring), I will let the flowers stay on the plant to develop. If the weather is very poor or very hot and sunny, I will cut early.
Hope this helps a little,
Steve



From: ramsay@waikato.ac.nz (Peter Ramsay)
Subject: pavlova recipe

After Kirby's comments, Lesley insisted that I reply immediately. Praise gets you everywhere! Here is the recipe.

Ingredients

8 egg whites
pinch of cream of tarter
2 cups of sugar
2 teaspoons of vanilla
4 teaspoons of vinegar
2 ½ teaspoons corn flour

Do not use eggs directly from fridge - room temp please.

Instructions

Break egg whites into a bowl add cream of tarter. Beat well until stiff peaks form. Gradually add sugar and beat until dissolved. Add remaining ingredients and beat until well mixed. Rinse tin foil with cold water and pile the mixture onto tin foil on cooking tray. Cook mixture in oven at 150 degrees centigrade for one and a half hours or until outside is lightly browned and crisp. Allow to cool and cover with whipped cream. Garnish with fruit - strawberries, banana, or if you want the real thing - Kiwifruit! Voila! Enjoy.

150°C. Suits our oven but 130° C. may be better in other ovens.

Peter

From: Ted Snazelle <Snazelle@mc.edu>
Subject: Neck Rot

Daffniks:

There is an apparently new fungal disease showing up in daffodil bulbs. (Don't get alarmed, I don't even know for sure that it occurs in the US; however, it does occur in the UK.) It is characterized by a rot proceeding from the neck of the bulb down into the bulb proper. Our nemesis, the basal rot fungus (or a strain thereof) may be involved. If in your lifting, you find any bulbs which are soft beginning with the neck (not the basal plate), I would appreciate receiving a sample for some research I'm doing.

To send a bulb to me for analysis, simply wrap it loosely in paper towels and put it into a small box or padded mailing envelope and mail it to me by Priority Mail. DO NOT WRAP IT IN PLASTIC OR PUT IT IN A PLASTIC BAG! I would also like to know the name of the cultivar, too.

Ted Snazelle
Department of Biological Sciences
Mississippi College
Box 4045
Clinton, MS 39058

From: ramsay@waikato.ac.nz (Peter Ramsay)

Kia Ora folks.

Re Neck rot. You may recall me moaning about neck rot last year. I'm pleased that you are doing work on it Ted. I observed it in EVERY garden I visited in the Northern Hemisphere (in some in minute quantities), and we have plenty of it of our own.

The symptoms are burnt foliage - almost looks like nematodes but aint. Drugs (eg Spotak, Alto, Benlate) help, but don't beat it completely. Roguing and burning does. 4 hours HWT eliminates it for a year or two. Some say it's botrytis, others sclerotinia. My own suspicion is that it is our old mate fusarium crawling down the neck. And I reckon its got a bit to do with global warming.

Interestingly the varieties growing through grass are usually OK. It is the molly coddled ones in the beds that get it worst!

Peter

From: Richard Havens <havensr@canby.com>
>; Wed, 8 Jan 1997

Dear Phyllis,

Thank you so much for your concern. We definitely did not need to water our daffodils the last few weeks!

Indeed the pictures of the Northwest on the news were terrible, and of course there was a lot of devastation. We were very fortunate where we are, to have sustained so little damage. There were a number of roads closed at various times, but fortunately for us our fields where the daffodils are planted, appear to be in good condition. I talked with Christine Kemp from Northern California and she said her experience is about the same.

If we do not get some colder weather later in the winter, it appears we may have an early season. We'll see.

The discussion about seed collection techniques has been most interesting. As Harold Koopowitz indicated, we test the pods by seeing if the dead flower easily breaks from the pod. At that point, we usually pick the pod, leaving about 3 or 4 inches of stem to let them complete ripening. It is a challenge, but we always watch over hybridizing areas closely during the entire seed collection period--sometimes as long as two or three weeks or more.

Hope all of you are doing well.

Elise



D A F F N E T

NEW ADS MEMBERS

Show time is fast approaching. Don't forget our new members at that time. Give them a call. Ask if they have any questions, Review the show schedule with them, Fill out a tag with them. Pick them up and introduce them to others. Make it fun! It is fun!

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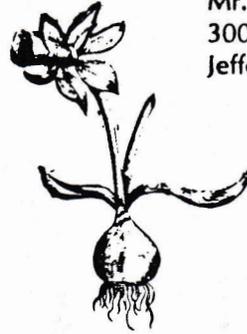
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