

My Garden in Daffodil Season, Week 4

April 22, 1999

Well, the temperature has remained relatively cool the past week; in fact it got downright cold a few days. So the daffodils that are in bloom have lasted quite a while. This gives them a chance to grow to their normal size. When it gets hot quickly, and the blooms wilt, you don't really get to enjoy the blooms at their peak. But while it was cool, it was also windy, so many flowers have ripped petals. But no one ever said growing daffodils—or gardening in general—was hassle-free.



'Johanna' (pictured), an older triandrus hybrid is still looking good. It has two, or sometimes three, hanging bells in softest lemon. The little doubles, with more than one bloom on a stem, are beginning to open. Both 'Cheerfulness' and 'Yellow Cheerfulness' have a bonus of fragrance. These are sports of tazetta hybrids and have inherited the scent.

I do like the pink and white daffodils, and the coloring has been better this year than usual. 'Savoir Faire' is still looking good, as is 'Volare'. 'Notre Dame' has pink about half the length of the cup; as the flower ages, the white petals take on a lemony tone. 'Fragrant Rose', one of my all time favorite daffodils, is open now, and while the color is good, the stems have bent too much in the wind. A flower new to my garden is the pink and white double, 'Rose Garden' (pictured). It had an almost flawless bloom, with a strong stem that withstood the strong winds.



Late season brings out the orange-petalled flowers. 'Bandesara' (pictured) is still looking good from last week, though the color has faded a bit. 'Dawn Run', though small this year, has excellent color, as does 'Limbo'.

White-petalled flowers are plentiful, with 'Bee Mabley' (pictured) making a nice show in the garden. 'Dress Circle' is another with a very white perianth and a small circle of color around the cup edge. And while the late poeticus are beginning to take center stage, 'Carib Gipsy' is adding a touch of lemon to the garden scene.

