

The Indiana Ledger

A Triannual Publication of the Indiana Daffodil Society

Joe Hamm, President

Suzy Wert, Editor



From the Garden of the President



Greetings "Daffodillians",

As I take "keyboard" to hands, species crocus and aconites are brightening the spring landscape punctuated by my first daffodil, *Early Sensation* 1Y-Y. The jonquils (Division 7) thought they would beat the others during the warm spell and sent foliage breaking the blanket of leaves. The tazettas (Division 8) seem to have enough common sense to just stay even with the mulch. Outside of a few renegades the other divisions are behaving their normal selves. For a "fix", I have forced some Chinese Sacred Lilies" (*N. tazetta orientalis*) to bloom. I will have to research the name for this tazetta, the only immediate information that I can find is it dates to about 1880, is also known as "Flower of Good Luck", "Jos-flower", and "Water-Fairy" and it was popular with the Victorians. I tried something a little different this year and set aside some bulbs to force with hopes they will be available as container exhibit for our show, if not at least I will have the pleasure of some indoor bloom.

Our show should prove to be bigger than ever. This, of course, does not happen without the efforts of many members. There will be a new ADS ribbon for intermediates. A list of current acceptable cultivars for this section and the new list of miniatures will be available at the March 24th meeting. We will again have flowers flown in from Mitsch in Oregon. Blooms are welcome from any garden at this meeting, we will have ample tubes available so we can share in the joy of members blooms. We are hoping to expand the number of blooms by adding a section for those elusive "unknowns". This should entice members to bring those great looking blooms, and maybe they may just acquire a name! To even create a greater attraction we will have an expanded *Design Section* by inviting several Garden Clubs to enter.

I have had several calls concerning our Show Dates from Retirement Homes and other interested groups. Maybe our 41st Show will be our largest attended.

Thank you Barbara Sindors for your service as Treasurer. I have felt guilty for not acknowledging the fact you have served a long, long, term. I hope you and David (her other half) enjoy the freedom to "do your thing, on a whim, with out any cares". Side note —Barb is taking care of the Yearbook so she isn't abandoning us after all. Thanks again Barbara.

We have a busy season — see our calendar, no help will be refused. May 1st, 2nd and 3rd we will have a small garden plot at *Orchard in Bloom*. Please keep this in mind as we will need blooms to put into tubes, and these may need to be refreshed if the temperatures are above normal.

See you soon!

1998 Daffodil Calendar

March 24 Meeting Nora Library, 1:00 p.m.
 •Show Schedules Handed Out
 •El Niño Questions answered
 •Mitsch Novelty Daffodils on display from Oregon
 •World wide catalogs on display

April 4 Midwest Regional
 Kentucky Daffodil Society Show

April 9-11 ADS Convention & National Show
 Richmond, VA

April 15-16 Indiana Daffodil Growers South Show

April 23-24 *Thursday & Friday*
New Days of the Week!

IDS Daffodil Show

5500 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN

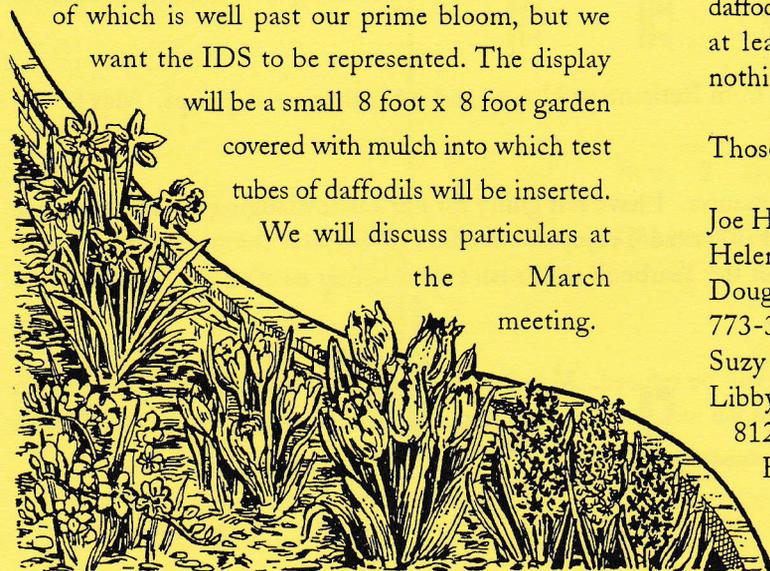
Entries taken Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Free & Open to the Public the following hours:

Thursday, April 23 from 2:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 24 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

May 1, 2, 3 Holliday Park
 IDS Display for *Orchard in Bloom*. A daffodil display using cut flowers. This is a three day event, the date of which is well past our prime bloom, but we want the IDS to be represented. The display will be a small 8 foot x 8 foot garden covered with mulch into which test tubes of daffodils will be inserted. We will discuss particulars at the March meeting.



Open Gardens

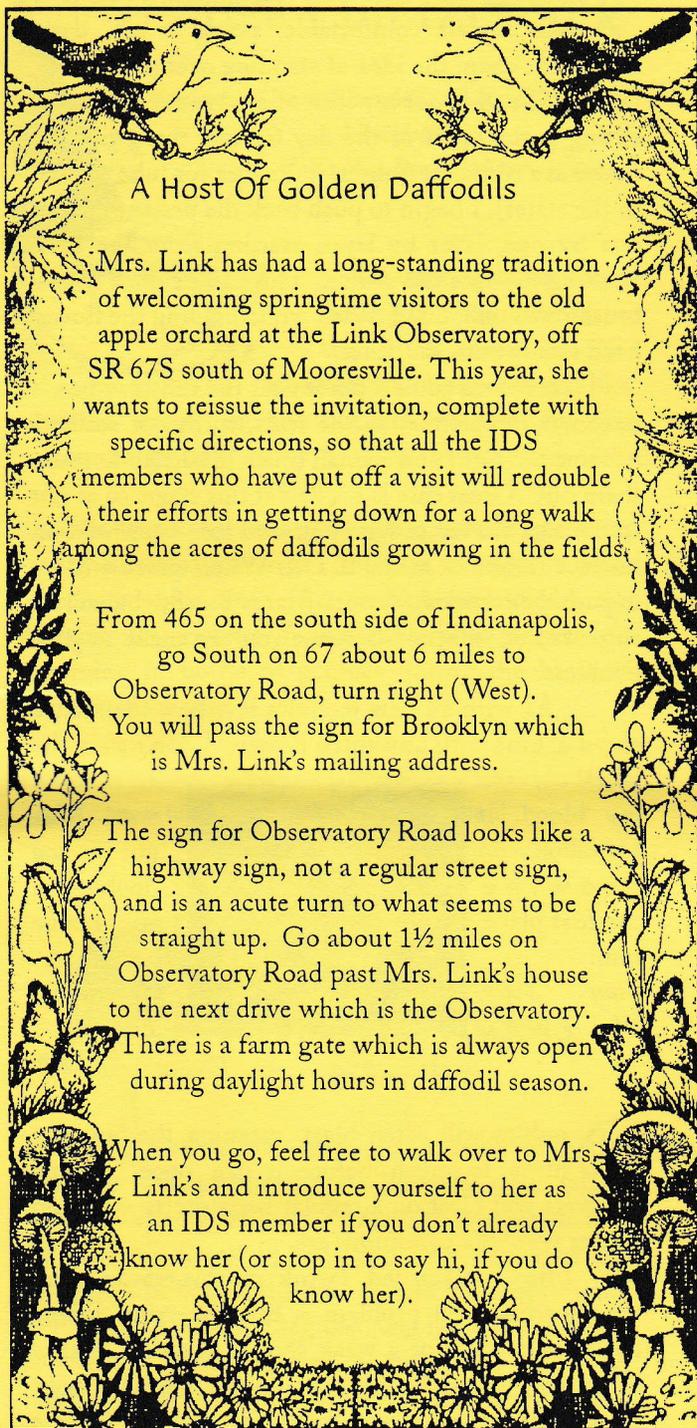
~by Chuck Schad, Jeffersonville, IN

Due to conflicting dates, the organized Garden Tours of members' gardens scheduled for April 16, 1998 will be cancelled.

However, several members invite you to come by for a visit and to see their daffodils anytime during blooms season. All they ask is that you call ahead to make sure they can give you a guided tour. Please take them up on this offer, it's a perfect way to see how others grow daffodils and a great opportunity to see what is new or at least different from what you grow at home. If nothing else, it's a great way to add to your wishlist!

Those who have extended this invitation include:

- Joe Hamm 4815 Fauna Lane 293-3381
- Helen Link, Observatory Rd. 831-3283
- Doug & Jeanne Clarke, 13905 Allisonville Rd., 773-3252; Phyllis Vonnegut 8141 Illinois 255-9638.
- Suzy Wert, 7350 N. Illinois Steet, 259-0060
- Libby Frey, 2625 South Smith Rd., Bloomington 812-336-5777;
- Helen Trueblood, 3035 Bloomington Trail Rd. Scottsburg, 812-752-2998.



A Host Of Golden Daffodils

Mrs. Link has had a long-standing tradition of welcoming springtime visitors to the old apple orchard at the Link Observatory, off SR 67S south of Mooresville. This year, she wants to reissue the invitation, complete with specific directions, so that all the IDS members who have put off a visit will redouble their efforts in getting down for a long walk among the acres of daffodils growing in the fields.

From 465 on the south side of Indianapolis, go South on 67 about 6 miles to Observatory Road, turn right (West). You will pass the sign for Brooklyn which is Mrs. Link's mailing address.

The sign for Observatory Road looks like a highway sign, not a regular street sign, and is an acute turn to what seems to be straight up. Go about 1½ miles on Observatory Road past Mrs. Link's house to the next drive which is the Observatory. There is a farm gate which is always open during daylight hours in daffodil season.

When you go, feel free to walk over to Mrs. Link's and introduce yourself to her as an IDS member if you don't already know her (or stop in to say hi, if you do know her).

Bring a friend to the
Indiana Daffodil Show
and be eligible for a
special bulb drawing in August!

Excerpt: *One Man's Garden*

~by Henry Mitchell

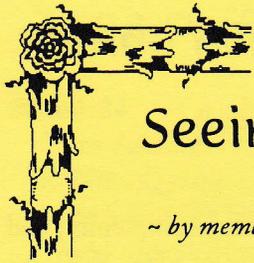
T. S. Eliot said, "April is the cruelest month", and I would add March, May, and much of June. What we loosely call spring, meaning the season in which plants grow vigorously and come to flower in a time of nice skies and warm airs, is partly imaginary. In spring the gardener has the sharpest disappointments of the year, as a rule, especially in this capital (so favored as a gardening region, offering the best of both North and South). We have our most terrible storms in spring, as far as the garden is concerned, and although we are wonderfully free of late freezes (compared with England, say), we still have what I call cold weather sometimes into the month of June.

As our daffodils begin to bloom in March, our hearts leap up, briefly, but they don't stay leapt up, for all too soon the magical day that so excited us — blue sky, crocuses, snowdrops, scillas, early daffodils, temperature of sixty-five degrees — is followed by a hailstorm or a drop to twenty-two degrees and a flurry of snow or ice, and gray skies that look more somber than any sky of the winter. If we have temperature drops to thirty-two or below — we need to remember that early spring is invariably variable — we always have warmer-than-usual days and colder-than-usual. Nothing would be more surprising than a spring of settled weather.

There is not much to be done about it. The flowers that bloom in variable weather have evolved over the eons to survive in variable weather. A bloom here and there may be doomed, but in general there is nothing to worry about when a freeze "threatens" the crocus or daffodil or emerging tulip. They are born to this.

People who cannot tolerate the anxiety of possible damage to, say, early magnolia flowers should simply not grow them. Normal gardeners, however, soon learn to take the weather in stride. They know that if you refuse to plant anything that may be damaged by weather, you will not have anything at all.

If tender folk go to pieces for fear a plant may be hurt (even before it is hurt, and it usually isn't), then how do they cope with the death of a dog or a person? We are not born to a bonbon-type life, you know.



Seeing Double

~ by members of the Daffnet

The problem of doubles bending and falling over seems to be lack of stem development. I learned from my mother-in-law, Marie Bozivich, to hit the daffodils with potash about five weeks before bloom time. I seem to always get big strong stems and even had one stem that wouldn't fit into a test tube as it was so big.

My best winner for division four has been **Unique**, followed by **Snowfire**. They are earlier (season 2-3 would be my guess), and so far no blasting problem when it turns cold. Also have had good luck with **Parthenon**, but it does blast on me from time to time. I have some of the more exotic Division IVs from Elise Havens and Brian Duncan, but haven't had them long enough to get any experience. Both of my exotics bloomed too late last year for any of the shows I attended.

I like to pick my daffodils a few days before the show, and have developed a method of first grooming the flowers, hardening, then storing until show time. In the grooming process, if the bending of the heads is from rain, etc., it can be corrected before hardening (using a number of natural techniques, including direct and reflected light), however, if the flowers are bent too far to cure, I hope you have something else in the garden to show.

I think Marie Bozivich's idea of growing cultivars with good strong stems in the first place is the ultimate answer to strong doubles then weeding out the weak varieties from your show bench collection overtime.

~Clay Higgins, Bethesda, Maryland

I finally dug up **Texas** and threw it away because it never opened. I have had good luck with **Tonga** and **Tahiti**. It seemed to me when I started growing some doubles that those that were less full did the best as to opening well and not being too heavy so they fell over.

~Kathleen Anderson, Columbia, MO

The first thing I do before staging any flower is to make myself comfortable, being a tall, dark, handsome chap, the idea of standing over a low table, in a half bend is not my idea of a good night out. So sitting is the order of the day for me, then with the flower at a workable height, in its vase (or tube as used in the states), I begin to push back the perianth petals one by one, layer by layer, starting from the back working towards the centre. This can be done with a brush or thumb, one handed while holding the flower head steady with the other.

There will come a point near the centre, when it becomes impossible, as the frills, ruffles or scallops become too tight and a small brush is needed to tease them out. Great care is needed at this stage, so as not to damage the inner segments and lose your hold on the blue ribbon or medal in UK. When teased out, try to push them backwards with a large brush, you will be surprised at what a difference you can make to your doubles.

As with all new technics it is best to practice ahead of time with unwanted flowers. I don't want the whole of the my blood, it Hamilton who s h o w i n g the first place, him!

~Ian Tyler,
Wigan,

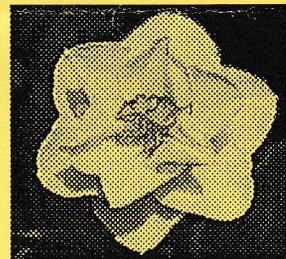


Photo by Tom Sletner, SWODS

IDS after was Max got me doubles in so blame

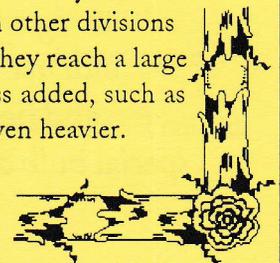
Standish,
England

Doubles will often blast, meaning the bud just turns to mush before it can open. Some cultivars will blast on a regular basis pretty much no matter what the conditions are.

I finally discarded 'Twink' for this reason. And that bending-over problem is true for many double cultivars because of a weak spot in the neck that is inherited. Good breeders of double daffodils have worked hard on avoiding perpetuating this trait and are not likely to introduce a cultivar today that has this fault. I think doubles more than other divisions are likely to bend at the neck if they reach a large size and then have another stress added, such as rainfall, that makes the bloom even heavier.

So pick them before they bend.

~Bill Lee, Batavia, OH



Coffee Cup Daffodils

~excerpted from Florida Daffodil Society
Newsletter

John Van Beck, Editor



N. Tazetta originates from the Italian term *tazza* for the "little cups" of the blossoms which are centered like espresso mugs in the saucers formed by the surrounding petals.

Tazettas are also known as *polyanthus narcissi*, meaning "many flowered narcissus", for their multiple clusters of scented blossoms. An example would be the fragrant Paperwhites found cheerfully rooted and blooming in bowls of pebbles during the bleakest months of the year.

Look for these Division 8 daffodils at the Indiana Show and extend your daffodil knowledge!



Histoplasmosis

~by Suzy Wert

Indiana gardeners are considered a fairly high risk group for getting the disease histoplasmosis which primarily affects the lungs. *Histoplasma capsulatum* are spores found in soils and originate from the droppings of bats and birds. Spores are more highly concentrated in fertile regions near large rivers which provided food and shelter for birds and bats. The majority of people afflicted with histoplasmosis are asymptomatic (have no symptoms) and only are diagnosed after a chest x-ray detects the distinct markings of *Histoplasma capsulatum* infection.

The problem arises when soil is dug or disturbed and the previously covered spores become airborne and are inhaled. Right now there are no affordable soil tests, not because the tests are so expensive, but because one

part of a garden may be spore-free, yet another just centimeters away, could be infected. For now, gardeners are advised to not dig beneath birdfeeders or near birdbaths and to be alert to bird "resting" spots in their gardens.

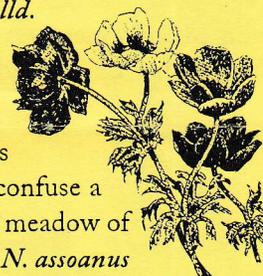
Buttercups

~ by Marilyn Howe, Culver City, California

When asked why some areas of the country (Arkansas, for example) call Daffodils "Buttercups", Marilyn Howe gave us this combination French-Latin lesson.

The common name "Buttercup" is more commonly applied to the family Ranunculaceae. Two species *Ranunculus montanus* Willd.

(Mountain Buttercup) and *Ranunculus carinthiacus* Hoppe. are quite common to the Pyrenees and the Alps. It is easy for the untrained eye to confuse a meadow of *Ranunculus* with a meadow of *N. jonquilla* or more probably *N. assoanus* if the early settlers along the Mississippi were from the French Pyrenees.



The French use the term *Jonquille* to describe the color Pale Yellow. "*Jonquilla*" and "*Jonquille*" can easily be confused to the untrained ear. Linnaeus named *Jonquilla*, from the Latin word *juncus*, meaning "rush-like leaves". The French called the *pseudonarcissus* "Jeannette Jaune". "Jeannette" in French is a term used to describe a gold cross hung around a neck of a peasant. If you look at *pseudonarcissus* from the side it will form a cross.



"Jaune" means Yellow.

Congratulations!
You've just learned French,
Latin,
Greek and Italian!

Doobie-Doobie Dues

If you do not have a '98' after your name on the address label, your \$5.00 dues are overdue and this is your last *Ledger*. Dues are payable by January, and while we may print your name in the 1998 Directory, you are not entitled to a directory unless you are current. If you will not be able to attend the March meeting, just send a check to:

Helen MacPherson
5255 Channing Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46226

New members and existing members current with their dues as of the Annual Daffodil Show, in April, are considered eligible for the Club Challenge Bulb which is distributed in October.

Per by-laws: Article IV, Section 4., "Dues for those who become members after the regular meeting in August shall be credited to the following year."



Grapevine

We are pleased to state that our new Treasurer, Helen MacPherson, is doing well after her episode with broken bones.

Dr. Marcella Modisett tells us her bi-pass surgery is considered successful and she is back to gardening.

Judy Vaught is still on the upswing and managed to get the last of her bulbs planted.

Shirley and Russell Bruno are now Master Judges of the American Iris Society, a honor bestowed on them at the last National AIS Meeting. They are active in the Iris Club at McCenna, Florida — we think they like to travel. They are concerned that 3 ½ acres may not be enough for their daffodils, iris etc. Moss will never grown under their feet!



IDS Miscellany

~ by Joe Hamm

Bulbs Needed in 1998

At the November IDS Board meeting, all requests for IDS help in the form of bulbs and programs were discussed and the following will be honored:

Public School Planting Projects

Requests from two schools this year, P. S. 64 (IPS) and Wheeler Elementary, (Speedway), for collections representing all 12 daffodil divisions. A total of 120 bulbs is about what is needed, considering a minimum of 3 bulbs each of all the color combinations that exist in daffodils. The color code is critical, names are not. As one teacher stated, "The daffodil's life cycle is compatible with the school-year calendar. The daffodil is a plant that gives students a flower with parts suitable for examination."

Indianapolis Museum of Art

The Indianapolis Museum of Art, Greenhouse Area wants bulbs for block-planting in minimum quantities of 10-12 per cultivar. They will make commercial labels for all varieties which will be planted behind the greenhouse and down the hill to the North. Since the IMA is a large customer of Daffodil Mart, they are aware that what they are getting from us indeed is rare and wondrous. Anything that is not in common commerce will please them, but Division 5 and Division 6 are favorites with the staff. Suzy Wert is co-ordinating this project again this year.

Plan Ahead

If you have a pet project or know of a worthy cause, the IDS Board meets every November to plan our community projects. Please let us know!

Slated Officers for 1998

President — Joe Hamm
Vice-President — Phyllis Vonnegut
Rec. Secretary — Jeanne Clarke
Corr. Secretary — Mary Higgs
Treasurer — Helen MacPherson

Other Goodies

Doug Clarke made a presentation to the Master Gardener's Club on February 9th which impressed at least three Master Gardeners there to become IDS members* (see New IDS Members, this page) Doug's talk created interest from others who did not join at the time, but as we gardeners say, the seeds were sown!. There was more interest in the planting, fertilizing and general care of daffodils, than in the color, etc.

Joe Hamm will report on a recent progress meeting held at the Indianapolis Zoo concerning the White River Gardens project at our March Meeting.

This is of interest to IDS members as we plan to switch our meetings and show to the White River Community Center. (Name of building subject to change)

Hospitality

We are going to try to operate in this year without a Hospitality Chair. Thanks to Pat Moulin for the great job she's done in the past few years.

Please contact Joe Hamm (293-3381) and advise him if you can bring some refreshments for one of the meetings: March, August, or October. If each member would please call Joe and volunteer to bring something to eat to just one meeting, there will be no hardship involved.

Also, be thinking of a good place to hold our June Meeting. In the past, it has been a Pitch-in Picnic.

New IDS Members

Please offer a warm welcome to the following new IDS members when you meet them at the March meeting!

James C. Shields
Noblesville

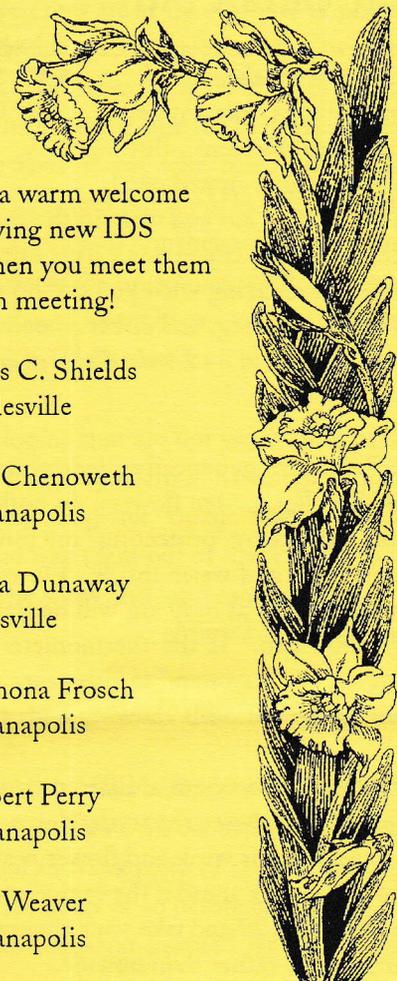
Sara Chenoweth
Indianapolis

Hilda Dunaway
Louisville

*Ramona Frosch
Indianapolis

*Robert Perry
Indianapolis

*Jim Weaver
Indianapolis

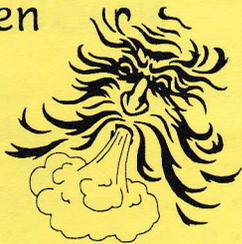


Fireplace Ashes

Have you heard that cooled burned wood ashes are good for your daffodils? Now you have a great place to put your ashes when you clean the fireplace. Best applied in late winter, sometime after the holidays until early spring when the daffodil foliage is about five inches high.

Do you suppose that's why they call it *potash*?

What to do When it Gets Cold



I don't worry about cold temperatures unless it gets down into the teens. But WIND equals ripped petals!

In that case, I cut and store in the fridge after hardening off. If you don't have extra refrigerator space, it's amazing what you can do with a bag of ice, a large plastic bag, and either a cooler or a styrofoam box.
~ Linda Wallace, Cincinnati, Ohio

Daffodils are genetically predisposed to handle cold weather. For garden flowers, do nothing. I always do more damage by "protecting" my flowers than if I had stayed nice and warm inside. Flowers that look dead on the ground at 6:00 am will be standing straight up by 10:00 a.m. If the thermometer drops below 17 degrees, say "sayonara" to this year's open flowers and wait for the daffodils showing buds to bloom.

Flowers for show are a different story. A frost is no problem, but there are varying degrees of freezing that can make stems weak and flower tissues thin.

My advice: pick ahead if the temperature is expected to be lower than 29 and take your chances in the fridge or garage floor rather than outside.

~ Suzy Wert, Indianapolis, IN

Hardening Off

~by Steve Vinisky, Sherwood, OR

Blooms which have been properly hardened off will last longer and be more amenable to grooming for the show bench. I generally take a deep container filled with warm water in 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.

Small cups (Div. 3) and the Poets (Div. 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, 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. —

Some Southern Show Dates

Who knows what is going to happen with the weather and El Niño. Here are some other shows south of here in case you have lots of bloom too soon!

March 21-22 - Atlanta, Georgia; the Georgia Daffodil Society and the Federated Garden Clubs of the Garden Center of Greater Atlanta at Atlanta Botanical Garden. Contact Tom Roche, 179 Vidal Blvd., Decatur GA 30030, (404) 377-6651.

March 28-29 - Knoxville, Tennessee; East Tennessee Daffodil Society at University of Tennessee Ag Engineering Building, Room 166. Contact Lynn Ladd, 1701 Westcliff Drive, Maryville, Tennessee 37803-6301, (423) 984-6688.

April 4 - Midwest Regional Show - Louisville, Kentucky; hosted by the Kentucky Daffodil Society at Bashford Manor Mall, 3600 Bardstown Road. Contact Pat Evans, 11103 Rothburg Court, Louisville KY 40243, (502) 897-2209.

April 15-16 - Scottsburg, Indiana; Indiana Daffodil Growers South at Leota Barn. Contact Helen Trueblood, 3035 Bloomington Trail Road, Scottsburg IN 47170, (812) 752-2998.

April 18-19 - Dayton, Ohio; Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society at Cox Arboretum. Contact Harold McConnell, 4075 Danern Drive, Dayton OH 45430, (937) 426-9557.

Tips from the ADS Pros

Keeping Flowers Fresh

Almost all daffodils will improve if left to develop for several days. Homestead 2W-W and River Queen 2W-W take at least five days after blooming to reach perfection. Both open with a yellow cup and narrow petals. Four or five days later the cup will be white and the petals will have broadened. The whole flower will be much larger and smoother. This applies to almost all W-W, W-Y, W-P, and Y-Y color combinations. These are not burned by the sun.

Most of the red and rimmed cupped will burn or dry out by sun and wind so you may have to pick early but they, too, will be better if left longer to develop. If a flower has good substance it should not be damaged by a gentle rain shower but some spring rains can contain sleet or hail so we have to worry about that.

~Bill Pannill

Cut each bloom when it is ready and put in warm water for an hour or so to harden it. Just collect and keep the blooms in the refrigerator (in water) until show time. Keep a soaked towel in the fridge if it's frost-free, and mist the walls of the refrigerator frequently to keep the humidity up. You can keep the blooms 10 days easily. You may want to recut the stems after a few days.

~Bob Spotts

Make a mini greenhouse if you don't want to depend on remembering to mist a frost-free fridge. Here's how: pick your blooms, clean and primp them, put the daffs in bucket of clean water. Take 3 or 4 sticks taller than your tallest bloom and duct tape them to the bucket. Set the daffs in it. Put everything in a trash bag. Spritz inside of bag with water. Tie closed

~ Linda Lee Wallace

Dry storage is keeping daffodils (after cutting them when they are at their prime) in plastic bags without water, sealed with a twistem and laying them on your refrigerator shelf. Don't spray them with water; don't spray inside the bag with water. The night before your show, take them out of the fridge, re-cut the stems and put them in water. Some of them may be a bit wilted, but they will recover just fine. I have kept daffodils up to two weeks this way without difficulty. I used bread bags--the size a 20 oz. loaf of bread comes in--and put 6 or 8 blooms in each bag.

If you pick blooms that are not yet at their peak, put them in water and keep them in a cool, dark place (basement is good) and let them develop. Or refrigerate them, and take them out of the fridge two or three days before the show and let them develop.

~Mary Lou Gripshover

Cut the poets in loose bud before the sun can burn their fragile cups. Allow the cut stems to stand in water in a cool and dark place (I put the vases on the garage floor) for a day or so before arranging. No direct sun and cool temperatures will let these loose buds develop into highly colored, perfect flowers. You may be surprised bloom will expand fully, and continue to grow.

If you haven't poets closely, you are in for a treat. The colors shaped cup are of fantastic. Deep "eyes", glistening golds with blood- WOW! A truly subtle and sophisticated cut flower which needs to be observed at close quarters. Almost all have a lovely fragrance which adds to the enjoyment.

~ Steve Vinisky



On long distance travel...

When I cannot drive to a daffodil show, I have to pack daffodils dry. The flowers should be picked at least a day before packing to allow some time for conditioning before packing. I recut the stems, put them in bottles of water, and let them stand in a refrigerator overnight. I tape each stem to some surface in the box to keep them from moving around. The box then goes into the refrigerator until I'm ready to leave for the airport. Upon arrival at the show site, I cut the stems again and put the daffodils back in water.

Daffodils that were new and fresh not more than four or five days prior to packing should revive upon standing in water for a couple hours. My flowers will have been out of water for about one day. I pack my daffodils very securely to allow the box to be checked as luggage.

If I can drive to the show, I will transport the daffodils standing in bottles of water. You need to space the daffodils out and wedge the stems against the bottle openings to keep them from moving around too much. The biggest danger is having the flowers hit and bruise each other. The next biggest problem is all the pollen that is shaken off and falls into the cups. The virtue of wet packing is that you can begin staging as soon as you arrive; you don't have to untape daffodils and wait to see which ones revive. Be careful to keep drafts from air conditioning off the flowers as that will dehydrate them. If the weather is not hot, don't turn on the air conditioning. I have a van so I have plenty of space to put bottles on the floor in the back. The back windows are tinted so there is not excessive sun shining on the flowers. The back seat of a car may have too much sun and I don't know how hot a trunk could get.

~Kirby Fong, Livermore, CA

Use white play sand to mark the bulbs you want to dig. It will still be white when it's time to dig.

'April Tears' and 'Hawera'

~by Steve Vinisky, Sherwood Oregon

Very often, the "trade" will show a picture on the bulb box of **April Tears** and substitute **Hawera** as it is such a prolific doer and increaser. This results in many mistaken entries in shows around the country.

Both flowers are from crosses of *N. jonquilla* as a seed parent and a form of *N. triandrus* as a pollen parent. **April Tears** has *N. triandrus concolor* as its pollen parent and **Hawera's** pollen parent was *N. triandrus var. triandrus*.

April Tears is more delicate than Hawera. When in bloom, the height of the bloom scape is always miniature and the individual florets are very well formed; the perianth is wider, rounder and in perfect proportion.

The height of **Hawera** reaches 14 or so inches, much too tall for a miniature. The perianth segments are narrow and have a slight twist to them. In my opinion, it has a much less desirable show form although if you grow a lot of it, some florets can be fine early on in the flowering sequence.

Seen side by side on the show bench or in bloom in the garden, the differences between the two are un-mistakable. It does not take a "miniature expert" to tell them apart. Every ADS Judge will clearly know the difference (and those differences are clearly taught in every Judging course on Miniatures) as this mis-naming by the trade shows up every year in just about every show.

To obtain the true miniature, 'April Tears', I would order from either Grant Mitsch or Nancy Wilson. Their stocks are 100% accurate and correct.

Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodils, P.O. Box 218
Hubbard, OR 97032

Nancy R. Wilson Miniature and Species
6525 Briceland-Thorn Rd., Garberville CA 95542

While in Bloom

~by Chriss Rainey, Reston, VA

Bulbs are a lot easier to identify while they're still in bloom. Write the name of the cultivar on the foliage with a ball point pen while the cultivar is in bloom and mark the site in the bed with a colored flag on a long wire. Don't have colored flags in long wires? Just look for a family that just got an invisible fence for their dog; they'll have tons of flags!

Dig six weeks after the bloom, before the foliage becomes very weak, and dig very gently so the foliage doesn't separate from the bulb as it comes out of the ground. Cut off the leaves, bag and tag them. Be sure they get adequate ventilation by using mesh bags.

4 Steps to Getting Organized

Find a spiral notebook for your dig list and make a list of what you want to dig while the flowers are in bloom.

Use verbal directions, handwritten maps and visuals like bright, tall flags or white play sand to help you remember.

Be sure to note pests, diseases, virus and get rid of anything you think may be diseased or virused.

Next look for clumps of bulbs with

1. Poor bloom
2. Mismarked or unmarked foliage
3. Rogue bulbs coming up in the wrong place(s)

If you aren't *positive* of the name, at least use the color-code in your identification. Other clues would be bloom season (Early, Mid or Late) or height (Short, Med, Tall).

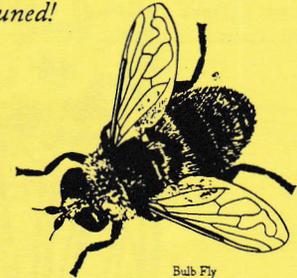
All of these should be dug and dispersed to worthy recipients. And don't forget the IDS Bulb Sales & Bulb Exchanges are certainly worthy recipients!

4. As you walk around, make a list of open spaces in

your beds. Make more lists when you dig and spaces open up. These can then be filled in fall when you're desperate to find spaces for all the bulbs you got!

Next issue: How to dig, mark, bag and tag daffodils for the sale and exchange. Stay tuned!

Bulb Fly



Bulb Fly

The most important insect pest of the garden daffodil in the U.S. is the Large Narcissus Bulb Fly. Four to six weeks after mid-flowering season, a characteristic whining hum may attract attention to the zig-zag flight of the adult fly who lays eggs that hatch into larvae which make their way into the bulb for an eating fest.

There are no chemicals recommended in the fight against this pillager; any cure being worse than the affliction according to Clemson University's Dr. William B. Miller

Pesticides must be used in accordance with the restrictions on the label. The label will state which pests have been approved for control by the pesticide and if the pest isn't listed, it can't legally be used—although some states may not require that the pest be listed on the label. The crop, site (greenhouse or outdoors), or animal must also be listed on the label of the container; any other use is illegal.

Both Cygon and Dursban are highly toxic to both birds and bees. Toxicity to humans is measured in "LD-50", the Lethal Dosage that kills 50% of test animals. The lower the LD-50 number, the smaller the dosage required to be fatal. A few examples:

Dursban: 82-276

Cygon: 215-380

Captan: 9,000-15,000

Sucrose or table sugar: 29,700

Looks like you can eat all the chocolate chip cookies you want, but Dursban and Cygon are no-nos for the environmentally green gardener.

Next Meeting-

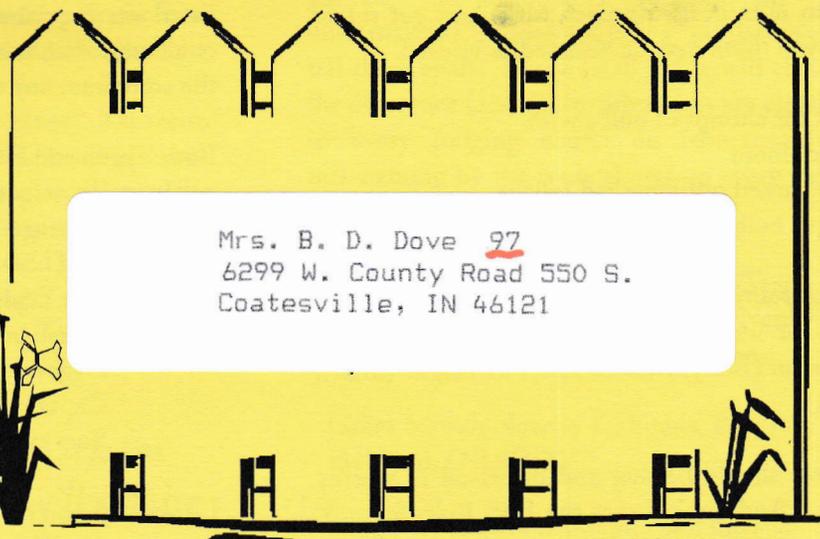
March 24 1:00 p.m. Nora Library Meeting Room
8625 Guilford Avenue, Indianapolis, IN



- Show Schedules Handed Out
- El Niño Questions answered
- Mitsch Novelty Daffodils on display from Oregon
- World wide catalogs on display



Suzy Wert
7350 N. Illinois Street
Indianapolis, IN 46260



Mrs. B. D. Dove 97
6299 W. County Road 550 S.
Coatesville, IN 46121