The Gold Medal of the American Daffodil Society is given to someone who has done pre-eminent work in the advancement of the daffodil.

Our recipient this year grew up in a daffodil family, so came by his love of daffodils naturally. A search of the records show that he first registered one of his hybrids in 1991. In the fifteen years since, he has registered 216 daffodils, in all divisions except 8 and 10. His high quality flowers are appearing with greater frequency on the show bench. He hasn’t neglected the market requirements for daffodils either. He has tried for earlier flowers in Divisions 1-3 of different colors, and double flowers with long stiff stems and buds that open well. He says, “There is nothing good about a double that just bends over and rubs its face in the dirt.”

While he is a hybridizer offering his newest creations for sale, his most valuable contribution to the daffodil world may be his extensive listing of flowers from other raisers. Read his catalog and you will find what may be the longest list of historic daffodils available anywhere. He also grows a large selection of miniature daffodils as well as many of the ADS Wister and Pannill Award winners. In essence, his catalog offers something for all daffodil tastes, be they his own latest novelties, the best from other hybridizers, or the old favorites.

He stages trade stands at many of the U.K. shows. Staging these stands is a lot of work, but they show the great diversity in daffodils and add greatly to the shows. He shares his knowledge with daffodil groups, is a member of the RHS Daffodil and Tulip Committee, and was a speaker at the ADS convention in Baltimore in 1996.

For all these reasons, the ADS is proud to award the Gold Medal in 2006 to Ron Scamp of Cornwall, England. ❀