MINIATURE DAFFODIL CULTIVARS

A Guide to Identification Illustrated in Color

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The American Daffodil Society, Inc. 4126 Winfield Road, Columbus, Ohio 43220

ADS MINIATURES COMMITTEE

The American Daffodil Society approved the first list of miniature daffodils in 1963 and in the same year, created the Miniatures Committee. The Committee was authorized to "establish rules under which the Approved List of Miniatures may be revised, and put such revisions into effect." The original list was the result of symposia on miniatures which were published in *The Daffodil Journal* from 1956 through 1965.

Over its 39-year history, the Committee has revisited the issue of how to define a miniature—a list versus a measurement limit—on several occasions, and every time has voted overwhelmingly in favor of a list. There is no escaping the fact that the miniature category encompasses **all** divisions with their very varied forms, and that it is not possible to apply a single uniform measurement that would work with every division. In addition, miniatures are the only category of daffodils to recognize and require the quality of *grace* in a flower, an attribute impossible to quantify by a measurement.

The purpose of the Approved List of Miniature Cultivars is to provide a working list for exhibitors, judges and gardeners who want to grow small flowers. It is **not** a list of every small flower ever registered. The very old cultivars which have just disappeared, and even some new ones whose entire stock has been lost, have been removed as no longer in cultivation. The Committee encourages all hybridizers to resist the temptation to name a seedling on first bloom, and to delay registration of their new seedlings until there is enough stock to reasonably suppose they will survive.

The present committee is made up of experienced growers of miniatures from nearly all growing regions of the country. Every year, the chairman sends members a ballot containing the names of all the possible **registered** cultivars that have a reasonable chance of approval in that year (meaning that they have been in circulation long enough to stand a good chance of garnering the required number of votes.) Commercial availability is not required. Five affirmative votes are needed for approval, except when a majority of negative votes is received, then the cultivar is not approved. Those not approved in a given year are carried over for at least two more years, and are not dropped unless there is good reason. If a cultivar has received a majority of **no** votes more than twice, or if it has been in general commerce more than five years and has not been approved, then it is no longer retained in the pending for approval files. Members may propose additions or deletions at any time, which will be considered by the Committee on the next ballot.

Thanks are due to several members of the Miniatures Committee, most particularly Mary Lou Gripshover. In addition to providing excellent photographs and helping to select most of the rest, she has helped me in many other ways. Kirby Fong's many fine photographs add greatly to the usefulness of the book. Special thanks for photographs are also due to Hubert Bourne, Denis Paterson of New Zealand, and to the estates of two sadly missed members, James S. Wells and Tommy Dunn. The text was subjected to the scrutiny of Kathy Andersen, Mary Lou Gripshover, Naomi Liggett and Nancy Wilson. They have provided additional valuable information. I hope this little book can adequately serve the purpose for which it was intended.

Delia Bankhead, Chairman ADS Miniatures Committee

FOREWORD

The purpose of this book is to serve as an aid in the identification of miniature daffodil cultivars by providing both descriptions and photographs of the most often seen ones, with special focus on those that are easily confused with each other. It does not attempt to be a complete pictorial guide. At present there are no approved miniatures in Divisions 9 and 11. For information on species daffodils, Division 13, please refer to John Blanchard's excellent book, *Narcissus: A Guide to Wild Daffodils* (Alpine Garden Society, 1990).

Keep in mind that many of the older daffodils were registered a very long time ago, and that a number of those attributed to the late Alec Gray were registered by other people. Some of the Gray cultivars have no recorded parentage, which might have afforded an educated guess as to the characteristics a certain flower might possess. The most intractable problems with correct identification occur with cultivars that were registered by a person other than the hybridizer. In some cases, these registrants may have unwittingly registered a flower that they *believed* was an unregistered seedling, but which had in fact been previously registered by the hybridizer, or even a third party. Also, these bulbs have been handled by many vendors over the years. All these circumstances make it quite probable that some of the stock currently being sold under a certain name may not be the same as that which was originally introduced. I have puzzled over the different clones of 'Rikki' and others for a long time, and have come to the conclusion that the only thing we can do, since positive identification by the hybridizer is no longer possible, is to accept what is most widely grown as a certain cultivar as correct.

There is also the real probability that Alec Gray could have inadvertently sent out more groups of mixed seedlings under the same name than those we know about at this time. This was certainly the case with 'Xit'. Three other clones, which were later registered as 'Segovia', 'Yellow Xit' and 'Exit', were all discovered in stocks originally sold as "Xit'. The different clones sold as 'Rikki' may be another such group.

Fortunately, hybridizers and commercial growers are generally much more careful about correct labeling of their stocks these days, and it is hoped that some of the problems of the past can be avoided with the newer cultivars. A few of the old identification questions may never be completely resolved, but perhaps answers to some of them can be found here.

The photographs were selected to illustrate the most **typical** images of the cultivars described. However, the reader should be aware that even vegetatively propagated cultivars can vary in color, form and size, especially given the wide range of growing conditions in the United States. Every effort was made to reproduce colors accurately, but it was necessary to use the work of several photographers in order to illustrate so many cultivars. As they used different film and lighting, it was simply not possible to achieve exactly accurate color on every photograph.

The inclusion of some information on ancestry is intended to demonstrate that familiarity with a cultivar's parents can be a useful aid in accurate identification. A few descriptions are provided where no photograph was available. The revised 1998 RHS Classification, a glossary and a brief guide to growing miniatures are included for the reader's convenience.

For readability, the full title of the ADS Approved List of Miniature Cultivars is shortened to Miniature List, and the word petals is generally used in place of perianth segments in the text. Color codes are not used in the text except where there are different color codes within a group or where there is no illustration.

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D. Bankhead

l. to r.: 'Bagatelle', 'Charles Warren', 'Little Gem', 'Wee Bee', all 1Y-Y



l. to r.: 'Bagatelle' 1Y-Y, 'Tanagra' 1Y-Y, 'Little Gem' 1Y-Y, *N. minor* 13Y-Y, 'Charles Warren' 1Y-Y



'Small Talk' 1Y-Y



'Wyandot' 1Y-Y



'Smidgen' 1Y-Y



'Gambas' 1Y-Y

DIVISION 1 - TRUMPET CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

Some of the yellow trumpets are so alike as to be indistinguishable. The first photograph shows typical examples from four lots of bulbs sent from Holland in 1998 as representing the stocks that are presently sold under the names 'Bagatelle', 'Charles Warren', 'Little Gem' and 'Wee Bee'. The 25 bulbs of each had nearly identical flowers and all bloomed at the same time. Color on all four was the same golden yellow throughout. The same slight variations in trumpet shape and flare at the end could be found within each group of flowers. The perianths all tended to hood, and to twist out of plane in the same manner as though there wasn't room for them to lie in a flat plane at the base. The DNA Study results on this group seem to indicate more variation within different samples of the same cultivar than there is between the cultivars. Therefore it is hard to avoid the conclusion that all four "cultivars" are really just the same, at least in the stocks the Dutch are presently selling under these names. The group of five trumpets as grown on the West Coast also shows the same characteristics. What we see today as 'Tanagra' is almost identical with the four in the first photograph, and though it reportedly blooms later, it does not in my garden in Western North Carolina.

'Small Talk' is a deeper gold than any of these others and has a narrower, more starry, often pinwheely perianth. It is the last of the yellow trumpets to bloom and frequently blooms with a deformed petal.

'Wyandot' is a better formed and more consistent flower than its parent, 'Small Talk'. It also blooms later and is the same deep gold.

Another child of 'Small Talk' is the new 'Smidgen', which also shows much better form than its parent. It is very vigorous and the trumpet occasionally has a hint of orange.

'Gambas' is a small flower and plant with a very wide, flaring trumpet and narrow petals. (Another that is identical to it is 'Likely Lad' 1Y-Y, [not pictured] which was never registered, and which is very likely the same as 'Gambas'.)

A new cultivar, 'Roundita' 1Y-Y, (not pictured) is a clear yellow with a smooth, flat, rounded perianth and a very neat, tailored trumpet that is a little darker at the end.

'Gipsy Queen' 1YYW-WWY



'Sir Echo' 1Y-W



l. to r.: 'Lilliput' 1W-Y, 'Little Beauty' 1W-Y



'Arrival' 1W-Y



'Rupert' 1W-Y



'Tosca' 1W-Y

DIVISION 1 - TRUMPET CULTIVARS

Reverse Bicolors

'Gipsy Queen' is a small flower with a pointed starry perianth, and variable color when reversing. The white halo at the base of the perianth can sometimes be quite wide, which can make the normally fairly strong yellow of the perianth seem a little pale. The trumpet is slender with a frill at the end

True stock of 'Sir Echo' (pictured here just for the record) may not exist anywhere today. It is shown only because there is another clone in circulation under this name. That one is a large yellowish-white flower with much narrower perianth segments and a narrow but flaring trumpet that hardly changes color. It probably should be discarded.

Bicolor Trumpets

'Lilliput' and 'Little Beauty' are two very old Gerritsen registrations that have been sold for so long that the stock is very likely mixed. Several images labeled with these names were examined against the descriptions in the registrations and old Gerritsen catalogs. Both these state that 'Lilliput' "resembles 'Little Beauty' but with a paler corona." They are so similar that only the difference in trumpet color distinguishes them. Both have broad, bluntly pointed perianths of milk white and the trumpets have an even roll. There is another bicolor clone that at one time circulated as 'Little Beauty', but it is not known what it is. That one has very narrow pointed and twisted petals of brilliant white, and a longer deep yellow trumpet that has only a suggestion of a roll.

'Arrival' is smaller than these, with a rather transparent perianth which is usually a little ribby. It has more consistent form and blooms later than either of the other two.

Alec Gray's 'Rupert' and 'Tosca' have bluntly pointed petals in contrast to the Dutch bicolors. 'Rupert' has a well overlapped, clean white perianth, and its lemon yellow trumpet is broadly based. 'Tosca' has a longer, brighter yellow trumpet that is slender at the base and expands to a ruffle at the margin. These are the last of the bicolors to bloom.

PALE CHAT CAMASONE LANDLADNEE LANDLADNEE SPORTE VIN

1. to r.: 'Alec Gray', 'Camborne', 'Candlepower', 'Sprite', all 1W-W



l. to r.: 'Alec Gray', 'Camborne', 'Candlepower', 'Sprite'



'Pledge' 1W-W



'Elka' 1W-W



'Northam' 2W-W young flowers

DIVISIONS 1 & 2 - TRUMPETS and LARGE CUPS

White perianth

The first two photographs show front and side views of the same cultivars, in the same order. 'Alec Gray' is one of the smaller ones, but has the longest trumpet relative to its perianth of any of the others. Its trumpet is slightly waisted and has a nice roll. The perianth is smooth and pointed and the petals are a little broader at the base than those of 'Candlepower'.

'Camborne' has a broad, very well overlapped perianth with pointed petals. Its trumpet is ruffled and has the most pronounced roll. It lacks the substance of the others and is sometimes rather ribby. It is a vigorous grower and increases well.

'Candlepower' is small like 'Alec Gray', and has a starry, bluntly pointed, very smooth perianth with thick substance. Its perianth is very flat and the trumpet is straight with a tight little frill at the end.

'Sprite' is very like a larger 'Alec Gray,' except that its petals are a little more bluntly pointed and its trumpet is more nearly equal to the length of the perianth segments, rather than being longer. It is very smooth and the perianth has more substance than 'Alec Gray.'

Two flowers that are remarkably similar are 'Pledge' (registered by Jefferson-Brown) and 'Northam' (formerly Jefferson-Brown 212, though not registered by him.) 'Northam', though registered 2W-W, much more closely resembles a trumpet and often measures trumpet length, so is included here for comparison. Both are at the large end of the miniature spectrum, with pointed, pinwheely perianths and broad expanding trumpets. They are not quite so white as the first group.

'Elka' is the last of the white trumpets to bloom, so is more likely to be seen in shows than the others in this group of early bloomers. It is similar in size to 'Alec Gray' and 'Candlepower', but is not so white and has a narrower, more pointed perianth and much thinner substance. It has a slender, evenly fluted trumpet that expands gently at the end.

Note on color of **all** the white trumpets: they generally open with a yellow trumpet which clears to white in a day or two. This occurs frequently when the flowers open in cold weather, which is often the case when these very early flowers bloom. One particularly cold year, 'Candlepower' opened solid yellow and took over a week to become white.

'Mustardseed' 2Y-Y



'Niade' 2Y-Y



'Picoblanco' 2W-W

DIVISION 2 - LARGE CUP CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

'Mustardseed' is one of the larger miniatures, but one that blooms on a short stem. It has ovate petals which incurve. The perianth is hooded and is a good bit paler than the cup, which can appear rimmed in some seasons.

'Rosaline Murphy' is a tiny flower which blooms on a short stem. It is slow to increase and is rarely seen in shows. It is very pale yellow throughout, really a deep cream, with a 3/4 length cup.

'Niade' and 'Yimkin' are two bright yellow New Zealand flowers that are very similar. Both have starry perianths and the cup of 'Yimkin' expands a little more than that of 'Niade.' They are short plants which bloom in midseason.

White perianth

'Picoblanco' 2W-W is the whitest of all miniature cultivars. Though the cup sometimes opens cream, it quickly clears to pure white. It has a pointed perianth overlapped at the base, and a scallopped, 3/4 length cup with a dark sage green eye. It clearly looks like a Division 2 flower, unlike 'Northam', the only other miniature classified as 2W-W at present.



'Rosaline Murphy' 2Y-Y



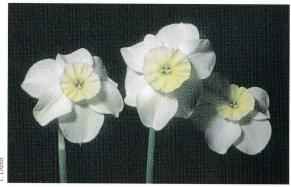
'Yimkin' 2Y-Y

l.to r.: 'Segovia' 3W-Y, 'Yellow Xit' 3W-Y, 'Sewanee' 2W-Y



'Sewanee' 2W-Y

'Segovia' 3W-Y



'Yellow Xit' 3W-Y

White perianth

Two of the most frequently confused flowers are the very similar 'Segovia' and 'Yellow Xit', both 3W-Y. The greatest difference between them is the color of the perianth. 'Segovia' is a clear, brilliant white, and 'Yellow Xit' has a greenish tinge to its perianth, but this is not always easy to see unless specimens of both are present, so close examination in good light may be necessary. Another minor distinction is that on opening, the cup of 'Segovia' is a slightly brighter yellow, but when mature, both cups have faded to the same pale yellow. Both have very similar form and tend to reflex somewhat as they age.

'Sewanee' 2W-Y is similar to these two, but its cup is distinctly Division 2 in length, as shown. Its perianth is a brilliant white like 'Segovia' and the cup retains its clear yellow as it ages. The petals tend to incurve consistently. (It is not always proportionately larger, as shown here. As a rule, all three cultivars are approximately the same size - at the large end of the miniature spectrum.) All are tall flowers, and fairly late.

l. to r.: 'Exit' 3W-W, 'Xit' 3W-W



l. to r.: 'Exit,' 'Xit'



'Paula Cottell' 3W-GWW a young specimen



'Three of Diamonds' 3W-GWO

DIVISION 3 - SMALL CUP CULTIVARS

White perianth

'Xit' was for many years the only miniature 3W-W, but recently another clone that was sufficiently distinct was discovered in a stock of 'Xit' and registered as 'Exit' 3W-W. 'Xit' is very slightly larger, much whiter and has a flat, neatly pleated cup. 'Exit' has a grayish green cast to the entire flower (similar to the perianth of 'Yellow Xit') and a shallow bowl shaped cup whose margins are usually entire. Both can reflex with age, and sometimes become gappy, so for show, it is advisable to pick them when young.

'Paula Cottell' 3W-GWW opens with a very prominent green eye and a good bit of yellow in the cup but when mature, it is true to its color code. It is a tall, round flower with a flat, overlapping perianth and a somewhat flaring shallow bowl cup. It is one of the latest miniatures to bloom.

'Three of Diamonds' 3W-GWO is a tall flower with a very round, diamond-dusted white perianth that reflexes slightly. It has a shallow bowl shaped cup with a deep orange, almost red, rim. It is also a late bloomer.

'Eystettensis' 4Y-Y



'Flore Pleno' 4Y-Y



'Wren' 4Y-Y

DIVISION 4 - DOUBLE DAFFODILS

The few miniature doubles are quite distinct from each other. They are not often seen, as they tend to be shy bloomers. 'Eystettensis' is unique in that each of its graduated petaloids lies precisely over the larger one below it in regular layers all around the flower. Its single flower is a pale yellow, sometimes mixed with a little green (a little lighter than the photograph).

'Flore Pleno' is just like a double jonquil - tall, deep yellow, with rounded petals and typical jonquil scent. It is a less full double than the others, and generally has two or three small florets. Until now, the Miniature List used its old name, 'Jonq. Flore Pleno', so exhibitors could find it in the list. (That was its name before it was moved from species status to a cultivar.) The correct name is now 'Flore Pleno'.

'Wren' is a very full, deep yellow double with a more orderly arrangement of the petaloids than 'Kehelland', (not pictured) and a shorter stem. It is also a smaller flower. 'Kehelland' can grow rather large for a miniature. Both usually have one bloom to a stem. 'Wren' has more rounded petaloids and those of 'Kehelland' are more pointed.

(*Note:* two old doubles were recently removed from the list as too large: 'Pencrebar' and 'Rip Van Winkle'.)

T. Bourne

l to r: 'April Tears' 5Y-Y, 'Hawera' 5Y-Y, 'Fairy Chimes' 5Y-Y, 'Woodstar' 5Y-YWW, 'Mary Plumstead' 5Y-Y, 'Angel's Whisper' 5Y-Y



'Woodstar' 5Y-YWW



l. to r.: 'Hawera' 5Y-Y, 'April Tears' 5Y-Y



l.. to r.: 'Fairy Chimes' 5Y-Y, 'Hawera' 5Y-Y, 'April Tears' 5Y-Y



'Mary Plumstead' 5Y-Y

DIVISION 5 - TRIANDRUS CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

Here is a comparison of the relative differences in size, form and color of six frequently seen cultivars: 'April Tears', 'Hawera', 'Fairy Chimes', 'Woodstar' 5Y-YWW, 'Mary Plumstead' and 'Angel's Whisper'. Note that 'April Tears' and 'Woodstar' are very similar, as the cup on 'April Tears' can sometimes be a little paler than the perianth, but it never has the really sharp contrast of a completely reversed 'Woodstar'. The perianths of these two are more overlapping and a deeper yellow than the others, and both are among the latest triandrus to bloom.

More photographs illustrate the differences between two of the most often confused miniature cultivars - 'April Tears' and 'Hawera'. Note the consistently better form, deeper color and generally fewer florets on 'April Tears'. (In fact, one photograph of 'April Tears' shows it with more florets than normal - two is the most usual number.) In contrast, 'Hawera' has a paler, very informal perianth, often with twisted segments, and usually more florets. Most of the confusion between these cultivars is caused by the fact that nearly all the mass marketers who offer "April Tears," actually supply 'Hawera', because it is easier to grow and a much faster increaser.

Another photograph with the two compares them to the more pronounced (instant, beginning at the cup) reflex of 'Fairy Chimes'. 'Mary Plumstead' also shares this trait and when well grown, can have as many as ten florets. It is a little paler than 'Fairy Chimes' and has longer petals. It is about the same color as 'Hawera', but is a more formal flower.

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l. to r.: 'Angel's Whisper', 'Angel o' Music', 'Angel's Breath', all 5Y-Y



'Bow Bells' 5Y-Y



'Drop o' Gold' 5Y-Y

DIVISION 5 - TRIANDRUS CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

The three Barwick triandrus introductions are so similar to each other that the only meaningful difference is the slightly narrower cup of 'Angel's Whisper' and a few days difference in flowering time. They are more rounded flowers than the previous group (by comparison, more compact looking) and are a light yellow. All are excellent growers and have from two to six, even seven on a stem.

Two other newer triandrus hybrids are 'Bow Bells' and 'Drop o' Gold', bred by the late James S. Wells. 'Bow Bells' is one of the smallest yellow triandrus and has one to three light yellow, strongly reflexed florets on a short stem. 'Drop o' Gold' generally has one or two well formed rich yellow florets which are strongly downfacing.

'Icicle' 5W-W



'Raindrop' 5W-W



'Little Lass' 5W-W



'Laura' 5W-W, two specimens

DIVISION 5 - TRIANDRUS CULTIVARS

White perianth

Two of the rarest miniatures are 'Icicle' and 'Raindrop', both bred from a triandrus species with *N. dubius*. They are included here only for the record, in the event either ever becomes more plentiful. Both are really tiny flowers, with two to five florets, and are small plants. 'Icicle' has just a slight reflex, whereas the perianth of 'Raindrop' is more strongly reflexed. The cups of 'Icicle' are slightly shorter and wider than those of 'Raindrop'.

'Little Lass' is also a small plant, and it has a disproportionately large cup, which makes it look larger than it is. The overall size of the florets is not larger than many average to larger miniatures. It is downfacing and has narrow, strongly reflexed petals. All three of these are very white.

'Laura' is coded 5W-W, but actually opens a light yellow, then becomes a bicolor, as shown. Though it fades to near white occasionally, it more often remains W-Y throughout its life. It is larger than the three above, usually with a 90-degree pose to its one to three florets.

'Lively Lady' 5W-W (not pictured), an older Gray cultivar, has two to three rather large, very white florets on tall stems. It has bright yellow ovaries, which makes it unique among miniature daffodils.

M. L. Gripshover

'Heidi' 6Y-Y



'Minicycla' 6Y-Y



'Stella Turk' 6Y-Y



'Little Star' 6Y-Y



1. to r.: 'Minnie', Ferdie', 'Mortie' all 6Y-Y

DIVISION 6 - CYCLAMINEUS CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

These are the smallest of the yellow cyclamineus cultivars and make the shortest plants also. 'Heidi', though almost as long in profile as some of the larger ones, is so slender and so refined looking that it appears quite small. It is a copy of *N. cyclamineus* in form but is a softer yellow with delicate green veining on the petals where they join the cup. The tips of its petals usually touch at the back.

This is the true 'Minicycla', not to be confused with the grex, Glenbrook Mini-Cycla Group. (A grex is a group of mixed seedlings, as opposed to a clone, or cultivar. A grex displays much greater variability than most cultivars and therefore cannot be identified by a single name.) 'Minicycla' has a starry, gently reflexing perianth and a slender, graceful trumpet with an evenly serrated margin. It is a really tiny, delicate flower which is a light but bright greenish yellow throughout.

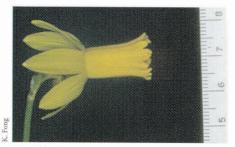
'Stella Turk' is almost as small, but is much sturdier in build, with a lovely vase shape to the trumpet. It has greater petal width than most others illustrated here, which is what accounts for that sturdy look.

'Little Star' is another sturdy little one, also with wider petals, and is strongly downfacing. It has a wide, nearly tubular trumpet that is pale at the base and darkens toward the rim.

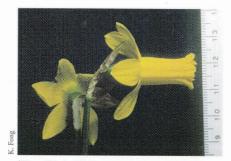
Three tiny Tasmanian cultivars, 'Minnie', 'Ferdie' and 'Mortie' are all bred from *N. rupicola* x *N. cyclamineus*, and as such can display varying degrees of reflex, as does their sibling, 'Mickey' 6Y-Y (not pictured.) It blooms later than the other three. 'Ferdie' is the best grower and is slightly larger than the others.

A Song Part of the Control of the Co

'Hummingbird' 6Y-Y



'Snook' 6Y-Y



'First Kiss' 6Y-Y



'Spider' 6Y-Y



'Norwester' 6Y-Y



'Blynken' 6Y-Y

DIVISION 6 - CYCLAMINEUS CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

This group of larger cultivars generally shows a rounder type of reflex. The perianths curve outward from the base of the trumpet before reflexing. This occurs in varying degrees even within blooms of one cultivar, but in this group the general profile of the backsweep is nearly always rounded.

The perianth of 'Hummingbird' exhibits this characterisic quite strongly, but it has almost a square-shouldered look in profile. Its trumpet is nearly cylindrical, expanding only slightly toward the mouth. This cultivar has greater petal width than most cyclamineus hybrids, and petal and trumpet length is roughly equal. It is one of the last cyclamineus cultivars to bloom.

Most of the others in this group have shorter petals in relation to their trumpets.

'Spider' has a slender, lightly fluted trumpet with an evenly serrated margin and starry petals. It is one of the first Division 6 to bloom and is a bright lemon yellow.

'Snook' is one of the best formed and has a distinct flare at the end of its trumpet.

The trumpet of 'First Kiss' is both flared and waisted, and the perianth has a gentler reflex.

The tiny petals of 'Norwester' almost touch each other at the back, and its more broadly-based trumpet is straight. It is the smallest of this group.

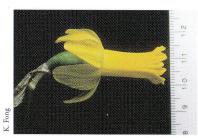
'Blynken' has a soft yellow perianth with a gentle reflex. The trumpet is a bright, sharp yellow and is a different style, expanding slightly in the middle, rather than being waisted.

K. Fong

'Bird Music' 6Y-Y



'Bird Flight' 6Y-GYY



'Little Sunshine' 6Y-Y

The land with the land to the

'Star Music' 6Y-Y



'Sunny Maiden' 6Y-GYY



'Star Song' 6Y-Y

DIVISION 6 - CYCLAMINEUS CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

This group of cyclamineus cultivars was bred by Eileen Frey, Grant Mitsch's daughter. All are similar in size to most of the other larger types and are excellent growers.

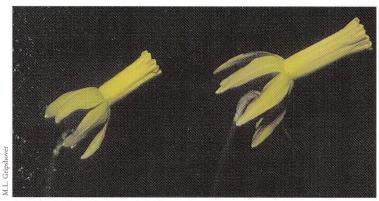
'Bird Music' and 'Star Music' are sisters, and the largest of this lot. 'Bird Music' has almost no reflex, and the reflex on 'Star Music' is quite gentle.

Both 'Bird Flight' and 'Sunny Maiden' are color coded 6Y-GYY, though green at the base of the trumpet is not always evident. They have somewhat more reflex than the first two. 'Sunny Maiden' is one of the first to bloom and is very long lasting.

'Little Sunshine' is one of the best of this group and has a deeper yellow trumpet with a nice flange. It is a little later than some others in this group.

'Star Song' blooms last of this group, with or after 'Hummingbird'. It has a broad, stocky trumpet that is a good bit longer than the petals, which are wide and well reflexed.

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l. to r.: 'Kibitzer' 6Y-Y, 'Mite' 6Y-Y



'Nanty' 6Y-Y



l. to r.: 'Zip' 6Y-Y, 'Opening Bid' 6Y-Y

DIVISION 6 - CYCLAMINEUS CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

Two that are characterized by very long, slender trumpets are 'Kibitzer' and 'Mite', which generally have the longest profiles of all the Division 6 cultivars. They have sharply swept back perianths and very narrow, pointed petals. They resemble each other closely, but 'Kibitzer' is a smaller flower than 'Mite.'

The trumpet of 'Nanty' is a little darker than the perianth, which is very informal and rather open

'Opening Bid' and 'Zip' are nearly the opposite, in that their reflex is so variable - sometimes nonexistent. They can frequently have very flat perianths and look more like trumpets, as illustrated. 'Opening Bid' with its broad perianth is one of the largest Division 6 flowers and one of the first to flower. 'Zip' is one of the later ones, blooming with 'Small Talk'. Both are an intense yellow.



'Mitzy' 6W-W



'Swagger' 6W-W young flower



'Snipe' 6W-W young flowers



'Snipe' 6W-W mature specimens

DIVISION 6 - CYCLAMINEUS CULTIVARS

White perianth

These three white cyclamineus cultivars are easy to distinguish from each other. 'Mitzy' is the largest, with broader and more bluntly pointed petals than 'Snipe'. Its trumpet also expands more at the mouth and has a little ruffle.

'Snipe' has a very starry perianth with narrower, more pointed petals and less (or a rounder) reflex than 'Mitzy,' whose petals really sweep back. Its slender trumpet is beautifully fluted and neatly serrated at the mouth.

'Swagger' is a slightly smaller flower which is usually downfacing. Its broadly based, nearly tubular trumpet is significantly longer in relation to its petals than either of the other two.

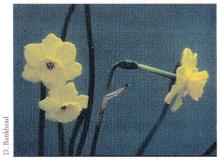
Note: all three flowers open with a pale yellow trumpet as shown, which fades to white when the flower is mature. The trumpet of 'Snipe' passes through some lovely, very subtle color changes on its way to white.

Y. Young

top, l. to r.: *N. jonquilla* 13Y-Y, 'Baby Moon' 7Y-Y, 'Baby Star' 7Y-Y bottom l. to r.: 'Chit Chat' 7Y-Y, 'Pixie's Sister' 7Y-Y



l. to r.: N. jonquilla, 'Chit Chat,' 'Pixie's Sister' 'Kidling' 7Y-Y



'Kidling' 7Y-Y



'Stocken' 7Y-Y

DIVISION 7 - JONQUIL CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

The first photograph illustrates the difficulty of distinguishing those that are merely selections of a species, and some that are very closely related. On the top row are *N. jonquilla* and two named selections made from it, 'Baby Moon' and 'Baby Star'. The two Babies were named long ago in Holland and over the years, the commercial stocks of these two have become mixed. Add to that the fact that *N. jonquilla* itself is extremely variable - in flowering time, height and form - and the result is pure confusion.

At the bottom are 'Chit Chat' and 'Pixie's Sister'. These are shorter plants, as is 'Kidling'. The cups of 'Chit Chat' and 'Kidling' are wider than 'Pixie's Sister', which can be clearly seen in the third photograph, and they flower a few days later.

Another selection from an unidentified jonquil species is 'Stocken'. It is a really tiny flower, usually with two or three very deep golden florets. The cups are rather large in relation to the perianth and have nearly straight sides.

H. Bourne

l. to r.: 'Rikki' 7W-Y, 'Bebop' 7Y-Y, 'Clare' 7Y-Y, 'Sun Disc' 7Y-Y



Left two 'Little Sentry' 7Y-Y, center one 'Bebop' 7Y-Y, right two 'Sun Disc' 7Y-Y



'Clare' 7Y-Y



'Sundial' 7Y-Y



'Kokopelli' 7Y-Y

DIVISION 7 - JONQUIL CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

One of the most intractable identification problems involves a group of flowers bred by the late Alec Gray, but which were not all named by him. All were recorded as having the same parentage, *N. rupicola* x *N. poeticus*. All are tall, late, very round flowers with round, overlapping perianths and flat cups. All open Y-Y as they are classified, **but every one fades to W-Y** at maturity. These generally have just one floret, but can have two.

One of this group is truly distinctive. 'Clare' is slightly smaller than the others and it has a very pronounced reflex, especially on the three back petals, as shown.

In this photograph, 'Rikki' is seen to be whiter, with longer, more pointed petals (see p. 45 for the main description.) The others, 'Bebop', 'Little Sentry' and 'Sun Disc' have not a hair's difference between them, at least as seen in most places in the United States.

Another photograph illustrates this clearly - There are just three "cultivars" here - two 'Little Sentry', one 'Bebop' and two 'Sun Disc'. A young 'Little Sentry' and a young 'Sun Disc' sit below mature (and faded) specimens from the same plant, while the mature 'Bebop' in the center completes the picture of total similarity.

'Sundial' shares the same parentage, but has the advantage of being easily recognizable. It flowers earlier than most of the previous group, and has more ovate petals which incurve slightly. Its cup is bowl shaped (rather than flat like its sisters) and a little darker than the perianth. It usually has one to two florets and is not as strong a grower as the rest.

Its only known child, 'Kokopelli', is a much more vigorous plant and looks like a taller, larger, stronger 'Sundial'. It is very variable in size and can have a good many florets, but specimens with two or three small florets can look small enough to be consistent with miniatures. However, because of its variable size, it has been denied approval twice by the Miniatures Committee.



'Pequenita' 7Y-Y



'Pequenita' (r) and a clone that has circulated as 'Pequenita' (l)



'Moncorvo' 7Y-Y



'Sabrosa' 7Y-Y

DIVISION 7 - JONQUIL CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

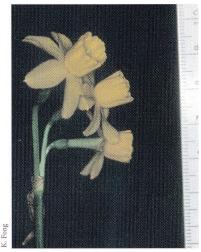
Three excellent newer cultivars bred by John Blanchard are 'Pequenita', 'Moncorvo' and 'Sabrosa'.

'Pequenita' is the largest and the best of the lot. It is the earliest Division 7 to bloom. It always has one bloom to a stem, and its perianth is wide and well overlapped, with prominent mucro tips on the three back petals. The cup is halfway between bowl and goblet shape, and the whole flower is a luminous deep sulfur yellow. In appearance, it is a perfect Division 2 flower. There is another clone which has circulated under this name. It is much larger, and not so refined, as can be seen in the second photograph.

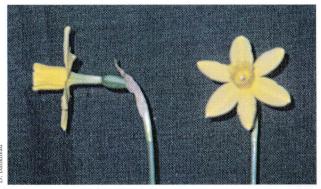
The sisters 'Moncorvo' and 'Sabrosa' are very similar to each other. They can have from one to five florets, but the average on 'Moncorvo' is generally fewer. 'Sabrosa' blooms a little earlier and its cup is smaller. It is very vigorous and increases well. 'Moncorvo' is slightly darker and its cup is a little deeper yellow than the perianth.

Biographic Control of the Control of

'Fenben' 7Y-Y



'Little Missus' 7Y-Y



'Yellow Fever' 7Y-Y



'Curlylocks' 7Y-Y



'Wideawake' 7Y-Y

DIVISION 7 - JONQUIL CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth

'Fenben' and 'Little Missus' from Tasmania are slightly different style jonquils. 'Little Missus' has a much longer cup than most jonquil cultivars The cup is flared, with wavy margins. It is a bright gold, usually with two to three florets, and has a rather starry perianth.

'Fenben' has a shorter cup, usually two to three bright gold florets with more rounded petals than 'Little Missus'. It is very vigorous and when well grown, can look a little large for a miniature.

'Yellow Fever' is another jonquil with a long cup. It has a very flat, slightly starry perianth that overlaps about one-third the length, and the tubular cup is lightly fluted. It is a very formal flower with one or two florets.

'Curlylocks' and 'Wideawake' are two quite small flowers and plants. They are charming little flowers but not very consistent, as they occasionally bloom with more than six petals. 'Curlylocks' has a wide, deeply scalloped cup and 'Wideawake' has a small shallow bowl shaped cup with lightly crimped margins. Both are usually single-headed, but can come with two, even three florets.

'Little Rusky' 7Y-GYO



'Chappie' 7Y-O



'Odile' 7Y-O



'Loyce' 7Y-YYO



'Stafford' 7Y-YYO young flower

DIVISION 7- JONQUIL CULTIVARS

Yellow perianth, orange in cup

This is a group of cultivars with orange in the cup, four bred by Roberta C. Watrous, and one bred by Alec Gray. The Watrous ones bloom on shorter stems than 'Stafford' or the other tall Gray jonquils.

The smallest, 'Little Rusky', is also the first to bloom. It opens Y-GYO and the perianth gradually fades to a pale cream. It is very vigorous and usually has from two to five florets to a stem. In cool, wet seasons, the cup can show more orange, but without adequate water, it can look rather pale.

'Odile' is a deep yellow, with a flat, soft orange cup. Its one or two florets sometimes reflex slightly if they open in very warm weather.

'Chappie' 7Y-O, and 'Loyce' 7Y-YYO, both with one, sometimes two florets, bloom at the end of the season and have very colorful cups. 'Chappie' has a solid, deep orange cup and 'Loyce' a bright yellow cup with a strong orange/red rim. The perianths of both will fade in bright sun or with age.

'Stafford', another of the tall Gray hybrids from the *N. rupicola* x *N. poeticus* cross, opens Y-YYO as coded, but soon fades to a pale cream and the rim can disappear unless shaded. When it opens, the perianth is overlapped, but as the flower grows it can sometimes develop gaps at the base of the perianth. It usually has one, sometimes two florets, which are slightly reflexed.

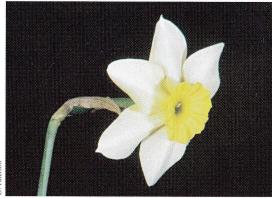
Note: All of these cultivars **must** be shaded, or picked as they open to preserve the colors.



'Demure' 7W-Y



'Flomay' 7W-WWP



'Rikki' 7W-Y (see also p. 36)

DIVISION 7 - JONQUIL CULTIVARS

White perianth

At this writing, there are just four miniature jonquils registered with a white perianth.

'Demure' 7W-Y blooms very late and is almost always single-headed. Its perianth is a clean white and its cup is a unique shade of yellow - a deep buff-yellow, almost apricot, which fades only a little as the flower ages. The cup shape is not like any of the group of confusing Gray jonquils. It is a shallow bowl with a rather wavy rim. 'Demure' is another flower that can sometimes become gappy with age.

'Flomay' 7W-WWP is the only miniature with any pink in it, though the pink fades to white at maturity. Another to pick as it opens. It has ovate milk white petals that reflex as the flower matures, a delicately fluted shallow bowl cup with a soft pink rim, and nearly always has just one floret, though it occasionally has two. It makes very small bulbs, and not every bulb blooms every year.

The tricky one among the whites is 'Rikki' 7W-Y, another tall Gray hybrid. Apparently there are at least three different "Rikkis" in circulation, one of which is pictured here and another on p. 36. While very similar to the group of Gray lookalikes described on p. 37, the best clue to correct identification would be if the perianth **opens** white. It is bred from the pure white form of *N. rupicola*, subsp. *watieri*, with *N. poeticus*, which also has a very white perianth, so a true 'Rikki' should always open with a pure white perianth.

'Wynken' 7W-W (not pictured) is a small, graceful early jonquil with one or two white florets that have slightly reflexed, rather narrow perianths and straight, fairly long cups. It is a vigorous grower and increases freely.



l. to r.: 'Minnow,' 'Pango,' 'Canaliculatus,' all 8W-Y



'Minnow' 8W-Y (two specimens—two cultivars?)



'Crevette' 8W-O



'Shillingstone' 8W-W

DIVISION 8 - TAZETTA CULTIVARS

There are only a few tazetta cultivars at this time, some recently having been moved to other divisions or removed from the list as extinct. 'Canaliculatus' is the smallest tazetta cultivar, with from three to many tiny, very fragrant florets with half-length cups of a deep orange/yellow and very white reflexed perianths. It blooms on short stems down in the foliage, which is rather tall.

'Odoratus' 8W-Y (not pictured) is very similar to 'Canaliculatus', but flowers on much taller stems. Its cups are a little more expanded and the perianths not so reflexed. The florets are about the same size as 'Canaliculatus'. It makes very large bulbs, about the size of a standard tazetta. (*Note:* both of these were removed from species status recently, but the familiar latinized names were retained to avoid confusion. Also note that they are marginally hardy, so should be planted in a sheltered spot.)

'Minnow' is a tricky one as far as color is concerned, but there is no mistaking its form, for there is nothing else like it at this time. It is a small flower with the typical shallow tazetta cup and a rounded perianth with mucro points on the outer petals. It has from two to four or five florets to a stem. The color of the perianth can be quite variable, and it is uncertain if 'Minnow' is actually a group of mixed seedlings, or if different growing conditions could cause the variation seen in the two specimens in the photo. (In my experience, this is another flower that can sometimes open yellow in cold weather and later clear to white.) Its color code was changed briefly to Y-Y by the RHS, but was later restored to W-Y. It is interesting to note that a few years ago, the mass mail order catalogs sold a cultivar they called 'Yellow Minnow' and that now they have one called 'Pacific Coast'. Both are probably sports of 'Minnow' and are color coded 8Y-Y. Whatever the color, these cultivars can benefit from a sheltered position in the garden.

'Pango' is much larger, as shown with two of the others. It is the largest and tallest of all the tazetta miniatures.

'Crevette' 8W-O, 'Shillingstone' 8W-W and 'Zeals' 8W-Y are excellent new Blanchard cultivars that are similar in style. All are tall flowers with one to three well formed florets that have smooth, overlapping perianths. All have the classic short tazetta cups, and the cultivars differ mainly in the cup color and shape. 'Crevette' has a clear, light orange cup which fades rapidly to a buff-yellow in sun, so it needs to be shaded or picked in bud to preserve the color. 'Shillingstone' is pure white throughout, and has a more expanded cup than the other two. 'Zeals' (not pictured) opens W-Y, but it too will fade, so picking as it opens is advised.



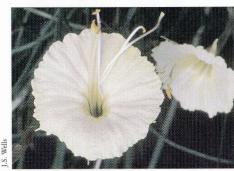
1. to r.: "Kholmes' 10W-W, 'Smarple' 10W-W, 'Spoirot' 10W-W



'Mitimoto' 10W-Y



'Fresh Season' 10Y-Y



'Julia Jane' 10Y-Y



'Jessamy' 10W-W

DIVISION 10 - BULBOCODIUM CULTIVARS

For many years, the only bulbocodium cultivars that were available were the Manchard hybrids which were bred in England over forty years ago. In the 1990s, Rod Barwick in Tasmania began introducing a series of white bulbocodiums named for fictional detectives. In the same decade, the late James S. Wells produced several very interesting and distinctive bulbocodiums, some of which may now be lost to cultivation. In 1998, responding to this increased interest, the RHS removed the bulbocodium cultivars from the (then) Miscellaneous Division 12 and created a separate division for them. Though most bloom in winter and are too early for many shows, they are becoming more popular and are appearing more often in shows.

The Barwick cultivars, 'Fyno' (not pictured), 'Kholmes', 'Orclus' (not pictured), 'Smarple' and 'Spoirot' are classified W-W, though they open cream and fade to white. They are nearly identical, except that 'Spoirot' is reputedly whiter, with more substance, and has a green eye. 'Fyno' blooms in early to midwinter and is very prolific.

Barwick's 'Mitimoto' 10W-Y is the only bicolor to date, and is a large flower that is very vigorous. It has a bright lemon yellow cup and greenish white petals and blooms in early spring.

The two Wells cultivars that are known to be in cultivation are 'Fresh Season' 10Y-Y and 'Cornish Cream' 10Y-Y (not pictured). 'Fresh Season' blooms in late winter/early spring and is a good bright yellow color. It has more substance than most and is very long lasting.

'Julia Jane' 10Y-Y, a selection from the wild, has a lovely petunioid form to its cup and is a pale yellow.

The older Blanchard cultivars are still much in evidence. They are all named for fabrics, very likely because the substance of most bulbocodiums is as thin as tissue paper. This, and the fact that the petals are only vestigial makes positive identification of nearly all bulbocodium cultivars difficult if not impossible. Very few are truly distinctive. One of the oldest, the Nylon Group 10W-W, is a grex. The whites, 'Jessamy', 'Muslin', 'Taffeta' and 'Tarlatan', open various shades of cream and fade to white. 'Poplin' and 'Tiffany' are classified as yellow, though in some photographs they look as white as the others. Perhaps these stocks have also become mixed up over the years. Most of them bloom in mid to late winter and are nice subjects for pots or a cool greenhouse where the winters are harsh. Generally, the Blanchard cultivars bloom on shorter stems than the Barwick ones, though all will become elongated when forced.

'Golden Bells' (not pictured) is a new introduction said to be a sport of *N. bulbocodium*. It looks very like the species but is even more vigorous. Each bulb produces many flowers of varying sizes which are a deep golden yellow. It blooms late for a bulbocodium.

'Cyclataz' 12Y-O



'Jumblie' 12Y-0



'Tête à Tête' 12Y-O



'Quince' 12Y-Y



top l. to r.: 'Jumblie,' 'Golden Quince,' 12Y-Y, 'Quince' bottom: single floret of 'Tête à Tête'

DIVISION 12 - OTHER DAFFODIL CULTIVARS

'Cyclataz' and children

The old cultivar, 'Cyclataz' 12 Y-O, (recently reclassified from Division 8) is a product of *N. cyclamineus* x 'Soleil d' Or', a standard 8Y-O. Because of its tazetta blood, it is only marginally hardy in much of the U.S. and often blooms too early for shows. It has three children, all much more famous than it is. According to legend, it never set seed but once, and then produced only three seeds. All three germinated and grew, and today are 'Jumblie', 'Quince' and 'Tête à Tête'. Though they are frequently confused (mainly because many mass marketers have either mislabeled their stocks or mixed the bulbs together) they should not be, because they are quite distinct.

'Jumblie' 12 Y-O has strongly reflexed petals and a longer, narrower cup than the others, more clearly showing its *N. cyclamineus* ancestry. It usually has from one to three florets to a stem, though it can have four.

'Tête à Tête' 12 Y-O is the same color as 'Jumblie', but with an entirely different form. It has a flat, well overlapped perianth and a somewhat shorter, cylindrical cup that expands slightly at the mouth. It generally has two to three florets, though it too, can have four. Single florets on this cultivar usually indicate a secondary bloom from the bulb. A single floret can look deceptively like a trumpet, as shown in the last photograph. It is the best grower of the three, and is the most widely grown miniature daffodil in the world.

'Quince' 12 Y-Y is a unique shade of yellow-hard to describe, but a bright, sharp, rather acid color not found in any other miniature. Its form is quite distinct too, looking almost as if it had some triandrus blood in it. It has broader petals than the other two, which reflex. Its more intense yellow cup balloons out slightly in the middle, and is sometimes a little constricted at the mouth in the manner of a triandrus. It blooms later than its sisters and is a little more difficult to grow.

A recent Dutch introduction that is a sport of 'Quince' is 'Golden Quince', which is a deeper yellow. Bulbs that come directly from Holland can make very large flowers the first year.

Note: All of these exhibit some degree of tenderness due to their tazetta blood, and should be planted in a sheltered spot in the garden. North of Zone 8, 'Cyclataz' would be best grown in a cold frame or greenhouse. All force very well.



'Cupid' 12Y-Y



'Little Becky' 12Y-Y



'Flyaway' 12Y-Y



'Junior Miss' 12W-Y

DIVISION 12 - OTHER DAFFODIL CULTIVARS

Multifloreted cyclamineus types

'Cupid' and 'Flyaway', both products of *N. cyclamineus* with a jonquil pollen parent, are very similar and are quite small plants. 'Flyaway' is a little better formed (it has slightly broader petals) and 'Cupid' is generally smaller, but these distinctions aren't very evident unless they can be seen together, and even then can become immaterial, given the variability of growing conditions. Both are strongly reflexed and can have from two to four tiny florets, though single florets are not unknown. They have nearly tubular trumpets. They need exceptionally good drainage to persist.

Some taller and more vigorous cultivars are also products of a multiheaded jonquil species with *N. cyclamineus*, but in the six following, the jonquil species was the seed parent, which I believe accounts for their preater vigor. All six are much earlier than the two above. 'Little Becky' and 'Little Emma' from New Zealand are multiheaded cyclamineus-type cultivars. 'Little Becky' is the smaller, with a vase shaped trumpet that is evenly lobed. It usually has one to three florets. 'Little Emma' (not pictured) can have as many as four florets. It is larger and taller and has a slightly more cylindrical trumpet that is more serrated than lobed.

'Sassy' 12Y-Y (not pictured) is another of the same type. It is similar in slze and style to 'Little Emma', and is also quite vigorous and attractive.

Flowers of this type are becoming more common, as three more new Jonquil/cyclamineus cultivars, 'Kawa Kawa', 'Pakotai' and 'Towai,' all 12Y-Y and not pictured, are likely to be added to the Miniature List in the near future. These were bred by the late Robin Brown of New Zealand, and are very like the others in this group.

'Junior Miss' 12W-Y is a larger, tall flower with a narrow, half-length soft lemon cup and milk white perianth. It has some cyclamineus ancestry, but its reflex is somewhat variable. When it is too richly grown, it can have three to four quite large florets and lose much of its grace, but smaller specimens with one or two can usually hold their own with the best in any division.

Two larger siblings of 'Junior Miss' are 'Oz' 12Y-Y, and 'Toto' 12W-W (not pictured). Both are very informal flowers, not reflexed, often downfacing, and generally have two to three to a stem. 'Oz' is a deep yellow and 'Toto' is milk white with a slightly darker cup.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION

For garden purposes, daffodils are classified in thirteen divisions. Division number indicates form, while letters indicate color. For example, 2 Y-YYO is a large-cupped daffodil, all yellow except for an orange rim; 1 W-Y is a trumpet daffodil with white perianth (petals) and yellow corona (trumpet).



Division 1 Trumpet Daffodil Cultivars

One flower to a stem; corona

(trumpet) as long as, or longer than, the perianth segments (petals)



Division 2

Large-cupped Daffodil Cultivars One flower to a stem; corona (cup)

more than one-third but less than equal to the length of the perianth segments (petals)



Division 3

Small-cupped
Daffodil Cultivars
One flower to a stem;
corona (cup) not
more than one-third

the length of the perianth segments (petals)



Division 4

Double Daffodil
Cultivars
One or more
flowers to a stem,

with doubling of the perianth segments or the corona or both



Division 5

Triandrus Daffodil Cultivars Characteristics of N. triandrus predominant:

usually two or more pendent flowers to a stem; perianth segments reflexed



Division 6

Cyclamineus
Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of N.
cyclamineus clearly

evident: one flower to a stem; perianth segments significantly reflexed; flower at an acute angle to the stem, with a very short pedicel (neck)



Division 7

Jonquilla and Apodanthus Daffodil Cultivars Characteristics of Sections Jonquilla

or Apodanthi clearly evident: one to five flowers to a stem; perianth segments spreading or reflexed; flowers usually fragrant



Division 8

Tazetta Daffodil Cultivars Characteristics of the N. tazetta

group predominant: usually three to twenty flowers to a stout stem; leaves broad; perianth segments spreading, not reflexed; flowers fragrant



Division 9

Poeticus Daffodil Cultivars Characteristics of the N. poeticus group

predominant: usually one flower to a stem; perianth segments pure white; corona usually discshaped, with a green or yellow center and a red rim; flowers fragrant





Bulbocodium
Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of
Section
Bulbocodium clearly
evident; usually one

flower to a stem; perianth segments insignificant compared with corona; filament and style are usually curved

Division 11

Split Corona Daffodil Cultivars Corona split—usually for more than half its length



a) Collar Daffodils Split-corona daffodils with the corona segments opposite the

perianth segments; the corona segments usually in two whorls of three

b) Papillon Daffodils
Split-corona daffodils
with the corona
segments alternate to
the perianth segments;
the corona segments
usually in a single
whorl of six

Division 12

Other Daffodil Cultivars
Daffodil cultivars which do not fit the definition of any other division.



Division 13

Daffodils Distinguished Solely by Botanical Name

All species and wild or reputedly wild variants and hybrids

GROWING MINIATURE DAFFODILS

Most miniature daffodil cultivars are fairly easy to grow, if a few conditions are met. Good drainage is the most important factor in successful culture, but soil quality, water and temperatures are also very important. Bulb growth does not begin in the fall until the soil cools to 55F or less. At that time, daffodils need about one inch water each week all through the growing season, until the foliage begins to die down after bloom. Then, most cultivars prefer dry conditions until the cycle begins again in fall.

The soil should be fairly light and not too rich. Organic materials such as ground pine bark, composted leaf mold or peat can be used to add humus if needed, and coarse sand, poultry grit or pea gravel can be added to improve drainage. Avoid mushroom compost. A low nitrogen fertilizer can be used, but very sparingly, and well under the bulbs when planting. (Do not allow fertilizer to touch the bases of bulbs.) Lightly top dress with fertilizer once after flowering, about every other year. Ideal locations for daffodil plantings are a raised bed, a slope, at the top of a slope, in pockets in a rock wall, or any other place with superb drainage.

Miniature bulbs should be planted as soon as the soil cools to 60F or less - the sooner the better once the soil has cooled. This is to avoid fusarium rot which can easily destroy small bulbs in the humid, hot conditions often encountered in early fall. Do not try to hold bulbs over the winter. Late planting is better than trying to hold them. Planting depth varies with the size of the bulb. A good rule of thumb is three times the height of the bulb. However, where winters are severe, even the smallest bulb should be at least 3" deep. Because the bulbs are very small and hard to locate after the foliage is gone, it is wise to plant them in a container, so they may be easily found, especially if planted in a mixed border. Plastic mesh berry baskets, open (mesh) orchid pots or even fine mesh onion bags are very good. Do not put them in plastic pots in the ground, unless the soil drains like crazy. Even then, the bulbs will not grow as strongly as in an open container. Containers have many advantages, including retrieving every bulb when lifting, having a loss-proof place to put a second label (in the bottom of container), and the ability to move a basket undisturbed to a garage or shed for those that like a completely dry summer. In general these are some cultivars in Divisions 5, 8 and 10. Division 6 cultivars should be planted in a cool place where the soil does not completely dry out in summer, and where they are shaded from the hottest summer sun.

Bulbs need to be dug only when they become very crowded, or cease to flower well. The foliage must be allowed to grow as strongly as possible until it begins to yellow, usually about 4-5 weeks after bloom for miniatures, more for standards. Then the bulbs will have replenished themselves for next year's bloom. Digging as soon as possible after the foliage dies is strongly advised. If the bulbs are to be out of the ground over the summer, the sooner they are removed from warm, damp soil the better. Rapid drying and cleaning can minimize storage loss. Hang the cleaned bulbs (in mesh bags if possible) in a *dry, dark, well-ventilated* place until ready to plant in fall. Good ventilation is the most important requirement but not a strong direct draft, which could dry out the little bulbs.

Miniature plantings benefit from a lightweight, breathable, non-packing mulch that can be left on year round, or can be removed after bloom to help the drying out of the soil for summer. The best mulches are white pine needles, salt hay, any coarse grit or small gravel, straw or ground pine bark, but any other clean, non-packing mulch will do. (Do not use hardwood mulch or old leaves. They tend to pack and can create fungus problems.)

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GLOSSARY

A plant which has been vegetatively propagated from a single bulb.

All the bulbs of a clone have identical genetic material.

The official RHS* method of describing the color of a daffodil.

Examples: (the number indicates the division)

2W-GWP, a flower with a white perianth and a cup with a green eye, white mid-zone and pink rim.

7YYW-Y, a flower with a perianth that is mostly yellow, but with a white halo at the base, and a solid yellow cup.

The letter(s) before the hyphen indicate the color of the perianth, beginning at the tips and moving inward to the bases of the petals. After the hyphen, one or three letters are used to describe the cup color(s). One letter indicates a solid color cup, and three letters describe the zones of color in a cup, beginning at the base outward to the rim. Some daffodils change color as they age. The colors given in the codes are those of the flower at maturity. The registrant of a flower assigns the color code at the time of registration.

daffodil. A cultivar is a clone. (Most species daffodils exhibit great variability in size, form and color.)

cupi Cup, trumpet and corona all refer to that part of a daffodil which occupies the center of the perianth.

grex: A group of mixed seedlings of the same parentage, but all having slightly different genetic material. Flowers in a grex can display great variability, so cannot be described by a single name. An example of the correct way to write the name of a known grex is - Nylon Group, without the single quotes.

perlanth: A term used to describe the three petals and the three sepals taken together.

petal: The three front perianth segments of a daffodil. **sepal:** The three back perianth segments, which in daffodils resemble petals rather than the sepals of many other flowers, which are usually smaller than petals and green in color. **petaloid:** The many segments of a double daffodil.

sport: a mutation

*Royal Horticultural Society. The international authority on daffodil registration, classification, etc.

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NOTES