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The Joy of Daffodils

February Daffodil Notes



On the Market, In the Vase

We recently were interviewed about daffodils as commercial cut flowers for the Society of American Florists (SAF) monthly *Floral Management* journal, specifically for the [“Fresh Choices”](#) column.

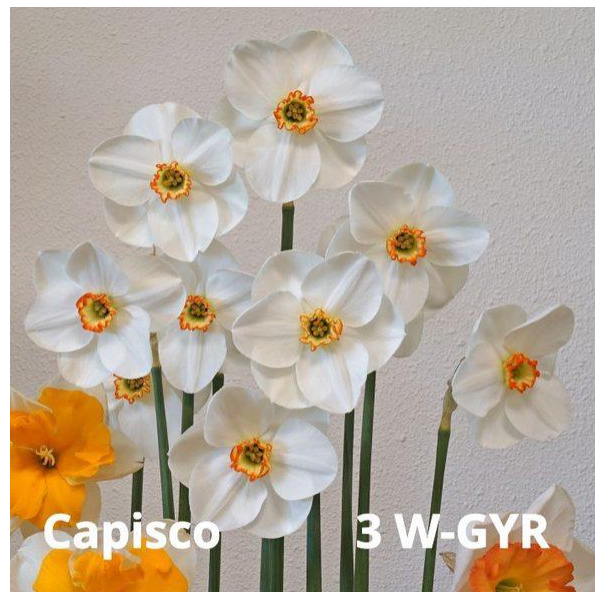
Fellow daffodilian Jason Delaney was also interviewed. While we tried to highlight cultivars that florists might commonly encounter on the market, Jason went on beyond zebra presenting fabulous varieties never yet seen on any cut flower market.

Doubles have the full look of camelias. Split coronas, commonly known as “butterfly daffodils,” have divided cups and draw comparisons to orchids. “People go crazy when they see them,” Delaney says. Triandrus and

tazettas are floriferous varieties that, along with small-cupped daffodils, “bring structure, pattern and poise to more formal arrangements,” Harley says. Triandrus daffodils, in particular, “should be used with abandon for May weddings,” he adds.

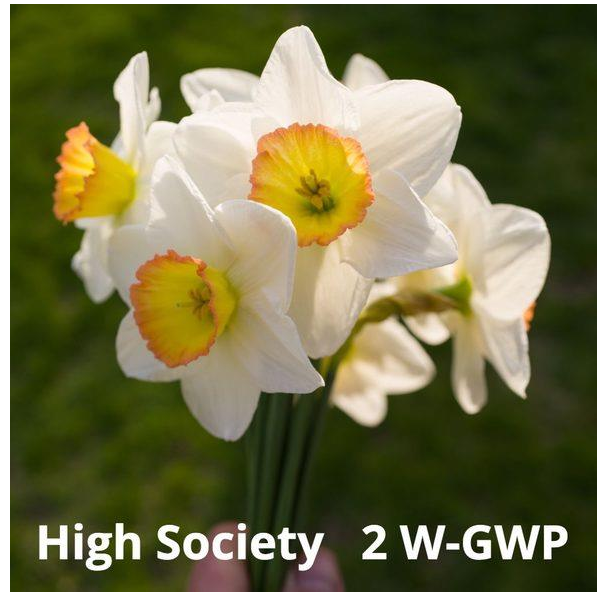
The floral market in the US is bifurcated : The international flower trade with its airfreight supply chain, and the slow flowers movement of smaller US based growers that distribute locally.

We selected some daffodils especially for their appeal to Slow Flower growers in the US . These selections are listed on our site under the **Grow for Cut** category: special pricing available in this category. Here’s a selection:

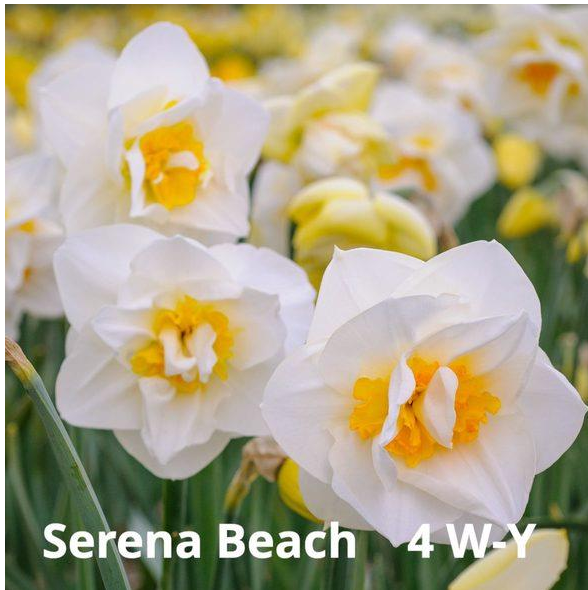




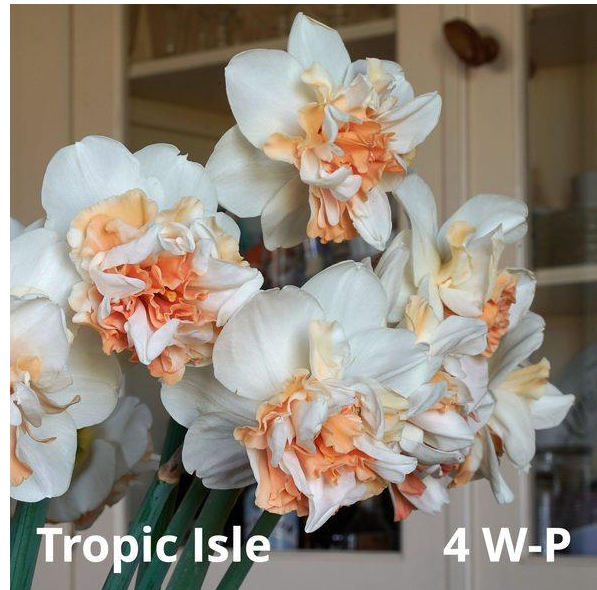
Cosmopolitan 7 W-YYP



High Society 2 W-GWP

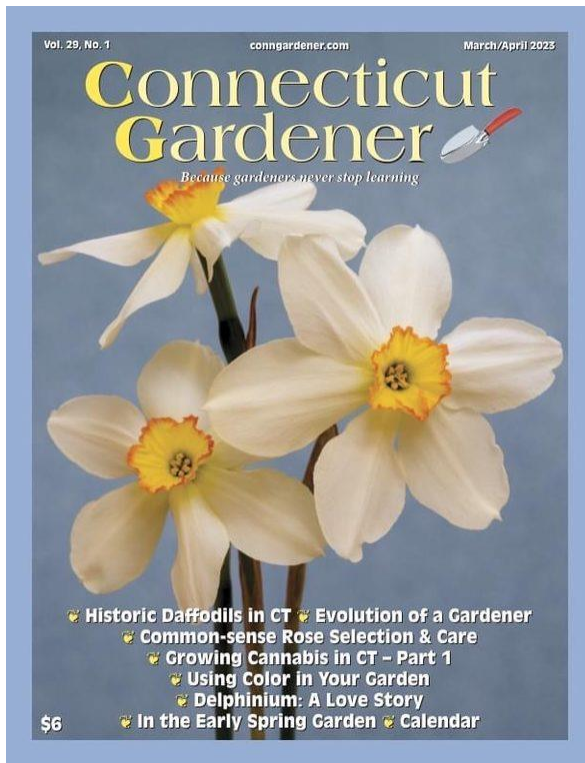


Serena Beach 4 W-Y



Tropic Isle 4 W-P

[See All Grow for Cut](#)



Daffodils, with Nutmeg *

We recently penned an article about historic daffodils in Connecticut for our friends over at Connecticut Gardener in the March / April Issue. That's narcissus **Seagull**, one of our favorites, on the cover.

We tried to inspire a new crop of daffodil hunters by encouraging them to look at the perianth first: If the petals don't overlap that is the first clue in identifying an old variety.



There is over a century between the genesis of these two daffs, can you tell the historic cultivar from the modern ?

There are several large plantings of pre-quarantine era daffodils to be found in Connecticut. As in many states east of the Arkansas river, there is a **lot** of well-established **Sir Watkin** in Connecticut. So much so it seems to compete with Ice Follies for the incumbent naturalized daffodil.

* Why is Connecticut called the “Nutmeg state” ? Because those early Connecticut yankee traders were up to no good; they misrepresented worthless pieces of carved wood as precious nutmegs from the Moluccan straits in Indonesia. In defiance of Connecticut tradition we maintain a strict “no-Ersatz” policy at Qdaffs: We ship only the good, true-to-name stuff.



A clump of Sir Watkin, 1868, at Bud McQuade's

[See All Historic Daffodils](#)

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In the long march towards fulfilling the promise of “daffodils year round” we listed narcissus Polar Hunter this year. It is our first viridiflorus - a fall blooming green daffodil — although not a viridiflorus strictly speaking. Polar Hunter is a fall-spring marriage of cultivars, a love child that blooms very early in the spring and spends a very long sojourn in bloom.

Polar Hunter initially sold out quickly, but we were able to purchase more, so don't be shy ; here's your chance to extend your season.

[Shop Polar Hunter](#)

U-Print Catalog

We know some of our customers like to keep a printed record of things past, present and future.

Which is why you will find a spreadsheet version and a pdf printable version of our current list and the previous year's list on our website, linked way down in the footer on the left.

But this year we decided to get jiggy with it and add some pictures to the print version.

Caveat, the file is rather large, about 25 Megabytes, and the type point size barely larger than that on a rental car agreement, so you may need ink and bifocals at the ready if you print it out.



[Printable Catalog Link](#)

Atlanta Bound



We will have a trade table at the **American Daffodil Society's** National Convention in Atlanta on March 9-12. If you are attending stop by and say hello.

Side trips will include visits to **Gibbs Gardens**, above, and the historic **Oakland Cemetery** in Atlanta. Definitely both bucket-list great gardens for daffodil peeking..



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Thanks for reading.
C.W.Harley
Huntington, Connecticut
February 22, 2023





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