



CODS CORNER

Newsletter of The Central Ohio Daffodil Society

VOL. XX, No. 1 JANUARY 1990

Phyllis Hess, President

Tag Bourne, Editor

Dear Fellow CODS Members,

I have been sitting here watching the snow come down and reading the Journal. Convention seems so far away but will be here before we know it! It appears Jaydee has great plans for us. Be sure to get your reservations in early.

I am secretly glad for the snow as it will be great mulch for the daffs. With all the cold weather moving in I had been worrying about a repeat of our winter of '83.

The catalogs from the Southern Hemisphere have been arriving and a couple orders sent. Some of their new releases sound terrific! I heard from our New Zealand members, Max and his Kath are off to Scotland until Christmas 1990! She won a teacher exchange and they leave on Boxing Day. Peter has been made head of the Education Dept at the University as well as being chosen to do research work for curriculum in primary schools. And I thought I was busy.

Robin and David also had great success on the show bench mentioning that three of their successes were with new releases! It is always so nice to hear of our friends accomplishments. Even better to be able to grow their beautiful "children". (The bulbs I planted last spring that did not come up, did so this fall. I mulched them heavily for winter. The final result being that I had 100% success with the "down-unders".) Now---if they all bloom next year----

I want to thank Cindy for the great program on miniatures. She has a fanatastic program planned for Feb. Clive Postles slides will give you lots of ideas for ordering new varieties! I think you will also really enjoy seeing how he grows his daffodils.

I hope Santa found room in your stocking for a few special bulbs and that the New Year brings only Blue ribbons and awards to you all.

CODS show will be at the Upper Arlington Municipal Services Center. We will have to get tables from St. Charles. We need a truck with driver to pick up these tables at Noon on Friday and return them back to St. Charles on Sunday evening. There will be a crew to load and unload the tables.

If you can volunteer yourself and your truck, please call Ruth Pardue, Show Chairman at 486-2775.

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The CODS club order for Carncairn Daffodils will be co-ordinated by Nancy Kolson this year. By participating in the club order, you can save 1/3 of the regular price. Add 40¢ per bulb for postage. For more information, contact Nancy Kolson, 22131 Delaware County Line Road, Marysville, Ohio 43040. The last day to participate in this club order is Saturday, April 7, 1990.

For a FREE copy of the Carncairn catalogue, send an Aerogram to:

Carncairn Daffodils, Ltd.
Broughshane, Ballymena
Co. Antrim
Northern Ireland BT 43 7HF

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Some members of CODS or their immediate family members have had some bad luck since the last CODS CORNER:

Wells Knierim had to have some surgery, but am happy to report that he came through fine and is doing great.

Nancy Kolson fell and broke her wrist. I offer her my sympathy since I know personally how bad this break hurts.

Doris Emig fell and broke her ankle. She has to have it pinned, but is supposed to be dismissed from the hospital today.

Our President, Phyllis Hess, had to have some more eye surgery.

Naomi Liggett's husband, Jim, went down to Florida to get in a little golfing time and through a freak accident was run over by a golf cart. Jim's leg was broken in two places, plus his ankle had to be pinned. He's now getting out of the house and doing o.k.

I trust all of the above will be back to normal soon.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Mrs. Sue Hale, 6305 Sunbury Road, Westerville, OH 43081, Tele. No. 890-7075
Ms. Louise Dowden, 4214 Chaucer Court, Columbus, OH 43220, Tele. No. 451-3592

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WAYS & MEANS REPORT

1989 BULB SALE

Bulbs were purchased for two collections of miniatures five cultivars, three each for sale at \$11.50 each or both for \$20.00. 200 of each cultivar were purchased making 132 collections. 100 each of six species were ordered to sell to CODS members. Twenty-six standard cultivars, 15 each were secured from Handy. Those not sold were returned with credit.

Springdale Daffodils	611.25	
Van Schaik	257.40	
McClure & Zimmerman	197.45	
Hatfield Gardens	<u>715.50</u>	
	\$1781.60	Total Cost

Income from sale of bulbs \$2745.14

PROFIT - \$963.54 (\$361.00 Standards)

This is CODS only fund-raiser, but the majority of the bulbs were sold by a very few members. Top salesperson was Ruth Pardue. Many thanks to her for all her efforts.

Top Salespersons

Ruth Pardue - \$749.25
Naomi Liggett - \$514.70 ++
Lura Emig - \$334.75
Nancy Gill - \$284.00
Handy Hatfield - \$214.00

CODS Member Bulb Sale was held in September with ten members donating bulbs. (Zwilling, Dietsch, Baird, Gripshover, Pardue, Hatfield, Hess, Emigs, Bourne, Liggett) 500 bulbs were sold to Mr. Corey, Chillicothe for \$250.00. This sale was made by Dorris and Lura Emig.

TOTAL SALES MEMBER BULB SALE - \$577.45

TOTAL PROFIT - \$1540.99

Naomi Liggett, Chairman

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Anyone wishing to purchase a copy of the Handbook For Growing, Exhibiting and Judging Daffodils at the next meeting, please let me know. Cost \$7.00.

Naomi Liggett
451-4747

Caution Urged When Buying Bulbs

RAFFIC, the trade-monitoring arm of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), asks gardeners to make sure that any species bulbs they buy this fall have been propagated, rather than collected from the wild.

A study WWF has conducted over the past two years in conjunction with the Natural Resources Defense Council shows that many bulb species are being endangered by collecting that is being done in both the United States and in foreign countries.

The Netherlands is the major producer and supplier of bulbs, but that country is likely to obtain collected bulbs from other countries, says WWF. Turkey is the major source of such bulbs as *Galanthus* (snow drops), *Eranthus* (winter aconites), *Leucojum*, and *Sternbergia*. Portugal is the major source of *Narcissus* bulbs.

Industry Response

The Netherlands FlowerBulb Information Center responded to the study results by saying that imports from Turkey represent less than one percent of Holland's annual production. Last year, of the 60 million flower bulbs that Holland imported from Turkey, 40 million were cultivated professionally on bulb farms and 20 million were taken from the wild.

Nevertheless, the Dutch growers and



Trillium grandiflorum

exporters group agreed with WWF that the practice of collecting bulbs from the wild should be examined for its potential long-term impact. A release from their New York-based information center said that the Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was arranging a meeting with Turkish authorities to discuss steps to ensure that endangered species are protected.

"Not only is the flower bulb industry

interested in preserving wild plants for their own sake, it is in its long-term interest to do so because these original bulb flower types can be hybridized with existing varieties to produce new flowers," said Roland Boot, vice president of the North American Flowerbulb Wholesalers Association, an association of 36 import firms with close ties to the Dutch flower bulb industry.

The majority of bulbs commercially collected in the United States for export are *Trillium*, of which 13,000 were exported from April 1986 to April 1987. Thousands of *Calochortus* (mariposa lily) also leave the country, says WWF.

Trade Controls Needed

The foundation is asking horticultural groups to lobby for more accurate labeling of bulbs, and to support them in their call for monitoring of international bulb trade and support of research on commercial production of species bulbs.

More than 20 European countries, as well as China, Israel, South Africa, the USSR, and the United States, have passed laws to protect bulb species, but only *Cyclamen* and terrestrial orchids such as the lady's slipper are regulated internationally by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

In the past, the foundation has undertaken efforts to protect cacti, cycads, and to some extent, palms, said Jane MacKnight of WWF's plant program. They would like to do more to protect all North American wildflowers. Horticulturists are becoming increasingly concerned that carnivorous plants, such as the pitcher plant, are being endangered by collecting. Although the WWF staff is too small to make site visits to growers, that would be the ideal solution, said MacKnight, because it would protect both the plants and the dealers who are propagating bulbs.

"It's not in our interest to shut down legitimate growers," whose work serves to protect wild species, she said.

Some Safeguards

Buyers can never be 100 percent certain that the bulbs they buy have been propagated, but there are many indications that they have not.

Some bulbs are labeled "wild," "species," or "botanical," which should serve as a red flag that bulbs have been collected. (An exception is tulips, where "botanical"

Bulbs to Avoid

The World Wildlife Fund and the National Resources Defense Council urge gardeners to avoid these bulb species:

Amaryllis Family

Galanthus (snowdrops). *G. elwesii* can always be assumed of wild origin. *G. nivalis* is widely propagated and safe to buy.

Leucojum (summer snowflake), especially *L. vernum* and *L. aestivum*.

Narcissus, especially *N. triandrus* var. *albus*, *N. asturiensis*, and *N. cyclamineus*. Be cautious about all small species.

Sternbergia species.

Lily Family

Chionodoxa, especially *C. sardensis*, *C. tmoi*, and *C. luciliae*.

Erythronium, except for 'Pagoda', which is a propagated hybrid.

Fritillaria. Use caution when buying *F. persica* 'Adiyamen' and *F. imperialis*. Avoid others.

Lilium. Exercise caution with *L. martagon*.

Scilla species. Be cautious; many are still collected in Turkey.

Trillium, especially *T. grandiflorum*.

Tulipa. Many tulips that have been called "botanical" are really small cultivars and safe to buy. Avoid *T. praecox*.

Orchid Family

Bletilla striata.

Pleione species.

Cypripedium, especially *C. acaule*.

Primrose Family

Cyclamen. Buy only from those few U.S. dealers that propagate their stock.

Buttercup Family

Anemone. Blue or mixed stock of *A. blanda* may be from the wild.

Eranthis, especially the popular yellow-flowered *E. hyemalis* and *E. cilicica*.

usually indicates a cultivar of a species.) A new twist, said Dr. Richard Lighty, director of the Mount Cuba Center for the Study of Piedmont Flora in Greenville, Delaware, is to label a plant "nursery grown." This may indicate only that the nursery has potted a collected plant and grown it on the premises for a year, he warned.

He and MacKnight urged buyers to ask more probing questions: If you didn't propagate it, who did? If you did propagate this species, how did you do it?

These are the sorts of questions posed by the New England Wildflower Society every three years when it updates its list of nurseries that propagate their own wildflowers. The society propagates and sells some 10,000 wildflower plants a year, said William Brumback, the society's propagator. The New England group, like the newer Mount Cuba, is conducting research to find better means of propagating these plants, while at the same time, educating the public to keep wild populations from being decimated.

Propagation Costly

Lighty said that while there has been some success in propagating the double pink trillium, the single white *Trillium grandiflorum* takes at least five years to grow. If grown from seed, it takes a year to germinate and as long as 10 to bloom. "We have to get to the point where we can compete in price with the people with the gunny sacks," Lighty said. Price is therefore another clue that a plant has been collected. "I would question whether anyone could sell a trillium or terrestrial orchid for less than five dollars," he said.

MacKnight said it is sometimes possible to spot collected bulbs, which tend to be smaller and more misshapen than those that have been commercially propagated. The same is true of the plants themselves, said Lighty. Collected plants tend to have more defects than those that have been propagated.

The American Horticultural Society offers a free list of nurseries that sell propagated wildflowers. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request. An extensive list of sources for specific plants that have been propagated, as well as some general information on the topic, can be obtained for \$6.95, postage paid, by writing to Nursery Source List, New England Wildflower Society, Inc., Garden in the Woods, Hemenway Road, Framingham, MA 01701. For the complete report, "Trade in Bulbs," call the World Wildlife Fund at (202) 293-4800, or write to them at 1250 24th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.

The Discrete Charm of Botanical Tulips

The common conception of tulips is of the long-stemmed beauties with cup-shaped flowers that, unfortunately, tend to be somewhat short-lived. But the increasingly popular species cultivars known as botanicals can be a charming addition to the landscape. Bred to retain the characteristics of their wild parents, most are smaller than the common cultivars and have more lily-shaped blooms. They come in a fairly

with more pointed petals, seven to nine flowers, with cream with a black and red, and narrow blue-green leaves that grow rapidly into compact groups.

T. urumiensis, one of the smallest botanical tulips at two to three inches tall, has yellow flowers that open in the sun late in the season. It is less vigorous than other botanicals and may wear out easily.



Clockwise from upper left, *T. urumiensis*, *T. turkestanica*, and *T. plaiisir*.

narrow color range—red, yellow, white, and intermediate tints of those colors—but most are long-lived and will multiply like daffodils when left in the ground. They are ideal for the rock garden or naturalizing.

Although the word "botanical" can be a red flag that a plant was collected in the wild, this is not the case with botanical tulips, said Frans van Nimwegen, executive director of Internationaal Bloembollen Centrum of Hillegom, Holland, which represents the Dutch flower bulb industry.

"A species or botanical bulb is one that retains the characteristics of its native forbears," he explained. "For instance many species tulips that were once native to Turkey have been propagated and cultivated in Holland for centuries, yet still retain the characteristics they had in the wild."

One hundred percent of the species tulips sold by the Dutch are grown and propagated within the borders of Holland, van Nimwegen added. Therefore, consumers can rest assured that named hybrids of the following species have been propagated rather than collected from the wild:

Tulipa tarda has abundant, narrow, deep green foliage, and blooms early. Each stem has five to six golden yellow flowers that open to a star shape with a white tip. Four to five inches tall, it is a good ground cover.

T. turkestanica is an early flowering bulb eight to 10 inches tall, similar to *tarda* but

T. kaufmanniana includes many cultivars of the so-called water lily tulip. Foliage may be solid blue-green or bear a chocolate stripe. Stems of the four- to eight-inch plants are short. Flowers open in sun early in the season to form an almost flat, hexagonal star. The inside of the flowers, except the plain red varieties, is generally brighter than the outside, which is often white. The open flowers present a contrasting yellow or black heart.

T. greigii cultivars have rigid stems and early-season, medium-sized flowers that open wide in the sun to reveal a deep colored, often black heart. Flowers are often spotted, and leaves are almost always purple-striped or marked. Bulbs prefer to be left in the ground to multiply naturally. This class includes 'Red Riding Hood', one of the most popular botanical tulips.