

Vol. I, No. 4; October, 1971

CODS CORNER

Newsletter of the Central Ohio Daffodil Society

When the trees begin to take on those glorious colors, and the strains of Carmen Ohio begin to emanate from Ohio Stadium, we know that once again it's Autumn--better known here in Cods Corner as planting time! There's a certain amount of satisfaction to be gained from tucking away those nice, firm bulbs (not to mention a few tired muscles and aching backs). But come Spring when all those beauties bloom, you know that it was worth the effort. (That's when you discover, too, that somehow you got the tall ones in front, instead of in back, and that the gorgeous pink one doesn't bloom at the same time as the pink tulips you bought to go with it!)

BULB SALE 1971

Cynthia Bell reports a total of 117 orders for our bulb collection for this year. The bulbs have all been bagged and delivered. Mr. Waltz sent an extra bulb for each of the 117 orders (Matapan, 3b) because he thought his Limerick bulbs were small. So everyone got 7 bulbs instead of 6 in the collection. Let's hope all who purchased bulbs will enter our show next year. Many thanks to all who helped with the bagging and delivery.

Our sale of bulbs from members gardens proved successful, and added about \$30 to the treasury. Once again our thanks go to Wells Knierim for greatly augmenting our local selection.

DAFFODIL SHOW - 1972

Naomi Liggett and Ruth Pardue are co-chairmen of our show to be held next April 28 at Mountview Baptist Church. This will be an American Daffodil Society approved show and will be open to anyone.

REMINDER

As soon as you get all your new bulbs, don't forget to send me an updated list of varieties you grow so we can keep our card file current. Also indicate varieties you no longer grow and tell why. If you haven't sent me a list yet, please do so. Our card file isn't much good unless we know what everyone grows.

GROWERS

A request was made for a list of growers, so here are some I'm familiar with. I have ordered from all but 2 of them at one time or another.

- Grant E. Mitsch, Daffodil Haven, Canby, Oregon 97013
Foremost American hybridizer. Catalog lists mostly his own introductions, with a representation of other breeders. Reverse bi-colors are almost all from Mitsch.
- Murray Evans, Rte. 1, Box 525, Corbett, Oregon 97019
Mimeographed list of his own introductions as well as some hard to find varieties from other breeders.
- Mrs. Lionel Richardson, Prospect House, Waterford, Ireland
With few exceptions, lists only her own excellent introductions, concentrated mainly in Div. 1-4.
- Michael Jefferson-Brown, Whitbourne, Worcester, England
All divisions and breeders well represented. Beginning to offer some of his own varieties. Also has miniatures.
- W.J. Dunlop, Broughshane, Ballymena, Northern Ireland
Lists mainly his own fine introductions, concentrated in the first four divisions.
- Broadleigh Gardens, nr. Wellington, Somerset, England
Most comprehensive list of miniature daffodils and other small bulbs.
- P. deJager & Sons, Inc., 188 Asbury St., So. Hamilton, Mass. 01982
General bulb catalog.
- J. Gerritsen & Son, Voorschoten, Holland
Has a short general list, but specializes in split-coronas.
- G. Zandbergen-Terwegen, Sassenheim, Holland
Specializes in miniature and smaller daffodils.
- Ballydorn Bulb Farm, Killinchy, Co. Down, Northern Ireland
Lists mainly Irish originations.
- Walter Blom & Zoon, N.V., Hillegom, Holland
General bulb catalog.
- Gerald Waltz, P.O. Box 977, Salem, Virginia 24153
All divisions and breeders well represented.

This month I'd like to tell you a little about Gerritsen & Son. The firm has been in business since 1900, and is located near Voorschoten outside the main bulb growing district of Holland. Mr. Gerritsen, as you may know, is the foremost hybridizer of "collar" or split-corona daffodils, and he is convinced not only of the quality and usefulness of his introductions, but that the general distaste for them will disappear just as the distaste for doubles has disappeared. In a poll of the general public at Rosewarne, England, to select the most beautiful daffodil, his Baccarat came in second. Jack Gerritsen has produced not only an amazing assortment of collar daffodils, but also some excellent miniatures. Little Beauty and Little Gem are both from him, as are Baby Moon and Baby Star. Mr. Gerritsen offers a 5% discount to ADS members, as well as 2% discount for sending your check with order.

THE SAGA OF ZERO, or a well-named bulb

Four years ago, I bought a bulb of the 2c, Zero, to include in my plantings. Come Spring, the place reserved for Zero remained bare, while the green shoots grew all around, all around. So, I dug for the bulb and found it had rotted. I was unable to replace it the next year, but last year ordered it again. This past Spring it grew and had two blooms--but alas, it was not Zero, but looked much like Green Island. So the dealer replaced it for me this Fall, and when I went to plant it, you guessed it, it was rotted. So it has been, for me, very aptly named--because it has been a big zero in my garden. Do you think I should try one more time?

DISASTER STRIKES

Daffodil season brings many joys, and usually a few disappointments. This past Spring, however, had an uncommon amount of disappointments. For one thing, I discovered the dread Narcissus Fly in my garden. (This looks somewhat like a bee. To distinguish the daffodil fly from a bee you pick it up. If its rear stings you, it is a bee; if it bites you, it is a fly.) I'm sure the neighbors must have thought I'd really flipped if they saw me out there stalking those flies and stomping on them! Then I decided that the fly swatter would help, so I brought that out, too. What would you think if you saw someone tiptoe-ing through the garden swinging a flyswatter around?? Anyway, I think I got most of the flies, and I'll use lots of chlordane when I replant my bulbs this Fall.

The worst thing though, is that I lost about 50 varieties (mostly in one bed - down two years) and I'm not even certain of the cause. I like to blame it on winter-kill, but maybe that's copping out. They started out growing just fine, then stopped when they were 2-3 inches tall. Some even managed distorted blooms. The bulbs, when inspected, were found to have rotted roots, and various stages of decay in the root plate. I hope it's not Basal Rot. Now, I could sterilize the ground with a formaldehyde solution (that would kill everything) but instead will try leaving the area of greatest loss unplanted for a year.

Trouble always comes in threes, and my third pest was an invasion of millipedes. These inch-long worms with many legs ate the bulbs--beginning at the basal plate, and then kept right on going. However, Spectracide and Lindane were both effective against them. (You drench the ground with the solution--doesn't kill the vegetation.) Dr. Richard Miller, entomologist with the Ohio Agricultural Extension Service (422-5274) said that this was a particularly bad year for the millipedes. He also said that heavy mulching encouraged all kinds of bugs. And for the record, OSU maintains a free plant disease clinic--Dr. Ellett, Room 210, 1735 Neil Ave. But remember--daffodils are virtually pest-free!! Anyway, next year will have to be better!

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome to our new members,

Miss Lura Emig, 1878 Demorest Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43228
Mrs. James Whalen, 26 Buena Vista Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43228.

We hope you will enjoy your membership, and we'll look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

JUDGING SCHOOL II

Since we had such a successful session of ADS School I, we are making plans for school #2 to be held next April. As soon as the arrangements are finalized, we'll pass along the particulars to you.

Mary Lou Gripshover, Editor