

CODS CORNER

Newsletter of the Central Ohio Daffodil Society

Mrs. Hubert Bourne, President

Mrs. Paul Gripshover, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to serve as your President for the 1977-78 year. To save time and to avoid conflict of any kind, I would like to suggest the following. This will be a very open administration (doesn't that sound terribly political) and I would appreciate the cooperation of each member in participating openly in meetings, ask as many questions as need be to know what we are doing, what we have done in the past and what we hope to attain in the future. We have many worthwhile projects underway and I would like to involve all new members in all committees as a learning process. You not only will learn what a good job the Central Ohio Daffodil Society does, but will make friendships and lasting relationships which I am sure you will enjoy. I enjoy CODS and know if we work together as a group, we will have a successful year.

The Executive Board has gotten together and Pat Miller is working toward an interesting group of programs and meetings for the 1977-78 year. A sheet showing the years activities will be handed out at the October 11th meeting. I wish to thank Nancy and David Gill for opening their home to us for the annual cocktail party. It was a most enjoyable beginning to our new year.

I would like to see members contribute articles to CODS CORNER, which is published quarterly (January, April, July, October). What was your best bloom in the 1977 season? Have you visited gardens with daffodils that you would like to share with our members?

Mark your calendar now for a very important October 11th meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Training Room at the UAMSC. Bring a guest or prospective member!

I look forward to seeing you then and serving as your President.

Tag Bourne

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CHANGE IN BY LAWS

Your Executive Board proposes the following change in the By Laws, which were accepted on March 12th, 1974:

ARTICLE IV-OFFICERS, Section 4 states "The Secretary shall keep records of all meetings and be responsible for notifying members of the meetings."

We propose a change to remove "and be responsible for notifying members of the meetings" and appoint a Telephone Committee Chairman and place this section under ARTICLE IX-COMMITTEES, SUB-SECTION "e" under Section 1.

ARTICLE IV-OFFICERS, Section 4 would then read "The Secretary shall keep records of all meetings,"

According to the By-Laws, ARTICLE XII, AMENDMENTS, amendments may be made at any regular meeting by a 2/3s majority vote of the members present provided the proposed amendments have been published in the most recent issue of CODS CORNER.

Be prepared to discuss and vote on this issue at the October 11th meeting.

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Did you order bulbs from overseas this year? Did the postman tell you that there was a "customs charge" due? That happened to me this year for the first time (it has happened to others before). If it happens to you, by all means, write to the point of entry (the address on the yellow tag on the customs charge notice) and request a refund both for the customs charge and the added postage due. Send a photocopy of the pertinent papers and request a refund.

An article in the March, 1968, Daffodil Journal says:

Part 125.15 of the Tariff Schedule of the United States includes narcissus bulbs in its list of items dutiable at the rate of \$2.10 per 1,000 bulbs. In that list there is no reference to the word "daffodil." Therefore, when narcissus bulbs pass through Customs and the accompanying invoice or packing list merely shows "bulbs" or "daffodils," the Customs official handling them is quite unlikely to know that they are narcissus. Consequently, he considers them to be governed by Part 125.30 of the tariff regulations which is a "basket" category covering many odd kinds of bulbs not mentioned in Part 125.15. Those bulbs in the "basket" category are subject to a higher duty rate of 5.5 per cent ad valorem (the invoiced value).

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From the Newsletter of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group comes this article on

SEED PRODUCTION

It has probably been noticed by anyone who has ever collected daffodil seed, whether deliberate crosses or open pollinated pods, that there is often great variance in the number of seeds per pod. In an attempt to discover if nature had a set pattern in this area, I have for both 1976 and 1977 kept records of the number of flowers used as seed parents; in each particular cross, how many of those flowers set seed and how many seeds were in each pod. It is my intention to continue these observations for at least five years after which time I hope some discernable pattern will have emerged, and these few lines are merely intended to be an interim assessment.

The main reason for this exercise is to enable a more balanced hybridizing program to be worked. I have on many occasions in the past used roughly the same number of flowers as seed parents, in say five sub-divisions, only to find on counting the seed when collected that up to 50% of the seed fell into just one sub-division.

Many factors must of course effect seed production, i.e. weather, viability of the pollen, the age of the flower being used as the seed parent, the inherent ability of that parent to set seed and probably many other factors as well. After keeping detailed records for only two years, of course, it would be entirely wrong to jump to any firm

conclusions, but a few pointers are beginning to emerge. Before going into detailed statistics, it might be as well to mention that the weather conditions in my particular area (Essex) were very dry and hot during the spring of 1976 and wet and cold in 1977. The wet and cold weather this year led me to expect, from things that I had read and heard, a poor seed set. To enable me to sow approximately 1,000 seed, as I had in 1976, I set out with the intention of making many more crosses to allow for the expected high failure rate. That decision, as events turned out, was not a clever one.

In the March, 1969, edition of the American Daffodil Society's Journal, Grant Mitsch wrote that in 35 years of daffodil breeding he had averaged about 100 crosses per year, with each cross consisting of from one solitary seed to 6,000. My modest target was to aim, for a maximum, somewhere in the region of 50 per seeds per cross. With that in mind, and allowing for some flowers total lack of seed, each particular cross, where the number of blooms permitted, was made onto 3 or 4 flowers. The relevant figures for the two years are:

	<u>No. of flowers Crossed</u>	<u>Pods Harvested</u>	<u>Total Seed</u>	<u>Average per flower used</u>	<u>Average No. of seeds per pod</u>
1976	127	86	1,156	9.10	13.44
1977	239	168	2,391	10.00	14.23

Points regarding individual sub-divisions that have so far emerged are that varieties used in Division 1A have produced about average figures whereas the 1B's have produced the lowest average of all figures so far collated, though it must be said that only 'Newcastle' has been used as a seed parent. Eight flowers have been pollinated by three different pollen varieties, five set seed and only 27 seeds harvested. 1C's have tended to fall between the previous two sets of figures. 29 flowers were crossed producing 19 pods with a yield of 150 seeds. Of that total, the best was 'Burntollet' x 'Panache' where the two flowers crossed produced counts of 21 and 19. 'Panache' and 'White Star', as seed parents, have so far produced low seed counts. In the 1D section, the only cross made was 'Honeybird' x 'Rose Royale,' all four flowers used set pods and the yield was 106 seeds.

2A yellow: 30 flowers used set 25 pods and produced 306 seed with none of the six varieties used producing consistently high or low counts though 'Golden Aura' has produced counts of 36 and 27 out of the seven pods that have set seed with this variety. 2A red: 59 flowers crossed, 46 set pods producing 579 seeds. 'Falstaff', 'Loch Naver' and 'Vulcan' all had averages in excess of 20 seed per pod, whilst 'Bunclody' and 'Pipe Major' had the lowers figures of those varieties used. 2B reds were generally rather poor, though a lot of the pollen used was by courtesy of other growers and may have been on the old side, and of low viability when used. Of the 46 flowers crossed, only 24 set seed and here the count came to 234. Figures did improve slightly in the pink section where 176 seed was the produce from the original 25 flowers crossed, the most productive cross being two blooms of 'Rose Royale' x 'seedling' with counts of 19 and 31. The variety 'Premiere' may turn out to be a low producer, for I used two flowers in 1976 and a further two in 1977, and although the pollen parents used were from my own garden, the issue was only a total of 12 seeds. 2C has proved by far and away the most productive section. 67 flowers have been crossed to produce 62 fertile pods containing 1120 seeds. This gives a figure of marginally in excess of 18 as the average per pod. Eleven different varieties have been used as seed parent, with

'Easter Moon,' 'Broomhill,' and 'Knockbane' the most generous. 'Easter Moon' crossed with 'Cool Crystal' gave 136 seed from 5 flowers crossed, and 131 seed from 5 flowers when crossed with 'Violetta.' All 21 'Easter Moon' flowers used as seed parents have set seed with the yield totalling 598. 'Canisp' and 'Inverpolly' have so far produced only small quantities of seed.

In Division 3 insufficient crosses have as yet been made to produce much in the way of pointers. 'Merlin' and 'Este' have above average figures and the one and only time 'Cool Crystal' has been used the produce from four flowers was 141 made up of pods of 42, 39, 35, and 25.

Over the two years, the highest number of seeds in any one pod has been 44. This figure has been achieved three times, twice by 'Easter Moon' and once by 'Homage.' One other figure noted is that one bloom of 'Violetta' used on ten flowers (four different varieties) yielded 189 seed.

--E. Jarman

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The bulbs of 'Oregon Gold' have been received from George Morrill. George writes that "they should have been gotten off earlier but I had a minor heart attack and the doctor did not want me to do much When I got the bulbs ready, I was so dis-satisfied with the size of the double nosed ones that I decided to add an extra round to go with each one. (Ed. note: the double nosed ones don't look small to me.) Do you know Bill Schrader of Sandusky, Ohio? He . . . gives daffodil talks. He says, 'to demonstrate the modernization of the daffodil, I use a stem of species jonquil, one of Trevithian and compare the two with Oregon Gold with possibly 5 or 6 long lasting scented blooms.' The surprising thing about his statement is that I have never seen an Oregon Gold with more than four blooms and very few of them. Only had one with four last spring. Neither has Grant seen more than four. So I am wondering if it grows better in other areas."

We trust George's recovery will be complete, and that he will soon be operating at full speed. Also, those of you who grow 'Oregon Gold' might make a note to check the number of blooms per stem you get next spring. If my memory serves correctly, four blooms on a stem is not uncommon, but I don't recall seeing more than that. Let me know your observations, and I'll pass them along to George.

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I trust that you are all busily planting those newly acquired bulbs, and are contemplating winning many awards at the convention show next spring. And all you new members--don't hesitate to enter the show! A good flower is a good flower whether it's grown by a new member or one who's been growing daffodils for awhile. (You'll notice how I tactfully refrained from calling us "old" growers!) Bring your flowers, participate, and I think you'll agree it's a lot of fun.

Happy planting!

Dues are past due! A check mark here _____ means that you have not paid, and this is the last issue of CODS CORNER you'll receive. You really don't want to miss out, do you? Send your check for \$4.00 to Cecile Spitz, 4985 Charlbury Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43220.