

Standard.

Daffodil and Narcissus

"What is the difference between a daffodil and a Narcissus?" is a question often asked. The Journal of Horticulture answers the question in the following way: "Daffodils are all Narcissi, though all Narcissi are not Daffodils. Only those Narcissi with trumpets longer than the length of the perianth segments are properly daffodils."

Under whatever name they properly belong, however, they are always sweet and lovely, although the common, old-time, homely name daffodil comes more readily to our lips than Narcissus, and carries a charm which the other somehow seems to lack.

It is recommended that daffodils and Narcissus should be cut for indoor decoration when the buds are opening, and the stalks should be left long, as the flowers can then be grouped better, says Florence Beckwith in Vick's Magazine. Put as many blossoms together as you wish, but each kind should be in a separate glass. Don't bunch them; let each blossom have room enough to show itself in all its beauty.

The climate of England is better adapted to the growth of the daffodil than ours, and the "daffodil fever" rages there with great severity. The flower is seen everywhere, in gardens, streets and houses. Daffodil societies exist and annual exhibitions are held which people travel long distances to attend. A kind of daffodil mania exists at the present time and some new varieties command exorbitant prices; others no money can buy, as those who own them are so proud of them.

In Ireland much land is devoted to their culture, and the enormous quantities and the high values of choice bulbs which can be grown on an acre of suitable land are astonishing.

In our own country daffodils are being more largely cultivated every year. In California they are being raised in large quantities for the market and one cultivator has gained the title of "The Lady of the Daffodils," from her success in growing them. A more charming industry can scarcely be imagined, and it would seem that more women might find congenial and profitable occupation in this line in suitable locations.