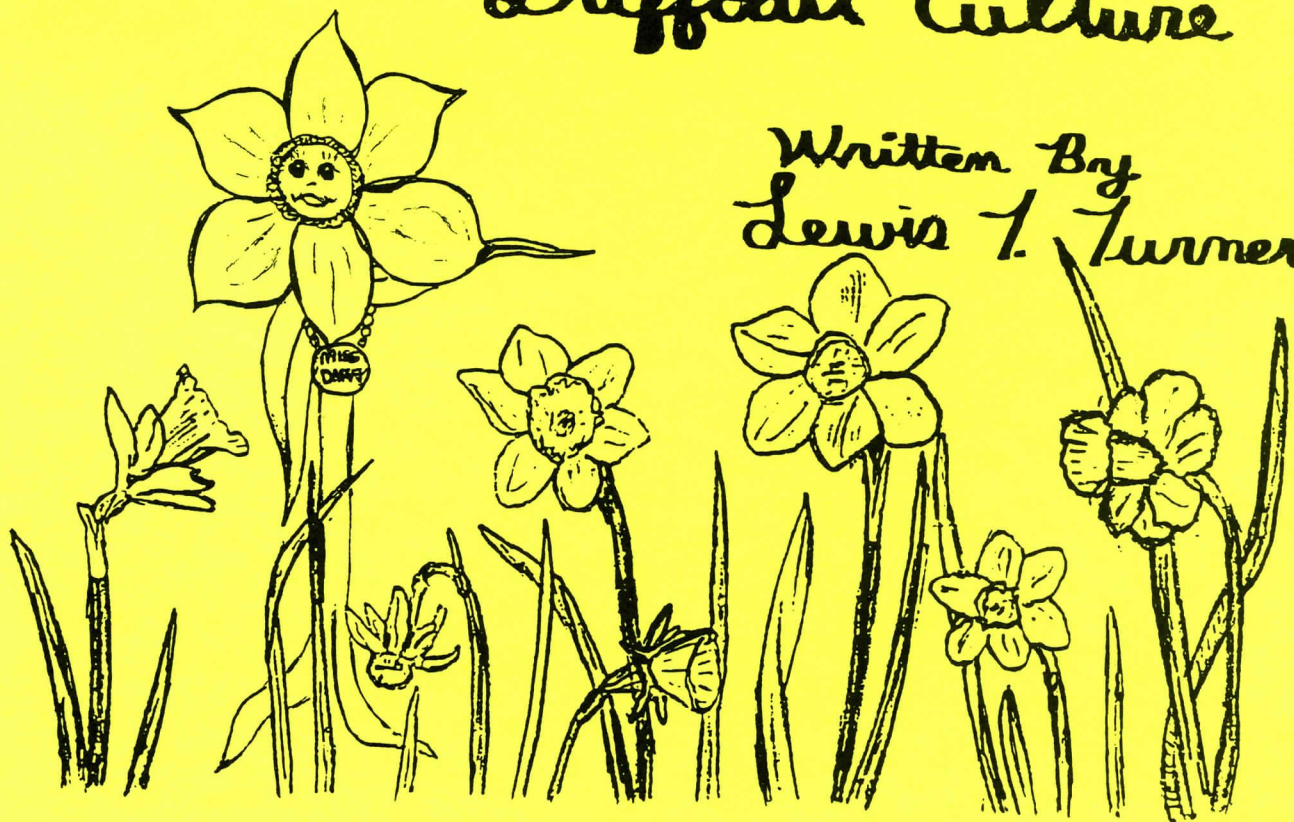


Let's Grow DAFFODILS

A Handbook
on
Daffodil Culture

Written By
Lewis T. Turner



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Drawings by Lewis T. Turner, except as noted
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Turner. Calligraphy by L. Thomas Turner Jr.

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Forward

Growing daffodils is a wonderful endeavor, and with the encouragement of the people in the American Daffodil Society, I have learned how basically simple it is to grow them, and to appreciate the grandeur of each bloom.

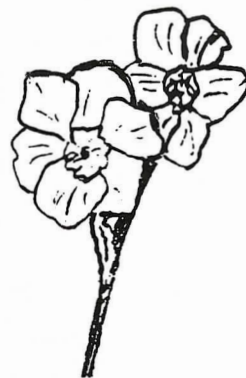
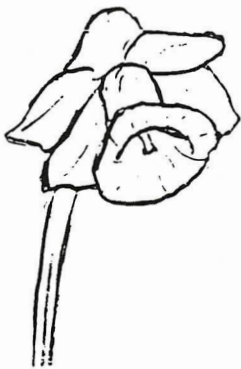
This book was written to share the knowledge that I have gained, for the purpose of encouraging others, as I have been encouraged.

I would like to make acknowledgments to the many people who have assisted me in the preparation of this book. My daughter, Nancy, designed the Miss Daffy pictures. The Royal Horticultural Society and the American Daffodil Society have graciously allowed the use of material pertaining to classification of daffodils and other technical aspects of daffodils. Mrs. Marie Bozievich has allowed the use of the classification drawings. Also, a special thanks goes to Mrs. Pauline Dickenson, who, with her knowledge of English and long time experience with daffodils, provided valuable input in preparation of the manuscript. There are others who have encouraged me, and have worked with me to make this publication possible. My thanks to them also.

Finally, much of the credit for this book goes to my wife, Sylvia, who not only encouraged me to write the book, but was also very patient with me during the writing of it.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
DAFFODILS, HERALD OF SPRING.....	1
DAFFODILS.....	3
PLANTING AREA IDEAS.....	4
DAFFODILS, WHERE TO PURCHASE.....	5
WHAT IS A DAFFODIL?.....	6
DAFFODIL CLASSIFICATION.....	6
DAFFODIL COLOR CODING SYSTEM.....	8
PLANTING.....	9
HOW TO PLANT DAFFODILS.....	10
WHEN TO PLANT.....	11
HOW TO GROW PRIZE WINNING DAFFODILS.....	12
CARE FOR YOUR BULBS.....	12
CUTTING DAFFODILS FOR ENJOYMENT.....	13
SHOW TIME.....	14
DAFFODILS IN POTS.....	15
PROPAGATION.....	16
HYBRIDIZING.....	17
GROWING SEEDLINGS.....	18
DISEASES.....	19
PESTS.....	19
HOW TO LEARN MORE.....	20



DAFFODILS, HERALD OF SPRING

Herald of Spring -- the delight they bring after Winter's deep dark hour -- the glory of Spring frolicking in the meadows, fields, and trees -- Daffodils -- ah Daffodils! Words are inadequate to describe the beauty you see.

Why not take someone's hand and go down to the meadowfield of daffodils, and enjoy with awe the yellow and white and the fragrance of a jonquil. Notice the trumpets -- how they play and dance in the wind -- and behold colors of orange, red, yellow and white in dazzling display.

Daffodils are lovely. There are fragrant ones -- big ones -- small ones. Their beauty is captivating and lifting to the soul. So why not learn how to grow them -- to enjoy them. Besides, where else is there a more exciting flower in the spring to enjoy and try?





DAFFODILS

Daffodils are a most versatile flower. They have been around for years and are easy to grow. They shine as beautiful stars and jewels when planted among shrubs or in fields. They mix well with many flowers and come back beautifully year after year. They can be used in arrangements. Their uses are almost limitless.

As you read on, this book will help instruct you on growing daffodils as well as give ideas for enhancing your enjoyment of them. Daffodils are not fussy and are very easy to grow. Yes they will even bloom for you. The only skill you need in growing daffodils is to follow two basic rules. Make sure you plant them in (1) a well drained area that (2) receives some sun. It is as simple as that. So go on ahead and try them. They are one of the easiest flowers to grow.



PLANTING AREA IDEAS

Here are a few excellent possible areas where Daffodils can be enjoyed.

SHRUB BORDER

When planted along an evergreen border, they will shine as sparkling jeweled stars.

ACCENT

Daffodils may be used as accent plants enhancing entrances, patios, and paths.

ROCK GARDENS

Miniature daffodils in rock gardens are a must and when nestled among sculptured rock and paths they seem to light the path.

NATURALIZING

And why not naturalize them in fields, lawns, and hills for a sight from afar. Many old favorites have proven themselves in the garden and as naturalizing subjects on a hillside, lawn, beside a brook, or wherever beauty can be had.

SPECIAL GARDEN BEDS

People just love to stop, look, and enjoy them. It is fun to grow them. Put one where it can be enjoyed by all.

Be creative and let your imagination fly. There is hardly a spot that daffodils will not grow, as long as there is some sun and a well drained area. So why not include them in your garden?

No wonder the popularity of Daffodils is growing. They are loved by many.



DAFFODILS, WHERE TO PURCHASE

If you haven't bought any Daffodils already, I know you will want to know where you should buy them.

Many garden catalogs carry fall bulbs and often include daffodils. Also, the Dutch are great promoters of daffodils, offering many of the older established cultivars. Many of the newer cultivars available through growers specializing in daffodils have been developed in the British Isles and the United States. Some of these growers are quite involved in the development of new cultivars. In fact, a leader in the development of pink daffodils was Grant Mitsch who lived in Oregon. His family still carries on his bulb business.

A word about price. New daffodils are more expensive than new lilies and gladiolus or other plants. The reason is that they do not multiply as fast, and it takes five to six years from seed to bloom and another six to nine years for a breeder to test his new seedling for consistency, health, and ability to multiply. This takes time and investment, and the breeder naturally wants to recover his investment. That is what helps him keep on producing new daffodils for us to enjoy. In time, the price does diminish as stocks grow in numbers.

Also, when you look through catalogs of daffodil specialists, you will find many use a classification set up by the Royal Horticultural Society to classify the plants. The system is easy to understand, and was set up to avoid confusion. We will be taking a close look at the daffodil classification, but first let's look at two general groups of Daffodils.

Selected species: Rock gardeners will love the way species narcissus adapts. They are usually smaller than most commercial daffodils and with a little care they will reward you with a bounty of blooms.

Hybrids: Most of the daffodils sold in the commercial market are hybrids. They are usually larger, more spectacular, and even more adaptable than the species. They have what is called 'Hybrid Vigor', which results from the crossing of two species together resulting in the offspring having amazing strength and vigor. This is one reason daffodils have been so durable and dependable. Also, breeders have worked hard to provide you with a spring jewel of amazing colors that will please you year after year.

Because of the extensive types and variations found in the above two groups, daffodils have been further divided into twelve group classifications, which will be discussed next.

WHAT IS A DAFFODIL?

To be botanically correct, daffodils are members of the Amaryllidaceae family. The genus is *Narcissus* which is a Latin name. The English name is daffodil. Some people call daffodils, narcissus, (which is the Latin name). Other people call all daffodils, jonquils, but jonquils are an actual subgroup or division of daffodils which will be discussed below. Often you will see a named bulb called a cultivar.

DAFFODIL CLASSIFICATION

Daffodils have been divided into twelve groups for descriptive purposes by the Royal Horticultural Society. In addition color coding has been assigned to aid in the description. Now let's first look at the groups or divisions of daffodils.

DIVISION 1: TRUMPET DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
one flower to a stem, trumpet as long or longer than the perianth segments.



DIVISION 2: LARGE-CUPPED DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
One flower to a stem, cup more than 1/3 but less than equal to the length of the perianth segments.



DIVISION 3: SMALL-CUPPED DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
One flower to a stem, cup not more than 1/3 the length of the perianth segments.



DIVISION 4: DOUBLE DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
One or more flowers to a stem, with doubling of the perianth segments or trumpet or the cup or both.



DIVISION 5: TRIANDRUS DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
Characteristics of *Narcissus triandrus* clearly evident; Usually two or more pendent flowers to a stem, perianth segments reflexed.



DIVISION 6: CYCLAMINEUS DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
Characteristics of *Narcissus cyclamineus* clearly evident; One flower to a stem, perianth significantly reflexed; flowers at acute angle to stem, with a very short pedicel (neck).



DIVISION 7: JONQUILLA DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN

Characteristics of the *Narcissus jonquilla* group clearly evident; Usually one to three flowers to a rounded stem; leaves narrow, dark green; perianth segment spreading not reflexed; flowers fragrant.



DIVISION 8: TAZETTA DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN
Characteristics of the *Narcissus tazetta* group clearly evident; Usually three to twenty flowers to a stout stem; leaves broad; Perianth segments spreading not reflexed; flowers fragrant.



DIVISION 9: POETICUS DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN

Characteristics of the *Narcissus poeticus* group without admixture of any other; usually one flower to a stem; perianth segments pure white; cup usually disc-shaped, with a green or yellow center and a red rim; flowers fragrant.



DIVISION 10: SPECIES AND WILD FORMS AND WILD HYBRIDS

All species and wild or reputedly wild variants and hybrids, and including those with double flowers.

DIVISION 11: SPLIT CORONA DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN

Corona split -- usually for more than half its length.



a: Collar daffodils

Split-corona daffodils with the corona segments opposite the perianth segments; the corona segments usually in two whorls of three.

b: Papillon daffodils

Split-corona daffodils with the corona segments alternate to the perianth segments; the corona segments usually in a single whorl of six.

DIVISION 12: MISCELLANEOUS DAFFODILS

Daffodils not falling into any of the foregoing divisions.

Classification descriptions courtesy of the Royal Horticultural Society and the drawings courtesy of Mrs. Marie Bozievich.

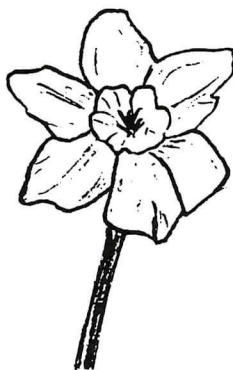
DAFFODIL COLOR CODING SYSTEM

We have listed the division descriptions and now want to show how the characteristics are displayed so that you will have an idea of what the flower is like. The division number is always listed first, then the perianth colors followed by a hyphen, then the corona colors. The corona color code is read from the eye zone, then the midzone, then the rim. The perianth is read from the rim to the eye zone.

Color coding: The following letters are used to denote the color:

W White or whitish
G Green
Y Yellow
P Pink
O Orange
R Red

Cultivar Name	Division Number	Perianth Color	Hyphen	Corona Color
Lancelot	1	Y	-	Y
Effective	1	WY	-	Y
Amber Castle	2	YYW	-	WYY
Ambergate	2	O	-	O
Sunapee	3	Y	-	YYR
Tahiti	4	Y	-	O
Silver Bells	5	W	-	W
Jetfire	6	Y	-	R
Suzy	7	Y	-	O
Highfield Beauty	8	Y	-	GYO
Cantabile	9	W	-	GGR
P. recurvus	10	W	-	YRR
Cassata	11	W	-	W



PLANTING

WHERE:

Where should I plant my daffodils? This is always a good question. In reality, the answer should be where ever they will best display their beauty.

Many garden planners have a special spot picked out where they believe that their jewel will look the best. When choosing that spot, there is a very important consideration -- probably the most important consideration for the well being of the daffodil -- they must be planted where there is GOOD DRAINAGE, in other words never plant where water stands and collects. That is throwing hard work and money away. Of all rules, this is Rule 1. Rule 2 is the plant should have some sun. Rule 3 is never plant a soft bulb because a soft bulb means a possible unhealthy bulb. You want to plant only healthy bulbs.

You can go to all lengths to provide the best drainage using drain tiles, sand, and so forth, but the best is deep soil preparation to provide drainage. Many people make the mistake of buying a \$50.00 plant and putting it in a 25 cent hole and then wonder why their plant did not grow. The same applies to daffodils. Daffodils are very versatile, but do best with drainage. They will grow well in clay, sandy soil, and a mixture of the two. However, from my experience, they do not like soil excessively high in organic matter.

Here are some areas and methods that provide the drainage.

Plant on a slight slope: This is the easiest way to insure rapid drainage of surface water. If necessary a mulch or ground cover can be used to hold the soil and keep it from washing away.



Raised beds: When you lack natural slope, raised beds are the easiest method to provide good drainage. Also, when the flowers bloom, you do not have to bend over so far to admire them.

Hills are another way to create raised beds and are worth a try when a true raised bed is not practical.

Raised Hill

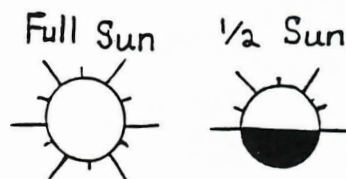


Proper preparation of soil in planting can increase drainage regardless of your planting method.

HOW TO PLANT DAFFODILS

SITE LOCATION

Some cultivars do well in full sun, while others, such as the pinks, seem to develop better color in partial sun. If a catalog says a variety has a tendency to burn in the sun, then give it some shade during the day.



SUGGESTIONS ON SOIL PREPARATION

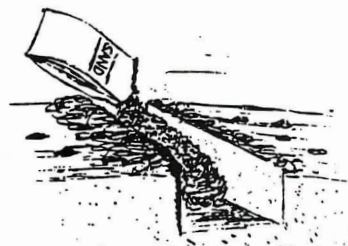
1. If you are planting in a single spot, lift out all the soil to the depth of your shovel and prepare it by breaking up lumps of dirt. If you are doing a whole bed, do a strip at a time. It seems easier!

2. Break up the lower layer, and add sand if desired. A large area should be worked to ensure drainage.

3. Mix the soil and sand.

4. Shovel the soil back into the hole adding sand as you do. This is a good time to add complete fertilizer. Be sure to mix it in thoroughly.

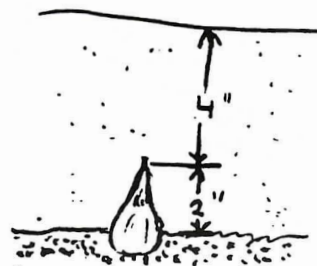
5. When finished, this spot will be a few inches above the surrounding soil. You can plant right away, or let the soil settle then plant.



Adding Sand for Drainage

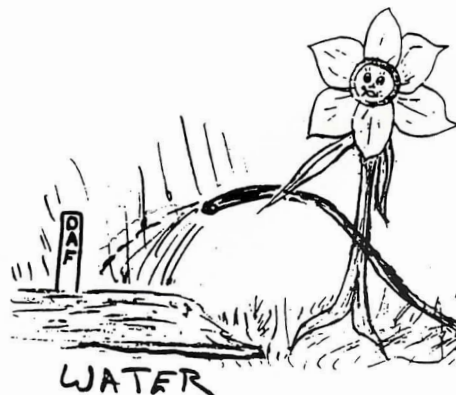
HOW DEEP TO PLANT

Most daffodils need to be planted about five to six inches deep. Species and miniature daffodils should be planted at about three inches deep, and these may need mulch each winter in some parts of the country. Large bulbs should be planted no closer than six to eight inches apart. Miniatures could be planted just a little closer together.



WATER IMMEDIATELY

The soil may feel moist when planting, but it still should be watered if possible. You do not want the water to puddle at planting, but a reasonable amount will help the bulbs get started.

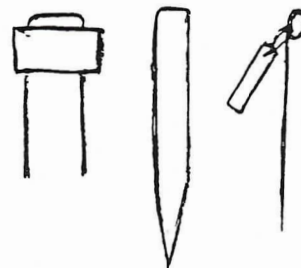


Fertilization: Daffodils need food, but excessive amounts will hurt the plant. Even experienced gardeners have had problems when they have gotten over-zealous with fertilizer. A well balanced fertilizer like 5-10-20 with trace elements is probably the best one to use. Avoid those that are high in nitrogen like lawn fertilizers. They can cause problems in making the bulb susceptible to fungus diseases.



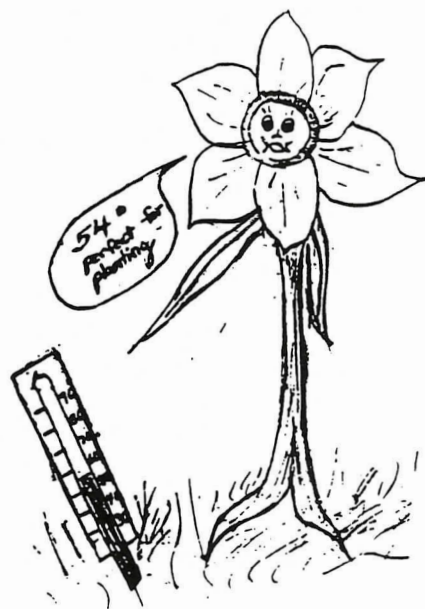
LABEL

You may remember where you planted the bulbs, and for a while, remember their names, but labels are the best aid to one's memory. They don't forget, and if you want to take any to a show, you will be glad you had them labeled. Also a chart of your garden is very helpful if the labels get lost.



WHEN TO PLANT

Experts say that when the soil temperature drops below 54 degrees Fahrenheit, (at bulb planting depth) it is safe to plant. This is because that soil above 54 degrees encourages fungus which can cause problems for newly planted daffodils. It is probably easier to plan your planting at the normal time of the first expected killing frost. This should have allowed time for the soil to cool down, and still should allow enough time for the roots of the bulbs to develop in the ground to acclimate them before winter arrives. You may want to use pine bark mulch on the bed as a precaution for the first year. Regardless of where you live, except in the deep south, the bulbs should be planted by Thanksgiving.



If the ground is frozen solid when you receive the bulbs, place them in vermiculite, or pot them in pots and store them in a cool frost free area. Plant them very early in the spring as soon as the ground can be safely worked.

HOW TO GROW PRIZE WINNING DAFFODILS

Daffodils are easy to grow and most grow happily by themselves giving you a spring display of tantalizing blooms. But with a little extra care you can increase the quality and beauty of the blooms.

Planting the bulbs using the best methods we have discussed, puts you off to a good start. Now let us look at some methods to help you obtain top quality blooms.

CARE FOR YOUR BULBS

Use Mulch: Even though many cultivars are very hardy, some mulch will help protect the bulb from extreme freezing and thawing. Two to three inches of mulch should help. Pine bark mulch is one of the best to use. In the spring, leave the mulch on. It will help keep the blooms clean, especially after a rain shower, and help to retain soil moisture.

WATERING: Water in dry weather is very important to bloom quality. When you water, remember, don't drown the plants. A soaking hose is a good way to apply water. Let the hose run until the soil is moistened to a depth of 6 inches.

GROUND COVERS: There are ground covers that will compete for food and water with those you want to grow for show. Choose those which do not make a dense growth of roots. Grass, because of its dense roots should be avoided, even though daffodils look great in lawns. There are some low growing ground covers that do not have dense roots and these are great. Creeping juniper is an example.

DISEASE PREVENTION: A diseased bulb will not give you a quality flower. A location with good soil drainage is a must to reduce fungus diseases. Good air circulation also helps promote good health of plants.

Factors such as weather cannot be controlled, but following the above will give the flower the best opportunity to give you its best bloom.

Care



CUTTING DAFFODILS FOR ENJOYMENT

Daffodils are also excellent as cut flowers -- and are superb in arrangements, bouquets, or just by themselves. They are long lasting, beautiful, graceful, bold, cheerful, and regal. They are durable, and are shipped all over by florists. What more could you ask?

When picking, break the stem near the ground and put it in tepid water until you are ready to arrange it. Don't cut the leaves of the plant. If you want greenery, then use a green shrub or ferns or other greenery available. The plant needs its leaves to grow and bloom the next year.

It's fun to have daffodils to cut -- for church -- for friends -- for the club -- or whatever. Every one loves fresh daffodils, so why not start a cutting garden.

With a cutting garden, you will have some blooms that are so superior that you will want to take these to a show in addition to sharing them. Don't be afraid. Many gardeners miss out on the rewards when they grow a flower that is superior to any they have seen. They always compare it to one in the show. If they had taken it to the show, they too, might have won an award. At the show you will find that there are people who will help you with your first-time exhibit. Talk to the show coordinator before the show to learn if you have to bring anything. They want you to come and be successful, and you will make new friends at the show who will help you in future years. They will also help you with whatever questions you have about growing and showing daffodils.



SHOW TIME

Show time can be enjoyable and rewarding. You want to be careful to pick a superior bloom. Listed below are a few hints on what to look for and how to prepare the bloom for show:

1. The perianth should be smooth and not crinkly.

2. The perianth segments should not have nicks or mittens.

3. Pick the best specimens. These will have the best form, color, and last the longest for you.

4. If you must take them somewhere, transport them carefully, providing tissue paper or other similar material to prevent bruising of the flower. Do not crush.

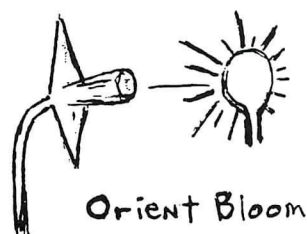
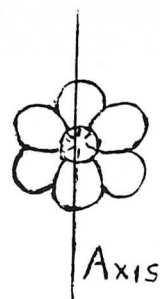
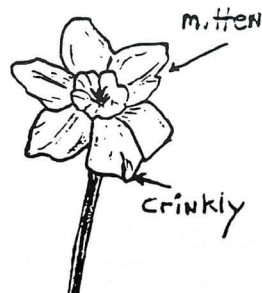
5. Do not remove the spathe. This will disqualify the flower.

6. Once you are ready to display the flowers, set them up so that you and others can enjoy their beauty.

7. The flower axis orientation should be vertical as shown in the picture. Some experienced exhibitors may help show you how to orient your prize daffodil.

8. The flower should be poised to look you in the eye when it is held out in front of you. (Cyclamineus are an exception to this rule). Some exhibitors use a light to help get the flower to face correctly. The bloom will move to face the light.

To ensure accuracy in the name and classification when you take daffodils to a show, you may want to purchase the book "Daffodils to Show and Grow". You do want to make sure when you show that the name and division are correct. The book can be obtained from the American Daffodil Society. The book lists daffodils generally available, and gives the classification by division and color.

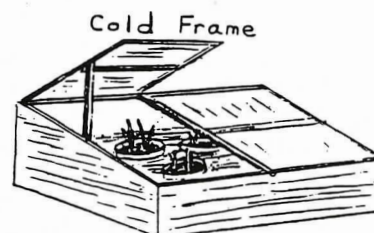


DAFFODILS IN POTS

Another way to enjoy daffodils is to grow them in pots for winter bloom. Some daffodils are as easy to grow inside as are the paper whites. They will brighten your home and fill it with fragrance during the dark winter months. It is not difficult to force daffodils, but you must keep in mind that some will force more easily than others. The author has had success with several different cultivars, and has found that some of the old reliable daffodils are good ones for forcing. Some garden centers have information on what varieties are best for forcing.

Let's discuss how to force Daffodils. All you need is a cold frame, an attic, or a sheltered cold spot, and a cool place to let the bulbs start growing when you bring them in. Now here is how to do it.

1. Cooling Period: Pot the bulbs in October and place them in a cold frame. There should be anywhere from three to six bulbs to a large pot. If you do not have a cold frame, but have an attic, place the bulbs in damp vermiculite in a pot and place them in the attic. They must be protected from freezing.



2. After twelve weeks, bring the pot in to a cool area, such as a basement. When the bulbs begin to grow, give them more warmth gradually and light. Soon you will see buds forming and not much later you will be rewarded with a beautiful pot of blooms. The only caution is not to rush the growing once the bulbs start growing by putting them in too warm an area.



After you are successful with your first pot, you will be more confident in your ability to force daffodils. Undoubtedly you will try other cultivars. Just remember one word of caution. A few don't like being forced, while others respond well. The rewards and successes will keep you trying if you try enough of them.

You can even experiment with blooming dates by leaving the pot in the cold frame longer. After a few years of experience you can even plan to have a blooming pot of daffodils for a special occasion.

When the bulbs have finished blooming, plant them outside as soon as possible. Let them grow at least two seasons before forcing them again. This lets them rebuild their strength.

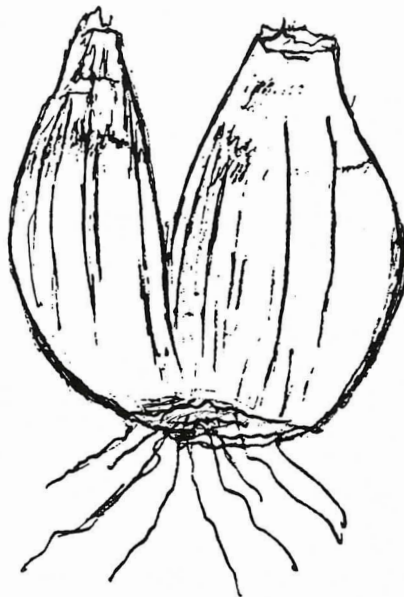
PROPAGATION

Propagation means increasing your daffodils -- And that will happen naturally if you have followed the planting procedures previously discussed. Most of the daffodils, once settled in will multiply on their own and can be divided every two to three years.

If you do your digging as the foliage dies back, you will know where the bulbs are and avoid injury to them. Bulbs are ready to divide when they will separate naturally. (Do not use a knife to make the division. A knife is a good way to spread virus problems.) Let the divided daffodil "cure" until October, when it should be planted again. This also allows the spot where the bulb and off shoot were joined to heal. Curing is accomplished by storing in a dry, dark, well ventilated area at room temperature. In the spring, if you are successful, you should have a new plant. Depending on the size of the new bulb, it may take a year or two before the new bulb blooms, but it will.

A good preventative for reducing the chance of losing the bulbs to fungus attacks is the use of a good fungicide. The best time to use it is just after you cleaned the bulbs.

Once the bulbs are harvested and cleaned, let them cure from June to the first frost in a dark, dry and well ventilated area.



HYBRIDIZING

One of the most rewarding and fascinating activities with daffodils is growing your very own hybridized seedlings. The time you took to plan your crosses -- speculating on the outcome -- dreaming -- doing the cross -- watching for seed pod development -- the satisfaction of seeds which contain the hope of a beautiful new cultivar, and finally after a patient wait, when you see your first bloom, you will feel the excitement that you have succeeded. If you make crosses every year, you will have new seedlings bloom each year after your very first cross blooms.

Is there room for amateurs as hybridizers? YES! We often think that hybridizing is for the professional and college professor. But the amateur daffodil grower has advantages that commercial breeders do not have. The amateur does not have to worry about commercial potential. He can pick a group of traits that appeals to him. Those who have done so often have made significant contributions, especially if they took the time to plan their crosses.

The actual mechanics of hybridizing are simple and listed below.

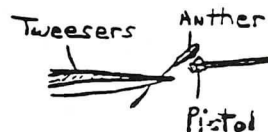
1. Provide yourself with some good bulbs. Many of the newer cultivars are excellent, but be selective. You want them to have good traits.

Collect the Pollen



2. Collect the pollen. Fresh pollen is the best, but if you must store it, dry it at room temperature for a day. Be sure to separate the anther from the filament. Then place the anther in a gelatin capsule, size #2 is good to use, being easy to handle and label. Place the capsule in the freezer, until it is ready to use.

Place the Pollen
on the Pistol

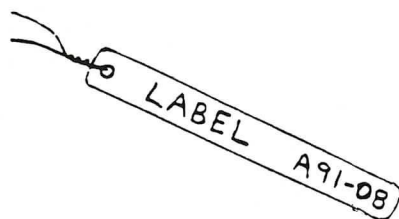


3. Select the seed parent ... The bud should have been open for about one day. If you want to keep Mr. Bee away, remove the petals, crown, and anthers as the bud opens.

4. Place the pollen on the stigma and label the plant. Be generous with the pollen.

5. Label the cross with a tag, and record it in a note book.

6. If the pod continues to develop after three weeks, you probably have a take and will obtain seed.



7. After about six weeks the seed will be ripe, and the pods will start to open. This is the time to harvest the seed. The seed should be black in color when ripe. If you are not able to collect the seed as the seed pod starts to open, use a small net bag around the pod to prevent loss of the seed. Record in your notebook the number of seed obtained.

8. Immediate planting of the seed in vermiculite or sterile soil increases the germination rate. The seed sometimes takes two years to germinate, so be patient. Germination is in the spring.

GROWING SEEDLINGS

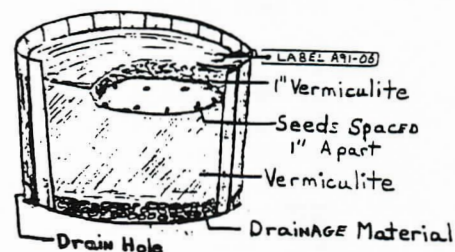
With a little careful attention given to seedlings, you will find that it is relatively easy to grow your own.

1. New seedlings should be grown in sterile soil or vermiculite until they have grown for at least two seasons. A well drained gallon pot is a good size pot to use for your seedlings during the first two years. After that they should then be planted in a permanent bed. A light application of fertilizer will be beneficial to the seedlings.

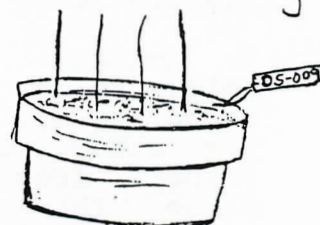
2. Each pot should be carefully marked with the identification of the cross.

3. First year seedlings have one leaf and may only have one leaf for the next two years or so. After a few years more than one leaf grows and in time the seedlings bloom. Many hybridizers find it takes about five years from seed to bloom for daffodils. Don't use a first time bloom as a seed parent. The bulb still needs to grow larger to rebloom. The pollen can be used in further hybridizing. The first bloom of the seedling is often its best, so watch for consistency in subsequent blooms. One that is consistently good year after year is a joy, and will bring you much delight. As you will probably want to display it in a show.

Seed Pod



Daffodil Seedlings



1ST Bloom



DISEASES

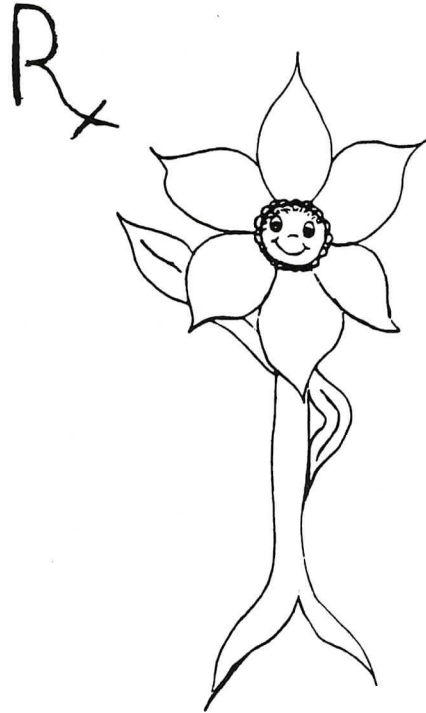
Fortunately, Daffodils are generally very hardy and most of the diseases that do occur will be seen only infrequently by the average grower. If you follow these guidelines you probably will have very little trouble.

1. Buy bulbs from a reliable source.
2. Plant in a well aerated and well drained soil after the first frost.
3. Do not use excessive amounts of organic matter, nitrogen, or phosphorus.
4. Promptly destroy infected plants if virus symptoms appear.
5. Remove flowers promptly after blooming.
6. Dig and replant in a new location at least every three years.
7. Discard misshapen bulbs when transplanting.
8. Destroy all debris.
9. Do not plant a soft bulb. It may harbor fungus or other diseases.

If you run into problems, the best people to call on are Daffodil society members, particularly those who are qualified as judges. They have had to study and understand the diseases and problems encountered in growing daffodils.

PESTS

In some areas of the country, the Narcissus Fly is troublesome. The best precaution, if you have trouble, is to follow instructions using pesticides approved. Many of the larger nursery centers may have a book listing these. Also, buying bulbs from a reputable dealer helps.



HOW TO LEARN MORE

DAFFODIL SHOWS

Daffodil shows are the best place to meet others who enjoy the same flower. Competition in the display of flowers is very keen. It is here that you will see daffodils at their very best. Take notes, for you will definitely see ones that you want to purchase or trade for. Most of all, take time to get to know other daffodil growers. As I have said earlier, most of them are very helpful and are happy to share their enthusiasm.

PARKS AND ARBORETUMS

Many of the large parks have collections of different plants. Some have specialized collections which may include daffodils, and when you find these, you will find the plants labeled. This allows you to see the daffodil growing naturally and how it performs.

TOURS

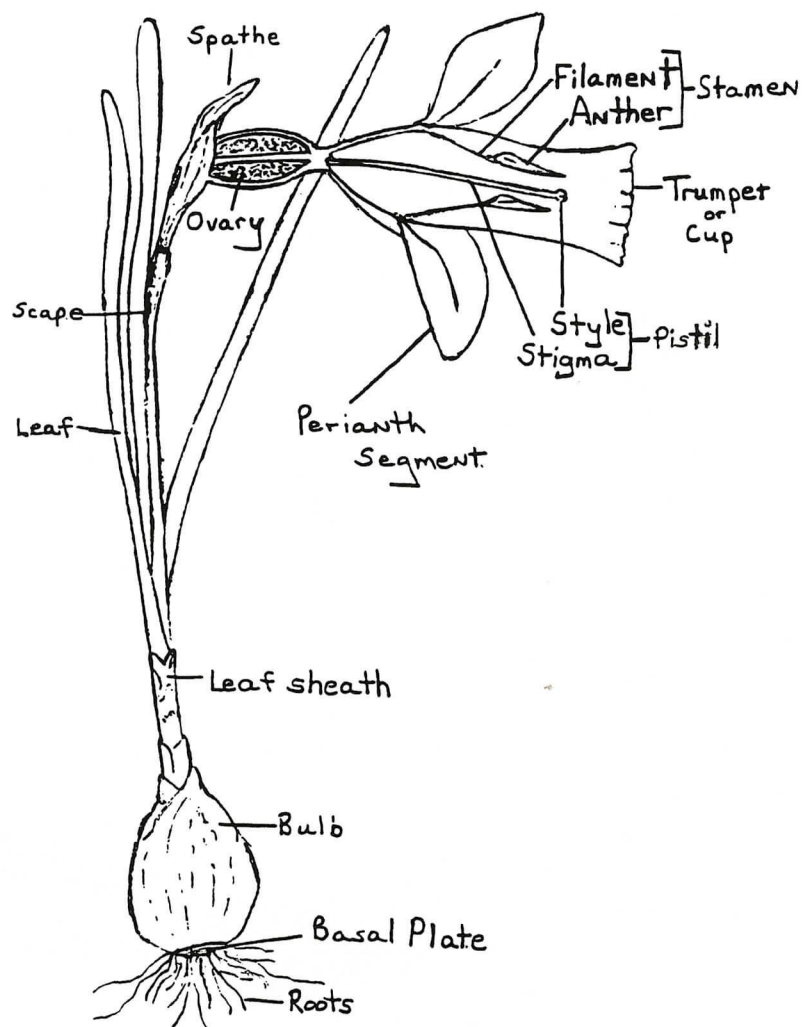
Often the local daffodil society will take tours of members' gardens, especially if they are hosting a Regional or National Show. These are fun and relaxing, and you will make new friends. The American Daffodil Society can put you in touch with the local societies.

Now, how do I learn more about the daffodil? I highly recommend that you join the American Daffodil Society. When you do, they will send you The American Daffodil Society bulletin "The Daffodil Journal". It is printed on a quarterly basis, and is very informative with a variety of articles on growing and enjoying daffodils. The address of the society is:

The American Daffodil Society
Mary Lou Gripshover
1686 Grey Fox Trails,
Milford, Ohio 45150

Another excellent source of information on daffodils is:

The Royal Horticultural Society
International Registration Authority for
Daffodils
80 Vincent Square
London SW1P 2PE



Cross-section of a Daffodil