

William R. P. Welch

GROWER OF NARCISSUS & OTHER DROUGHT RESISTANT BULBS DEER-PROOF & GOPHER PROOF

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PRICE LIST FOR MAIL ORDER

All prices are postpaid. Please enclose check with order, and give actual address (no P.O. Box) to allow UPS delivery. Make check payable to William R. P. Welch. It would be helpful also if you would give your phone number (home) to contact if there should be any problem. All orders should be in by September 1 as tazettas like to make new root growth early in the fall. Bulbs will be sent in August or September. Checks will be cashed on receipt. No orders accepted or sent out after October 1st. The later orders should list alternates if acceptable.

NARCISSUS

ALL SEASON COLLECTION: Twelve each of the following 6 varieties for \$50: Double Chinese, Early Pearl, Erlicheer, Golden Dawn, Matador, Paper Whites.

VARIETIES

AUSTRALIAN PAPER WHITE – An unusually sturdy form of Paper White with very heavy substance in the flowers, unusually broad petals, and very strong stems. 10-12" tall, carrying 15-20 florets, pure icy white throughout. A very vigorous plant with broad leaves and sturdy bulbs, increasing well. A good pot plant, as this one is shorter and stockier than many varieties making it a very well-proportioned plant. This is the Paper White ancestor of the various Pearl and Primo types, blooming along with them in February, later than other Paper Whites. Established bulbs make good clumps with numerous stems. Good for wet or dry locations. \$8 for 6, \$15 for 12.

AUTUMN YELLOWS – These are best grown in a dry-summer, naturalized situation as they are derived from crosses involving a number of wild and semi-wild forms of *Narcissus tazetta* native to dry Mediterranean areas. These will emerge and flower in late autumn or early winter, soon after the first rains, along with the Paper Whites. Being seed grown (see explanation of this under "Paper Whites") there are many variations among them in shape and size of bloom, time of bloom (November-February), fragrance, and color, which ranges from white to light yellow in the petals, with cups of yellow to orange, sometimes frilled along the edges, in clusters of 8-15 or more. Uncut flowers will form seeds (see under "Paper Whites"). \$8 for 6, \$15 for 12.

AVALANCHE – Blooms in late February or early March here. The sturdiest of the named varieties, having very neatly formed white flowers, rounded in shape, with lemon cups of fairly strong color. The very strong stems carry a cluster of from 15-27 or more florets, making a very impressive cluster, ideal for flower shows. Has a very pleasant sweet fragrance, somewhat like that on the Double Chinese type, but distinct. A very vigorous plant, making excellent bulbs that increase well and flower abundantly. Also of hybridizing value as it will set seed, especially if repeat pollinated as the florets age, and can be used as a pollen parent as well. Will cross with standard daffodils and others. Does well in wet or dry locations. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12

AVALANCHE CROSSES – The huskiest, most vigorous narcissus I grow, these are like Avalanche in general character, but generally with larger florets. Crosses of Avalanche by pollen of various members of the Autumn Yellows group, these resemble Avalanche but tend to have slightly larger florets, often with cream or pale yellow in the petals, and retaining the strong lemon cups of Avalanche. Plants often having even greater sturdiness than Avalanche, they form excellent sturdy bulbs that increase rapidly. Flowering in February here, the clusters of 15-20 or more florets have an excellent fragrance, and are borne on good strong stems. For the hybridizer, the pollen is viable, and many plants will also set seed. \$8 for 6, \$15 for 12

DOUBLE CHINESE SACRED LILY – Also known as Constantinople, denoting its natural origin in the semi-desert regions of the Middle East, this variety is ideally adapted to naturalizing without irrigation, even in the driest soils. Even in dry years, there will be enough natural rainfall to bring them into bloom by the end of January, if not sooner. In irrigated garden situations it will flower as early as late October or November, but it flowers best if left dry in the summer to flower at its natural time in the winter. A rapid multiplier, making numerous stems once it is established, having 8-12 flowers per stem, white with orange-yellow doubled centers. These have what many consider the best scent of any variety, different from any other and quite unlike the scent of the early Paper Whites, which flowers soon after. Often seen as a permanent feature of old gardens, having been brought to California in the 1800's by Chinese immigrants who used it in their New Year celebrations. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100

EARLY PEARL – This is also ideally suited to naturalizing without irrigation, flowering in late January. However, as it has abundant roots year-round, it is also suited to situations where it receives summer water, in which case it will tend to put up leaves earlier in the fall with flowering in late November or December. This is a very vigorous plant, with sturdy foliage and tall, strong stems. A derivative of Paper White, flowers are somewhat pointed in outline, creamy white with light yellow cups, 8-12 or more per stem. In many ways this is a yellow cupped version of Paper White with a lighter fragrance. This is the most vigorous increaser of anything I grow, so should be planted deeply (4" or more over the top of the bulb) to slow the rate of increase and thus prevent premature overcrowding. Once planted deeply, these can be left in place on as permanent a basis as any other variety, making clumps of large plants with very tall strong stems. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100

ERLICHEER – The main variety I grow, this has a gorgeous globular cluster of 15-20 flowers of white with light yellow centers, each is a neat little double flower reminiscent of a rose or gardenia. Very pleasantly fragrant and long-lasting, both on the plant and as a cut flower. A very heavy bloomer. Once established, this can also be naturalized on a permanent basis, where it will flower spectacularly in February and March. A proven performer, as it is simply a double-flowered mutation of the old Grand Primo, commonly seen in old gardens in California. This can also take summer watering with particular ease, so is ideally suited to use in professionally landscaped situations, where annuals are planted over the bulbs during the summer dormant period. The leaves will emerge again in the late autumn, with flowering in December and January. This is the most popular commercial cut flower variety I grow. Note also the long flowering season the variety is capable of, depending upon when it first receives irrigation or rainfall to bring it back into growth each year. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100, \$500 for 1000

GOLDEN RAIN – At last a yellow equivalent of Erticheer, this is a rich yellow fully double flower, very impressive and wonderfully scented. 10-15 florets on a strong stem 12" tall, a very vigorous plant with good leaves, bulbs, and increase. Flowers early here, in the January-February period. Derived from French Sol, a variety related to Soleil d'Or, this needs a dry summer baking to flower best. A careful search among the numerous petaloids will reveal viable pollen of value to the hybridizer. \$2.50 each, \$6 for 3, \$10 for 6.

GLORIOSUS – Not to be confused with poetaz Glorious, this is the best of the two forms of Gloriosus, being the Jersey form, with lightly frilled orange cups, white petals, and a large number of florets per stem with a very nice scent. A nice bright flower, blooming in late February or early March, this is highly fertile both as a seed parent and a pollen parent, making it very useful for the hybridizer. This is the likely tazetta parent of such poetaz varieties as Geranium and Early Splendor. \$5 each, \$10 for 3

GRAND MONARQUE – This is the true Grand Monarque. For at least 200 years this has been the king of the narcissus, with up to 15 or more 1-3/4" florets of white with strong lemon cups, on strong stems and having an excellent fragrance. This is a very large and vigorous plant making large strong bulbs. The parent of noteworthy offspring, this variety bears fertile pollen useful to the hybridizer. Season of bloom is later than other varieties of its type, helping to enhance cold hardiness. Bloom time here is in March. Best in drier locations. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12.

GRAND PRIMO – A standard variety for 200 years, this is super-vigorous with loads of florets per stem and lots of stems per bulb. Normally flowering in late February, the florets are white with a very light yellow center. Height 12". Commonly seen in old gardens in California and in the Texas and Gulf Coast areas, where it is often erroneously called "Grand Monarque." Ideal for naturalizing and recognized as being well-suited to problem soils in Texas and elsewhere. Suitable for wet or dry locations. Flowering as early as January or early February in milder, wetter locations. Heavily scented. Good increaser. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100

ODORATUS – More slender in nature than the other varieties, this grows 8-10" here, with flower cluster proportioned to match. Small enough to be considered a miniature in many situations. This is a very sweetly scented white with orange-yellow cups, 8-12 florets per stem, white with orange-yellow cup having a distinctive toothed or lightly frilled edge. Vigorous grower making healthy, but small, bulbs and good increase. A fairly late bloomer, flowering in March here. Suitable for wet or dry locations. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12

PAPER WHITES – Paper Whites traditionally offered for sale are clonal varieties such as Ziva or Galilee (as are the other varieties I grow), meaning all plants are derived by bulb increase from one original bulb, often hundreds of years ago. My Paper Whites, however, are seed grown, so they vary from one bulb to the next in time of bloom thus making flowers over a two months period from November on into January, prolonging the season beyond that which is normally expected of Paper Whites. Plants also vary slightly in shape and size of flowers, width of leaves, etc. but all are the famous pure icy white in color throughout, as is unique to Paper Whites. A very vigorous family of Paper Whites, these can be grown wet or dry. If the old flowers are left on the plant, these will naturally set seed pods, containing several round black seeds which can be sown in the autumn, making an interesting demonstration of how some varieties can also be grown from true seeds, resulting in small bulbs which will reach flowering size in 3-4 years. These will vary in the manner seen in the parental plants, or other ancestral types may show up. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100

POLLY'S PEARL – 15-20 1-1/2" florets on a very strong 12" stem, these are white with a creamy cup, nicely formed, well-rounded florets of show quality. A sturdy variety, best for drier situations, it will make a very large growth as it gets established. Flowers here in late February - early March. \$8 for 6, \$15 for 12

SILVER CHIMES – This has 8-15 large white (2") florets per stem, combining in hybrid form the large floret size of cluster narcissus variety Grand Monarque with the waxy substance inherited from the wild species *Narcissus triandrus*, a plant somewhat of jonquil character native to mountainous parts of Spain. From this plant it also inherits its bright green, oddly bent leaves, and rather light fragrance. Flowers are very unique in appearance, with somewhat reflexed petals and a rather long, slightly flared cup, with a tendency to face a bit downward. This is a very permanent variety that tends to bloom after the others, in late March, and can be grown in wet or dry locations. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100, \$500 for 1000

WHITE PEARL – This has 15-20 1-1/4" florets, on 12" stems, being a bit smaller than Polly's Pearl, but when established, this will make more stems per bulb, and is a faster increaser. Grows well in wet or dry situations, permanent. White with creamy cups. Lighter colored in the cup than Grand Primo, this variety is otherwise much like it, except in being a bit larger and more vigorous in all parts. \$8 for 6, \$15 for 12

AMARYLLIS BELLADONNA HYBRIDS – These are derivatives of the Cape (South African) belladonna, not to be confused with the old-garden "Amaryllis belladonna" commonly seen in Florida and along the Gulf Coast. These have 15-26 or more white, pink, or rose-red flowers in a spectacular cluster on a 2' stem, flowering without leaves in August or September. Foliage appears in the autumn and remains until early summer. It is shiny dark green, 2 inches broad and a foot long. The individual flowers are lily-like, about 3 inches long and 3 inches across, with a strong, pleasant fragrance. This is a seed-grown mixture, all from hand pollinations made onto selected parent plants. Like the tazetta narcissus, these are adapted to a dry summer climate, however, the large branching roots are permanently at work and can benefit from a light monthly watering during the summer months. A mulch is beneficial, especially in somewhat colder areas, where the bulb is hardy down to around 15 degrees, with the foliage showing some damage at 25 degrees, but readily recovering later in the spring as the bases of the leaves continue to grow from inside the bulb. The colors, cultural preferences, and lack of foliage at flowering make these an ideal companion plant for Agapanthus (Lily of the Nile), whose clusters of smaller blue flowers are produced at the same time. Best left in place to form large clumps, these bulbs dislike transplanting so will not flower until a year or two after planting. The 2-3 year old bulbs I offer transplant readily and will be well-established by the time they reaching flowering size in 1-2 years. 12 for \$5, 100 for \$40.

SCILLA PERUVIANA – Dark blue 3/4" flowers, with a hint of lilac, arranged in a dense cone-shaped head of up to 100 florets, opening on a very strong 8" stem, which elongates as the florets open (bottom ones first) to a height of 12" or more. Bloom lasts for quite a long time, as the lower florets disappear and more open higher up the stem. Flowering period is April-May, usually starting just after the late narcissus and daffodils. Foliage is a rosette of shiny dark green broad leaves, which persists into the summer, particularly in a shaded location. Likes a moist location, and can stand quite a bit of shade, but also does well in a dry sunny spot. As they have year-around, branching fleshy roots, like on the amaryllis, they can benefit from water at any time of year. Native to the coastal Mediterranean, like the tazettas, it should be mulched well in cold climates, or grown as a container plant for which it is excellent, to be brought indoors during the cold period and taken out in the spring before flowering. Top growth appears to be fully hardy at least into the mid-teens, and as this flowers fairly late in spring, the buds are not present at a time when they would be vulnerable to damage. \$3 each, 10 for \$25.

For coldest climates, the following varieties are best, although those above will often do well if planted early and mulched heavily. Hardier sorts:

BRIGHT SPOT (Matador X redcup daffodil probably) – Formerly known as A16/1. Quite distinct from other Matador crosses, being closer to the poeticus or Division 3 redcup daffodil types. 1-3 large florets (up to 2-1/2") of very heavy substance, creamy white with blazing orange-red cups, on very tall, strong stems. Often gives a second crop of stems later in the season. Main crop of stems appears in late February here, slightly ahead of Matador and most others of redcup coloration. Very vigorous grower and excellent increaser. Should have good cold hardiness given its apparent large dose of redcup daffodil or poeticus in its ancestry. Good for wet or dry locations. \$5 for 3, \$9 for 6, \$16 for 12

CASTANETS (Matador x Soleil d'Or) – Combines the relative cold-hardiness of Matador with the brilliant color of Soleil d'Or. Deep golden-yellow petals with fiery orange-red cup, 4-8 large 2" florets per stem. March blooming. Vigorous grower with tall stems, very adaptable and permanent. Heavily scented. Sets seed. \$10 each.

GOLDEN DAWN – Easily the heaviest producer of flowers and one of the fastest increasers of anything I grow, this variety puts up an entire second crop of stems as the first ones are fading. Flowering begins in mid-February, continuing until about the first of April. Flowers are larger than on the earlier varieties, and of a rich yellow with light orange cups, in clusters of 5-8 on tall strong stems. This is a hybrid of the cluster narcissus type crossed with the Spanish jonquil, from which it inherits its reblooming ability as well as its naturally small bulb size and narrow foliage. Also from the jonquil comes its unique and heavenly scent, and its ability to flower well even from very young offset bulbs. Golden Dawn can be both naturalized in a dry-summer situation, or grown where irrigated including when overplanted with summer annuals during the dormant season, making it, like Erlicheer, ideal for professionally landscaped situations, and one of the best all-around varieties in existence. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100, \$500 for 1000

MARTHA WASHINGTON – Large 3" florets, 2-3 per stem, white with orange cups, late blooming, strong and tall. Has excellent cold hardiness as it is a backcross of poetaz with the standard daffodil type. Often makes secondary stems. Grows and increases well. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$60 for 100

MATADOR – 3-5 two inch florets on a very strong, tall stem, very brightly colored flowers of light yellow with orange-red cup, fragrance is very nice and different from most others. This is a cross of the large daffodil type with the cluster narcissus, flowering in late February with secondary stems in March when established. This variety does best naturalized or in a fairly dry situation. \$6 for 6, \$12 for 12, \$30 for 50, \$60 for 100

WHITE OWL – A cross of a standard white trumpet daffodil x tazetta Scilly White, a variety similar to the Primo/Pearl types. 2-3 large 2" white florets with a long creamy cup, a bit like seen in a trumpet daffodil, on a strong 12" stem. This is a vigorous permanent variety, that develops into large bulbs, increasing and flowering well. Flowering fairly late here, in mid-March, probably April in colder climates. Has good cold hardiness despite the Paper White ancestry inherited through Scilly White. \$3 each