

The First National Daffodil Symposium

THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Some forty-five judges of wide experience covering every section of the United States have cooperated to produce the first nationwide Symposium of the best in Daffodils as grown in American gardens in 1955. The Symposium makes no pretense of being a "Popularity Poll" although no items are listed unless grown in a majority of the regions of the country and have considerable distribution. First year experiences are avoided.

All flowers are listed that received a numerical rating of 60 or more points out of a possible 100 and were reported from one or more of the nine geographic regions. The point score was determined by rating 3 for 1st choice, 2 for 2nd, and 1 for 3rd. This rating was made regardless of the number of varieties actually reported. For some classes, and in some regions, only one variety may have been reported.

Daffodils are listed according to their accepted classification divisions. In each classification items are listed in the order of their preference by the judges. Comment by the Symposium Committee follows each classification and a listing of "novelties" without rating as presented to the Committee is also given although no pretense of including all the new ones is made.

1A Trumpets (Self Yellow)

1. 'Kingscourt'
2. 'Hunter's Moon'
3. 'Milanion'
4. 'Moonstruck'
5. 'Mulatto'
6. 'Golddigger'
7. 'Cromarty'
8. 'Grape Fruit'
9. 'Ulster Prince'
10. 'Goldcourt'
11. 'Principal'
12. 'Burgomeester Gouverneur'
13. 'Royalist'
14. 'Dawson City'

Comment: 'Kingscourt' and 'Hunter's Moon' appeared in almost every report, favorite yellow trumpets. It is noteworthy that the elderly 'Royalist' and 'Dawson City' are still highly rated. 'Moonstruck' and 'Ulster Prince' are the two newest items to receive general approval.

Novelties: 'Luna Moth,' 'Spanish Gold' and 'Virtue' were the three most repeated suggestions for novelties to try. But 'Fine Gold,' 'Golden Dollar,' 'Arranmore,' 'Golden Goddess' and 'Moonrise' also appear to be future contenders.

1B Trumpets (Bicolor—white perianth with yellow trumpet)

1. 'Preamble'
2. 'Content'
3. 'Trousseau'
4. 'Effective'
5. 'Foresight'
6. 'Spitzbergen'

Comment: 'Preamble,' a new and fairly expensive item, closely followed by 'Content' and 'Trousseau,' are the clear pick of the bicolor trumpets. 'Effective,' a rather old one, while not rated first in many reports, was included in almost all the lists.

Novelties: Apparently the ones to watch among the novelties are 'Ballygarvey' (Dunlop), 'Lapford' and 'Pensive' by Wilson.

1C Trumpets (Self Whites)

1. 'Cantatrice'
2. 'Broughshane'
3. 'Beersheeba'
4. 'Mount Hood'
5. 'Kanchenjunga'
6. 'Tain'
7. 'Ardclinis'
8. 'Samite'

Comment: 'Cantatrice' is the overwhelming preference in white trumpets with 'Broughshane' and 'Beersheeba' appearing on most reports as number 2 choice. But 'Broughshane' and 'Cantatrice' are relatively new to be so widely distributed. There were complaints about

the health of 'Cantatrice' and coarseness of 'Broughshane' in several regions.

Novelties: Some impressive novelties are 'Alycidon,' 'White Prospect,' 'Glenbush,' 'Glenshesk,' 'Vigil' and 'Hindustan,' but of course the one all the fanciers are holding their breath to see is Wilson's 'Empress of Ireland.'

1D Trumpets (Reverse Bicolor—The reverse of 1B)

'Spellbinder'

Comment: There appears to be only one well distributed reverse bicolor. This is a small new class.

Novelties: Grant Mitsch's new 'Lunar Sea' is rated as a prime contender.

2A Large Cup (Self Yellow)

1. 'Galway'
2. 'Carlton'
3. 'St. Egwin'
4. 'Golden Torch'
5. 'Crocus'
6. 'St. Keverne'

Comment: 'Galway' is the overwhelming choice as the best self yellow big cup. Old 'Carlton' is next. Almost all reports rated 'Crocus' but down-graded it in many areas on health. The surprise in this list is 'St. Keverne,' a rather expensive, neat, refined, new one.

Novelties: The novelties most often mentioned are 'Mulrany,' 'Amberley' and 'Ormeau.'

2A Large Cup (yellow perianth, orange or red crown)

1. 'Ceylon'
2. 'Narvik'
3. 'Armada'
4. 'Carbineer'
5. 'Dunkeld'
6. 'Aranjuez'
7. 'Rustom Pasha'
8. 'Royal Mail'
9. 'Tinker'
10. 'Indian Summer'
11. 'Garland'

Comment: 'Ceylon' is a relatively new and expensive flower to be overwhelmingly first in this huge class and it proves that if an item is good enough the amateurs will buy it regardless of price. And

the placing of 'Aranjuez,' 'Carbineer' and 'Rustom Pasha' in such a list proves that if an item is good enough gardeners will go on buying it regardless of how old it is.

Novelties: 'Craigwarren,' 'Kindled,' 'Foxhunter,' 'Royal Charger,' 'Firemaster,' 'Galcador,' 'Revelry,' 'Lady Luck,' 'Red Idol,' and 'Red Rascal' were the new ones most often mentioned as those to watch in the future.

2B Large Cup (white perianth, yellow crown)

1. 'Green Island'
2. 'Polindra'
3. 'Brunswick'
4. 'Coverack Perfection'
5. 'Penvose'
6. 'Greeting'
7. 'Daisy Schäffer'

Comment: 'Green Island' is the overwhelming preference in this large group formerly designated as big Leedsii. And please note 'Daisy Schäffer' in the group although many reporters complained about difficulty in getting clean bulbs in some regions.

Novelties: 'Tudor Minstrel,' is the novelty everyone mentions in this group although several praised 'Bithynia,' 'Manchu,' 'My Love,' and 'Aldergrove.'

2B Large Cup (white perianth, red or orange cup)

1. 'Kilworth'
2. 'Duke of Windsor'
3. 'Selma Lagerlof'
4. 'Arbar'
5. 'Signal Light'
6. 'Rubra'
7. 'Fermoy'
8. 'Daviot'
9. 'Rococo'

Comment: 'Kilworth' is the unenthusiastic point winner of this class; in fact, with two exceptions, all the items in this group are placed by a great number of second and third choices. The two exceptions are the expensive newcomers, 'Arbar' and 'Signal Light.'

Novelties: The four most mentioned novelties are 'Fire Gleam,' 'King Cardinal,' 'Blarney's Daughter,' and 'Satin Queen.'

2C Large Cup (all white)

1. 'Zero'
2. 'Ludow'
3. 'Truth'
4. 'Carnlough'
5. 'Jules Verne'
6. 'Ave'

Comment: Guy Wilson's ice-white 'Zero' is the clear preference in big-cup whites, closely followed by 'Ludlow' and 'Truth.' The feature of this group again is the inclusion of a relatively new one in 'Ave.' Some regions complained of temperament in this group, especially in rainy seasons.

Novelties: The hot numbers to watch in this group especially include 'Woodvale,' 'Glenmanus,' and 'Pigeon.'

2D Large Cup (reverse bicolor: yellow perianth, white cup)

'Binkie'

Comment: 'Binkie' is the unanimous and sole choice in this very limited group.

Novelties: Grant Mitsch and several English hybridizers report some interesting seedlings in this class but no names have been suggested as yet.

3A Small Cup (yellow perianth, yellow, orange or red cups)

1. 'Chungking'
2. 'Market Merry'
3. 'Ardour'
4. 'Apricot Distinction'

Comment: 'Chungking' is the overwhelming preference in this group, with 'Market Merry' rated largely on second performance votes. Mitsch's new 'Ardour' is the interesting item in the group and suggests that gardeners are out looking for a better 3A.

Novelties: The only new one urged in this group is 'Arnhem' which is not too new at that.

3B Small Cup (white perianth, colored cup)

1. 'Limerick'
2. 'Blarney'
3. 'Mahmoud'
4. 'Bravura'
5. 'Carolina'
6. 'St. Louis'
7. 'Angeline'

Comment: 'Limerick' is the preference in this group by a close margin over 'Blarney.' This is a strong class and is closely contested.

Novelties: The novelty accent is on 'Corncrake,' 'Tulyar,' 'Carnmoon,' 'Lough Areema,' 'Artist's Model,' 'Glenwherry,' and 'Masaka.'

3C Small Cup (all white)

1. 'Chinese White'
2. 'Cushendall'
3. 'Frigid'
4. 'Bryher'
5. 'Portrush'
6. 'Foggy Dew'

Comment: 'Chinese White' is the overwhelming preference in the all-white cups with 'Cushendall' the runner up. 'Portrush' and 'Foggy Dew' are placed largely by second choice votes. Some reporters complained about 'Chinese White's' neck.

Novelties: No new ones have been suggested in this class.

4 Doubles

1. 'Cheerfulness'
2. 'Yellow Cheerfulness'
3. 'Swansdown'
4. 'Falaise'
5. 'Shirley Temple'
6. 'Mary Copeland'

Comment: 'Cheerfulness,' the old tazette gardenia daffodil, is the undoubted preference in this not too popular group. The group features two relatively new items in 'Swansdown' and 'Shirley Temple' that may suggest a trend.

Novelties: The big novelties are 'Gay Time' and 'Double Event.' There is also some interest in 'Golden Ducat' and 'Hollandia.'

5 Triandrus

1. 'Silver Chimes'
2. 'Rippling Waters'
3. 'Tresamble'
4. 'Thalia'

Comment: 'Silver Chimes,' a hybrid, looking like a white tazetta, is the overwhelming choice in the small cup triandrus group and 'Tresamble' the unquestioned preference in the large cup.

Novelties: 'Lemon Drops,' 'Thought-

ful,' and 'Rosedown' are the new ones to try.

6 *Cyclamineus*

1. 'Beryl'
2. 'Charity May'
3. 'Peeping Tom'
4. 'Jenny'
5. 'February Gold'

Comment: 'Beryl' is the preference in this nodding class but the popularity of the new 'Charity May' and 'Jenny' demonstrates eagerness in this group for better items.

7 *Jonquilla*

1. 'Trevithian'
2. 'Golden Perfection'
3. 'Chérie'
4. 'Golden Goblet'
5. 'Golden Sceptre'

Comment: 'Trevithian' is the overwhelming preference in this group.

Novelties: No actual novelties are reported but among the newer ones, 'Sweetness,' 'Tittle-Tattle,' and 'White Wedgwood' seem most promising.

8 *Tazetta* (Multiflowered, Poetaz)

1. 'Geranium'
2. 'Martha Washington'
3. 'Orange Wonder'
4. 'Cragford'

Comment: 'Geranium' is the point winner in a close race over 'Martha Washington' in this not too popular class.

Novelties: Among the newer items are 'Anna-Brita' and 'Laetitia'—very promising.

9 *Poets* (Poeticus)

1. 'Actaea'
2. 'Cantabile'
3. 'Seagreen'
4. 'Smyrna'

Comment: With only about half the judges reporting in this class 'Actaea' is clearly preferred with 'Cantabile' being boosted in the connoisseur corner.

Novelties: 'Groenlo?' is the only new one suggested.

10 *Species, Wild Forms and Hybrids; Miniatures* (under 10 inches)

1. 'Raindrop'

2. 'April Tears'
 3. 'Fairy Circle'
 4. 'Frosty Morn'
 5. 'Tanagra'
 6. 'Xit'
 7. *watieri*
 8. 'Lady Bee'
 9. 'Flomay'
 10. 'Sun Disc'
 11. 'Kidling'
 12. 'Yamolf'
 13. 'Mustard Seed'
 14. 'Angie'
 15. 'Sneezy'
- cyclataz*
'Dawn'
triandrus aurantiacus
triandrus albus
obvallaris
Pencrebar
rupicola
tenuior
Nor-nor
minor
Lintie
triandrus calathinus
cyclamineus
bulbocodium conspicuus
Tristesse
canaliculatus

Comment: Although a great many of the judges made no report on miniatures, those who did report indicated more than average knowledge of this fast-growing class. 'Raindrop' was the clear preference followed by 'April Tears' and the little 3B 'Fairy Circle.' The placings in the order of preference after the first 15 involved too much hair splitting to mean a great deal.

Pinks

1. 'Rosario'
2. 'Rose of Tralee'
3. 'Interim'
4. 'Moylena'
5. 'Ann Abbott'

Comment: 'Rosario,' an Australian 2B, is the preferred pink with 'Rose of Tralee' a close second.

Novelties: Of course, the new pink everyone wants to see is Richardson's 'Salmon Trout.' Other much talked of pinks are 'Karanja,' 'Belleek,' 'Rose Caprice' and Dunlop's 'Pink Isle.'