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CATALOGUE OF

Dows'
Delightful
Dahlias
and
Glorious
Gladioli

Trade Names
adopted 1921

GROWN AND SOLD BY

AZRO M. DOWS

A. W. DOWS & CO.

DRUGGISTS

2 Merrimack Square

Lowell, Mass.

BULB DEPARTMENT

Greetings:

For several years I have been growing Dahlias, Gladioli, Peonies, Perennial Phlox and Cannas. Limited sales of the bulbs have been made by selection from displays of the beautiful flowers at my drug store, Merrimack Square, during 1920. This has led to the issue of this modest catalogue containing the names and descriptions of some of the very best varieties in existence, which I shall have for sale this season.

Agro W. Dows.

DAHLIAS

My sales of Dahlias last year exceeded all expectations. As Dahlia roots grow in clumps much care must be exercised in order that at least one eye will start into growth. For this reason orders must be in early if you wish to make sure of your selections. Each root sent out will be guaranteed as to variety. Prices are for single bulbs. Orders will be filled in rotation and when ready you will be notified. Deliveries will be from the drug store at Merrimack Square.

Location: Any good garden soil will grow dahlias and they will do equally well on high or low land. A sunny, airy location is best.

Planting and Cultivation: Good stable manure ploughed in in the fall and turned again the following spring makes the ground light. In this locality plant from May 15 to June 15. Dig a hole six inches deep. Lay the bulb flat and cover four inches. Two feet apart in the rows and each row three feet apart is best for proper growth, but if space is limited they can be planted closer. When the sprout shows four leaves pinch out the center of the stalk and a branch will be forced out at each joint, making four main stalks. This insures a strong, sturdy plant, not likely to blow over in high winds. Then fill in the ground level. Keep the soil well cultivated. This is the most important if you look for best results. The use of any good commercial fertilizer, a small handful worked into the soil around each plant during its growth, will well repay you in larger flowers.

Blooms for Display: In order to get the largest flowers it is quite necessary that you disbud severely. Pinch out all small side branches and buds, letting only the largest mature. Unlike the Gladiolus the Dahlia is a continuous bloomer until frost kills the tops.

Digging and Storing: Lift the clumps carefully after the frost has killed the tops, taking care not to break the necks of the tubers. Once the neck is broken there will be

no sprout next spring. Throw all broken parts away. Dry off for a few hours, then store in a cool place at a temperature if possible between 40 and 50. I find packing the clumps bottom side up in barrels paper-lined and covered loosely with burlap the best way to keep them through the winter.

CLASSIFICATION OF DAHLIAS.

Cactus Dahlias. Flowers fully double, floral rays or petals long, narrow, often twisted or incurved.

Decorative Dahlias. Double flowers, full to the center, rather flat than ball-shaped, with broad, flat, round or pointed petals.

Peony-Flowered Dahlias. Flowers are semi-double, having two or more rows of petals, surrounding an open center, which is usually a conspicuous golden yellow.

Pompon Dahlias. Same shape and form as the Show Dahlia but under two inches in diameter.

Show Dahlias. Flowers ball-shaped, full to the center, showing regular spiral arrangement of florets, petals often quilled and tight.

Dahlias are listed in alphabetical order with the classification abbreviated thus: Decorative (Dec.)

Customers desiring to purchase by color **only** without regard to classification will find it convenient to purchase the **color** assortment containing one bulb each of red, white, yellow, purple, pink and deep maroon. Six colors for \$1.00 two of each, or 12 for \$1.85. General mixture or mixed colors, \$1.50 doz.

All orders should be addressed to

AZRO M. DOWS,
A. W. DOWS & CO.,
2 Merrimack Square,
Lowell, Mass.

(Gardens, 136 Smith Street).

Enclosed find Order Form for your convenience.



AMAZON (Cac.). A beautiful purple violet. 35c.

AMBER QUEEN (Pompon). Rich, clear amber, shaded apricot. One of the best. 25c.

AMERICAN BEAUTY (Show). A champion seedling from the well-known French variety "Le Colosse," being almost identical in form and size. The color is a gorgeous wine-crimson. 35c.

BEDINIA (Cac.). Clear, bright orange, striped and flaked red; very striking. 25c.

BERGMAN'S SILBER (Cac.). A pure waxy white. Sharp pointed petals. 35c.

BERTHA VON SUTTNER (Peony). Giant Holland Peony-shaped Dahlia. A very beautiful shade of salmon-pink, delicately overlaid yellow. Elegantly twisted petals. 75c.

BIANCA (Cac.). New Holland introduction, color a delicate pink lavender, carried erect on stout stems. A Hybrid Cactus. \$1.00

BUTTERFLY (Cac.). Clear bright red, well pointed petals. Late in season, often tipped white. 35c.

- CÆCILIA (Peony).** Large creamy white, One that will give perfect satisfaction. 50c.
- CALIFORNIA (Peony).** From Holland. Beautiful clear, deep yellow. Exceptionally large and produced on long, stiff stems. \$1.00.
- CARDINAL (Peony).** New Holland Dahlia. Maroon Purple in color, and produced on long, stiff stems, well above the foliage. A grand color. \$1.00.
- DARLENE (Dec.).** An exquisite shade of live shell pink with a dainty blending of white at the center. Very early, and one of the most satisfactory for cutting. Free bloomer, covering the whole plant with flowers from early July till frost. \$1.50.
- DELICE (Dec.).** The finest and brightest pure pink in existence. Flowers of good size, well above the foliage. One of the best cut flowers. 35c.
- DR. JOHN FLOOD (Dec.).** A strange combination of cerise and white. White on reverse side of the petals. A very large flower. 75c.
- DREER'S WHITE (Show).** An excellent Dahlia for garden effect and for hedges. One of the very best snow-whites. Has bushy habit and grows about 3 feet high. 50c.
- DREER'S YELLOW (Show).** A beautiful Colossal Show Dahlia of perfect form; stems long and straight, carrying the flowers well above the foliage. Flowers a perfect ball 7 or 8 inches in diameter. Color, a rich, sulphur yellow. 50c.
- EXMOUTH GLORY (Dec.).** An English Dahlia. Color, reddish apricot and orange, tipped white. Very free flowering, large and tall. 75c.
- FIREBURST (Show).** A gigantic Colossal scarlet Dahlia, more flatly built and longer petals than most Show Dahlias. Flowers often 8 inches or more in diameter. 50c.
- FRANCIS MARTIN (Dec.).** A white ground, overlaid lavender. Stems long and stiff. One of the most charming new Decoratives, and one that will give satisfaction. \$2.00.
- FRANK A. WALKER (Dec.).** A charming shade of deep lavender pink. For garden decoration, or for cut flowers this variety is especially good. 75c.
- GEISHA (Peony).** Brilliant scarlet and gold, clear golden yellow at center. A most charming combination of color. Twisted and curled petals. Very original and odd. \$1.00.
- GENERAL MILES (Show).** Light violet, striped and splashed with purple magenta. An enormous flower borne on long stems. Best variegated Show Dahlia in existence. \$1.00.



GEORGE WALTERS (Cac.). This is the most wonderful Dahlia ever offered. It is a Hybrid Cactus of exquisite coloring, being a bright salmon-pink, artistically suffused with old gold. It is the largest Hybrid Cactus ever grown. Flowers on long, stiff stems, well above the foliage. \$1.00.

GIANT PURPLE (Show). Flowers double, borne on long stems. Color is a lively shade of royal purple. 75c.

GOLDEN EAGLE (Cac.). Incurved English Cactus Dahlia. Orange-yellow, suffused rose and fawn. Produced in great profusion on long, stiff stems. 50c.

H. F. ROBINSON (Cac.). Magnificent clear golden yellow. Petals narrow, straight, and tightly quilled. Said to be one of the best yellow Dahlias in existence. 50c.

JACK ROSE (Dec.). Identical shade of the rose with the same name. Blooms early and in great abundance. 25c.

JEANNE CHARMET (Dec.). A most exquisite shade of lilac-pink, daintily shading to white toward the center. The flower often measures 7 to 10 inches in diameter and is borne on wiry stems, often 18 inches long. 35c.

- JENNIE JOHNSON (Show).** Light pink, pencilled and tipped white and rose pink. An excellent one for cutting. 50c.
- J. H. JACKSON (Cac.).** The largest and best dark Cactus Dahlia to date; almost black. 25c.
- J. K. ALEXANDER (Show).** A mammoth new seedling of excellent shape, on long, wiry stems, well above the foliage. Color is a rich, violet purple. Should be in every collection. 75c.
- J. M. GOODRICH (Dec.).** Gigantic new Decorative seedling. A beautiful salmon-pink. It has size and beauty, exceptionally long stems and is free flowering. Should be in every garden. 50c.
- JOHN GREEN (Peony).** English Peony-shaped Dahlia. The coloring is exceptionally attractive and intensely brilliant, the center being a clear, golden yellow, which quickly changes to fiery scarlet. Highest awards in many countries. 50c.
- JOHN WANAMAKER (Peony).** A fine, free-bloomer with strong stems of good length. Violet mauve in color. This variety should be in every garden. 75c.
- KALIF (Cac.).** Gigantic glowing scarlet. Flowers produced on long, stiff stems. Highest awards at exhibitions. 75c.
- Le GRAND MANITOU (Dec.).** A gigantic flower, white, striped and splashed violet-purple. The largest and best Fancy Decorative known. 50c.
- LITTLE BESSIE (Pompon).** Creamy white and very prolific. 25c.
- LITTLE BEAUTY (Pompon).** A very beautiful light pink, small. 35c.
- LITTLE MARY (Pompon).** Dark crimson. A perfect model in every way. 50c.
- MADAME DEVINAT (Show).** A very effective seedling of the famous French Dahlia "Grand Duke Alexis." The petals are cup-shaped and quilled in the center. The color is a pure white, overlaid a dainty lavender-pink. \$1.00.
- MARMORETTA (Show).** White, finely striped and dotted purple. A large and good producer. 35c.
- MASTER CARL (Cac.).** Exquisite shade of bright amber. Very large and one of the most satisfactory. 50c.
- MAUDE ADAMS (Show).** A model of perfection. Color, a pure white, overlaid clear delicate pink. One of the best of the Show type. 75c.
- MINA BURGLE (Dec.).** Beautiful deep glowing crimson. Good for cutting purposes, as stems are long and it is free flowering. 50c.



MISS HELEN HOLLIS (Show). Gigantic scarlet Show Dahlia. One of the largest and best deep scarlet Show Dahlias in existence. Blossoms on long, stiff stems, well above the luxuriant foliage. \$1.00.

MME. VAN DEN DAELE. Grand, of highest Decorative type. Flowers large and of fine form; upon exceptionally good stems, well above the foliage. As a cut-flower variety it is unsurpassed. White, deeply edged live silvery-pink. Bears my highest recommendation. 75 cents each.

MRS. C. H. BRECK (Cac.). A new Hybrid Cactus of great merit. Color, creamy yellow, passing to various shades of rose-pink. A first-class exhibition flower. 75c.

MRS. GARLAND (Show). A fair size, closely built, bright red Dahlia of good-keeping qualities. 25c.

MRS. FERDINAND JEFFRIES (Cac.). A rich velvety maroon of the Hybrid type. Petals broad and twisted. A free bloomer, large and massive. \$1.00.

MRS. ROOSEVELT (Show). A most beautiful flower of immense size and form; has excellent stems for cutting. Flowers 6 to 8 inches across. Color, a delicate pink, shading to soft pink. 50c.

MRS. WARNAAR (Cac.). Gigantic flowers of creamy white, suffused a delicate pink. One of the finest. \$1.00.

- MRS. WM. H. PEPIN (Dec.).** One of the very best white Decoratives grown. Pure white, with strong stems and immense blooms. Named after the wife of Dr. Wm. H. Pepin of Lowell, 75c.
- MURIEL (Show).** A very satisfactory cut flower. Color, a most charming shade of orange. 50c.
- NORMA (Show).** A model of perfection. Flowers are large, perfectly quilled, and of a most exquisite shade of bright orange. 50c.
- ORA DOW (Dec.).** A beautiful velvety maroon, effectively tipped white. Often white in the center. No two flowers exactly the same on same plant. Those who saw the display in my store last fall agreed that they could not pick out two of the same mixture. This makes it interesting. A tall, strong-growing plant, and very prolific. Only 35c.
- PURPLE MANITOU (Dec.).** Enormous flowers of a rich, clear deep purple. The finest purple Decorative. 50c.
- P. W. JANSEN (Peony).** Rosy-salmon overlaid a beautiful shade of yellow. 50c.
- QUEEN EMMA (Peony).** Alexander's fragrant Dahlia. Hollyhock pink, inner petals banded with gold. 35c.
- QUEEN WILHELMINA (Peony).** The best pure glistening white known. Large with yellow center. 35c.
- REV. DR. BAKER (Cac.).** A novel shade of plum. One of the most prolific bloomers grown. 75c.
- SAMOSSET (Dec. Colossal).** Similar in style to Mrs. Roosevelt. Yellow, very large and free flowering. 50c.
- SAM SAM (Dec.).** My largest and best Decorative last year. Live orange in color; very good cut flower, and keeps well. So many orders were taken in 1920 for delivery this spring that there will not be enough to supply this year. One bulb only to a customer. \$1.50.
- SANTA CRUZ (Show).** A remarkably handsome variety, of perfect form. The color is exceedingly wonderful—an exquisite lemon-yellow, artistically overlaid and blended a novel shade of salmon-pink. Exceptionally large and free flowering. Plants strong, producing flowers on long stems. \$1.00.
- SAN TOY (Pompon).** White, heavily tipped carmine. 25c.
- SOUV. DE GUSTAV DOAZON (Dec.).** Orange-red or brick-red in color. The largest known Dahlia. Measures 9 inches in diameter and often 12 inches. A tall and vigorous grower. Should be in every garden. 35c.
- STORM KING (Show).** The most reliable white Show Dahlia to date. Pure white, and flowers produced upon good stems well above the foliage. 50c. [Continued on page 15]



GLADIOLI

Those who saw the magnificent blooms in my garden at 136 Smith Street during the summer of 1920 will be pleased to know that they can now buy the bulbs and get just as good results by following the directions in planting and caring for them.

As the demand last year could not be satisfied, a word to the wise is sufficient.

Only about 50 of my more than 100 varieties are here listed. The prices—5c. to 50c. each, half dozen at the dozen rate—are within the reach of all. Assortment of one bulb each of 20 or more varieties, your choice, deduct 10%; one each of six varieties, my selection, 85c., one each of twelve varieties, my selection, \$1.50; mixed varieties \$1 per dozen. You will be notified when orders are ready for delivery, which will be made from the Dows' Drug Store, Merrimack Square.

Planting and Culture. Plant the bulbs from May 1 to June 15, four inches deep in heavy

soil and six inches deep in light soil with full exposure to the sun. - It is better if the ground has been prepared the fall before with fresh stable manure well forked in and turned again the following spring. In case this has not been done, use bone meal or any good chemical fertilizer and wood ashes well mixed in the soil just before planting time. Six inches apart in the row and in small gardens 3 or 4 rows each six inches apart will admit of cultivation with a long-handled four-tine cultivator.

The gladiolus is a great drinker. Don't give it merely a sip. Give it plenty of water while you are doing it, even if you do not water more than once a week. After sundown is best. Larger flowers will repay you for the extra care. Stir the soil the next day after rain or after sprinkling. Never allow the soil to crust.

Blooming. For best results, cut the spikes when the first flower opens and let them bloom in the house. Each morning remove the wilted blossoms, cut off a little of the stem and give fresh water.

Storing Bulbs. Dig the bulbs after October 1, before the ground freezes, and allow to ripen for a few weeks in a cool dry place. Then remove the old corm and store in boxes to a depth of four inches only. Keep the temperature if possible between 40 and 50 degrees.

ALICE TIPLADY. A beautiful "Coppery Bronze" color. Very large and choice. Early. 35c. each; \$3.50 dozen.

AMERICA. The favorite Lavender-pink. Undoubtedly the most popular of all varieties. Large and early. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.

ANAMOSA. Finest orange-salmon. Extra tall, very large, and many open at once. Golden throat, beautifully marked. 25c. each; \$2.00 dozen.

ANITA. Richest canary-yellow, deeper throat. Very tall, many open. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.

ARGO. Light orange. Tall and large. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.

ARIZONA ROSE. Almost solid color of rose-pink. Very large and choice. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.

AVALON Bluish-white. Beautiful throat. Magnificent. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.

BRENCHLEYENSIS. Brilliant vermilion-scarlet. One of the finest for garden and for massing. 5c. each; 50c. dozen.

BUTTERFLY. Pale, salmon-yellow. Ruffled, large, strong and vigorous. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.

- CANOPUS.** Large, rich, solid yellow, deeper throat. Extra good. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.
- CAPELLA.** Tall, bright fiery orange-red. Very large and choice. 25c. each; \$2.50 doz.
- CRESCENT QUEEN.** Dark wine-red. Very large and beautiful variety of color. 35c. each; \$3.50 dozen.
- CRYSTAL WHITE.** Paper-white with small marks of Tyrian rose in the throat. Medium-size blooms. Spike tall and straight. Vigorous and prolific. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- DAWN (Tracy).** The most beautiful coral-pink Glad. ever offered. A long graceful spike of magnificently formed flowers, all open at a time. Good cut flower. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.
- EUROPA.** A very early fine variety of white, with many blooms open at once. Formation close and compact. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.
- FIRE RIBBON.** Glowing red, many blooms open at once. Long spike, exceedingly rich. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.
- GIANT WHITE.** Pure white with elegant markings on lower petals. Great size and substance. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- GLORY OF HOLLAND.** A new white with slight tinting of pale pink, and anthers of delicate lavender. Blossoms large and gracefully set on a tall spike. One of the finest whites. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- GOLDEN KING.** A brilliant golden-yellow, with intense crimson blotch in throat, giving a magnificent effect. Flowers well opened and well set on a very graceful spike. 15c. each. \$1.50 dozen.
- HALLEY.** A most attractive early blooming sort, with large well-opened flowers of delicate salmon-pink. Flowers well placed on long spike. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.
- IDA VAN.** A most beautiful shade of deep salmon-red. Very rich and brilliant color. Early. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.
- LINTON.** Tall, salmon-rose petals, bordered deeper. Lower petals golden veined rose. Very choice, and very ruffled. 35c. each; \$3.50 dozen.
- MAGIC.** Finest lavender-blue. Tall, large, rich purple throat blotches. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.
- MRS. FRANCIS KING.** A most beautiful "Besnard shade" flame pink. Immense flowers on a spike growing 4 feet high, with 18 or 20 flowers, 6 or 8 open at a time. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.
- MRS. FRANK PENDLETON.** Bright rose-pink on a pure white ground. A giant blotch of richest carmine-red on lower petals. No grander variety in existence. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.

- MRS. WATT.** Early for forcing. Glowing American Beauty shade, self color, well opened flower. Nearly all flowers open at one time. Spike erect and not too stiff. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.
- MYRTLE.** Clear, delicate rose-pink, with throat tinted primrose and white, giving a peculiar cool color effect. Extremely lovely. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.
- NIAGARA (Early).** A light crocus yellow, throat shaded deeper. Large open flowers on a long spike. For color, texture and keeping qualities this Glad. is one of the best. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.
- ORANGE GLORY.** Orange colored, with beautiful lighter throat. Very rich and striking color. 50c. each; \$5.00 dozen.
- PANAMA (Early).** The companion of America. A perfect Hermosa pink in color with large wide open, wax-like flowers. 15c. each; \$1.25 dozen.
- PEACE.** Large, white with crimson eye. A late variety. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- PINK PROGRESSION.** Very early cream-pink with a dark blotch. 15c. each; \$1.50 doz.
- PRIDE OF GOSHEN.** Salmon or flesh-pink. Flowers very large and petals elegantly waved. Exceptionally tall and vigorous plant. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- PRINCE OF WALES.** A clear grenadine-pink or deep buff with throat markings of a deeper tone. The tips of petals shaded darker or apricot buff. A novelty of great value, 8 or 10 blooms open at once on a long graceful spike. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- PRINCEPS.** Known as the thousand dollar Gladiolus. Amaryllis-like flowers of a rich, dark scarlet, marked white on the lower petals. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- REGULUS.** Richest orange-salmon with delicate yellow. Tall, large flowered. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.
- RIGEL.** Tall, softest salmon blush on delicate yellow. Extra fine. 25c. each; \$2.50 dozen.
- ROSALIE.** A pleasing red, veined lighter and rosy. Free flowering, late bloomer. Often 4 or 5 spikes to each plant. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.
- 1910 ROSE.** Pure rose-pink of extra fine shade. Narrow white central line on lower petals. Very large flower. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.
- SCHWABAN.** Largest and strongest yellow flowered Gladiolus. A clear citron yellow, with aster-purple tongue on lower petals. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.
- SIRIUS.** Large, dark salmon, rich throat. Finely ruffled. 15c. each; \$1.25 dozen.

SPICA. A richly colored and finely ruffled Primulinus Hybrid. Orange yellow with beautiful blotch of red on lower petals. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.

SWEET ORRA. Tall, pale sulphur. Rich pink line in throat. 15c. each; \$1.25 dozen.

WAR. Large, blood-red; considered a very pleasing shade and makes a fine contrast with the light colored sorts, such as Peace and the like. 15c. each; \$1.50 dozen.

WHITE GIANT. The finest and purest white Glad. known. Excels all others for size and purity of color. Spike very erect and many flowers out at once. Looks like a six-pointed star. 50c. each.

WILLY WIGMAN. A very early forcing sort. Large, wide-open flower of a beautiful blush tint, with long tulip blotch on lower petals. 10c. each; \$1.00 dozen.

YOUELL'S FAVORITE. Ruffled, rosy lavender-pink. Large flower and plant. Very fine and conspicuous. 20c. each; \$2.00 dozen.

TWO FINE DAHLIAS

Continued from page 10

YELLOW COLOSSE (Show). An ideal Dahlia that appeals to every one, on account of its distinct color, gigantic size and beautiful appearance. Large showy flowers of pure primrose-yellow produced very freely on long, graceful stems. Its golden cup-shaped petals are daintly arranged, completing this beautiful, perfect flower. 50c.

W. W. RAWSON (Show). The popularity of this novelty for the short time it has been on the market speaks wonderfully for the variety. The petals toward the center are quilled; toward the outer part are more open and flat. The color is pure white overlaid with amethyst-blue. This wonderful combination gives it the appearance of delicate lavender. Flowers often 7 to 9 inches in diameter. 50c.

PHLOX (Perennials)

Many varieties of Perennial Phlox will be in bloom from July 1st to Oct. 1st. Some of the largest and sweetest-scented varieties ever grown. Roots of these will be ready in September.



A Cactus Dahlia

PEONIES

Do not fail to come to my garden on Smith Street and see the Peonies in bloom from June 15th to July 10th. You can make your choice of the beautiful blossoms and sweet-scented varieties, and the roots will be delivered to you in September.

CANNAS

The large broad leaf Cannas are always a delight in any garden and will grow in almost any soil. Try a few. I have the bright green leaved Cannas and the bronze green Cannas. The Queen Charlotte has bright yellow and red mixed flowers. A bed of these is a pretty sight.

Remember

Visitors welcome any Tuesday, and when flowers are in bloom you will be given some to take away. Thousands of Gladioli in blossom during July, August and September. Dahlias bloom in August, September, October.

Yours for Delightful Dahlias and Glorious Gladioli.

AZRO M. DOWS, (A. W. Dows & Co.,)
2 Merrimack Square, Lowell, Mass.