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JANE COWL, a New Decorative Dahlia Introduced by

DOWN'S DAHLIA FARMS, Clayton, New Jersey

DOWNNS SELECTED DAHLIAS

THREE points are demanded to make a good Dahlia: First, a sturdy plant, with reasonably long stems, which are stiff enough to hold the flower in a natural upright position; second, the plant must have free-blooming qualities; third, the color must be clear, without any of the "off shades" that spoil the blooms for decorative purposes.

From the great number of Dahlias grown and tested at Downs Dahlia Farms, the varieties here described may safely be called "the best." Some are new; others are familiar to many Dahlia "fans." All, however, contain the three essentials, and therefore have been included among Downs' leaders.

Adeline C. Lorbeer. (Broomall.) One of the best red Cactus Dahlias—clear spectrum red, without shading. The plant is medium tall and holds the blooms on fine stems. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

Adda Patterson. (Kemp.) A very good white Hybrid Cactus. The blooms are large and held well above the tall bush on straight, stiff stems. It keeps very well when cut. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Amarillo Grande. (Broomall.) Unusually large Decorative blooms of light yellow. The bush is strong and the stem is good, making a very satisfactory Dahlia in every way. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Aztec Glory. (Broomall-Success.) A very large Decorative—one of those really BIG fellows—rich clear golden yellow in color, without tints or blends. The blooms are held erect on excellent stems, and it makes a wonderful exhibition variety. It won at the New Jersey Dahlia Society's Atlantic City Show as the best Dahlia of California origin. Plants \$5.00

Barbara Redfern. (Redfern.) A free-blooming Decorative of great size and depth, with the color a beautiful blending of old-rose and old-gold. The large blooms are held on strong, stiff stems on a tall, vigorous bush. This Dahlia keeps well when cut. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

Casper G. Ware. (Dahliadel.) Very free bloomer, with flowers of attractive violet-rose and shades of pink. Its blooming qualities, dainty coloring, and long life after being picked make it of great promise as a cut-flower. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50

Chemar's Purity. (Marsh.) Pure white, full centered, and a seedling from Jersey's Beauty! The big blooms are held on strong stems above a sturdy plant; a variety that well deserved the Certificate of Merit awarded. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00

City of Lawrence. An enormous yellow Decorative—in depth as well as diameter. A free-blooming variety with good stems and a strong, husky plant. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50

Color Sergeant. (Lyndora.) A striking Decorative of rich deep salmon-bronze. It was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the New Jersey Dahlia Society. Plants \$3.75

Eagle Rock Beauty. (Broomall.) Pink and cream in a glorious combination! Monster, well-formed decorative blooms that are full to the center, with petals reflexing toward the stem. A giant Dahlia, yet artistic. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00

BABY BUSHES

OUR green plants are really baby Dahlia bushes, already rooted and growing in pots. They bear even better blooms than bushes grown from tubers.

Just water them well when you set them out; keep the plants shaded (a peach-basket will do) during the hottest part of the first few days, and you will have Dahlias already up, without waiting the week or two required by tubers.

Our sturdy plants are well grown and carefully hardened. Even if you live many hundreds of miles away, we can pack these husky baby bushes so you will receive them in first-class growing condition.

We use plants ourselves. They cost only half as much as tubers—giving you twice as many for your money.

Eagle Rock Sunshine. (Broomall.) Probably the best yellow Cactus to date. A strong, upright grower, producing full-centered beauties on strong, stiff stems. It makes a wonderful exhibition Dahlia, and keeps very well when cut.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Eastern Star. (Dahliadel.) A Decorative of beautiful saffron-yellow, shading to old-gold—very effective in mass. The full-centered blooms have great substance, and keep very well when used as cut-flowers. It was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the Dahlia Society of New Jersey. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50

Edna Ferber. (Sanhican.) A Hybrid Cactus of huge size, with petals curled and twisted to make a very full flower. Its color—a glistening coral shading to old-gold at the base of the petals—makes it one of the first to attract attention, both in the field and at the shows. It won many prizes in 1927.

Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

Eliza Clarke Bull. (Boston.) An immense white Decorative. It blooms freely on an excellent stem that holds the flower well above plants of medium height. This large deep Dahlia is one of the best whites, and always in demand. Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00

Elite Glory. (Kennedy.) For spectacular effect, this bright rich red is unsurpassed. The gigantic blooms are so unique in shape that this variety has been considered a "break" in the Dahlia world. When cut it keeps very well. That this is a desirable variety in every way is shown by the fact that it was Certified by both the American and the New Jersey Dahlia Societies after making exceptionally high scores.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Elkridge. (Griffiths.) Grace, form, and good size all combine to make a beauty of this pure white Hybrid Cactus. Because of its good substance and firm texture, the bloom keeps very well when cut. This is an extremely free-blooming variety, continuing to flower for a long period. The plant is a vigorous grower.

Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Emma Marie. (Dahliadel.) Clear pink of lovely shade around a creamy white center. A deep, full-centered, beautifully formed Hybrid Cactus bloom. The flowers are borne very freely on a robust bush with excellent stems. It is a splendid keeper, and one of our best cut-flower varieties.

Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00

Prices are for well-grown plants, properly packed. We pay transportation charges on orders amounting to \$10 or over

Fort Monmouth. (Kemp.) A gigantic, long-petaled Hybrid Cactus of spectacular rich claret, with a brightness unusual in red Dahlias—and it never burns. Of immense size and wonderful formation, this bloom is held on stiff stem over a tall, strong-growing bush. It flowers freely and keeps well when cut. This was the largest Dahlia at the Trenton Dahlia Society's Show in 1927. Tubers \$15.00; Plants \$7.50

Fort Washington. This is a very large Decorative of dark maroon. The bushes are tall and robust, with stems that are long and straight. It is an exceptionally good exhibition variety. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Galli-Curci. (Lyndora.) A curly petaled Decorative of extreme grace and charm, and very beautiful in color—a rich salmon-orange, intensified with tints of gold. At the Camden Show of the New Jersey Dahlia Society, it won as the best undisseminated seedling, and at the Atlantic City Show of the same Society, Mme. Galli-Curci chose it to be named for her. Plants \$7.50

Glory of Monmouth. (Kemp.) Wonderful garden and exhibition Decorative, with petals that blend from a base of light orange to shades of strawberry-pink. The blooms are of moderate size and held over a medium bush on long, stiff stems. A good keeping variety with slowly opening petals of heavy texture. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Grandola. (Broomall.) This brilliant orange Decorative of medium size was considered one of its originator's most beautiful introductions for 1926. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Harry Mayer. (Success.) One of the finest Dahlias for exhibition. The color is a beautiful silvery pink, with a deeper rose pink reverse. It has splendid habits and erect stems, with vigorous, dark green foliage. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00

Hathor. (Seal.) One of the newest California varieties. A Decorative of excellent form with vivid Oriental coloring—brilliant salmon, with orange, ivory, and gold shadings that defy description. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Ida Perkins. (Perkins-Montrose.) A pure white Decorative, finely formed and with a substance of petal that makes it keep very well when cut. Upright and sturdy, this clean-growing Dahlia is probably one of the best whites yet introduced. This variety was the winner of the Achievement Medal at the Boston Dahlia Show in 1927. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00

Jack O'Lantern. (Success.) Brilliant orange and rich red—the center petals tipped gold. With large blooms of this vivid coloring held erect on a vigorous bush, this beautiful Decorative attracts attention everywhere. It was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the Dahlia Society of New Jersey. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00

Jersey's Daybreak. (Waite.) A beauty of pastel coloring—soft pink and ivory-white, but predominantly pink. This Dahlia is of splendid formation, with long, stiff stems holding the blooms over thick, leathery foliage. Plants \$5.00

Jersey's Masterpiece. (Waite.) Large blooms of brilliant apricot, with tints of orange; very deep, with long, graceful petals and a formation similar to *Insulinde*. The many flowers are carried on strong, cane-like stems, and the foliage is of good texture. Plants \$5.00

Kemp's Violet Wonder. (Kemp.) Impressive blooms of rich violet, with an underlying tone of royal purple. A true Decorative of huge and massive proportions, borne on strong stems well above the tall plant. This remarkable Dahlia has been Certified, and was a winner in the last show of the American Dahlia Society in New York. Tubers \$15.00; Plants \$7.50

Lolita Velasco. (Boston.) Pure white in color, almost perfect in form, and with firm textured petals that make it keep a long time. This artistic, narrow-petaled Cactus is one of the best of its type. Tubers \$1.00; Plants 75 cts.

Miraflora. (Broomall.) Violet-pink, with tints of white. The petals are long, narrow, and almost straight. It blooms very freely on good strong stems, and is one of the largest Cactus Dahlias. Tubers \$4.00; Plants \$2.00

Marion Broomall. (Broomall.) Pink and white and beautiful! A Hybrid Cactus of large size that should be in every garden. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

Marmion. (Mastick.) A masterpiece. Immense blooms of golden yellow with a bronze suffusion, and a deeper bronze in the full, high center. One of the largest Decorative varieties, of excellent formation. Its long straight stems and good plant may be classed with the best. This was one of the highest scoring Dahlias at the Trial-Grounds, and has many prizes. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Martha Kemp. (Kemp.) Warm buff in color, shading to apricot-yellow. These very deep blooms are of good size and borne on fine stems on a plant of great vigor; and their good keeping qualities make them very desirable for house decoration because their petals never drop. Tubers \$10.00; Plants \$5.00

Nancy Sue Lang. (Broomall.) Striking Hybrid Decorative with the color a combination of red, copper, and gold. A giant in size and of star-like formation, on a plant not tall but very robust. The stems are all that can be desired, making this a wonder for exhibition. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

Papillon. (Boston.) This beautiful Hybrid-Cactus is old-rose, with a golden suffusion. The blooms are large, on a medium tall bush which is very prolific. It resembles *George Walters* in all except its color, which is much more attractive. Tubers \$1.50; Plants 75 cts.

Pop Stewart. (Sanhican.) Marvelous in coloring—an exquisite shade of lilac-pink. It is a Decorative of medium-large size. Having full centers, unusual coloring, great stems, and free-blooming qualities, it makes one of the best varieties for cut-flowers. It has been Certified by the Dahlia Society of New Jersey and has won many prizes. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00

Primula Rex. (Broomall.) Immense in size, and one of the best. A Decorative of very bright cream color. The medium to tall plant is a very profuse bloomer. With every other good quality to commend it, this is also one of the largest Dahlias, and should be in every garden. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Queen of the Garden Beautiful. (Burns.) A gigantic Decorative of very distinctive form. Primrose-yellow in color, with full centers and excellent stems. This is a Dahlia of real merit, and has won a great many prizes. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50



"Baby Bush" specimen

Prices are for well-grown plants, properly packed. We pay transportation charges on orders amounting to \$10 or over

Roman Eagle. (Sanhican.) Medium to large flowers of brilliant burnished copper color—a very attractive autumn shade. A profuse bloomer, with stiff stems and dark green foliage. Decorative. Tubers \$3.00; Plants \$1.50

Sagamore. (Badetty.) One of the finest golden yellows, for commercial purposes especially. It is held on strong stems over a sturdy plant and is very prolific. With its great substance and keeping qualities, it makes a first-class cut-flower. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00

Salbach's White. (Salbach.) This full, deep, white Decorative, with its firm texture and fine stem and habits, will make a worthwhile addition to any Dahlia garden. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Sanhican's Bluebird. (Sanhican.) An uncommon blending of violet with a bluish tint that comes nearer to blue than any other Dahlia. A large, Decorative with strong, wiry stems. Tubers \$2.50; Plants \$1.25

Sanhican's Gem. (Sanhican.) A Decorative of clear old-rose, with a glistening sheen in the sunlight. This variety has been awarded a Certificate by the Dahlia Society of New Jersey, and is one of Sanhican's best. Tubers \$2.50; Plants \$1.25

Sanhican's Nymph. (Sanhican.) A 1928 introduction of great beauty and good size. It is Decorative in type, rich primrose-yellow, with the reverse of its quilled petals touched with rose. It has a fine center, and is held on a plant of medium tall habit. Plants \$3.75

Seal of Connecticut. (Alling.) Fine clear, bright, golden yellow. Its immense Decorative blooms are borne very freely on a bush of moderate height. A very large Dahlia, and a good one. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

Silverado. (Seal.) A distinctive, large-petaled Hybrid Cactus from California. Huge blooms of white, with lavender shadings at the center. The plant is tall and vigorous, and the stems are good. Tubers \$7.50; Plants \$3.75

The Lemonade. (Ward.) This large clear yellow Decorative has been called one of the finest Dahlias ever originated in New England. It is commendable in every way. Tubers \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

Waldheim Sunshine. (Peacock.) A huge deep yellow Decorative, with twisted, wavy petals that relieve the immense size from stiffness. The plant is sturdy, and blooms have been grown to a diameter of 14¼ inches. Tubers \$25.00; Plants \$12.50

Watchung Sunrise. (Smith.) Large deep blooms, with a narrow clear rose-pink margin around each golden amber petal. A Decorative of unusual formation—the outer petals curving backward almost to the stem. It was a sensation at the 1926 Dahlia Show in New York City, and it again attracted almost as much attention there in 1927. Plants \$5.00

William H. Hogan. (Success.) An unblended combination of rich red and white that compels attention. Just a bit of curl at the end of each petal makes it even more attractive. With its bloom of good size on a fine stem, it is, without doubt, the best new variegated Dahlia shown last season. Plants \$5.00

World's Best White. (Murphy.) Its name is not far wrong, for this is one of the finest white Dahlias yet produced. A large Decorative, with a full center. A fine exhibition flower, and its excellent stem, good keeping qualities, and abundance of blooms give it a rating second to none for cutting. Tubers \$2.00; Plants \$1.00

Suggestions for Growing Dahlias

MOST of our customers already grow Dahlias and need no advice about their culture. Some of them, however, will purchase plants or tubers this year for the first time. For their benefit we are placing below a few suggestions that will help them grow the kind of blooms that win prizes.

Dahlias will do well in almost any good, well-drained soil, and even in poor soil if the proper fertilizers are used. Plow or spade up deeply, turning under, if possible, a coat of manure that was spread the previous fall. Work the ground thoroughly.

Plant the tubers on their sides, from 4 to 6 inches deep. Don't crowd them! Although they can be grown closer together, we recommend placing them 3 feet apart in the row, with the rows about 4 feet apart.

If stakes are to be used, some growers advise driving them at planting-time. This is probably a good idea, for then they can damage no roots. However, as the stakes cannot be used until the plants are high enough (a foot or so) to tie to them, we never drive them until that time, as they hinder cultivation.

If a great many shoots come up from the tuber (which is not often the case), cut out all but two or three of the stronger ones. This is done to throw all the nutriment from the roots into a few strong stalks rather than have it divided among many. Some growers of exhibition blooms leave only one stalk.

To grow large blooms, apply more fertilizer just as the buds are starting to form. A small handful to each hill again in ten days or so will help them greatly. More fertilizer can be safely used in wet weather than in dry. Ground bone is fine for Dahlias. Sheep manure is also good. We do not advise using nitrate of soda.

When the buds form there are usually three of them at the end of each stalk. The center one is called the terminal bud and the two others lateral buds. Remove the two lateral buds and allow the center one to remain. Down the stalk, shoots will appear at each leaf joint. These, if allowed to grow, will form branches having more buds. Remove them from several joints below the terminal bud, thus concentrating the nutriment that would have been divided among many buds into the single remaining bud on top of the stalk and forcing it to grow much larger than its usual size. This is called disbudding.

If disbudding is practiced on our "Big Dahlia" Collection, you should have blooms much larger around than the crown of your hat.

After frost has killed the bushes, cut them off several inches above the ground and dig the roots.

BIG DAHLIAS

WE'RE often asked, "What varieties are the very largest?" In answer we have selected a few that we recommend highly. These are the giants of the Dahlia world—immense beauties that you can grow to unbelievable size by following our suggestions.

Jane Cowl	
Marmion	\$2.50 each
Primula Rex	2.50 each
Queen of the Garden	
Beautiful	2.50 each
Elite Glory	2.50 each

To induce a trial of our plants, we offer you one each of the last four varieties above (a \$10 value) for only \$7.50.

We cannot include Jane Cowl in this collection because our stock is limited. However, it may be ordered in addition at \$7.50 extra. This will give you one plant each of five of the world's largest Dahlias— all different colors—for \$15.



This shows the position in which the tuber should be planted





My Maryland

Jane Cowl

IT is hard to say whether My Maryland or Jane Cowl attracted more attention in our garden last season. Planted side by side, these were the two outstanding Dahlias in a field filled with fine ones.

A large Dahlia of clear, rich pink—a “different” pink that defies description—with hardly a suggestion of lavender. Each petal is gracefully twisted and twirled, and daintily tipped with a touch of ivory that adds greatly to its charm. Somehow, the name “My Maryland” seems peculiarly appropriate for such an exquisite Dahlia. The women love it! Few indeed are they who do not hide their noses in its center.

Fairly tall, with foliage of insect-resisting thickness, My Maryland is one of the healthiest varieties we grow. The stems are straight and strong, yet graceful, and hold the large bloom in an ideal position.

My Maryland was named in honor of the Maryland Dahlia Society, which donated the first Trophy it ever won—first prize as the best undisseminated seedling shown at the Atlantic City Show of the New Jersey Dahlia Society. At the same show, My Maryland also won the Achievement Medal of the *Garden & Home Builder*. At the New York Dahlia Show it won first as the best undisseminated hybrid Cactus seedling. It was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the American Dahlia Society. It was listed on the Dahlia Roll of Honor.

Tubers (for delivery April 15) \$15 each
Plants (for delivery June 1) \$7.50 each

JUST imagine the ideal Dahlia bush—fairly tall, with vigorous, dark green, leather-thick foliage. Give it stems that are straight and strong, yet not clumsy. Then add monster blooms of glistening bronzy buff and salmon shades—blooms that will stop you every time you near them—and you have a mental picture of our new *Dahlia, Jane Cowl*.

The color is as fine as anything in the Dahlia world—a warm buff and old-gold, blending to a bright salmon at the perfect center. The flowers are immense, of the full-petaled Decorative type, with just enough twist to the broad petals to add the touch of refinement. Jane Cowl is held on the stem just as it should be—looking at you, and slightly up. Some blooms are even set squarely on top of the stems, *Insulinde-fashion*. If Jane Cowl has a fault, we have yet to find it.

This Dahlia was the sensational seedling of the American Dahlia Society’s New York Show, which Miss Jane Cowl officially opened by choosing it (then an unnamed seedling) to be named for her. At the same show it won as the best undisseminated Decorative seedling. It also won the Sweepstakes Medal at the same show. The American Dahlia Society awarded it a Certificate of Merit. It was given a special award at the Atlantic City Show of the New Jersey Dahlia Society. It was also placed first on the Dahlia Roll of Honor.

Tubers (for delivery April 15) \$15 each
Plants (for delivery June 1) \$7.50 each



DOWNS DAHLIA FARMS, Clayton, New Jersey



MY MARYLAND, *Originated and Introduced by*

DOWNS DAHLIA FARMS, Clayton, New Jersey

