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Bulbs for Fall Planting

Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths,
Colored Freesias, Callas,
Clivias, Amaryllis, All Types
Iris, Ixia, Gladiolus, etc.
With culture information for
growing indoors or in garden.



Economy Catalog

Fall 1937

Cecil Houdyshel

1412 Third St.,
La Verne, California
Return Postage Guaranteed

If not interested, please ask P. M. to return,
marked "refused." That saves us future expense.
Read, "Pull the string of your parachute, you'll
land all right." More about Pink Daffodils. How
to grow bulbs for winter blooming in the house.
Garden culture.

H. Harold Fune
Assistant Director Research
University of Florida
Gainesville, Fla.

Sec. 562 P. L. & R.



If not interested, please ask P. M. to return marked "refused." That saves us future expenses. Lead, "I'll be the string of your parachute, you'll lead all right." More about Pink Daffodils. How to grow bulbs for winter blooming in the house. Garden culture.

PULL THE STRING OF YOUR PARACHUTE, YOU'LL LAND ALL RIGHT

Dear Floral Friends:
 So many of our customers have written us friendly letters in reply to our own "Personal Letters" that we feel that our recent custom may be as pleasing to you as it is to us.
 The heading of this letter may indicate that we are becoming "air-minded." Perhaps so, even though we have never traveled that way and probably never will. We have used the expression wholly as a figure of speech.
 This is what we mean. Have confidence, first, in yourself. Believe that you are able to do those worthwhile things that you want to do. Likewise have confidence in all agencies, both human and divine, that influence and determine our activities, our lives. Above all things, live. Undertake to do those things that you want to do, in reason, as well as those things that you must do to preserve life and happiness. Some are always afraid to take a step—buy a home, a piano, make a flower garden, go into business. My advice is, "Pull the string of your parachute, you'll land all right."
 Our business is to sell you bulbs. When we do that we feel that we are rendering as great a service as anyone else whose services must be paid for—the teacher, the preacher or the keeper. Our work is not undertaken in expectation of gaining wealth, but because we need flowers.
 We hope you will continue to write us about your garden. Every friendly letter is appreciated even though we can only answer them all this way. If you can interest your friends in our bulbs you will be doing them and us a favor.
 Before concluding I want to tell you about something that will interest you. Madison Cooper is publishing a new Flower Magazine. As an editor and writer on floral topics he is outstanding. His philosophy of life, an interesting one which he calls the "Cooper Plan," trickles through his pages. Floral advice is dependable, fitted to all sections and contributed by the best authorities. Send him (Madison Cooper, Dept. H, Calcium, N. Y.) \$1.00 for a year's subscription.
 Sincerely,
 CECIL HOUNDYSHEL

TERMS, INSTRUCTIONS FOR ORDERING, ETC.

If you are a new customer, the receipt of this catalog is an acknowledgment of your order. Thank you.
 Bulk orders are filled promptly during their dormant period and at the right planting time. Nearly all bulbs are ready now except some Lilies and Hippeastrums. These mature late and will be sent in plenty of time. Include everything in one order if convenient.
 No. C.O.D. orders accepted. This method adds at least 25c to your expense for two fees, one at each end.
 Remit by check, M. O. or currency. We accept no responsibility for lost coins or currency, however. Please send remittance with order. Charge accounts take all the profit from a sale.
 Postage stamps accepted only at the rate of \$1.00 for \$1.00, when not possible to get a M.O.
 Postage on bulbs is prepaid on orders for \$1.00 or more in U. S., Canada and any country where the rates do not exceed our 8th zone. If doubtful send some extra for postage. Orders under \$1.00 send 10c extra.
 In a few places there is no local Horticultural Inspector. In that case bulbs must be mailed to him first in a nearby town. He recalls to you. The postage on the package in this case is your expense as we can pay postage only once. When we plus you know by postal send us that amount plus 1c. This is for California only.
 Sales Tax. California customers add 3%.
 Wholesale. We are wholesale growers on many items, especially Pink Calla Lilies. Please establish the fact that you are entitled to wholesale prices. If in California send your permit number. Send a list of your wants and the quantity and we will quote. We have no wholesale catalog. Terms, positively cash with order. We save you money.
 Catalogs. We issue a Spring Catalog, a Fall Catalog and an Iris Price List. The Iris List is sent only to those who request it. The two catalogs are sent to all our mailing list. We have been mailing these about Feb. 1 and Sept. 1. This may not be the best time as we note a good many Fall Catalogs are out in Aug. If you have an opinion please write us a post card stating which are best dates for Fall also for Spring Catalogs.
 Our "Economy" type catalogs are inconspicuous. They are not as good salesmen as large illustrated catalogs. But they are inexpensive and save us both money. Colored illustrations are not true anyway. They lead to disappointment while our brief and modest descriptions do not and our customers get their thrill unmixed with any disappointment when their bulbs bloom.
 Names are dropped usually from our mailing list if no purchase is made for three years. If you are not likely to become a purchaser of our bulbs it will be an appreciated kindness if you will hand this to someone interested and then drop a card saying we should take your name from our list. Or just hand this back to your P. M. and tell him to mark it "refused."
 We want to sell more bulbs and will appreciate it if you will send the names of those likely to buy or if you will refer them to us. We get many new customers that way.

EXCHANGING

We grow, buy, sell and exchange bulbs. Right now we need Sternbergias, Texas Spider Lilies

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and many things. There is a Spider Lily native to Texas. If you live there, know them, and wish to collect from a few to 1,000 let me know. Best to send a sample bulb and state price and whether cash or exchange. There are native Spider Lilies in other states, in Mexico, South America and the West Indies. Write us about them. We are interested in cultivated and native bulbs everywhere. The Amaryllis Family is our specialty. We usually allow wholesale value as then we pay transportation on bulbs received as well as sent in exchange.
 Prices. Where no price per dozen is given, multiply the price of one bulb by ten for the dozen rate. Six may be ordered at this rate. The 100 rate if not given is 70 times the price of one. Less than 100 takes the dozen rate. 1000 is sold for the price of 900.

BULBS FOR WINDOW GARDENS

Kinds to Select and their Culture. Bulbs are the most interesting house plants of all. Both foliage and flower effects are pleasing. For fragrance nothing else compares. In the winter in the south everything is green and lovely outdoors but in the north there is a beauty of another sort outdoors. Snowy fields, ice on the hills and rivers, icicles and glistening frost everywhere, are beautiful. Here in Southern California we love that and on week ends or holidays we flock to the mountains for winter sports. But what heavenly comfort it was to us hack east to have a little bit of summer in our windows. Rich tropical foliage, gaudy flowers as well as modestly beautiful ones, and fragrance in the window garden are appreciated in every northern home in the winter.
 The foliage of the Spotted Leaf Calla, Z. Albomaculata, is especially pleasing. All the Callas have pleasing tropical foliage. Add to that their lovely white, pink or yellow flowers and what could be more suitable for a house plant? Most people know there is a yellow calla but only a few have seen the pink one. Both are easy. Start the bulbs in a fairly large pot after Dec. 15. To be sure that the pink calla blooms it is best to buy a large bulb. We have had as many as three flowers on the largest one that cost \$1.00. The 50c size sometimes fails to flower in the hands of inexperience. If 50c-\$1.00 seems too much there are the Spotted Leaf, dime size, and the yellow or white callas. The Godfrey and Baby are much more sure to bloom than the old giant white calla. One common error with potted white callas is not giving them a rest. The colored callas are bulbs like gladioli and when foliage falls over withhold water. They are tired and sleep.
 Any of the Narcissus or Daffodils grow and flower well in pots. Attention is called in our list of varieties to some of the most charming and desirable. The Poets are rather late flowering and the Poetaz rather tall so are not as desirable. Hyacinths, Grape Hyacinths, Freesias, Hippeastrum hybrids ("Amaryllis") and Iris reticulata are all most dependable and easy to grow in pots.
 True aristocrats are the Clivias and Eucharis. Cut flower spikes of these seem to sell readily for \$1.00 each wholesale. Clivias are not difficult. They like cool rooms and light but no sun. They like a rich heavy soil with plenty of humus and a little sand. The drainage must be good and no water allowed to stand in saucers. Eucharis like a warm room, a humid atmosphere and are checked (but not hurt) when night temperatures fall below 50°.
 Cyrtanthus parviflorus is also quite rare and expensive for such a small bulb. They are often grown in pots and if they bloom as continuously in pots as they do for me outdoors, that's fine. But I recommend it mostly to collectors. You can buy more hearty and fragrance, as in Freesias, for a dime.

OUTDOOR CULTURE

Most bulbs will do well in any good soil. A rich sandy loam is the best for most. Iris do better in heavier soils than in very sandy or gravelly soil. They should not be fertilized. Clivias like some clay mixed with soil. Good garden loam to which manure and humus have been added in the past is ideal for bulbs. If the soil lacks fertility dig in and mix thoroughly a liberal quantity of very old and rotted manure or leaf mold.
 If the winter is dry in California the tulips, narcissus, etc., must be watered so that they may make root growth.
 When bulbs are through blooming, don't cut their tops off or dig but keep them growing as long as they will grow. They need to store up food and maybe develop a blooming bud for the next season. After blooming is when they make their increase.
NARCISSUS OR DAFFODILS
 It is becoming customary to call all Narcissus, Daffodils instead of only those having a prominent trumpet.
 Few realize the wide variation, the great improvement recently and the loveliness of modern daffodils. They are indispensable to those who love flowers and a garden. They are easy to grow, sure to bloom and bloom early in the spring.
 There is a wide variation in types. If you have not already done so, then try a few of all types and see what you've missed.
Culture. For garden culture plant in the fall from September to January 1. Early planting is best.
 Plant large bulbs about 5 in. deep. Smaller sizes and varieties in proportion. Distance apart should be about 6 in. for large sorts. Good rich sandy loam is best soil for any good soil

will produce satisfactory results. Most of them do well in full sun or partial shade but some sorts like Triandrus hybrids must have shade. Instructions are given with the varieties requiring special culture.
 Never cut off a leaf until in spite of good culture and abundant moisture they go dormant after making a good growth following the flowering period.
 Daffodils are hardy in all sections with the exception of the Polyanthus narcissus which are hardy only as far north as the Carolinas. If the cluster or many flowered types are wanted in the north plant the Poetaz Hybrids which are hardy.
Pot Culture. The Chinese Lily, Paper White, Soliel d'Or and other Polyanthus varieties are exquisite for pots or even in a bowl of water with pebbles enough to hold foliage and flowers upright.
 Even Trumpet Daffodils may be grown in bowls but pots of soil are much better. Any variety in this list is appropriate for your winter window garden.
OUR OWN DAFFODIL GARDEN
 It was an especial delight to us last spring because we were trying out many new sorts. The old favorites are always a source of happiness, too. Old friends that one can see but once a year receive a warm greeting when they come.
 First to be mentioned are the Pink Daffodils. Loveliness was a beautiful daffodil with a suggestion of pink on the trumpet's brim. Its beauty is well worth the price, for "more pink" costs more money.
 Mrs. R. O. Backhouse (pronounced hakkus) is truly "more pink." The trumpets are a lovely coral pink.
 Mrs. E. H. Krelage (pronounced kre-lage) was another wonder. We had hundreds. Contrary to our fears that so white a daffodil might not be a hardy grower, it grows and increases fine. The trumpet is a very pale yellow at first but fades to white especially when cut. It cannot be over praised.
 The rich coloring of King Alfred, Orange Cup, Red Guard; the refinement of Crystal Queen and the pure whiteness of Agnes Harvey were thrilling. Fragrant bouquets of Campenelle gigantes were carried to the house or given to friends.
 But we can't mention all here. Just refer to the descriptions. We loved every one and not one could be left out of our garden. The Oh's and Ah's of our visitors, when repetition had weakened our own ability to express our pleasure, were very good substitutes, and we did not mind because the beauty of the daffodils had become inexpressible for us.

TRUMPET DAFFODILS

Emperor. Rich golden trumpet, petals lighter, good grower and free bloomer. 10c ea. 35c doz.
Glory of Sassenheim. Golden yellow trumpet, white petals. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.
King Alfred. Large deep golden yellow. Best and most popular. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.
Lovenest. The Pink Daffodil. Trumpet tinted apricot pink. Petals white. \$1.50 each.
Mrs. E. H. Krelage. The White King Alfred. The pale yellow trumpet turns white. Exquisite. 20c ea. \$2.00 doz.
Mrs. R. O. Backhouse. White petals. Trumpet tinted coral rose. An exquisite daffodil with a pink trumpet of a very definite tone. We are able to reduce the price this year. Price \$2.50 each.
Olympia. Golden yellow, with frilled trumpet. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.
Tresserve. Exquisite large, golden yellow, frilled trumpet. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.
W. P. Milner. Dwarf. Pale sulphur. Fine for potting or rock gardens. White when forced. Try one in a pot or in fiber in a hawl. 25c ea.

INCOMPARABILIS DAFFODILS

Crocus. Petals pure gold with a deep red crown. The best at a low price. 20c ea. \$2.00 doz.
Homespun. Soft yellow petals, richly colored crown. 10c ea. 75c doz.
Sir Watkin. Petals and trumpet pure yellow. 10c ea. 75c doz.

BARRI DAFFODILS

Bonfire. Ivory white petals, glowing orange scarlet crown. A dazzling contrast. 15c each. \$1.50 doz.
Firebrand. Creamy petals with red cup. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.
Red Guard. Petals tinted copper apricot. Crown, blazing orange red. \$1.50 each.
Diana Kasev. Pure white petals and fluted yellow cup with hood red frill. Fine forcer in pots. 25c.

LEEDSI DAFFODILS

Crystal Queen. Pure white petals, crown primrose fading white. Leader in this class. 15c ea. \$1.50 doz.

TRIANDRUS HYBRIDS

Agnee Harvey. A dainty pure white daffodil. Trumpet sometimes flushed apricot pink. 35c each.
Pearly Queen. Creamy petals with lemon yellow trumpet overlaid by a pearly sheen. 50c.
Queen of Spain. Beautiful, distinct and graceful. Canary yellow. Fine for pots or rock gardens like all Triandrus. 35c ea.
Thulia. Two or three pure white daffodils, two inches or more across, on one stem. Exquisite. Especially fine in a pot. 35c ea.

CYCLAMINEUS HYBRIDS

February Gold. Pure golden yellow dwarf daffodil. The trumpet is fringed orange. Very early. Exquisite for pots or shady rock gardens. 35c each.
Culture note. The Triandrus and Cyclaminea types need plenty of moisture and at least part shade.

POETICUS DAFFODILS

The Poets Narcissus are distinct in form, having white petals and a red cup. They bloom late. Their beauty intrigued the poets from Vergil to Tennyson.
Hornet. Conspicuous red eye, free flowering, strong stemmed. 10c each. \$1.00 doz.
Juliet. Pure white, fine cup margined scarlet. 15c each. \$1.50 doz.
Recurus. The "Pheasant's Eye" Narcissus. This is the Poeticus celebrated by Vergil and best loved of all Narcissus. Very hardy. 10c each. 65c doz.

POLYANTHUS NARCISSUS

The "cluster flowered." Hardy only in mild climates but unequalled for pots in the house. Highly perfumed. May be grown in howls of fiber or held up by pebbles.
Chinese Lily. White with yellow eye. Blooms December to January. 10c each. 85c doz.
Grand Monarque. White with primrose eye. 10c ea. 85c doz.

Paper White. Pure white, earliest. 10c ea. 75c doz.

Solliel d'Or. Petals pure golden yellow, cup brilliant orange. Makes a brilliant effect in the garden here in January. Equally fine in the house and goes right on blooming even at 20° F. 10c ea. Good blooming size, 85c doz. Large, \$1.00 doz.

POETAZ HYBRIDS

Hybrids between the Polyanthus and Poet's Narcissus. Hardy and fine.
Aspasia. Pure white, yellow cup. Best in this color. 10c each. 90c doz.
Abundance. Creamy yellow, with deep orange cup. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.
Orange Cup. Pale yellow, with deep orange cup. 10c ea. \$1.00 doz.

JONQUILS

They look like small Trumpet Daffodils, with about three flowers on a stem. Exquisite. Very hardy and rapid multipliers. Fine for potting. A most alluring and distinctive fragrance.
Campanelle regalis. Improved pure yellow. 10c ea. 85c doz.
Campanelle giganteus. Much larger. The finest yellow Jonquil. 15c ea. \$1.25 doz.
Campanelle Orange Queen. Very striking. Intense golden orange with fluted cup. True Jonquil fragrance. Gayest of all Daffodils. 25c ea. Five for \$1.00.
Golden Scepter. A new Jonquil-Daffodil hybrid. Flowers 3 inches across. Late. Deep Jonquil yellow. 20c.

NARCISSUS BARGAIN

A mixture of Grand Monarque, Paper White, Daffodils, Poets, etc. Thirty for \$1.00.

TULIPS

Our Tulips are Oregon grown. They "Beat the Dutch." Oregon tulips mature two weeks before the imported bulbs. They are sounder because of shorter shipping distance, better, and an American product produced by American labor.
 These are all large bulbs, 1 in. in diameter and up. This size is best for bedding as the bulbs do not break up the first year into small bulbs as the "top size" does. We have had them bloom every year for five years without digging.
Culture. September, October and November are the best months for planting tulips. Bulbs planted in December do well usually. We have planted as late as March and over half bloomed. Too late planting gives shorter stems and smaller flowers.
 Don't forget that tulips are growing under ground all winter, therefore in California you must water them if rains are late.
 Plant 4 in. deep (or deeper in cold climates) and 4 in. apart in good rich sandy loam preferably but any type of soil well enriched with old rotted manure will give excellent results.
Tulip Special. Forty large tulip bulbs for \$1.00. 100 for \$2.25. 500 for \$10.50. 1,000 for \$20.00. These are mixed colors, named varieties of long stemmed, large flowering types—Darwins, Cottage and Breeders. These types do best in California. Preferable everywhere. They are similar in type and often called merely Darwin Tulips. They are self colors and flower at different times. No selection of colors may be made by purchaser. Accidental mixtures, lost labels and surplus are thus sold at one-half the usual price. We do not have tulips in separate colors or varieties. They cost about double our price.
 Do not be misled by offers of "100 Tulip bulbs for \$1.00. Every one guaranteed to bloom." These are small bulbs usually about 1/2 in. diameter. Ours are large, 1 in. or over.

THE FREE TULIPS

Last year we had a few tulips left over. Since it was later than the right planting season we advertised to give them away. The offer expired in March. We still get requests for the "free tulips." I regret many were disappointed but the bulbs could not be kept unplanted later than the date given as a limit to the offer.
 To those who received them, we want to remind you the bulbs were out of season and could not be expected to give best results.

HYACINTHS

To Mohammed is attributed this remark: If I had but one loaf of bread I would sell half of it and buy a Hyacinth to feed my soul. The garden, out doors or in a window is incomplete without Hyacinths.
Culture. In the garden plant about 4 or 5 in. deep in rich sandy loam soil. Keep them growing as long as possible after blooming to insure a good bulb and increase for next year. They do fine in pots set near surface of soil or in hyacinth glasses with only water. Place pots or glasses in cool dark place until considerable top growth is made or flower stem will be short.
L'Innocence. Pure white.
Gertrude. Favorite deep pink.
Grand Maitre. Porcelain blue. The hardiest and best grower for outdoor culture in California, probably elsewhere.
La Victoire. Red.
Mirconi. Deep rose.
Myosotis. Light blue.
Paul Kruger. Deep, dark blue.
 Prices of all, 15c. Per doz. \$1.50.
Special. Mixture of above, our selection, 25 for \$2.50.

FREESIAS

They are perhaps the most deliciously fragrant flower grown. Their perfume is not as heavy as that of the Chinese Lily or Tuberosa and never offends anyone. Their beauty is distinctive and, thanks to the breeders, this flower once white with a yellow center may now be had in a great variety of colors. The flowers are popular for cutting and lend themselves to all decorative uses as a cut flower and for growing in the house and garden.
 They are not hardy outdoors in very cold climates but are the cheapest source of flowering bulbs for potting.
Culture. In California and the south plant any time in the fall up to the holidays, but before Nov. 1 is best. Sandy loam containing plenty of decayed humus is the best soil. Plant 2 in. deep and 2 in. apart. Best way is three rows in one furrow and about 18 bulbs to the foot. They like to be close. They are so pretty it's no wonder they are affectionate.
 In pots, plant 6 bulbs to a 5 in. pot. In a box or pan, 2 in. apart each way. Unlike most bulbs they do not have to be kept cool and dark at first. Set them in a window and they are up in a few days. They bloom in 12 weeks. Try them. For a few pennies you may have dollars' worth of perfume and beauty. Plant a pot every two weeks.
Purity superiora. The improved Purity, best early white, 25c doz. \$1.75 per 100.
Dorothy Scepters. A lovely pink and one of the most popular colored freesias. 40c doz. \$2.75 per 100.

