

- ESTABLISHED 1886.

W. W. WILMORE'S

DESCRIPTIVE
CATALOGUE OF

Dahlias :: ::

FOR



1893

GARDENS, on Prospect Ave.,

Wheat Ridge.

Two Miles West of Elitch's Gardens.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS:

**1555 WAZEE STREET,
DENVER, COLO.**

DAHLIAS.

The Dahlia.

This interesting class of flowering plants derives its name from Dr. Andrew Dahl, a noted Swedish botanist. The wild Dahlia is found only in Mexico and South America. There are but few species, perhaps twelve; but these have been propagated into a seemingly endless number of varieties. Just who should have the honors for first introducing the Dahlia as a domestic flower is a question upon which the authorities differ, but it is generally conceded that the first collection was sent to Madrid by Baron Humboldt who was traveling in Mexico. They were first introduced into England in 1789 by the Marchioness of Bute, but they were grown in France and Spain several years prior to this; this collection together with another received in 1804 were lost. Another lot was imported in 1815 and from this collection most of the Dahlias of the present time have been propagated. The flowers embrace all colors excepting blue. In their native state they are single.

Cultivation.

The Dahlia is one of the easiest of all plants to cultivate, it will thrive well in any ordinary garden soil, but is improved greatly by a careful preparation of the soil by a thorough spading and a moderate quantity of manure. The bulbs should be planted three feet apart and four to five inches below the surface of the ground. The soil should then be pressed down firmly over the bulb. They should be planted about the first of May, the sprout will appear above the ground in about fifteen to eighteen days. The ground should be kept thoroughly cultivated until the flower buds appear, after this, liberal watering will be all they need. All varieties growing above three feet high should be tied to stakes to prevent them from falling. As a rule Dahlias are true to color year after year, but occasionally a change of soil or climate will produce a variation in the color; some varieties are desirable because of this capricious tendency.

WINTER PROTECTION.—As soon as the frost has killed the foliage the roots should be carefully taken from the ground and the soil shaken from among them; they may then be stored away in a cool place, not too dry, but secure from frost.

A Word to the Public.

While I am a lover of flowers, I make no claim to being a florist. Some ten years ago, in connection with my other business, fruit growing, I began to grow Dahlias as an amusement, especially the propagation of new varieties. A demand was at once created for the bulbs which has steadily increased until now I am growing them extensively for commercial purposes. I have imported many varieties from England, most of which have done remarkably well. Flowers from the bulbs which I offer have twice taken the State premium.

W. W. WILMORE.

DAHLIAS.

The Splendid Display of W. W. Wilmore of Wheat Ridge.

[Denver Times Oct. 4th, 1892]

One of the most interesting places to visit around Denver is the flower gardens of W. W. Wilmore, on Wheat Ridge. By those who have been out there it is claimed to be the finest sight of the kind that they have ever witnessed in their lives. This statement has reference to the gorgeous display of Dahlias, of which Mr. Wilmore has two hundred separate varieties. A few days ago a reporter for the Times went out to Mr. Wilmore's gardens to investigate, and at once came to the conclusion that the statement was in no wise overdrawn when it is said that it is the finest collection of Dahlias in the United States. There is an acre or more of them, combining the most delicate, rich and beautiful colors and shades imaginable. The most of the bulbs are imported from England, which, Mr. Wilmore says, produces the finest flowers of that specie in the world. The gardens are situated about two miles west of Elich's gardens.

GENERAL LIST.

Show and Fancy Varieties.

PRICE: 15c each; \$1.50 per dozen. The set of 31 varieties, \$3.50.

	HEIGHT, FEET.		HEIGHT FEET.
Altus. Purple, variegated with white	3	Henry Lee. Cardinal red, one of the largest in cultivation.....	3
A Eichman. Pink, plant small, a profuse bloomer.....	1½	Jefferson. Maroon, fine form.....	6
Alta. Bright lemon yellow.....	4	London Beauty. Rich purple.....	3
Adonis. Variable pink, an early and profuse bloomer, should be in every collection, (new).....	3	May Eustice (Queen of Dahlias). Red, occasionally variegated with white.	5
Black Prince. Dark purple.....	3	Midget. Crimson, varying to light red, (new).....	2
Bon Maza. Variegated red and white, a noble flower.....	4	Monarch. Dark purple, very large...	6
Crimson King. Deep crimson.....	2	Mrs. Wyndham. Variegated yellow and purple.....	2½
Copper King. Copper red, a fine flower, (new).....	3½	Princess Matilda. Pure white, very early.....	2
Dragon. Yellow, striped and flecked with red.....	3	Prince Bismark. Dark purple, extra fine form.....	3
Favorite. Maroon, occasionally tipped with white.....	4	Queen of Pompons. Variable purple.	5
Gypsy. Light red, blooms feely, excellent for cutting.....	2½	Snow. Pure white flower, small, excellent for bouquets.....	3
Goldfinder. Buff, tipped with cherry red.....	3	Statesman. Rich purple, very large, with perfect form.....	3
Gem. Fiery red, early and free, fine..	3	Snow Cloud. Pure white.....	3
Glori de Lyon. Pure white, very large, (scarce).....	3	Sport. Dark red, sometimes varying to light red, a very free bloomer, (new)	3
Ida Fischer. Pale pink, if grown in the shade it will be pure white, one of the best.....	2½	Snow Fairy. White, should be protected from mid-day sun, (new) ...	4
		T. H. Lowe. Light pink splashed with deep pink, fine, (new).....	4

CACTUS LIST.

The Cactus Dahlias are comparatively new. They are distinguished from the ordinary type by their broad, flat petals, which are sometimes twisted. They possess all the richness of color found in the other types, while they surpass them in point of usefulness. Forists now use the Cactus types almost exclusively for cutting purposes, where double flowers are used.

PRICE: 15c each; \$1.50 per dozen. The set of 15 varieties, \$1.60.

	HEIGHT, FEET.		HEIGHT, FEET.
Annie Harvey. Rich crimson maroon	3	Mrs. Hawkins. Straw, shading to pink; has no superior.....	3
Cactus Queen (new). Pale pink suffused with purple, very large.....	5	Patrick Henry. Pure white, the best white dahlia in cultivation.....	5
Cochineal (English). Vivid crimson, excellent for cutting.....	3	Picta. Red striped orange, (semi-double).....	5
Empress of India. Crimson maroon, a grand flower.....	7	Vista. Pure white, early and free, (semi-cactus).....	4
Fannie Morrison. Pale pink, (semi-cactus).....	2½	Wm. Pearce. Orange yellow, fine form, early and free; the best yellow among the cactus varieties.....	4
Juarezii. Bright crimson, fine form, late.....	4	W. T. Abery. Red, each petal edged with white.....	2
King of Cactus. Scarlet, very large, one of the best.....	4	Zulu. Darkest maroon, should be in every collection.....	2
Lady Kerrison. Amber yellow.....	3		

SINGLE DAHLIAS.

PRICE: 10c each; \$1.00 per dozen.

This type has become very popular in the last few years. No flower gives richer colors than is found in the Single Dahlia.

	HEIGHT, FEET.		HEIGHT, FEET.
Butterfly. This variety embraces all the combinations of red and yellow, it is quite a curiosity.....	2	Striped. White edged with crimson. Unnamed varieties in separate colors, red, yellow, purple, lilac and old gold.	4

NOTE.—I have many varieties, new and old, not in this catalogue, which I can furnish in limited quantities. Prices given above include postage.