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# BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

DIBP PRO-

1934

# BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

R. D. 1, BOX 675 PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Telephone: Palo Alto 3570

(Member of the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers)



#### FASTERN REPRESENTATIVE:

Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence, Mass. (CHARLES G. REED)



#### DAHLIA SEEDS:

These seeds are from the very best dahlias grown and are the same as we plant ourselves. Such seeds are never plentiful. It should be borne in mind that growing dahlias from seed is solely a matter of experiment. It is not easy to originate a good new variety. From a packet of seeds you will get many kinds and colors and you may be fortunate in getting something very good. Some of our seed customers have been quite successful. The better the seed, the better the chance.

#### DAHLIA COLLECTIONS:

Special Dahlia Collections \$25.00 per dozen and \$10.00 per dozen, net.

These collections are made up of first class varieties, all different and all tagged with their proper names. Each collection is worth at least double the amount charged according to catalogue list price. Purchases made in this manner represent real bargains.

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- ORDER EARLY— Shipments are made about April 1st unless otherwise specified. No deliveries before February 1st.

  WE GUARANTEE that all roots are sent true to name and in good growing condition. Prices listed are for strong field grown root divisions. We do not make green plants of our dahlias, feeling they will be heavily propagated in this manner after they leave our hands. Consequently, we have no clumps for sale.

  TERMS—Cash with order or before date of shipment. On retail orders for California delivery 2½% should be added to the amount to comply with the Sales Tax Law.

  FULL DIRECTIONS for the care of your dahlia garden are enclosed with each shipment.

#### JOIN THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

Yearly Dues of \$2.00 entitles you to the very fine Quarterly Bulletin of the Society.

Mr. Louis C. Alling, Secretary, 251 Court St., West Haven, Conn.

# \*Our New Introductions For 1934

ELEGANCE—(Semi-Cac.) Center and tips of petals yellow, body of flower glistening coral. We classify this variety as semi-cactus but it is not far removed from the true cactus type. A noticeable swirl to the petals is also reminiscent of certain English type cactus varieties of some years back. Few dahlias have been so cordially received on their first appearance as this one and we consider it one of our very best varieties because of its unusual charm and beauty and because the great quantity of blooms it gives are useful for every purpose. It is a full, deep flower with ideal habits. The illustration on front cover gives a good idea of its fine characteristics. Last year Mr. Derrill Hart asked for more cactus dahlias and we are responding promptly. Described on the 1933 American Home Roll of Honor as "a most pleasing variety producing a wealth of bloom of very pleasing and artistic appearance..\$15.00

EUGENIA BALLAY—(Inf. Dec.) Rich cream. This dahlia won as the Best Established three-year-old in keen competition at the Palace Hotel Show and can always be counted on to exhibit to good advantage. It is a very early and a very prolific bloomer. Under favorable weather conditions the blooms will easily attain 10 to 12 inches with corresponding depth, and at all times will have very long strong stems. In California everyone admired the color and fine habits of this new dahlia and we have named it to honor our mother. We hope it will worthily perpetuate her name. \$10.00

GRANDEE — (Inf. Dec.) Light nopal red shaded orange yellow. Winner of the 1933 American Home Achievement Medal at San Francisco and Largest Flower at the California Flower Festival. For great size we are inclined to think Grandee surpasses them all. We have had 15-inch blooms without forcing or shading on plants 4 feet tall. Six blooms all 14 inches or more at one time on a plant are not unusual and size is maintained through the whole season. We do not exaggerate when offering a new dahlia. We introduced Satan as a 12½-inch bloom and a 14½-inch specimen appeared at the New York show this year. We said Full Moon was a 12-inch dahlia and it has since been grown to 14 inches. As Grandee grew at Lawrence, Mass., Mr. Reed said he never saw a dahlia that produced so many large blooms throughout the season. What it will be like when grown specially



<sup>\*</sup>It will facilitate delivery if orders for shipment east of the Mississippi River are sent direct to the Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence, Mass.

# Other Dahlias of Our Own Creation

- ACHIEVEMENT—S. C. Gold with bronze shadings. On the back cover there is a cut of this dahlia which in 1930 won the American Home Achievement Medal as the best new introduction west of the Rocky Mountains and from which it took its name. It was a Roll of Honor dahlia in 1931 and has been one of our largest and most satisfactory dahlias to date. Many blooms will measure over 12 inches with corresponding depth and on absolutely perfect stems. The flower has a pleasing informal appearance with the petals curled and twisted in an artistic fashion, and its good substance insures a wealth of perfect blooms under all weather conditions. With these qualities which are consistent in all localities, and backed up by the honors it has received, we predict this is a dahlia that will hold its place for many years to come \$2.50
- ALBATROSS—I. D. Soft cream shading to greenish yellow at the center, tips of the petals sometimes being lightly touched with apple-blossom pink. This new dahlia is large as all popular new dahlias must be, it has delightful and unusual coloring, and the formation is strikingly distinctive with petalage suggestive of the water-lily. A huge pond-lily is what it looks like with its petals broad and flat at the base and turned up decidedly at the tips. The stem is very strong, holding the flower always upright. Center is full and closed all season......\$7.50

- CELESTE—I. D. Lilac pink overlaid with carmine. A very handsome large flower that is attractive especially because of its peculiar shadings of color. The well-branched plant produces deep, well built blooms over a long period. There are no faults noticeable to take from the general usefulness of this valuable addition to dahlias of this color range.................\$2.00

- DAHLIAMUM—S. C. Clear bright yellow. A dahlia that has a chrysanthemum-like appearance, hence its name. While we have from time to time received good reports on this variety, we feel it is a dahlia that should be better known in fairness to its merits. It has been called by florists the perfect dahlia because it combines size and beauty with the lasting qualities necessary for their purpose. The price is now within the reach of all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\$1.00
- DOLOROSA—I. D. Deep bluish lavender. The blue is just a little more pronounced than has appeared heretofore. Perhaps it is a step toward a real blue, if that much heralded specimen ever comes. At any rate, this is a very pleasing variety, with big full flowers held upright on long hard stems. The petals are somewhat pointed, the center is tight and holds well, the stems are long-jointed and so are not burdened with leaves \_\_\_\_\_\_\$2.00
- DOMINO—F. D. Deep unshaded maroon. A very dark decorative that does not fade or burn in the sunshine. It is about a 10-inch dahlia, very formal in type, and compactly built of many rows of broad, flat petals. It will start to bloom early, produce freely all season, and the well-branched stalks of medium height are very straight and strong. To those who are interested in a beautiful and useful new dark dahlia, we can cheerfully recommend this one \$5.00

- FASCINATOR—F. D. Salmon, orange and gold. These colors are all in bright tones and combine to produce a flower of entrancing beauty. It fascinates you and the name belongs to it exactly. First crop flowers will be 11 or 12 inches in diameter, regularly formed with full deep centers, and held up gracefully on long, strong stems. Later flowers are not so large but are in great profusion, continuing to charm with their beauty into the late fall.......\$5.00
- FULL MOON—F. D. Canary yellow. Here is a variety that can be truthfully called a superlative dahlia. The large blooms easily distinctive measuring 12 inches across, are regularly formed of very broad flat petals that terminate in a perfectly full and artistic center. The thickness and strength of the stems are particularly noticeable and the flowers are always upright, never facing the least bit to the side. We have never seen a variety more consistent, every flower being massive in size and perfectly formed, and the foliage is always clean and bright. In its first year this dahlia made a good start in the East, winning the Gold Medal of the Dahlia Society



of California as the best dahlia of California origin, and was also the largest dahlia in the show, at Boston. It has since won many prizes as Best Yellow, and in some cases as Best Bloom in the show, some customers stating they have grown 13 and even 14 inch flowers without any special effort. It was among the winners at the World's Fair this year. Roll of Honor dahlia in 1932 \$5.00

- NARCISSA—S. C. Bright daffodil yellow. We wanted a name that would express the freshness and warmth of early spring for this dahlia and could think of nothing more appropriate than the daffodil and the other yellow flowers of the narcissus family. In the full formation of the flower there is also further suggestion of the double daffodil. This dahlia averages 8 or 9 inches across and is another that grows straight up on a long perfect stem. It is striking in the garden, dignified when cut, and has no faults whatever \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\$2.50
- NOB HILL—I. D. Pale orange. Occasionally you see a bed of dahlias containing so many blooms that there does not seem to be room for a single one more. That is how Nob Hill looked last September. In the first crop from eight to a dozen large disbudded flowers on each plant opened all at one time, all with long upright stems, fairly covering the plants. On close examination you would have found every bloom very large and deep and perfectly formed, almost every one suitable for exhibiting in the show. The gay and colorful shade of the blossom is another feature to be considered. All our dahlias are tried out in the East before being released and we get a conservative report. The notation for Nob Hill was "Very fine."
- NOVA—F. D. Bright old rose of the true old fashioned shade. There is little variation of color throughout the flower and the tone does not change at different seasons. Large perfectly formed flowers on the strongest upright stems are produced in profusion from early season until frost kills them down. The formation of this entrancing dahlia is quite regular with the broad heavy petals slightly fluted and folding back well against the stem. It is an excellent cut flower, lasting well and gracing any occasion. Roll of Honor dahlia in 1929...........\$1.00



"PALO ALTO" (Described on page 6)

- RAJAH—S. C. Golden orange with a gold reverse. Decidedly in the cactus class, the nicely incurved petals being rolled almost their entire length. In addition, the centers and stems are always good, and there is no waste through imperfect flowers. Plant is of medium height and is very floriferous. If carefully disbudded the blooms can be grown to exhibition size

  \$1.00
- RED LION—I. D. Bright red. Another large dahlia that serves the florists' purpose well. A vivid red is always desirable when it has all the good qualities which this dahlia possesses. Quantities of first-class blooms loaded the bushes until the very end which never fade or burn. Stems hold the flowers just right whether desired for garden display or for the house. The bloom is oval shaped with broad heavy petals continuing well to the small pointed center \$1.50
- SATAN—S. C. Flaming red with a slight touch of gold at the center. The exquisite coloring is at once fascinating, but what formation and stems. The horn-like petals, so perfectly rolled and incurved, give rare form and character to a flower of unusual brilliancy. The rugged, almost leafless, stems give the impression of being nearly as thick at the top as at the base. No dahlia in existence, we believe, is more sensa-tional and spectacular than this giant cactus, and it appears to be the most popular dahlia in the world today. Wherever exhibited it becomes the general favorite. In our last catalogue we listed a number of prizes won as Best or Largest in many of the leading shows in dif-ferent parts of the country, including an Achievement Medal. We told of its record at Storrs Trial Gardens and its place on the Roll of Honor. Again this year similar honors have been won at the World's Fair, at New York, and other shows too



- VALESKA—I. D. Deep lilac. There is no variation in color unless perhaps the lilac shade slightly deepens at the center. We would like to give a more vivid color picture if we could, but are completely at a loss to do so, and can only say we know of no other dahlia like it. The immense blooms have a deep rose-like formation with petals slightly curled and with a bewitchingly pointed center. The stem is first-class, and the growth of the plant luxuriant in the production of fine blooms \$1.00

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# **Good Varieties of Other Growers**

- BAGDAD—I. D. (Redfern) Rich bright red. This is a dahlia of large size, excellent formation and good coloring. It is especially adapted to a warm location where its full formation develops to perfection. A very strong stem adds to its general usefulness. Roll of Honor...... \$2.50
- CAPRICE—F. D. (Mawson) Golden yellow shading to salmon pink. Magnificent blooms of this dahlia have been consistent winners in the Best Dahlia in the Show class in San Francisco. The plant is a strong grower and holds the flowers up well on long strong stems.......\$2.00
- CHAUTAUQUA SUNSET—I. D. (Chautauqua) Sunset pink and gold. A 1932 introduction of most beautiful coloring and with good size both as to diameter and depth. Stems and centers are always good. This new dahlia from the East proved itself worthy when growing under California conditions \$7.50

| EAGLE ROCK FANTASY-I. D. (Broomall-Success) Clear lavender pink. This is a 1930 intro      |
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| duction of ideal habit and mammoth size. Winner in several shows as the largest flower ex  |
| hibited. 12-inch blooms are the rule rather than the exception. The broad tapering petal   |
| produce a flower of extraordinary charm and it has all the qualifications necessary to de  |
| signate it as one of the best dahlias to date. It is, of course, on the Roll of Honor\$3.0 |
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- EAGLE ROCK PEACH—I. D. (Broomall-Success) Deep rose pink. This dahlia has exceptionally good color, quite unusual in its shade, very much like an old-fashioned rose. The large well formed flower is supported by a perfect stem. Strong grower and profuse bloomer.......\$7.50
- EAGLE ROCK WONDER—S. C. (Broomall-Success) Orange buff shading to gold and salmon. Another massive Broomall variety that responds remarkably to good care. It is one of the most vigorous growers we have seen. It has won as largest and best dahlia in Eastern shows and is another Roll of Honor dahlia. Long strong stems and habitually good foliage make it a worthy garden variety as well as a marvel in the show room...............................\$1.50
- EMILY MERRY—1. D. (Redfern) Salmon rose. Described on the 1933 Roll of Honor as an improved "Mrs. Alfred B. Seal." We are very pleased to have been privileged to grow this new introduction in advance. With us the flower was large and deep and of a very attractive rose shade. It is a fine addition to the other already well known Redfern introductions......\$10.00
- F. W. BUTLER—F. D. (Boston) Gold heavily suffused with deep red. A very large deep flower, the originator describing it as her largest introduction. The plant is of medium height and carries the heavy blooms well. The flower is quite regularly formed with a full solid center \$2.50
- FRANCESCA—I. D. (Carbone-Davis) Dull rose suffused with gold and violet. A very refined 1929 introduction that bloomed nicely for us through a long period. Large flower of good substance on a matchless stem \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\$1.00
- GRACE CURLING—I. D. (Stredwick) Lilac pink. A very fine dahlia from England of good coloring and habits. The broad curling petals are tastefully notched at the tips which adds a distinctive touch to the flower. Much admired at all times as it maintains itself well through the whole season \$1.00
- INDIANA MOON—I. D. (Martin) Pale dull yellow lightly shaded pink. A large and attractive dahlia from the Middle West that won a place on the Roll of Honor in 1931. The flowers are consistently well formed with good strong stems and good habits. A fine new variety....\$2.50

- KATHLEEN NORRIS—I. D. (Fisher & Masson) Mallow pink. This is one of the best of the real pink dahlias. Especially desirable because of its exquisite coloring, it also has size, good form and a long strong stem. Although originated in the East, this dahlia has been named for a well known and much admired California woman \$1.50
- KAWEAH—I. D. (Meussdorffer) Deep cerise with rose shadings. Blooms measuring about 15 inches in diameter have been exhibited by the originator of this dahlia at the San Francisco shows, winning as largest dahlia. A bloom sent from San Francisco by air express to the World's Fair show at Chicago created a sensation there and won as the largest bloom for that day. In addition to immense size it also has splendid form, substance and stem. A sensational new dahlia \$7.50

| MRS. | ALFRED B. SEAL—I. D. (Seal) Rich old rose of medium tone. A very fine introduction that is an Achievement Medal winner and a Roll of Honor dahlia. The exquisite blooms are large and deep and carried high on fine stems. Plant is tall and strong |
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| MRS. | C. G. REED—F. D. (Garrity) Pure white. This new dahlia of neat appearance and pure coloring is as large as any white decorative we have grown to date. The originator has exhibited this dahlia in excellent form and it already has quite a record |

- MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE—I. D. (Murphy-Success) Dark red with garnet shadings. An Achievement Medal winner and Roll of Honor dahlia, named in honor of the originator who in his lifetime sent out some very popular dahlias. This new introduction is naturally large with all good qualities and it performed wonderfully for us on the Pacific Coast. One of the very largest varieties and a special favorite with us. Winner as largest bloom at the World's Fair show
- OMAR KHAYYAM—I. D. (Stout) Reddish orange shading lighter towards the tips of the petals. This much admired dahlia is a strong healthy grower and a producer of massive blooms. Another New Jersey dahlia that is very desirable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\$2.50
- RUBY TAYLOR—I. D. (Garrity) Purplish red. A new and distinctive variety with fine growing habits. Flowers are of good size, well formed and of unusually good substance. Was a winner in the seedling classes and will doubtless continue to be a fine exhibition flower.......\$7.50
- SETH PARKER—F. D. (Redfern) Bright peach pink. This rich colored 1932 Roll of Honor dahlia is a large and an outstanding variety with ideal growing habits. It doubtless rates as one of last year's most distinctive introductions as it grew for us. Useful for all purposes..\$10.00
- SHARAZAD—I. D. (Newsom) Deep rose pink. This is a gorgeous new variety that has been aptly described by the originator as a deep pink Jane Cowl. The flowers will grow to a foot in diameter with good substance and depth and are held on rigid, erect stems. Roll of Honor \$5.00

- W. H. WAITE—S. C. (Boston) Shell pink shading to a cream center. This is a delightful new dahlia that is a winner in the "pink" class. It is a typical semi-cactus with ideal habits. The large flower is most artistic and beautiful. Roll of Honor \$2.50
- WILLIAM HOGAN—F. D. (Success) Garnet red quite heavily tipped with white. We have never seen a flower of small size on this variety, and while it is not as profuse a bloomer as some, each flower seems perfect. Best "fancy" \$150

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EXPLANATION OF TYPES—according to the American Dahlia Society classification.

- INFORMAL DECORATIVE (I. D.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with long, twisted petals, and often irregular in arangement.
- FORMAL DECORATIVE (F. D.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with broad, flat petals, often rounded at the tips, and regular in arrangement.
- CACTUS (C.)—Double flowers, full to the center, with long, narrow, pointed petals, incurved, recurved or straight, but rolled more than half their length.
- SEMI-CACTUS (S. C.)—Double flowers, full to the center, with coarse, twisted petals, usually somewhat incurved, and rolled ordinarily less than half their length.
- PEONY (P.)—Semi-double flowers showing a bright yellow center, having small twisted petals circling about the center.



(DESCRIBED ON PAGE 4)