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TULIPS ❖ PEONIES ❖ NARCISSI ❖ IRISES

Annual Catalog—Autumn 1937

Spring and Summer 1938

ORONOGO FLOWER GARDENS

CARTERVILLE, MO.

BENJAMIN C. AUTEN

Terms: Cash with order. No charge for packing. Goods offered subject to previous sale. All prices include delivery by mail or express, except as noted.

Bulbs shipped on receipt of order, plants in regular routine of digging and shipping. Bulbs and plants usually not shipped together, nor at the same time.

No guarantee goes with my bulbs or plants, but I take extreme pains to have them true to name, and it is on them I depend for future orders. Write me, however, if you fail to have success with them. It is important for me to know.

If a mistake is made in the filling of your order or the package reaches you in bad condition, write me. I do not know of it unless you do.

If you do not hear from your orders in a reasonable length of time, write. Orders may get lost on the way, may possibly be overlooked after receipt, or the shipment may go astray.

Order early and plant early, while the bulbs are still fresh and solid.

Next year's price list will as a matter of course be sent to all this year's customers, but I do not keep a permanent mailing list.

My own growing only. This catalogue lists my entire line. I do not issue a separate spring list.

Every bulb and plant in this catalog is for outdoor planting before winter. Though planting can be done at any time until winter closes down, the ideal time is just when the summer heat and drouth are broken.

N. B.—Missouri customers will please add two per cent to the amount of the order, on account of the state sales tax.

H. J. A., B. P. I.

Div. Fruit & Veg. Crops & Diseases

Washington, D. C.

SEP 22 1937
U. S. Department of Agriculture



THE FORCING OF BULBS

The "F" and "FF" varieties of narcissi and the Star of Bethlehem are easily brought to bloom in the house in winter.

For success with any of these bulbs, a certain routine is absolutely necessary. After potting or other method of planting, the bulbs must be put where dark and very cool, the colder the better, so they do not freeze, and kept faithfully watered, for as much as two months, unless they make determined growth sooner. When the buds are above ground, or the two months are up, the bulbs can be brought to warmth and light to complete their growth. Do not get them too warm, or the buds will blast, and do not let them stand in strong sun.

For growing bulbs in water the best material I have found is poultry-grit charcoal, hen size. It does not get foul, holds water a long time, and does not obstruct the roots if properly handled. The dish preferably should be of glass, and more than three inches deep.

Bulbs of hyacinths, narcissi, etc., grown indoors for winter blooming, should be kept growing until the leaves die down, then set in the ground outdoors, where they can remain at least a year undisturbed.

OUTDOOR GROWING

Tulip and Narcissus bulbs should be planted about three inches deep to the tops of the bulbs as soon as possible after summer heat and drouth are broken, must remain in the ground over winter, and should not be disturbed until the leaves have turned yellow in early summer. This is the correct time to dig them. Narcissi prefer to be left in the ground several years. Tulips are better dug every year, though they may be let go an extra year if small when planted. Plant about six inches apart.

Bulbs should not be allowed to lie in the sun when dug, nor when planting, nor at any other time. They should be stored cool, dark, and well ventilated.

Do not use manure in the soil in planting bulbs or any fleshy-rooted plant. Spread it on top of the ground after planting is done.

NARCISSUS BULBS

Furnished in the fall only.

Please notice the formula after each name: It contains a small paragraph of description. The first abbreviation is for the type of the variety. Ajax is the type with the large flaring trumpet. Incomparabilis with the medium-size trumpet or cup, Barrii with the small cup. Leedsii is a type with medium or small cups, the flower pale in color, primrosewhite. Poeticus is the common flat white type, with the red-edged saucer in the center. Jq is for the jonquil and its hybrids. Y is for yellow, W for white, and B for bicolor, yellow or red center and white wings. The numbers 1 to 6 tell the season of bloom. F means that a variety is good for forcing, FF that it is very good. RG means that a variety is low growing, and therefore suitable for the rock garden.

For indoor growing use only F and FF varieties.

In every case, except as noted, the first price is for one bulb, the second for 5, the third for 25, the fourth for 100.

12 furnished for one-half the price of 25.

Mixture. Many varieties and types, earliest to latest, for garden, cut flowers, naturalizing. A choice assortment. Large size, 10 for 50c, 25 for \$1.00, 100 for \$3.60. Remember—these prices include postage.

Medium size, 12 for 35c, 40 for \$1.00, 100 for \$2.00, 250 for \$4.40.

Small size, but intended to be all blooming bulbs, 12 for 20c, 25 for 40c, 100 for \$1.00.

These three grades are from the same pile of bulbs, but the large grade will have most of the large trumpets.

Mixed Yellow Doubles. Mostly Pearl, Argent, and Sulphur Queen. Not any of the big green ones. 6c, 24c, \$1.10, \$4.00.

Alba Plena Odorata. PtW6. Double. 5c, 5 for 20c, 25 for 90c.

Beacon. BarB4RG. Small and elegant, bright center, 8c, 32c, \$1.50.

Bedouin. IncB4F. Flower flat, red center, rounded petals, stem very tall. 8c, 32c, \$1.50.

Bianca. BarW4F. Probably is Circlet. Flat flower, cup flat, tinged orange. 5c, 20c.

Buttercup. JqY4FF. Rich butter-yellow, straight trumpet. 8c, 32c, \$1.50, \$5.60, 250 for \$14.00.

Buttonhole. AjY4. The slit trumpet and its crinkled edges give the appearance of a double. Both a curiosity and a quality flower. 10c, 40c, \$1.90.

Campernelle. JqY2F. Petals long, cup with scalloped edge. 5c, 20c, 90c.

Campernelle Giganteum. JqY2. Large, deep golden. 6c, 24c.

Campernelle Rugulosus. JqY2FFRG. Small, but lovely. 6c, 24c.

Campernelle Rugulosus Maximus. JqY2FF. Glorious color. Larger than Rugulosus. 8c, 32c, \$1.50.

Canary Eye. IdW4. Large flower, crepe-white, twisted petals, small greenish eye, stem very tall and strong. 6c, 24c, \$1.10.

Cassandra. PtW5FF. One of the finest of the poeticus type. Very large. 8c, 32c.

Cleopatra. AjY4FF. Very large, late, trumpet straight. 12c.

Dick. AjB3. Long yellow trumpet, sharply pointed white perianth segments. 8c, 32c, \$1.50.

Dorothy E. Wemyss. BarB4F. Like Conspicuous, but white. 5c, 20c, 90c.

Dosoris. BarB4F. White, with red-edged cup. 10c.

Firebrand. BarB3F. A brilliant little flower, tall stem. 5c, 20c, 90c.

Furnace. BarY2FRG. Yellow, with red cup. 10c.

Glitter. BarY5RG. Old-gold yellow. 8c, 32c.

Glory of Sassenheim. AjB2FF. One of the finest of the bicolor trumpets. 10c, 40c.

- Golden Apricot.** IncB5. Large flower, cup shaded apricot. 16c.
- Golden Sceptre.** JqY3FF. Exquisite in form, rich in color and fragrance. The trumpet is of flaring bell shape. 8c, 32c, \$1.50, \$5.60.
- Goldfinch.** AjY2FF. Large, deep yellow—almost orange, very flaring, heavily frilled, and very hardy. 8c, 32c, \$1.50, \$5.60.
- Green Yellow Double.** A heavy-weight flower. Some years it comes full yellow. 6c, 24c, \$1.10.
- King Alfred.** AjY2FF. One of the finest of the big trumpets. 10c.
- Lady Hillingdon.** JqY2FF. Flowers rich soft yellow, very large for their type, often two or three on a stem. 16c, 24c.
- Lady Margaret Boscawen.** IncB3. Similar to Great Warley, not so large, but more graceful. 16c.
- Leonie.** IncY3FF. Light yellow, tall and outstanding. 5c, 20c, 90c.
- Lord Roberts.** AjY2. Large and dainty. 12c.
- Masterpiece.** BarB4. Similar to a poeticus, but the cup is larger, and all red. 10c.
- Minerva.** PtW5. Round like a wheel. Large flat pale cup, edged red. Heavy substance. 10c.
- Olympia.** AjY3FF. Rich yellow. Massive. 10c, 40c, \$1.90.
- Oriflamme.** BarB2FF. White, with vivid red cup. Magnificent when forced. 5c, 20c, 90c.
- Ornatus Maximus.** PtW4F. Similar to the common Ornatus. 10c.
- Pedestal.** IncB4F. Large straight cup. 10c.
- Red Beacon.** BarB4RG. White flower, with flat, red-edged cup. 6c, 24c.
- Sir Watkin.** IncY2FF. "The Welsh Giant." 8c, 32c, \$1.50, \$5.60.
- Torch.** IncY3FF. Large, with red-tinged cup. 8c, 32c, \$1.50, \$5.60.
- Van Dijk.** AjY1. A dumpy Dutchman, very early. 10c.
- Van Waveren's Giant.** AjY3FF. Another giant trumpet. 12c.
- W. P. Milner.** AjW2FRG. A tiny white trumpet. 8c.
- Alba Pl. Od., Oriflamme, and W. P. Milner are preferably to be planted a little deep, where cool, moist and shady.

Just as a child has daintiness, grace and charm that a prize fighter lacks, so the modest types of narcissi have an appeal that the stunning monsters do not have. Any variety in this list you do not already have is worth buying at its price just to have it. Each has a charm and a character of its own, and your collection will be more interesting for having it included.

GARLIC

Furnished in the fall.

Allium Scorodoprasum. Useful in the same way as common garlic, also has a very interesting flower. 10c.

Common. 2 oz. for 10c. Good in cooking, and efficacious in the reduction of high blood pressure.

TULIP BULBS

Furnished in the fall only.

All late flowering, and all for outdoor growing only.

Bouton d'Or. Pure golden yellow. 5c, 3 for 12c, 12 for 40c.

Carrara. Brilliant pure white. Large. 6c.

Columbus. Scarlet and orange, pointed like a needle. 5c.

Fulgens. Darkest pure red, with yellow center. Lily flowered.
5c, 3 for 12c, 12 for 40c.

W. T. Ware. Rich yellow, nearly orange. Very late. 5c, 3 for 12c.

W. T. Ware. Small blooming size. 25 for 35c, \$1.00 per 100.

Yellow Perfection. Breeder. Old-gold bronze. 5c, 3 for 12c.

Darwin Type.

Mixed Darwins. A mixture made by reducing my list of named kinds. 5c, 3 for 12c, 12 for 40c.

Aphrodite. Pink. 6c.

Clara Butt. Exquisite apricot pink. 5c, 3 for 12c, 12 for 40c.

Elephant. Dark slaty blue. 6c, 3 for 15c, 12 for 48c.

Farncombe Sanders. The loveliest of red tulips. 6c, 3 for 15c, 12 for 48c.

Farncombe Sanders. Small blooming-size bulbs. 25 for 40c, 100 for \$1.40.

Giant (?). Richest dark purple. Early. 6c, 3 for 15c, 12 for 48c.

Jubilee. Richest dark purple, late. 6c, 3 for 15c.

La Tristesse. "Sorrow." Ash-blue. 5c, 3 for 12c, 12 for 40c.

Moralis. Very dark purple, center white. 6c.

Rev. Ewbank. Heliotrope. Early. Very tall. 5c, 3 for 12c 12 for 40c.

"Tall Purple." Center white. 5c, 3 for 12c, 12 for 40c.

The Bishop. Pure violet. Massive. 6c.

Venus. Pink. 6c.

Every variety in this list is of the highest quality, with good stems for cutting, and of a color which does not suffer as the flower ages, nor in indoor or artificial light. In any representative tulip planting, it is the darkest flowers that contribute most to the brilliancy of the display, and the blues to its most exquisite beauty.

Do not let tulips go to seed unless you wish the seed for planting. The bearing of seed exhausts the bulb. The flower should be taken off before it shatters.

BEARDED IRISES

Furnished in fall, spring or summer.

These should be planted shallow, in a dry, well-drained location in full sun. They are lime lovers. All dead leaves and stems should be gathered and burned before winter.

White: Early White, Fairy, La Neige, Innocenza, *Taj Mahal, Gazelle, Seedling F'bw.

Yellow: Shekinah, Chalice, *Golden Promise (?), *Coronation.

Blue: Arielquite, Gaudichau, Lord of June, Pallida Dalmatica, Lohengrin, Esplendido (?), Clio, Ciengialti, Seedling Bj, *Tenebrae.

Pink: Aurora, Queen of May, Roseway.

Purple: Kochii, Seedling Ds.

Blend: Eldorado, Quaker Lady, *Zwanenburg, Valery Mayet, Seedling Va, Unknown Gp.

Bicolor: Ambassadeur, Koenig, Mary Williamson, Pfauenauge, Marsh Marigold.

Blue and Purple: Alcazar, Black Knight, Canopus, Khedive, Lambourne, Lent A. Williamson, Majestic, Early Dark Blue, Seedling Fbp, *Morning Splendor, *Frieda Mohr.

Except the starred varieties, 10c per plant, 3 or more of any one kind at 8c.

*15c per plant.

As to quality of these varieties, not one of them is poorer than Frieda Mohr, though none other is so large. If any are listed under the wrong color, it is the listing that is at fault, not the flower.

Mixture. 15 varieties, my selection, at least 10 of them from the above list, \$2.50 for 100, \$2.00 for each additional 100 in the same shipment.

BEARDLESS IRISES

Furnished in fall or spring. These thrive in any good garden. That they require acid soil is a mistaken notion. Even swamp irises do not, as the swamps are not acid, but sweet.

Perry's Blue, Distinction, Emperor. Siberians. Per plant, 15c, 1 each of the 3, 40c. 3 or more of a kind at 10c.

Ochroleuca. Spuria type. White. 15c, 3 or more at 12c.

Monspur. Spuria type. Deep blue. Superb. 25c, 3 or more at 20c.

HEMEROCALLIS

Furnished in fall, spring or summer. Just after blooming is when new growth begins, and therefore is the best time for them to be moved, except when summer is too dry, but the best time to move them is whichever comes first.

Queen of May. Deep rich yellow, verging on orange, petals long and graceful. In bloom for about a month in early summer. A few blooms of it arranged in a bouquet of delphiniums give a brilliant effect. 20c, 3 for 50c, 5 or more at 15c.

This is the only hemerocallis I have. For others, including the aristocratic new ones, write Andrew Auten, Decatur, Ga.

PEONIES

Furnished in the fall only.

Plants should be set as soon as received, placing so that the buds will be about two inches below the leveled surface of the soil when planting is completed. The roots must be kept moist until planted. Plants set out very late should be mulched.

In the open field or garden, like corn and potatoes, and with the same kind of care, peonies do famously. Where the soil is killed by elms, maples, or poplars, or is starved and dried out from other reasons, nothing can be expected of them. They also will not thrive in soggy ground, nor in manure or other litter.

Alma. Jap. Light creamy pink. 50c.

Mikado. Jap. Red, with yellow cushion in center. 40c, 3 or more at 30c.

Light Pink Single. Like an enormous poppy. 50c.

Darkness. Single. Very dark red. 50c.

Florence Macbeth. Very large, very late, light pink. \$1.20.

Loveliness. Late, very light pink. 50c.

La France. Rich opalescent pink. 40c, 3 or more at 30c.

Milton Hill. Very large late pink. 50c.

Mons. Martin Cahuzac. Darkest garnet red, glistening black in the sunshine. 60c, 3 or more at 50c.

Primevere. Rich buttery light yellow. 60c.

Richard Carvel. The finest early red. 40c, 3 or more at 30c.

Solange. Cream-white, tinted pink and coffee, both exquisite and magnificent. 60c, 3 or more at 50c.

Therese. Beautiful violet-rose. None surer to bloom. 50c, 3 or more at 40c.

Tourangelle. Pale pink. No dainty rose more exquisite. 50c.

The following varieties are at 30c for one of a kind, or 20c each for 5 or more of one kind. If one plant each of 5 or more kinds are ordered, the price is 25c each.

Pink Single, Adolphe Rousseau, Albatre, Asa Gray, Aug. d'Hour, Baroness Schroeder, Constant Devred, Delicatissima, Duchesse de Nemours, Edulis Superba, Elwood Pleas, Eugene Bigot, Felix Crousse, Festiva Maxima, Fragens, Gl. de Ch. Gombault, Grover Cleveland, Hollis Blue, Humei Carnea, Karl Rosenfield, La Rosiere, L'Eclatante, Mme. de Vatry, Mme. de Verneville, Mme. Emile Galle, Mme Forel, Marcelle Dessert, Marguerite Gerard, Marie Crousse, Meissonier, Modele de Perfection, Modeste Guerin, Mons. Jules Elie, Octavie Demay, Pasteur, Pierre Dessert, Queen Emma, Reine Hortense, Sarah Bernhardt, Solfatare.

Do not despise this 30c list. Some of the world's finest are in it, and none but that have been highly cherished. If you wish descriptions of these varieties, send me a postal card request and I will send a leaf from a previous catalogue.

Mixture. My selection of varieties, 50 plants in at least 10 kinds, \$8.00: 100 plants in at least 20 kinds, \$15.00. Express paid.

If there is a more radiantly beautiful dark-pink peony than *Modele de Perfection*, I do not know what it could be; and *Constant Devred*, extremely late, would be hard to beat in its season.

Here are some prices per bulb copied from the catalogues of Barr & Sons, London, of 1908, 1911, and 1912: *Bedouin*, \$145.00; *Buttercup*, \$97.00; *Furnace*, \$75.00; *Masterpiece*, \$80.00; *Pedestal*, \$12.00;

Dosoris, \$25.00; Rugulosus Maximus, \$12.00. However commonplace these varieties may seem now to the seasoned collector, they were at that time the amazement of the narcissus world, and today are as beautiful as they were then.

A bulb of a good variety that is alive and free of disease is a good bulb. A bulb of an inferior variety is a poor bulb, no matter how superb a bulb it may be.

If you live in Podunk and buy a Holland bulb, when you have grown it a year it is a Podunk bulb. If you buy a Missouri bulb from me and grow it a year, it also is a Podunk bulb. If they are then sent to Holland and grown a year, both are become Holland bulbs.

Narcissi are lime lovers.

Narcissus bulbs started for forcing should be kept below 50 degrees. For subsequent growth, give 60 to 70 degrees. Do not give sun at any time.

You would not say "Roses bushes:" why say "Narcissi bulbs?"

Mixtures are as good as the varieties that were put in to make them. The varieties remain the same to the end of time. An Albatross bulb and its increase are Albatross forever, no matter what other bulbs grow by their side.

There is no explaining the vagaries of the public. Their choice of varieties varies from season to season. It may go contrariwise, or otherwise, of the commendations or condemnations in the magazines; and seems not to depend heavily on merit. Apparently it is that the fancy of the public for variety names is like the shifting breezes—but why?

If you can not use this catalogue, please hand it to some flower-loving friend.

Plants require immediate and careful attention.

Any soil that is right for potatoes and onions is right for anything in this catalogue.

For a listing of extra high-grade and new varieties of peonies, write Edward Auten, jr., Princeville, Ill.

Subscribe to Flowers and Gardens, Calcium, N. Y. \$1.00 per year, 2 years \$1.75, 3 years \$2.40, 5 years \$3.50. Subscriptions can be sent to me, or direct to the publisher.

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